

LUMC'S COMMUNITY REVELATIONS

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Lacey United Methodist
Church

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Head of the Church: Jesus Christ, Son of
the Living God

Ministers: All of Us

Pastor: Linda Applegate

Lay Leader: Ed Wojciechowski

Admin. Assistant: Joann Michalkowski

Pianist-Choir Director: Dawn Slate

Chimes Director: Bill Applegate

Facility Maintenance – Grounds: Mike Orlick

Trustee Chair: Bill Jones

Church Council Chair: Chip Marshall

Staff Parish Team Chair: Rose Coram

Children-Youth Education: Bonnie Marshall

Finance Chair: Steven Michalkowski

Head Counter: Becky Buglione

Thrift Shoppe: Elaine Brandt

Mission: Morris Maze

Outreach: Kenny Pitman

Worship: Dawn Marie Kuch

Hospitality Kitchen: Bill Buglione

Hot Lunch Mission: Roseann DePasquale
& Ed Weisbrot

Summer Lunch Mission: Ellen Larney
& Gail Matuska

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IT HAS THE SAME PROPERTIES AS STONE
BUT TECHNICALLY IT'S A MINERAL ... OK
TO CAST?

John 8: 3 – 11: Then the scribes and Pharisees brought to Him a woman caught in adultery. And when they had set her in the midst, they said to Him, “Teacher, this woman was caught in adultery, in the very act. Now Moses, in the law, commanded us that such should be stoned. But what do You say?” This they said, testing Him, that they might have something of which to

accuse Him. But Jesus stooped down and wrote on the ground with His finger, as though He did not hear.

So when they continued asking Him, He raised Himself up and said to them, “He who is without sin among you, let him throw a stone at her first.” And again He stooped down and wrote on the ground. Then those who heard it, being convicted by their conscience, went out one by one, beginning with the oldest even to the last. And Jesus was left alone, and the woman standing in the midst. When Jesus had raised Himself up and saw no one but the woman, He said to her, “Woman, where are those accusers of yours? Has no one condemned you?”

She said, “No one, Lord.”

And Jesus said to her, “Neither do I condemn you; go and sin no more.”

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NEEDED:

Mission's Chairperson

*Please pray as to whether God is leading
you to step-up and lead this ministry
area. If you hear the call – please speak
with Pastor Linda.*

IT IS TIME! by Carolyn Conover (cconover@gnjumc.org)

United Methodists in Greater New Jersey moved forward in response to the passage of the Traditional Plan at the February 2019 Special General Conference which strengthens the language and penalties involving inclusion of LGBTQ persons in ministry. The GNJ Way Forward Team, elected at a March 2019 Annual Conference session, is leading the people of Greater New Jersey forward to explore new expressions of Methodism by turning the church outward and renewing the church to focus on the call to make disciples of Christ for the transformation of the world.

"The current witness and mission of the United Methodist Church is weakened by our division and impasse about human sexuality. New expressions – in the form of models, methods and organization – will provide opportunity for diverse congregations to live authentic beliefs, convictions and practices, while remaining connected, to increase our impact through witness and mission in the world," reported Rev. Sang Won Doh, the convener of the GNJ Way Forward Team.

"It is time," said Bishop Schol, "for the United Methodist Church to allow for new expressions of Methodism so that we stop hurting each other and give room for different theologies, methods for interpreting the Bible and diversity in practicing our faith."

Doh, accompanied by the 16-member team that represents GNJ leadership including representatives holding both traditional and progressive theologies, outlined their goals:

Renew the church by turning the church outward – renew our relationship with God, one another and the community so that we connect a life changing and relevant Gospel message with the people in our communities

Bless one another – while not all agreeing, we will not inhibit congregations, disciples and clergy from pursuing their convictions and calling

Identify objectives for congregations to thrive and a structure to support their efforts

Identify a process and guidelines for ready and willing congregations to model congregational groupings such as:

Congregations that hold a scriptural view that same gender weddings should not be performed in our churches and that LGBTQ persons should not be ordained

Congregations that hold different scriptural views and can be together recognizing there will be different practices and understandings of the LGBTQ community's participation in the church

Congregations that hold a scriptural view that Jesus invites everyone to participate fully in the life of the church and that all churches should allow same gender weddings and that all churches should be open to the appointment of an LGBTQ clergy person

Identify the ministry, mission and administration through which we will continue to connect with one another.

The Way Forward Team will create sacred space and processes so that local and conference leadership can assist GNJ congregations to:

Bless one another without trying to change each other

Explore new expressions of ministry

Create Sacred Space for these conversations to happen

Thrive during transitional times

Listen and communicate with transparency

PET FAIR



November 16 | 10AM – 3PM

**ANIMAL CARE PRODUCTS & SERVICES
DEMOS | BLESSING OF THE PETS**

Email laceyumcnj@gmail.com for vendor applications! Registration cost is \$35 for a 6ft table if the application is received or postmarked by the Nov. 1, 2019 deadline. Registration includes a 6ft table and a chair.

