

August 19, 2020

STATE COLLEGE DISTRICT NEWS & NOTES



Bishop Jeremiah J. Park

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
HARRISBURG AREA – SUSQUEHANNA CONFERENCE

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August 10, 2020

"But who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to give as generously as this? Everything comes from you, and we have given you only what comes from your hand... All these things I have given willingly and with honest intent. And now I have seen with joy how willingly your people who are here have given to you."

(Deuteronomy 29:14, 17)

"And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work."

(2 Corinthians 9:8)

Dear Sisters and Brothers of the Susquehanna Annual Conference,

Grace to you in the name of Jesus Christ, Prince of Peace, Healer of our Brokenness, and Hope of the World!

The ministry we do in the name of Christ continues, despite viruses, conflicts, aggression, and violence. The grace of Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit transcend all of this and renew life and hope.

Our conference session is approaching, and for that we give thanks. A central task of our conference session is our deciding how we will share monetary resources to spread, through our words and actions, God's Good News of grace, reconciliation, peace, and justice. We do this by approving a budget.

To prepare for this important responsibility, we all need a clear understanding of the full scope of the funds we receive as well as the ministry opportunities and needs we may support. **I urge you to view the Facebook Live presentation on Sunday, August 30, at 3 p.m.**, which will provide information for your careful consideration of the conference budget. You will find this webcast at the Susquehanna Conference Facebook page ([facebook.com/SUSUMC](https://www.facebook.com/SUSUMC)).

In addition to the funds we receive through your faithful Ministry Shares giving, health insurance,

and retirement contributions (amounts collected through direct billings), we benefit from generous donations provided by gifts, bequests, memorials, and other sources. Our understanding of the “big picture” of these resources helps us to determine the best ways to invest them in ministry. The presentation on August 30 will offer some clarity and give you the chance to ask questions. Critical information will be shared by Equitable Compensation, Property and Casualty, Pensions, and the Council on Finance and Administration (CF&A).

As the churches and people of the Susquehanna Conference, we have been able to shine God’s light to those who most long for it. Our connectional covenant of the conference budget is an essential part of it. Truly we are better together!

I look forward to joining with you on August 30.

In Ministry with You,
Jeremiah J. Park

PRE-CHARGE CONFERENCE AND SPRC AND TRUSTEE TRAINING

(Please note: CC forms should be available September 1, 2020)

This year we are doing something different. In addition to learning about Charge Conference forms, we will also be offering SPRC and Trustee training.

1. Pre-Charge Conference training (for all forms that relate to Charge Conference) 2. SPRC Training - Rev Bruce Wallace will teach that in a separate room, and 3. Trustee Training - Rev Rick Bender will teach that in a separate room. SPRC and Trustee chair-people are encouraged to attend.

It is important for those who fill out the charge conference forms to attend, so they will have a better understanding of the forms. Some forms may have changed, so please attend and also, PLEASE share this information. Thanks

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2020 10:00 a.m. to Noon at Grace Centre Hall
(127 S. Pennsylvania Ave, Centre Hall, PA 16828)

***RSVP by September 3**, so we can make plans for safety and social distancing as well as preparing materials.

There is no fee for this event, we just ask that if you sign up, please attend so we don't waste paper. You can easily sign up by clicking the link below.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdu8SBm2Bt3wyxCMTok4OSuaPDmfKE2Gkpam7bSNDnaEX7lLg/viewform?usp=sf_link

CHURCHES WEIGH OPTIONS TO REACH MEMBERS DURING A PANDEMIC

The search for and implementation of new technology has become our "new normal".

<https://www.umnews.org/en/news/churches-weigh-options-to-reach-seniors?fbclid=IwAR18r7492kHMOBzz79ykJyk6nGBdhIVT0QgHO2cyMCwzcWnDdssl2wnLeQ>

ONE CALL NOW SYSTEM

For those looking for a more comprehensive means of quick communication, such as cancellations, closings, reminders, etc. consider the One Call NOW System. Their website explains, "Just record or type your message, select recipients, and push a button...One Call Now delivers your message to everybody on your designated contact list...as your choice of a phone call, SMS text message, email, or push notification — all through one handy platform and simple user interface. There is an app for quick recording and sending of messages using your phone. <https://www.onecallnow.com/>

ONE CALL TELL ALL

One Call Tell All is a company that provides a communication system which reaches out to your entire church at one time. Their system is easy to use and only takes a few minutes to record your message.

Go to <http://onecalltellall.com/> to learn more.

CHECK OUT MORE WAYS TO CONNECT:

<https://www.resourceumc.org/en/content/local-church-learning-sessions-technology-for-worship-small-groups-and-giving>

2020 Annual Conference Dates

The 11th Session of the Susquehanna Annual Conference has been rescheduled for **October 3, 2020**, as a virtual meeting,
we will not be meeting in person.

The theme for 2020 is:

Better Together ... One in Ministry to All the World

[Read for more details](#)

Registration dates for Postponed Session of Annual Conference

Registration will be offered exclusively on our website at www.susumc.org/annual-conference open now, and will run through August 31, 2020.

