

Delaware District

The District Office will
be closed 12/20/24
thru 1/5/25.

Newsletter

December 19, 2024
Volume 3, Issue 26



Happy Birthday Jesus



The Delaware District wishes everyone a very, Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! May you have the gift of faith, the blessing of hope and the peace of his love.

The office will be closed for the holidays from Friday, December 20th thru Sunday, January 5th. In the event of an emergency, you may reach Rev. Tom Pasmore at 302-382-2907.

We are excited to extend an invitation to you for the **Ignite Conference**, which will be held from March 7 - 9, 2025. This incredible event is a gathering, a journey of personal growth and transformation.

It's designed to help us explore what it truly means to carry the Gospel into our communities and the world. It will be a transformative experience for all who attend.

Throughout the conference, exceptional speakers will inspire us by challenging and encouraging us to live out our faith in impactful ways. Together, world-class worship teams will lead us in powerful sessions of praise and reflection, creating an atmosphere where we can deeply connect with God and each other.

Ignite 2025 is not just about listening and learning—it's about discovering and utilizing the unique gifts God has given each of us. Doing so can build stronger, more supportive communities that reflect His love and purpose. This conference is a chance to foster meaningful relationships, share our experiences, and support one another in our faith journeys.

Please check out the flyer using the link below for more details about the conference, and feel free to share it with others who might be interested. We truly believe that God has something special planned for us at IGNITE, and we are eager to see how He will work in our lives during this time together.

Thank you for considering joining us for this uplifting event. Your presence would mean a lot to us. We are genuinely excited about the possibilities and pray that we will all leave IGNITE 2025 renewed and inspired to make a difference in our world.



[Click here for the flyer and more details.](#)

[Video link](#)

Baltimore Washington & Peninsula-Delaware Area

Check out our affiliation website:
<https://www.pdcbbc.org>

Under the leadership of Bishop LaTrelle Easterling, the affiliation is a unique partnership, which connects the leaders and members of more than 1,000 churches to share resources and create vital congregations that make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.



In order to keep the newsletter up-to-date and relevant, all help wanted ads will be deleted for the next issue of the newsletter (January 7th.)

If you would like to have your ad relisted, please consider redesigning it a little to spark new interest and resubmitting it.

Please send all new articles to me by Monday, January 6th.

Thank you!

Apportionments

We wish to thank all the Churches who have paid their Apportionments in full this year. If you still have an outstanding balance, please prayerfully consider making the full payment prior to the end of the year. If you are unsure of your balance, you can contact the District Office for your exact amount.

In order to be sure your final payment reaches the Conference Office, please mail it by Friday, December 20th. You may also take your payment to the Conference Office (139 N. State St., Dover) and put it in the mail slot in the front door.



Dear Faith Leaders,

The number of people experiencing homelessness i.e. sleeping outside, in a tent, in a car, or an emergency shelter are in crisis. The number of people experiencing this crisis is at one of the highest recorded in Delaware. It is intricately related to the rise in rents and mortgages which is intricately related to the lack of safe and affordable housing.



There is more that we can do to meet this crisis head on. And we need your help to do it. First and foremost, community leaders like faith leaders need to become educated on this important topic. Here is an important way you and your community can become more educated.

Share these educational opportunities throughout the state with your community: [Faith & Housing Justice Week | HAD Site](#)

Please feel free to reach back out to me for more information. It is going to take all of us to see the humanity in each of us!

Respectfully,

Sonya
Rabbi Sonya Starr
She/Her/Hers
Policy Director
Housing Alliance Delaware
(302)654-0126 ext. 103



Camp Pecometh Candle Drive

If your church holds a candlelight service during Advent or Christmas, please consider donating any used candles to Camp Pecometh! Pecometh needs candles for our own candlelight Galilean services during the summer. We are happy to take any partially burned candles that would otherwise go to waste. These candles ensure that campers receive a meaningful worship experience that shows them the importance of taking God's light from camp out into the world around them. Please send any candles to Nathan Vaughn at 401 Jack Elliott Way in Centreville, MD 21617 or contact him at nathan@pecometh.org to see if he may be able to pick them up. Thank you for supporting Pecometh's ministry.



