

Living Water

a quarterly newsletter for

Volume 14, Issue 4
August –September-October

Five Rivers District

*Five Rivers District Superintendent is now also
DS of Parsons District*

By Marvé Ralston

On July 1st, Five Rivers District began sharing our District Superintendent, Rev. David Watson, with Parson's District. This was a decision made as Parson's District Superintendent, Rev. Kibum Kim, moved back into local church ministry at Wichita Pleasant Valley UMC. This also happened with several other districts as their superintendents retired. Four districts began sharing DSEs with other districts, as of July 1st.

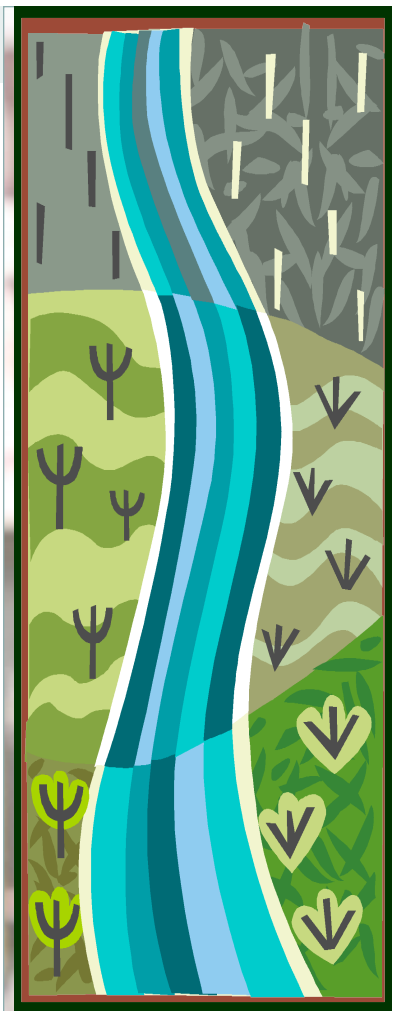
This spring, a consultant, Rev. John Wimberly, along with Rev. Craig Hauschild, chair of the GP Personnel Committee, began conducting interviews within the GP Conference. They made recommendations to the Connecting Council, Bishop, Darrell Stock, member of the Mission Alignment Task Force, and a special planning team created as a sounding board for his questions and ideas.

At this time, all 17 district offices remain open. This means that your first resource is still your district office. This will help provide a constant place of contact and information as the new Great Plains Conference offices (not districts) are merged into one office. Since we became the Great Plains Conference, we have continued to maintain an office in Lincoln, Ne, Topeka, KS and Wichita, KS. At Annual Conference, it was decided that the new GP Conference office will be located in Topeka, KS.

The districts are distinctly individual, and through John Wimberly's study, that remained a constant thread with everyone that was interviewed. Each district office provides the area it serves, with a contact person to help them navigate the paperwork, programs and help direct them to people and resources, when the issues are more complex than we handle through our offices. The district office is your first contact to your DS, Bishop and the GP Conference.

Jane Reeves, is my counterpart in Parson's District. She has been a good friend for many years. If I am ever out of the office, feel free to call her and she will be able to help you until I return. We will be working together, to help Rev. Watson as he navigates this new facet of his work. Please continue to pray for him to have traveling mercies, as he now will be traveling more frequently throughout Southeast Kansas. We all remain hopeful that this will be a good thing for all of us.

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Bishop:

Ruben Saenz, Jr.

District Superintendent:

Rev. David Watson

Administrative Assistant/ Newsletter Editor

Marvé Ralston

August Calendar

- Aug. 4-14 5R District Office closed, call Parsons District for help
- Aug. 8 5R Clergy Consultations, District Office
- Aug. 11-16 Cabinet Retreat, DS will be in Excelsior Springs, MO
- Aug. 13 Hammond UMC Spiritual Revival ~ DS preaching at 3 p.m.
- Aug. 20 New Clergy Welcome at the Watsons 4-6 p.m.

September Calendar

- Sept. 5 Clergy Meeting, Ottawa 1st UMC, 9-Noon
- Sept. 9-10 Project Revolution, Five Rivers Youth Rally and Lock-In
Lawrence 1st UMC (West Campus)
- Sept. 15-16 Parsons District Lay Servant Training, Parsons Wesley
- Sept. 16 Five Rivers UMW Fall Meeting, Ottawa Trinity, 9:00 registration
- Sept. 19-21 Cabinet DS in Hutchinson, Ks
- Sept. 30 Fab Five Event, Worden UMC 8:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

October Calendar

- Oct. 8 Cluster Conference at Ottawa 1st UMC 3:00 p.m.
- Oct. 8 Cluster Conference at Lawrence 1st West UMC 5:30 p.m.
- Oct. 10-11 PAUMCS, Parsons Wesley UMC Fall Retreat
- Oct. 14 Linn County UM Mission Fair, Mound City UMC 1:00-4:00 p.m.
- Oct. 18-21 Cabinet DS in Salina, KS
- Oct. 22 Cluster Conference at Iola Foundry (Trinity) 3:00 p.m.
- Oct. 22 Cluster Conference at Burlington, 5:30 p.m.
- Oct. 26-27 District Office closed

November Calendar

- Nov. 1-3 DS is in training in Austin, Tx
- Nov. 5 Cluster Conference at Fort Scott First, 3 p.m.
- Nov. 5 Cluster Conference at Louisburg, 5:30 p.m.
- Nov. 7 Clergy Meeting, Ottawa 1st UMC, 9-Noon
- 2 Nov. 11 5R District Committee on Ministry 9:00 a.m. Wellsville

Some Important Events You are Invited To:

Project Revolution: Sept. 9-10th

September 9-10th Project Revolution, the 9th Annual Youth Rally for 5R will be held at Lawrence 1st West Campus. All youth grades 7th-12th are invited to participate. Please note the registration deadline to receive a t-shirt is Aug. 20th. Registration link is below and on our website youth page.

