



God's Lighthouse at the Beach

July 2013 NEWSLETTER

"Bethel ...God's Beach House, where the Son always Shines"



Bethel United Methodist Church
129 West Fourth Street Lewes, Delaware 19958-1333
Church Office Telephone: (302) 645-9426 Fax: (302) 645-0976
office@bethellewes.org web page: bethellewes.org

Bethel Christian School: (302) 645-5132

Church Telephone Directory:

Rev. Earle Baker	Senior Pastor	Ext. 102
Ray Davis	Youth & Family Ministry Director	Ext. 103
Joyce K. Mentzer	Music Director	Ext. 105
Cindi Cleaver	Treasurer	Ext. 104
Donna L.A. Dickey	Administrative Assistant	Ext. 100
Kathy Pepper	Bethel Christian School Super.	645-5132
Keri Faircloth & Laura Knutsen	Sunday School Super. Team	Ext. 113
Laura Petranto	Financial Secretary	Ext. 104
Suzy Kremer	PR Coordinator	542-3854
Tamara Taylor	Nursery Attendant	

Emergency Telephone Numbers:

Donna L.A. Dickey	Home	(302) 947-0850
	Cell	(302) 858-1031

Sunday Worship Schedule:

8:00 AM	Traditional Service	Sanctuary
9:15 AM	Contemporary Service	Fellowship Hall
11:00 AM	Traditional Service	Sanctuary

Prayer & Healing Service:

First Thursday ea. Mo. at 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary

Sunday School:

9:15 AM	In various classrooms	year round
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Monthly Newsletter Information:

<u>Deadline</u>	<u>The third Friday of every month; except January</u>
Editor	Donna L. A. Dickey
Assemblers	Office Angels
E-Mailer	Todd Mentzer

Web Page:

Todd and Joyce Mentzer, Publishers

Bulletin Deadline Information:

Every Thursday by 10:00 a.m.

Prayer List Deadline

Every Wednesday by Noon

Office hours: *

*from Tuesday after Memorial Day to Friday before Labor Day 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

from Tuesday after Labor Day to Friday before Memorial Day 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

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ONLINE DIRECTORY

The Church Directory is available online:

Go to www.instantchurchdirectory.com and sign in using our secure password. (If you don't have the password, please contact the church office.)

-- OR --

Go to the church website at bethellewes.org

Click on the **Information** tab, then on the **Directory** tab where you will sign in with the password.



Dear Friends at Bethel,

Lisa, Andy, and I are looking forward to joining you in July. Already we have been welcomed in many wonderful ways, confirming all we have heard about Bethel Church.

We are excited about becoming part of the Bethel family and sharing in its worship, fellowship and ministries.

Lisa is especially happy to be getting closer to her job. She works for the state at Delaware Seashore State Parks. In the summer you will most likely find her at the Marina, and in the off-season at the Life Saving Station.

We will be moving to Lewes as soon as our house sells, and look forward to discovering Lewes.

Please feel free to stop by the church during the week this summer so we can get acquainted.

If I can be of help to you, please don't hesitate to ask.

Wishing you Heaven's best,

Earle, Lisa, & Andy Baker

FYI: Pastor Baker's email address at Bethel is: pastorbaker@bethellewes.org



July 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
7	1 Pastor Earle's First Day!	2	3 	5 National Hot Dog Day! 	12	13
July 7th—13th Fuel Mission trip to Nashville, TN!						
14 Fuse 7:00	15	16 	17 Beach Bible Study Day 10:00	18	19	20
21 Fuse 7:00	24 Beach Bible Study Day 10:00	25 National Fried Chicken Day! 	26	27		
28 Fuse 7:00	29 National Cow Appreciation Day!	30	31			



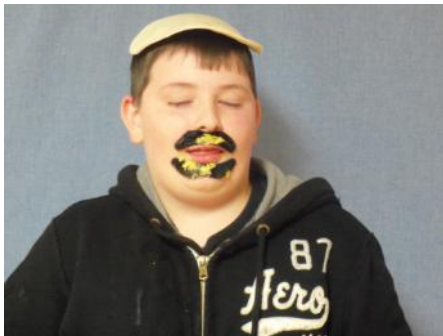
Bethel UMC
129 W. 4th St.
Lewes, De 19958

Ray Davis
Dir. of Youth And Family Ministries
Office 645-9426
Cell 245-9974
ray@bethellewes.org



Ray's Ramblings

Upcoming Events



And Family News

Hello Bethel!