Don't Miss Your Potential!

Book your MAP

Consultation today!

[click here](#)

Missional Action Planning (MAP)

Are you are ready to see your congregation become fully vital and thriving? Missional Action Planning (MAP) offers a transformative approach to church vitality. This process is both a mind-set and a strategy, designed to help congregations discern, prioritize, and steward their efforts in alignment with the Great Commission.

MAP stimulates spiritual imagination, encouraging us to integrate whole-life evangelism and justice into our faith practice. With Jesus as our foundation, congregations can thrive and enjoy many benefits, including:

1. Increase congregation engagement and participation
2. Assist in building greater community involvement and support
3. Gain clarity and guidance on conducting effective community outreach
4. Tools to reach all generations

Start your MAP journey today! Book an appointment for your assessment and discover how MAP can lead your congregation to new heights.

At the heart of our journey is a love that heals, liberates, and compels us to join with God and neighbors to serve and renew.



Rev. Dr. Ianther Mills, pastor of the historic Asbury UMC in Washington, D.C., has been named by Bishop LaTrelle Easterling to serve as a superintendent in the Baltimore-Washington Conference. Mills will rejoin the Cabinet, after serving as a superintendent from 2005 to 2013.

Winter Spiritual Retreat - January 7 - 12, 2025

Cost: \$65/ for one day; from \$129 for an overnight stay (single & double occupancy offered)

Join us to practice silence & solitude, spend time on retreat with a friend or partner, or do whatever feeds your spirit. Our spiritual retreats offer flexible options for participants to set aside time away. Whether you are seeking solitude or connection (or both!), we offer a variety of optional activities and worship opportunities.

Learn More: <https://pecometh.org/winter-spiritual-retreat/>



Re:View Confirmation Retreat - February 7 - 8, 2025

Cost: \$99 per student, \$59 per adult

Do you have a small confirmation class? Or maybe you have one or two students and you aren't sure how to run a program with so few youth. Or are you looking to add something else to the confirmation schedule?

We've got you covered! Join us in February for a weekend of fun, fellowship, and faith-formation! This retreat is designed with small churches in mind – we know how much work Confirmation is, and we want to help! You bring your students and adult leaders, and we'll provide the programming.

Learn More and Register: <https://pecometh.org/review-confirmation-retreat/>



Wednesday Workshop: Lenten Worship Planning Workshop - January 15, 2025

Pecometh is happy to offer monthly workshops for local clergy! January's workshop is about Lenten worship planning.

Take time to sketch out your worship plans for Lent and Easter Sunday through a mixture of group discussion and individual work time. Facilitator Rev. Karin Tunnell will guide participants through discussion of lectionary and series-based planning, followed by time to reflect on Lenten scriptures and themes together. The conversations will continue over lunch in the Riverview Retreat Center dining room. In the afternoon participants can choose to work independently or in groups to map out scriptures and worship ideas week by week.

Sample Schedule:

10:00am	Arrival; Coffee & Conversation
10:15am	Opening Devotion
10:30am	Session 1: Planning Resources & Overview of Lent Dates & Scriptures
12:30pm	Lunch
1:30pm	Session 2: Brainstorming and Creative Time
2:30pm	Planning on own or in groups
3:00pm	Wrap-up and Departure

Learn More and Register: <https://pecometh.org/wednesday-workshops/>



Illuminate your
congregation's potential!

Do you think you're ready to take the next faithful step?

The mission of the United Methodist Church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Local churches are the primary way of accomplishing this. Ongoing congregational development is essential to multiplying Kingdom impact. Every two to three years, we recommend that churches assess themselves and focus on taking their next faithful step toward God's preferred future, either through new faith expressions to create new places for new people or the renewal and revitalization of existing congregations.

