

**September 2016**



*Together on the Journey with your District Executive Minister . . .*

*Call to District Prayer*

Your district Program and Arrangements team for district conference – Lois Ann Glessner –District Moderator, Brian Bachman–Moderator-Elect, Anna Poole – District Clerk, Rhoda Matthews, Peggy Mervine, Cathy Baker – District Administrative Assistant, and myself (Rebecca House served part of the year before moving to Shenandoah District) – are inviting you to join in forty days of prayer leading up to district conference, every day from August 30 to the opening of conference on Saturday, October 8.

The focus of this year's conference is on the Holy Spirit: "The Coming of, the Moving of, the Work of, ... the Holy Spirit." We are asking that you pray daily over the upcoming forty days that the Holy Spirit will move in our midst and breathe new life, energy, and vitality into our district and each congregation. The Holy Spirit is already moving in creating opportunities for church revitalization and extension, in enabling a Habitat build, and in other ways. Let's see what God may do and how the Holy Spirit may move if the 9,291 members of Mid-Atlantic district pray daily for the Holy Spirit to move in our midst! We ask you to individually commit yourselves to prayer over these forty days, and for each congregation to corporately pray each Sunday between now and district conference for "The Coming of, Moving of, and Work of the Holy Spirit" in Mid-Atlantic district. Our district conference scripture is 2 Timothy 1:7 which we invite you to read daily over these forty days as a part of your prayer time. Please lift up our district conference officers in your prayers, especially Moderator Lois Ann Glessner of our Welsh Run congregation.

While there is a Minister's Continuing Education event and Banquet on Friday, October 7, this year's district conference will be a one day event with worship beginning at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, October 8 at St. Mark's United Methodist Church in Easton, MD. Former Annual Conference Moderator, the Rev. Belita Mitchell, will be bringing the message. Annie Dillard, in *Teaching a Stone to Talk* wrote, "On the whole, I do not find Christians, outside the catacombs, sufficiently sensible of the conditions. Does any-one have the foggiest idea what sort of power we so blithely invoke? Or, as I suspect, does no one believe a word of it? The churches are children playing on the floor with their chemistry sets, mixing up a batch of TNT to kill a Sunday morning. It is madness to wear ladies' straw hats and velvet hats to church; we should all be wearing crash helmets. Ushers should issue life preservers and signal flares; they should lash us to our pews. For the sleeping god may wake some day and take offense, or the waking god may draw us out to where we can never return." Maybe we should tell Belita to bring her crash helmet, because the people of Mid-Atlantic district will be praying. Pray, and pastors and laity, delegates and conference attenders, district executive minister and honored guests, come, bring your crash helmets, and let's see what the Holy Spirit does when God's people pray, for forty days . . .

Gene Hagenberger  
Mid-Atlantic District Executive Minister

**500th Anniversary of the Reformation**

"Plan to travel to Germany next summer with Mark Flory Steury to celebrate and commemorate the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Reformation. We will visit many sites related to the Reformation including Wittenberg, the Wartburg Castle and Luther's birthplace of Eisleben. We will also visit sites related to the Pietist movement (Halle) and the early Brethren (Schwarzenau).

Included in the tour will be the cities of Dresden, Leipzig, Erfurt, Marburg and Berlin. We will also take a day trip to Strasbourg, France. And we will end our visit with a Rhine River cruise. Contact Mark Flory Steury at 630-701-5348 or [florysteur@gmail.com](mailto:florysteur@gmail.com). You may also visit the

website <http://www.cvent.com/d/mfqt9v> to see a full itinerary and to register. Hope you can join us!"

### PLACEMENT UPDATE

Bethany	Called Jody Gunn
Easton	Preparing Profile
Frederick	Preparing Profile
Friendship	Searching
Harmony	Searching
Welty	Negotiating
Woodbridge	Interviewing

### DISTRICT CALENDAR

#### September

5	District Office Closed
11	Ordination of Nancy Tabb at the Mountain View CoB, 3 pm
15	P&A 2:30 pm at Frederick CoB
18	Dunker Church Service, 3 pm

#### October

7	Pre-Conference Minister's Workshop, 11 am- 6 pm, Easton CoB
7	Minister's Banquet, 6:30 pm Easton CoB
8	50th Annual District Conference, St. Mark's United Methodist Church, Easton MD ( <i>registration open at 7 am</i> )
29	LT 10 am- 3 pm District Office

#### November

3	P&A 4:30 pm, LCT 6:00 pm at the District Office
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District Conference registration is now available. Please use the District's website, [www.madcob.com](http://www.madcob.com) to locate printable Delegate, Request/Non-Delegate, Child Care, and Workshop forms. There is also on-line registration option as well.

Deadline for registration is September 22, 2016

*For God has not given us  
a spirit of fear and timidity*



*2 Timothy 1: 7*

*50th Annual Mid-Atlantic District  
Conference*

*October 8, 2016*

*St. Mark's United Methodist Church*

*100 Peachblossom Road  
Easton, Maryland*

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