



December 2010

Often for my Christmas card/letter I send a Christmas rhyme, so I thought I'd share with you my Christmas greeting:



Tis the Time... for the Humphrey Rhyme



Tis the Season of the Wonderful Reason
Why Jesus the Son came for everyone.
We celebrate His Peace, Joy and Love,
We praise our God from up above.
So I send you this Christmas rhyme
 To share with you a little of my time
Of my joy of my ministry, work and life,
 (I still haven't taken a wife!)

I'm thankful for all the pastors and their church.
They are doing such great ministry even in times of lurch.
 There is creative ministry with excitement and grace,
 People are coming to know Jesus' face.
 The Baby Jesus came to show us the way
 and people are growing every day
 In service, mission, love, and care,
They are making a difference for people everywhere.
 They're active in missions, services and such
 There are always things happening very much.
The Three Rivers District is spread out and broad
They are all doing exciting ministries for the love of God.

I'm thankful in my travels I have been safe and sound
The deer didn't jump out at me when I've driven around.
 I've met many people in all my places.
I'm thankful to have so many wonderful faces
People who have touched my life with cheer,
 People who I hold very dear.

So in this time of the Christmas season
 May we all remember the real reason
 That Jesus came to show us God's love
To connect us to our Lord and Savior above.

Merry Christmas!



RETHINK CHURCH

As we **OPEN DOORS** of Ministry through our Leadership Event, we wanted to give you further information about the workshops and the workshop leaders so that you can know a little more than the short description from the brochure.



#1 *“Faith-sharing in a Changing World”* – **Rev. Dave Scavuzzo**. Dave is in his second year as superintendent of the Western Reserve District. Dave has a passion to help people be creative in ministry, equip and empower people to reach the lost and bring about God’s love and ministry. He served 19 years in growing the Northampton UMC into one of the largest churches in our conference.



#2 *“Potpourri of Program Possibilities”* – **Rev. Jim Humphrey**. This workshop will be sharing a variety of ideas that will help a church in their hospitality, worship, faith development, missions and generosity. Jim is in his third year as superintendent of Three Rivers District. He has been in ministry for 28 years and has served 5 local churches prior to being called to serve as superintendent.



#3 *“Opening Doors to Ministry WITH the Next Generation”* – **Rev. Paul Risler**. Paul is a UMC pastor serving West Ohio Conference. Statistics abound about young people leaving the church in droves. In contrast to those statistics, Central Ave UMC draws over 200 college students every weekend out of an average of 350+ attendees. Over 70% of the congregation is under the age of 40 & over 400 college students call Central their home church while in Athens.



#4 *“ReThink Church: Social Media & More”* – **Rev. Scott Walsh** (picture unavailable) & **Rick Wolcott**. Scott is a trained leader in ReThink Church and Igniting Ministries. Scott is the pastor of a new vital merger, New Leaf UMC in Conneaut. Rick is the East Ohio Conference’s new communication director. They will both be providing new ways for you to connect people to your church.



#5 *“Passionate Worship in a Small Church Setting”* – **Dr. Robin Knowles Wallace**. Professor of Worship and Church Music at Methodist Theological School of Ohio. Her areas of expertise are in Worship, Congregational Song, Prayers Sacraments and Preaching. Varieties of music and diversity of worship forms urge us to look again at the traditions that have nourished us even as we look for new fruits of the Spirit and God’s continuing revelation into and beyond the next generation.



6 *“Altar Visuals & Creating Them”* – **Charlotte Jermy**. Charlotte is lay leader of the Canal District. She has been dean of the UMW School of Missions for the last two years. She is a member of the Randolph UMC. She has designed and created many worship visuals, sanctuary and altar settings and will be showing pictures of them and how to design such visuals for your church to enhance your worship setting for various times of the church year.



#7 *“Creating Community”* – **Derek Hickman**. Derek is the youth and small groups/discipleship pastor at Newcomerstown Christ UMC. He recently trained small group leaders and implemented a small group program at their church with a variety of topics.