As mentioned earlier this year, we continue to be thankful for the Spending Plan of the Susquehanna Conference that has for many years subsidized the cost of attendance at Annual Conference. You can imagine the expense of an undertaking of this magnitude is significant and continues to grow each year. Beginning this year there will be a **\$25 Administrative fee** assessed to all attendees. This fee will allow for partial coverage of conducting the work and worship of our Annual Conference meeting. Please know that the Sessions Committee is diligently investigating changes in how we meet to contain costs in the future.

Secure online payment may be made using a credit card or bank transfer by following the easy directions during registration. Payment may also be made by sending a check payable to "Susquehanna Conference UMC" to the attention of AC Registrar. Payment deadline is October 1, 2020. **NOTE:** *Your registration will not be completed until payment has been received in full.*

All **registered** members will receive an email closer to October 3 with their login information for the online sessions.

Questions should be directed to: Sarah Filizzi, Annual Conference Registrar, registrar@susumc.org.



YOU DID IT!!!! You, as a community of supporters, made the first ever Matching Monday an incredible success! **The goal was to raise \$18,800 in seven weeks, and we are overjoyed to share that you far exceeded that goal!** During the seven weeks, through specifically designated Matching Monday gifts and undesignated gifts, **you raised \$31,152** for Camp & Retreat Ministry. **WOW! You are making a difference!!** You have blown us away with your support and we are deeply humbled by your financial gifts. At the beginning of this matching challenge, we assumed it would take a few days to meet each week's

match. But week-after-week you showed up in HUGE ways and met every Monday's goal in mere hours.

YOU. ARE. INCREDIBLE!!!!!!

The [Camp Comeback Campaign](#) is off to an EPIC start, *all thanks to YOU*.

There will be more giving events and more opportunities to support these beloved outdoor ministry spaces in the near future. Our [online donation platform](#) remains open for giving at any time. Today we celebrate your generosity, and we give thanks for your amazing support of this ministry, this mission, and these sacred places where all may come to know experience the deep love of God.

Donate [HERE](#) anytime.

BOUNDARIES TRAINING

Led by Rev. Marian Hartman
via **ZOOM Meeting**

Saturday, August 29

8:00 AM to 1:00 PM

Register by August 21

Register at scrantonwilkesbarre@susumc.org or call 570-901-1569.

Once registered, a link for the ZOOM meeting will be sent several days before the event.

CEUs available.

Registration is open to **all Districts**.

If you are currently serving and have not yet had Boundaries Training, you must take this course by the end of August.

This Boundaries course will also fulfill the quadrennial requirement for those who need an updated Boundaries training certificate.

Can't read this email? [View it online.](#)

Join us ONLINE for Leadership Institute 2020

September 24–25, 2020

We're excited to bring [Leadership Institute 2020](#) to you as an all-new **ONLINE** experience on **September 24-25**.

[Register Now](#)

The online format is packed with relevant and actionable leadership development content through a live-streamed event, plus on-demand bonus material for every member of your ministry team.

Individual tickets are just \$49. With the low-ticket price and no travel expenses, you can include and engage more of your team leaders in every ministry area across the church.

You'll experience:

- Outstanding **General Session** content you've come to expect from Leadership Institute from speakers uniquely positioned to address the extraordinary issues church leaders face in 2020:
- 2 **Breakout Sessions** on Friday, with 6 topics to choose from at each session, followed by **Live Q&A**, giving you the opportunity to engage with the presenter(s).
- **PLUS a library of on-demand workshops** you can access any time over the next year. These workshops cover a wide variety of ministry topics, all with tangible takeaways to implement in your own setting.

All Sessions will be recorded and available to registered participants for replay... so no worries if the dog distracts you during a session or you can't decide which breakout to choose! **You'll have access to ALL the content to explore and review on-demand for an entire year after the conference.**

We're working on a variety of ways to **connect with each other** during the conference, including **chat rooms** for focused discussion and the ability to set "**meet-ups**" with colleagues from across the country. So, while we can't be together in person, we will still have the opportunity for a shared and connected experience.

We'd love for you to join us for this opportunity to learn and connect - so gather your team and register today for Leadership Institute 2020!

Register Now

Questions - Email sharechurchconferences@cor.org or call (913) 232-4139.

grow

**Children and Youth Ministry Forum:
*A Panel Discussion on Creative Options & Opportunities for this Fall***

August 26, 2020 from 1:30 pm - 2:30 pm

As school systems and families across the Susquehanna Conference and the country ponder the best way to proceed this fall, children and youth ministry leaders are exploring prudent possibilities, too. Come learn from Children and Youth Ministry colleagues who are implementing a variety of strategies, practices, and approaches for Christian Education that keep young people connected and growing in Discipleship.

This Forum is offered at no charge by the Grow, Equip and Connect Teams of the Susquehanna Conference of the UMC.

[Learn More & Register Today](#)

Equip



Participate in Dismantling Racism Town Halls

[Learn More](#)

Invite your congregation to be a part of two **Dismantling Racism town hall events** this month, on **August 19** and **August 26**. First, seasoned leaders, including James Lawson, Joel N. Martinez, Sue Thrasher and Clara Ester, will remind us of where we've been and need to go. Then, a panel of emerging leaders, including Ann Jacob, Theon Johnson III, Andres De Arco and Katelin Hansen, will discuss their strategies for changing the world.