Although I'm getting older (I'm 34) I still like to think of myself as a "Young Adult". A Young Adult is typically anyone who is between the age of 18-35 but I like to say if you feel young or if you are still "young at heart" you can call yourself a Young Adult!

One of my goals this summer is to do better job connecting with the other young adults in both this church and community. A couple of years ago we formed a young adult ministry called Fuse. Fuse is just a cool name we gave to a young adult small group that meets on Sunday nights throughout the Summer. We come together for food, fun and fellowship! Each Sunday night, starting on July 14th, we meet at 7:00 at Katie Wright's house right here in Lewes.

If you are interested in joining us this summer for Fuse, please feel free to join us at anytime! Being a young adult can often be an awkward time of transition from being a college kid to being a full blown adult with tons of responsibilities. Our church family here at Bethel can help soften these times of transition by encouraging you to lean on the Lord when things get tough, and to praise God through it all. If you or anyone you know is interested in being part of the young adult ministry, or any of our numerous ministries here at Bethel, please contact me. We would love for you to join us!

Fuel Mission Trip

Our Fuel Mission trip to Nashville, Tennessee leaves bright and early (3:00 a.m.) on Sunday July 7th. This year there are 30 students and adult leaders heading off to be the hands and feet of Jesus in a town that is known as the "Country Music Capital of the world". Other than being famous for county music, Nashville is a large urban community with lots of people living in poverty who need to see the love of Jesus in action. Please pray for us while we are on this journey and minister to the all of those we come in contact with during our week there!

Ray Davis





Missions Minded



A Potpourri of Mission News and Opportunity
by Elizabeth Fields, Committee Chair

Missions Minutes

Pastor Fred recently reminded us that saying “Thank you” were two of the most important words we can use. In keeping with this important fact, we would like to share with you the most recent letters of thanks from some of the people and organizations where donations were made from Bethel.

Dear Friends of West Rehoboth,

Thank you for donating \$649.07 to the West Rehoboth Children and Youth Program. Your donation will help sponsor children for the summer enrichment program. This award winning summer program provides six activity-filled weeks for 35 students from Kindergarten through middle school, ages 5-15 and an after school program during the school year. These disadvantaged students need this stretching and enriching program to help fill their summer and after school days.

Again, thank you for your support of our efforts in West Rehoboth.
Grace and Peace,
Brenda C. Melbourne
Diaz J. Bonville

Dear Friends of Save the Children:

Thanks you for your gift of \$200.00 to Save the Children. Last year, donors like you helped us reach out to 85 million children in over 60 countries and 18 states, bettering their lives with basic nutrition, education and medical care. You helped us in emergencies and you helped us resolve the struggles children face every day - poverty, hunger, illiteracy and disease.

On behalf of all of those children, I thank you.
Sincerely, Carolyn Miles, President & CEO

Gentlemen:

The Nanticoke Indian Association, Inc. would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the generous donation for our Museum we recently received. With the continued support of people like you, we are able to maintain our heritage and effect our future generations.

Sincerely yours, Herman T. Robbins, Chief

Thank you to our congregation and friends who are so generous in their giving!
The Missions Team

The Love Offering for the Month of July will be for Meals On Wheels, this worthy service needs your usual generous response. Thank You!

BETHEL BAND OF BROTHERS

There is no meeting of the Band of Brothers scheduled for July. The next meeting of this men's ministry, will be Saturday, August 3, at 8:00 a.m. location will be announced. We hope you will join us.

Come prepared to be fed spiritually as well as physically and then go to work! For more information call the Church Office 645-9426.



NEED A LIFT?

For those who need transportation to a medical appointment, there are volunteers who will be happy to give you a lift. Call the church office as far in advance as possible to take advantage of this ministry. Give the office volunteer your name, phone number and the date, time and location of your appointment and a ride will be arranged if at all possible.

God calls us to be His hands and feet in this world -

He also calls us to be His wheels!!

