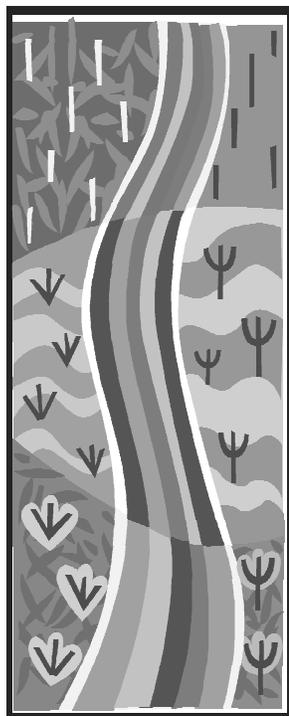


June 2013

Living Water

Our monthly publication



Inside this issue:

District Calendar	2
Prayer Calendar and Clergy Birthdays	2
Online Devotions Offered for the August Uniting Conference	3
Lay Servant Ministries Training Event	3
What is The Advance?	3
Baker University News	4

From the DS

Now that Memorial Day has past, I suppose that we are officially into the summer of 2013. I hope that the weather treats us better than we experienced with the heat of 2012. As I look to the activities of the summer I want to recommend some reading material that may prove useful for pastors and laity alike. These are books, some new, some older, that I have read lately or am reading.

Falling Upward: A Spirituality for the Two Halves of Life by Richard Rohr

In the book, Father Richter Rohr, takes the reader in a deeper spiritual journey in the second half of life. He reflects on the real meaning of our spiritual journey and how the second half of life offers opportunity for a new way of understanding our faith.

An Alter in the World: A Geography of Faith by Barbara Brown Taylor

Many are familiar with Brown Taylor and know her from her many books on preaching. In this book she shares some insight to spiritual methods that may provide deeper experience of faith and renewal. She calls this book a “field guide” to doing something in the midst of the ordinary to meet up with God.

Changing the World: Recovering the Message and Mission of Jesus by Mike Slaughter

In this 2010 book Slaughter challenges the Church to remember the real purpose of being Christian. He attempts to move us out of the comfort zone that we have entered into and into the true mission of being followers of Jesus Christ. A good read for church leaders to discuss in the context of the local church.

A Failure of Nerve: Leadership in the Age of the Quick Fix by Edwin H. Friedman

From the author of “Generation to Generation,” this book is Friedman’s final work before his death. In fact, he died before the manuscript was completed, so the work was picked up and put into order by his colleagues, Margaret Treadwell and Edward Beal. In this book Friedman gives insight in the role of leaders in a “quick fix” culture. He uses systems theory to shine light on how individuals can and should approach to role of leader.

If you have titles that you would like to share with others in the Five Rivers district, please send them to my office: office@5riversds.com. I would like to have us support one another in this simple way.

Have a blessed summer!

Schedule of Events

- May 30th—June 1st Kansas East Annual Conference
- June 3-7th District office closed
- June 11th Clergy Meeting at Ottawa 1st 9—noon
- June 19th –21st Bishop's Week , DS in Dallas, Tx.
- August 22-24th Uniting Conference, Salina , KS

To gather with God's people in united adoration of the Father is as necessary to the Christian life as prayer.

Martin Luther

Bishop of the Great Plains Episcopal Area
Scott Jones

Five Rivers District Superintendent
Rev. Dr. Dennis Ackerman

Newsletter Editor/ Admn. Assistant
Marv  Ralston

June 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

District Churches Prayer Calendar Clergy Birthdays

June 2	LaCygne/New Lancaster Pastor Gina Gile	Kara Eidson	June 9th
June 9	Plum Creek Pastor Beth Hodgson	Donna Clark Fuller	June 9th
June 16	Louisburg Pastor Donna Voteau	Ken Van	June 21st
June 23	Hiattville Pastor Joni Raymond	Duane Kessler	June 25th
June 30	Neosho Falls/Yates Center Pastor Russell Anderson		



