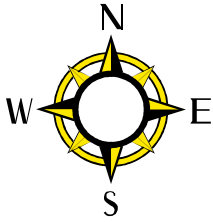


THE DETROIT EAST NEWS

*Detroit East District
April/May 2008
Rev. Duane E. Miller
District Superintendent
Cecelia Tolliver, Editor*



Compass Points

...a note from Pastor Duane

Completing the Lenten Journey and Moving Into Easter

As I have moved through the Lenten season this year I have reflected on the suffering of Jesus. As I did I also reflected on my life since last Easter and the pain I have experienced. It has been quite a journey personally!

Last March, Diana's father discovered he had some very serious heart blockages and had quadruple by-pass surgery. Diana spent many days down in Ohio driving her mother to the hospital and assisting in whatever ways she could. He did not recover well and ended up in nursing care at the Otterbein UM Retirement Community in Lebanon, Ohio. Diana made regular trips down and I went when I could. It was a very difficult time with many decisions to be made.

Then in April, after many years of difficulty, my oldest sister's health took a dramatic turn for the worse and concluded with her death. I was the one she had asked to plan her funeral and make all the arrangements. This also included selling all her possessions and cleaning out her apartment. Going through all of her things and remembering her life made it a very difficult task.

In early June I was scheduled to have a hernia repair surgery. It was the first I could work it into my schedule after a February injury. The surgery went well, but it was hard for me to slow down and the recovery seemed to take forever.

Later on a Thursday in June, I was side-swiped on I-75 coming home from the office. I wasn't injured, but what a mess to deal with -- and it all happened so suddenly -- another crisis to deal with. While I was still sorting all the car issues out, we got the call on Saturday that Diana's father had died. We packed up and headed to Ohio for his funeral in his hometown. Three weeks later

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DETROIT EAST DISTRICT NEWS

March 31, 2008

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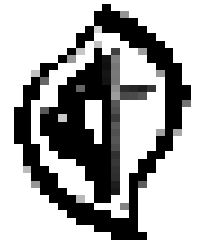
***Detroit
Annual
Conference
Celebrating
40 Years***

Looking Ahead at 2008

Brenda Street, President

UMW Calendar

- Apr 4-5—Church Women State Assembly, Saginaw
- Apr 5—Called Session of Detroit Annual Conference, Lansing Center
- May 2-3—Spiritual Life Retreat, Lake Huron Retreat Center
- May 16-18—Detroit Annual Conference, Adrian College, Adrian, Michigan
- Oct. 11—District Annual Meeting, Berkley: First UMC
- Oct. 24—District Officer Training, Sault Ste. Marie: Central UMC
- Oct. 25—Conference Annual Meeting/Celebration, Sault Ste. Marie: Central UMC



Current List of Upcoming Young Adult Events!!!

If you want to be up-to-date on Young Adult activities, or want to be a part of planning conference Young Adult events, e-mail Ang Hart at trahgna@yahoo.com!



You're invited!!!

We are the Detroit East District on Youth Ministries or the DEDCYM for short. We are a group of youth group representatives from churches all over the district. We gather to discuss upcoming events and how to make these events fun for everyone. These gatherings are rewarding for everyone who attends and we would love to share this fun and excitement for anyone who is interested. Is your church represented???

District youth meet every month on the third Tuesday at seven p.m. at Warren First. Every church should have a representative at this meeting. Even with monthly snail mail, we are reaching only 3-4 churches. So far this year they have attended the conference youth rally, spent the night at a lock-in sponsored jointly by our district and the Flint district youth, filled shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child, celebrated a Seder meal in March, and will have a scavenger hunt when they meet this month on the 15th. Where has your youth representative been? Be there.



Walk to Emmaus

Are you interested in sponsoring someone to go on a Walk to Emmaus? The Southeast Michigan Community has openings on their upcoming Fall walks. Where there has been a waiting list, there is now walk-on status. Please visit the Emmaus Website at www.emmaussem.org to find the application.



New Year's Ramblings from your Lay Leader

January has descended upon us and the annual thaw is already gone and forgotten. Our pastor commented this morning that when he looked at his thermometer this morning, the needle read zero so there was no temperature at all. I am pleased to share with you that the district certainly is not running at a zero speed.