By being relevant and vital, United Methodists will touch more lives and draw more people to Christ. Our primary purpose is not to help churches grow, but rather we seek to help them reach more people with the Good News of the Gospel, to grow more people as gifted and called disciples of Jesus, and to send more people into the world to love and serve God and their neighbors in all they do.

We provide tools, resources, and training to help congregations more effectively make disciples for the transformation of the world. If you are feeling stuck or want to focus on building momentum toward relevance, we recommend one of **three vitality pathways**:



[Readiness Initiative](#) for churches who are unsure of their readiness and/or capacity to create and lead a community-focused ministry. [Register here:](#)



[Catalyst Initiative](#) for churches who want to discern and experiment with where God is uniquely calling them to meet a tangible need in the community. [Register here:](#)



[A Diverse Church By Design](#) for churches who want to be equipped for stronger multi-cultural ministry. [Register here:](#)



LevelUp

Level Up: One idea at a time in a masterclass on leadership

Leaders inspire, they influence and empower others, define new realities, and bring vision to life. Good leaders enable groups and individuals to grow more fully into what God is calling them to be.

The Rev. Jack Shitama, Director of the Conferences' **Center for Vital Leadership**, helps leaders grow. In these short videos, church leaders will discover some of the best and most influential principles in today's secular writing about leadership. Learn, step-by-step, from the masters, how to transform yourself and the world. The videos are on our affiliation website at: www.pdcbwc.org/center-for-vital-leadership



The Bridgeville Charge - Bethel UMC-Federalburg MD and Mt. Calvary UMC- Bridgeville DE celebrated the First Sunday of Advent with Joint Communion followed by the Bridgeville Charge Christmas Party. The first Advent candle was lit - hope. Pastor Fitchett's message to the Bridgeville Charge and guests was, "He's Coming Back". Yes He is coming back and He is looking for a church - which is us, without a spot or a blemish.

After the message and receiving Holy Communion from Pastor Fitchett, the Charge had their Annual Christmas party. The Charge and guests were served a delicious holiday meal consisting of turkey and dressing, mashed potatoes, dressing, mashed potatoes, green beans, corn pudding, fruit tray, sweet potato pies, cupcakes, cookies and drinks.

After the delicious meal, Rev. Fitchett treated them to various Christmas games and the winner of each game received a prize. Each attendee bought a gift for a male or female for the gift exchange. There was also a Spin the Wheel game - if you landed on Baby Jesus-you win a prize.

The Bridgeville Charge wishes the Delaware District a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Remember that Jesus is the Reason for the Season.



Thank you guys for serving a delicious meal - George Batson, Larry Hughes, Charlie Gibbs, Allan Evans and William Ross Jr.



Living Nativity

December 20 & 21 6:30-8:00

**Kingswood United Methodist Church
300 Marrows Road
Newark, Delaware**

The manger scene complete with music, carolers, readings and live characters will be presented in the church front yard. You can drive by or park on Brookside Blvd. to walk around and savor our interpretation of the Christmas Miracle. Cookies and hot chocolate served in the church Gathering Room. You are invited to come . . . experience the message for yourself. You will be blessed.

**You are invited to come . . . experience the message for
yourself. You will be blessed.**

 MOUNT
SALEM
IN ROCKFORD PARK

CHRISTMAS IN ROCKFORD PARK

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22 · 4PM

MT. SALEM IN ROCKFORD PARK · 2629 WEST 19TH STREET
WILMINGTON, DELAWARE 19806



**FEATURING:
THE BLUE
ROCK CHORUS**

**FREE
CONCERT**

Christmas Eve Services

HOCKESSIN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
7250 Lancaster Pike | Hockessin, DE 19707
www.hockessinumc.org | 302-239-3030



4pm - Children's

**6pm - Hybrid (mix of
Traditional and Contemporary)**

8pm (Traditional)

*Please join us as we celebrate the birth
of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!*



St. Georges Umc

109 Broad St., St. Georges, DE 19733

Christmas Candlelight Eve Service

December 24, 2024 @ 6:00pm

Join us to welcome the arrival of our newborn King!



