

Kalamazoo District Conference 2016 Annual Reports

March 11, 2017 Westwood UMC

District Committee on Lay Servant Ministries

My name is Doug Tipken. I am the Director of Lay Servant Ministries for the Kalamazoo District. Our committee has six members, besides myself: Rev. Dwayne Bagley, Mandana Nordbrock, Craig Van Beek, Wynne Hurlbut, Rhonda Ramsey, and Cyndi Trobek. Since July of 2016 when I took over this position, the committee has worked diligently to improve the system in promoting classes and keeping updated records of those who are certified.

Our goal is to get the word out about Lay Servant Ministries. The hope is that in advertising through the churches, parishioners will become interested and know that classes offered can be informational even if becoming certified is not their end goal. We are hoping it will be easier to keep everyone informed when changes are made through the *Book of Discipline*. The chart on the next page explains the requirements for certification and renewal for the three current categories: Certified Lay Servant, Certified Lay Speaker, and Certified Lay Minister.

Our District Lay Servant Ministries Committee wants to honor the work of those **actively** pursuing certification and renewal, so beginning this year we are contacting all lay servants annually to let them know that they are **certified for the current year**. Those certified for 2017 are listed below.

We would like to thank those who gave their time to teach classes last year. Your willingness and commitment is greatly appreciated. I would also like to thank my team members for their hard work making phone calls and reaching out to those in the District informing them about their status as a lay servant.

This spring we have several classes scheduled. If you are interested in seeing what Lay Servant Ministries is all about, please see one of the committee members or contact the District Office.

Sincerely,

Doug Tipken, CLM

Kalamazoo District Director of Lay Servant Ministry

CONGRATULATIONS TO THOSE CERTIFIED FOR 2017:

<u>Certified Lay Servant</u>	<u>Certified Lay Speaker</u>	<u>Certified Lay Minister</u>
Connor Bailey	Ellen Bierlein	Ellen Bierlein
Ellen Bierlein		Patricia Bird
Michele Bowen		Steve Beukema
Annette Crandall		BumKi Cho
Rhonda Griffin		Jon Clark
Gail Hill		Linda Depta
Ashlei Horn		Wynne Hurlbut
Wynne Hurlbut		Kevin Kahmark
Basil Kidwell		Simmie Proctor
Joyce Kruithoff		Doug Tipken
Delores Pulver		Marcia Tucker
Rhonda Ramsey		Craig Van Beek
Beverly Strong		Don Weaver
Doug Tipken		
Craig Van Beek		
Lona Vogie		

District Committee on Ordained Ministry

19 a. Who are currently certified as candidates for ordained or licensed ministry?

Paul Reissmann	5-25-2016
Scott Marsh	5-25-2016
Jenaba D. Waggy	8-9-2016

19 b. Who have had their candidacy for ordained or licensed ministry accepted by a DCOM in another annual conference?

Jeremy Wieringa	7-16-2015	Oregon-Idaho Conference
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20. Who have completed the studies for the license as a local pastor, are approved, but are not now appointed?

Jack Balgenorth	2014
Ronald Slager	2015
Trevor McDermont	2016

21 a. Who are approved and appointed as full-time local pastors?

Daniel Barkholz	2016	10 COS
Lisa Batten	2009	Seminary Student, GETS
John Brooks	2015	Seminary Student, GETS
Donald Graham	2001	Completed COS*
Julia Humenik	2015	M.Div. GETS*
Wayne McKenney	1995	M.Div, AMBS*
John Messner	2008	Completed COS*
Mark Mitchell	1995	M.Div, AMBS*
Nancy Patera	2007	Completed COS*
Kellas Penny III	2013	Seminary Student, Asbury
Ralph Posnik, Jr.	2009	Completed COS*
David Small	1982	RHL

21 b. Who are approved and appointed as part-time local pastors?

Sara Carlson	2015	Seminary Student, AMBS	1/4 time
David Haase	2008	Completed COS*	1/4 time
Nelson Hall	1999	Completed COS*	1/4 time
Jason Harpole	2014	4 COS	1/4 time
Donna Keyte	2003	Completed COS*	2/4 time
George Lawton	1999	Completed COS*, Retired ¶320.5	1/4 time
Michael Pinto	2007	1 COS	1/4 time
Cliff Radtke	2006	Completed COS*	3/4 time
O'Ryan Rickard	2003	M.Div, AMBS*, Retired ¶320.5	1/4 time
James Robertson	2014	1 COS	1/4 time
Rob Snodgrass	2014	1 COS	1/4 time

63. Who are certified as lay minsters?

Patricia Bird	2015
Ellen Bierlein	2016
Linda Depta	2016
Kevin Kahmark	2016
Marcia Tucker	2016
Steve Beukema	2017
BumKi Cho	2017
Jon Clark	2017
Wynne Hurlbut	2017
Simmie Proctor	2017
Doug Tipken	2017
Craig Van Beek	2017
Don Weaver	2017

District Evangelism Team

This year has been a year of transitions as our District has moved to regular Leadership Forums. We are forming working relationships with our District Leadership Team and our District Training Team. Our Evangelism Team led worship at a District Leadership Forum in November with Pastor John Messner offering a great resource on Holy Communion with the emphasis that we all work together as the "Body of Christ." We also have met with and been blessed by our new District Superintendent, Rev. Dwayne Bagley. Rev. Bagley has a passion for evangelism and for seeing people come to know God. He has recommended the book "Witness: Learning to Share Your Christian Faith" by Ron Crandall. Rev. Bagley has also helped us in line up speakers for the next two District Leadership Forums on April 20 and May 4.

