

open hearts
open minds
open doors



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The Healthy Church Initiative A Pathway to Healthy Disciples involved in Healthy Ministry Leading to Healthy Churches

By Sandra Steiner Ball
Director of
Connectional Ministries

Making Disciples of Jesus Christ is the priority of the Healthy Church Initiative. The ministry needs of the Local Church will be at the center of how we set priorities, plan, and carry out Conference ministry. The Healthy Church Initiative is designed to assist church leaders, clergy, and laity to become more effective in sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ with the world. The Healthy Church Initiative is also about strengthening the partnership between clergy and laity so that together we can more effectively be a healthy Body of Christ working to transform the world.

In the Healthy Church Initiative, attention is being given to what the Local Churches tell us are needed in terms of resourcing instead of making assumptions about what resources, training events, or workshops would be helpful. For example, an event, workshop, or training must reflect the goals of the Healthy Church Initiative and focus on the following:

- Discover and address the needs of our Local Churches
- Promote relationships between Local Church, District and Conference
- Establish follow-up plans for events
- Resource the Local Churches,

District, or Conference in one of the 12 pathways being promoted by the Healthy Church Initiative:

1. Train effective Leaders
2. Hospitality
3. Equip and Send to serve
4. Grow in Groups
5. Care for Others
6. Know your Neighborhood
7. Prayer (Talk with God)
8. Create Inspiring Worship
9. Share Christ
10. Gifts Discovery and use
11. Stewardship
12. Connect with your neighbors

In September, the Healthy Church Initiative and the Board of Ordained Ministry held District Trainings with Pastors, Staff Parish Relations Committees, Lay Leaders, and Administrative Board/Council Chairpersons. This training on the process of putting together a Local Church Ministry Covenant was attended by over 1,300 persons in our Conference. This training was developed to meet the discovered need of our Local Churches and Pastors for a healthier way to communicate shared goals and expectations for Local Church mission and ministry. Additionally, there was a need to develop a system and plan for better feedback and a healthier, more proactive process for both pastor and church evaluation. A second, follow-up training that will deal more specifically with the formal eval-

uation process and tool and how these work with the Local Church Ministry Covenant will be held on each District: January 12, 2008. These particular trainings are resourcing our Local Churches in the following Healthy Church Initiative pathways: Training for effective leadership, Gifts Discovery and use, and Knowing your Neighborhood.

The process of beginning to develop a Local Church Ministry Covenant reminds us that ministry is not generic. Just because some ministry worked in one community does not necessarily mean it will work in another. We need to discover the passions and gifts for ministry in both our laity and clergy; and we need to enable those persons to use their gifts. We also need to discover or rediscover our Neighborhood today, in 2007-2008. Our neighborhoods are not the same as they were 10, 15, 20 years ago. If we are still

doing ministry in the same ways that we were doing it 10, 15, 20 years ago, then chances are we have lost touch with our Neighborhood and need to rediscover it in order to truly know and meet the needs. A Ministry Covenant also reminds us that ministry is too important to be left up to chance. We must plan. We must set goals. We must talk about expectations and make decisions about how the pastor and members of our congregations will work together to carry out the ministry and mission of Jesus Christ. Your church/charge should be starting to work on its own Ministry Covenant. Share in the discussion. Start the Adventure. Set out to discover the passions and gifts of the persons sitting in your pews or praying at home. Rediscover your Neighborhood! God may enable you and your church to make a difference in someone's life in a way you never before dreamed possible.



Stewardship Workshop

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Easton and Salisbury events.

PHOTOS BY SHERWOOD SHARPE OF MT. CALVARY UMC IN PRESTON, MD AND TAMMY WARD

Welcome to Our Sacred Space

Greetings,

Often we view the Book of Psalms as a collection of Hymns to God sung by God's people. Psalm 119:1-176, enables us to understand that these psalms of praise, petitions, laments, and meditations mostly accompanied with music were also used for teaching God's law. In fact, this chapter is also known as the "wisdom Psalm." It was written to help God's people understand how important it is to learn God's word.

King Solomon prefaced "the Book of Proverbs" by stating that book was written "for attaining wisdom and discipline; for understanding words of insight; for acquiring a disciplined and prudent life, and doing what is right and just and fair." There are three scriptures that continue to keep me grounded and focused on God's word as I strive to participate in the mission of Jesus Christ. They are Micah 6:6-8, "What does the Lord require," Psalm 119:105, and Romans 8:31-39, "We are more than conquerors through him (Jesus Christ) who loved us."

The one I'm writing about today is Psalm 119:105. In our lives journey, there are so many voices that speak to us each day. Some persons and situations encourage and strengthen us to live out the great commission (Matthew 28:26-28) for the transformation of the world. Yet, some give us selfish ideas and desires for thinking only about the status quo or what happens to be popular at the time. We live in an unjust society and sometimes our congregations are co-opted by all the cares of the world. We can become so involved with our buildings, church programs and agendas, and self preservation (survival) that we forget our primary objective is to make disciples for Jesus Christ.

We can be so easily compromised by seeking popularity, wealth, and prestige that we forget that both clergy and laity are called to serve. We can live or worship in the midst of poverty, crime, homelessness, racism, sexism, and pretend it doesn't exist. We can praise God with our lips and allow our hearts to be closed to the social and political ills of our society that effect those most vulnerable in our society, our youth, senior citizens, women and all children, etc.

Now maybe none of this applies to you or your congregation, but I confess I need God's word to guide my life and I believe "All scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting, and training in righteousness, so that the people of God may be thor-



Rev. Elaine B. Ayres

oughly equipped for every good work." (2 Timothy 3:16-17) I believe that God's word can direct us and give us clarity so we can make sure that we are continually working on a right relationship with God, ourselves, and others. I believe that God truly has the power to shield us from hurt, harm, and danger regardless of any opposition. I also believe that God has given us the power to do all things in Christ Jesus. Yet, the palmist reminds us that we must trust and rely on God.

Someone said, "If the Church still has a light to shine, our congregations sure need to shine it now. We have hidden under our lights too long. "Perhaps we do have the capacity to change. We can shine the light of Christ in our families, congregations, communities, nation and the world. We can be advocates for peace, reconciliation, justice. God is a Sovereign God and His plan of salvation for the transformation of the world is much bigger than you and I. We can't take our mission for granted or leave it up to chance. I was told that the reasons why people carried a lamp with them during the night was for their protection. Many persons, especially the poor and margined wore battered sandals or nothing on their feet. This was dangerous because of the snakes, other insects, broken rocks, unscrupulous persons, etc. Therefore a lamp was more than a cute accessory but their health, peace, and survival depended on their safety as they traveled from place to place.

