



The Connection

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From Your Superintendent
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Dear Friends,

It's November. All Saints' Day is behind us. An autumn chill is in the air. Thanksgiving Day is fast approaching. And now, we are hurrying to make preparations for this season of thankful celebration.

Giving thanks to God is something you and I are encouraged to do each and every day. This activity is foundational to my spiritual growth. I am very intentional UVci h'ÜbX]b ['h]a Y ']b 'h\Y 'XUmhc ' []j Y 'h\Ub_g 'hc ' ; cX 'ci f' Creator for the gift of life and the many blessings this gift brings.

In my library I have a collection of prayers, some personal and others more suitable for public expression. Allow me to share with you a portion of a corporate prayer written by The Reverend Dr. Theodore Loder, while serving as Senior Pastor of First United Methodist Church of Germantown in Philadelphia, PA. This prayer is titled "Transform Our Gratitude into Courage." It is published in his book *My Heart in My Mouth*.

O God, we are in awe of your grace, tough enough to withstand the tantrums of our arrogance and the snubs of our indifference, tender enough to sometimes soften our on-guard hearts into humility, our criticisms into compassion, creative enough to raise up in every generation and in our midst witnesses to take up the torch of your passion and purposes, to speak your word in a new language, to lead this human family of yours, and ours, on our common exodus to justice and toward a peaceable kingdom and joy. How shall we express our gratitude to you except by girding up to follow those witnesses ... Make us bold and visionary enough to measure our lives not so much by victories won or successes achieved but by worthy battles engaged, scars of faith endured, noble comrades joined ... So, God of this ongoing exodus, we shall sing our thanksgiving to you as we follow you day by night by day ... and we are truly ZFYyZ Ug'Üfa `mVci bXZ'Ug XYYd`m [fUHYZ 'Z'Ug'Y] Yf'Ugh]b [`m^cnZ 'Z' as you mean us to be; in the spirit of Jesus. Amen.

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Mci `fYa Ya VYf`h\Y`Üfgh`UW`i cZ U`gdYVWU`h\Ub_g []j]b [`cVgYfj UbW`]b`k \Uh`jg`
now the United States of America is thought to have taken place in the fall

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of 1621 at Plymouth Plantation, Massachusetts. After barely surviving a X]ZUW`h`mYUfz`h`Y`7c`cb]ghg`Y`X`U`h`fYY!XUm`Ufj`Ygh`ZYUgh`hc`W`YVfUH`h`Y` goodness of God and the fruits of their labor. The Wampanoag people, an indigenous group of Native Americans, were invited guests and participants in this celebration. They helped the Colonists survive the harsh winter of the previous year. Being a deeply religious people led by separatists from the Church of England, the Colonists may have routinely set aside time for prayer and fasting. Designating a special day or span of time, to give thanks to God and inviting guests to whom they owed their very survival, may not have seemed out of the ordinary for them. Perhaps they were simply doing what came natural to their religious faith and culture. Yet, this ordinary act of a harvest feast inspired a lasting tradition of Thanksgiving Day celebrations across in our nation.

5g`mci`fi`g`UVci`h`ÙbU`n]b[`dfYdUFUH]cbg`Zcf`H`Ub_g[]j`]b[`8Umã`=]bj`]hY`mci` to remember what should come natural to our Christian faith – prayer and thanksgiving. We do not need a special day to give thanks to God for God’s grace, love and mercy. Let us give God thanks each and every day of our lives. Let us express our gratitude to God by following in the faith-steps of those witnesses gone before us.

May you and I be bold visionaries of the kingdom of God that leads to justice, freedom, true gratefulness and everlasting joy. And when Thanksgiving Day]g`YfYz`ÙbX`g`WfYX`h]a`Y`hc`W`YVfUH`k`]h`ZJa`]nã`Z]YbXg`UbX`h`cgY`k` \ca`mci` hold dear. May it be so, my friends.