Both of those Leadership Forums will offer training in the use of MissionInsite. On Thursday, April 20, Jeremy Wicks, a pastor from our Michigan Conference, will be coming to lead the session from 9am-1pm. On Thursday, May 4, Tom Bandy will be coming to do a more extensive practical training on the use of MissionInsite and we will ask Tom to stay for the afternoon until 3:30 or 4:00 pm, so we can make the most of his wisdom and expertise. We will offer for lunch to be ordered in for those who would desire that. Both forums will be held at the Wesley Foundation in Kalamazoo.

If you have any suggestions for how your District Evangelism Team can be of help or support to your churches, please let us know.

Love IN Christ,
Pastor Joe Shaler
District Evangelism Team Chair

District Missions Committee

Your District Ministry Shares are used locally and globally in a variety of ways. Thank you for giving - we can do so much more together than we can do by ourselves! Here are the ministries and mission trips that received support in 2016:

Ongoing Gifts - \$42,900

Bridges of Hope Allegan County
Camp New Day
Crystal Springs Camp
JFON - Kalamazoo
Lighthouse Ministries of Benton Harbor
UM Free Store of Kalamazoo
Wesley Foundation of Kalamazoo

Scholarships - \$8,846

Bangor Simpson UMC ASP trip
Sunnyside UMC Mission Discovery
Haiti Local Pastors Academy
Otsego UMC Youth Mission Trip
Africa University VIM Trip

One-Time Grants - \$4,500

Open Doors Duke Street Playground
Haiti Education Sponsorships

District Hunger - \$700

GKAMA Food Pantry
Hartford UMC Food Pantry
North Berrien Food Pantry

District Training Team

The District Training Team began the 2016 year with the District Conference at Portage Chapel Hill UMC. The main speaker was Bishop Deb Kiesey. The conference was very well attended and we had excellent presenters and a very inspiring closing service. Everyone was anointed and given Jerusalem crosses to remind us of the need to work together as Methodists in the world, carrying the cross to us as a sign of our willingness to follow Christ. We wish to thank all of the presenters for their wonderful work and Portage Chapel Hill UMC for hosting.

In November of 2016 we held a very successful Church Leader Training Event at Paw Paw UMC. This was our first attempt at such an event. Our reasoning for presenting it in the Fall was to allow for training of folks before they took office at the first of the year. It was on a Saturday, 9-11:30am. We were very pleased with the attendance and the feedback. We are planning to continue doing this type of training in the Fall.

A single clergy weekend, planned for April 2016, did not take place. A variety of circumstances, the greatest being a lack of response from potential attendees, caused us to cancel the event. We will probably not pursue that kind of a retreat for a while, when perhaps, more interest is shown.

The team is currently beginning to entertain the idea of another clergy “day apart for spiritual development.” This is only in the formative stage, but more information will be forthcoming in future months.

In April of 2016 we began planning for the District Conference in March of 2017. We decided on the theme discipleship and have brought in the special presenter, Steve Manskar, whose expertise is in the area of establishing disciple groups in congregations, thus helping to strengthen the action of churches in the arena of discipleship.

Many thanks to all of the members of the Training Team for their excellent work. And also to the support and assistance of Mandana in the district office, without whose wonderful help, this work could not have been accomplished!

We are looking forward to a great 2017 and are open to any suggestions of areas in which we could provide additional training events.

Respectfully Submitted,
The Reverend Karen S. Wheat
District Training Team Chair

District United Methodist Women

In an effort to be visible Local Units, the District Board led the way. Here is a summary report of Kalamazoo District United Methodist Women.

Kalamazoo District UMW consists of 31 active local units. The district slate of 14 officers has been filled for the past several years. Our budget was \$40,800. In 2016 we had four members holding West Michigan UMW Conference officer positions. There were four team planning meetings and we sponsored the following events:

Spring Fling - March - Portage Chapel Hill
Spiritual Growth Retreat - April - with Heartland District at Wesley Woods
Evening of Mission - June - Gobles
Short Study (of Mission u) - August - Cassopolis
District Annual - September - Water's Edge

We have had a mission project the last few years—school bags, pillowcase dresses, diapers. In 2016, we challenged every local unit to make one-handed school bags. Gobles won the challenge with 389 bags. The District as a whole sent over 1,000 school bags to Midwest Mission Distribution Center.

Jurisdiction, of nine UMW conferences, meets every four years. In 2016 the gathering was in Grand Rapids with tours of Community House, a national UMW mission site. Three women from the executive board attended. (I had a great chat with Shannon Priddy who became the national UMW president in 2017.)

United Methodist Community House in Grand Rapids is owned by UMW. The District helps support the facility through local donations, event offerings, mission giving, and pop tab collections.

A total of 21 counting 2 children attended Mission u at Albion College to take classes in Climate Justice, Human Sexuality and the Bible, and South American studies.

As a part of the 21st century, Kalamazoo District UMW has a Facebook page where social issues are posted, upcoming events are announced, and pictures celebrating our women can be viewed. Visit www.facebook.com/kazoodistumw.

Respectfully submitted,
Cindy Thiele
District President