



The people of The United Methodist Church™

The Peninsula-Delaware Annual Conference

Communicator

an edition of

The United Methodist Reporter

Two Sections, Section A

VOLUME 153 NUMBER 41

043000

APRIL 27, 2007

Vision Statement

The Peninsula-Delaware Conference, as the body of Christ, will live out the ministry and teaching of Jesus Christ – boldly, cooperatively, and inclusively – through life-changing communities of compassion.



Wesley Heritage Tour Page 8



Interfaith Resource Center Page 5



For more information on the origin of the logo, please go to www.pen-del.org and click on the logo in the right-hand column.

Gloria Holt to Speak at Laity/Clergy Banquet

By Tamara Ward

The 2007 Laity/Clergy Banquet will be held on Friday, May 18th from 6:00 - 9:00 p.m. at Whatcoat United Methodist Church (341 Saulsbury Road) in Dover, Delaware.

This year the Board of Laity will be bringing Gloria Holt from Alabama to our conference as the guest speaker. Gloria is currently serving as the Director of the General Board of Global Ministries (GBGM) and was the North Alabama Conference Lay Leader from 1997-2006. At the 2004 General Conference in Pittsburgh, Gloria presented the Laity Address. She followed up by pre-

senting the Laity Address at the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference that July.

Along with her duties as the Director of GBGM, she is the Vice-Chair of SPSARV (Special Program on Substance Abuse & Related Violence), a General Conference Task Force of which she is serving from 2004-2008. She is also a member of the Southeastern Jurisdictional Episcopacy Committee where she is serving her second 4-year term. Along with the General and Jurisdictional Conference service, Gloria also serves as the Lay Leader at Clear Branch United Methodist Church.

This year's banquet will also feature the St. Barnabas Awards where the Conference Board of



Gloria Holt

Laity will recognize individuals, groups, and/or congregations within the Peninsula-Delaware Conference for modeling good stewardship in the church of Jesus

Christ as demonstrated through **The Four Measures of T** (Target Prayer, Time, Treasure and Talent). St. Barnabas was as important as the Apostle Paul to the life of the early church. It is because of his outstanding stewardship that his name was chosen to represent a process of creative stewardship and to have a society named in his honor.

Tickets for the banquet are \$30 and can be obtained from the four District Offices and/or by contacting your District Lay Leader: Dover: Levin Van Sant, Easton: Bill Ball, Salisbury: Deangelo (Tony) Johnson, Wilmington: Allen Streett. The deadline for ticket purchases is Friday, May 11, 2007.

Igniting Youth Takes Off: Total Participation Powers Innovative Approach

Welcoming, extending an open invitation to spiritual seekers, is a United Methodist hallmark. Until recently, denominational welcoming efforts and extensive welcoming resources focused on adult seekers.

The Igniting Youth initiative opens a door on something entirely new in the concept and practice of welcoming in the life of the church. Innovative, far-reaching, and inclusive, the Igniting Youth program is totally teen-focused, teen-aware, and more importantly, teen-produced.

The Experience: May's "soft" launch and July christening at Youth2007

The central component of the Igniting Youth initiative is the online teen Welcoming Experience. Designed to engage 14 to 18 year-old seekers in a radically different way from their grownup counterparts, it's not a traditional informational Web site. Instead, it builds on an interactive and organic model – an 'ecosystem' – where teens' personal contributions help grow and shape the site. The Experience is a casual environment where teens can explore spiritual ques-

tions at their own pace and in their own space. Youth and youth leaders are helping to build the Experience that ultimately they will own.

The Experience extends a completely teen-focused welcome to share the values and inclusiveness of The United Methodist faith community, and actively invites teen seekers to journey into a relationship with Jesus Christ. It, then, guides teen seekers to the new United Methodist social network where the welcome deepens with more interaction, leading to an offline relationship with a local church.

Key dates in the development of the Experience are the May 'soft' launch on the Web, and the July christening at Youth2007.

