

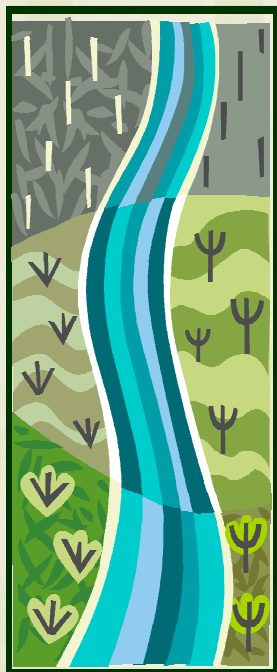
Bishop of the Great Plains
Conference
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Five Rivers District
Superintendent
Rev. Dr. Dennis Ackerman

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Marvé Ralston

Living Water

FIVE RIVERS DISTRICT



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From the DS

Now in my sixth year as a District Superintendent I have come to measure time by the seasons of the appointive cabinet. It is now Church Conference season! I have started the process of meeting with the churches of the district and hearing the stories of lives transformed by the good news of Jesus Christ. Even in a time of challenging circumstances, churches are doing the work of ministry and bringing people into the grace and abundance of God.

As we move toward Thanksgiving I want you to know that the churches of the Five Rivers District are always on my list of things to be thankful for. Hearing about the ministries which are happening throughout the district is rewarding and reminds me that the Holy Spirit is at work in our midst. Churches are making a difference through worship, education, outreach, and evangelism. People are working hard to share Jesus with others.

I am looking forward to seeing the remaining churches over the next several weeks. I am also looking forward to hearing more stories of lives changed with the love of Christ. We are the people of the Great Commission and it is good to know that people of faith do take it seriously.

So, "go therefore and make disciples...." (Matthew 28:19a)

Give thanks!

Dennis



November 2014

| 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 | | | | Thanksgiving | | |

District Prayer Calendar:

Nov.2 Mound City/Blue Mound
Rev. Walter Marsella

Nov.9 Plum Creek
Rev. Beth Hodgson

Nov.16 Louisburg
Rev. Rob Walters

Nov.23 Hiattville
Rev. Joni Raymond

Nov.30 Haiti Missions

Clergy Birthdays

Kathy Symes November 1st

Tom Brady November 6th

Pat Longstroth November 6th

Paul Babcock November 17th

Dennis Ackerman November 23rd

Scott Hannon November 23rd

Gene McIntosh November 25th

Please continue to keep **New Church Lawrence/KU Campus Ministry** in your prayers. They have over 270 volunteer service hours to date and are in anticipation of their first worship service. Do you know folks without a home church that live in or near Lawrence? Please send their e-mail address or contact information to

Jacob@newchurchlawrence.org

Youth Worker Grants Available through the GP Conference

<http://greatplainsyouth.org/grants/youth-worker-training-grants/>

Need help with anything administrative?

Check out the October Administrative Services newsletter. It lists all the conference staff. It has links for health insurance information, year end checklists, Mission Share, deadlines, minimum clergy salaries, statistical report info.

<http://www.greatplainsumc.org/AdministrativeServicesNewsletter>

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- Nov. 3-11 Worden UMC group headed to Haiti for a mission trip. Prayers requested.
- Nov. 8th District Committee on Ministry Interviews at Wellsville UMC
- Nov. 14-15 Youth lock-in at Bishop's Round Up
- Nov. 15th 8 a.m.—1 p.m. Bishop's Round Up
- Nov. 22nd Christian Rock Concert at Ellis Fine Arts Center, Fort Scott Community College ~ 7pm sponsored by Fort Scott 1st UMC
- Nov. 23rd Pre-Preview New Church Lawrence 10:00 a.m. at Hollywood Theatre ~ Prayers Requested!!!
- Nov. 30th United Methodist Student Day

Blisters for Jesus" by Rev. Barb Clinger ~ Good News from Ottawa Trinity UMC

As it turned out, it was a perfect fit for The Great Plains UMC Education Initiative. But it was and remains much more than that. On Sunday, October 2nd Trinity United Methodist Church in Ottawa held an "unplugged" and unusually short worship service. It was the final Sunday of a six part sermon series titled, "Journey to a Generous Life." The final Sunday challenged us to "Serve."



There was no bulletin. During worship there was no music. Most everyone had on jeans or work clothes. It felt very different. It was an empowering Spirit-filled worship. We prayed and listened to Philippians 2: 1-8. I offered a very brief reflection on what the sermon would have been had there been a sermon.

We shared the sacrament of Holy Communion.

We celebrated the reality that it was World Communion Day and we remembered Jesus and his love and his work. We asked God's blessing on the bread and the cup so we might be the body of Christ. We humbly asked to be made one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world.