Yours in Christ,
Hank

Lay Speakers Invited to Meeting to Learn About 7Yfh]ÜYX`@UmA]b]ghfmdfc[fUa

5b`]bZcfa`Uh]cb`a`YYh]b[`Zcf`UmigdYU_Yfg`UVci`h`h`Y`bYk`7Yfh]ÜYX`@UmA]b]ghfmdfc[fUa`k`]`VY` held on **Thursday, December 13, from 6:00 to 8:00 pm, at the Walnut Hill UM Church, 975 Rathmell Rd, Columbus, OH.**

5h`h`]g`a`YYh]b[`h`Y`bYk`Wfh]ÜYX`UmA]b]ghfmdfc[fUa`k`]`VY`]bhfcXi`WX`"5`7Yfh]ÜYX`@UmA]b]ghYf`]g`U`ei`U`]ÜYX`i`b]hYX`A`Y`h`cX]gh`UmdYfgcb`W`YX`hc`YUXYfg`d`Ug`dUfh`cZ`U`a`]b]ghfmiHYUa`i`bXYf`h`Y` gi`dYfj`]g]cb`cZ`U`Wf[`mdYfgcb`"7ca`d`Yh]cb`cZ`hfU]b]b[`Ug`U`7Yfh]ÜYX`@UmGdYU_Yf`]g`U`dfYfYei`]g]h`cZ` hfU]b]b[`Zcf`h`Y`7Yfh]ÜYX`@UmA]b]ghYf`Dfc[fUa`"

5`VãdmicZ`U`VfcW`i`fY`UVci`h`h`Y`7Yfh]ÜYX`@UmA]b]ghfmdfc[fUa`W`b`VY`Zci`bX`cb`h`Y`k`YVg]hY`Uh` <http://www.capareasouthumc.org/clm>"M`i`W`b`U`gc`VãbhUW`i`>]a`K`Ui`[`U`h`h`Y`X]ghf]M`i`cZ`UW`Zcf`U` copy.

=Z`mci`U`j`Y`Ubmei`Ygh]cbg`z`d`YUgY`ZY`ZFY`hc`VãbhUW`i`>]a`U`h`h`Y`X]ghf]M`i`cZ`UW`f` ++!&&! \$) &*`z` *%(!&&! \$* \$Z`jwaugh@wocumc.org).



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Jim's Toolbox

By Jim Waugh, Assistant to the Superintendent

In terms of the "family system" of the congregation, many times these antagonists have become so ingrained that other folks in the congregation come to understand that life with these persons in the church is just the "normal" way things are in the church.

5g≡`cc_`VUW`cb`a minYUfg`cZ`dUf]g\`a]b]ghfnz`=fYU`nY`h\Uhi`=\Uj`Y`VYYb` Zcfri`bUH`h\Uhi`=X]X`bch`\Uj`Y`hc`XYU`k`Jh`k`h\Uhi`=k`ci`X`WUgg]ZmiUg`[X]ZUW`H` parishioners. That's not to say that things were always smooth sailing in every congregation. I had disagreements with folks, and folks disagreed with me. Many times we could "agree to disagree." Sometimes folks left the church because they did not agree with either me or with a decision that the congregation had made. Those are not pleasant or easy times when it comes to that. But I am writing in this Tool Box article about the chronic behavior of folks who by their actions and attitudes can contribute to a toxic atmosphere in some congregations.

Please understand I am talking about more than disagreements here. There]g`fcca`Zcf`X]U`c[`i`Yz`X]gW`gg]cbz`UbX`Yj`Yb`\YU`h`m`Vt`bU]Vh`]b`h\Y`Z`cZ`h\Y` church. However, for the purpose of this article, "parishioners behaving badly" refers to those members and friends of the church who in an almost pathological sense seek to control or manipulate the pastor and/or members of the church. These folks sometimes through passive aggressive behavior try to exert control or undermine the work of clergy and lay leadership of the congregation.

These folks continue to do their work in a congregation to the detriment of the mission and ministry of the church. In terms of the "family system" of the congregation, many times these antagonists have become so ingrained that other folks in the congregation come to understand that life with these persons in the church is just the "normal" way things are in the church.

