

# THE RELAY

The United Methodist Church of Greater New Jersey

Volume LX

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No. 4

## Opening Day at the Mission and Resource Center

With the voices of staff lifted in praise and celebration, Rev. Lou Strugala, Building Committee Chairperson, cut the “grand opening” ribbon in a ceremony on Monday April 4th to mark the opening day of the Mission and Resource Center (MRC).

The day began with staff gathered in the entry hall, while Bishop John Schol shared scripture and prayer for the work to be accomplished in the new central office for Greater New Jersey. Together the staff entered the first floor Learning Center for morning worship.

Alexa Taylor, Benefits Services Manager and a part of the move committee, loves the new space. “It feels wonderful to be here,” she said, “There will be so many opportunities for laity, clergy and staff as a result of this facility.”

To facilitate the move, Greater New Jersey’s offices were closed on Friday April 1 and the move took place over the weekend. When staff arrived at the Center on Monday morning, all their



Photo by Brittney Reilly

Staff and guests celebrated the grand opening of the Mission and Resource Center Monday, April 4. In front from left to right: General Contractor Jack Green, Conference Lay Leader Rosa Williams, Building Committee Chair Rev. Lou Strugala, Chair of the Board of Trustees Rev. Cliff Still, architect Steve Carlidge.

**The dedication of the new Mission and Resource Center will be held:**

Friday, April 15, at 10:30 a.m.  
205 Jumping Brook Road  
Neptune, NJ  
RSVP at [www.gnjumc.org](http://www.gnjumc.org)



By Brittney Reilly

Bishop Schol celebrates his 60th birthday by increasing his commitment to the Mission Fund and inviting United Methodists in Greater New Jersey to do the same.

## Mission Fund Continues to Save Lives, Build Homes

By Carolyn Conover, Director of Communications and Development  
[cconover@gnjumc.org](mailto:cconover@gnjumc.org)

In 2013, GNJ passed a bold strategic plan at Annual Conference session to make a difference in people’s lives globally, regionally and nationally through a Mission Fund Campaign. This campaign was enthusiastically embraced by congregations throughout Greater New Jersey.

Part of the enthusiasm stemmed from an initial gift from Bishop John and Beverly Schol, who pledged \$53,000 and inspired the 2013 Annual Conference session with their testimony on giving. Beverly Schol had been on the front lines in Africa handing out bed nets and seeing firsthand the effects of malaria on families and children. Bishop John and

Beverly Schol both witnessed firsthand the devastation left by Superstorm Sandy in the immediate aftermath of the flooding. Both knew that they would need to make sacrifices to commit to the vision that God had for Greater New Jersey.

Bishop Schol and Beverly decided to forego buying a new car and use additional savings toward fulfilling their pledge over a three year period. Their inspirational decision resulted in thousands of people throughout GNJ making their own sacrifices and commitments to the campaign.

As the Mission Fund nears the three year mark, the people of Greater New Jersey have raised \$5.4 million in gifts and pledges. Even though there is more left to raise, these funds have already been put to use in helping the people who hurt.

Continued on page 2

## Fire at Mt. Pleasant in Millville

The sanctuary of Mt. Pleasant United Methodist Church in Millville was completely destroyed by a blazing fire early Sunday morning on April 3rd.

The Millville Fire Department received a call at 5:23 a.m. on Sunday that the church was engulfed in flames. Apparently, strong winds spurred by the storm knocked down a tree across the street that fell on power lines; sparking the fire from the arcing lines. Officials say wind gusts of up to 60 mph were recorded as the storm roared through the region.

United Methodist Church also in Millville. “We held a joint worship at Trinity UMC,” said Kwak. “The Trinity community surrounded the Mt. Pleasant congregation with prayer. We will go through this together.”