 Lacey United Methodist Church
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laceyumc.org | 609-693-5222

LUMC IS A RECOGNIZED HOPE CENTER



BISHOPS TEACH TANZANIAN METHODISTS

by Carolyn Conover (cconover@gnjumc.org)

The five-day Tanzania Local Pastors' School, led by a team from Greater New Jersey, included topics ranging from an overview of the Bible to leading the congregation toward vitality, and from stewardship to the Trinity. Bishop Mande Muyombo of the North Katanga Episcopal Area led a session on the Global Church and invited Bishop John Schol to talk about what is occurring in the U.S. following the February General Conference Special Session. "Connectionalism makes the United Methodist Church unique," said Bishop Muyombo, "John Wesley meant the annual conference to be a place of relationship. The global relationship of our church calls us to be together and at the same time recognize our diversity." Bishop Muyombo recognized that the church is struggling because of different understandings of how to be in ministry with the LGBTQ community.

Bishop Schol emphasized that our connection builds relationships and increases our capacity for mission, but that our relationship and mission was in danger. "Sometimes what is voted in General Conference does not give those of us in the United States room to adapt," he continued, "there are unique differences around the world." Using the example of electrical connections in different countries, Bishop Schol demonstrated how we need to adapt ministry to different contexts. "In Africa, we use this electrical cord," said Bishop Schol, as he held up a three-pronged plug specifically designed to receive electricity in Tanzania but would not work in the U.S. "In the United States we use this kind of electrical cord," he continued, holding up a plug standard for use in the U.S. "Both cords give us electricity, however, if you try to force one plug out of context, you will burn out the plug and even the piece of equipment you want to use."

Bishop Muyombo asked those who attended the Special Session of General Conference in St. Louis to share their experiences. One delegate shared that he did not understand the issues before going and got confused by the language while there. Two of the women delegates shared that they were happy to hear the progressives at the conference share that they will not give up on the church. One shared, "They will stay and fight because their families, their mothers and fathers and their grandparents are all a part of the church." Tanzanian delegates all shared that they believed United Methodists left unified about the outcome of General Conference and would continue as a unified church. Bishop Schol tempered the understanding. "If there is not room created for different contexts by 2020, the church will most likely divide." To demonstrate the challenges in Greater New Jersey, Bishop Schol called on the pastors in attendance to share their experiences.

Rev. Ronell Howard, Christ UMC in Piscataway, shared that her congregation is divided and concerned. "We've talked about the issues facing the church and we've agreed on three priorities moving forward. The first is love, the second is unity and the third is understanding."

Rev. Javier Barroso, from Fourth UMC in Millville shared that his church is more supportive of the present policy of the Book of Discipline and he recognizes there are different understandings. Unable to restrain passionate tears, Rev. Heather Valosin explained that her church, Denville Community Church UMC, is known as "The Church of the Open Door" and that her congregation is proud to welcome all people. The decision at General Conference conflicts with their identity. It has caused great stress on Valosin because she agrees with her congregation, while loving the denomination. The African delegates were visibly moved by her witness. Bishop Muyombo called for prayer and delegates gathered around Valosin to pray for her, her church and the denomination. Bishop Muyombo asked her to personally bring his message of hope and unity back to her congregation. "The church is open to everyone," he declared. Bishop Schol concluded the conversation asking the Tanzanians for their support for allowing differences in the U.S. and prayers to remain a global church. "My life is better by people thinking and practicing their faith in different ways," he said.

*“When You don’t move
the mountains*

*I’m needing You to
move*

*When You don’t part
the waters*

*I wish I could walk
through*

*When You don’t give
the answers*

As I cry out to You

I will trust, I will trust

I will trust in You”

Lauren Daigle

A yellow poster for a community luncheon. At the top, the text 'COMMUNITY LUNCHEON' is written in large, bold, orange letters. Below this, on the left, is a wooden sign hanging from a string with a blue ring, that says 'Out to LUNCH!' in black, hand-painted letters. To the right of the sign, the text 'Every Tuesday & Thursday' is written in a cursive, orange font, followed by '12:00 NOON' in a bold, orange font. Below the time, the word 'FREE' is written in a bold, blue font. Underneath 'FREE', the text 'Come join in the FUN and Fellowship!' is written in a bold, black font. At the bottom of the poster, the text 'Questions? Contact the LUMC Office.' is written in a cursive, red font.

COMMUNITY LUNCHEON

*Every Tuesday
& Thursday*

12:00 NOON

FREE

**Come join in the FUN and
Fellowship!**

Questions? Contact the LUMC Office.

Submissions to LUMC Community Revelations should be sent to:

Donnieg777@hotmail.com

LACEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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