

October 7, 2020

STATE COLLEGE DISTRICT NEWS & NOTES

LINK FOR PRE-CHARGE CONFERENCE WORKSHOP

(Recorded by Pastor Theresa Heiser)

Have questions about Charge Conference forms?

Click on this link to view, it's very helpful!

<https://youtu.be/sXDRMtm4TqA>

You can access Charge Conference forms on the website susumc.org

LINK STORIES WANTED!

If you know of UM churches/individuals in your district that are reaching out and doing ministry in unique and wonderful ways during this pandemic, please let me know or have them send me a story! This is a great opportunity to give them a shout-out, inspire others, and let readers know that God is still at work in and through us!

Story guidelines:

- 500-800 words
- Include: author name, who, what, when, where, why, how, and contact info/web links.
- 1-4 full-resolution pictures + name of photographer & captions
- Email stories & pictures to link@susumc.org
- *Article may be edited for length*

AVOID CORONAVIRUS SCAMS

- Learn how to [tell the difference between a real contact tracer and a scammer](#). Legitimate tracers need health information, not money or personal financial information.
- **Don't respond to texts, emails or calls about checks from the government.** Here's [what you need to know](#).
- **Ignore offers for vaccinations and home test kits.** Scammers are selling products to treat or prevent COVID-19 without proof that they work.
- **Be wary of ads for test kits.** Most test kits being advertised have **not** been approved by the FDA, and aren't necessarily accurate.
- **Hang up on robocalls.** Scammers are using [illegal robocalls](#) to pitch everything from low-priced health insurance to work-at-home schemes.
- **Watch for emails claiming to be from the CDC or WHO.** Use sites like [coronavirus.gov](#) and [usa.gov/coronavirus](#) to get the latest information. And [don't click on links from sources you don't know](#).
- **Do your homework when it comes to [donations](#).** Never donate in cash, by gift card, or by wiring money.

[Source: <https://www.ftc.gov/coronavirus/scams-consumer-advice>]

EFFECTIVE ONLINE MINISTRIES BEYOND WORSHIP

October 13th
2:00-3:00 pm

Come join an online forum with a panel of practitioners in our own annual conference as we hear about and discuss ways to be in ministry online beyond worship. Topics that will be discussed include small groups, discipleship, children and youth, community engagement and more!

Panelists include Anna Layman Knox (Camp Hill), David Carter (Faith Bellefonte), Rebecca Holland (Christ Community/Llyswen) and Ken Loyer (Spry/Pine Grove).

To join the forum, click on the following link:

[Forum: Effective Online Ministries Beyond Worship](#)

Creativity Training on ZOOM – October 12 from 2- 3:30 p.m.

(Yes, Monday afternoon. I picked this to show you how to be creative at the most unlikely time!)

You are invited to an online webinar on creative thinking that will help your church adopt, adapt, and create the tools and practices to help you with the new opportunities this time offers us. One of the gifts God gives us is creativity in living the fruit of the Spirit, let's explore how to give this together.

The Creativity Training webinar is free although I will ask you to consider donating to a specific UMC cause for this workshop. I have taught creativity in local churches and online with people from around the world. Yet one of my most joyful experiences was teaching creative thinking at a homeless shelter and seeing how God blessed us. I hope you will join me! Here is the link to register:

<https://form.jotform.com/202623450899158>

Terri Cartwright

ONLINE STUDY: INCARNATION

Pastor Theresa Heiser leads this online Advent study **Monday evenings Nov. 23, 30, Dec. 7, 14 starting at 7pm.**

We will meet via Zoom, online or by phone. The study is open to anyone, anywhere! The only cost is your book.

Pre-order the book now and save! [Cokesbury is offering the book for \\$13.49 for a limited time.](#)

Also available for [\\$19.99 on Amazon / \\$9.99 for Kindle version on Amazon](#)

[Click here to sign up now!](#)

ABOUT THE STUDY

Learn the meaning behind the names of Christ and the difference He makes in our lives this Christmas. His parents gave him the name Jesus. But the prophets, the shepherds, the wise men, and the angels addressed him by other names. They called him Lord, Messiah, Savior, Emmanuel, Light of the World, and Word Made Flesh. In *Incarnation: Rediscovering the Significance of Christmas*, best-selling author Adam Hamilton examines the names of Christ used by the gospel writers, exploring the historical and personal significance of his birth. This Advent season church families will come together to remember what's important. In the face of uncertainty and conflict, Christians reclaim the Christ child who brings us together, heals our hearts, and calls us to bring light into the darkness. Now more than ever, we invite you to reflect upon the significance of the Christ child for our lives and world today!

WINNERS OF THE 2021 LOCAL INITIATIVES GRANTS

WASHINGTON, D.C.— The Council of Bishops of The United Methodist Church is pleased to announce the winners of the 2021 Local Initiatives Grants. Bishop Sally Dyck, Ecumenical Officer for the Council of Bishops said the grants are used to deepen ecumenical and/or interreligious relationships across the United Methodist Connection through local ministries.

