



* Around the Conference Page 8A

THE PURPOSE of the New Mexico Conference NEWS is to tell the story of United Methodism within the New Mexico Conference. PRIORITY is given to:

- (1) stories promoting official programs and emphases of the conference;
- (2) articles reflecting the mission and work of the church as carried out by districts, individuals and local churches within the conference;
- (3) groundbreakings and the consecration and dedication of new churches;
- (4) brief reports of deaths, awards and special accomplishments of pastors and their families and laity who are known throughout the conference due to their conference-level responsibilities.

PERSONAL Opinion articles normally are not used.

ARTICLES for possible use may be sent to the editor at the Conference office.

The United Methodist Reporter's "Letters to the Editor" section may be read online at the UMR Portal (UMReporter Interactive) at www.umportal.org by clicking on the "Letters to the Editor" link.

New Mexico Conference NEWS
D. Max Whitfield, Bishop
Bill Sylskar, Director
Mission & Administration
Karla Abernethy-Thetford, Editor
nmumrumc@nmconfum.com
 (806) 655-2828
 Circulation
lorik@nmconfum.com
 Conference Offices
 11816 Lomas Blvd NE
 Albuquerque, NM 87112
 Phone (505) 255-8786
 (800) 678-8786
 Fax (505) 265-6184
 WEB SITE nmconfum.com

UMW: From the Bishop

To New Mexico Pastors and Lay Leadership
 The United Methodist Women strongly encourage all of their members to constantly be involved in the support of mission, the study and learning, and the development of their spiritual life. Their Conference Spiritual Retreat scheduled for March 18-20, 2011, at Sacramento Methodist Assembly will be unusually strong.

Glory and Jacob Dharmaraj will be providing the leadership for the retreat. The Rev. Jacob Dharmaraj, his wife Glory Dharmaraj, and Bishop Ernest Light joined in writing a book entitled "Many Faces One Church." It focuses on making cross cultural appointments.

Most of our communities present great opportunities for ministering to persons representing several racial and cultural groups.

The New Mexico Conference is a multi-cultural and multi-racial society. Many of our congregations reflect our communities and others are striving to make this transition.

This study will help to open the doors for us to fulfill the Great Commission Jesus gave to us to make disciples of all nations.

Jo Ann Buckley, Conference President of United Methodist Women, is urging not only United Methodist Women to attend this year's Spiritual Enrichment Retreat, but also desires that pastors and laity (men and women) join their members for this event. She believes the Dharmarajs are exceptional leaders from whom all of us can learn and benefit.

All portions of our Conference are seeking ways to help bring congregational transformation in order to be more effective in making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. The Conference United Methodist Women are seeking a different way to accomplish this mission.

More information about the retreat will be provided as it is available.

UMW ANNUAL MEETING

The 38th annual meeting of United Methodist Women of the New Mexico Conference will be Oct. 22-24 at First United Methodist Church Artesia.

This year's theme is "Who? Me?"

There will be a tour of Landsun Homes at 9:30 a.m. Oct. 22. Registration will be 2-4 p.m. followed by the district suppers and meetings from 5-6:30 p.m. Opening session will begin at 7 p.m.

Meeting will convene at 8:45 a.m. There will be a banquet at 6:30 p.m. The event will conclude with worship at 10:15 a.m. at FUMC Artesia.

A nursery will be available if the registration forms indicate a need.

All members of UMW are encouraged to attend. Each unit is entitled to one voting delegate. Those units with more than 50 members are entitled to a second voting delegate.

There will be two offerings. Each unit is encouraged to bring an offering. Make checks payable to New Mexico Conference United Methodist Women (NMCUMW).

Mission project is Lydia Patterson Institute.

For a registration form go online to the Conference website at www.nmconfum.com/Engaging/United-Methodist-Women/.

Coming Soon:

- * 2010 Camp Report
- * Communication Ministry Training Program
- * Imagine No Malaria

Course of Study graduate

On Aug. 5, the Rev. Lourdes Calderon graduated from Course of Study at Perkins School of Theology of Southern Methodist University in Dallas Texas.

"I want to give God all honor and Glory for this accomplishment and recognize my husband Sebastian and our children Saby and Chelsea for their support and love for me and also, the New Mexico Conference, the Methodist Foundation and all the brothers and sisters in Christ who supported me with prayers and with scholarships."

Rev. Lourdes Calderon is serving at St. Andrew's United Methodist Church in Albuquerque.