Learn more, submit your questions and watch the events at [UMC.org/EndRacismTownHall](https://www.UMC.org/EndRacismTownHall). You can also watch and engage with others at [Facebook.com/UnitedMethodistChurch](https://www.facebook.com/UnitedMethodistChurch).

Mental Health First Aid Training

Monday, August 31

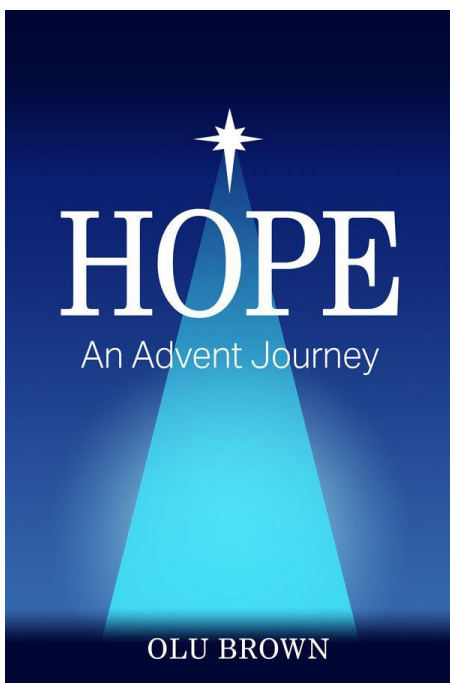
The Mental Wellness Awareness Association is offering an 8-hour course that teaches you how to help someone who is developing a mental health problem or experiencing a mental health crisis.

This will be a virtual and in-person course. The 2.5 hour virtual portion of the course will be self-directed in the comfort of your home while the other 4.5 hour portion of the course will be done in person at Wesley UMC, 306 Rhoads Ave., Selinsgrove, PA. Masks are required and there will be Social Distance Seating.

[View Flyer & Registration Form](#)

connect

Olu Brown Advent Study for Groups & Individuals



Now available for pre-order at Market Square Books

This year's Advent season will be like none before. As the year began, there were high hopes of 2020 being a year when visions and plans would be fulfilled, but as the year progressed many of these hopes were dashed as so many found themselves simply trying to survive each day.

It would be easy to put Advent on the back burner, forgetting that it is a time when we rejoice and give God praise for the fulfillment of scripture. In the new work, ***Hope: An Advent Journey***, author Olu Brown encourages readers to reclaim Advent as something already here, not a season waiting to arrive. Matthew's gospel speaks of Jesus as Emmanuel, which means "God with us." This name does not speak of the future, but of the present.

In spite of our present difficulties, we have Emmanuel. This Advent season can be the best ever if you dare to embrace the hope of Jesus right now, knowing that God's grace and love are present to carry you through the most challenging times in your life.

[Pre-Order Your Copy Today](#)

Human Contact

Every one of us would benefit from a hug right now. Some people are so eager to hug others that they've created plastic devices called the "hug glove" or "cuddle curtains" to decrease the risk of spreading COVID-19 while still hugging their loved ones. Before the COVID19 pandemic, it was normal to hug friends and family, shake hands regularly and even stand or sit shoulder-to-shoulder with strangers in public.

The COVID-19 pandemic has changed the way that we interact with others. As we practice social distancing, elderly people are visiting with loved ones through glass, close friends gather outdoors at an unnatural distance for intimate conversation, significant life events are celebrated on video chat, worship and even school has moved online, and people who live alone are lacking physical touch of any kind.

[Read More](#)



October 25 – 31, 2020

Our Mission Central annual 5K has turned into the first ever virtual run – the Mission Central Monster Mash and Dash! We are invite all runners/walkers/movers and shakers to participate! The event will run October 25, 2020 through October 31, 2020. Please join us with your best

Halloween costume and share your experience on social media – #MCmonsterdash.

Registration is \$25 for adults and \$15 for children and includes our Mission Central Mash and Dash T-shirt. We look forward to 'seeing' you!

[Register Today](#)

QUIKLINK – If you wish to receive emails from Quiklink, you can easily subscribe on the bottom of the homepage on <https://susumc.org/>

Other Susquehanna Conference email subscriptions include: Link, Celebration of Life, Disaster Response, Safety Committee Notices

MILROY HAS A BUNCH OF OLD CHOIR MUSIC
Milroy has a bunch of old choir music from the 50's to more current, plus cantatas (Easter and Christmas) and I know that some of you have choirs and just maybe you or your directors would like to look at it. Contact Pastor Jean Ward at jward@susumc.org



State College District UMC

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statecollege@susumc.org

Office hours:
Mon – Thurs 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Closed Fridays

Prayers and Praises

Harry Heikes and Jennifer
Prayers for our world

**The State College District
Office will be closed the
week of August 24 and
will re-open on August 31.**

Please stay safe!

**If you wish to be removed from this email list, please send a note to statecollege@susumc.org*