On this Christian journey, I believe God's word is our lamp so we can see and carry God's light (Jesus Christ) into a dark world. Without God we'll continue to fall and lose our way. Remember we're called as disciples to follow Jesus. Yes, if there's ever been a time to let our lights shine, it's now. It's time to "GET UP and GET GOING! Pray about it.

God's word is a lamp, to my feet, and a light for my eyes.

PSALM 119:105
Shalom,
Elaine

Bishop Felton E. May to Serve as Interim General Secretary of Mission Agency

Bishop Felton E. May (retired) will serve as interim general secretary of The United Methodist Church's international mission agency, the General Board of Global Ministries.

Directors of the board, meeting in Stamford, elected the bishop after they confirmed a personnel committee report that did not renominate Rev. R. Randy Day as general secretary, a post he had held since 2002. The general secretary is the chief executive officer of the organization.

"This action does not diminish our appreciation for the many talents and gifts of Randy Day but indicates that directors are looking for a different style of administrative leadership to take us into the future," said Bishop Fred N. Martinez of San Antonio, president of the board. "Randy has made many new friends for mission and strengthened mission partnerships around the globe. We acknowledge his energetic service." Bishop Martinez said that a search committee for a general secretary would be named before the directors ended their meeting in Stamford on October 11 and would begin its work right away.

Currently affiliated with Pilander Smith College in Little Rock, Arkansas, Bishop May, a former vice president of the General Board of Global Ministries, continues a strong involvement in global ministry as a retired bishop.

He is currently the chair of the United Methodist Holistic Africa emphasis. Bishop May retired in 2004 from his last episcopal assignment in the Baltimore-Washington Annual (regional) Conference. He will assume the interim mission post immediately. Bishop May is dean of the Harry R. Kendall Science and Health Mission Center at Pilander Smith College. He works with students, faculty, and the community in the arenas of personal health, drug and alcohol education, and anti-poverty efforts.

None of the other members of the Global Ministries leadership team, executives who are also elected to their jobs by the directors, are affected by the decision involving Day. The failure to renominate was announced on October 9 by a substantial majority of the 75 directors present and voting.

Day was deputy general secretary of the Global Ministries' unit on Evangelization and Church Growth prior to his election to the position post. A native of Illinois, he is a clergy member of the New York Annual Conference and has served urban and suburban parishes in the Greater New York City area.

"Important changes in the patterns of ministry of mission are taking place within The United Methodist Church," said Bishop Martinez. "Many of these will be thoughtfully considered next April at our quadrennial General



Bishop Felton E. May

Conference. Board directors strongly affirm a collaborative approach with sister general agencies in serving our common mission in Jesus Christ."

The General Board of Global Ministries has personnel or programs in some 125 countries around the world, including missionaries in 63 countries. Among its several program units are the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCORG) and Women's Division, the corporate arm of United Methodist Women, which has 700,000 members in the United States.

Bishop Martinez, the board president, said that directors affirmed the four denominational priorities that are expected to be endorsed at the General Conference. These are leadership development, global health, ministry with the poor, and new church starts. The mission agency has key roles in each of these.

DO NO HARM: CARE Team Concerns: Safe Sanctuaries "How To's"

By Rev. Sally Dolch

Joey Thornburg Melton wrote the book on "Reducing the Risk of Child Abuse in the Church." As an attorney and ordained deacon in the United Methodist Church, Joy has had more than her share of opportunity to observe the devastating consequences of child abuse in the church. Please don't wait until you have experienced the consequences in your community, your church or your family! Act now to educate and protect vulnerable children (and adults) and your church!

Step 1. Buy the book **Safe Sanctuaries**. This edition (blue cover ISBN 0881772208) includes (page 4) a Checklist for Developing Safe Sanctuary Policy and Procedures. **Safe Sanctuaries for Youth** (orange cover ISBN 0881774049) focuses on issues specific to older children and teens such as travel, overnight accommodations, and websites. You can also purchase an **informative DVD** of Joy present in "Why?" We used **Safe Sanctuaries** to evaluate risk in

your church, and "Reporting and Responding" (ISBN 0881774154). All of these materials are published by the General Board of Discipleship.

Step 2. Begin today to research your church's **Sexual Ethics Policy** & develop a **Safe Sanctuaries Policy** or consider combining these two policies. At St. Andrew's in Salisbury, we developed one policy, which was followed by an **Implementation Plan** identifying the steps to be taken over the next year including a document called: **Safe Sanctuaries Operations. The key to a successfully implemented policy is engaging the congregation through education and participation in the development of the policy that will work in your church!**

Step 3. Bring your plan to reality. **Implement these physical changes & practices:**

- "Two Adult Rule" - 2 unrelated adults with children at all church-sponsored events at all times.
- Annual Orientation for teachers and leaders (T&L).
- "Five Years Older" rule - "Why?" We used Safe Sanctuaries than those they lead or teach.

- No under-18 rule - no one under 18 rule may have responsibility for children.
- Six months rule - T&L will be regular participants in the life of the church for a minimum of 6 months before being invited into children's or youth ministries.
- Windows in classrooms and offices & open-door counseling.
- First aid, CPR available.
- Advance notice to parents of all events and activities outside the church at least 2 weeks.
- Covenant for participants and leaders.
- Parent and family education.
- Appropriate equipment and supervision.
- Adequate insurance for the scope of ministries.
- Want more information? Consider reading Mary Alice Grant's article "The ABC's of Safe and Hospitable Space for Children" (General Board of Discipleship). And watch for annual conference training in the year ahead. Contact at least 5 years ahead at sdolch@comcast.net.