The State College Cluster UMC with State College Interfaith Leaders, led through St. Paul UMC. Their project is to create a series of monthly online meetings among local college interfaith leaders to discuss inclusion, diversity and relationship-building. The meetings will include: a discussion on racism and how it affects unity, the reading together of the book *The New Jim Crow*, a training on hate crimes, and a virtual webinar with a known guest speaker. This last virtual gathering will be open to the public (and will be advertised via the COB Facebook page).



Youth Service Funds

Young People's Ministry Council is offering Youth Service Funds for those churches who are hosting Community Classrooms! Please find the application here: www.igniteyoungpeople.org

Pandemic Learning CEUs Available

Clergy have had to lead in extra-ordinary new ways during the COVID-19 pandemic. In recognition of this hard work (and the fact that many conference education events have been canceled in 2020) the Susquehanna Conference Board of Ordained Ministry is offering one (1) continuing ed credit to each pastor who completes the following reflections. One sentence is sufficient to answer each question.

Please use the following link to complete the reflections:

<https://forms.gle/Ufv6DdHLZQ4Gy5Wr8>

Please complete by October 31, 2020. You will receive your CEU certificate via email once your responses have been reviewed.

If you have any additional questions, you may direct them to Ryan Krauss (rkrauss@susumc.org), chair of Continuing Formation.



Effective Online Ministries Beyond Worship

October 13, 2020

Come join an online forum (2-3:00 pm) with a panel of practitioners in our own annual conference as we hear about and discuss ways to be in ministry online beyond worship. Topics that will be

discussed include small groups, discipleship, children and youth, community engagement, and more!

Panelists include: Anna Layman Knox (Camp Hill), David Carter (Faith Bellefonte), Rebecca Holland (Christ Community/Llyswen), and Ken Loyer (Spry/Pine Grove).

[Join the Forum](#)

2020 United Methodist Online Creation Justice Summit: *Local Solutions to Global Crises*

Friday, October 16, 7:30-9:45 PM & Saturday, October 17, 12-2:30 PM EDT

United Methodists from across the United States will gather online for the 2020 Online Creation Justice Summit. In four sessions, leaders from across the country will guide participants through this meaningful training that will equip and inspire action to build Creation Care ministries in their local churches and annual conferences and join with others to build a movement for creation justice throughout the denomination. Attendees will be encouraged to dream boldly of ways they can play a key role in healing the planet, dive deeper into advocacy and Green Team development training, gather wisdom from speakers and other leaders, and gain strength and inspiration by worshipping together.

[Learn More & Register Today](#)

Youth Mental Health First Aid Training being Offered

Youth Mental Health First Aid (YMHFA) is designed to teach parents, family members, caregivers, teachers, school staff, peers, neighbors, health and human services workers, and other caring citizens how to help an adolescent (age 12-18) who is experiencing a mental health or addictions challenge or is in crisis. YMHFA is primarily designed for adults who regularly interact with young people. The course introduces common mental health challenges for youth, reviews typical adolescent development, and teaches a 5-step action plan for how to help young people in both crisis and non-crisis situations. Topics covered include anxiety, depression, substance use, disorders in which psychosis may occur, disruptive behavior disorders (including AD/HD), and

eating disorders.

The training would use the blended model: 2 hours of online training followed by a 4-hour live group training. **If you are interested in this particular MHFA training, please send an email to emadison@susumc.org. We need at least 8 participants before we can schedule training.** Date & location will be determined after we have reached that number by contacting directly the people interested.

[View Flier for more details on MHFA](#)

Meditation Skills Training Institute

The last session of *Mediation Skills Training Institute for Church Leaders* for this year will be November 16-20, 2020. This outstanding 5-day event helps participants deal more effectively with interpersonal, congregational, and other forms of group conflict. The tentative dates for next year are March 1-5, May 3-7, June 21-25, August 2-6, October 4-8, and November 15-19, 2021. No decision has yet been made with regard to returning to an in-person format, so attendees will need access to a device with both a camera and a microphone. Questions? Contact the Lombard Mennonite Peace Center at Admin@LMPeaceCenter.org or 630-627-0507. To receive a **\$200 tuition discount** for the November 2020 session, register no later than October 16.

[Register Today](#)

connect

Important Safety Committee Notice

Chemicals & YOU - You may use a number of chemicals every day – *but do you know how to protect yourself from exposure and what to do if you are accidentally exposed to chemicals?*

[View and follow these Chemical Safety Guidelines](#)



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](#)

[Award for State College Cluster UMCs for Inclusion Project](#)

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CHECK OUT THE "WHAT'S HAPPENING AT OUR CHURCHES" ISSUE

State College District UMC (please wear a mask when visiting our office)

1200 Haymaker Rd., State College, PA 16801

Office Phone: 814-237-4365

Website: statecollegedistrict.susumc.org

Office hours:

Mon – Thurs 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Closed Noon – 1 p.m.

Closed Fridays

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