



THE CONNECTION

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE CAPITOL AREA SOUTH DISTRICT UNITED METHODIST CHURCHES

OCTOBER 2006

FROM THE DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT

CLUSTERING For Effective Mission

Dear Ministry Friends and Colleagues,

By the time you read this most, if not all, Clergy Clusters will have met for the first time or set a date for their first meeting. As with anything that's new or change producing there are questions and concerns. This is understandable. I would like to respond to three questions that may help in this situation.

1. **Why are we doing this?** For some of our colleagues this is not new. Pastors have been clustering with each others for many years. While the structure and affinity of these clusters may vary widely (some include laity), they seem to share the same premise: that they need each other for personal and professional development. This enhances effective mission, and is the primary reason for clustering. We come together in clusters to build relationships and increase our ability to make disciples of Jesus Christ.
2. **How will the DS use information she/he obtains from the clusters?** The DS or the Assistant to the DS will visit each cluster at least once quarterly. The purpose of the visits is to actively listen to the sharing of cluster participants, build relationships, and provide appropriate resources. This experience is intended to facilitate evaluation and spiritual growth.
3. **What about confidentiality? Will sharing in a cluster be honored as confidential conversation?** The short and general answer is yes. However, it must be understood that civil laws and the UMC require mandatory reporting of suspected child abuse or neglect, elder abuse, and other crime activity. You need to know also that information from personal development plans of clergy and ministry development plans will be collaborated with other data by the DS for annual evaluations of pastors. All other cluster interactions will be guided by the ethical goal of pastoral confidentiality.

(Continued on page 3)

TABLE OF CONTENTS FOR THIS ISSUE OF THE CAPITOL AREA SOUTH CONNECTION	
Front Page: From the District Superintendent	
Page 2: Jim's Toolbox	
Page 3: Information on upcoming Basic and Advanced Lay Speaking Classes	
Page 4: Mission Opportunity Orient UMC Celebrates Pastor's 60 years of ministry	
Page 5: News from the Southeast Ohio Garden Project Conflict Workshop Offered	
Page 6: District Clergy Cluster information	
Page 7: Special Offering for the United Methodist Children's Home	
Page 8: The Kerygma Program	

Visit the New District Website . . .

. . . where you will find news, links, and downloadable materials for use by pastors and congregations. The current and past editions of *The Capitol Area South Journal* will be found there as well. The new address for the web page is: <<http://www.capareasouthumc.org>>. Bookmark the page and check it often.

JIM'S TOOLBOX

BY JIM WAUGH, ASSISTANT TO THE SUPERINTENDENT

One of the duties assigned to me in my new position in the district is to update the district web page. I would be the first to admit that while I have viewed countless web pages in the last ten years of surfing the web, I know nothing about building a web page. I have never learned the html code that is used in building most web pages. I have never used Front Page or any other program that is typically used to construct a web page.

The Columbus South District Local Church Consultant Wendy Lybarger briefed me in the way that she updated the former Columbus South District website. Wendy had not built the page, but she was able to update it with new content. My eyes began to glaze over as Wendy went through the steps that she used to update information and to post the most recent edition of the Columbus South District newsletter on the web page.

As I came into my new position, it dawned on me that I wouldn't be able to use the Columbus South web page. It featured information about the previous district, and I didn't know how to change that. The domain name – the site's address on the world wide web - was no longer appropriate since it included Columbus South in the address.

So I began to look around. I had heard about E-zekiel, and I had seen the ads for it on the Tech Shop Page of the United Methodist Communications web page <http://www.techshopministry.org>. So I decided to sign up for the free trial period. I also came across the website for the Maumee Watershed District <http://www.maumeewatershed.org>. I noticed that district was using E-zekiel. So I called Lisa Streight who is the webmaster for that page. She told me about her experience with web pages and with E-zekiel. Lisa told me that she found E-zekiel to be a good tool to use in building a website. I began to play around with the many templates that E-zekiel offers as backgrounds for the pages. I also began to work on building some sample pages just to see how everything works.



