

# Delaware District



# Newsletter

January 7, 2025  
Volume 4, Issue 1



*The Delaware District Office will be closed on Monday, January 20th in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.*

Now that the holidays are over, we may feel deflated. All the celebrations and festivities are behind us. Winter and chilly temperatures are in our future. It may feel as if the lights and joys of Christmas are quickly disappearing in our rearview mirrors.

But as author Norman Wesley Brooks wrote, "Christmas is forever, not for just one day, for loving, sharing, giving, are not to be put away like bells and lights and tinsel, in some box upon a shelf. The good you do for others is the good you do for yourself."

That is a beautiful reminder to keep Christmas in our hearts all year round and a perfect New Year's resolution for walking as better disciples.

It is likely that we will be stressed in 2025, with everything going on in the nation and the world and our divided society. We might even be tempted to withdraw from the world, disengage from the people we disagree with, and turn our backs on the larger community around us.

While we all need to do what is best for our mental, physical, and emotional health, we can find peace if we stay focused on Christ's nature and the promises of the Word. John 16:33 tells us, "I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world, you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world."

While we may have plans to lose weight, get out of debt, or any other typical resolutions, we will be better in life if we renew our focus and dedication to our Savior. When we keep the light of Christ and the joy of his birth in our hearts, we can go the entire year with hope and love guiding us.

As we welcome 2025 and prepare for another year of serving the Lord, let us hold close to our Savior and bring the Triune God glory and honor forever.

# HAPPY NEW YEAR

*Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!  
In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope  
through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.*

ECCLESIASTES 3:11

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.



## **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](mailto:nathan@pecometh.org) to see if he may be able to pick them up. Thank you for supporting Pecometh's ministry.

## **Apportionments**

**The 2025 Apportionment totals were mailed to all appointed Pastors. If you do not have your totals for 2025, please contact the District office.**

**The Apportionment Review Committee met in early December and made their recommendations for Apportionment reductions for 2025. If your Church submitted a request, you should be hearing from either the District Or Conference Office by the end of January.**





**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.



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

### 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

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## 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/>

January 1, 2025

Dear Pastors and Laity

The Delaware District Board of Lay Ministries cordially invites you to our annual Laity Clergy Celebration Event. It will be held in 2 locations, Saturday March 1st Mill Creek Fire Hall, 3808 Kirkwood Highway, Marshallton, DE and April 5th, Wyoming UMC Fellowship Hall, 216 Wyoming Mill Rd, Dover, DE. These events will be from 1:00pm to 4:00pm, cost \$20.00.

Our theme “***New Life, New Ministries***” based on 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 5:16-18 “So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view. Though we once regarded Christ in this way, we do so no longer. Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come. The old has gone, the new is here! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation.”

We want to honor each church on the Delaware District as we have come out of COVID and the Disaffiliation Process where we are now sharing ***NewLife andNewMinistries*** in Jesus Christ with everyone. Please come out as we fellowship together, seeing old friends and meeting new friends to continue *Making Disciples of Jesus Christ for the Transformation of the World.*

Tickets are **\$20.00** must be purchased in advance. No one will be admitted without a ticket. There will be no tickets sold at the door. **Deadline for March 1st event is February 15th. Deadline for April 5<sup>th</sup> event is March 22nd.**

Make checks payable to: United Methodist Delaware District – MAIL TO: Yvonne Jackson, 702 W. 39<sup>th</sup> St., Wilmington, DE 19802. Mark checks for District Laity Clergy Celebration.

You may purchase tickets from any of the following members of the board of Lay Ministry:

Paul Ford	302-230-6408	Larry Josefowski	302-275-1455
Marlene Wright	302-559-0654	Yvonne Jackson	302-764-2928

This event will be a wonderful time of fellowship, sharing a meal and a word of support from our District Superintendent, Rev. Dr. Tom Pasmore. We look forward to seeing members from each church on our district.

In Christ's Service,

***Paul Ford, Delaware District Lay Leader***

Return by February 15th or March 22nd to Yvonne Jackson, 702 W. 39<sup>th</sup> St., Wilmington, DE. 19802 or [yon2d@aol.com](mailto:yon2d@aol.com). Please list a contact phone number or email.

Church or Charge \_\_\_\_\_

Name (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Dear Pastors, Congregants & Churches of the Peninsula-Delaware Conference,

I come humbly to ask for your assistance in helping the pastors of the Evangelical Methodist Church of Nicaragua.