Of Possible Interest to you

As we move toward the Uniting Conference Aug. 22-24th, there is a wonderful resource to help us in our reflection and prayer. It is a devotional booklet you can print or look at online, written by fourteen pastors, two from the Five Rivers district. Rev. Barbara Clinger (Ottawa Trinity/Union Chapel) and Rev. Mitch Todd (Lawrence 1st) both contributed to the booklet. Here is the online link <http://www.greatplainsumc.org/pages/detail/416>

Lay Servant Ministries Seminar (June 21-22nd)

Starts 5 p.m. Friday, Ends 5 p.m. on Saturday

Event Cost: 50.00

Consult Lay Servant News on the KE website for details at www.kansaseast.org/events/detail_ke/4478

Location: Kansas City: Living Water UMC, 3001 N 115th St, Kansas City, KS 66109-4840 Contact: Rev. Richard Fitzgerald richard@raqadnu.com

Registration Deadline: June 14, 2013

How can you donate to either **Imagine No Malaria** or contribute funds to help victims of the recent tornadoes?

Send money with an *Advance number* attached or in the check notes.

The Advance is an official program of The United Methodist Church for voluntary, designated, **second-mile giving**. Through **The Advance**, United Methodist annual conferences, districts, local churches, and organizations, as well as individuals and families, may choose to support mission programs or mission personnel with their financial gifts. Each Advance project has been vetted and approved by Global Ministries and Advance staff.

One hundred percent of all Advance giving goes to the chosen mission project or ministry.

Since its founding in 1948, The Advance has helped channel over three million gifts totaling over one billion dollars to thousands of projects and ministries around the world.

The Advance strives to be the leading conduit for United Methodist designated giving. We offer the church an integrated package to channel designated giving to connectional projects and mission personnel. The Advance works with church leaders around the world to ensure that approved projects are aligned with the goals of The United Methodist Church in the local area, help develop partnerships that are mutually advantageous, tell the story of projects and missionaries, and report how giving is making an impact.

The final Kansas East Annual Conference will begin Thursday, May 30th and end on Saturday, June 1st. You can follow live streaming at:

www.kansaseast.org/pages/detail/1333

One hundred percent of all Advance giving, goes to the chosen mission project or ministry

Money gifts to the recent tornado relief should go to **"2013 May Tornado Relief"**

Imagine No Malaria advance number is

#3021190

Mail to:

Kansas East Conference, PO Box 4187, Topeka, KS 66604-0187



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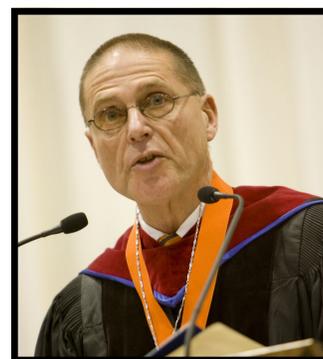
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Fax: 785-841-4820
E-mail: office@5riversds.com

Baker University News ~ from the desk of

Baker's President, Dr. Patricia Long

Dear University Community,

Many of you have probably already seen University Minister Ira DeSpain's announcement that he will retire from Baker University, effective June 30, 2014. Ira has been telling me this was his plan for the past few years, so I would be remiss if I did not admit that he claimed June 30, 2014 first! I simply could not stay past Ira!



Joking aside, I want to congratulate the Reverend Dr. DeSpain on an outstanding career. Ira, your ministry has spanned four decades and you have impacted countless lives in the churches you pastored and here at Baker. Baker's United Methodist heritage is paramount to this institution, and you have been a wonderful embodiment of our founders' vision and mission. For years you have filled the beautiful Osborne Chapel and entire University community with love and a faithful spirit. You will be dearly missed.

Brian Posler, Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, will issue an announcement next fall regarding the search for a University Minister.

Let us all take a moment to wish Ira and his wife, Barb, a hearty congratulations and all the happiness as they take this next step in life. I know Ira and I will share many good stories as we go through our last year at Baker. We plan to make it our best year...right, Ira?

God Bless,

Dr. Pat Long