SAVE THE DATE

Please join us for a
New Year's Eve Worship & Praise Service on
Tuesday, December 31, 2024 - 5:00 p.m.

The service will be held at:
Ezion Mt. Carmel UM Church

Rev. Cornelius Berry, Lead Pastor
800 N. Walnut Street, Wilmington, DE 19801

You're invited to join us on New Year's Eve with our **Speaker, the Rev. Lawrence Pelham**, Pastor of Coleman Memorial UM Church where both church choirs (Ezion Mt. Carmel and Coleman Memorial will render the musical songs of praise along with Rev. Kevin Benjamin, Music Director). Please come out and join in giving praise, worship and thanks to God.

LUNCHEON SPEAKER SERIES

Sunday, January 12, 2025

12 NOON - 1 PM



2629 WEST 19TH STREET
WILMINGTON, DELAWARE 19806

SURVIVORSHIP SPECIALIST
ERICA SAUNDERS
DELAWARE BREAST CANCER COALITION



The Dream Unfinished


ELEVATION
ELEVATE VOCAL ARTS

Sunday, January 19th, 2025 | 3:00 PM

Mt. Salem UMC in Rockford Park
2629 W 19th St. Wilmington, DE. 19806

Join Elevation in celebrating the legacy of **The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.** with a musical tribute to his life and work, hosted in collaboration with **Mt. Salem United Methodist Church** in Rockford Park. Please register to reserve your seat ahead of the concert. We hope you will join us for this uplifting celebration!

Elevation

No-Cost Tickets

Reserve your seat at elevatevocalarts.org

Visit elevatevocalarts.org
or scan to reserve a seat at
no cost!



LUNCHEON SPEAKER SERIES

Sunday, January 26, 2025

12 NOON - 1 PM



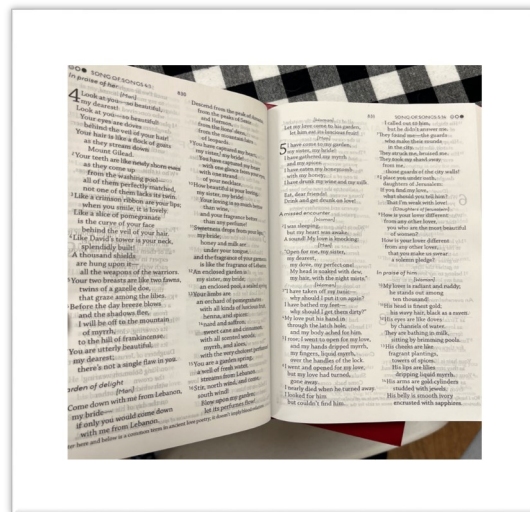
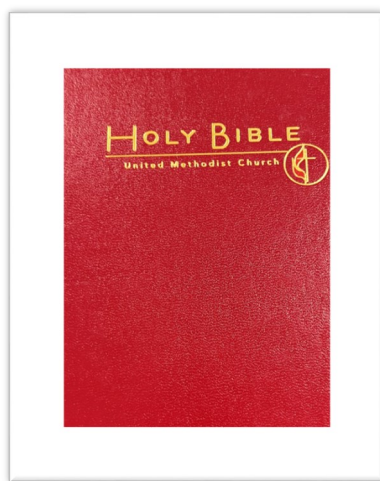
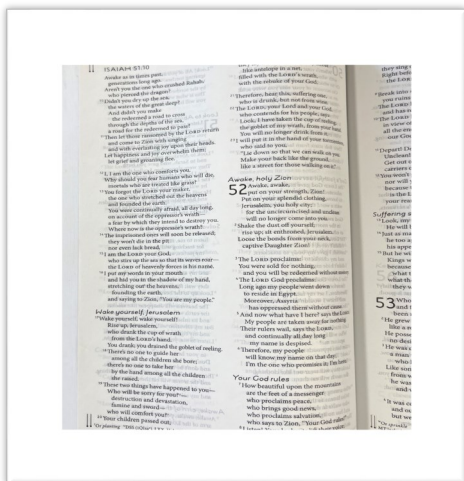
2629 WEST 19TH STREET
WILMINGTON, DELAWARE 19806