#11 *“L.O.V.E. Youth Ministry”* – **Derek Hickman**. The “META” youth ministry at Newcomerstown Christ Church is not just a simple fun based ministry, but centered in worship, learning, and missions.



#8 *“What is Alpha?”* – **Rev. Jonathan Fettig**. Jon is pastor of the First Presbyterian Church in Mt. Vernon where they have established the Alpha program. This ministry has literally rejuvenated the church with so many people part of the small groups and people coming to learn the basics of Christianity through this study.



#9 *“Prayer F.O.C.U.S.”* – **Revs. Susan Stevens & Keith Bohley**. These pastors serve churches (Ebenezer/Epworth & Fredericktown) where prayer ministry is a vital and integral part of their church. This workshop will help you deepen the prayer life of your church and individuals and to help you who and how to pray.



#10 “*Resources & Reading*” – **Susan Arnold & Susan McCurdy** (picture unavailable). Susan Arnold is the director Media Center Specialist of our Conference Media Center. She will help you learn of the great resources that are available to you through the Conference. Susan McCurdy is a member of the Nellie Chapel UMC, an avid reader, and has been coordinator of the district UMW reading program. This is a great workshop to find new things to watch, read and resource.

Picture unavailable

#11 (See above)

#12 “*Bridges Out of Poverty*” – **Rev. Ken Price** (picture unavailable). Ken is a retired pastor but now very actively involved in the ministry of the Park UMC of Akron where they are doing some exciting ministries with the poor. This workshop is an emphasis of our district this next year and will help you to learn of cyclical poverty.



#13 “*Exploring Visitation Ministry*” – **Rev. Lynne Hottle**. Lynne is a chaplain at the Genesis Hospital in Zanesville and a commissioned deacon. Her secondary appointment relates to the Adamsville UMC. She will help you develop more confidence in visiting and possibly develop a lay visitation ministry in your church.



#14 “*Practical Tips to Ramp Up Your Stewardship Program*” – **Brian Sheetz**. Brian is director of the East Ohio Conference Foundation. He is a great resource not only in investing funds for your church but also providing and implementing stewardship education programs.

OPEN DOORS



Three Rivers District Leadership Event January 29 & 30, 2011



Saturday, January 29 at Grace UMC in Coshocton from 1:00 - 5:00 PM

**Keynote Speaker: Rev. Orlando Chaffee,
District Superintendent North Coast District**



Sunday, January 30 at Mulberry Street UMC in Mt. Vernon from 2:00 - 6:00 PM

**Keynote Speaker: Rev. Dave Scavuzzo,
District Superintendent Western Reserve District**

- Each day will begin with praise singing and a short worship time.
- All who register and attend will have the opportunity to choose two workshops each day.

Registration costs: \$5.00 per person or \$20.00 per church (unlimited #) for one or both days!

Brochures and registration information have been mailed to the churches AND posted to our website www.3riversUMC.org. You can register on line or by mail. Deadline: January 17th!

MISSION NEWS

February 2011 Three Rivers District VIM to Nashville, TN

Interested in going on a Volunteer In Mission (VIM) Trip? Join the Three Rivers District as a team goes to Nashville, TN during President's Day weekend, February 17-22, 2011. Work will be done to repair homes destroyed by flooding this summer. Cost is \$100 plus your transportation to Nashville. If you are interested please contact the Three Rivers District office at 1-877/206-4445 or 3riversdist@sbcglobal.net by no later than December 6. You can also contact John Hill, Three Rivers District VIM coordinator at keenebounder@roadrunner.com Mission trips can often be life transforming experiences. We invite persons of all ages to join us (minimum age is 14).

Coming Events:

December

- 2 District Clergy Christmas Party
- 24-Jan 3 Christmas/New Year Holiday - Office closed

2011

January

- 1 HAPPY NEW YEAR!
- 12 dCOM
- 29 Leadership Event @ Cosh. Grace UMC
- 30 Leadership Event @ Mulberry St UMC

February

- 17-21 Nashville VIM Trip
- 18-19 Certified Lay Speaker Training

March

- 1 Superintendency Committee
- 11-12 Basic Lay Speaker Training
- 20 S/PPR Committee Workshop @ Prairie Chapel UMC
- 26 Lay Speaker Banquet (tentative)

April

- 9 Conference Laity Event (for all lay leaders and lay speakers)

May

- 1 Spring District Conference

June

- 10-11 Youth Annual Conference
- 12-16 Annual Conference @ Lakeside

HAVE YOU SEEN OUR WEBSITE?