I will again visit our sisters and brothers on a teaching mission January 27 thru February 4, 2025, and will be traveling to four of the districts, helping the Methodist pastors there prepare for Lent. Most of the pastors, have received, little, if any pay this past year. Formerly, they received a bit of support from UMC Global Missions and the British Methodist Church but that has diminished significantly. It is my hope to be able to gift each of the 22 pastors at least \$100. I, along with my 2 churches, are committing to this and I respectfully ask you and your congregants to consider support of this effort. This small offering would be an enormous blessing and give hope to the pastors, families, churches and remind them that they are not alone.

I realize that the timing is short but we have just been able to work out the details of this mission. Please consider making a generous donation to the ministry of these pastors who serve sacrificially each and every day. **Make your checks to: Rev. Karin Tunnell, 289 E. North Street, Smyrna, DE 19977** or you may Zelle your contribution to me. [I will also arrange other forms of payment that may be convenient]. I will immediately send a receipt for your donations and pledge to send photos and/or videos to your church. I will also make myself available to visit your church for an update after my return.

Here are some details that may increase your understanding of the plight of the Evangelical Methodist Church of Nicaragua.

\* Nicaragua is a huge country with stunning vistas and jaw-dropping poverty. It is the largest country of Central America – about the size of the state of Alabama – and is considered the second poorest nation of North America. According to the World Poverty Clock nearly half a million people live in extreme poverty, with the average annual salary of about \$263 for those who can secure a job.

W Nicaragua is bordered to the north by Honduras and to the south by Costa Rica. It is bounded on the east by the Caribbean Sea and on the west by the Pacific Ocean.

\* Initially Methodism came to Bluefields, Nicaragua on the Atlantic Coast in the 1880's but was unsuccessful.

\* The first missionary to Nicaragua was in 1953 in Managua but they were forced to leave due to the civil war in 1978, with missionary work resuming in the 1980's. Belinda Forbes is one our foremost United Methodist missionaries and continues her work in Nicaragua with the AMOS project. You can learn more of Belinda's outstanding ministry here

<https://umcmmission.org/missionary-bio/forbes-belinda/>

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- \* The Nicaragua Managua Mission was organized in October 1989, with a membership of approximately 3,500.
- \* The Evangelical Methodist Church in Nicaragua was established in 1996 with support from the Council of Latin American Evangelical Methodist Churches (CIEMAL) and the General Board of Global Ministries (GBGM) of the United Methodist Church. The church has over 3,000 members. The Methodist Church in Britain has also supported the church through grants and roundtable meetings.
- \* Membership increased to 8,000 by December 1990.
- \* Most of the Methodist churches are located on the western part of the country, with churches in Managua, Masaya, León, La Majada, Loma Linda, among others, and Esteli and Jinotega to the north.
- \* This past year the government of Nicaragua has increased its sanctions upon the church, making the situation for pastors more untenable.
- \* IGLEMEN pastors are supposed to receive approximately \$150 per month, but that has not been paid in years. In addition, many of the churches and parsonages are in disrepair and I hope to assess how we might help in this effort.

If each of our 300 churches in the Conference contributed \$150 dollars to support these pastors and their families, we could provide them with nearly a year of salary each! Think about what a difference in their lives this would make.

To break it down even further:

If every member of a 150 member church contributed \$1, that would be \$150 OR

If a 75 member church contributed \$2 each – that would be \$150 OR

If you only have 30 members and everyone contributed \$5,

you would pay a Nica pastor's salary for one month.

**In Christ's peace and blessing,**

**Rev. Karin Tunnéll Pastor, Little Creek-Roby UMC Charge**



**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:](#)



## 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.pdcbbc.org/center-for-vital-leadership](http://www.pdcbbc.org/center-for-vital-leadership)

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### 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](mailto:joylittell@mac.com).

## **Thrift Store Assistant (Pole Barn) Position Available**

**Location:** Conleys United Methodist Church

33106 Jolyns Way

Lewes, DE 19958

**Job Description:**

Seeking a qualified Thrift Store Assistant. The ideal candidate will be able to maintain good customer relationships, assist with the opening and closing (locking) of outside buildings at the end of the day, and help with the pick-up and delivery of furniture to customers. Additional responsibilities will include arranging items in the pole barns to ensure they are attractive to customers and safe to navigate. Other duties may be as signed by the Manager(s).