The really great thing about E-zekiel is that you don't need to know any html or how to use a program like Front Page to build a decent website. I knew absolutely nothing about building a web page when I started, and I feel pretty good about the site that I have put together for the district <http://www.capareasouthumc.org>. E-zekiel also set up our new domain name.

That's why I'm recommending E-zekiel (<http://www.e-zekiel.com>) as a means for your church to use to develop your website. It offers the ability to type (just like in Microsoft Word) or another word processor or to copy content from a Microsoft Word document to paste into a page. You can build tables (and I have found out that you need to use tables to keep your content in place on a website) by just clicking on the table icon just like you do in WORD. And after I found out that you need to optimize the webpage to be viewed at a resolution of 800 X 600 pixels (I like mine at 1280 X 800), things have gone fairly smoothly. I have run into some "funky" issues with Internet Explorer and Firefox as the browsers that I use to work on the website, but other than that I have become half way accomplished in developing a website in a little more than a month.

To be continued next month ...

If you have any questions, contact me at the district office or via this e-mail address: jwaugh@wocumc.org

DISTRICT TO OFFER BASIC AND ADVANCED LAY SPEAKING CLASSES



On November 10-11, the Capitol Area South District will offer both a basic lay speaking class and an advanced class at the Reynoldsburg United Methodist Church (RUMC). The advanced class will be a class on preaching. Participants can sign up for only one class for the weekend. Both classes will begin with registration at 6:15 pm on Friday, at RUMC, 1636 Graham Rd, Reynoldsburg.

Classes will reconvene on Saturday, November 11, at RUMC. Classes will conclude on Saturday by 4:30 pm. Participants are required to attend BOTH the Friday and Saturday sessions in order to receive credit for the course.

Registration cost will be \$30.00 per person for materials, lunch, and snacks. Upon receipt of registration, materials and homework assignments will be sent to participants, along with directions to the church. Homework assignments are expected to be completed prior to the weekend of the class.

You should also be aware under the new guidelines established by the General Board of Discipleship, all lay speakers (both Local Church Lay Speakers and Certified Lay Speakers) are now required to take a refresher course every three years in order to maintain lay speaker status.

Lay Speakers are expected to complete an annual report form as a part of the annual Charge Conference report. The form is available from your pastor or you can download a copy from the Lay Speaking page of the district website at <http://www.capareasouthumc.org/layspeaking>.

The schedule for the Lay Speaking Classes and the Registration Forms are also available on the district website at <http://www.capareasouthumc.org/layspeaking>.

FROM THE DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT CONTINUED

You will be please to know that the persons leading these clusters have demonstrated exceptional leadership qualities over-time and have recently received quality training for this assignment. They are expected to lead the clusters in covenant building, development planning, formational practices, laity interaction, and mission focus. These persons are trusted colleagues and transformational leaders, who have said yes to this opportunity to share their grace and competencies with others for the sake of kingdom building.

A listing of the clergy clusters is found on the following page for your information. I encourage you to let me know if you have questions or concerns about this cluster model or the clustering concept in general. Please know that the intent and purpose of clergy clustering is to significantly improve our missional efforts. To make disciples of Jesus the Christ for transforming the world is our life as Christians. Our Wesleyan heritage compels us to constantly find ways to move closer to Christian "perfection." Thereby, through grace we strengthen our relationship with God and one another. I view clergy clustering as a step forward in that sacred process.

Do enjoy this wonderful fall season. It is God's gracious gift to you and me as we embrace life and respond to God's call to make disciples. May it be so!

I bid you peace and grace, Hank

MISSION OPPORTUNITY—TEACH UM

TeachUM (http://www.gbkm-umc.org/northcentralvim/teachum_opportunities.html) provides mission-team service opportunities for education professionals. Teachers are invited to places around the world to help instruct both youth and adults, showing by example how Christ is part of their lives. Each year, a variety of teams are scheduled with teaching emphasis both in the U.S. and abroad. Events increase the awareness, sensitivity and commitment of the volunteers to learn from those whom they serve, to build bridges, and to be faithful servants of Jesus Christ.