Drivers are needed for this caring ministry. If you feel the Lord leading you to serve in this ministry as a driver, please call the church office to add your name to the list.

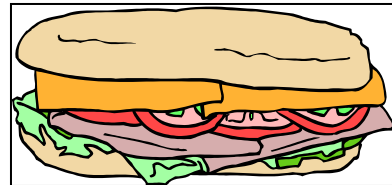


Address Changes

Mrs. Margaret Savage
110 Main Street, Apt. 331
Saco, ME 04072-3515

Miss Kelly Hostetter
2210 S. Forge Road
Palmyra, PA 17078-8342

Fellowship Deli



Thank you for your amazing response to my request for help in the Deli during the Antiques Show and Sale in July. As of June 23rd, all the slots are filled. If you've forgotten what day you signed on for, don't hesitate to call me at 645-6613. In the words of Paul: "Every time I think of you, I give thanks to my God." Phil 1:3 NLT

Thank you again, Florence

P.S. There is room for more desserts

JULY ANNIVERSARIES

Ada & Frank FitzGerald	7/02/1960
Trish & Ed Emmett	7/02/1994
Joyce & Paul Bingham	7/03/1954
Margaret & Jim Pearson	7/03/1964
Charlotte & Jim Bastian	7/06/1963
Alison & Keith Parsell	7/08/2006
Judy & Jack Dawson	7/08/1961
Nancy & Gene Crim	7/11/1959
Anna & Charley Ruggiero	7/11/2009
Ginny & Don Mitchell	7/14/1990
Kathy & George Pepper	7/16/1988
Kathy & Richard Scott	7/16/1988
Joanne & Don Yetter	7/16/1955
Elizabeth & George Brittingham	7/17/1954
Lynn & Richard Cecil	7/18/1964
Laura & Jacob Schneider	7/18/1997
Diane & Roy Miller	7/20/1968
Angela & Max Bohenko	7/24/2010
Virginia & Don Smith	7/25/1992
Ruth & Charles Ruggiero	7/30/1983

Happy 59th Anniversary

Joyce and Paul Bingham

CELEBRATING AN



Anniversary

Happy 59th Anniversary

*Elizabeth and George
Brittingham*

JULY BIRTHDAYS

Christopher Campanelli	7/01
Amanda Ford	7/01
Donavan Shockley	7/01
Sarah Johnson	7/02
Wanda Zullo	7/02
Carolyn Maul	7/02
Jon Woodyard	7/02
Susan Shockley	7/02
Debbie Bethard	7/02
Patrick Kuhn	7/02
Mark Ostroski	7/03
Kay Poole	7/03
Fran Baker	7/04
Sandra Walker	7/04
Matthew Bodio	7/04
Adam Murabito	7/04
Jamie Mendez	7/05
Brenda Jones	7/05
Travis Wyshock	7/05
Nathaniel Elliott	7/05
Brant Smith	7/06
Joann Reihm	7/07
Lisa Jo Pepper	7/07
Lori Anne Greenwell	7/07
Larry Caulk	7/07
Roy Brown	7/08
Geoff Pinsky	7/08
Titan Layton	7/08
Keith Beebe	7/08
Taylor Gillan	7/08
Robert Kennedy III	7/09
Mary Hartnett	7/09
Bridget Buckaloo	7/10
Sandra Hunsicker	7/11
Ed Jones	7/11
Riley Shields	7/11
Carol Wright	7/12
Mallory Metzner	7/12
Maeve Hickey	7/12

JULY BIRTHDAYS (CONTINUED)

Ed Shockley	07/12
Tanner Wyshock	07/12
Mark Deptula	07/12
Roy Miller	07/13
Ann Walls	07/13
Chase Mears	07/13
James Bastian, Jr.	07/14
Jacob Wilber	07/14
Ryla Wilber	07/14
Kevin Hickey	07/14
Edward Emmett, III	07/14
Susan Hopkins	07/14
William Buckaloo	07/15
Madeline Schneider	07/15
Robert Carnahan	07/15
Shelby Krick	07/15
Bill Collick	07/16
Spencer Thompson	07/17
Abigail Thomas	07/17
Drew Bauman	07/17
Jody Brittingham	07/17
Molly Bastian	07/18
Ann Wotring	07/18
Charles Curry	07/18
Addison Barbato	07/18
Owen Carroll	07/18
Cameron Garton	07/18
Danielle LeGates	07/18
Morgan Lally	07/19
John Schroeder	07/19
Randall Best	07/20
Bill Earl	07/20
Alexandra Edmonds	07/21
Kyle Archer	07/21
Sylvie Elliott	07/21
Dennis Leebel	07/22
Jeanne Sparks	07/22
Madison MacElrevey	07/23
Carey Karl	07/23
Wesley Scott	07/23
Dick Keck	07/24
Richard Wertz	07/24
Flo Stabley	07/24