General Conference Delegates

Clergy



Laity



*Sandra Steiner Ball
Delegation Co-Chair
Director of Connectional
Ministries*



*Charlotte A. Nichols
Superintendent
(Salisbury District)*



*Boyd Etter
Superintendent
(Dover District)*



*Kevin Goodwin
Delegation Co-Chair
Hockessin UMC
(Wilmington District)*



*William Westbrook
Kingswood UMC
(Wilmington District)*



*Gene Cray
St. Luke UMC
(Salisbury District)*

Jurisdictional Conference Delegates

Clergy



Laity



*James T. Seymour,
Retired Pastor
(Wilmington District)*



*Jonathan Baker, Senior Pastor,
Aldersgate UMC
(Wilmington District)*



*John K. (Jack) Shitama
Director, Camping &
Retreat Ministries*



*Mildred Hamilton
Dale Memorial UMC
(Wilmington District)*



*Donna Rayne
Grace UMC
(Dover District)*



*Megan Shitama
Chesapeake City Charge
(Wilmington District)*

Reserve Delegates

Clergy

Laity



*William T. Sterling, Jr.
Superintendent
(Easton District)*



*Elaine Ayres
Director, Strengthening
the Black Church*



*Patricia Bryant Harris
Senior Pastor,
Marshallton UMC
(Wilmington District)*



*Ruth A. Higgins
St. Mark's UMC
(Easton District)*



*Howard J. Mason
Mt. Olivet UMC
(Dover District)*



*Harvey W. Highland, Jr.
New Zion UMC
(Dover District)*

Peninsula-Delaware Conference—Appointments and Receipts

For the period of January 1-September 30, 2007

DOVER DISTRICT

CHURCH/CHC	PASTOR	APPOINTMENT	PAID	PERCENT	CHURCH/CHC	PASTOR	APPOINTMENT	PAID	PERCENT
1 COLLEY'S	R BOOTH	22697	17022.69	75.0	23 MT FAITH COMMUNITY	J WHITNEY	4389	0.00	0.0
2 SAILORS'S BETHEL	A SMITH III	4745	3560.00	75.0	24 ASBURY	J WHITNEY	4934	1000.00	20.3
3 PORTVILLE	A SMITH III	2425.00	1812.50	75.0	25 ST MATTHEWS	P MOODY	9108	0.00	0.0
3 ASBURY	P ISAACS	2460	1953.00	75.0	26 BLOOMERY	G MOORE	6129	4596.00	75.0
4 PEGGIES	P ISAACS	4494	3384.97	75.0	27 CHRIST	D EVANS	1407	1407.00	100.0
4 BETHEL	B HOPKINS	4318	4318.00	100.0	28 ST CONCORD	D EVANS	14287	14574.00	102.0
4 MT CALVARY	B HOPKINS	3654	2440.00	66.8	29 METROPOLITAN UMC	R COLLINS	2614	0.00	0.0
5 UNION	LALMANDOZ	9056	6936.64	76.6	30 METROPOLITAN UMC	V LEE	10748	0.00	0.0
6 CANNON	C DOTSON	2828	2121.03	75.0	31 HOOPERS MEMORIAL	J KELLY	3299	3299.00	100.0
7 WHATCOT	E LECATES JR	31479	25788.00	81.8	32 HOOPER MEMORIAL	J KELLY	3030	3030.00	100.0
8 CHESWOLD	E LECATES JR	5925	4481.25	75.0	33 MT OLIVET	L JAMESON	4164	0.00	0.0
9 BOKORS CHAPEL	E LECATES JR	1276	957.00	75.0	34 TRINITY	L JAMESON	7781	5000.00	64.3
9 UNIAN WESLEY	R RUSSELL	3303	3303.00	100.0	35 OLIVET	L HANFEE	4051	4051.00	100.0
10 UNION WESLEY'S	R RUSSELL	15864	11898.00	75.0	36 HENRY	L HANFEE	2035	2035.00	100.0
11 EWELL ST PAUL'S	R WUEST	16931	11000.00	65.0	37 BRYAN'S	M ROBINSON	5994	1800.00	30.0
12 BETHEL	C SVEZC	13985	10488.78	75.0	38 JOHN WESLEY	M ROBINSON	8908	2000.00	22.5
13 HOPE UNITED METHODIST	R WESLEY	67086	55084.00	82.1	39 C LOPEZ JR	C LOPEZ JR	12722	10291.50	80.9
14 WHATCOT	A ERVIN	14606	14606.10	100.0	40 ST PAUL'S	C WHALEY	10486	0.00	0.0
16 CHAPLAIN'S CHAPEL	J BORGARD	2760	2760.00	100.0	41 C WHALEY	C WHALEY	2834	2125.44	75.0
17 ST JOHNSTOWN	J BORGARD	2212	1106.00	50.0	42 SHIRLEY WASHINGTON	B SHWELY	17617	13212.72	75.0
17 FELTON-VIOLA	P LAWTON	18400	9866.80	66.7	43 CALVARY	B SHWELY	2446	1834.47	75.0
18 ST MARTIN'S BY THE SEA	R EVANS JR	20042	15039.20	75.0	44 CALVARY	R ELLIS JR	5273	4390.16	83.3
19 FRANKFORD	R STARRETT	6211	6211.00	100.0	45 ASBURY	M FARNELL	10061	10061.00	100.0
20 SARIS	B SHUHAYDA	2580	1000.00	38.8	46 ASBURY	M FARNELL	4178	2922.00	70.0
21 BOKORS CHAPEL	B SHUHAYDA	400	0.00	0.0	47 MT PLEASANT	M MOORE	12621	1144.12	9.1
21 BETHEDA	R SCHATZ	5421	6267.20	66.7	48 ASBURY	M MOORE	3378	3378.00	100.0
22 PROSPERITY	R SCHATZ	4622	1925.85	41.7	49 OXFORD	J BUNTING	7000	5148.00	73.5