To find out more about this initiative and ways your youth groups can get involved, watch for more information in future issues of this publication and visit the website at www.IgnitingMinistry.org/ya. You can also go to www.IgnitingMinistry.org and click on "Igniting Youth" at the top right hand side of the page.



www.Discover.UMC.org

Welcome to Our Sacred Space

Greetings,

We've made it through Easter and I pray it was a blessed time for you and your family. I know our pastors and congregations were busy creating and attending many worship services during Holy Week. I can remember how hard we worked in the places I've served during the years. From Ash Wednesday to Easter can be a hectic time with all the special services of Holy Week. It can be challenging, exciting, and draining.

I guess it's like having the excitement of climbing a mountain, or achieving some awesome feat, or participating in a wonderful celebration. Often after the excitement, the exhilarating thrill is gone. One feels the effects of all the preparation, the actual participation eventually comes to the realization that one has to go down the mountain. Come down from that extraordinary high into the reality of the ordinary experiences we have everyday. I guess it's the reality of asking ourselves where we go from here. What's the next step, the next plan or the next move we take toward the future.

I can imagine that these were some of the questions being discussed by the disciples after knowing Jesus had risen from the dead and was going back to God. The journey to Pentecost helps us to ask these questions as congregations ask, how does the resurrection of Jesus make us a community of faith? What does this mean for our lives, our churches, our communities and the world? Just as we made the journey from Lent to Easter, the journey continues from Easter to Pentecost. Jesus tells his disciples to go into the upper room and wait for the



Rev. Elaine B. Ayres

power of God to come upon them.

This often seems to be the process of our relationship with God. God initiates – God's people respond – God reveals – We are blessed. Therefore, as we continue this journey, let us be soaked in prayer, continue to study and reflect on God's Word. There will be daily devotions on our conference website www.pen-del.org to help us continue to be in prayer, study and discernment for God's direction for our personal life, our corporate life as a conference, and as members of God's universal church. Like the disciples after the resurrection, we may not know where God will lead us, but we know we will never be alone. The days and weeks ahead may have many twists and turns but let us remember the words of Rev. Charles Albert Tindley,

* "Courage my soul, and let us journey on,
Tho' the night is dark it won't be very long.
Thanks be to God, the morning light appears,
and the storm is passing over.
Hallelujah!"

Shalom,
Elaine

* CCLI296167

AC Hospitality Team Looking For Volunteers

The Annual Conference Hospitality Team is looking for volunteers to be greeters and help with questions during the Annual Conference weekend – June 8-10, 2007. There will be opportunities in both the Student Services Center and the Ella Fitzgerald Center. The Hospitality Team is looking for individuals that would be able to give a few hours, a half-day, a whole-day, whatever you can give and there is no age requirement. Young and young at heart are encouraged to contact Pat Dorey by e-mail pdorey@udel.edu or by phone 302.381.0154. Please pass this request on to your ministry teams and youth.

Communicator

United Methodist Reporter – Peninsula-Delaware Conference,
139 N. State Street, Dover, DE 19901

e-mail: tward@pen-del.org Website: www.pen-del.org
Phone: 302.674.2626 Or toll-free: 1.877.736.3351 Fax: 302.674.1573
Marcus Matthews, Bishop

James T. Seymour, Director of Connectional Ministries
Tamara Ward, Editor, Communications Coordinator
Linda Stimmel, Layout & Design

Linette Warren, Subscriptions Individual subscriptions, \$9.50 per year

All information marked UM Reporter within the Peninsula-Delaware Conference newspaper is the sole responsibility of the UM Reporter and is not necessarily the views of the annual conference.

Continuing Education Experience for Clergy

By Rev. Carol Terry,
Smyrna: Asbury

When I confessed to the Dover District Committee on Ordained Ministry that there was a continuing education experience I would opt to attend in lieu of a vacation because it was so great, they asked me to share this testimony with my colleagues.

