

Tuscarawas ies

NEWSLETTER OF THE TUSCARAWAS DISTRICT - UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

VOL. 17 NO. 2

March 2019

FROM THE DS...2019 SPECIAL SESSION OF GENERAL CONFERENCE

General Conference Results

The Traditional Plan (as amended) was approved by a vote of 438-384 at this week's Special Session with a declaratory decision asking for Judicial Council review for issues of constitutionality. During the legislative committee meeting that preceded the plenary session, delegates voted to not support either the One Church Plan or the Simple Plan. The body also voted to reject all other legislative petitions, and as a result never brought the Connectional Conference Plan to discussion or vote.

Follow-up Sessions

Bishop Malone is calling all lay and clergy of East Ohio to attend one of the following informational gatherings led by the bishop and members of the General Conference delegation. Specific locations and times are listed below.

Saturday, March 9; 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

Southern Region of the Conference
Newcomerstown Christ UMC
648 Oak St, Newcomerstown OH 43832

Saturday, March 9; 2:00 – 3:30 p.m.

Central Region of the Conference
North Canton Faith UMC
300 Ninth St NW, North Canton OH 44720

Sunday, March 10; 4:00 – 5:30 p.m.

Northern Region of the Conference
Strongsville UMC
13500 Royalton Rd, Strongsville OH 44136

Bishop Malone will present the facts of what happened at the Special Session (what decisions were made) and will share how we move forward – what comes next – as we live into the mission of the Church which is, and will be, still yet alive.

Blessings, Benita



DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT'S TENTATIVE CALENDAR

March



- 1 Office
- 2 Spring District Conference
- 3 Church Visit
- 4 Mission/Strategy Committee, District Office
- 5-7 Cabinet
- 8 Out of Office
- 9 General Conference Follow-up Sessions
- 10 Church Visit
- 11 Out of Office Meeting
- 12 Office Closed (Area Center Visioning Day)
- 13 Office
- 14 DCOM Meeting, 8:30 AM, District Office
- 15 Out of Office
- 16 Transition Workshop
- 17 Church Visit
- 18-20 Office
- 21 MTSO Meeting
- 22 Out of Office
- 23 Urban Network Meeting?, Disabilities, Fresh Vision
- 24 Church Visit
- 25 Out of Office
- 26-28 Office
- 29-30 Reaching New People, Broadway UMC
- 31 Workshop

Bishop Malone's Post General Conference Message

(View and download video of the message at www.eocumc.com/eogc19)

Dearly beloved Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The General Conference has completed its work and by a majority vote, passed the traditional plan with some parts that were ruled unconstitutional. The delegates voted to refer it to the Judicial Council for review at their next meeting but as of now our existing Discipline language is maintained.

Now, some are pleased with the outcome of the special session and some are deeply hurt and disappointed. My heart weeps for the brokenness experienced within the body of Christ. We could not find a way forward of being church that would allow for the contextual differentiation that we were all hoping for and a way to keep as much unity as possible. Now, we need to take the time to process what has happened and the implications of the decisions that are critical for how we move forward.



Bishop Tracy S. Malone

Friends, please know, that any procedural changes that will have some effect will not take place until January 1, 2020. So, we have time. So, let us breathe.

What I love about our beloved United Methodist Church is our beautiful diversity and our global connection and witness. And as a global church, what is challenging is that we have differing views of human sexuality and understandings of our LGBTQi brothers and sisters.

But despite our differences, as a United Methodist Church we do believe that all persons are of sacred worth. Our doors are open to persons of all ages, races, nations, ethnicities, gender and sexual orientation. We are one church, one family, one in the mission of making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

So, here's what I am hopeful for, what I am asking of all clergy and lay:

1. As we prepare to begin this season of Lent, let us fast and pray and ask the Holy Spirit to help us unite and heal our beloved United Methodist Church. Friends, this is all of our work to do.
2. I'm asking that we be calm, stay the course, do not yield to fear, doubt, despair. God is our refuge, a very present help in a time of trouble.
3. Stay focused on the mission, because the mission is still yet alive. Let us keep the main thing the main thing, sharing the extravagant love, grace, hope and peace of Jesus Christ with all of God's beloved children.
4. I am asking that you stay connected with your brothers and sisters in Christ; love one another, care for one another, support one another.
5. I am also asking that you plan to attend one of the post General Conference gatherings that will take place across the annual conference on the weekend of March 9 and 10.
6. I am convinced that the God who has begun a good work in us will bring it to completion, because our God is faithful, and God's love, yes, it endures forever. And I know that there is a balm in Gilead that will heal, restore, and give us hope.
7. And I am convinced that by God's grace we will someday find a way to fully embrace the wideness of our beautiful diversity.

