New Mexico Conference News
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*** 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.*

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CCYM members gather to plan activities

DARA SHIPP-BELL
Director of Youth Ministries

The new Conference Council on Youth Ministries met in El Paso at St. Mark's United Methodist Church for its Annual Leadership Retreat and planning event.

CCYM Team for the 2010-2011 year is:

Albuquerque District:

Perri Avey – St. John's UMC Albuquerque

Chelsea Marsh – Mesa View UMC Albuquerque

Noel Underwood – Central UMC Albuquerque

Henry Roberts – St. Stephen's UMC Albuquerque

Julia Downs – Mesa View UMC Albuquerque

Clovis District:

Caleb Herman – Trinity UMC Clovis

Torrie Sewell – First UMC Lovington

Carri Harman – First UMC Artesia

Elizabeth Smith–Kingswood UMC Clovis

Jessica Palmer – First UMC Lovington.

El Paso District:

Laney Abbott – Christ Community UMC El Paso

Sonja Michelsen (President) Western Hills UMC El Paso

Robyn Bright – Asbury UMC Odessa

Grace Abbott – Christ Community UMC El Paso

Natali Masters – St. Paul's UMC Las Cruces.

At large member is Taylor Ellington from St. John's UMC in Santa Fe.

The group planned two CCYM Camps that are offered each year.

The all CCYM Event "Back to the Watering Hole" is Nov. 19-21. The Winter Event "ijesus" will be Feb. 11-13, 2011. Both events will be at Sacramento Methodist Assembly.

Life in the Spirit Seminar

To be held at

Santa Cruz UMC
405 S. McCurdy Rd
Espanola, NM 87532
Oct. 15, 7 p.m.-10 p.m. - Oct. 16, 9 a.m.-9 p.m.

Life in the Spirit Seminar is a weekend developed by Aldersgate Renewal Ministries, an affiliate of the General Board of Discipleship in Nashville.

It presents a **scripturally based**, Wesleyan understanding of the person and work of the Holy Spirit through worship, teaching and personal testimony.

Team-led seminar which is structurally designed to incorporate elements found in "Walk to Emmaus" and "Lay Witness" events.

Seminar in which the **grace** of God, the **love** of Jesus Christ, and the **power** of the Holy Spirit **become active** in the worship, the teachings and the **contagious testimonies of faith** that are shared by the trained team members.

Participants **discover the potential and the power of the Holy Spirit** to guide and direct them into the fullness of life which God offers believers through Jesus Christ.

Cost is $15 or $20 per couple. Registration deadline is Oct. 9.

For information, call the Rev. Larry and Sharon Lauber at 505-753-7554 or send an email to lcsjlauber@gmail.com.

Rethink Church website change

Congregational resources for the Rethink Church advertising and welcoming campaign have moved to a new website address: umcom.org/rethinkchurch, though the site content remains the same.

The website that previously housed congregational resources, RethinkChurch.org, will become the primary seeker site that is featured in Rethink Church advertising, beginning this fall.

"Research shows that RethinkChurch.org resonates most strongly with the seekers we are trying to reach with our denominational advertising," said the Rev. Larry Hollon, chief executive of United Methodist Communications. "This website address reinforces the message we want non-United Methodist seekers to take away from our advertising—that we are rethinking church."

The RethinkChurch.org seeker site will feature more site engagement capabilities and content offerings than its seeker site predecessor, 10thousanddoors.org. RethinkChurch.org visitors will be able to read, watch, comment, and interact on topics that are important both to them and to The United Methodist Church - from the environment, to global health, to disaster relief. An interactive map will connect seekers to a church in their area, based upon ministry offerings and events listed in a church's Find-a-Church profile.

Rethink Church congregational resources help churches to participate in the Rethink Church advertising and welcoming campaign. Resources include a Rethink Church overview and FAQ, church marketing tutorials, advertising samples, graphics, worship aids, and more.

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around the conference and beyond

ATVs at SACRAMENTO

The Aspen Tour Scheduled for Oct 1-3, 2010 is fast approaching and things are filling up fast! Go to the website link http://www.sacramentoassembly.org/#/happenings/fall for more information.

ATVs available for rent are already taken but you are encouraged to bring your own or borrow one from someone.