22 GRACE	M MCCOGE	20134	15102.00	75.0	50 WATERS	A BOLDEN	7000	3000.00	42.9
23 MCGEELEY'S CHAPEL	M MCCOGE	4470	4470.00	100.0	51 OXFORD	A BOLDEN	6012	4000.00	66.6
23 WESLEY	A PRIETT-BEQUERO	28996	21672.00	75.0	52 HARMONY	C PRICE	7963	3445.06	58.3
24 IGLESIA MT UNDA BE	R KNIGHT-PEGUERO	8653	1000.00	11.6	53 BETHEDA	J WOLFF	10152	7614.00	75.0
25 GREENWOOD	R ROGERS	3295	2197.00	66.7	54 HENRY	A GEORGE	5877	4670.92	58.9
26 BOKORS CHAPEL	C REITZ	1503	1503.00	100.0	55 HURLOCK	A GEORGE	7733	5413.10	70.0
27 BETHEL	S PHILLIPS	3182	3087.00	97.0	56 HILLSBORO	D KELLEY	5887	6857.00	117.1
28 HARBESON	D MUMMERT	3797	2848.41	75.0	57 WYE MILLS	D KELLEY	5037	5037.00	100.0
29 ASBURY	M CALLAWAY	17748	13385.00	75.0	58 CALVARY	K DIZE	4531	4531.00	100.0
30 METROPOLITAN	J HOWARD	3048	2388.00	78.4	59 CALVARY	C BUNTING	8401	5800.00	69.1
31 PROSPECT	J HOWARD	5034	4530.60	90.0	60 MT ZION	H WATSON	3030	1000.00	33.0
32 TRINITY	J HOWARD	6136	4908.80	80.0	61 REUNION UNITED ZION	H WATSON	2242	1131.53	51.2
33 MARY'S	M HARRIS	3902.30	3902.30	100.0	62 RAUM CHAPEL	L MARNER	3720	2480.00	66.7
33 HOUSTON	S MCCADDEN	5637	4227.75	75.0	63 ROCK HALL	L MARNER	4127	4913.00	119.0
34 KENTON	S MCCADDEN	4902	2451.00	50.0	64 AARON CHAPEL	L PURNELL	4957	2748.40	55.4
35 ELIZABETH	M HARRIS	3902.30	3902.30	100.0	65 ASBURY	L PURNELL	4866	4200.00	86.3
35 ST PAUL'S	D MURRAY	5687	4265.25	75.0	66 ASBURY	L PURNELL	2503	2503.00	100.0
36 TRINITY	J LEWIS	6995	4664.00	66.7	67 MT PLEASANT	D HINES	6115	6115.00	100.0
38 CHRIST	F BUCANAN	17737	13320.00	75.0	68 HENRY	J HARRIS	12661	10600.00	83.7
39 KING'S	T BOURKE SR	3233	2425.00	75.0	69 CALVESTOWN	D WALKER	483	0.00	0.0
40 MT PLEASANT	B AUER	5464	4104.00	75.1	70 MT ZION	M HERMAN	1264	1000.00	79.1
41 BETHEL	J COHEN	51331	34220.96	66.7	71 ELIZABETH	E LANGRISH	6000	3800.00	63.3
42 GROOME	W HOPKINS	13107	9837.00	75.1	72 BATES MEMORIAL	M NEBO	3187	2500.00	78.5
43 ISRAEL	T JOHNSON	2735	1560.00	57.0	73 MT OLIVE	M NEBO	3187	2500.00	78.5
44 LINCOLN	L DEERING	17443	13082.22	75.0	74 EBENEZER	J EBEZEE	4308	3256.00	75.6
45 SLAUGHTER NECK	L DEERING	6133	4599.76	75.0	75 GARDNER	J EBEZEE	4308	3256.00	75.6
46 LITTLE CREEK	C EVANS	2231	1301.44	58.3	76 ST ANDREWS	P THURNER	4277	4200.00	98.2
46 MACDONALD	C EVANS	7206	5404.50	75.0	77 WHALLEYVILLE	P HOLLAND	5018	3763.53	75.0
47 AVENUE	E BAKER	76683	37190.50	48.5	78 ST MARTIN'S	P HOLLAND	3046	3046.00	100.0
48 CALVARY	C WALTER	29903	17437.00	58.3	79 CURTIS	J JUSTICE	6386	4790.00	75.0
49 ST PAUL'S	G STARLING	1403	938.00	66.7	80 DISTRICT TOTALS		111143	62471.12	56.2
50 FRIENDSHIP	J FISHER	9869	9869.00	100.0					
51 HARMONY	C WATERS	0	0.00	0.0					
52 BIRCHMILL	B BRADLEE	7414	5560.50	75.0					
54 CAREY'S	A BACKUS	3000	3400.00	100.0					
55 GRACE	R TOWNSEND	26470	13335.00	50.0					
56 INDIAN MISSION	L GANSTER	5014	3762.00	75.0					
57 WOODLAND	E WILKINS	7974	6674.00	83.7					
58 ZODAR	D SCHELL	7914	5940.00	75.1					
60 CENTRAL	P DIETZ	4463	3347.28	75.0					
61 WHITE'S CHAPEL	P DIETZ	4566	3044.00	66.7					
62 ZION	A HENSE	41868	30812.32	75.0					
63 EPWORTH	J ABEL JR	57710	33644.19	58.3					
64 SOUND	D HINKLE	4471	4471.00	100.0					
65 ZION	D HINKLE	4178	3133.53	75.0					
66 CONCORD	D MELSON	7824	5888.00	75.0					
67 WESLEY	E KILHING	9972	7479.50	75.0					
68 WESLEY	T GROSS	2723	2723.00	100.0					
69 ST JOHN'S	C PENNINGTON	66681	42945.64	64.4					
70 JOHN WESLEY	P BRIGGS	6635	0.00	0.0					
71 MOUNT HOPE	P BRIGGS	4051	3000.00	74.6					
72 WOODLAND	R BRIDGE	3781	2897.53	76.6					
73 SALEM	B COOKE	2832	1892.00	67.0					
74 CENTINIAL	R HUMPHREY	4446	2974.00	66.7					
75 WOODSIDE	E MALCOLZ	6546	3818.50	58.3					
76 WYOMING	P COLLETT	53237	39929.00	75.0					
DISTRICT TOTALS		132698	91814.20	69.2					

