

# THE DETROIT EAST NEWS

*Detroit East District  
December 2005/January 2006  
Rev. Dr. Dale Miller  
District Superintendent  
Cecelia Tolliver, Editor*

## Parson to Parson

What a beginning to the year 2006 it has been! On New Year's Eve our youngest son, Sam, was married to Beth Bryden of Bay City, Michigan in a ceremony in the District parsonage. We emptied the living room, converted it into a chapel, and then after the ceremony provided a sit-down dinner for 42 people. It was a wonderful event and tears of joy overflowed for the coming together of these two incredible young adults. Among those present was Sam's maternal grandmother, Betty Anderson. She told Sam and Beth that she would be there with bells on, and she literally entered the house with a garland of bells around her neck.

Four days later, Betty called us at 2:15 am to tell us that she was having a difficult time breathing. We rushed to her apartment in Waterford, called the EMT, and escorted her to the North Oakland Medical Center. A long time sufferer of emphysema, 83-year-old Betty was quickly put on a ventilator, but it was not helpful. After two days she was removed from the ventilator and her vital signs began to slowly to deteriorate. The family was numb. One week later at 2:15 am Betty entered the church triumphant.

The memorial service for Betty was held at Waterford Central UMC where she was a member. The Rev. Jim Kellermann and the Rev. Mark Caldwell presided. Per Betty's request the service was for the immediate family and a few close friends. I know that many of the Detroit East District pastors wanted to attend the service. Thank you for understanding, as well as for the numerous cards and expressions of condolences that we have received.

Betty was the mother of four children, all of who managed to be with her before her death. She was truly a whimsical lady who loved her family. Once when she was tired of the dark and cold of winter she established a "Summer Beach Day" inside her home complete with a picnic table, beach umbrellas and a carpet full of imported sand! She was also a generous soul who on more than one occasion gave her and her children's Christmas gifts away to a family in need. She was truly a character in the best sense of the word.

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### Inserts

<i>Liberia Container Project</i>
<i>Resolution Procedure</i>
<i>Mich. Area Resource Center</i>
<i>DEDCYM Spring Retreat</i>

**District Conference  
Saturday, April 8th  
Sterling Heights UMC**

**Annual Conference  
May 19-21, 2006**

## The Road to Damascus

*Angie Pryor,  
DEDCYM President*

Next on the Detroit East District Youth's agenda is our very exciting traveling Spring Retreat - "The Road to Damascus" beginning at 8:00 p.m. on April 7th, and ending at 8:00 a.m. on April 8th. We will leave from Warren: First UMC and travel from church to church within the district throughout the night for a new surprise at each one, and return to Warren: First UMC. As of this writing there are 5 other churches participating.

For more information about any of these events watch the mail and look for our flyers or contact the board at DEDCYM@hotmail.com .

Monthly meetings are held on the second Tuesday at Warren: First UMC, 5005 Chicago Rd., in Warren at 7:00 p.m. We hope to have youth participation from each district church!!! The DAC Council on Youth Ministries website is <http://www.gbqm-umc.org/daccym>.



## UMW Looking Ahead—2006 School of Christian Mission

Theme: Harvesting Peace, Studies: Shalom-Salaam-Peace, Globalization: Its Impact in Our Lives India & Pakistan

School of the South: Waterford Central UMC, Sat., July 22nd.

Three-Day School: Colombiere Conference Center, Wed., July 26th thru Fri., July 28th.

School on the Bay: Bay Shore Camp, Sebewaing, Fri., Sept. 22nd and Sat., Sept. 23rd.

Scholarships are available from the Board of Global Ministries. To apply, write to Diana Spitnale Miller, 208 W. Burnside St., Caro, MI 48723-1501; ddmiller@centurytel.net, or call 989-673-4355.