Edwin Friedman in his book *Generation to Generation: Family Process in Church and Synagogue* and Peter Steinke author of *Healthy Congregations: A Systems Approach* discuss the "homeostasis" or the comfortable balance in which a congregation can live even when the system itself is dysfunctional. This is what happens in many congregations when one or more parishioners through gossip, emotional manipulation or other means seek to control decision making or weaken the leadership of the pastor/staff and other lay leadership of the congregation. Folks in the congregation will gUnz`[K`Y`z`h\Uhi`g`i`gh`h\Y`k`Umig`Y`fbc`f`Y`E`]g`f`H`Y`mik`J`X]ga`]gg`cf`YI`W`gY` h\Y`VY`\Uj`]cf`cZ`h\Y`cbY`k`c`c`Z`h\Y`W`YU`h`g`\Uj`c`W`cf`U`h`Y`U`gh`Vt`bU]Vh`k`]h`]b` the congregation by their words or actions.

=b`a`Ubmi`V`i`f`W`Y`g`z`U`mid`Y`fg`cb`g`f`U`b`X`a`Ubmi`h`ja`Y`g`d`U`gh`c`fg`z`h`cc`E`U`f`Y`i`bk`J`b`[` h`c`H`U`Y`cb`h\Y`g`Y`d`Y`fg`cb`g`G`ca`Y`h`ja`Y`g`h\Y`mi`U`dd`Y`U`f`f`U`b`X`a`Ubmi`U`W`i`U`m`U`f`Y`E` emotionally fragile. Sometimes these persons have extended family within the church, and no one wants to offend the other family members for fear all of the family will leave. In other cases it is perceived that the person

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exhibiting the controlling or complaining behavior is a "good giver" and there is fear that the person will leave and no longer give to the church

Personally, I am willing to consider asking persons who habitually "stir things up" in a congregation to leave the church.

Personally, I am willing to consider asking persons who habitually "stir things up" in a congregation to leave the church. I think this needs to be done in a graceful and caring way, but there are times when such an alternative needs to be considered. However, the pastor cannot take this task on alone, nor should the pastor be the one in charge of such an effort. Laity in leadership in the congregation need to "step up" to lead in cases like this. One or two lay persons and the pastor should plan the way in which to approach these troubled people and invite them to consider confrontation. Consequently, the disruptive behavior of an antagonistic person or persons can continue in many congregations for a long period of time.

In researching this topic, I found a very helpful book entitled Never Call Them Jerks. Boers is a Mennonite Pastor in Waterloo, Ontario. I will have to admit my own instinctive response to such persons. Boers' emphasis is on reconciliation and healing. He reminds us about the need to have healthy congregations, healthy leaders, and healthy pastors.

Boers warns, "In rare instances, asking people to leave might be an appropriate last resort, but a risky one. From a purely pragmatic perspective, it can make apparent martyrs out of ousted opponents. Asking people to leave can cause great damage. asking persons to leave should outweigh the cost of allowing things to remain as they are."

be appropriate if the church does not have time, energy, or ability to deal with inappropriate behavior; or many efforts have been made to communicate clear expectations of appropriate behavior; or if offenders regularly or frequently behave in abusive ways. Nevertheless, asking people to leave is the rare exception rather than the rule."

or is there a time to "invite" an antagonist or passive/aggressive member

these situations. I would also like to include a capsule response from a few pastors or laypersons about how you or your church has dealt response at jvaugh@wocumc.org. Or you can post on the discussion page on the district website at <http://www.capareasouthumc.org/PBB1>.

article on "Pastors Behaving Badly." Stay tuned!



J qppqt"Hc o km{"cpf"Htkgp fu"cv"E j tkuv o cu"d{"Hggfkpi"vjg"J wpit{ National hunger-relief ministry unveils its 2007 alternative Christmas card

BIG ISLAND, VA – While many people are celebrating the joyous Christmas season with family and friends, many Americans are struggling to make ends meet. "For many Americans, Christmas is not a time to celebrate, but a time of hardship. Many people regularly live at risk of not having enough nourishing food to eat, let alone having the wherewithal to celebrate the holidays in the elaborate fashion to which we have become accustomed," said Carol Breitinger, Communications Director for the Society of St. Andrew.