WILMINGTON DISTRICT

CHURCH/CHC	PASTOR	APPOINTMENT	PAID	PERCENT
1 CORNERSTONE	P OWENS	74420	62000.00	83.3
2 NUEVA VIDA	M ELENDEZ	3922	0.00	0.0
3 BETHLEHEM	P SCHWARTZ	11750	11750.00	100.0
4 UNION	D SCHULER	22442	14961.36	66.7
5 CHRISTIANA	J ROJAS	21790	5500.00	25.3
6 MT PLEASANT	G PENEV	2133	0.00	0.0
7 HARBORBERGER	B HUNLEY	3873	7000.00	181.1
8 DANIELS	B HUNLEY	2633	1974.78	75.0
9 EBENEZER	B HUNLEY	3535	3535.00	100.0
10 CLYDE	J MITCHELL	76839	57629.25	75.0
11 BETHESDA	I GARDNER	43408	32556.50	75.0
12 COLLEGE CREST COMMUNITY	D HAMILTON	3106	0.00	0.0
13 DALES MEMORIAL	D PALMER	104871	79977.75	74.4
14 NEWARK	T DAY	5264	3939.00	75.0
15 EBENEZER	P HANCOCK	13802	11716.00	85.0
16 SALEM	N APPOINTMENT	6000	4500.00	75.0
18 NEW CASTLE	J SALONJR	25927	19445.58	75.0
20 BUTTWOOD	G AATHER	6321	4740.75	75.0
21 MINQUAODE	A MARRERO	4120	600.00	14.6
22 MT SALEM	G PENEV	600	379.00	63.2
23 ST PAUL'S	K TUNWELL	17000	8000.00	47.1
24 ST GEORGE'S	V BRYANT	18012	13512.00	75.0
25 SUMMIT	P HUBBARD	9679	6500.00	67.2
26 FRIENDSHIP	R SAMPSON	10739	8024.78	75.0
27 LEE HAVEN	G PENEV	1451	451.50	31.1
28 CHESTER BETHEL	J BAYLOR	11718	8768.80	75.0
29 CHESTER BETHEL	G PENEV	2713	1811.20	66.8
30 CHRIST	R KERRY II	22181	0.00	0.0
31 COLLEMAN MEMORIAL	P JOHNSON	21385	17825.57	83.4
32 COLLEMAN CARREL	M RONGOLD	47930	0.00	0.0
33 GRACE	A RONGOLD	106465	79848.81	75.0
34 GRACIA DVINA	R MARRON	0	594.00	100.0
35 HARBOR T RIBBMAN UMC	J ARCHIE III	400	0.00	0.0
36 HAVEN	J ARCHIE III	9088	0.00	0.0
37 HILL-CREST-BELLEFONTE	W MEREDITH	22880	17318.03	75.7
38 CALVARY	S MORAN	7999	6125.00	76.6
39 CEDARS	N APPOINTMENT	8988	4898.00	54.5
40 MARSHALLTON	P HARRIS	20688	15316.00	74.0
41 MT ZION	J KERRY	17755	13514.75	75.0
42 MT LEBANON	J HOLLAND	9295	6975.00	75.0
43 ST PAUL'S	C JENSEN	30779	16330.20	53.1
44 PENNSILVA-MCCABE	J HOLLAND	33199	16899.50	50.0
45 RICHARDSON PARK	W GREEN	29779	23200.00	77.9
46 ST MARK'S	T EDWARDS	59457	44929.75	75.0
47 ST ANDREWS	I VAN DER WALL	10009	69027.00	68.7
48 SIMPSON	J PENEV SR	22715	7333.32	32.3
49 SKYLINE	V GORDY-SYTH	42462	5000.00	11.8
50 ZION	J BURRIS	8781	6585.75	75.0
51 HARBOR	J BURRIS	13186	9889.47	75.0
52 HART	M BROWN	5693	4269.78	75.0
53 ST PAUL'S	M BROWN	7046	5284.53	75.0
54 MT PLEASANT	A YARNALL	18180	13635.00	75.0
55 ELKTON	A YARNALL	12588	8400.00	66.8
56 BALDWIN	T BUNICK	19922	11949.03	60.0
57 CHERRY HILL	H JACHA III	6136	4902.72	66.7
58 MOORE'S CHAPEL	H JACHA III	4043	4500.00	74.5
59 PROVIDENCE	K KOOD	16137	0.00	0.0
60 ST JOHN'S	W KNAYER	4000	1400.00	35.0
61 UNION	C DORR	4179	4100.00	98.1
62 WESLEY	E WILEY	18344	9172.00	50.0
63 BETHEL	S JONES	2377	1782.75	75.0
64 NORTH EAST	J GEDMAN	33492	22288.00	66.6
65 ROSBANK	H OWENS	3831	2554.00	66.7
66 PRINCIPLO	R SACKETT	10000	2000.00	20.0
67 PRINCIPLO	R SACKETT	2909	0.00	0.0
68 ASBURY	A TUNIK	2181	1050.374	48.1
69 COKEBURY	V HAYDEN	11207	7378.00	65.8
70 HOPEWELL	A TUNIK	4990	0.00	0.0
71 TONE MEMORIAL	J YONKIN	3000	3000.00	100.0
72 EBENEZER	J JONES	38530	25868.72	67.2
73 JAMES				
DISTRICT TOTALS		187130	109456.15	58.5

SALISBURY DISTRICT

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||
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Everyone is Invited!

for

"Stewardship in Today's World"

The Rev. David S. Bell
Director of Stewardship



Center for Christian
Stewardship
The United Methodist Church

Save the Dates:

Friday Evening, November 2, 2007

Sheraton Hotel, Dover, DE
Registration begins 6:30pm

Saturday Morning, November 3, 2007

Sailwinds, Cambridge, MD
Registration begins 8:30am

Saturday Evening, November 3, 2007

Washington's Crossing UMC, PA
Registration begins 5:30pm

Late Registrations and Walk-Ins Accepted.

(If you have not mailed in your registration by Oct. 26th, please fill the registration form out and bring it with you to the workshop you plan to attend. Please do not mail your registration after Oct. 26th.)

David Bell leads Covenant Quest, a faith-based consulting firm providing services across North America. David's experience includes stewardship consultation, organizational visioning, leadership development, and non-profit fundraising. He creates hope by providing practical consultation and motivational seminars for faith-based organizations. He empowers leaders to discover their vital role in enabling communities of faith to embody a generous culture.

He addresses the often-overlooked spiritual discipline of generosity, the debilitating impact of hyperconsumerism on giving, and the positive cycle of abundance-focused communities. The growing demand for his intuitive, strategic vision and passionate leadership is significant. One of David's recognized strengths is his personal understanding of organizations from various perspectives. He gained experience as a pastor, a development director, and a regional and national church executive.

David has a keen understanding of the current economic and consumer trends impacting charitable giving. His dynamic presentations invite participants to learn from one another by engaging in peer learning. His comprehensive consultation is customized to meet the specific needs of a faith-based community.

David currently serves as Vice-President of Stewardship with The United Methodist Foundation of Michigan. He is President of the Board of Directors of the Ecumenical Stewardship Center. He is an active member of The Alban Institute, the Association of Fundraising Professionals, Christian Stewardship Association, and the National Association of Church Business Administrators.

David is a magna cum laude graduate of Drew Theological School and holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Religious Studies and Secondary Education from The College of Wooster.

David and his wife, Ethel, reside in Brighton, Michigan. Together, they enjoy their two children, Allison and Andrew. In his leisure time, David enjoys discovering local restaurants, playing with their children, watching the backyard birds, walking along the shoreline with his wife, and searching for antique bargains - not necessarily in that order!

For More Information - 810.360.3217

david@covenantquest.com www.covenantquest.com

Passionate Leadership - Abundant Vision - Inspired Generosity

Bishop's Midwinter Retreat Planned

Pastors, make plans now to attend the Bishop's Midwinter retreat in January and congregations, please encourage your pastors to take time away and participate in this once-a-year event.