**Requirements:**

Ability to lift up to 50 pounds

Ability to drive a delivery truck when needed

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:**

Tuesday through Thursday, 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM, and

Saturday, 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

**Compensation:**

This is a salaried position with leave benefits after satisfactory completion of a 90-day probationary period.

**How to Apply:**

Interested candidates should email their resumes to [conleysumc@gmail.com](mailto:conleysumc@gmail.com).



***Happy New Year!***  
***New Castle United Methodist Church***  
***is Hiring!***



***New Castle United Methodist Church, 510 Delaware Street, Historic New Castle, DE, is seeking a part-time (15 hours a week) Administrative Assistant. This person will work under the direction of the Pastor and the Staff/Parish Relations Committee.***

The candidate will provide secretarial support to the Pastor, staff, and ministry of the church. Duties include, but are not limited to:

1. Serve as church receptionist (answering phones, screening calls, and relaying messages).
2. Coordinate and route all mail.
3. Update and maintain the church calendar of events and meetings.
4. Maintain church records.
5. Prepare and distribute weekly church bulletins and letters to members.
6. Monitor and order supplies.
7. Distribute food bags to clients who come to our door.



***Whatever you do, work at it wholeheartedly as though you were doing it for the Lord and not merely for people. Colossians 3:23***

**Qualifications:**

1. The candidate must be flexible, personable, positive, and professional.
2. The candidate must be prompt, dependable, tactful, and trustworthy.
3. The candidate will be expected to learn the functions of our church committees.
4. The candidate must have or acquire knowledge of and the ability to use Microsoft Office software and be able to operate office equipment.



***Interested candidates may submit resumes or inquiries to the church by emailing [newcastledeumc@gmail.com](mailto:newcastledeumc@gmail.com) and indicate "Attn SPRC Chairperson" in the subject line.***



# 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

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No-Cost Tickets

Reserve your seat at [elevatevocalarts.org](http://elevatevocalarts.org)

Visit [elevatevocalarts.org](http://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**







**BUTTONWOOD UMC ANNUAL**

# **MEN'S DAY**

**UPLIFTING MEN THROUGH PRAYER,  
WORSHIP & FELLOWSHIP**

**FEBRUARY 2, 2025 • 11AM**

**SEAN M. LEE**  
LEAD PASTOR

**GUEST PREACHER:**  
**REV. ELMER DAVIS, JR.,**  
UPPER SHORE DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT,  
PENINSULA DELAWARE CONFERENCE

SPECIAL MUSICAL GUEST: **M.O.T MALE CHORUS**

**22 BUTTONWOOD AVE. NEW CASTLE, DE 19720**

As the body of Christ, we the members of Buttonwood United Methodist Church believe that our mission is to be the bridge that links this church and this community together transforming lives to become what God has called them to be.

[WWW.BUTTONWOODUMC.COM](http://WWW.BUTTONWOODUMC.COM)



**BUTTONWOODUMC**

# LUNCHEON SPEAKER SERIES

**Sunday, February 9, 2025**

**12 NOON – 1 PM**



MOUNT  
SALEM

IN ROCKFORD PARK

2629 WEST 19TH STREET  
WILMINGTON, DELAWARE 19806

OSHER  
LIFELONG  
LEARNING  
INSTITUTE

**DIRECTOR**

**KAREN ASENAVAGE LOPTES, PHD**

**WILMINGTON OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE,  
UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE**

# LUNCHEON SPEAKER SERIES

**Sunday, March 2, 2025**

**12 NOON - 1 PM**



MOUNT  
SALEM

IN ROCKFORD PARK

2629 WEST 19TH STREET  
WILMINGTON, DELAWARE 19806

VP COMMUNITY HEALTH & WELL BEING  
TRINITY HEALTH MID-ATLANTIC REGION

**LILLIAN J. SCHONEWOLF**

HEALTHY VILLAGE AT SAINT FRANCIS



# LUNCHEON SPEAKER SERIES

**Sunday, March 23, 2025**

**12 NOON - 1 PM**



2629 WEST 19TH STREET  
WILMINGTON, DELAWARE 19806

**REGISTER OF WILLS**

**CIRO POPPITI, III**

**NEW CASTLE COUNTY, DELAWARE**



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 **Saturday, January 18th**. 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.