RECORDER OF DEEDS
MICHAEL E. KOZIKOWSKI, SR.
NEW CASTLE COUNTY, DELAWARE



Union Church in Bridgeville as over 100 CEB UMC branded pew Bibles. They're free to whoever can use them. They will need to be picked up in at 2 N Laws St., Bridgeville or make arrangement to meet somewhere that will be convenient for both parties.

The whole lot consists of 51 small print Bibles, 62 large print and 4 small print imitation leather copies. They have all been checked and are in very good condition, for the most part. If interested, please contact Bradley Schutt @ iambradleyschutt@gmail.com.



Director of Music Ministries

St. Paul's United Methodist Church located in Odessa, Delaware is seeking a part-time (15 hours/week) Director of Music Ministries. In collaboration with the pastor and the Witness Team, the Director of Music Ministries will coordinate the music schedule for the chancel choir and the handbell choir, choosing music, leading rehearsals, scheduling presentation times, and leading the groups in the 11 a.m. traditional worship setting.

The candidate will be a part of the Witness Team and the Leadership Team, will develop the music program including submitting a budget proposal and purchasing music for that ministry, and will participate with the ensembles in community and church-wide events. Candidates should have skills/experience with choral conducting, handbells, and teaching music to choral and instrumental ensembles. A detailed job description and salary projections are available upon request. Interested candidates should send a cover letter and resume to joylittell@mac.com.

Maintenance Director Position Available

**Location: Conleys UMC,
33106 Jolyns Way
Lewes, DE**



Job Description: Conleys United Methodist Church in Lewes, DE, seeks a qualified Maintenance Director. The ideal candidate must possess skills in general maintenance areas, including carpentry, painting, plumbing, and electrical work, and must own their tools. The role requires lifting up to 50 pounds, a strong sense of safety awareness, and the capability to interact effectively with church staff, members, and volunteers on special maintenance projects.

While a candidate familiar with the church's vision, mission, values, and theology is preferred, all qualified individuals are encouraged to apply.

Position Details:

Hours: Monday through Thursday, 6:30 AM to 10:30 AM

Compensation: This is a paid position with leave benefits available after satisfactory completion of a 90-day probationary period.

How to Apply: Interested candidates should email their resumes to conleysumc@gmail.com.



Delaware District Office
900 N. Washington St.
Wilmington, DE 19801

District Superintendent
Rev. Dr. Tom Pasmore
Phone: 302-382-2907

Andrea Lenker
Administrative Assistant
Phone: 302-655-8873
Office Hours:
Monday—Thursday
7:30 am—2:00 pm
DelawareDistrictUMC@gmail.com

Peninsula-Delaware Conference
139 N. State St.
Dover, DE 19901
www.pen-del.org
Phone: 302-674-2626
877-737-3351

Presiding Bishop
Bishop LaTrelle Easterling
11711 E. Market Pl.
Fulton, MD 20759
410-309-3400



The Delaware District Newsletter is published bi-weekly on a Tuesday. Articles or flyers for the next issue are due on **Monday, January 6th**. To submit articles, please send them to the District Office.

When submitting articles or flyers for the newsletter, please send them as a jpg or word document so I can easily insert them into the newsletter.

*Silly Santa
Christmas Is
For Jesus*