There is an immediate and future need for English teachers in the Wesley Mission School in Sapko, Korea. Prospective volunteers should apply through the Individual Volunteer program of the GBGM. Successful applicants would be in the classroom 6 hours a day, five days a week. Pastor Byoung Han Jeong would prefer someone who could come for 6 months to a year, but will accept shorter term commitments at this time. There is a shared apartment with utilities, you can have lunch with the children, there is a stipend of \$500 / month for those who will stay longer term This has been increased temporarily to \$1500. Sapkyo is about a two hour or less wonderful train ride from downtown Seoul. It is SW of Seoul and located in the Chungcheong Namdo Province.

Contact Lorna Jost, Individual Volunteer Consultant (ljost@brookings.net), for information on how to apply and visit the Individual Volunteer website (<http://individualvolunteers.info>).

ORIENT CONGREGATION RECOGNIZES PASTOR GERALD KOSTER'S 60 YEARS OF MINISTRY

On Sunday, August 26, the Orient United Methodist Church honored their pastor the Rev. Gerald Koster for his sixty years of ministry service. Gerald retired "officially" from the West Ohio Conference in 1991, but he continued to preach since then in a number of congregations ranging from a Baptist Church to a Hungarian Reformed Congregation. For the past five years he has served the Orient UMC.

Koster became a lay preacher at age 17 in Meigs County. During World War II, he served three years in the Army as a chaplain's assistant at a military hospital. After the war, he started at Otterbein College, and he was soon serving a small congregation in Pataskala. In 1947, he married Marjorie Echo Pittenger. They met at a revival meeting along the Ohio River where she was playing violin. Koster graduated from Otterbein College and went on to graduate from Bonebrake Seminary (now United) in Dayton.

Koster continues to have a passion to preach. He says, "...as long as I'm able, I'll preach to anybody who gives me an invitation."

(excerpted from an article in *The Columbus Dispatch*, Friday, September 1)



Gerald Koster speaking at the celebration in his honor at the Orient Church.

SOUTHEAST OHIO GARDEN PROJECT EXPRESSES ITS 'THANKS'



Congregations, United Methodist Women units, Sunday School classes, youth groups, and individuals from the West Ohio Annual Conference (among many other annual conferences) helped Jackson Area Ministries (JAM) provide vegetable seeds, tomato plants, seed potatoes, and even flowers to two thousand family and/or individual gardens in 2006. The JAM Garden Project (Green Thumb Garden Project) initiated 2,455 gardens throughout the fifteen counties in southeast Ohio. Three hundred seventy-four contributions came from thirty-four states. Since the early 1970's, Jackson Area Ministries has been assisting families and individuals improve their own food supply by enabling them to "grow" their own vegetable garden.

JAM Green Thumb Garden Project expresses its deep gratitude to all who contributed this past summer, and we are beginning to plan for the 2007 growing season. If you are interested in participating this year send your inquiry to: JAM Gardening, PO Box 603, Jackson, OH 45640, telephone: 1-888-237-3141, or e-mail at jamjar@bright.net. A brochure, complete report, bulletin inserts, and other information is available from our office.

Thank you for all the years of supporting us.

CONFLICT WORKSHOP OFFERED THROUGH GAULT CENTER

The Gault Center for Christian Leadership at the Methodist Theological School in Ohio (MTSO) is offering a three part workshop on using conflict in healthy ways. The first session will be held on Friday, November 10 and Saturday, November 11. The other sessions will be held on March 2 & 3, 2007 and May 4 & 5, 2007. All sessions will be held at MTSO.

Churches spend much of their time problem solving and sometimes conflict resolving. However, some conflicts cannot be resolved, but must be managed instead. Some conflicts are blessings in disguise, leading to opportunity for transformation of the Church.

Dr. Lisa Withrow, Director of the Gault Center for Christian Leadership and Associate Professor of Congregational Studies and Director of Field Education at MTSO, will lead the course.