The Festival of Homiletics is held each year in May. The location alternates between Washington DC, Chicago, Atlanta and Nashville. This year's event is May 21-25 in Nashville. It will be four days of incredible preaching, lecturing and inspiring worship. The presenters this year are Thomas Long, Barbara Brown Taylor, Anna Carter Florence, Walter Brueggemann, Fred Craddock, James Forbes, Jim Wallis, Joseph Lowery, Yvette Flunder, Brian McLaren, Calvin Miller, Cynthia Rigby, Gordon Lathrop, William Willimon, Safiyah Fosua, Bishop Vashti McKenzie and Grace Imathiu. Special music guests will be 'Jesus on Music Row' and 'Sweet Honey in the Rock.'

Attendance at last year's Festival was 1,000 clergy

from all over the United States and Canada. United Methodists were well represented with the highest percentage present. The Festival is sponsored by the publications, Lectionary Homiletics and the Christian Century. The preaching/lecturing themes are relevant and tied to the coming year's lectionary. Each year just gets better! I can say that because this will be my sixth year attending, and I have not been disappointed! If I had to choose between attending the Festival or taking vacation at my favorite place (Cape Cod), it would be the Festival!

The Festival, which is a preaching conference, offers attendees 2.5 CEUs. Beyond that it offers the opportunity to connect with clergy from different denominations, different backgrounds, and different areas of the country but all with a common goal: making disciples for Jesus Christ. It is inspiring, thought provoking and encouraging. I look to it being as important to me as my annual physical check-up.

So, if you are considering your continuing education options and want to try something new, I would highly recommend making room in your schedule for the Festival of Homiletics. For additional information go to www.festivalofhomiletics.com.

Survey Seeks to Understand Why Fewer Young Clergy Present

With fewer young people in the ranks of the ordained in recent years, a research institute is seeking to understand why. According to the center, 15% of elders in 1985 were under 35; but only 5% are those ages in 2005. "Increasingly, young clergy are regarded as an 'endangered species' in our

churches," said Lovett H. Weems Jr., director of the Lewis Center for Church Leadership at Wesley Theological Seminary and author of last year's report on clergy age. This year, young UM clergy, 35 years old and younger, are being asked to take a survey. The new survey, found at <http://www.churchleadership.com>, is intended

to help explain the drop in the number of young clergy in the denomination over the course of the last 20 years. Topics in the new survey include perceptions of how one's age affects standing, nature of appointments, financial situation, and sense of satisfaction.

The results will be published before General Conference.

UMC Remains Third Largest Denomination in Annual Report

The UMC ranked third in membership in the 75th edition of the Yearbook of American and Canadian Churches, published this month by the National Council of Churches and Abingdon Press. The 2007 edition reports on a record 224 national church bodies and ranks the 25 largest churches by membership. With membership listed at almost 8.1 million people, the UMC follows the Roman Catholic Church and Southern Baptist Convention. Other mainline Protestant churches in the top ten include the Evangelical Lutheran

Church in America (ranked seventh with 4.85 million members) and the Presbyterian Church, USA (ranked ninth with 3.1 million). The statistics were collected from the church bodies in 2005, and almost 166 million people are included.

The book's editor, Eileen W. Lindner, deputy general secretary of the NCC, says Pentecostal churches have had "remarkable" growth. For instance, the Assemblies of God is now the tenth largest denomination with more than 2.8 million members.

While the Churches of Christ

reported the largest percentage growth at 9.3%, this is the first new figure it reported since 1999. Aside from the Churches of Christ, the Catholic Church had the largest increase in membership (1.94%) of the 25 largest denominations. The African Methodist Episcopal Church is the eleventh largest at 2.5 million, and the AME Zion Church is at 19 with more than 1.4 million members.

(Editor's Note: the above article first appeared in an March 2007 issue of Newscope)

"The Bridge 2007"

The Spiritual Formation Task Force is sponsoring a young adult event entitled "The Bridge 2007" June 1st and 2nd. Young adults between the ages of 18 and 30 are encouraged to register for the weekend to be held at Camp Pecometh.

