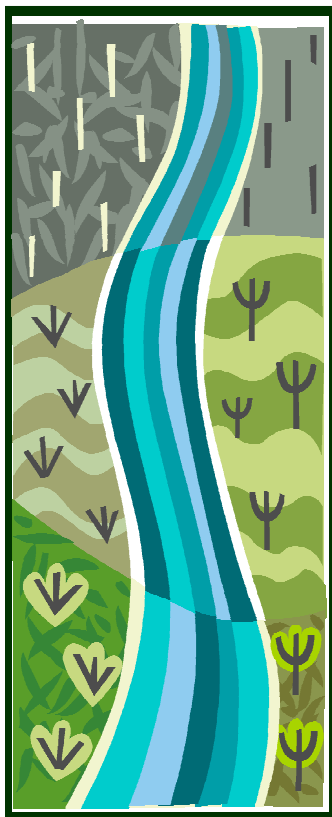


Living Waters

Volume 7, Issue 10

October 2011



From your District Superintendent

Some time back you were asked to reserve the morning of October 29 for a Five Rivers District event. Due to my surgery this summer, the District Leadership Team put off its meeting and we now find ourselves without enough time to properly plan for our event. So, we will not be having an all district event on that date.

The Leadership Team is working on a couple of events for the coming year. Sometime in the first quarter of 2012, we are planning on a Leadership event featuring a noted speaker. We hope to have more details by our November newsletter. We are also planning an event for the fall of 2012 which will include ministry idea sharing, fun, and fellowship. Watch for more information in the spring.

I also want to thank all those who have taken the time to attend one of the Vital Congregation training events. My hope is that the content of the VC guide will be helpful for the churches of the district as you make plans for the future. I believe that the process and the questions contained in the guide are very useful for determining the potential for ministry in any given church setting. Knowing the needs of our communities and knowing the strengths of our churches helps us know what we can do in ministry.

It is a challenging time to be the church, but we know that God is not finished with us. My prayers are with you as you faithfully serve God in your setting. May God bless your efforts as you find ways to help bring people into a life transforming relationship with God through Jesus Christ.

In Christ,

Dennis

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October 2011

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	31					

October 11-12th ~ Extended Cabinet, DS in Wichita

October 20th ~ KE Conference Benefits Meeting at Garnett UMC, 10:00 am-Noon.

October 23rd ~ Church Conference at Mapleton UMC, Mapleton-Devon, Fulton UMC 3-5 pm

Church Conference at Prescott UMC, Prescott-Pleasanton, Blue Mound, Mound City UMC 6-8 pm

October 29th ~ Fab Five Fall Event **Cancelled**

October 30th ~ Church Conference at Elsmore UMC, Elsmore-Mildred, Moran-Bronson UMC 3-5 pm

Church Conference at Uniontown UMC, Uniontown-Redfield, Hiattville UMC 6-8 pm

Prayer Calendar

Oct. 2 Eudora UMC ~ Rev. Michael Tomson-Degreeff

Oct. 9 LaCygne-New Lancaster ~ Rev. Dr. January Kiefer

Oct. 16 Edgerton ~ Pastor Bruce Draper

Oct. 23 Ottawa Trinity ~ Rev. Barb Clinger

Oct. 30 Mound City-Blue Mound ~ Pastor Dallas Peterson

Clergy Birthdays

Michael Tomson-Degreeff 10/08

David Shrum 10/09

Bruce Draper 10/05

Don Flanner 10/21

Of Possible Interest to You:

Bishop's Round-up

The Bishop's Round-up for Hunger will be Nov. 19 in Lawrence. The annual event helps supply food, health kits, cash, layettes, birthing kits, diapers, clothing, paper items and bedding for around 30 missions and agencies in Kansas and beyond.

Watch a video to see how you can help at www.kansaseast.org/videos/detail/77.

Youth will have a lock-in November 18th-19th at Lawrence First UMC West Campus at 6th St (Highway 40) and K-10 beginning at 7 p.m. The lock-in is for mid-high and high-school youth.

Bring bedding, clothes to work in on Saturday and \$5 for pizza. If you have not attended a youth event during the 2010-11 school year, please bring a health form with you.

The youth will serve as human conveyors at the Bishop's Round-Up for Hunger at the Douglas County Fairgrounds on Nov. 19th. The round-up ends at 1 p.m. The registration deadline is Nov. 11th Details for the lock-in are in the above link.

Word, Worship and Work, Oct. 8

Clergy and laity in the Kansas East Conference who are involved in worship planning and design or who would like to know more about it are invited to attend Word, Worship and Work Oct. 8 at Emporia First UMC.

The event is designed to keep alive the connection of these three: worship, word and work.

Registration is \$5 per person. The registration deadline is Sept. 30.

Get the details at www.kansaseast.org/events/detail_ke/3972.

Lay speaking seminar, Oct. 14-15

Basic course, worship, evangelism and leading in prayer will be the course offerings for the lay speaking seminar Oct. 14-15 at Manhattan First UMC.