<https://gp-reg.brtapp.com/ProjectRevolution2017>

All youth attending must have a health waiver on file with their youth coordinator attending, or bring one with you. The forms can be found on our website and there is a link on the registration form as well.

Fab Five Fall Event is Sept. 30th at Worden UMC

“The Life Cycle of Congregations ~ How to Lead at Various Stages. There are 3 contact hours of CEU’s available with full attendance. The cost is 15.00 if you register and pay online before the event, 20.00 at the door. It will be held at Worden UMC on Saturday, September 30th, 8:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Lunch will be provided by the Worden UMW, as part of the registration cost. If you are able to bring 7-10 folks, you can register the group at a discounted rate, pay online and they don’t need to register individually. Please print and display the flyer. Start talking up attending with your leadership group

<https://gp-reg.brtapp.com/TheLifeCycleofCongregations~HowtoLeadatVariousStages>

PAUMCS Fall Retreat at Parsons Wesley UMC

This event is open to all local church administrative support. October 10-11th. Registration will be out soon. We just want to get this date on your calendar. Jane Reeves (Parsons) and Marvé Ralston (5R) will be sharing information about the Statistical Tables and Vital Statistics reporting. There will be an emphasis on good health and wholeness with other workshops, and plenty of time to meet others that share similar work experiences throughout the GP Conference.

PAUMCS stands for Professional Administrators of the United Methodist Connectional Structure.

Below is a link that tells you about the program nationally.

<http://paumcs.org/>

Our President, Barb Schattak can be reached at ksyorkies@gmail.com or 785-221-7994 with any questions.

Barb works at Lyndon UMC.

Linn County UM Mission Fair

Mound City UMC invite you to a Mission Fair on Saturday, October 14th., 1 to 4 p.m.

Pastors, Council Chairs, Mission Committee members, Active volunteers and/or anyone else engaged in the mission of the local church is invited to attend. The event focuses around learning from one another about caring for the last, the least and the lost in our communities.

Continued from pg 1: *Five Rivers District Superintendent is now also DS of Parsons District*

One thing that is constant, is change. You can help us all with prayer, as we anticipate this. Pray for Bishop Ruben Saenz and his family, and all the staff members in Wichita and Lincoln that will need to make plans to find other employment or move to our new Topeka offices.

The Summation Report on the Great Plains United Methodist Conference Staff Redesign and Office Location Options by John W. Wimberly, Jr. is below.

<http://gpemail.brtaapp.com/files/website/news/wimberly+report+executive+summary.pdf>



Marvé Ralston
Five Rivers District
Administrative Assistant

Jane Reeves
Parsons District
Administrative Assistant

5R Office Hours: Mon.-Fri.
8:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.
785-760-3254
Email : 5riversdistrict@greatplainsumc.org

Parsons Office Hours: Mon.-Fri.
8:00 a.m. —4:00 p.m. Mon.-Thurs
8-noon on Friday
620-421-9149
Email: Parsonsdistrict@greatplainsumc.org

Five Rivers District

Cluster Church Conferences

2017

At Ottawa First, Oct. 8, 3:00 p.m.

Ottawa First
Overbrook
Michigan Valley
Vassar/Pomona
Trinity/Richter
Lyndon
Melvern/Quenemo
Paola
Union Chapel/Williamsburg
Richmond/Princeton

At Lawrence First, West Campus, Oct. 8, 5:30 p.m.

Centenary/Linwood
Central
Eudora
Wellsville/Clearfield
Vinland
Baldwin First
Ives Chapel
Edgerton
Worden

At Iola Foundry (Trinity UMC), Oct. 22, 3:00 p.m.

Wesley
Calvary
Salem
Colony
Mildred/Elsmore
Humboldt/Big Creek
Kincaid Selma/Welda
Garnett/Greeley

At Burlington UMC, Oct. 22, 5:30 p.m.

Burlington
Gridley/Turkey Creek
Waverly/Prairie View
Yates Center/Neosho Falls

At Fort Scott , Nov. 5, 3:00 p.m.

Fort Scott First
St. Johns/Hammond/West Liberty
Uniontown/Redfield
Hiattville
Fulton
Mapleton
Moran/Bronson
Mound City/Blue Mound
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Five Rivers District

Cluster Church Conferences 2017

Continued from pg 5

At Louisburg, Nov. 5, 5:30 p.m.

Louisburg

Plum Creek

Osawatomie/Lane

Parker/Beagle/Fontana

LaCygne/New Lancaster

Pleasanton/Prescott

At Lawrence First Downtown, Jan. 7, 2018

Lawrence First



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PLEASE
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