

United Methodist Church
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NEWS AND CUES
NEW ALBANY DISTRICT
DECEMBER 2009 JANUARY 2010

Charles D. Wilfong
District Superintendent
Phone: 812-951-0388
800-919-8166
Fax: 812-951-3380

December 2009-January 2010

Newsletter Deadline –January 10 – 8:00 a.m. EST



Calendar for December:

7 Clergy/Spouse Christmas Party Wooded Glen
8-10 Cabinet– CDW
23-Jan 3 District Office closed for the holiday's

Calendar for January:

1 District office closed New Year's Day
4 District office reopens
6 Cabinet-CDW
6 Retiree's Luncheon at Olive Garden-Clarksville
19-22 Cabinet-CDW

Website: naumcdistrict.org

Silent Night, Holy Night?

Social psychologists have studied it recently. We're afraid of it. And now they have a new theory about why it terrifies us.

In the 21st century, we endure a lot of noise . . . literally. Our ears are bombarded by more decibels than ever before. And we have learned to ignore it by "selectively listening." That presents certain health problems for our ears.

But, the noise we have been conditioned to ignore emerged in the early years of the Industrial Age. The early 20th century taught us that noise comes from factories. Factories mean production. Production means prosperity. Noise means more for everyone.

Some have suggested that modern human beings have been conditioned to assume that silence means that nothing is going on, nothing is being produced, nothing is being made. Silence means nothing . . . literally. If it's quiet, there must be no goods or services for us. Stillness means we have no treasure.

We have to be told that a silent night is a holy night. Otherwise, it would be uncomfortable. It could be frightening.

But when it's evident that we can do nothing . . . when it's quiet, when we're silent . . . that's when God will act. God will do what only God can do when we wait, watch, and listen in silence.

God will act when we listen in silence.

Elijah experienced God not in the great wind, the earthquake, or the fire, but in the "sound of sheer silence" (1 Kings 19:12, NRSV).

In 1867, Phillip Brooks had it right when he wrote:

How silently, how silently,
the wondrous Gift is giv'n;
So God imparts to human hearts
the blessings of His Heav'n.
No ear may hear His coming,
but in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive Him still,
the dear Christ enters in.

It seems to be God's way . . . God's language. A silent night is, in fact, more likely to be a holy night. Humanity's greatest treasure is not something we can make; it's a gift we can only passively receive. Our greatest treasure is the wondrous Gift of God—Jesus Christ. And the only worthy sound is our grateful praise.

Go in peace. Go with God. And be well.

Shalom,

Charles D. Wilfong

Indiana Conference Opens New Center

The Indiana Conference of The United Methodist Church opened its new center today on the north side of Indianapolis. The new 13,000-square-foot office suite now contains the Indiana Area Office and will soon contain the combined centers of the former North Indiana Conference Center in Marion and the South Indiana Conference Center in Bloomington. Both the Marion and Bloomington centers will be occupying the new space before Dec. 22.

The center is located in the Meridian Corporate Plaza 2 building and occupies one-third of the third floor. The building is on the north side of I-465 three blocks east of North Meridian and 103rd Streets on Pennsylvania Parkway. Most of the new conference center is sub-leased from an Indianapolis law firm that vacated the property July 1. During the past three months, construction workers added the bishop's office suite which is being leased from the building corporation.

The Indiana Conference Center will hold an open house of its new facilities in January. Address for the new Indiana Conference Center is: Indiana Conference of The United Methodist Church 301 Pennsylvania Parkway, Suite 380; Indianapolis, IN 46280; Phone 317-924-1321 and the web address is: www.inumc.org.



CLERGY/SPOUSE CHRISTMAS DINNER

Monday, December 7, 2009

6:00-8:00p.m.

Wooded Glen Retreat and Conference Center

Directions and reservation information will be mailed in separate E-mail and/or mailing. This center is located approximately 5 miles from Henryville, Indiana.



NEW ALBANY DISTRICT ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANTS CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

Will be held on December 9, 2009 at 12:30 PM. The cost will be \$5.00 per person for the lunch. Everyone bring an ornament for the \$5.00 exchange. At the home of Janice Money, 2120 Corydon Ridge Road. Please be sure to make your reservation with Janice by December 2nd. Janice@pfrimmershapel.org or you may call 812-738-2757.