## Employment Opportunities

The First UMC of St. Clair Shores is looking for an experienced adult (Chancel) choir director. The 10-hour work week may increase as the individual develops a need. Please fax (586-772-4090) resume and cover letter including compensation requirements, or email to scsfirstumc@sbcglobal.net attn: S/PPRC. No phone calls, please.

## Leadership Events—2006

**Feb. 4, 2006**—9:00—1:00, DE/DW District Leadership Day at Ferndale: First UMC. Keynote Speaker is Lovett Weems.

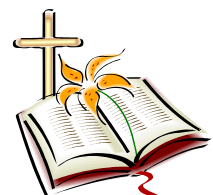
## Prayer Concerns:

*Bishop Jonathan Keaton  
FEMA/Red Cross/U.S. Government  
Dale & Susan Miller  
Rev. Mike Seymour (Ret.)*

*Detroit Annual Conference Cabinet  
Our communities  
Rev. Faith Green-Timmons*

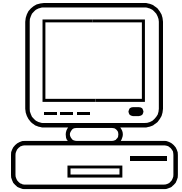
*The Gulf Coast survivors and victims of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita*

*Leadership  
Training*



## Another Step with Technology

In the world today, many of us can do without some of the paper we get. Would you prefer to receive your Detroit East District Newsletter via email or 'snail mail'? Beginning with the December/January edition, you can receive our newsletter in your email inbox instead of your U.S. Mail Box. Let us know? As of this writing, 34 people have chosen this option. Don't get left out! Send your response to [cecelia@umc-de.org](mailto:cecelia@umc-de.org) and you will receive the district newsletter in printable form.



## Are we there yet?

Last Saturday was one of those days I wish I could have called a snow day and stayed in my snuggly bed. The television and radio weather forecasters had been telling us for days that a big storm was on its way and would put several inches of snow on us Saturday morning. They spent days talking about the impending storm. Enough to make me want to ask, "Is it here, yet?". Sure enough, the gray dawn revealed some snow in the northern suburbs with more further north. Of course, as much as I would have liked a snow day, I was scheduled to be in Flint for the Conference Board of Laity meeting.

I borrowed my son's 4X4 and off I went, up I-75. As the road became more and more snow packed and slippery, I kept asking myself, "Am I there, yet?"

Once there, almost everyone was in attendance, including the Marquette District Lay leader. We use this time to share what is happening in our districts, to plan lay events for the annual conference and to discuss items of importance to all of the districts. This sharing of ideas and activities helps keep us all pulling in the same direction and moves ideas that work into new locations.

Recent activities in the Detroit East District included:

- Martin Luther King Day celebration (with Detroit West),
- the upcoming discussion of a possible conference merger,
- the scheduled youth lock in (with Flint District),
- youth leadership training (with Detroit West),
- the upcoming district conference,
- Lay Speaker training (both the fall session ended in November and the Winter session starting a week after Super Bowl)

These events continue to bring us together and we anticipate many more good times at Detroit East events. But, if full local church participation in district events is our goal, we must surely continue to ask, "Are we there, yet?"

In fact, the winds of the cold, snowy winter are running in parallel with the winds of change. Much is going on in the background of your Conference and this District that will present opportunities to grow and strengthen our ministry to the churches we serve. This is only a continuation of our journey.

No, in answer to the voice from the back seat, we aren't there, yet.

*John Hart*

**District Lay leader**

## UMVIM/ Disaster Response

Teams going to the Gulf Coast through UMCOR

February 24-March 11 Mississippi (West Michigan)  
Team Leader: Bob Gregereit, Cgrigereit@aol.com

March 25-April 2 Slidell, Louisiana (Detroit Conf.)  
Team Leaders: Duane and Terry Townley dttown@aol.com

April 1 - April 9 Slidell, Louisiana (Detroit Conf)  
Team leaders: Bill & Sheri McKinstry wrm81466@aol.com

April 1-April 8 Louisiana (West Michigan)  
Team Leader: Jerry Bukoski jbukoski@homeworkswildblue.com