Rev. Richard Fitzgerald, new conference director of Lay Speaking Ministries, said he "eagerly awaits" this opportunity to meet many people involved in these ministries.

"I'm excited to join the rest of you in lay speaking ministry," Fitzgerald said.

Registration is \$50 per person, which includes meals, snacks, class materials and the Basic Course book. The registration deadline is Oct. 5.

Project Revolution 2011 Awaken ~ Connect ~ Change

On Saturday, September 10th the Five Rivers District youth met at Lawrence 1st West Campus for the fourth all-district lock-in/youth rally ~ Project Revolution. There were youth from twelve Five River's district churches. Over 100 youth were in attendance.

This youth rally is largely planned by the District Committee of Youth Ministry (D.C.Y.M.) under the direction of Tami Clark (Lawrence 1st), Matt Stuckey (Iola Wesley) and several adult youth leaders.

This year was a special challenge. Last spring the group found out that their budget was drastically cut; half of it had already been spent due to scholarships that didn't come out of the 2010 budget as planned but were deducted from the start of 2011.

The D.C.Y.M planning group met in May to begin work on Project Revolution 2011. Instead of cancelling this year's rally/lock-in due to funds availability, they chose to look at their budget (or lack of it) a different way. One option was to eliminate the t-shirts but they came to the conclusion that everyone really loved them. The best option was to find a reasonable band (their budget was 0,) charge more per person (10.00 increased to 15.00), and find inexpensive t-shirts.

Responsibilities were divvied up amongst the D.C.Y.M group. There is a food committee, entertainment, games, t-shirts, and worship.

Laura Ramsey, D.C.Y.M. member and Youth Coordinator at Lyndon UMC, found a great t-shirt provider called Stickers and More. Skylar Dickey D.C.Y.M. member from Ottawa 1st UMC came up with the design chosen for this year's shirts. They still managed to provide t-shirts this year which the youth have assured us they wear often after the event.

They began looking for a band and after much research they checked into a band called The MashUp. The lead singer Russ Durand is the husband of Eva Durand who is the youth director at Baldwin 1st. Others in the band were; John Eddy, Ann Wallsmith, David Cook, Meagan Young, Stuart Young and Peyton Durand. We want to thank The MashUp, for their long hours of practice to provide the entertainment at no cost.

The D.C.Y.M. members all brought watermelons to share after dinner and muffins for the Sunday morning breakfast. As usual all youth attending were asked to bring a snack to share with the group. This helped keep the food budget down.

The Rally always ends with the morning worship service and all youth in attendance. Since lights out are at 2 a.m. this makes for an early morning. That said, it is delightful to see all the youth up and in attendance for Worship the next morning after a quick breakfast of muffins and juice.

Thanks for Lawrence 1st for allowing the Rally to be held in their facility for the third year. Much thanks goes to the youth leaders and parents that attended and supervised this year. Tami Clark and Matt Stuckey both were on their fourth year of coordinating this group (brave souls.) Thanks to all for another successful youth event.

We look forward to our 5th Anniversary in 2012. Please mark September 8-9th on your calendar for 2012.

We ask that you remember the youth of Five Rivers and D.C.Y.M. in your prayers. **We thank God** for their presence and feel blessed to have such a vibrant group of young leaders.



D.C.Y.M. staff,
not pictured Jennifer Lowrey and Tami
Clark

The MashUp was the name of the band selected for 2011. Band members are Russ Durand, John Eddy, Ann Wallsmith, David Cook, Meagan Young, Stuart Young and Peyton Durand.



Lawrence 1st West Campus was a wonderful location for the 4th annual event.

Clay Thomas and Reid Hilderbrand two D.C.Y.M. staff leading recreation.





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Five Rivers District Sponsors Poverty Simulation at Ottawa 1st

On September 6th the Five Rivers District sponsored a Poverty Simulation at Ottawa 1st UMC with help from the East Central Kansas Economic Opportunity Corp. and organized by Pastor David Shrum (Moran/Bronson UMC.)

We were first grouped into “families” of four with a story packet that gave our roles. We then had to navigate our way through the stations that had been set up that might be similar to reality. There was a grocery store, work, mortgage company, etc.

There were things to be done daily (work) along with mortgage and bills to be paid. There were also the unplanned for “real life” events that totally by-passed the budget and threw things out of balance and made it impossible to meet the scheduled needs of the family.

So began our venture into a simulation of poverty. I was to be the grandmother who worked a full-time job and tried to manage with a disabled husband and two school age grandchildren living with them. Mine was a simulated problem not so unlike many American’s my age are currently facing.

Unfortunately I learned the hard way to get a receipt for paying a partial mortgage payment. It was things like a checking account that you take for granted and people might not be fortunate enough to have. There were services not available to them or that they weren’t aware of. Everything took transportation dollars, sound familiar?

While the simulation was just an hour, it represented a month in the life of someone living in poverty or on the border of it.



With the unemployment rate in Kansas at 6.7% as of August, this is very timely training. We all need to be more compassionate and keep our eyes out for people who are falling through the cracks of society. We are looking at having another Poverty Simulation event in the future.