A brochure and registration form can be found on the home page of the conference web site (www.pen-del.org) or the Camp Pecometh web site (www.pecometh.org).

For questions about the event, please contact co-chairs Ken Laing (ken.laing@centreville-umc.com) or Megan Shitama (megankyoko@gmail.com).



Interfaith Resource Center

On Saturday, July 7, Tony Campolo, one of our most popular authors and video hosts, will speak at a fundraiser for the Interfaith Resource Center. At this writing, the details have not been completed but we hope you will set aside the date. Yes, we know that it is the weekend after the Fourth of July, but we also know that the always engaging Dr. Campolo is a sure draw and... not everyone will be at the beach that weekend. We anticipate an afternoon event for pastors and an evening event for the general public. For further details, visit our website at www.interfaithresourcecenter.com. Hope to see you all there.

The Perfect Stranger is a drama based on the popular novel *Dinner with a Perfect Stranger*, by David Gregory. Nikki Cominsky is a successful attorney troubled by the fact that her life isn't perfect. One day, a mysterious invitation shows up on her desk that reads "You are invited to Dinner with Jesus of Nazareth." Thinking it a prank, she shows up, only to find herself in the middle of a whirlwind evening of debate and revelation with the most unforgettable man she would ever meet. This 104-minute DVD



Paula Hartzell

would make a great movie night event, a small-group wrap up event, or a great alternative to the mundane world of regular network TV.

Morning Coffee is a new study from Vital Visuals. Each volume includes 3 conversations concerning faith issues with a bold, yet easy-on-the-palate approach intended to spark discussion in your group about the basics of the Christian faith. In this first volume, you'll go beyond the creation story to savor important issues raised in Genesis. Sit down and enjoy a cup by yourself or with a few friends. You'll be amazed at how easy conversations begin. Topics include Creator, learning to ask the right questions is the first step in reading the Bible; Humanity, what God says about the nature of humanity; and Sin, it's not what

you think it is. The second volume, titled Unity, looks at: Revelation, making right what got all so twisted; Word, words that create, words that tear down; and Unity, in Christ there is no east or west. The volumes include an easy-to-use discussion guide.

Stumbling Blocks to Faith is a five-part series that examines the insurmountable stumbling blocks people often give when avoiding a deeper commitment to faith. This program presents the most common ones: hypocrisy; intolerance/other religions; science and faith; suffering; and sacrifices. Solid reason or handy excuses? Here is a candid presentation of the allegations and Christian responses from theologian Robert Norris; missionary Hope Kim; pastors Lon Solomon and Jim Byrne; American Enterprise Institute scholar Michael Novak; and C. S. Lewis Institute fellow Art Lindsley. A study guide is included in the DVD's menu. Each session is approximately 20 minutes each with an adobe acrobat (.pdf) study guide. To reserve these or any other resources for the upcoming season, please e-mail us at resource.ctr@dol.net or phone us toll-free at 1.800.336.6152.

Health & Welfare Ministries

By Maurice Egnor

Hope: The Other Medicine

Often times we have a tendency to look at health only as the absence of physical illness. As human beings, however, we are made up of mind, body, and spirit. In order for us to be completely healthy we must be healthy in mind, body, and spirit. As spiritual beings in a physical body, we must often times have our physical needs met before we can be healthy in mind and spirit.

In the 25th Chapter of Matthew, Jesus addresses this issue.

"Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Enter, you who are blessed by my Father! Take what's coming to you in this kingdom. It's been ready for you since the world's foundation. And here's why:

I was hungry and you fed me,
I was thirsty and you gave me a drink,
I was homeless and you gave me a room,
I was shivering and you gave me clothes,
I was sick and you stopped to visit,
I was in prison and you came to me.'