We had a good turnout for the clergy Christmas brunch at Birmingham First UMC. Following a delicious meal, Rev. Carl Gladstone entertained us with Wesley Hymns set to new music. Thanks to the Superintendency Committee for hosting this annual event.

The MLK day celebration at Eastpointe was a great event for the people who ventured out to it. The committee is to be commended on their hard work to make this celebration an annual success.

The Conference youth received a grant that has made money available to each district for a youth Lay Speakers training course. Detroit East has, in the past, offered youth lay speaker training in conjunction with the adult training (separate class but using the same seven consecutive Sunday afternoon model). The normal charge is \$35 which pays for the books that each student keeps. Because of the grant, we are able to offer a unique youth lay speaker training at no cost to the youth. We have arranged for a location and a date and now need students. Think about youth in your church who would benefit from this opportunity and send in your application. We may have to limit enrollments so sooner is better.

The Youth lay speaker training will be at Fellowship UMC in Troy and will start Friday evening April 18, run through all day Saturday and end with worship on Sunday April 20th. Enrollment forms will be mailed to every church in late January or use the one in this issue of the District newsletter.

Besides all of this action, we know that, even if the vote in April does not approve merger of the two Michigan Conferences, our district borders will be changed in 2009. This change will involve rethinking our ministry models and structures. Your input to the District Super Vision Team will be appreciated. Contact either Rev. Duane Miller, Rev. Beth Macaulay, or John Hart.

Beyond this sampling, your district continues to plan and present events for all of the churches in Detroit East. If you missed out on any of them, check out the scheduled details on the website <http://www.umc-de.org/> or in this publication.

So, in conclusion, the temperature may be a big, fat Zero but your district scores pretty high on the activity scale.

John Hart

Prayer Concerns:

*Bishop Jonathan Keaton & MI Area Cabinet
Michigan Area Transition Team (MATT)
Members of the United States Military*

*DE Liberia Mission Team
Carl Ventour (Spouse)*



***Those who place God in their hands today,
never need to worry about tomorrow.***

Anonymous

Lay Leader

(Continued from page 1)

we were back down to Otterbein for a memorial service for his clergy friends and friends at the retirement community. The memorial service ended up on the day we had previously scheduled a 65th wedding anniversary celebration for Dana’s parents. Instead we celebrated her father’s life and ministry.

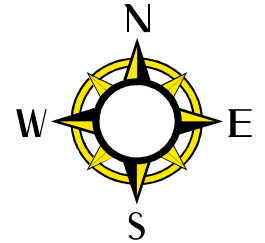
Now in this spring, I have had two minor surgeries that have left me homebound for some days and limited in what I could do.

I share all of this, because I realize that in the midst of all the pains and struggles of life God is there with me. At times I have wanted to say, “Woe is me!” “Why is all of this happening to me.” But then I would come to my Easter senses and realize that it really is all ok. God’s love is big enough to get me through whatever I must go through. Jesus’ suffering already covered it and put it all in perspective. Even death is not to be feared.

I am so thankful for friends and colleagues who have been there for me and provided prayers, cards and encouragement. I never felt alone in anything I was going through. I am reminded that we have two choices every day. I can live as if Christ really died and rose for me – or I can live in the darkness. It is my choice and I choose to live knowing Christ died and rose for me! “So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today’s trouble is enough for today.”

Your brother in Christ,

Duane E. Miller



Cruise Into History

Join Bishop Jonathan Keaton as he leads a group from the Michigan area on an 11-day study trip through Greece and Italy this November. The group will study the life and teachings of the Apostle Paul. The itinerary includes such wonderful cities as Athens, Corinth, Malta, Sicily, Rome, Naples and Pompeii. The mode of transportation is the Orient Queen cruise ship. *Educational Opportunities* has booked this ship for their use, which provides passengers with a unique opportunity for rich fellowship and conversation throughout their journey together.

Cost begins at approximately \$2,600 (dependent on cabin selection) and includes roundtrip airfare, motor coach transportation, cruise passage, guided shore excursions, breakfast and dinner daily, lunch aboard ship and entrance fees.

For a brochure on complete details, contact the district office or Project Coordinator, Reverend Ann Emerson at 810-327-6272 or annbythelakeshore@comcast.net



Other Stuff

Copies of information on the following events are available in the DE District office.