The retreat is scheduled for Tuesday-Thursday, January 15-17 at the Clarion Resort in Ocean City, that's right, here in our conference, so it is close by for those of you that don't want to travel far but don't worry far enough away that you will experience the "retreat" aspect of the time away.



The registration form can be found by going to our web site (www.pen-del.org) and looking for the information on our home page. You can also register on-line on the Eastern Pennsylvania's web site by going to www.epatime.org. Pastors should have also received the brochure through the conference e-mail blast.

Registration deadline is Friday, November 30th. Those that participate will receive 5 continuing education credits (CEUs).

Please don't delay and register today.

Bishop's Advent Day Apart for Clergy of the Philadelphia Area

It's all about Challenge!

Dear Friends,

A walk through the scriptures invariably reminds us of the many challenges faced by those who answered God's call. How are you handling the opportunities that come your way? Previously, we have dealt with the power of our "connection" and the "conciliar" nature of our denomination that encourages dialogue. In this year's Advent Day Apart, we now turn to the "challenge" of leadership that is focused and purposeful.

Please join me on **Monday, November 26, 2007 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.** at Aldersgate United Methodist Church to take some time apart in order to reflect on the challenges of leadership.

Rev. Dr. Lovett Weems, Jr. will be our guest presenter. We will begin the day with a time of fellowship and enjoy some light morning snacks (beverages, bagel, fruit). We will then gather in the sanctuary for singing, sharing, our guest presentation, followed by a worship service and communion.

As your Bishop, I look forward to greeting each of you as we prepare our hearts for Advent and are challenged to reflect the hope that sustains us throughout the year.

Marvin Matthews

Schedule for the Day

8:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. - Fellowship time with continental breakfast

9:15 a.m. - 10:15 a.m. - Rev. Dr. Lovett H. Weems, Jr. presentation

10:30 a.m. - Rev. Dr. Lovett H. Weems, Jr., message, worship and Holy Communion shared by our Bishop and Area Cabinet.

12:30 p.m. - Departure

Registration

This year you are asked to register with your District Superintendent's Office and take advantage of fellowship opportunities.

There is no registration fee; however, a low offering will be taken to help defray breakfast costs.



Keynote Speaker/Precacher

Dr. Lovett H. Weems, Jr. is Distinguished Professor of Church Leadership and Director of the Lewis Center for Church Leadership at Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, DC. He came to this position in 2003 after eighteen years as president of Saint Paul School of Theology in Kansas City, Missouri. Previously as a local church pastor in Mississippi, his years were marked by an emphasis on both evangelism and social concerns.

A native of Mississippi, Dr. Weems is a graduate of Millsaps College; Perkins School of Theology, Southern Methodist University; and Wesley Theological Seminary. He holds honorary degrees from Baker University and Central Methodist University.

The author of several books published by Abingdon Press, his latest is *Take the Next Step: Leading Lasting Change in the Church*. His earlier book *Church Leadership: Vision, Team, Culture, and Integrity* is described by Professor Rosabeth Moss Kanter of Harvard Business School as "an invaluable guide to leadership in the church." His books *Leadership in the Wesleyan Spirit* and *John Wesley's Message Today* are widely used by United Methodist laity and clergy. He is editor of the online newsletter, *Leading Ideas*, available free at www.churchleadership.com.

Dr. Weems and his wife, Emily, a public school teacher, are the parents of four grown children.

Interfaith Resource Center

The Interfaith Resource Center will host a workshop with Sybil MacBeth, author of *Praying in Color* on November 28 from 2:00 - 4:00 pm. at Aldersgate Church, 2313 Concord Pike, Wilmington, DE 19803. As many of you know, the IRC purchased a copy of the book when it came out last spring. I found it a delightful and very helpful inspiration for my own prayer life. Her book has been mentioned in many national periodicals including *The United Methodist Reporter* and *Episcopal Life*. Sybil MacBeth is a Methodist instructor, a dancer, and the spouse of an Episcopal priest in Memphis, Tennessee. She has been leading workshops across the U.S. for two years and is now teaching others to do the same. Although Ms. MacBeth is the daughter and granddaughter of artists and an avid doodler since birth, she claims no drawing ability at all. The innovative approach to prayer encourages busy people of all faiths to center on prayer using brightly colored markers to doodle prayer requests. Skill in drawing is not necessary . . . only receptivity to the Holy Spirit. Supplies will be provided. Tickets



Paula Hartzell

may be purchased for \$10 (\$15 after October 31) by contacting the Interfaith Resource Center at 1.800.336.6152 or 1.302.477.0910 or emailing us at resourcecenter@uolnet.

New Resources at the IRC

Prayer is a highly respected book by Philip Yancey. Now available as a small group study in 6 thoughtful and inspiring sessions on DVD. Yancey helps you explore and experience the very heartbeat . . . the most fundamental, challenging, perplexing, and deeply rewarding aspect . . . of our relationship with God Filled in various locations in Colorado where the author makes his home, *Prayer* takes you to the mysterious intersection where God

and humans meet and relate.

The Power of a Praying Woman by Stormie Omartian is a 10-session small-group study with DVD and support materials addressing the issue of how prayer changes lives. According to the author, God wants to hear our requests for our lives as much as He welcomes prayer requests for those around us. Ideal for a women's circle, it also is available in audio CD for personal reflection and study.

Have your Bible skills with **John Stott on the Bible and the Christian Life**, a six-session DVD curriculum on the authority, interpretation and use of Scripture. With penetrating insights on the Scriptures and the challenges we face in applying them, author and pastor John Stott—recently named one of the 100 most influential people in the world by Time magazine—addresses key areas of Christian beliefs in his typical clear, balanced, biblically-based and intellectually rigorous manner. A leader's guide is included to facilitate discussion.

Don't forget to check our website at www.interfaithresourcecenter.com for more information on these and other new resources.

Health & Welfare Ministries

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE: A FAITH PERSPECTIVE

by Anne Murray, Parish Nurse

OCTOBER is Domestic Violence Awareness Month. As a society, we are uncovering the extent of violence in family relationships in our communities and yes, even in our faith communities. Jesus teaches us to reach out to those in need. For too long, domestic violence has been supported by indifference. This violence in the home results in spiritual devastation as well as physical danger to women and children — overwhelmingly the victims of family violence. Jesus said "I have come that you may have life, life in the fullest." John 10:10. Someone who is the victim of physical or emotional abuse certainly cannot live life as Jesus intended.