"Then those 'sheep' are going to say, 'Master, what are you talking about? When did we ever see you hungry and feed you, thirsty and give you a drink? And when did we ever see you sick or in prison and come to you?' Then the King will say, 'I'm telling the solemn truth: Whenever you did one of these things to someone overlooked or ignored, that was me—you did it to me.' (Matt 25:34-40)

As Christians, we so often worry about bringing non-believers to Christ that we don't concern ourselves with the needs of our Christian brothers and sisters who are in desperate need as well. We have an obligation to meet the needs of our brothers and sisters in Christ. And Jesus himself has shown us the way to bring the non-believers to Him. Meet their basic physical needs, show them good example, then we can bring them to Him. This is a basic principle of Christian Action.

I would like to share a story of a local group that has taken on this ministry and mission.

A local church purchased a truck a couple of years ago with the intention of using it to transport goods to those in need, whether it be building supplies or food. It had been used on several occasions to take hurricane relief items to Florida and the Gulf Coast. Also it has been used to take collected goods to other needy organizations as well as help transport items for other organizations that had a need to transport large amounts of goods. Still there were other opportunities of its use.

On a Thursday morning in

November a four-man accountability group met as usual at a local restaurant fondly known as St. Denney's. They had been meeting for a couple of years, every Thursday at the same time, and the same place, same table. On this particular morning as they shared a meal and conversation, the Holy Spirit stirred. The conversation took a turn to plight of the homeless and underserved in New Castle County. The Holy Spirit touched their hearts, and one of them suggested that they should take the "Hope Mobile" into the city of Wilmington. Everyone was in agreement. They set a plan in motion to start serving 2 weeks from that date.

The Operation Hope ministry started the Thursday after Thanksgiving and has continued every Thursday evening since. From 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m., the Lord's servants have been filling a need in the city.

There have been some surprises. It was started as a mission to feed the homeless. What was realized, was that of the many that were served few were hungry or homeless. Some had eaten, most had shelter, but many did not have warm clothes or basic necessities, such as a toothbrush or toothpaste. It was also discovered that most had jobs, but for whatever reason they didn't have enough money at the end of the week for food, clothes, shelter or medicine. The group of four has grown to dozens of men, women and children who serve. Some in the city have been waiting for the "Hope Mobile" every Thursday evening for warm clothing, blankets, toiletries, and fellowship as well as a warm meal. Many people along with the people on the truck pray together as a group and help set as a group for those who will come later.

One hard question came from a gentleman who asked, "I work every day so tell me why am I homeless?"

Brothers and Sisters, why is he homeless? I don't know the answer, and today there aren't many who give this question even a passing thought. As you go through your day, please pray for those who are in need and for those who are under-served in this nation of wealth and for those around the world. Pray that their basic needs are met, so they can hear the word of God. And pray that all can be healthy in mind, body, and spirit. I want to leave you with God's words to us from the Book of Micah:

"But he's already made it plain how to live, what to do, what God is looking for in men and women.

It's quite simple: Do what is fair and just to your neighbor, be compassionate and loyal in your love,

And don't take yourself too seriously — take God seriously."

(Micah 6:8)

Camping And Retreat Ministry



Young Adults-This is YOUR Opportunity

Pecometh is partnering with the Peninsula-Delaware Conference to sponsor

The Bridge 2007

A Young Adult event

June 1 & 2, 2007

Camp Pecometh

Featured Speaker: Brian McLaren –

Leader in the Emergent Church movement

Music: Higher Place, Harps to Halos,

Jesus is Lord Church of the Deliverance Mass

Choir and Da Flock

email youthministries@trinitytownpoint.com

or go to www.pecometh.org

Come on Young Adults! This is for YOU!

Big Weekend Set

Open House

April 28 & 29, 2007

Saturday, 11:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, 12:00 p.m.- 5:00 p.m.

Campers, parents, grandparents and anyone who is interested are invited to tour the property, meet some of our staff and learn about the Pecometh Summer Program. We look forward to seeing you!