- Apr 5—Special sessions of the Detroit Annual and West Michigan Conferences, Lansing Center, Lansing Michigan for all clergy and all lay members to Annual Conference seated at the 2007 Annual Conference.
- Apr 12—DE District Conference at Sterling Heights UMC, 10:00 a.m.—Noon.
- Apr 19-May 3—Mission Team in Liberia to work on parsonage for District Superintendent.
- Apr 23-May 2—2008 General Conference, Fort Worth, Texas.
- May 16-18—Detroit Annual Conference, Adrian, Michigan
- July 15-19—Jurisdictional Conference, Grand Rapids, Michigan

Other Stuff & Dates

Evangelism through Scouting

Scouting can help your church reach out into your community and bring more people closer to God! They are not just a group of kids that meet in your basement or fellowship hall on a weekly basis. Scouting is a program that churches can use as part of their outreach ministry. The United Methodist Church is the 2nd largest Scouting partner in the nation. Surveys have shown that for every 100 Scouts in a United Methodist unit, 25 are Methodist, 25 belong to another denomination, and **50 are un-churched!** Working closely with your Scouting unit, your church can reach out to these families by offering the God and Country programs, having unit take part in Sunday services, or by inviting to Sunday school.

By partnering with Scouting, you are not alone. Scouting offers leadership training, youth protection training, program planning/development support, camps, insurance, help in recruiting and much more. To learn more about how your church can use the Scouting program to outreach, please contact Ray Brauer at 248-821-5065



Raymond W. Brauer
Director of Field Service
Clinton Valley Council, Boy Scouts of America
1100 County Center Drive, West
Waterford, MI 48328

248-338-0035 ext. 117
248-821-5065 Mobil
248-338-0039 Fax

www.cvc-bca.org
www.scouting.org
www.scoutparents.org

Join the eList and "Be Prepared"

Michigan Area Marriage Encounter

Give your kids the best gift ever—parents with a great marriage. Surprise your kids with the love Mom and Dad will bring home from a Marriage encounter Weekend. You will have 44 hours from Friday evening to Sunday afternoon to focus must on each other in a beautiful country setting. The next United Methodist Encounter is May 30-June 1 at Youth Haven ranch near Jackson. Supported by contributions only, actual expenses average less than \$300 per couple, including a \$50 non-refundable registration fee. Call Registration couple Chuck & Dalice Yost (313-937-1051) or CYOST@wmi.rr.com. Also see: <http://www.encounter.org>.



Upcoming Events!!

Heather D. Laskos, Program and Marketing Assistant
 Detroit Conference Outdoor & Retreat Ministries
 800-334-0544 umccamps.org



Both God's Treasures events at Lake Huron Retreat Center are full.

Horse Camps and **South Manitou Adventure** are **half full**. If you would like to register for these events – do so soon for your best possible chance of being registered. **It only takes a \$75 deposit** mailed in with your registration form to hold your spot at camp. You have until May 15 to pay the rest of your balance in full.

Check your mail!

Campers and churches were mailed a **camp DVD!** Check out the DVD to remember the great times at camp. Show it to your friends! Churches may want to show the short DVD during or before a service.

What's coming up?

Free Camping/Volunteer Work Day, April 25-27, 2008 @ Myers Lake Campground: Sign up for a weekend of free camping at Myers Lake United Methodist Campground. Can't come for the entire weekend? Come just for the clean-up on Saturday. Bring your group from church (UMM, UMYF, etc.) or come as a family. Individuals also welcome! Enjoy free camping this weekend, in exchange for volunteering to clean and ready the campground for the summer season. Bring yard work tools (brooms, rakes, etc.). The clean up will happen in any weather, rain or shine, but workload will vary according to the weather. For more information, call Myers Lake at 810-266-4511 or visit <http://myerslake.com>.

Free Camping/Volunteer Work Day, May 2-4, 2008 @ Judson Collins Center: This is a free over night event. Guests are welcome to come for the whole weekend to help out or just for the day. Bring your group from church (UMM, UMYF, etc.) or come as a family. Individuals also welcome! Enjoy free camping this weekend, in exchange for volunteering to clean and ready the camp for the summer season. Breakfast and lunch will be served and a free-will donation will be accepted to defray the cost of food. Dinner will be on your own. Arrive between 3pm-9pm on Friday. Saturday 9-5 work day. Sunday morning we will end the weekend with worship together. Participants must RSVP no later than April 18 to Myron at Judson Collins Center 517-467-7711.