"This year you and your family can change that for many hungry American families," Breitinger explained. "A gift donation to the Society of St. Andrew in honor of special people in your life will provide hundreds, even thousands, of servings of fresh, nutritious produce to the poor throughout the nation."

The Society of St. Andrew's alternative Christmas card features fresh, nutritious, excess produce that will go to waste for various marketing reasons and gets it distributed free to service agencies across the country that feed the hungry.

The Society of St. Andrew's alternative Christmas card features fresh, nutritious, excess produce that will go to waste for various marketing reasons and gets it distributed free to service agencies across the country that feed the hungry.

The Christmas Gift Donation Card features an inspirational message and original art depicting God's "Light" come to Bethlehem in the form of the Infant Jesus. Virginia artist Annis McCabe created the one-of-a-kind card art expressly for the Society of St. Andrew. It is the thirteenth annual Christmas card design she has created and donated to SoSA as a fundraiser to feed the hungry.

The Society of St. Andrew's alternative Christmas card features fresh, nutritious, excess produce that will go to waste for various marketing reasons and gets it distributed free to service agencies across the country that feed the hungry.

People honored with a gift donation will receive the Society of St. Andrew's alternative Christmas card announcing the gift in their honor with the name of the giver. The donor will also receive the card acknowledging their tax-deductible gifts.

"This is the perfect gift for someone who has everything," concluded Breitinger. "It's a super stocking stuffer that can be purchased in just a few minutes."

For more information about the Society of St. Andrew and its hunger-relief ministry or Christmas card, call 800-848-2828 or visit www.endhunger.org.

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By Rev. Beth Weisbrod

The theme of this year's Annual Community Ministry Festival was celebrating local outreach ministry across nine counties. It was a great event attended by many people. This has also been the main emphasis of this past year as we seek to **assist local congregations in doing ministry in the community where God has called them.** One of the highlights of this year was the Follow Your Dream Forums about Community Ministry grants, which we offered eleven Community Ministries to get the word out about who we are and what we have to offer in assistance to local churches.

Improvement grants, helping with furnaces, elevators, handicap a sixty percent increase over the number of churches receiving grants in funding, helping thousands of needy persons every week! This direct funding is in addition to many other district church extension ministries your apportionments make possible. We truly are able to bring good news to the the nine counties of the Capitol Area Districts.

One way we are building relationships with outreach leaders is through our Quarterly Gatherings offered by our resource team, with pertinent topics chosen by the outreach leaders themselves. For example, in April our topic was Volunteer Recruitment and our topic on October 11 will be Best Practices in Fund-raising. These gatherings are a way for outreach leaders to get to know each other and build a strong and effective network. Other workshops we have offered over the past year have included: Asset A Udd]b['UbX' FUX]W' < cgd]H']mifHbW' gj] YbYgg] HFU]b]b["' H\]g' ZU' 'k Y' k]' ' cZYf' U' 'k c! dUfh'; fUbH k f]h]b['k cf_g\cdz' CV'c' VYf' &\$^th' UbX' &+^th, and then a workshop on Understanding the Culture of Poverty on November 3rd. All of these workshops are a way to better assist local churches in responding to ; cX]W' 'K Y' U'gc' Ufy' \ Uddmhc' cZYf' k cf_g\cdg' Zcf' gdYVW'cW' 'W' i fW'Yg' or clusters.

If we do our job right, more and more churches will seek grants and other assistance in doing community ministry right where they live. Over the last few months we have formed a Ministry Development Team to address the need for more funds beyond what we receive from our apportionments and endowment portfolio. We want to be able to offer more churches grants and to increase the dollar amounts we are able to offer to local churches for local outreach ministry or capital improvements. We are in the process cZYj Y'cd]b['gdYVW'UWdfcdcgU'g'hc' fU]g' 'a cfY' 'a cbYmUbX' YbUV'Y' 'a cfY' ministry.

We have also developed two new task forces. One is a long term planning

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One way we are building relationships with outreach leaders is through our Quarterly Gatherings offered by our resource team, with pertinent topics chosen by the outreach leaders themselves.