Michael Blankenship	07/24
Ryan Steele	07/24
Thad Karl	07/25
Charles Ruggiero	07/26
Nathaniel Ford	07/26
Aileen Macturk	07/26
Donna Dickey	07/26
Perry Allfather	07/26
William Crotty	07/27
Linda Chantler	07/27
Lynn Cecil	07/28
Gloria Doherty	07/28
Gretchen Wyshock	07/28
Marjorie Chandler	07/28
Paul Kase	07/28
Paul Jackewicz	07/28
Frank FitzGerald II	07/29
Charlie Thompson	07/29
Darlene Edgens	07/30
Patrick Skipper	07/30
Grier Calagione	07/30
Christy Preston	07/30
Ruth Simmons	07/31
Olivia Derrickson	07/31
Elizabeth Curry	07/31
Anderson Smith	07/31



**BILL EARL
ON YOUR 92ND BIRTHDAY!**



**CAMP PECOMETH AND RETREAT
MINISTRIES NEED YOUR HELP**

**WE ARE REQUESTING DONATIONS OF
QUILTS VALUED AT \$300-\$600+
FOR OUR AUCTION DINNER ON
OCTOBER 6, 2013.**



**PLEASE CONTACT DANA SQUARES
AT dana@pecometh.org OR
410-556-6900 X105 ASAP IF YOUR
CHURCH OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW CAN
HELP WITH OUR PRIMARY FUNDRAISER
FOR THE YEAR.**

**LAST YEAR WE WERE FORTUNATE
ENOUGH TO RAISE OVER \$12,000 AT
THE AUCTION BECAUSE OF GENEROUS
DONORS LIKE YOU! HOW AWESOME
WOULD IT BE TO INCREASE THAT
AMOUNT SUBSTANTIALLY THIS YEAR?
WE CAN DO IT WITH YOUR HELP!
THANKS!**

**P.S. MARK THE DATE: SUNDAY,
OCTOBER 6, 2013.
GREAT FOOD, GREAT FUN,
GREAT CAUSE!**

Rev. Jack Shitama

Coastal Concerts

**Next Season's Performance
Times Reflect Audience Feedback**

Based on feedback provided by audience members in a survey last year, the season will include three 2:00 p.m. performances and two evening concerts beginning at 7:00 p.m., an hour earlier than in the past.

“We want to remain responsive to our audiences, and the preference for earlier evening performances and matinees was evident in both responses to survey questions and verbatim comments,” said Coastal Concerts President Denise Emery.

“We’re planning another survey during the 2013-2014 season, and we always welcome comments from audience members and the general public.”

Go to coastalconcerts.org to purchase tickets online.

2013—2014 Concert Series

- | | |
|--|-----------|
| Orion String Quartet
October 19, 2013 | 7:00 p.m. |
| Brasil Guitar Duo
November 16, 2013 | 2:00 p.m. |
| Danish String Quartet
February 8, 2014 | 2:00 p.m. |
| Elena Urioste, Violin
Michael Brown, Piano
March 1, 2014 | 2:00 p.m. |
| Ching-Yun Hu, Piano
March 22, 2014 | 7:00 p.m. |

Barratt's Chapel Summer Worship Services
6362 Bay Road (Rt. 1/113), Frederica, Delaware
Thursday evenings, 7:00 p.m.

Each Thursday evening this summer there will be a worship service led by various United Methodist ministers of the Peninsula-Delaware Conference. The services will be a variety of styles, but all casual, with a variety of musicians.