The cost of the workshop is \$225.00 per person for all three workshops. The cost is \$200.00 per person for three or more from the same organization. The cost is \$80.00 per session. Brochures are available at the district office or through the district webpage : www.capareasouthumc.org (check the calendar page for the dates listed above).

VISIT THE COMMUNITY UM CHURCH BOOTH AT THE PUMPKIN SHOW

The Circleville Pumpkin Show will celebrate its 100th Anniversary this during October 18 through October 21. The Community United Methodist Church will again have a food stand at the Pumpkin Show

Based from the church's location at the corner of West Main St and South Pickaway St, the church will serve food and open their basement as a dining room. Menu items include vegetable soup, bean soup, sloppy joes, hotdogs, and coney sandwiches, beverages and pumpkin pie. In honor of the 100th anniversary celebration of the Pumpkin Show, the church will also offer Pumpkin Pie Spiced Coffee.

While attending the Pumpkin Show, the congregation invites you to stop by for meal or a snack.

CAPITOL AREA SOUTH CLERGY CLUSTER GROUPS

Cluster A		Cluster J		CAN/CAS Cluster	
Mary Sandberg	Alexandria	Ben Foulk	Lithopolis	Wade Giffin	Scioto Ridge
Calvin Alexander	Miller Memorial	Barbara Wood Salyers	Shalom	Steve Cramer	Centenary
Jim Shivers	Bennington Chg.	Dennis Dinger	Hope	Barbara Sholis	First-Newark
Marsha E. Elsen	Appleton	James Green	Salem	Marcus Atha	CAN
Myron Ingram	Long Run Pleasant View	Richard Boone	Faith (Canal Winchester)	Bill Croy	CAN
Nancy Raypholtz	Chatham Chg.	Robert Grotsky	Hoy Memorial	Nancy Goulet	CAN
Wesley B. Baker	Croton UMC	Alyce Hardin-Cook	Gethsemane	Allen Sippel	CAN
		Scott Kelso	Trinity (Pickerington)	Becky Piatt	CAN
		James Meredith	Groveport	Deb Stevens	CAN
		Thomas Knauff	Walnut Hill		
		Valerie Waibel	Obetz-Lockbourne Chg.		
Cluster B		Cluster L		Nehemiah Cluster	
Andrew Young	Community of Faith UMC	Robert Alexander	Glenwood	Mary Jo Yeakel	Foothills District
James C. Donnan	Livingston	E. Luis Lluberes	Church of the Living God	Jane Faber	Scioto Ridge Assoc.
John W. Edgar	Church for All People	Eugene Brundige	New Horizons		
Kevin Chambers	Avondale	Tim Rash	New Horizons Assoc.		
Richard Walker III	Wesley Church of Hope	Karen Cook	Hilltop		
Terry Priest	Washington-Thurman Ave.	Karen Muntzing	Westgate		
Jeffery Julien	West Park	Rebecca Gifford-Mitchell	Parkview		
		Steven J. Rodgers	Crossroads		
		Vijay Buck	St. Marks		
Cluster C		Cluster M		Affinity Cluster Covenant	
Casey Wilson	Amlin	Phyllis Riggs	Cedar Hill Calvary-Mt. Zion	Chris Farmer	Miami Valley
Mark Chow	First-Newark Assoc.	Branson Hawkes	Mills Memorial	Aaron Brown	Village Chapel
Sam Halverson	First-Lancaster Assoc.	Bruce F. Gischel	Baltimore United	Carolyn Peacock	Lafayette/Plumwood
Lori Lossie	Hilliard Assoc.	Earl S. Bishop	Dumontville	Mo Dunn	CAN
Paul Moots	First-Mt. Sterling Assoc.	G. Roger McElfresh	New Salem	Bill Kelley	Miami Valley
Maxine Smith-Pierce	Reynoldsburg Assoc.	Gregory Swann	Maple St.	Cindee Johnson	Miami Valley
Wayne Stuntz	Grove City Assoc.	Michael Donnally	Christ (Baltimore)	Kurt King	Ohio River Valley
		Thomas Rogers	Sixth Ave.	Stu Rammes	Ohio River Valley