Memorial Weekend Family Camp, May 23–26, 2008 @ Judson Collins Center: (Families and singles are welcome). Whatever your idea of camping is, we have it for you. You can choose to bring your tent, pop-up camper, or SMALL RV and we'll have a group area campsite for you. If that is too much trouble we have cabins or dorm rooms available. Join family and friends and share good times: Cook out, swim or boat on Wampers Lake, go for a hike, go for a hayride through our scenic trails, or experience our high ropes course (for age 12 and over). Come together with the family of God and fellowship with others around the campfire. Make this holiday weekend a tradition at Judson Collins Center. Fee covers lodging only. To add to the fun you bring your own food and cook over the campfire or bring your grill. Registration deadline is May 9. Cost is based on the type of housing you select, for up to a family of 4. (Additional persons \$21 each, visitors are \$9 per person per day). Register at www.umccamps.org or call 800-334-054. Dormitory \$99 (sleeps 8, bath & shower in room): Cabin \$89 (sleeps 8-10, electricity, bathhouse): Campsite \$79 (with electricity), Campsite \$69(without electricity)

Joanne Liles Memorial Camp Scholarship Golf Scramble: Friday, June 13th, 2008, Cost: \$75, Dutch Hollow Golf Course Durand, MI, Registration: 8:30 to 9:15AM, Modified Shotgun Start @ 9:30AM

APPORTIONMENT PAYMENT UPDATE

Below is the record of the Detroit East District churches through February 2008. If you are on target, you should have paid at least 10% of this year's apportionment. We congratulate each churches effort in maintaining their connection

CHURCH	% Pension	Common Budget	CHURCH	% Pension	Common Budget
Berkley First	0	1	New Baltimore Grace	10	10
Beverly Hills	0	0	Oak Park Exousia	0	0
Birmingham: Embury	20	20	Oak Park Faith	0	0
Birmingham First	20	20	Pontiac First	0	0
Bloomfield St. Paul's	20	0	Pontiac Grace & Peace	10	10
Clawson	10	0	Pontiac St. John	20	18
Detroit Cass	0	0	Rochester St. Paul's	8	0
Detroit Central	10	0	Rochester Hills St. Luke's	10	10
Detroit Christ	0	0	Roseville Trinity	0	0
Detroit Conant Avenue	0	0	Royal Oak First	10	10
Detroit Metropolitan	10	0	Royal Oak St. John's	10	0
Detroit Mt. Hope	0	0	SCS First	10	1
Detroit St. Paul's	0	0	SCS Good Shepherd	10	5
Eastpointe Immanuel	20	0	Sterling Heights	20	3
Ferndale First	0	0	Troy Big Beaver	20	20
Fraser Christ	10	10	Troy Fellowship	20	20
Grosse Pointe	20	20	Troy First	10	10
Harper Woods Redeemer	20	0	Troy Korean	35	20
Hazel Park First	20	20	Utica	20	10
Korean First Central	112	0	Warren First	20	20
Madison Heights	20	0	Waterford Central	20	20
Mt. Clemens First	11	22	Waterford Four Towns	0	0
			Waterford Trinity	0	0

Apportionment Update

Christian Education for All

Christian Education Resource & Training (C.E.R.T.) Team is presenting these workshops on Saturday, April 26 at Ferndale: First UMC, from 10:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m. The cost is \$6.00 per person which includes 2 workshops and lunch. Ferndale: First UMC is located at 22331 Woodward between 8 & 9 Mile Roads. Registration forms are available at the DE District office or you can call the Registrar, Karen Golden, at 248-545-4467.



Detroit East District Conference

Saturday, April 12

10:00 a.m.—Noon

at

Sterling Heights UMC

Each pastor, the Lay Leader(s) to Annual Conference and at least 2 representatives of each church are expected to attend. The event includes:

***** *Worship*, *****

***** *Setting district budget* *****

***** *Reports of District ministry* *****

***** *Follow-up on April 5th voting in Lansing* *****

***** *Preparation for the Detroit Annual Conference—May 16-18* *****

***** *Refreshments* *****



Detroit East News

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WE'RE ON THE WEB!

www.umc-de.org