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One area I hope we can give more attention to in the future is that of offering hands on experience in local outreach ministry to churches. So far we have conducted three outreach tours, traveling to six sites, to 35 persons.

mYUfg" H\Y`cH\Yf`hUg_`ZcfW`]g`k cf_]b[`cb`U`k cf_]b[`XYÜb]h]cb`UbX`W]hYf]U` for the future of District Mission Centers in our two districts. Currently there are three district mission centers, New Life UMC, Church for All People and Westside Free Store. That number may increase or decrease depending on the recommendations of this multi-county task force. The input of folks as far away as Indian Lake are as important as the input of people here in Columbus. Our goal on all of our committees and board is to have a wide diversity of cultures and views representing all of the churches in our nine county reality.

We plan to offer more tours and outreach opportunities. For example, this coming February we are planning several hands on family oriented mission experiences during Lent as a way for families to build community with each other and learn how to reach out to people in need. Mission trips to far away places are great, but we need to follow up those life- changing experiences with ways to reach out to places nearby.

As we continue to partner or collaborate with others we are getting more UbX`a cfY`fYei Yghg`Zcf`j c`i bhYYfg`Zcf`gdYVWÜWt`a a i b]h`m`a]b]ghf]Yg`"K Y` hope someday to gradually become a clearinghouse for United Methodist Christians seeking ways to live into God's call and reach out to people on the margin in our society. There is still so much that can be done and none of us can do it alone. The harvest is too great. But together much can be accomplished. We appreciate the input and questions from all of the churches in the Capitol Area Districts as we seek to move forward in faithfulness to God's call.

West Ohio Conference Announces New Health Insurance Rates for 2008

H\Y`7cbZYfYbW`6cUfX`cZDYbg]cbg`UbX`<YU`h`6YbYÜhg`Ubbci bW`h\Y`&\$\$,` health insurance rates. The overall increase for the church portion of the Vtj YfU[Y`k]`"bWYUgY`UVci h)` i`k]h`h\Y`Zc`ck]b[`Vtghg.

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Medicare Supplement: \$4632

Hc`ÜbX`U`W`W`Uhc`f`Zcf`h\Y`dYfgcbU`Vt`bhf]Vi h]cb`cZWWf[mUbX`Um`Ya d`cmYfg` for the plan, go to <http://www.westohioumc.org>. Click on the "Finance and 6YbYÜhg]`hUV`" H\Yb`W]W`cb`Í<YU`h`=bgi fUbW`=bZcfa Uh]cb`Í` H\YfY`mci`k`J` ÜbX`h\Y`W`W`Uhc`f`"

Mti`Wb`U`gc`Zc`ck`h\Y`UVcj`Y`"b_g`hc`ÜbX`mcb`h\Y`K`Ygh`C`\]c`k`YV`g]h`Y`U`gc` includes information about the enhanced vision and dental coverage that will VY`Uj`Uj`UV`Y`Ug`U`dUfh`cZ`h\Y`d`Ub`]b`&\$\$,` "

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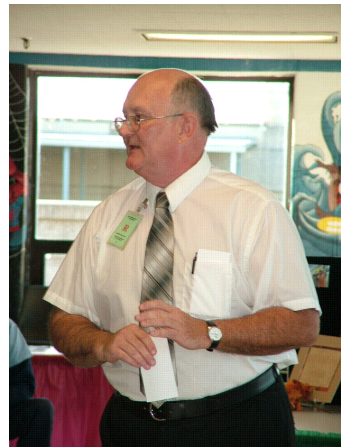
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Re-entering society after incarceration for any length of time is often a time of insecurity, doubt and even fear. Questions such as, where am I going to live, what am I going to eat and are there any people out there that really care, are some of the most often asked.

