

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

March, 2011

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I would like for you to meet Robert Amundsen (left) and Charles Parks (right). Both are pastors in the Red Bird Missionary Conference. Robert serves Thousand Sticks UMC and teaches at the Red Bird Mission School. Charles serves Phillips Fork Outreach Center (Kelly Rock). As part of the ministry partnership between the Red Bird Missionary Conference and the Kentucky Annual Conference, these two pastors and their churches have been partnered with the churches in our district. This ministry partnership will be mutual. We will explore how we can help the ministry in their communities and how they can help us in ours.

In the coming weeks and months, our District Leadership Team will examine ways in which we can live out this partnership. Kris Klimecko, pastor of Augusta/Foster previously served as the director of missions for Red Bird. He has agreed to help develop our partnership.

I encourage you and your church to pray for these pastors and about how you can connect in ministry with them and their congregations. You can find Robert and Charles' contact information on [page 3](#). I encourage you to send them a note!

--Kevin

District News and Events

- Revival at Minerva UMC March 31-April 2 at 7:00 pm Sun, April 3 at 11:00 am. Rev. Charlie Shoemaker will be the evangelist. Satisfied Gospel Group will lead the music.
- **Minerva Dinner and Auction Sat. March 26 at 5:30 For more details call April at 606 267 4224**
- Phil Bradley, pastor at Washington, will head up the LACE program in 2011 for the District. (606) 759-7725

Excellence in Evangelism

The Harry Denman Evangelism Award is awarded every year at Annual Conference. Nationally, 2346 individuals have been honored since 1980.

If there is someone who you think might be a good nominee for this award, check the following information.

Nomination packets may be downloaded from the website

(www.FoundationForEvangelism.org) or you may receive a packet in the mail by calling (800) 737-8333.

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
- David Bonnell, Butler/Concord (Pend)
- Grace Ministry in Covington



Covington District UM Women

March 4 is World Day of Prayer

March 5 District Team Meeting Falmouth

April 4 One Great Hour of Sharing

April 15 – 16 Conference Retreat at Camp Kavanough

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

Ida Spence last Friday meals - - the end of the month is a tough time for families in need. Ida Spence mission provides a take home meal for families the last Friday of each month. Churches or groups are needed to sign up to provide a last Friday meal for 300 people at the mission. Two churches could work together. If you are interested-please contact Tiffany Hollums tiffanyhollums@gmail.com

We also are always in need of donations of cleaning supplies listed below.

Bleach, Detergent, Toilet paper, Paper towels, Pine Sol, Dish Washing Liquid, ANY toiletries-deodorant, toothpaste, feminine products, diapers, etc And any cosmetics especially trial sizes would be wonderful!!!

Snacks are welcome for afterschool sessions with the children

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”).

Safe Sanctuary Training

will be held at Erlanger UM Church

on **Saturday, March 12 at 10 a.m.** Any church that would like to join in is welcome to come.

Please contact Erlanger UMC by phone (727-2136) or e-mail (office1@erlangerumc.org) and let them know how many to expect.

Rev. Phil Bradley, pastor at Washington UMC will be doing the training.

Red Bird Mission Contacts (from page 1)

Charles Parks
P.O. Box 373
Garrard, KY 40941
(606) 598-5705

Robert Amundsen
95 Red Bird Road
Thousandsticks, KY 41766
(606) 672-2581
ramundsen08@gmail.com
or
thousandsticksumc@gmail.com

**Next Clergy Meeting will be on
Tuesday, March 15, 2011
at 10:00am at Benson UMC.**

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

*How to
Get More Members*



Jim Griffin

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: Marriott Inn Downtown 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.

LACE

For any United Methodist who wants to know and understand more about Methodism – you can still sign up for the last class on March 19, 2011 at Alexandria UMC

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

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

Clergy Meeting Dates

Put on your calendar now.

Tuesday, March 15, Benson 10:00 am

Tuesday, April 5, Asbury 10:00 am

Upcoming Clergy Breakfast Dates

Thursday, March 17, Cynthiana 8:30 am at Biackes

Thursday, March 24, Maysville 8:30 am at Frisches

During Annual Conference – Check this workshop out 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
Workshop 1-5
CEU Credit Available
Registration Fee \$5**

**For further information contact --
Paul Whalen
859-466-3450
plewellinwhalen@aol.com**

heads up -- DNow 2011

..the DNow youth retreat weekend is March 18-20 at Highland UMC

Speaker: Jolene DeHeer

Topic: God's plan for our sexuality

Ft Thomas own *Homecoming* worship band

Right now, Highlands, Asbury, Faith, Ida Spence and Taylor Mill are confirmed participants. Is there any other church that is interested in joining this discussion and activity?