Bishop John Schol called for prayer for the congregation. “United Methodists are here for each other. We pray for the people of the Mt. Pleasant congregation and the community they serve,” he said, “We give thanks and praise for their neighbors at Trinity UMC and other



Photo by Jisun Kwak

A fire, sparked by high winds downing a powerline, destroyed the sanctuary at Mt. Pleasant UMC in Millville.

District Superintendent Jisun Kwak was on the scene Sunday morning with Reverend John Mitchell.

“The church’s sanctuary was destroyed by the fire,” said Kwak, “But firefighters were able to save the church’s fellowship hall, which was attached to the sanctuary.”

Some fast acting emergency workers helped to save some of the stained glass window and the cross on the steeple. The rest of the building was a complete loss.

The congregation from Mt. Pleasant was immediately embraced by Trinity

area churches who have embraced this congregation in their time of need.”

No injuries were reported in the fire at the church, which dates back to the late 1800s.

### What’s Inside...

Coaching Update. **Page 4**  
More MRC stories and photos. **Page 6 & 7**  
Making New Disciples with Trey Wince. **Page 9**

## A Message from the Bishop



### Putting It All Together Makes For A Transformational Leader - Part 4

#### Culture • Character • Competency

"Easter people in a Good Friday world," was the sermon title shared by a Gammon student this past Easter. In late March, I along with Superintendent Varlyna Wright and Director of Mission Nicole Caldwell Gross visited Gammon Theological Seminary in Atlanta as we recruit the brightest and best for GNJ's future. Gammon is a historically Black United Methodist Seminary that has trained future bishops, superintendents, civil rights leaders and transformational leaders.

The school administration gathered five students for us to meet with individually and share lunch. We gathered in a soul food restaurant just a half a mile away from the seminary. We watched and listened to the students as they engaged in two hours of conversation. They were passionate about what they were learning and their field education placements. One talked about growing a university campus ministry from a handful of students to almost 100. Another talked about being part of a creative process team at United Methodist Impact Church. She talked about the Good Friday service called, They Got Away with Murder based on a television series. Another talked about how they enjoyed their classes and the opportunity to challenge professors and ask important questions. They all talked about connecting with the community and reaching new people. They talked about the importance of listening and connecting with new people based on their interests.

As we listened, we realized we were in the presence of transformational leaders. They were in their 20's and early 30's and had already exemplified the character, culture and competence we are looking for in clergy leadership. They were putting it all together.

I believe the church and the world needs transformational leaders. Leaders who form and inspire passionate disciples, grow vital congregations and transform the world. GNJ Transformational Leaders are lay and clergy believers who are Christ-centered and Holy Spirit led. They embody the character, possess the competency and fit culturally with the GNJ mission. I call all GNJ lay and clergy leadership to grow in the character, culture and competency as we seek to make disciples and grow vital congregations to transform the world.

#### Character

1. Passionate – leaders with a contagious love for God and others.
2. Open – grace-filled leaders who are grounded and yet embrace new ideas, people and learnings.
3. Relational – leaders who connect with others through their interests and ideas.
4. Learning – life-long learners who are teachable and coachable.
5. Creative – leaders who are curious, take risks and apply innovative ideas.

#### Culture

1. Trust – leaders who trust and grow trust with others.
2. Disagreement – leaders with the ability to disagree in order to create better outcomes.
3. Commitment – leaders who are willing to commit to and follow through with action plans.
4. Accountability – leaders who take responsibility and are accountable for their work.
5. Results - leaders who are results oriented and are focused on the goal.

#### Competency

1. Transformational – Spirit-led pioneers who initiate a vision, develop strategies, and inspire people to work together to achieve a life and world changing mission.
2. Analytical – leaders who make excellent decisions and resolve challenges using prayer, scripture, knowledge, input from others, data and experience.
3. Multiple Project Managers – leaders who are flexible and adapt to added work or challenges.
4. Organized – leaders who plan, formulate steps, prioritize and carry out work on time and with excellence to accomplish stated goals.
5. Communicators – leaders who listen for understanding, articulate with clarity and express directly and clearly through verbal and written communication.