Questions? Contact Richelle Darrell at richelle@pecometh.org or 410.556.6900, x103.

Quilt Auction

Saturday, April 28, 2007

Camp Pecometh Dining Hall

Preview begins at 10:00 a.m.

Auction begins at 1:00 p.m.

Proceeds benefit the

Campership & Capital Improvement Funds

There will also be an ongoing Silent Auction of goods and services throughout the day.

Get more information, as well as view quilts at www.pecometh.org.

Summer Staff Camp Still Available

It's not too late to sign up for summer camp. In fact, there are still some openings for some of our most popular programs, such as Splashdown and Horseback. Download a brochure and even register online at www.pecometh.org or contact Richelle Darrell at richelle@pecometh.org, 410.556.6900, x103.

Check Out the Pecometh Blog

Want to check out interesting Pecometh news, as well as post your comments? Then check out the Pecometh blog by going to www.pecometh.org and clicking on the Pecometh Notes link. You can even subscribe to an RSS or Email feed, to keep you up-to-date on any new posts.

Calling For Annual Conference Ushers

Looking for a way to help at Annual Conference this year (June 8,9,10) Why not be a member of the USHER TEAM? Head Usher Rev. Fred Duncan is putting out a call for all those interested to contact him. The ushering team should be comprised of a diverse group of laity and clergy, male and female, to help with such

things as: distribution of Annual Conference Resolutions and other important information; take any offerings; assist with General and Jurisdictional Conference balloting; and be available to the Bishop as needed. If interested, please contact Rev. Duncan at 302.875.3398 or email him at pastorfred5@verizon.net.

Wesley Heritage Tour

Join Bishop and Mrs. Matthews and the Philadelphia Area for 9 exciting and educational days celebrating the 300th anniversary of Charles Wesley's Birth.

Participants will depart on Monday, August 6th from Philadelphia or Baltimore and will visit London, Birmingham, Bristol, Bath, Coventry, Stratford, Worcester, Gloucester, Epworth, Cotswolds and Oxford. The cost of the trip is \$2298 which includes:

- Roundtrip airfare

- Week stay in first class Midlands hotel
- Daily breakfast and dinner (dinner in London on your own)
- Deluxe motorcoaches
- Guided sightseeing
- Entrance fees
- Study guide lecture program

The August trip is sponsored by Educational Opportunities Tours. For travel information/registration forms, please go to www.eo.travelwithus.com or write to eo@travelwithus.com or Educational

Opportunities Tours, P.O. Box 6098, Lakeland, FL, 33807-6098. Their phone number is 1.863.648.383.

Participants will need a valid passport and should obtain one as soon as possible. With the recent change in identification requirements, the passport offices are behind and will need extra time to fulfill your requests.

Note from Bishop Matthews: "Join us in August as the Eastern Pennsylvania and Peninsula-Delaware Annual Conferences travel to England to uncover our Methodist

roots. You'll visit the remote village of Epworth and discover the influence it had on Wesley's life and ministry. You'll stand in his college room at Oxford, walk in the fields of Bristol where he preached and worship in the chapel he founded in London. As you join in song, you'll learn how Charles Wesley's hymns are sung in thousands of churches the world over. Come, raise your voice in song, engage your mind in learning and allow your heart to be warmed as we learn more of the life of John and Charles Wesley."



Bishop and Mrs. Matthews

Peninsula-Delaware Conference



Annual Meeting

Saturday May 12, 2007

Wyoming United Methodist Church

107 Broad Street, Camden Wyoming, DE 19934

Building God's Kingdom Thru Men's Ministry

Agenda

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| 8:30 – 9:00am | Registration – <i>Charles Adams</i> |
| 9:00 – 9:30am | Greetings from our President – <i>Charles Brummell, Jr</i>
Morning Devotion
Business Meeting
Announcements |
| 9:40 – 10:40am | Program – <i>Men's Ministry in Building God's Kingdom</i>
Room A – Bible Study with <i>Rev. William A Ross, Sr.</i>
Wesley Temple UMC, Salisbury, MD