As your Bishop, by the grace of God, I will lead, shepherd and guide us through these challenging times and I humbly ask that you commit with me to trust where the Spirit of God will take us. Yes, us. Progressive, centrist, traditionalist, gay, straight, all of God's beloved. And as we go, together, to do Kingdom work, to do kingdom work, the making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world, God will be with us.

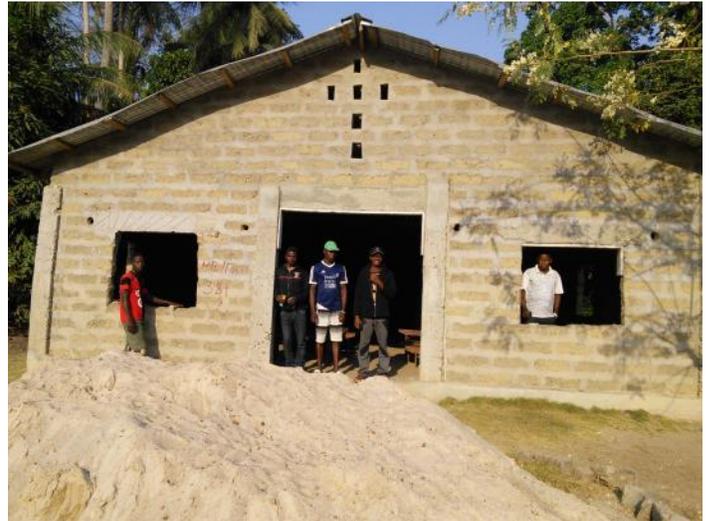
So, here is my prayer, and I invite you to pray with me. Lord, make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory and we are all seated in the heavenly kingdom! So be it.

Amen

An Update From The Bo District

Thank you to the Tuscarawas District Mission Project.

Rev. Charley sends reports of the renovation of their UM Church Fulawahun Bo District and the Regional Office building which has been made possible with the funds collected through the District Mission Project to Sierra Leon.



Thank you

SPECIAL DATES

- March - Women's History Month
- March 1, World Day of Prayer
- March 6, Ash Wednesday
- March 10, First Sunday in Lent
- March 17, Second Sunday in Lent
- March 24, Third Sunday in Lent
- March 31, Fourth Sunday in Lent
- March 31, UMCOR Sunday

Upcoming Events

- March 9 General Conference Follow-up, N Canton Faith, 2 p.m.
- March 9 General Conference Follow-up, Newcomerstown Christ 10 a.m.
- March 10 General Conference Follow-up, Strongsville, 4 p.m.
- March 14 DCOM Meeting, District Office, 8:30 a.m.
- March 15 Youth Leader's Retreat, Cambria Hotel, Uniontown
- March 15-16 Lay Servant Trainings, Bolivar UMC
- March 23 Urban Network Meeting ??, TBD
- March 29-30 Reaching New People, Broadway UMC

IMPORTANT DEADLINES

- **2018 Church Audits are due March 31, 2019.**
All Churches required to submit an audit to the District Office.



NEW APPOINTMENTS

Bishop Tracy S. Malone announces the following clergy appointments for the East Ohio Conference of The United Methodist Church, effective July 1, 2019:

Tom Fish (FE) - to Winfield UMC

Matt Garrabrant (AM) - to Navarre Otterbein UMC

www.eocumc.com/bishop/appointments

RETIREMENTS

Howard Humphress (FE) - Director, Pastoral Care

Ralph Krall (FE) - Navarre Otterbein UMC

Nancy Manner (FE) - Alliance Aldersgate UMC

Bruce McLaughlin (FE) - Mt. Zion Community UMC

Carolyn Nichols (PL) - Greentown UMC

Joe Wright (RA) - Fairhope UMC

LuAnn Youngman (FE) - Winfield UMC

JOB POSTINGS

There are multiple positions available throughout Tuscarawas District. Please remember to check the classifieds on our website at www.eocumc.com/tuscarawas/classifieds

District Youth

DISTRICT CAMPERSHIPS

District Campership letters and applications have been sent to all of the district churches. You may also find them on the [district website](#). The applications are due to Shawndelle at the district office by May 1, 2019.



COFFEE AND CONVERSATION

Coffee and Conversation

Samantha's Restaurant

6307 Whipple Ave NW, North Canton OH 44720

Attention Youth Leaders! Coffee and Conversation is held the first Friday of the month at Samantha's from 10-11:30 a.m.

Come for conversation that encourages and equips those working in the local church with teens as well as hearing about district, conference, and national youth leader opportunities.