The church need the support of their women family as a source of strength and healing. They need a safe place to find assistance. They need us to help end violence.

What is domestic violence? The crime of domestic violence includes an individual's privacy, dignity, security and humanity, due to systematic use of physical, emotional, sexual, psychological and economic control and/or abuse. Domestic violence is not confined to any group but crosses all economic, educational, and societal barriers. The vast majority of victims are women and children.

Do I know someone who is in an unsafe relationship?

The statistics suggest that we do or we will. Approximately 40-44% of all women will experience physical violence in an intimate relationship. For 24 - 30%, the battering will be regular and

ongoing. Within our families, places of work, neighborhoods and churches there are victims.

What can a church do? Often the church is the last place a victim of domestic violence will turn for help. Sometimes interpretations of the scriptures or religious teachings can create roadblocks to ending abuse. As the body of Christ we must spread the word that there is nothing in Christian teaching, which can justify abuse. We must also follow Christ's lead and be a safe harbor of education, compassion and healing for those who suffer from violence in their homes.

What can I do if a woman reveals she is not safe?

- Listen without judgment, believe her. PRAY for her.
- Remind her of her strengths
- Encourage her to reach out and keep in touch
- Discuss a safety plan
- Let her know that domestic violence almost always escalates
- Allow her to process the information and act when ready
- NEVER CONFRONT THE ABUSER.

Speak to a pastor, parish nurse or health minister if you have questions or desire more information. As church communities we can work together to help women through this physical, emotional and spiritual crisis. Our response based on God's love will enable more abused women to keep the faith.

"Therefore encourage one another and build up each other . . ." — Thessalonians 5:11

11th Annual Meeting of the National Black Clergy Women Conference



Clergy and lay members of the Peninsula-Delaware Conference enjoyed the 3 day event hosted in Las Vegas, NV. Pictured toward the center is Bishop Violet Fisher, Episcopal leader of the New York West Area and former resident of our conference.

By Rev. Jeanel D. Starling

On September 3-6, 2007, clergy and lay women throughout the United States gathered in Las Vegas, Nevada for the 2007 Annual Meeting. This was a time of spiritual restoration, renewal, inspiration, and networking. Not only were our clergy sisters invited, but lay and clergy from other denominations were also in attendance. The theme for the event was "A Balm in Gilead." The president, Rev. E. Joyce Harris Scott, focused the theme on a spiritual power taken from the Old Testament book of Jeremiah 8:22 when he asked the question, "Is there no Balm in Gilead?" Jeremiah's question was a question that became mani-

fested in our Lord and savior Jesus Christ. . . . Jesus is the "Balm." The president maintained that the Balm is the power of God, which the women of God have been clothed with POWER. In addition to business, the meeting focused on women claiming and receiving the anointing of the Holy Spirit through the balm of spiritual healing, physical, and mental restoration. I can assure you that we were "touched" by God's special balm of healing, inspiration, and restoration. Moreover, women of God bonded and gained new friendships.

We were particularly pleased when one of our own, the Rev. Marjorie Burns, was elected treasurer of the National Black Clergy Women's Conference. In

addition, the Rev. Vanessa Stephens Lee was voted as alternate coordinator of the North East Jurisdiction. We are proud of both women. Furthermore, the Peninsula Delaware Conference had the largest number of clergy and lay women in attendance. Specifically, there were 22 clergy and 10 lay women. Entertainment throughout was provided by the St. James Ensemble, where the Rev. Carol Fields is pastor. Accompanying the ensemble was Brandon Gale, Sr. a gifted musician. This gifted young man allowed the spirit of God to move him to such an anointed degree that the spirit of God was felt by all during a praise and worship session. Brandon Gale, Sr. is the son of Mr. Carvis and Rev. Bernadette Beckett.

Cokesbury Change

Due to BFEM Resource Center renovations and some changes at Cokesbury, the Cokesbury Resource Table located on the lower level of the Resource Center has been removed. We hope that this will be a temporary situation and that by the time the Center's renovations are complete, the Cokesbury table will be able to reappear at the Center. We are also in some conversation as to whether or not we might be able to add a Cokesbury link to our Conference website, for easy recommended reading and on-line shopping. Please stay tuned for more information, and please continue to use Cokesbury to supply your personal and church ministry needs.

As part of our Advance Specials, the Peninsula-Delaware Conference voted to make Africa University the focus for November. Please consider one of the Sundays in November as Africa University Sunday and promote a special giving for the scholarship. For more information, please contact Kevin Goodwin, Conference Missions, at MissionsCar@AOL.com. More information can also be found on our website at www.pen-del.org.



Camping And Retreat Ministry



Challenge Course Growing

Since its inception nearly a decade ago, Peconech's Challenge Course has been an integral part of the summer camp program. Campers participated on the low course to develop cooperation and teamwork. They've used the high course, primarily through our Adventure program, to examine their own comfort zones and learn how to challenge themselves to new heights. The challenge course has become an important part of our summer program over the years.

Now, more and more, our retreat guests are finding that the challenge course can be a tremendous resource for any retreat program. Whether it's a church staff learning to work as a team, a youth group learning support and encouragement or a school group doing an outdoor educational program, the challenge course is an increasing resource for our guest groups at Peconech.

In 2006, Peconech facilitated 40 challenge course programs with 1443 participants. More importantly, the word is spreading about this important resource. For example, Salisbury University began bringing its Resident Life Staff for training several years ago in August. Sixty RA's and staff participated in three days of training centered around challenge course activities. Apparently, word gets around quickly, because this year the Georgetown University, Johns Hopkins University, Loyola College, The College of the Holy Dame, Salisbury University and Wesley College all brought students for RA training, orientation staff training or freshmen orientation training. This makes for a busy, but exciting, August on the challenge course.

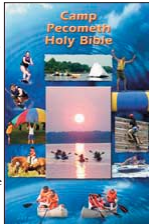
The challenge course, itself, is also growing. Last year, Hockessin UMC underwrote the \$10,000 cost for a new element, "The Giant Swing." A harness cabled to two 50' poles enables the participant to be pulled up higher and

higher. She or he then pulls a release cable and goes "flying down" and out over the ravine that leads to the Riverside Marsh. If you haven't been to Peconech lately, you'll want to check this out.

Camp Peconech Bibles Available for Sale

This summer every camper received a special edition Camp Peconech Holy Bible so they could remember their awesome time at camp and connect it to God's word and God's love. The bibles are produced through a special arrangement with the United Methodist Camp & Retreat Leaders Network and the American Bible Society.