		Jeremy Shank	Fairview (Pickerington)		
Cluster D		Cluster N		Cook/Miller Cluster	
Sue McClelland	First-London Assoc.	David Leckrone	Asbury South	Sue Ellen Miller	CAN
Beverly A. Hume	Williamsport	Clarence Hensel	Millersport	Dwayne Shugert	Eastview UMC
Dan Culbertson	Derby Five Points Chg.	Donald Moshgat	White Chapel	Glen Schwerdtgeger	Christ (Columbus)
Jean Wood	Madison Mills	Gail Stevens Shourds	Heath	Wilsonnia McLean	Clair
Kenneth Martin	Newport South Solon Chg.	Glenn Stevens Shourds	Heath	Judy Guion Utsler	CAN
Malcolm Buck	New Holland-Atlanta Chg.	Robert A. Beyer	Jacksontown	Patti Cook	CAN
		Terry Borah	Fairfield Beach	David Meredith	CAN
		Phyllis Fetzter	Fletcher Chapel	Gerg Herndon	CAN
Cluster E		Cluster O		Women's Cluster	
Carl Martin	Trinity (Grove City)	Ellen Phillips	Gates Fourth	Rebeka Maples	
Tom Bolton	Commercial Pt.-Scioto	Christopher Johns	Pleasant Chapel	Cheryl Foulk	
Chapel		Dean Cole	Brushy Fork-Toboso Chg.		
Ronald R. Hill	Zion	Gus Christo-Baker	Marne		
Floyd Hubbell	South Bloomfield	Jeffrey L. Perry	Faith (Newark)		
Edwin Martin	Harrisburg	John Harra	Neal Avenue		
Gerald Koster	Orient	Ken Brown	Christian Endeavor		
John R. Gray	Jackson Chapel	Robert Long	Cox		
R. Fredric Kinne	West Jefferson	Samuel Harnish	Christ (Newark)		
Richard Jones	Trinity (Lilly Chapel)	William K. Wayt	Wright Memorial		
		Roger D. Nichols	Perryton-Smith Chapel Chg.		
Cluster G		Cluster P		Brooks Cluster	
James Riggs	Peace	Ellen Phillips	Gates Fourth	Rebeka Maples	
David L. Ziegel	Hilliard	Christopher Johns	Pleasant Chapel	Cheryl Foulk	
Kenneth Kirk	Grove City	Dean Cole	Brushy Fork-Toboso Chg.		
Larry Brown	First-Lancaster	Gus Christo-Baker	Marne		
Ed Lewis	Columbia Heights	Jeffrey L. Perry	Faith (Newark)		
TBS	Reynoldsburg	John Harra	Neal Avenue		
		Ken Brown	Christian Endeavor		
		Robert Long	Cox		
		Samuel Harnish	Christ (Newark)		
		William K. Wayt	Wright Memorial		
		Roger D. Nichols	Perryton-Smith Chapel Chg.		
Cluster H		Cluster Q		Supervised Years Cluster	
William H. Tardy	St. Paul	Reynoldsburg East Cluster		Penny Drenten	Hebron
Doug Dawson	Calvary	David M. Cady	Summit Station	Robert Sholis	Johnstown
Ed Cherryholmes	East Ringgold	Beverly Myers	Waters Edge	Angie Sherer	New Zion
John Ash	Pontius	David R. Havens	Wagram	Kevin Kellogg	Reynoldsburg Assoc.
Keith Deel	Fairview (Stoutsville)	David Wells	Brice		
Kevin Quincel	Salem	Rich Rothemich	Kirkersville		
Mike Messick	Good Shepherd	Ruben Cabanillas	Pataskala		
Norman Wright	Community	Jon Kraner	Reynoldsburg Assoc.		
Raymond Gage	Emmett Chapel	Brian Harkness	New Life Community		
Ty Myers	Emmanuel-Pleasant View	Chip Koch	Etna		

BOLD indicates Cluster Leader

(Revised 9/19/06)

OCTOBER 29 SPECIAL OFFERING TO CELEBRATE 95 YEARS OF MINISTRY AT THE CHILDRENS HOME



The United Methodist Children's Home (UMCH) is celebrating 95 years of ministry...AND we are not the children's home you may remember. As I have itinerated throughout the West Ohio Conference churches preaching and have been invited to your special events, people have shared stories and memories about the children's home. These treasured memories recall different generations of life at UMCH.