Take a minute to check it out!

www.3riversumc.org

Send us a link to your church website! (or just the web address) We will have it posted to the District webpage. Then we can keep up with news and ministries in your church!

District events now have on-line registration!

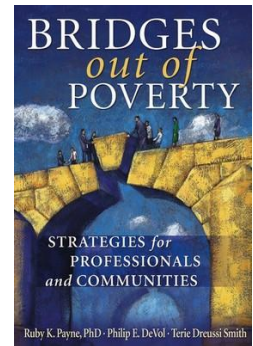


Remember to
pray for our
military men and
women!



Bridges Out of Poverty

This fall you have begun hearing about a new ministry opportunity of The Three Rivers District which is expected to raise awareness about the poverty-related issues that affect individuals in the communities in which we live. People in poverty may be people in our congregations, those served by our congregations, or simply people we come to realize are in need. The implementation of this program will begin with an educational component. We will utilize the training tools developed by Dr. Ruby K. Payne and Philip E. DeVol called *Bridges Out of Poverty* and *Getting Ahead in a Just-Gettin'-By World*. The *Bridges* program is intended to reach out to members of our churches who in all likelihood live in the middle class. The *Getting Ahead* program is intended to reach out specifically to people in poverty to enable them to identify their available resources which with our assistance may help them to transition out of poverty.



If we have not met previously, please let me introduce myself, I am Terrie Baker, a twenty-two year resident of Coshocton County. I am a recent graduate of MTSO with a Master of Divinity and am currently a Deacon Candidate seeking commissioning in the East Ohio Annual Conference. I am certified to train in both the *Bridges* and *Getting Ahead* programs. My initial goal is to reach to interested individuals connected to your United Methodist congregations. The intent is to raise awareness and create sensitivity of individuals in your congregation to the issues that arise out of economic disparity.

For the next year I will be making myself available to assist in raising poverty awareness in each of your churches. However, to make that happen I first need for you to invite me into your congregations. I am ready to plan dates beginning January 1st. My commitment is to make myself available to educate, develop sensitivity, and train individuals about the issues that rise out of class that affects people in poverty. Possible scenarios could include me being a mission speaker, an educator that speaks from the pulpit, as a leader small group for a three to five week session particularly Bible Study with an emphasis on the issues of the poor, or as a consultant for ministry teams and mission committees. I would also be available to The United Methodist Women groups and circles.

Our conference and district has an emphasis this next year of “Ministry WITH the Poor.” We want to educate congregations about working with the poor and disenfranchised. Training can take place on an individual church or on a multi-church shared basis. The goal of this training is to find ways that we can be proactive in our work with the poor. We will be specifically targeting Coshocton County for our pilot project in 2011. I ask you and your congregation to prayerfully consider scheduling a date or series of dates for educational purposes specifically pertaining to people in poverty as well as perhaps making a financial commitment towards this ministry. Your donation will be used over the next year to the development the *Bridges Out of Poverty* and *Getting Ahead* ministries.

I would like to discuss this matter further. I am excited by this ministry and hope that you will be also. I look forward to discussing with you the ways that I can assist you in your ministry with the poor. Further, I look forward to setting concrete dates with your church to begin education and training and Biblical reflection on what God means by serving the poor.

In Christ, Terrie Baker, Mission Outreach Consultant
The Three Rivers District UMC

2011 Church Anniversaries

The United Methodist Historical Society of Ohio will recognize at its Annual Convocation on April 30, 2011, churches which are celebrating significant anniversaries of their founding. The years for recognition are 110, 125, 150, 175 and 200 years.