Come join us in the 233 year old *Independence Hall of American Methodism!*

Scheduled Worship Leaders:

June 27 Rev James C. Van Der Wall – (Salem UMC, Selbyville, DE)

July 4 Bishop Peggy Johnson (with guests from Camp Pecometh)

July 11 Dr. Shirlyn Brown - (Director of Connectional Ministries)

July 18 Rev. Mark Pruett-Barnett - (Retired)

July 25 Rev. Howard J. Embert – (Hartly UMC, Hartly DE)

Aug. 1 Rev. Larrie Deering – (Lincoln UMC, Lincoln, DE)

Aug. 8 Rev. David E. Kelley & Choir – (Olivet UMC, Galena MD)

Aug. 15 Pastor Joseph M. Smith & Choir – (Ridgely-Thawley's UMC, Denton,MD)

Aug. 22 Rev. Mike Hurley & Choir - (Conley's UMC, Angola DE)

Aug. 29 Rev. Bruce Rogers & Bell Chime Choir – (Ellendale UMC, Ellendale, DE)

An offering will be collected to help preserve and maintain the Chapel.

Following the service refreshments will be available.

For information contact Barratt's Chapel, 302-335-5544 or barratts@aol.com



Faith & Spirituality

Bethel pastor accepts new role in Salisbury
 Rev. Fred Duncan leaving Bethel EMC after five-year service

By Rachel Smith-Bailey
 rsmith-bailey@salisbury.com

The Rev. Fred Duncan, a Wesleyan University pastor who has preached for more than a decade in Salisbury, is leaving Cape Fear's church to accept a new role as United Methodist Church district superintendent for three Episcopal Shores counties in Maryland.

After growing up at Bethel United Methodist Church in Leno, he will serve in Salisbury, where he will oversee 151 churches and 85 pastors in the district.

"I will be working to build relationships with the churches and the pastors, while encouraging them to be places for God's hospitality," Duncan said. "I want to bring a sense of unity and connection to the denominations."

He and his wife, Patricia, a self-employed artist representative,

Duncan stated his acceptance to the ministry of Delaware Technical Community College in Georgetown.

Methodist church as a young man. He worked in the insurance industry in Ocean City for 18 years, said, at the age of 40 he said, he received a calling from God which spurred him to go back to school to become a pastor.

"It's what's called a second-career pastor," Duncan said. Duncan was ordained an elder in the United Methodist Church in 2006.

He studied human services at

which helps so many people. Helping the community is part of what a contemporary church does."

Duncan has watched Bethel member Joyce Morrice expand the music ministry, which provides music during services, and music education for people of all ages.

Bethel Christian Preschool and kindergarten is a great asset," Duncan said, with about 100 kids attending daily. He expects the program will continue to grow as he connects community members

July to take over Duncan's at Bethel United Methodist Church in Leno.

Bethel has 950 members, about 600 attending regular services on Sunday church, at the corner and Charleston streets, it was built 100 years ago following his will which.

The church is still raising money to the church, which is being handled by

THE REV. FRED DUNCAN will relocate to Salisbury in July after serving the congregation at Bethel United Methodist Church in Leno for five years.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE CHURCH



SMALL GROUPS

Consider joining one of these groups if you wish to connect in Christian fellowship at times other than (or in addition to!) Sunday.

TRANSPORTATION MINISTRY

This group of volunteers is available to drive members needing a lift to medical-related appointments. God calls us to be His hands & feet in this world — and His wheels, too! If you feel the Lord leading you to participate in this ministry as a driver, please call the Church Office to add your name to the list.

GARDENING ANGELS

This group meets seasonally or as needed to plant and maintain the church's flowerbeds & landscaping while also enjoying fellowship with other church members. Please contact Todd Mentzer at 424-6616 or tamjam3@gmail.com for more info.

UNITED METHODIST MEN

This group of men — young and young-at-heart — meet on the third Sunday morning of each month for a hearty breakfast, fellowship, and focus. Each month's meeting features a different guest speaker who brings a message on topics that range from discipleship to current events. Meetings begin at 7:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. For information, please contact the Church Office.

BAND OF BROTHERS

Who are the "Band of Brothers"? We are men of Bethel who put our faith into action doing odd jobs for seniors and others in our community. We meet the first Saturday of each month for breakfast followed by a short devotion, then head out into the community to be the hands and feet of Jesus. All men are welcome!