Looking beyond what placed an individual behind bars, One Community Ministries, the satellite prison and aftercare/reentry ministry of Community United Methodist Church of Circleville, Ohio, is working to put together a matrix of agencies and services available in each of Ohio's eighty-eight counties for ex-offenders in transition back into society. The ministry is seeking those governmental and non-governmental agencies, programs and churches available in their home county or new county. Many who are truly "tired of VY]b['hfYXĪž'fYU'nY h\ Uh'fYh fb]b['hc'c'X'Z']YbXg'UbX'UggcWUHyg']b h\Y]f'\ca Y area may lead them into relapse and re-incarceration, so they are seeking new places to begin "a new start". Having a friendly place to seek additional information, or to seek and worship the Lord is very important.

"We need to know what other United Methodist Churches, especially in h\Y'7Ud]hc'5fYU'Gci h\8]grf]Wz'UfY'k]'b['hc'gYfj Y'Ug'İVta a i b]mfYZffU'D churches to assist in guiding and directing these ex-offenders in transition," ghUH'g'FcXbYm; f]ZJh ž'8]fYVtc'f'cZCbY'7ca a i b]miA]b]grf]Yg" 'İK Y'bYYX' hc'VY'UV'Y'hc'gUmhc'h\cgY'Yi]h]b['VUW']bhc'gcVWmž'İmci 'a UmVtbhUW'h\]g' United Methodist Church, and they will help guide you to services available hc'nci Īž'; f]ZJh ž' f h\Yf'ghUH'YX'"H\Y'İmđY'cZ[i]XUbW'bYYXYX'Vi h'VfHJ]b'm not limited to transitional housing, food, jobs, and a place to worship, even]Z'fYei YghYX'hc'\Y'd'ÜbX'U' [ccX'V\i fW'cZUbch\Yf'XYbca]bUh]cbž'g\ci 'X']h' be requested. "How far we are as United Methodists willing to reach out in İfUX]W'\cgd]H]İmž'; f]ZJh 'Ug_g"

Jesus says to us, "I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine of mine, you did for me" fA h &) . (\$Ł'K cbĐh'nci please strongly consider stepping out in faith and radical hospitality to VYVta Y'U'İVta a i b]mi fYZffU'DV\i fW'3' =Z'nci 'UfY'k]'b['hc'ghYd'Zcfk UfXž' d'YUgY'VtbhUW'h\Y'8]grf]W'cZUW'cf'VtbhUW'CbY'A]b]grf]Yg'X]fYVImVmYa U']b['cbYVta a i b]mž j Yf]ncb"bYh Thank you and God bless.



"We need to know what other United Methodist Churches, especially in the Capitol Area South District, are willing to serve as 'community referral' churches to assist in guiding and directing these ex-offenders in transition," states FcXbYm' ; f]ZJh ž' Director of One Community Ministries.

CHRISTIAN BAND LEADER

@YUX'a i g]WZcf'&Gi b'U"a "k cfg\]d'gYfj]W'g'Uh'K UfY\ci gY', ' - 'fk]']UfX'İ b]hYX'A Yh\cX]gh'7\i fW'Ł'" Seeking committed Christian musician and worship leader who knows cutting-edge contemporary 7\ f]gh]Ub'a i g]W' &\$'f'g#k _'"GYbX'fYgi a Y'hc'<]']UfX'İ A 7ž') () 'GV]c'hc'8 UfVmF Xž'<]']UfX' (' \$&'/' ' 'cf]4 k UfY\ci gY', ' - "cf] .

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"The Church Has Left the Building" – January 8-10

The North Central Jurisdiction Town & County/Urban Network is offering their annual training Yj YbhXi f]b[' >Ubi Ufm, !%\$Z &\$\$, 'UhihY '7fck bY 'D'UnUz '8Yhfc]h'A Yhfc '5]fdcfh'' '8Ub'8]W_z'8]fYVwcf'cZ Congregational Planning and Leadership Development for the General Board of Discipleship and Doug Pagitt, founding Pastor of Solomon's Porch in Minneapolis are the featured presenters at this year's Yj Ybh'' : cf'a cfY]bZcfa Uh]cb UVci h'hY'Yj Ybh'nci 'Wb'UbX'U'W'dmicZ'hY'fY[]ghfUh]cb VfcW'i fY'Uh [http://www.capareasouthumc.org/ncjbroc'cf'VmVzbHUV\]b\['hY'>\]a 'K Ui \[\ 'UhihY'X\]ghf\]Vh'cZUW](http://www.capareasouthumc.org/ncjbroc'cf'VmVzbHUV]b['hY'>]a 'K Ui [\ 'UhihY'X]ghf]Vh'cZUW)