Opportunities and Items of Interest for Laity and Clergy

- **Audio Visual resources from the SIC Center** is on a free loan basis to anyone at the local church -1-800-919-8160. Your only cost is return postage
- **Audit Reports for 2008 were due** in the district office **May 1st.**

District Website: www.naumcdistrict.org

Current district information.

!! New Indiana Conference Website: www.inumc.org !!

Information about conference and state-wide programs, missions, appointments and more.

Subscribe to e-HUM (electronic Hoosier United Methodist).

Use the Area Website to subscribe to e-HUM and receive free regular e-mails containing news of events, programs, missions, appointments, and more. Subscribers also receive Bishop Coyner's free weekly e-Pistle (weekly devotional writings). For assistance in subscribing, please contact district office.

District Superintendent e-mail: Charlie Wilfong's e-mail address is:

wilfong.charles@yahoo.com

Administrative Assistant e-mail: Lynette Klinstiver's e-mail address is:

naumcaa@gmail.com

Office Phone: 812-951-0388, toll free 800-919-8166 Fax Number 812-951-3380

!! Note new numbers above!!

• **Future dates for Clergy**

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| November 22 | New South District Conference, Centenary UMC 3:00 p.m. |
| November 26-27 | New Albany District office closed for Thanksgiving holiday |
| December 7 | Clergy and Spouse Christmas Party |
| February 5-6, 2010 | Dr. David Bell Regional Seminar on Stewardship |
| February 15-16 | Bishop's Pre-Lenten Services for Clergy |
| March 6 | Bishop's Confirmation Rally |
| August 3, 2010 | Bishop Michael Coyner to lead trip to Oberammergau Passion Play |
| July 13-17, 2010 | National United Methodist Youth Event coming to Purdue 2011 |

Retirees' Luncheon to be held at Olive Garden— Clarksville on January 6, 2010.

- **Next News and Cues** will be for February / March 2010



MINISTRY CLUSTER CALENDAR

River Ridge- Will Meet, January 11, 2010 , 7PM at Pleasant Grove

Contact: Janet Werle rwerle5113@aol.com

Greater JC-

Contact: Jim Moon III jmoon@sicumc.org

Team Jesus-

Contact: Deb Reichenbach djr5111@msn.com Sherrie Bell gladlyryan@hotmail.com

LOGICS-

Contact: Oren Chumley 812-968-3701 Ted Chalk tedchalk@yahoo.com

Cross Generations-

Contact: Steve Ellis sellis@lumconline.com Bobby Campbell bobethcampbell@yahoo.com

The Serving Seven- Will Meet, December 21, 2009, 7PM at New Salisbury UMC.

Contact: Gary Davis gldavis@epowerc.net

River Valley-

Contact: Hazel Byerley hazelbye@aol.com

United Together Ministry-

Contact: Michael Collins michealbricecollins@mac.com

NW Floyd County-

Contact: Beverly Perry revbev1053@aol.com

Imagine Opportunities United Council-

Contact: Annie Savino annie2354@sbcglobal.net Billy Craddock craddockg@bellsouth.net

CSW- Will Meet, December 3, 2009, 7PM at Scottsburg UMC.

Contact: Bill Mosley bmosley@haascabinet.com

Solid Rock-

Contact: Ted Senior senior@hpcisp.com

OLA—Orange/Lawrence County Cluster-

Contact: Pat Sinnott orleansumc@verizon.net

Southern Orange County-

Contact: Matt Henshaw tkhinshaw@yahoo.com Pam Cook paoliumc@verizon.net

Washington County United-

Contact: Charles Pelc newhopeumc@hotmail.com

Dates for 2010 United Methodist Special Sundays

Here is a listing and dates for the UM Special Sundays in 2010:

- [Human Relations Day:](#) January 17, 2010
- [One Great Hour of Sharing:](#) March 14, 2010
- [Native American Ministries Sunday:](#) April 18, 2009
- [Peace with Justice Sunday:](#) May 30, 2010
- [World Communion Sunday:](#) October 3, 2010
- [United Methodist Student Day:](#) November 28, 2010

Each Sunday also requests a special offering and a cause requesting funding. The date for the new Indiana Conference Campus Ministries Sunday with offering has not yet been determined.

REMINDER SOUTH DISTRICT CONFERENCE

November 22, 2009—3:00 p.m.

Centenary UMC, 309 East Spring Street, New Albany 47150

Members of the South district conference will be composed of any member of a United Methodist church located within the boundaries of the South district, including the pastor, lay member to annual conference, and lay leader. Among other things, this district conference will elect leadership and establish a budget for the new South District to be effective 1/1/2010.