LADIES' CIRCLES

Through Christian fellowship, devotional time, and prayer, our women's circles strive to grow closer to each other as they grow closer to God. The Mary-Martha Circle meets for lunch at noon on the first *Wednesday* of each month at various local Restaurants. The Elizabeth Circle meets for lunch at 12:30 p.m. on the first *Tuesday* of each month. For more information, contact the Church Office.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

This group of dedicated crafters meets the first Monday of each month to knit and crochet prayer shawls to give to the sick, bereaved, broken, and lonely. As they knit, the group members pray for whomever it is that might be receiving the shawls. Once completed, the shawls are consecrated. If you would like to help with this meaningful ministry, contact the church office.





WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Take a little time out for yourself! Re-group and re-connect through our women's ministry group here at Bethel. Whether through a Bible study, a women's retreat, or social time together, Bethel is sure to have a place for you. Email Pauline Powell or call 302-645-9545 for more information. Meetings are the first *Wednesday* of each month.



July 2013



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 Don't take a Vacation from Church	1	2 <i>6:30 SPRC Mtg.</i>	3 10:30 HCC Communion	4 INDEPENDENCE DAY!! <i>Office Closed</i>	5 9:00 Worship Committee Mtg.	6
7 8:00 Worship 9:15 C.A.T. 9:15 Sunday School 11:00 Worship	8 1:00 S.K. Prayer Cir. & Prayer Shawl Min. 5:30 LEAP	9 <i>7:00 Finance Mtg.</i>	10 8:00 Antique Dealers Set-Up 7:00 Women's Min. Mtg.	11	12 9:00 Worship Committee Mtg.	13 <i>Annual Lewes Antique Show & Sale</i>
14 8:00 Worship 9:15 C.A.T. 9:15 Sunday School 11:00 Worship 7:00 Fuse	15	16 <i>7:00 Trustees Mtg</i> 8:00 1 st Towne Ringers	17 5:30 Missions Team Mtg.	18 6:00 Miracle Singers Rehearsal 7:00 Stephen Min	19 9:00 Worship Committee Mtg. August Newsletter Submissions Deadline	20 
Bethel Christian School Summer Camp						
21 8:00 Worship 9:15 C.A.T. 9:15 Sunday School 11:00 Worship 7:00 Fuse	22 	23 8:00 1 st Towne Ringers	24	25 6:00 Miracle Singers Rehearsal	26 9:00 Worship Committee Mtg.	27 
28 8:00 Worship 9:15 C.A.T. 9:15 Sunday School 11:00 Worship 7:00 Fuse	29	30 8:00 1 st Towne Ringers	31	AUGUST 1 6:00 Miracle Singers Rehearsal 7:00 Stephen Min	AUGUST 2 9:00 Worship Committee Mtg.	AUGUST 3
Bethel Christian School Summer Camp						

Report from Lay Members to Annual Conference June 6, 7 & 8, 2013

The theme for this year's Annual Conference and the focus of the churches in the Pen-Del Conference this coming year is **Diversity: Embrace it! Celebrate it!** The message was that we not only welcome people of different cultures into our churches but to make their cultural differences part of our worship experience.

The Laity Session was called to order by Demetrio Beach, our conference Lay Leader. The session opened with praise and worship of our Lord Jesus Christ. Following praise and worship, there was an explanation of the new structure of the board of Lay Ministries - leading away from the focus on speaking to serving Our Lord in whatever way we are called. Lay servants are called to serve in many different capacities and this new structure honors the diversity of our spiritual gifts. An election was held to choose the next Conference Lay Leader to replace Betty Gooch. Demetrio Beach was elected. His first order of business was to announce that the District Lay Leaders were to become known as Associate Conference Lay Leaders since they all work together as a team. Following the election, Bible Study was led by Rev. Tori Butler from the Texas Annual Conference. Her emphasis was on the social and economic disparity within our conference and challenged the laity to listen to the concerns of those who did not look or sound the same as ourselves. Following the study, reports were given by the Lay Leaders of the Dover, Easton, Salisbury and Wilmington Districts. The laity session closed with worship and Holy Communion.