April 1-9 Ocean Springs, Mississippi (West Michigan)  
Team Leader: Gail Clancy glclancy@pplant.msu.edu

April 22-30 Slidell, Louisiana (Detroit Conference)  
Team leaders: Jim & Karen Gray JKGray2885@aol.com

June 23-July 3 New Orleans (West Michigan)  
Team Leader: Nancy Bitterling njbit@yahoo.com  
Terry and Duane Townley

UMVIM Co-coordinators for Detroit Conference  
6112 Siebert, Midland, MI 48640 989 -835 -7564

## Spring Workshop—2006

We are making plans for the spring workshop and would like your input. "Do You Know?" will go over the books/resources that should be in every church office (The Book of Disciplines and Resolutions, Social Principles, the Detroit Conference Journal, The Detroit Conference Resource, United Methodist Publishing House, Cokesbury, InfoServe, the Detroit Conference Web Site, etc.)

If you would like a particular top covered, please let us know so we can incorporate it into the program. The date and location for this workshop has not been determined yet, but we will let you know as soon as possible so you can make plans to attend.

The 24th Annual PAUMACS Conference is scheduled for April 20-22, 2006 in Pasadena, CA. The theme "We're Coming Up Roses" promises to deliver a variety of workshops led by Bishop Mary Ann Swenson, California-Pacific Annual Conference, Dr. Philip A. Amerson, President and professor of Church and Society at Claremont School of Theology; Rev. Sara Armstrong, author of The Shattered Pearl; and others. The deadline for registration is March 18th 2006. Copies of the complete brochure is available at the Detroit East District Office.

## Other Stuff To Plan

**May 13th**—Worship/Evangelism Training Event at Flint: Calvary UMC. Sponsored by the Conference Board of Discipleship. More info to come later.

If you have an event/bazaar planned let us know in three lines or less.

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**Detroit  
Conference  
United  
Methodist  
Church  
Secretaries**

## Camping and Retreats—Upcoming Events

### Spring Confirmation Retreat, Judson Collins Center

**March 31-April 1, 2006.** Expand your confirmation experience by sharing it with other youth from UM Churches. The Retreat will include three group sessions, worships, recreation, church group time, and guided quiet times of exploration. We'll spend time getting to know each other and growing in Christ. Sessions will focus on Community Building, a variety of the Ministries with in the UMC, and an interactive and guided tour of views of Jesus. For more information, call Judson Collins Center at 517-467-7711 or visit <http://www.judsoncollinscenter.org/Upcoming%20Events.htm>.

### Free Camping and Volunteer Work Day, Myers Lake Campground

**April 28-30, 2006.** Volunteer at Myers Lake during the day on Saturday and enjoy a week-end of free camping. For more information, call Myers Lake at 810-266-4511 or visit <http://myerslake.com/fun.html>.

### Memorial Weekend Family Camp, Judson Collins Center

**May 26 at 7pm – May 29 at 11am, 2006.** Whatever your idea of camping is, we have something for you. Choose to bring your *SMALL* RV, pop-up camper, or a tent. Whichever you choose, we have a spacious site for you. If that's too much trouble, why don't you let us provide a cabin or dorm room? The choice is yours.

Join family and friends and share good times: cook out, swim and boat on Wampplers Lake, go for a hike, go for a hayride through our many scenic trails, or climb our high ropes course (for age 12 and over). Come together with Christ, while in fellowship with others around the campfire. Make Judson Collins Center your holiday weekend tradition. Fee covers lodging only. You must bring and prepare your own food over the campfire or bring your grill. It all adds to the fun! Families and adults welcome. Registration deadline is May 12. 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).