Now, you can have your very own Camp Peconech Bible AND help support Peconech at the same time for only \$10. Better yet, give them as gifts that keep on giving. Quantity prices are available if you'd like to sell them through your church. However you do it, you'll be helping Peconech and spreading God's word. For more information, contact Richelle Darrell at 410.556.6900, x103 or richelle@peconech.org.



Ambassadors Wanted

Has Camp Peconech been a big part of your life? Would you like to help see that today's children and youth can experience the summer camp at Peconech? Then we'd like to invite you to join our Ambassador pro-

gram so that you can share your passion for Peconech by helping us to enroll summer campers. How does it work?

You commit to a day of training at Peconech in January and to develop a promotion plan for your church and/or community. During the training we'll answer all your questions about the summer program, provide great ideas for promotion and fund-raising (to help send kids to camp) and work with you to formulate your promotion plan. Then, we'll give you a really cool Peconech Ambassador shirt and cut you loose to promote summer camp. Of course, you won't be on your own. You'll have all the brochures and video materials you'll need plus, we'll even arrange to have staff make a visit to help you promote Peconech.

This is a great way to share your Peconech memories with young people so they can have their own. If you're not the person, please pass this on to someone who is. For more information, contact Jack Shitama at 410.556.6900, x101 or jack@peconech.org. We're looking forward to hearing from you.

Mark Your Calendar

Volunteer Day

Saturday, April 12, 2008

Bring your church or youth group to help get Peconech ready for the summer!
Contact Buddy Landing at 410.556.6900, x107 or buddylanding@peconech.org for more info

2nd Annual Peconech Day

Open House, Quilt Auction, Silent Auction

Saturday, April 19, 2008

11:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Contact Ann Ashe at 410.556.6900, x100 or annashe@peconech.org for more info

Conference Calendar of Events

- October 2007
- 27 **Board of Lay Ministries Day Apart,**
Camp Peconech
- November 2007
- 1 **Resource Development & Management Team Meeting,** BFEM Resource Center, 9:30 a.m.
- 2 **Stewardship Event for Dover & Wilmington Districts,** Dover: Sheraton, 6:30 - 9:30 p.m.
- 3 **Stewardship Event for Easton & Salisbury Districts,** Cambridge: Sailwinds, 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
- 4 **Daylight Saving Time Ends CARE Team Meeting,** BFEM Resource Center, 10:00 a.m.
- 5 **General & Jurisdictional Delegation Meeting,** BFEM Resource Center, 7:00-9:00 p.m.
- 6 **Council on Finance & Administration Meeting,** BFEM Resource Center, 9:30 a.m.
- Insurance Committee Meeting,** BFEM Resource Center, 3:00 p.m.
- Investment Committee Meeting,** BFEM Resource Center, 3:00 p.m.
- Board of Pensions Meeting,** BFEM Resource Center, 5:00 p.m.
- Conference United Methodist Men Meeting,** BFEM Resource Center, 7:15 p.m.
- 8 **Commission on Archives & History Meeting,** Frederica: Barratt's Chapel, 10:00 a.m.
- Enabling Ministries Resource Team Meeting,** Bridgeville: Union UMC, 6:00 p.m.
- 12 **Board of Ordained Ministry Meeting,** Hockessin: Hockessin UMC, 9:00 a.m.

- Executive Committee & 10:00 a.m. - Full Board
- Constit Union Meeting,** BFEM Resource Center, 1:30 p.m.
- Nurturing Wholeness In Community Retreat-Level 1,** Rehoboth, DE: Atlantic Sands Hotel
- Black United Methodist Preachers Meeting,** BFEM Resource Center, 11:00 a.m.
- Annual Conference Sessions Meeting,** Wesley College: Carroll Room, 4:00-6:00 p.m.
- Conference Hispanic/Latino Task Force Meeting,** BFEM Resource Center, 7:00 p.m.
- Leadership Development Resource Team Meeting,** BFEM Resource Center, 10:00 a.m.
- Embracing The Black Church Task Force Meeting,** BFEM Resource Center, 1:30 p.m.
- Communication Commission Meeting,** BFEM Resource Center, 6:30 p.m.
- Black Methodists for Church Renewal 40th Anniversary Celebration,** Dover: Whatcoat UMC
- Happy Thanksgiving-BFEM Resource Center, Closed**
- 26 **Bishop's Advent Day Apart,** Wilmington: Aldersgate UMC, 8:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
- Vision Team Meeting,** Wesley College: Rm. # 206
- 29 **Advocacy Resource Team Meeting,** BFEM Resource Center, 2:00 p.m.
- 30-Dec-1 **Youth Rally Design Team Retreat,** Ocean City: Carousal Hotel

From your Wesley College Chaplain

We are well into the fall semester now. As unbelievable as it may seem, Wesley College is beginning to focus on the 08/09 academic year. Our Open Houses have begun. Parents come with their students (or vice versa) and they get a chance to take a look around campus, hear all about the college, meet students, staff and faculty and they can even fill out an application (with the fee waived!). The next Open Houses are Saturdays - Oct. 27 and Nov. 10 - and they are from 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. You can contact me for more information if you have a potential student who may be interested.

We are looking ahead but we also have had a fond look at the past during our Homecoming Weekend. The theme was "Cruisin' Through the Decades." It was a lot of fun! There was a parade through the campus and in the neighborhood. Wesley College jumped up on Frosdough College 450 in football. Our alumni had the opportunity to gather once again to celebrate their good times and memories. For some it was the first time and for one in particular he hadn't been back since 1967. That was a long time and he came a long way - from Rensselaer, Indiana! The Alum Dinner had a good turnout at the Sheraton here in Dover. There was a good number of younger alums who are beginning to make their impact here at the College. Miller shared with us that alumni partici-

tion has increased from 5% to 29% during his 10 years as president (seven percent above the national average for similar colleges) and the College recently fully completed a comprehensive \$67 million capital campaign (the most successful in the 134 year history of Wesley College). But the highlight of the evening for us in the

Rev. Mark Pruett-Barnett

Peninsula-Delaware Annual Conference and for me even more personally was the induction of my father-in-law, Dale Pruett, into the Alumni Hall of Fame. It recognized years of faithful pastoral ministry that has been an example for Anne and me.

So, we have looked forward and back and forward once again. The past and future are linked in the present and by God's grace the future will become a story of praise for the great things God has done at Wesley College.

Your brother in Christ,
Chaplain of the Mark
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