The afternoon session began with the clergy and laity meeting together in worship, which included liturgical dance and communion. The message was delivered by Rev. Dr. Shirlyn Henry Brown, who was appointed earlier in the year as Director of Connectional Ministry replacing Rev. Dr. Susan Steiner Ball. Dr. Henry Brown's message centered on our being disciples of Jesus Christ and being called to bring unity to God's world. A collection was taken for Volunteers in Mission-Disaster Relief. Holy conferencing began following the service. We heard a message from Dr. Bell President of UMES, welcoming us to their campus. We voted on four Constitutional Amendments made at the General Conference held in April of 2012. These amendments dealt with wording in the Book of Discipline and required only our acceptance or rejection of the amendments as presented. All four were accepted.

The teaching session held on Friday morning was led by Dr. David Anderson, founder and President of the Bridge Leadership Foundation and is founder and senior pastor of Bridgeway Community Church in Columbia MD that has nearly 3,000 attendees each week from 42 different nations. He has coined a new word: Gracism - a way of inclusion that "puts God in front of the problem of racism to get the power to work through it". As an African-American man married to a Korean-American woman, he had many amusing and heartbreaking anecdotes to share with us about dealing with racism and diversity in his own life. His discussion centered on four principles:

1. Comprehension begins with Conversation;
2. Openness leads to oneness;
3. Multicolor does not multicultural make - inviting others in and expecting them to act and worship as we do does not signal acceptance;
4. Environment means everything - almost - welcome is a feeling.

As Dr. Anderson pointed out these four principles spell out **COME** Jesus message to all people.

Friday afternoon a service celebrating Ministry was held which honored all who have served in any area of ministry, including but not limited to: Pastors, Cabinet members, Ordained Elders, Ordained Deacons and the Ministry of the Laity. Those serving as pastors for five or more years (in five year intervals) were acknowledged. Several had served for more than 70 years. The service included presentation and general examination of those being commissioned to provisional membership to the Order of Elder, and those admitted as Full Members and ordained as Elders.

Throughout the conference reports were given by the Committee on Clergy & Lay Leadership Team, the Advocacy Resource Team, the Christian Service Team, Conference Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministry, Administrative Ministries, The Vision Team and the Commission on Archives and History. Anyone interested in the details of these reports may contact me or access them on-line at pen-del.org and click on 2013 Annual Conference Materials.

Various resolutions were voted on at each session. Some of the more interesting included:

Moving the part-time pastor's retirement benefits from Clergy Retirement Security Program to the United Methodist Personal Investment Plan saving the Conference approximately \$159,200 per year.

Adopting the following mission projects to be Conference Advance Special Sundays:

Central Congo Partnership Sunday - 1st in Lent;

Partners of Leadership Resources for the Churches in Africa - 1st Sunday after Easter;

Volunteers in Mission Awareness Sunday - 1st in June;

Deaf Ministries Sunday - 2nd Sunday of July;

Pecometh Camp and Retreat Ministries Sunday - Mid August;

Board of Ordained Ministry Sunday - 1st Sunday after Labor Day;

African University Sunday - 2nd of November;

and others.

Commitment on the part of the Pen-Del Conference to raise \$50,000 in the next 13 months for Imagine No Malaria.

Designation of Carey's Camp as a Conference Historic Site

The members of the Pen-Del Conference should support legislative efforts to reduce gun violence throughout our country by advocating for the reduction of guns and ammunition and by supporting legislation to regulate the sales.

All resolutions passed without discussion except the resolution on Gun Legislation which ultimately passed after discussion both pro and con on the issue.

Three major collections were taken during the course of the conference benefitting VIM/ Disaster Recovery, Central Congo Partnership and Board of Ordained Ministry Scholarship Fund. Friday was designated youth "Tray Day" at which the youth picked up our lunch trays and were tipped in appreciation.

On the final day of the Conference a Service of Remembrance was held acknowledging those pastor and/or spouses who had passed away since the last Annual Conference in 2012.

Respectfully submitted,
Florence Sulitzky
Bob Wotring
Your Lay Members to Annual Conference

Bethel United Methodist Church
129 W. Fourth Street
Lewes, DE 19958-1333

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