Dormitory \$99 (sleeps 8, 1 bath and shower)      Cabin \$84 (sleeps 8-10, with electricity)

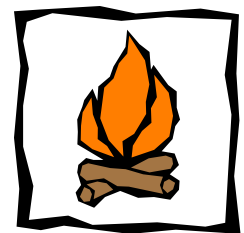
Campsite \$76 (with electricity)      Campsite \$66 (without electricity)

Register at [www.umccamps.org](http://www.umccamps.org) or call 800-334-0544 or contact: Heather D. Laskos, Program and Marketing Assistant, Detroit Conference, Outdoor and Retreat Ministries, 800-334-0544, [www.umccamps.org](http://www.umccamps.org).

## Around the Conference & District . . .

The Conference Board of Discipleship will be offering a Worship/Evangelism Training Event on Saturday, May 13th. It will be held at Calvary UMC in Flint. They are having a variety of speakers who will come and give help to all who attend. Lunch will be at the church and they expect this will last until just before dinner. It is hoped to begin and end with worship services. It has been a long time since the Board of Discipleship has had an event, yet the need is there. For more information, contact Rev. Debbie Line at 248-628-4763 or email her at [debiline@cs.com](mailto:debiline@cs.com).

Join Bishop Jonathan D. Keaton and the Detroit & West Michigan Annual Conferences on a 10-day of Biblical Discovery. Holy Land 2007 can take you to Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Sea of Galilee, Nazareth, Capernaum, Caesarea, Upper Room, Megiddo, Qumram, Via Dolorosa, and the Garden of Gethsemane. Your journey of a lifetime includes: roundtrip airfare, deluxe motor coaches, guided sightseeing, entrance fees to sites visited, Bible Study Guide, lecture series, first class hotels and superior first class hotels, buffet breakfast and dinner daily. Go to [www.eo.travelwithus.com](http://www.eo.travelwithus.com) if you are interested or for easy registration via credit card.



## APPORTIONMENT PAYMENT UPDATE

Below is the record of the Detroit East District churches through December of 2005. We congratulate each churches effort in maintaining their connection.

CHURCH	%	CHURCH	%
Berkley First	100	Detroit Conant Ave	60
Beverly Hills	100	Pontiac Baldwin Ave	59
Birmingham First	100	Birmingham Embury	56
Detroit Cass	100	Clawson	55
Fraser Christ	100	Oak Park Faith	54
Grosse Pointe	100	Detroit St. Paul's	52
Pontiac Grace & Peace	100	Madison Heights	51
Waterford Central	100	Harper Woods Redeemer	51
Rochester Hills St. Luke's	100	Ferndale First	46
Rochester St. Paul's	100	Pontiac St. John	43
Roseville Trinity	100	SCS First	40
Royal Oak First	100	Mt. Clemens	31
Troy Big Beaver	100	Eastpointe Immanuel	30
Troy Fellowship	100	Hazel Park First	29
Troy First	100	Sterling Heights	29
Warren First	100	Bloomfield Hills St Paul's	25
Waterford Trinity	100	Pontiac First	18
Korean First Central	100	Detroit Christ	12
New Baltimore Grace	100	Royal Oak St. John's	11
Utica	100	Detroit: Metropolitan	6
Waterford Four Towns	99	Detroit: Central	0
Troy Korean	99	Detroit: Mt. Hope	0
Detroit Exousia	93	Highland Park: Berea St. Paul	0
SCS Good Shepherd	90		

# Apportionment Update

## GIVE A VALENTINE THAT LASTS A LIFT TIME — A MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

Your sweetheart will love you forever for this Valentine that rekindles the spark in your marriage. Spend a romantic weekend with your spouse and retool the essential elements of your marriage relationship. A pre-Valentine's Marriage Encounter Weekend is scheduled for February 1-12, I South field, MI. For brochures, call the district Office.

## United Methodist Student Forum to Meet at Adrian College

ADRIAN, Mich. - The premier international college student event of The United Methodist Church will meet on the campus of Adrian College May 25-28, 2006.

