

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 II, Issue 1

January, 2012 Issue

Reflections—a word or two from our District Superintendent

Ignatius of Loyola encouraged Christians to take time each day to examine their life as the Holy Spirit might see it. At the beginning of this new year, I share an examine that speaks to my heart:

Killing Time

How do I kill time?
Let me count the ways.

By worrying about things over which I have no control.
Like the past.
Like the future.

By harboring resentment,
and anger
over hurts

real or imagined.

By disdainning the ordinary or, rather, what I so mindlessly call ordinary.

By concern over what's in it for me, rather than what's in me for it.

By failing to appreciate what is because of might-have-beens, should-have-beens, could-have-beens.

These are some of the ways I kill time.

Jesus didn't kill time.
He gave life to it.
His own.

~ Leo Rock SJ

Grace & Peace to you in this new year!

Kevin

Highlights in this issue:

- MLK DAY CELEBRATION
- CLERGY MEETING DATES
- ILLUMINATING THE GOSPEL
- LACE REGISTRATION FORM
- DISTRICT NEWS, EVENTS

Prayer Concerns to Remember



- The family and friends of Robert "Bob" Pugh as they mourn his passing
- Mike Albertson, pastor at Faith Community
- Ida Spence Mission & Director
- New Church Start — The

Community UMC in Hebron — Matt Johnson, pastor

- Our Bishop Lindsey Davis and Cabinet
- Our DS and Family
- Grace Ministry.

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Covington District Newsletter

Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration

"Living the Dream: What Does it Mean to Serve?"

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Celebration
Saturday, January 14
St. Paul UMC, Frankfort

Schedule:

10:00 – Registration
10:15 – Opening & Intro
10:30-11:15 – Workshops
11:30-12:15 – Workshops
12:15 – Lunch
1:00 – Worship – losmar Alvarez, preaching

Cost: \$5 (includes lunch)

Workshops

1. Reaching a Diverse Ethnic Population in Your Ministry
2. Bullying Is More than a School Issue
3. Truth & Reality of our New Neighbors: Immigration Issues
4. Creating, Action & Involvement for Local Church Mission Leaders

Child care available for ages 6 and under

Register online at:
kyumc.org/events/detail/1899

United Methodist Men

United Methodist Men will meet on

Thursday, February 16th

at Asbury

United Methodist Church
in Highland Heights.

Come and join in the fellowship

Illuminating the Gospel in a Digital World



The Wesley Foundation at NKU gathered for a two night retreat for a collaborative and creative

project: illuminating the Gospel according to Mark. The project was to write the gospel out by hand and "illuminate" it through panels, marginalia, and intricate first letters to sections. The idea came from the practice of scribes when they had to copy the Bible by hand prior to the invention of the printing press.

Aaron Klinefelter, the pastor of the Wesley Foundation, offers these thoughts on the retreat: "What struck me the most was the way in which handwriting the gospel slowed us down and forced us to contemplate the

text in way that reading or hearing it does not. Digital culture is so fast and immediate that we often miss the nuance, subtlety, and beauty of the text. It is almost ironic since one of Mark's favorite words is, "immediately."

It was also significant that we engaged in this manuscript project communally and creatively. Our goal wasn't to be uber-efficient, but to craft something together that none of us could have created alone. The entirety of the process of greater than the sum of its parts. Likewise it was emergent in the sense that it arose out of our community of students and their gifts. It wasn't predetermined or in authentically scripted, but rather flowed out of our engagement with the text, one another, and the Spirit."



Upcoming Clergy Meetings

**Tuesday, January 17th at 10:00 am
at Florence UMC**

The February Clergy Meeting will be on Tuesday, February 21, at Asbury UMC at 10:00 am. Speaker will be Rob Moorlach. This meeting will be "listening sessions" for those impacted both now and into the future by the retiree health liability faced by the Kentucky Conference. The Retiree Health Liability Task Force wants these sessions to be truly listening sessions. Rob has arranged with the Communications Department to record each session so they truly engage the attendees in a conversation about this liability and the proposed plans to meet it.

Lay Academy of Congregational Excellence

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

The Dates for LACE in 2012 are:

- January 7 at Washington UMC
- February 18 at Flemingsburg UMC
- March 17 at Vanceburg UMC
- April 14 at Flemingsburg UMC
- May 5 at Washington UMC

Each workshop will cover different topics listed above. The workshop will be 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. The total cost for LACE is \$30. Make checks out to Covington District. *Lunch will be provided for these workshop.*

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Church _____

RETURN THIS PORTION TO

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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").

The Community Is in Need of a Van

The Community is currently looking for a van that a church or local organization is ready to "put out to pasture." As we move towards weekly worship, we constantly find ourselves looking for nooks, crannies and garages to store our stuff, and we've realized that the best way to do so might be in the back of a van, so we're looking for a "mobile church." If you know

of a church somewhere in the District or in the Conference that might be getting rid of a van and would be willing to donate it to The Community, please let us know! Contact Matt Johnson by email, matt@thecommunityky.org or by phone (859) 334-0375



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covingtondistrictumc.com

District Calendar and Birthdays

IMPORTANT DATES:

- **Friday, December 9,**
Clergy Christmas Dinner
Highland UMC

Birthdays:

- Jan 9 — Ken Easley
- Jan 22 — David Ryan

JANUARY CALENDAR

- **Dec 22 – Jan 1, District
Office Closed**
- Jan 9-10 — DS cabinet
- Jan 16, 18, 19, 21, 23,
24, 28 — Consultations for
Part-time pastors
- Jan 17 — Clergy Meeting
Florence