Church By Size Seminars Slated to Begin in January

The Capitol Area North District and the Capitol Area South District are jointly sponsoring two Church by G]ny'GYa]bUfg'h Uh'k]'VY[]b']b' >Ubi Ufm&\$\$, "' 'A UghYf]b['hY'A]XX'YI]g'U'gYa]bUf'U]a YX'Uh'\Y'd]b[' Vzb[fY[Uh]cbg'h Uh'Uj YfU[Y'%'\$'hc'%) 'dYfgcbg]]b'k cfg\]d[fck 'UbX'XYj Y'cd' h'Y]f'a]b]ghf]Yg'' H']g' Yj Ybh'k]'VY[]b'cb'K YXbYgXUnz' >Ubi Ufm, "' '6YmcbX'hY'6Uff]YfgI 'ZcW'gYg'cb'\Y'd]b['Vzb[fY[Uh]cbg' h Uh'Uj YfU[Y'%) 'hc'&) \$' [fck]b'hY]f'a]b]ghf]Yg'' H'Y'Ufgh'gYgg]cb'cZ'h]g'k cf_g\cd'k]'VY'\Y'X'cb' >Ubi Ufm- "

Dr. Doug Anderson will lead the training. Doug is executive director of the **Bishop Rueben Job Center for Leadership Development at Dakota Wesleyan University**. He was a district superintendent UbX'dUghcf'cZgYj YfU' [fck]b['W'i fW'Yg'cZ'X]ZYfYbh'g]nYg']b'hY' Bcfh' 'bX]UbU'7cbZYfYbW'cZ'hY'i]b]hX' A Yh'cX]gh'7\i fW'' <Y'\Ug'YX'U'j Uf]YmicZdfUW]W' 'W'i fW' 'gYa]bUfg'UbX'Vzbgi 'hUh]cbg'Zcf'cj Yf'&\$' years.

9UW'gYa]bUf']g'hk c'XUmg'' H'Y'gYVzbX'gYgg]cbg'UfY'gW'YXi 'YX'Zcf'A UfW'' '%f6YmcbX'hY'6Uff]YfE'UbX' 5df]'%fA UghYf]b['hY'A]XX'YI' '5'Zc'ck' 'i'd'gYgg]cb'Zcf'YUW'k cf_g\cd']g'gW'YXi 'YX'Zcf'GYdhYa VYf'%) 'fA UghYf]b['hY'A]XX'YI'UbX'GYdhYa VYf'%* f6fYU_]b['hY'6Uff]YfE'Zcf'cb[c]b['gi ddcf'h'UbX'hc'UXXfYgg' gdYV]UWei Ygh]cbg'' **DUFh]V]dUbhg'UfY'YI dYVWX'hc'UhhYbX'U''h'fYY'XUmg'cZ'h'Y'Yj Ybh'f]Ubi Ufnz' March/ April, and September).**

: cf'a cfY]bZcfa Uh]cb VzbHUV]hY'7Ud]hc' '5fYU'Gci h' '8]ghf]Vh'cZUW'cf'W'YW' h'Y'\ca Y'dU[Y' of the district web page: <http://www.capareasouthumc.org>.

The deadline for registrations is Wednesday, January 2.



Bill Hybels admits, "We Were Wrong"

In a recent article author Diana Butler Bass offers a quote from Pastor Bill Hybels of Willow Creek Church. "We made a mistake," says Hybels. "What we should have done when people crossed the line of faith and became Christians, we should have started telling people and teaching people that they have to HJ_Y'fYgdcbg]V']]mhc' VYVza Y'igY'Z ZYXYfg'DK Y'g\ci 'X'U'j Y' [chY'b'dYcd'Yz'hUj [\ h'dYcd'Yz'\ck'hc'fYUX' their Bible between service, how to do the spiritual practices much more aggressively on their own."