Now in its 95th year, UMCH enters into a new generation of ministry. As always, UMCH's mission has been to help hurting children. Today we continue to care for the "orphaned" of our time, those children who are survivors of abuse and neglect. UMCH helps children overcome the hurt that has happened in their lives. We provide children with a safe and secure transitional home. We share hope and teach important family values in the context of unconditional Christian love.

The UMCH is in the process of adapting our programs and facilities to better care for children. A new expressive arts program provides children an alternative form of therapy where they can creatively grow and learn about themselves. This program is enhanced with physical recreation therapy through Camp Mary Orton as children physically move and work as a team to struggle through planned obstacles. The UMCH dining room has undergone a renovation which encourages a family atmosphere; healthy family dining experiences did not exist in most children's lives previously. Residential cottages are in need of repairs and updates to further welcome children into a nurturing and caring environment.

The UMCH Worthington campus consists of the Residential Treatment Program and administrative office. Cottage living provides children with a family atmosphere. Direct care staff interacts with children to assist in their personal growth goals. A clinical staff of social workers and psychiatrists provides daily therapy for children. Character building programs guide children through development of life skills, peer relations, social skills, housekeeping and personal hygiene. The daily schedule is structured and consistent to encourage personal responsibility.

The UMCH Reynoldsburg campus is home to the Treatment Foster Care office. Treatment foster parents provide temporary and loving homes to children who need less restrictive environments. These parents are trained to nurture children who are often survivors of abuse or neglect. Foster parents receive comprehensive training and continual support as active members of the child's care team. Biological families are included in the child's treatment whenever possible.

UMCH believes that the spiritual needs of the children we serve are as important as their physical, emotional, educational and social needs. Spiritual growth at UMCH is nurtured in an environment respectful of spiritual and religious diversity. We encourage clarifying and developing values and beliefs. We search for places children interrelate in the community in meaningful ways. Children are helped to develop a worldview that is filled with hope, healing and wholeness. Religious activities include making church services available on Sunday morning, weekly Bible study and weekly chapel. Staff and children join together to participate in the spiritual life of UMCH.

Churches are encouraged to partner with UMCH in a number of ways. **Publicize and encourage October's Fifth Sunday Offering to UMCH, October 29, a West Ohio Conference endorsed offering.** Volunteer opportunities exist in assisting with physical needs of our campus, as well as special event volunteers. Donations are accepted for several ministries in which we are engaged. Church-related families have become some of the best foster families for UMCH children. Scott Pierce (614-559-2800) is available to talk to families about foster parenting. Financial contributions are appreciated to further the mission and vision of UMCH. Please call 614-885-5020 contact Rev. Steve Putka (ext. 536) or Rev. Jay Moyers (ext. 520) for more information or to schedule a time we can preach or speak at your church.

CAPITOL AREA SOUTH DISTRICT
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If: *You are looking for fresh ideas for a faith and community building adult Bible study . . .
You know that there are people in your church who want to dig deeper into the Bible . . .
You know great things could happen if people in your church knew the Story better . . .*



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encouraging life changes, personal decisions and a building up of congregational unity.*

Here is an opportunity for you to take a look at all of the Kerygma resources in your area soon.

November 7, 2006 10 am – 3 pm at the Bath Presbyterian Church, 4624 Bath Rd., Dayton, OH 45424

\$25 per person/ \$100 maximum per church. Includes lunch and workshop materials.

Receive a discount on all Kerygma Resources

Come and learn: · *How to start a Kerygma Bible Study in your congregation · Reduce leader anxiety · Build leadership skills ·
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