Heritage Tour to explore churches in El Paso District

The 2010 United Methodist Heritage Tour, sponsored by the New Mexico Conference Historical Society, will take place Sept. 25-26 in the El Paso District.

The caravan tour, in which participants drive their own car and are responsible for expenses along the way, will begin at the 100 year old church at Sierra Blanca.

From there, it will make stops at Van Horn, Toyah, Pecos (lunch), Wickett, Monahans, Grandfalls, and Imperial. The group will then spend the night at Fort Stockton and attend services there. The following day includes stops at Saragosa, Balmorhea, the Fort Davis National Historic site, and Fort Davis.

There will be a booklet distributed to all those who participate sharing a little of the history of each church and community, and at each stop the group will seek to learn more from those at the church.

"These are really voyages of discovery," Conference archivist Will Steinsiek said.

"They add to our knowledge of both the past and the present, and hopefully inspire both the church and ourselves to work toward the future with our great cloud of witnesses in mind."

People are welcome to join or to leave the tour at any point.

Those who might be traveling from New Mexico and decide to stay in El Paso Sept. 24 are invited to take a special tour of Friendship Square, 6009 Tays St, at 3 p.m. and then have dinner together.

For those who complete the journey and decide to stay, special accommodations will be available at the Bed and Breakfast in Fort Davis. There also will be an evening service at 7 in the old church sanctuary at Fort Davis, built in 1884.

Fort Davis also was a stop on The Heritage Tour in 1993.

To join the Heritage Tour, send a note to the New Mexico Conference Center, 11816 Lomas Blvd NE, Albuquerque, NM 87112, or send an email to nmarchives@nmconfum.com, indicating how many people will be coming.

around the conference and beyond

PRAYER VIGIL

Western Hills UMC is holding the 4th annual 24-Hour Prayer Vigil beginning at 7 a.m. Sept. 18 and ending at 7 a.m. Sept. 19.

People will gather in the sanctuary of the church. There will be 10 prayer stations around the altar, each with a different prayer emphasis to help pray-ers focus their prayers.

The stations are Focus on Jesus, Healing (where personal concerns may be shared), Juarez, World Peace, El Paso/Fort Bliss, Families, Western Hills and Her Missions, The Ridge, Meditation, and Celebrating God's Grace.

Sign-up for 30 minute slots will begin Aug. 29, but walk-ins are always welcome. The public is invited.

For more information, call Frank and Zoe Dean Middleton at (915) 581-3051.

HEALTH QUOTIENT

Do you participate in the Conference health insurance plan?

Don't forget to complete the Health Quotient by Aug. 31.

Details on the Conference web site at <http://www.nmconfum.com/Conference-Services-Boards/Special-Announcements/>.

SAVE THE DATE

It's time to save the date on your calendar for the 2010 Seasoned Citizen Retreat at Sacramento—“A Closer Walk” – Oct. 11-15.

“A Closer Walk” is a week-long retreat for the young-at-heart in the beautiful Sacramento Mountains.

Join us for engaging classes, storytelling, walks through the forest, great food, fellowship, and wonderful messages about what it means to have a closer walk with Christ.

Watch for registration forms to be made available the end of August.

VOLUNTEER

The New Mexico Mission of Mercy (NM MOM) is a large-scale dental clinic in which dental services are provided for adults and children who cannot

afford such care. It is planned for Oct. 15-16 at Expo NM in Albuquerque (setup will be Oct. 14, and take down on Oct. 17).

The Albuquerque NM MOM needs your help....

*provide community awareness of the upcoming event

*volunteer for the Albuquerque event at www.nmdental-foundation.org

*NM MOM depends on donations; consider making a financial or in-kind contribution.

Bishop Max Whitfield highly recommends involvement in this project and prays the churches of the New Mexico Conference will find a way to participate. The many ways to help are listed on the web site mentioned above.

SPIRITUAL FORMATION

The Senior Spiritual Formation Conference will be Nov. 5. The event will begin at 8:30 a.m. and conclude at 3 p.m. at Christ United Methodist Church in Albuquerque. Tex Sample will be keynote speaker. Theme will be “telling our stories.”

Watch for more information or contact the Rev. Janie Noble at jsnoble2@googlemail.com.

RETREAT FOR MEN

Men's Spiritual Retreat 2010, “No Man Left Behind” will take place Sept. 24-26 at Sacramento Methodist Assembly.

Sponsored by the United Methodist Men of the New Mexico Annual Conference, the guest speaker will be Brett Clemmer, VP, “Man in the Mirror.” Music by “Wings & a Prayer” of Epworth UMC Carlsbad. There will be a Golf Tournament.