5'VUb' =bgh]hi hY'\Ug'VYYb'a cj]b['Zfca 'hYVb]W' 'i'U' YgI'Zcf'Vzb[fY[Uh]cbg'hc'fY! VUg]b['j]HU' Vzb[fY[Uh]cbU'']Z' 'cb'gd]f]h' U' dfUW]W'gz']bW' X]b['dfUmYz'h'Yc'c[]W' fYU'V]cbz' [YbYfcg]mz' storytelling, discernment, shaping community, hospitality, and leadership. Below is the description of hk c'gi W'cZyf]b[g'Vm'5'VUb'Xi f]b['&\$\$', "

Weekday Spirituality:

Unleashing the Faith in Everyday Life

February 29–March 1, 2008

Led by Wayne Floyd

Marywood Center for Spirituality, Jacksonville, FL

TUITION ** Member: \$250 / Nonmember: \$300

ROOM & BOARD ** Single: \$265 / Double: \$195 / Commuter: \$110

as celebrated in Sunday worship or Sabbath services and the realities of the weekday world. In addition to their essential contributions to the vitality of congregational life, people engage in everyday expressions of faith that are the great untapped resource for the church of the 21st century. In their work settings, communities, and family lives, people are ready for their weekday spirituality to be discovered and unleashed, with the capacity to renew if not reinvent the church.

This two-day workshop is designed to give participants the chance to

- Identify the ways that spirituality already is interwoven in their weekday world and re-envision the church through the eyes of daily life
- Enable collaboration among all who make up a community of faith, each learning from the other essential aspects of weekday spirituality.
- To expand the capacity of congregations to learn from and sustain weekday spirituality and the ways it is practiced in daily life – such as hospitality, mindfulness of others, forgiveness, honoring the body

Narrative Leadership in Congregational Life

September 30–October 2, 2008

Techny Towers Conference and Retreat Center, Techny, IL

TUITION ** Member: \$399 / Nonmember: \$449

ROOM & BOARD ** Single: \$250 / Double: \$215 / Commuter: \$95

the various forms of narrative work in faith communities.

What practices do “narrative leaders” engage in when they are being mindful of the role and power of

How can religious leaders, for example, be more intentional about:

-
-
-
-

of leadership within their ministry settings.

For more information contact Alban Institute at <http://www.alban.org>. Click on “Learn and Lead” for a list of continuing education events including the two mentioned above.



**Capitol Area South District
West Ohio Conference
The United Methodist Church**

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District Superintendent

Rev. Jim Waugh
Assistant to the D.S.

Carol Wilson
Administrative Assistant

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Web site: <http://www.capareasouthumc.org>

E-mail: capitolareasouth@wocumc.org

Capitol Area South District Calendar

BCJ 9A 69F &\$\$+

14-16		Cabinet
19	+. \$\$ 'da	@YUXYfg\]d / ' J]g]cb]b['HYUa ' 4 '8]ghf]Vh' C ZUW
20	-. \$\$ 'Ua	CfXU]bYX'A]b]ghfm'7ca a]hYY
22 & 23		8]ghf]Vh' C ZUW '7'cgYX'Zcf'H\Ub_g[]j]b['<c']XUm
27	%% ' \$ 'Ua	7ca a i b]hmiA]b]ghf]Yg'Hfi gh'Yg' 4 '8]ghf]Vh' C ZUW
28-29		Cabinet

8979A 69F &\$\$+

6-7		Cabinet
7	*. ' \$ 'da	8]ghf]Vh' 7\ f]gha Ug'DUfmiZcf'7'Yf[mi: Ua]']Yg' 4 'Hf]b]hmi' A 7 'b'; fcj Y'7]hm
13	*. \$\$ 'da	=bZcfa Uh]cbU' A YYh]b['FY. '7Yfh]ÜYX'@Um'A]b]ghfm'4 'K U'bi h'<']'I A 7
24-25		8]ghf]Vh' C ZUW '7'cgYX'Zcf'7\ f]gha Ug'<c']XUm