Don't want to ride an ATV but still enjoy the fall color? There will be maps for you to use to tour on your own in your own vehicle and hook up with the ATV tour for "Lunch on the Trail" and worship that evening.

On a side note: the ATV program at Sacramento has become popular. If you have an ATV or know someone who does and it is sitting collecting dust from lack of use please consider an "In-Kind Donation" of that unit to Sacramento. Or you may consider an outright cash gift to go towards the ATV program at Sacramento.

CONCERT SERIES

St. Paul's United Methodist Church, 225 W. Griggs, Las Cruces, presents this year's concert series, Music at St. Paul's.

The September concert will feature New Mexico State University's resident string quartet, La Catrina Quartet, on Sept. 12 at 2 p.m. The series will feature at least one concert per month, through May 2011. Concerts focus on professional-level performances including the Chamber Jazz Ensemble, the NMSU Faculty Brass Quintet, Randy Granger, and the NMSU Percussion Ensemble. All concerts will be in the sanctuary of St. Paul's.

Admission is free to the public, although love offerings for the performers will be received. The September concert will feature the La Catrina String Quartet.

Director of St. Paul's concert series is Dr. Douglas Weeks, minister of music at St. Paul's

SEMINAR

An Aldersgate Renewal Ministries event, Life in the Spirit Seminar, will take place at Santa Cruz UMC in Espanola. Friday and Saturday, Oct. 15 from 7-10 p.m. and Oct. 16 from 9 a.m.-9 p.m.

Cost is $15 per person or $20 per couple (sharing a book). Saturday lunch and dinner will be provided. No childcare is available.

This seminar is designed to help Christians understand the person and work of the Holy Spirit in the life of the individual and the Church, the body of Christ. Participants discover the potential and the power of the Holy Spirit to guide and direct them into the fullness of life which God offers believers through Jesus Christ.

For information and registration, contact the Rev. Cecelia Lorenzen at (505) 753-3151 or cepa@cybermesa.com or the Rev. Larry or Sharon Lauber at (505) 753-7554 or lcsjlauber@gmail.com

LAITY FORUM

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

HERITAGE TOUR

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

The caravan tour will begin at the 100 year old church at Sierra Blanca. Participants drive their own vehicle and pay for their own expenses.

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

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

Those staying in El Paso Sept. 24 are invited to take a 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 and there will be an evening service at 7 p.m. in the old church sanctuary at Fort Davis, which was built in 1884.

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

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 prayers 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.

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.

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/.

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 weeklong 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.

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.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Covenant UMC, a growing congregation in Albuquerque, has a part-time Children's Ministry Coordinator position open.

This person coordinates children's ministries that allow children Pre-K (3 years old) through 5th grade to explore and experience Christian parables, learn everyday applications of Christian values, and have opportunities to build lasting friendships.

The position will begin with 10-12 hrs./week and hopefully grow into a full time position. Beginning compensation is $10,000 per year with vacation.

Some of the responsibilities include working with existing volunteers, recruiting new teachers on a rotation schedule, help choose or develop age appropriate curriculum and be in charge of Sunday morning classes for children pre-k through fifth grade. He/she also will be responsible for the yearly VBS programming.

If interested please call pastor Lyle Reece at (505) 822-8828 or send resume to covenantumc8510@msn.com

The New Mexico Conference of Churches (NMCC) is seeking a full time Executive Director to lead its ecumenical programs representing more than 800,000 Roman Catholic and Protestant Christians in the state. This position requires a person with background and experience in ecumenical relationships, public advocacy and administration.

Responsibilities include representing NMCC to state and national ecumenical partners, leading the board and judicatories to develop a vision for bringing Christian communities together at the table, providing the public voice on issues of common concern to NMCC partners, advocating for peace and justice and administering the overall program of the NMCC.

The position includes a salary and benefits package. Helpful but not required is someone who is bilingual in Spanish and English. Both ordained and lay Christians will be considered for this position.

Applications, instructions, and support resources for interested persons are available at www.nmchurches.org Deadline for submission is Sept. 24.

SYMPATHY

Sympathy is extended to the family of the Rev. David Edwards on the death of his father, Billy C. Edwards. Mr. Edwards died Aug. 30. Your personal notes of loving concern may be sent to David at 218 Quinlan, #445, Kerrville, TX 78028 or via email at dedwards530@ymail.com.

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