All men are encouraged to attend. For registration information, contact Marion Jordan at wmjordan7@gmail.com or (505) 881-8181.

LAITY FORUM

The Albuquerque District is holding a District Laity Forum from Noon-3 p.m. on Sept. 18

at St. Steven's UMC in Albuquerque.

Lay leaders and lay leadership in the local churches are invited to attend to share ideas, suggestions and concerns about what is happening in their churches. The Conference Board of Laity would like to start a program to improve communication between laity in each district and in the New Mexico Annual Conference. Plans are being made to hold additional forums in the other districts in the Conference.

Those interested in attending are asked to bring their thoughts for discussion in writing. For more information, contact Chris Caldes at wcaldes1@cnetco.com or (505) 863-5933.

Share how your church is Rethinking Church in your community. Send stories to karla@nwtxconf.org.



You Are Not Alone

“For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”
Matthew 18:20

Youth Directors Annual Retreat

September 9-12, 2010
Sacramento Methodist Assembly

Retreat Registration
Non-refundable registration \$25 due September 1, 2010

Name _____

Church _____

Address & zip _____

Email _____

Home/cell phone _____

Male ___ Female ___ (check one)

Roomate Preference _____

Option #1 _____ (2 days)

Option #2 _____ (3 days)

Special Dietary Needs? _____

Send form and payment to:
Dara Bell - YD Retreat
NM Conference United Methodist Church
11816 Lomas NE
Albuquerque, NM 87112

Questions? Call Dara at 505-255-8786 or email youthdir@nmconfum.com



10 Days. 10 Projects. Be Counted.

10-Fold Unfolded – A Participant's Guide

10 projects. 10 days. 10-Fold Unfolded

From October 10th through 19th you will be able to learn about projects of the General Board of Global Ministries around the world supported through The Advance, the designated giving arm of The United Methodist Church, during an online event unlike anything you have experienced before. It's called 10-Fold. Through live webcasts, streaming video, online chats, and other media at 10-Fold.org, you will see and hear about amazing efforts that are changing people's lives.

Here is the daily schedule of projects that will be featured at 10-Fold.org:

- ❖ October 10: Haiti Recovery – 3,000 humanitarians helping a country rebuild itself
- ❖ October 11: Children's Health and Wholeness – Transforming communities so that children can live healthy and whole lives
- ❖ October 12: Missionaries in the US – Dedicated men and women living their faith through remarkable service
- ❖ October 13: Missionaries Around the World – Growing a global force for faith and hope in over 60 countries
- ❖ October 14: Training Church Leaders – Training the thousands called to devote their lives to Christ and the Church
- ❖ October 15: Church Planting Worldwide – From Asia to Latin America, introducing the United Methodists and sharing the gospel through word and deed
- ❖ October 16: Justice for Our Neighbors – Church-based teams helping refugee-seekers and immigrants navigate their way as they start their lives in the United States
- ❖ October 17: Clean Water and Sanitation – Helping families in Africa and South America gain access to safe water and sanitation facilities
- ❖ October 18: Healthcare in Africa – Combating disease in 22 hospitals and clinics across Africa
- ❖ October 19: Sustainable Agriculture – Training farmers so rural families and communities can thrive

Because of the unpredictability of planning a global event online, this is a preliminary schedule and is subject to change.

10-Fold. Ways You Can Participate

10-Fold is an online event unlike any you have ever attended. Here is what you need to know to be a part of this global gathering:

- ❖ 10-Fold will be happening online at 10-Fold.org from October 10th through October 19th, 2010.
- ❖ By going to 10-Fold.org daily and registering interest in a project with one easy click, you will trigger a \$1.00 donation. Up to \$10,000 will be donated per project.
- ❖ Each day will feature a different project supported through The Advance, the designated giving arm of The United Methodist Church.
- ❖ Daily activities will include live online events, in the morning, afternoon, and evening, times still to be determined.
- ❖ There will be downloadable podcasts, fact sheets, and videos for each project.
- ❖ Children's resource packets will be available for the projects, so all ages can participate.

You can participate on your own at home or in your office, with family and friends, or with a group. Church groups of all ages can come together and use the 10-Fold activities to start a conversation. And when you do come to 10-Fold.org, take a few minutes to register interest in the featured project and spend time learning about the important work that is being done around the world.

Join us starting on October 10th and help create a movement that is 10-Fold in good works.

And don't forget, go to 10-Fold.org, sign-up to receive email updates as October approaches, and spread the word.