Have questions?

Call Char Messenger at (330) 268-4853

Or email char@dueber.org



EAST OHIO HIGHER EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIPS

For a list of Higher Ed Scholarships available and application instructions, visit:

<http://www.eocumc.com/scholarships/index.html>

YOUTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2019



Registration now open!

Speaker

[Stephanie Caro](#)

Artists

[A1 Chops](#)

[Egypt Speaks](#)

[Jacob Finn](#)

Visit www.eocumc.com/yac

For flyer and details!

PIE YOUR YOUTH LEADER @ YAC

Look for details on the Conference website soon.

Start your fund-raising now! East Ohio

Will be collecting donations at YAC

For an opportunity to PIE YOUR

YOUTH LEADER! Contact Letty

at ldamian@eocumc.com for

details. Cash & checks preferred,

coins will also be accepted.



ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2019

East Ohio Annual Conference Housing Packets were mailed this week. If you do not receive a packet in the next week, and you are a Delegate to Annual Conference 2019, please contact Brenda Vaccaro at the Area Center, vaccarb@eocumc.com, or 330-499-3972 ext. 153.

Visit the Annual Conference website to register for the session, see this year's schedule, read about the speakers, learn about and register for special events, and more.

www.eocumc.com/eoac19



PRAYERS AND COLLECTS FOR LENT AND HOLY WEEK



Almighty God, your blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted by Satan. Come quickly to help us who are assaulted by many temptations. And, as you know the weakness of each of us, let each one find you mighty to save; through Jesus Christ your Son, our Lord. Amen.

(THE BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER, U.S.A., 1979, p. 166., ALT.)

O God, your glory is always to have mercy. Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

(THE BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER, U.S.A., 1979, p. 166., ALT.)

Everlasting God, because of your tender mercy toward all people, you sent your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, to take upon himself our flesh, and to suffer death upon the cross, that all should follow the example of his great humility. Mercifully grant that we may follow the example of his patience and also be made partakers of his resurrection; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(THE BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER, U.S.A., 1979, p. 166., ALT.)

www.umcdiscipleship.org/resources/prayers-and-collects-for-lent-and-holy-week

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK

The Tuscarawas District is now on Facebook. If you or your church is on Facebook, please like the district's page at www.facebook.com/TuscarawasDistrictUMC/ to receive current events, news and more!



SEEKING VBS RESOURCES

Real Hope UMC is in search of resources (teacher's guides, decorations, etc.) for the Cokesbury 2018 VBS "Rolling River Rampage" series. If you have items to loan/donate, please contact Rosemary Lare at 330-818-1013.

LAY SERVANT TRAININGS

The Basic Course: Fri, Mar 15, 6:30 PM – Sat, Mar 16, 5:00 PM
This course is foundational for all courses in lay servant ministries. Participants are encouraged to discover and employ personal gifts as God intended and to consider the importance of exercising servant leadership, developing future leaders, remaining rooted in consistent spiritual practices, and being part of a group that holds members accountable in their discipleship. Register [HERE](#)

Heritage - Living Our UM Beliefs: Sat, March 16, 7:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Advanced Course. "Heritage" - Living Our United Methodist Beliefs. This course will explore the special gifts of theology, witness, and organization that The United Methodist Church brings to the church universal, how we got where we are today, and how our distinctive emphases are still needed in the 21st-century church. Register [HERE](#) (<http://www.eocumc.com/tuscarawas/LayServants>)

GRIEFSHARE

Dates: Wednesdays, March 13th – June 5th

Time: 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

Place: Church of the Lakes room 214

Cost: \$20 (scholarships available)

Description: If you have lost a loved one (spouse, child, parent, sibling, etc.) you may want to join us for this class. It is Biblically-based program that delivers hope and support for those going through the grief process.

To register for GriefShare please call the Church of the Lakes office at 330-499-8972.

Tuscarawas Ties

Official Publication of the Tuscarawas District
East Ohio Conference — The United Methodist Church

Tuscarawas District Office

3500 Cleveland Avenue NW, Canton, OH 44709

Phone: (330) 492-7817 Fax: (330) 492-7818

tuscdistoffice@gmail.com

Website: www.eocumc.com/tuscarawas

Send articles to Shawndelle Chester, Editor

tuscdistoffice@gmail.com

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Newsletter deadline is the 20th of the month.**

If you would like to be added to our e-mailing list, please send your name and e-mail to tuscdistoffice@gmail.com.

**Please send copies of your church newsletter to:
3500 Cleveland Avenue NW, Canton, OH 44709**

Send items for the Tuscarawas District website to Shawndelle Chester, tuscdistoffice@gmail.com.