Room B – Church World Service with <i>Rev. Ted Farrar</i>
Regional Director, Greater Mid-Atlantic |
| 10:50 – 11:50am | Program – <i>Men's Ministry in Building God's Kingdom</i>
Please switch rooms |
| 11:55 – 12:15pm | Announcements and Closing |

Registration is \$5.00 and includes coffee and donuts in the morning (*or until they last*). Please forward the tear-off at the bottom to **Charles Adams, 12 N. Nace Lane, Dover, DE 19901**. Checks should be made payable to Peninsula-Delaware Conference. UMM. **Lunch is not provided. However, we do encourage you to have lunch in the local area with your Christian Brothers.**

Peninsula-Delaware UMM Annual Meeting — May 12, 2007

Name: _____

District: _____

Address: _____

Phone No.: _____ E-mail: _____

Conference Calendar of Events

April 2007

- 28-29 **Camp Pecometh Open House, Centreville, MD.**
- 29 **Methodist Action Program Annual Meeting, Wilmington:**
Grace UMC, 2:00 - 5:00 p.m.
- 30 **Vision Team, Wesley College: Rm. # 206, 7:00 p.m.**

May 2007

- 2 **Conflict Resolution Workshop for Clergy, Salisbury: Trinity UMC, 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.**
Leadership Development Resource Team Meeting, BFEM Resource Center, 10:00 a.m.
- 3 **Resource Development & Management Team Meeting, BFEM Resource Center, 9:30 a.m.**
Annual Conference Sessions Meeting, Wesley College: Rm #206, 6:30 - 9:00 p.m.
- 5 **Board of Stewards Meeting, Centreville: Camp Pecometh, 9:30 a.m.**
- 7 **Credit Union Meeting, BFEM Resource Center, 1:30 p.m.**
UMCOR Disaster Relief Training, Bridgeville: Union UMC, 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
- 8 **UMCOR Disaster Relief Training for Leadership, Union UMC, 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.**
Delaware Ecumenical Council Meeting, BFEM Resource Center, 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Black United Methodist Preachers Meeting, BFEM Resource Center, 10:00 a.m.
- 9 **Board of Pension Retiree Luncheon, Dover: Duncan Center, 11:00 a.m.**
- 10 **Embracing The Black Church Task Force Meeting, BFEM Resource Center, 1:30 p.m.**
Advocacy Resource Team Meeting, BFEM Resource Center, 2:00 p.m.
Communications Commission Meeting, BFEM Resource Center, 6:30 p.m.
- 14 **Volunteers In Mission Meeting, BFEM Resource Center, 3:00 p.m.**
Peter D. Weaver Mission Team Meeting, BFEM Resource Center, 6:00 p.m.
- 15 **Equitable Compensation Committee Meeting, BFEM Resource Center, 1:00 p.m.**
Pre-Conference Orientation, Dover District: Milford-St. Paul UMC, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.
- 16 **Pre-Conference Orientation, Wilmington District: Simpson UMC, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.**
- 17 **Archives & History Committee Meeting, Frederica: Barratt's Chapel, 10:00 a.m.**
Spiritual Formation Task Force Meeting, BFEM Resource Center, 7:00 p.m.
Pre-Conference Orientation, Easton District: Cambridge-St. Luke UMC, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.
- 19 **Exploring Biblical Sexual Ethics Workshop, Seaford: St. John's, 8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.**
- 18 **Conference Laity & Clergy Banquet, Dover: Whatcoat UMC, 6:00 p.m.**
- 21 **Disaster Relief Task Force Meeting, BFEM Resource Center, 10:00 a.m.**
- 22 **Congo Orientation Meeting, TBD, 7:00 p.m.**
- 23 **Pre-Conference Orientation, Salisbury District: Snow Hill-Whatcoat UMC, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.**