After 28 minutes, we were leaving the sanctuary and heading out on our mission trip to do just that. Our destination was less than 2 miles away. We piled into cars and headed to our nearby elementary school. Two staff members were waiting for us. We arrived to do what the staff suggested be done.

Sixteen workers spent over an hour raking and shoveling the playground mulch so it was under the equipment once again. Another eight to ten volunteers disinfected the gym mats. Mopping, drying, flipping, and staring over on the backsides. Another handful of volunteers went to work for the art teacher removing small tile from a mat which meant soaking the tiles in warm water and then stripping the tile off the backing. Still others worked on book orders and math games while yet another group created goodie bags and wrote thank you notes to the sixty staff members.

When we finished we gathered for pictures and prayer. We prayed for the staff and the children and the parents of the children. We thanked God for this place where the children of North Ottawa come to learn. We loaded up and headed back to the church. Other workers had stayed there to prepare a meal for us.



37th Annual Bishop's Round-Up Against Hunger

8:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Prefer donations be delivered by 10:00 a.m.

Saturday, November 15, 2014

4-H Fairgrounds, Lawrence

(Highway 10 east to Harper Street North
between 19th and 21st Streets)

Peace begins when the hungry are fed.

BISHOP'S ROUND-UP AGAINST HUNGER NEEDS:

The Bishop's Round-Up Against Hunger is a project of the
Conference of the United Methodist Church.

We need the following items which are gathered from churches and distributed
to those in need within the state and abroad. Box label color is
in parentheses. **NO PLASTIC BAGS, PLEASE.**

CRITICAL

FOOD COMMERCIALLY PREPARED (**green**)

NO COMMODITIES OR GLASS JARS

(12 Items per box or case, please)

Please use box size that "Grandma" could carry.

NOTE: NO outdated food items

Suggested items:

Fruit

Green beans

Mixed vegetables

Tuna

Peanut butter

1 lb. dried beans

1 lb. Rice

Crackers

Corn

Macaroni & cheese

Cereal (that children like)

Soup (tomato, chicken noodle)

Canned meat

Spaghetti

Spaghetti sauce

Ramen noodles

The foods listed above are the items that are needed most
for food boxes. Case lots are encouraged. Please indicate
the number of items in each box.

When purchasing food items, please purchase regular sizes.

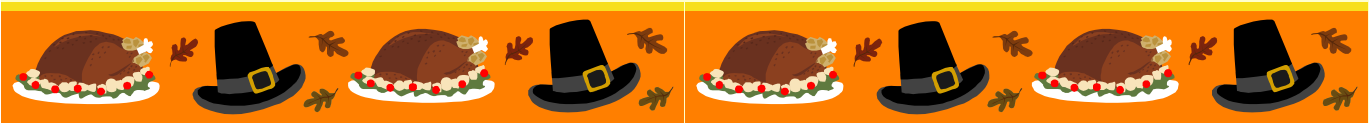
Also, remember to purchase foods you and your family like.

Login to the GPC website: for additional kits and items needed and more information.



Church Conference November Schedule

| | | | |
|----------------|-----------------|------------------------------------|-------------|
| Nov. 2 3pm | Garnett | Garnett, Greeley | DS |
| Nov. 3 7pm | Vinland | Vinland | DS |
| Nov. 6 7pm | Big Creek | Humboldt-Big Creek | DS |
| Nov. 9 ?? | Michigan Valley | Michigan Valley | DS |
| Nov. 9 3pm | Waverly | Waverly-Prairie View | DS |
| Nov. 10 7pm | Mapleton | Mapleton | DS |
| Nov. 11 7pm | Baldwin First | Baldwin First | DS |
| Nov. 13 7pm | Burlington | Burlington | DS |
| Nov. 16 12noon | Melvern | Melvern-Quenemo | DS |
| Nov. 16 3pm | Pomona | Pomona-Vassar | DS |
| Nov. 16 6pm | Richter | Richter | DS |
| Nov. 17 7pm | Worden | Worden | DS |
| Nov. 18 7pm | Overbrook | Overbrook | DS |
| Nov. 23 3pm | Hiattville | Hiattville | DS |
| Nov. 23 6pm | Fort Scott 1st | Fort Scott 1 st | DS |
| Nov. 30 12pm | Iola Trinity | Iola Trinity-Colony | DS |
| Nov. 30 3pm | Iola Wesley | Iola Wesley, Iola Calvary-Salem | DS Marge |
| Nov. 30 6pm | Yates Center | Yates Center-Neosho Falls | DS |



FIVE RIVERS DISTRICT



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Cultivating Christian Discipleship

Blisters for Jesus continued from pg 3

Mission trips always are times of transformation, even when you only travel two miles. We did not talk about serving. We served. We earned "Blisters for Jesus." We were blessed.

Ottawa Trinity UMC ~ Blisters for Jesus