Larry Karow – Highlands (859) 757-5416

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

NKU Wesley Foundation

A Grand Ole Update!

Every once in a while someone will ask, "What does the Wesley Foundation actually do?" Great question! Glad you asked. Well here's an answer... in two formats.

The missional answer is that we grow followers of Jesus Christ who influence their social networks for the renewal of the earth. To do that we foster hospitality, community, and celebration. That's a great answer, but not very specific. So let's dig up some details of how we actually do that mission.

The detailed answer...

Group Studies

We meet as small groups to read the Bible, share our lives, and support one another. Currently we have 3 groups meeting and are planning on 5 by the end of the semester. Here are the times:

- ❖ Monday, 1:30 PM, with Michael Leonard
- ❖ Monday, 4:00 PM, with Kieth Daniel
- ❖ Wednesday, 12:00 PM, with Margaret Maddox



All our groups meet in Starbucks at NKU and all are open to students, staff, and faculty of NKU. Feel free to drop in once or come for the whole semester. If you are a supporting church, pastor, or leader you also have a standing invitation, come on by!

Formed

A couple years ago a group of campus ministers, intentional community leaders, and pastors started dreaming of a spiritual formation process that would engage students and young (and not so young) adults. We wanted something that was holistic, practical, accessible, and deep. Those conversations led to **Formed**, a curriculum for Christlikeness, a 10 month discipleship process that connects daily prayer, scripture reading, and community.



Each month we focus on a different topic, or vow, that forms us to be more like Christ. Our **WF Group Studies** are engaged in this curriculum along with groups at University of Cincinnati and Xavier University. During January we are focusing on Study and will dive into Work, Service, Hospitality, Justice, and Holiness in the coming months. Each month/topic has a prayerbook we've developed, a monthly gathering with a provocative speaker on the topic, and small group study guide.

Learn more at www.formed.cc

Pray with us at www.formed.cc/prayerbook Join our email list at <http://formed.cc/email-sign-up/>

Find us on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/formed>

Follow us on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/formedcc>

Aaron Klinefelter

KENTUCKY ANNUAL CONFERENCE June 7-11 in Covington, KY

CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS!

The Kentucky Annual Conference is coming to the Covington District in June, and we need your help to once again make this a wonderful event for everyone! Laity and clergy from across the state will begin arriving on Tuesday, June 7 and will stay through the conclusion of the conference on Saturday, June 11.

HOW CAN YOU HELP? We are still looking for a couple of key members for our Local Host Team, specifically:

- **Pages Coordinator** (someone to recruit and organize youth to serve as Pages during the business sessions of Annual Conference. Pages may have lots to do this year because of voting that will occur for General Conference delegates.)
- **T-shirt Coordinator** (someone to be responsible for ordering and distributing t-shirts for our volunteers)
- **Afternoon of Service sub-committee coordinators.** (Tom Coe from Maysville is leading this group, and needs assistance especially with transportation and coordination among the service projects he is lining up.)

We also need LOTS of volunteers to serve as Greeters, with Registration, at the Information Desk, and many other support areas.

WON'T YOU

JOIN US IN WELCOMING KENTUCKY UNITED METHODISTS TO COVINGTON IN JUNE?

Please contact Roger DeWolfe (dewolfer1@juno.com; 859-689-0064) or Becky Jones (bsj123@insightbb.com; 859-802-7047) to join the Host Team as a Coordinator or volunteer.

A Note From Carter's Chapel UMC : Matt Johnson and the Community UMC

Rev. Matthew Johnson and his wife, Beth, visited Carter's Chapel UMC in February. Matt, originally from Western Pennsylvania, and Beth from upstate New York were warmly welcomed by the congregation. Matt is a new church planter in the Burlington/Hebron areas of Boone County and Beth is a psychologist with the Grant County School System. Matt is doing what Jesus would do by visiting places where people are in the most need. He is dedicating his time and energy to accomplish his mission of introducing Christ to those people who have not accepted Him as their personal Savior. He is an inspirational speaker and we at Carter's Chapel are supporting this new ministry, **The Community UMC**, with our help, prayers, and encouragement. He is always welcome to speak at Carter's Chapel. Your church might want to consider asking him to come and visit. Judy Spegal

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

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

DISTRICT CALENDAR AND BIRTHDAYS

March Birthdays: **1**, Kevin Burney ; **9**, Nelson Figueroa; **16**, Jim Finch;
21, Kenneth Newby; **29**, William Conatser

Superintendent's Calendar for March --- 4, AC Meeting; **7 – 10** ,
Cabinet Meetings ; March 15, am Clergy Mtg. pm DLT Meeting
17; Clergy Breakfast NK; **24**, Clergy Breakfast Maysville

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.