If your church is celebrating one of these anniversaries, please send a letter on your church stationery by March 15 to:
Dr. Allen Hall, Chairman
Commission On Archives and History
273 Park Place Drive
Wadsworth OH 44281

For more information call (330) 334-4396

2011 Historian of the Year

The United Methodist Historical Society of Ohio will recognize at its Annual Convocation on April 30, 2011, the East Ohio Conference Historian of the year.

Nominations along with supporting evidence of historical activity should be submitted by March 15 to:
Dr. Allen Hall, Chairman
Commission On Archives and History
273 Park Place Drive
Wadsworth OH 44281

For more information call (330) 334-4396

How can the East Ohio Conference Media Center help your church be good stewards?

The Media Center has resources available for Sunday School classes, small groups, events, retreats, youth groups, ministries and worship.

Media Center membership provides unlimited access to a wide variety of books, tapes, audio, visual and nearly 2,000 various electronic equipment items that are available for use - projectors, screens, DVD players, etc.

A viewing room is available for members to review materials and plan events. You can reserve material up to one year in advance. The Media Center catalog is available online and most resources can be mailed to you as a part of your church's membership fee.

The district office has a short video of what the Media Center has to offer. Stop in and see for yourself how The Media Center can help you in your ministries, Sunday school, small groups and video & curriculum choices.

Call 800-831-3972 ext. 139 or go online: www.eocumc.com/mediacenter

Our Thoughts and Prayers:

- To **Monica Huntsman** (pastor of Nellie Chapel/New Guilford) on the death of her father, Shirley Merrill Ater.
- To **Phil McMurrin** (Amity UMC) who has accepted a pastorate at Grace Chapel in Gulfport, MS beginning in December and is leaving our district.
- To **Stan Winters** (retired) on the death of his sister in Dover, OH.
- To **Ed Williams** (Baltic UMC) who had a stroke and was hospitalized. He is concluding his 16 years of ministry at Baltic. We welcome **Dan Eggan** as the newly assigned pastor of Baltic UMC effective December 1, 2010.



YOUTH MINISTRY

Happenings in our District and Conference for youth and workers in youth ministry:

Three Rivers District Youth 2010-11 Schedule:

The district youth have planned seasonal mission experiences.
Mark your calendars now to have your youth participate!

SPRING: **March 18-19-20** – Work Mission at the *Nehemiah Project* in Cleveland. District will pay ½ of the costs per student (which are normally \$60/person/weekend).

SPRING: **April 29-30-May 1**- Camp Zimmerman Retreat and Work Mission

CATCH THE FIRE!

East Ohio Conference Confirmation Retreats

- † Camp Asbury: December 3-5, 2010
(Reg. closes on November 24)
- † Camp Wanake: February 11-13
(Reg. closes on February 1)
- † Camp Aldersgate: March 4-6
(Reg. closes on February 23)

COLLIDE 2011

MARCH 26, 2011

a NORTH CANTON FAITH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Come experience worship in a new light,
with hands-on sessions all about creating worship YOUR way!

December 2010

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat



1

**2 District
Clergy & Family
Christmas Party
@ Grace UMC
6:00 p.m.**

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**9
Retiree
Christmas**

CABINET

10

CABINET

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22

23

**24
Christmas
Eve - office
closed**

**25
Merry
Christmas!**

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OFFICE CLOSED FOR CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR HOLIDAY



January 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 New Year's Day
2	3	4	5 Cabinet	6 Cabinet	7 Cabinet	8
9	10 CPAC	11	12 dCOM	13	14	15
16	17 Martin Luther King Day Office Closed	18	19 Cabinet	20 Cabinet	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29 Leadership Event @ Cosh. Grace 2 - 5 pm
30 Leadership Event @ Mulberry St 3 - 6 pm	31					

The Three Rivers *Current*
Three Rivers District Union UMC
415 Walnut Street
Coshocton OH 43812-1533

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Coshocton, OH
43812

Return Service Requested

January Issue Deadline – December 16



**The Three Rivers District Office staff
wish you a blessed Christmas
and a **Happy New Year!****



*Jim
Gail
&
Barb*