Year End Reports (Check Day) Due January 15, 2010

Just an early reminder that Year End Reports, formerly known as “Check Day,” are due to be entered online by January 25, 2010. Thanks for your good ministry all year long!

RELOCATION ANNOUNCEMENT

**NEW ALBANY, SOUTH DISTRICT ANNOUNCES
DISTRICT CENTER RELOCATION**

The New Albany District announces its office relocation. The current New Albany District – new South District Center (beginning Jan. 1) is now located at Christ United Methodist Church, 1618 Canal Lane in Georgetown, Indiana 47122, effective Oct. 1st. New Albany District Trustee Chairman, the Rev. Douglas Finney asks for patience in this time of transition. You may continue to reach Administrative Assistant Lynette and Rev. Wilfong with the current district phone numbers. I assure you that every effort has been made to make this transition ‘seamless’ and our prayer is that there will be little if any disruption in your access to the South District office or Rev. Wilfong. May God bless you on this day!”

Effective January 2010:

**Indiana Conference of the United Methodist Church
South District Office
The Rev. Charles Wilfong, Superintendent
1618 Canal Lane, Georgetown, IN 47122
812-951-0388, 800-919-8166, (fax) 812-951-3380
wilfong.charles@yahoo.com and naumcaa@gmail.com**

*******NOTE CHANGES IN LOCAL DIAL PHONE NUMBERS*******

HOLIDAY CLOSINGS:

**The New Albany District Office will be closed Wednesday,
December 23, 2009 through January 3, 2010
for the holiday season.**



The New Albany District office would like to wish each of you a safe and happy holiday season. Merry Christmas!



Dear New Albany District Family,

*Thank you so much for the beautiful mum following my recent surgery. I appreciate your cards, prayers and many thoughtful acts during my recovery.
Nancy Cropper*

Dear New Albany District Family,

*Thank you so much for remembering us and honoring Dad with the beautiful mum. We deeply appreciate Rev. Wilfong, other clergy families and laity as you have ministered to Dad and us during this time.
In Christ,
Bill and Ruth for the Amerson family*

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

*Thank you so much for the \$300.00 check given to the Mauckport UMC for the storm damage of last year. Repairs have been made and paid in full thanks to your help. To God be the Glory.
Sincerely,
The Mauckport Congregation*

Dear District,

*On behalf of me and my family, thank you district for your thoughts, prayers and gestures of sympathy after the passing of our father October 17th. We had a celebration service Saturday October 24th and it was a blessing to remember our parents and thank God they are back together on Heavens' side. Your lovely arrangement of flowers helped beautify the Narthex of EUMC as we greeted folks on their way to the celebration. May God continue to bless each and every one of you and your service to our God. May He hold you in the palm of His hand.
Yours in Christ,
Chaplain Lenne Keithley, II and the family of Lenne Keithley, I*

Dear New Albany District,

*Perhaps you sent a lovely card, or sat quietly in a chair. Perhaps you sent a floral piece, If so we saw it there. Or if you just thought of us that day. Whatever you did to console our hearts, We thank you so much whatever the part.
Rev. Steve Ellis and the family of Leon Ellis*

District and Conference Items

Remember in your prayers:

The family of W.A. Amerson, retired minister who passed away October.

Calvin Pierson, Wilma Pierson's husband, recovering.

Jane Smith, spouse of Rev. Don Smith who serves at Wesley Chapel (FC)

Nancy Cropper, recovering, wife of Rev. Lary Cropper pastor at Smith Campground and Bethel UMC.

Dwyane Bone, recovering, husband of Rev. Wilma Bone pastor at Henryville UMC.

Norma Smith, wife for retired pastor who passed away October

Steve Ellis, pastor at Lighthouse UMC whose father Leon Ellis who passed away in Coctober

Stewart Family-- with the loss of Roscoe Meredith, Deneen's father who passed away. Deneen is the wife of Rev. Mark Stewart, associate pastor at Old Capital UMC.

Trip Opportunity

Bishop Michael Coyner will be leading a trip to the Oberammergau Passion Play in August of 2010. This play is only put on every 10 years and is a wonderful and breath-taking experience. John Eckert from the Morton Memorial UMC, is a tour host for this trip. If you are interested in going and need more information please call John at home at 812-590-2225 or on his cell at 812-786-7280.