The Student Forum of the United Methodist Student Movement, sponsored by the denomination's General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, is a leadership development conference for college and university students. It is expected to draw 600 to 700 college students from around the nation and world, as well as internationally-recognized speakers and professionals in church-related higher education. The forum seeks to provide leadership training, Bible study, theological reflection, worship, and education for social justice. It also offers a gathering place and time to discuss and take action regarding national/international issues. Recent student forum events have been held in Mississippi, Arkansas, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Montana, Georgia, and Oklahoma. "Students at Adrian College feel very privileged and blessed to know that the 2006 Student Forum will be held on our campus," said Robin Huth, president of the Adrian College student Religious Life Council.

The May gathering will allow Adrian College to offer several leadership gifts to the church: the passion of committed students and staff, the energy and vision of Adrian President Jeffrey Docking, improved campus facilities, and a chaplaincy that has developed a model Pre-Seminary program.

The United Methodist Student Forum harks back to pre-World War II nationwide campus spiritual life movements and was established in 1989.

Adrian College, located in southeast Michigan, is a selective liberal arts college related to The United Methodist Church. Go to [www.adrian.edu](http://www.adrian.edu) for more.

CONTACT PERSON: Brad Whitehouse, 517-264-3175, [bwhitehouse@adrian.edu](mailto:bwhitehouse@adrian.edu)

## Exploration 2006

Scheduled for November 17-18, 2006, this is an event for high school seniors through age 24 considering ordained ministry in the UMC. This is sponsored by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry. Exploration is a three-day event for committed youth and young adults (high school seniors—age 24) to hear, discern, and respond to God's call to ministry and to explore their gifts for ordained ministry as deacon or elder in the UMC. If you have sensed that God might be calling you to ordained ministry, wondered what ministry in the UMC is all about, or would like some help sorting through the issues surrounding a Christian vocation, this gathering is for you.

Participants will attend two workshops. Workshops are divided into two categories -"Dive In" and "Make Waves". "Dive In" workshops are for those in the process of discerning their call into ordained ministry. "Make Waves" workshops are for those who are committed to entering the candidacy process, or are already certified candidates, and are ready to go deeper. Every effort will be made to honor your top two choices

The General Board of Higher Education and ministry (GBHEM) is underwriting most of the cost of the event. Participants pay travel expenses and \$150 registration fee, which includes two nights at the Hyatt Regency, all event meals (Friday dinner—Sunday breakfast), and all EXPLORATION events. If you want to attend and cost is a problem, speak to your pastor, campus minister, campus chaplain who can help you in securing scholarships. A limited number of registration scholarships are available from the GBHEM for eligible participants.

After March 1, 2006, participants may register online through the secure EXPLORATION registration Web Site at [www.gbhem.org/exploration/register/html](http://www.gbhem.org/exploration/register/html) or request a booklet that includes all information and the registration form

For additional questions, contact: Valerie Ealey, P.O. Box 340007, Nashville, TN 37203-0007, (615) 340-7431 or [exploration@gbhem.org](mailto:exploration@gbhem.org).

**Share  
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Incredible  
News  
Everywhere**



*(Continued from page 1)*

Betty always reminded her children of their humble upbringing, a gentle lesson that she did not mind sharing with non-family members as well. When Bishop Keaton arrived at the hospital the Monday morning before her death, we woke Betty from her sleep and told her that Bishop Keaton was coming down the hallway to be with her. She opened her eyes, took in what we were saying and responded with, "So?" Titles, status and rank meant nothing to her. People always mattered, no matter who they were. She appreciated Bishop Keaton's prayer because of his sincerity and concern, not because of his position.

People matter. You matter. I matter. Every person matters. Not a bad thought to leave with you. A good thought to leave with a life well lived. Thank you, Betty. I couldn't have asked for a better mother-in-law.

***Grace and Peace,***

***Dale***



**Detroit East News**

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**WE'RE ON THE WEB!**  
**[www.umc-de.org](http://www.umc-de.org)**

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