FUTURE CABINET FOR THE NEW INDIANA CONFERENCE

As of January 1, 2010, the conference will be operating with 10 new districts and will be operating with 10 District Superintendents and 5 Associate District Superintendents in teams. Those Districts and teams are:

North District- Cindy Reynolds and the **Northwest** District Craig LaSuer with Associate Kate Walker.

Northeast District -David Michel and **East** District-Dale Mendenhall with Associate Chip Gast.

Central District-Bert Kite and **North Central** District- Frank Beard with Associate Ida Easley.

Southeast District-- Brian White and **South** District-- Charlie Wilfong with Associate Bob Ostermeier.

Southwest District-- Glenn Howell and **West** District-- Judi Purvis with Associate Tom True.

REGIONAL SEMINARS ON STEWARDSHIP

Two-Day Workshops with David Bell

Here is the schedule for the upcoming “**Extravagant Generosity Workshops**” with Dr. David Bell presented by Rejuvenate. These workshops are for pastors, their spouses and laity teams. Dates are Fridays (8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.) and Saturdays (8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.) More information will be posted at a later date. Clergy may attend any of the seminar locations. The dates are listed below:

October 2-3 2009	North and Northwest Districts at First UMC in Valparaiso
November 20-21 2009	Northeast and East Districts at Heritage Pointe UM Home in Warren
January 8-9 2010	Southwest and West Districts at First UMC in Vincennes
January 22-23 2010	Central and North Central Districts at Zionsville UMC
February 5-6 2010	Southeast and South (former New Albany) Districts at Scottsburg UMC
March 5-6* 2010	Northern Tier of the Conference, New Life UMC at Peru
March 12-13, 2010	Central Tier of the Conference, Zionsville UMC
May 14-15*, 2010	Southern Tier of the Conference at St. Paul UMC in Bloomington

***March 5, May 14** are for **Local Pastors only** who are unable to attend a day-long seminar on a Friday.



Indiana Conference chooses ten District Assistants

INDIANAPOLIS – Indiana Bishop Mike Coyner announced today the employment of the Indiana Conference’s ten district assistants. These employees will assist district superintendents in their work across the state.

They will begin their new responsibilities in these new District Centers effective Jan. 1. They include by District:

1. North in LaPorte – Jan Fager
2. Northeast in Fort Wayne – Sherry Fulbright
3. Northwest in Lafayette – Shirley Dominick
4. West in Greencastle – Katie Swisher
5. North Central in Kokomo – Becky Rees
6. Central in Indianapolis – Robin Brown
7. East in Muncie – Berneice Jamison
8. Southeast in Columbus – Becky Huff-Cook
9. Southwest in Evansville – Joy Ahlemeyer
10. South in Georgetown – Lynda Alexander

Prayer Quote



“Prayer must take the place of anxiety and must underlie our work for the morrow. The children of God are not anxious about work; they work because they pray.”—Karl Barth

DISTRICT FLOOD RESPONSE NEWS

The heavy rains this area received in August left quite a few families in the South District with flooded houses. At the time, the Red Cross and Salvation Army fed several thousand people meals, as people were unable to prepare food or eat in their own homes. Most were able to dry out their homes and replace flooded appliances such as hot water heaters and furnaces. Over 100 families, though, have been unable to do so on their own.

The hardest hit counties, Floyd and Clark, attempted to get federal help, but this has been turned down as too small a disaster for the US Government to handle. An application has also been made to the Small Business Administration for loans, but help from this government agency will be limited at best. In short, the U.S. Government has told us to handle this problem on our own.

The Red Cross, Salvation Army, and county governments have carefully assessed the situation and report that approximately 100 homes need to have wallboard replaced and mold killing measures performed. Material costs (eg.wallboard,etc) will be approximately \$100,000. Several hundred man days of unskilled labor will be required.

The Red Cross and Salvation Army have been involved with this incident for several months and have donated much in time and money. The local governments are focusing in eliminating some of the causes of the flooding (drainage problems). Now it is our turn to step up and help our neighbors. UMCOR has agreed to donate \$2000. One of our churches has already agreed to kick in \$500. . This note is to ask, each mission committee and each pastor, and each church to search their hearts and do " the right thing" for their hurting neighbors. Funds collected for this purpose should be sent to the Salvation Army, attention Roxanne Haley, 2300 Green Valley Drive, and marked "for Flood Response". The Salvation Army has agreed to be the financial agent for this incident.

Persons willing to help with that should contact Sam Christie, District Disaster Response Coordinator, at 812 972 9877 or preferably by email at schristi@peoplepc.com