We shared with these students about the challenges we are facing in GNJ, that we have high expectations and that we come along side of our leaders with coaching, PaCE groups, Team Vital and Communities of Hope to resource and support them. These students found it to be refreshing that GNJ would talk openly of our challenges, be direct that we expect a lot and that we support clergy with resourcing. Four want to come and visit New Jersey and a fifth is interested in Drew School of Theology's PHD program. I invite you to pray that God will raise up and call the leaders we need to make a difference for God.

I have experienced outstanding transformational leaders already here in GNJ. We will continue to develop our existing leaders as we recruit new transformational leaders because we are an Easter people living in a Good Friday world.

Keep the faith!  
John Schol, Bishop

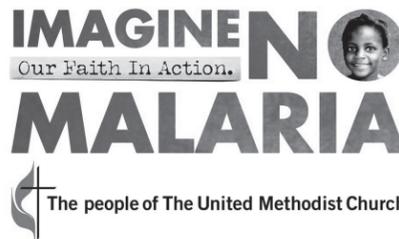
## Mission Fund Continues

Continued from page 1

### A FUTURE WITH HOPE

The People of the United Methodist Church

Through Mission Fund giving, \$3.9 million has been raised for A Future With Hope, GNJ's ministry to help rebuild homes and lives that were destroyed during Superstorm Sandy. As of the end of February, A Future With Hope has rebuilt 204 homes and worked with more than 400 families in recovery. New Jersey's Department of Community Affairs state that in 2016, nearly four years after the storm, there are still more than 6,000 families in recovery from Superstorm Sandy. A Future With Hope has a goal of continuing its work to repair more than



300 homes. The number of homes repaired and the lives touched will increase even more if the Mission Fund meets its goal of \$7 million to support A Future With Hope and Sandy recovery.

Greater New Jersey's commitment to raise \$1.7 million for Imagine No Malaria to treat and prevent the disease is a part of a larger United Methodist effort to eradicate the disease. Greater New Jersey's pledge is part of \$75 million campaign to support Imagine No Malaria. Including GNJ's Mission Fund pledge, \$68 million has been raised to date.

Malaria is a treatable and preventable disease and yet it kills a child in Africa ev-

ery two minutes. Prevention takes education, resources and clinics and training. By improving the ways people fight the disease using bed nets, providing access to diagnostic tests and medicine, draining standing water, and improving sanitation, Imagine No Malaria has already helped reduce malaria deaths by more than half.

Through the Mission Fund, Greater New Jersey has already raised close to \$900,000 for Imagine No Malaria which translates into saving 90,000 lives. When the \$2 million goal is reached for this effort Greater New Jersey will have helped save more than 200,000 lives of children who die senselessly from a disease that can be prevented and treated.

Many congregations have planned a special offering for Imagine No Malaria during the week of April 25, which is World Malaria Day.

The last leg of the Mission Fund is to help our congregations connect with their communities through local mission work. Money raised in this area has helped churches open up food pantries, undertake mission trips, fund community breakfasts and more.

The work accomplished and the funds raised through the Mission Fund is an amazing testament to generous spirit of the people of Greater New Jersey.

The Schols finished up their three year pledge to the Mission Fund. They finally traded in their 13 year old car and bought a new one. In 2016, both are celebrating their 60th birthdays. In honor of this milestone and in support of the life changing work of Imagine No Malaria and A Future With Hope, they have decided to increase their commitment to \$60,000. They invite all United Methodists to join them in rededicating themselves to the Mission Fund to save and change lives.

At the 2016 Annual Conference in May, one collection will be taken for the Mission Fund. All congregations are encouraged to take a collection between now and Annual Conference and share their gifts in Wildwood.

### The May Issue Deadline is April 15, 2016



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## THE RELAY

The United Methodist Church of Greater New Jersey

John R. Schol, Bishop

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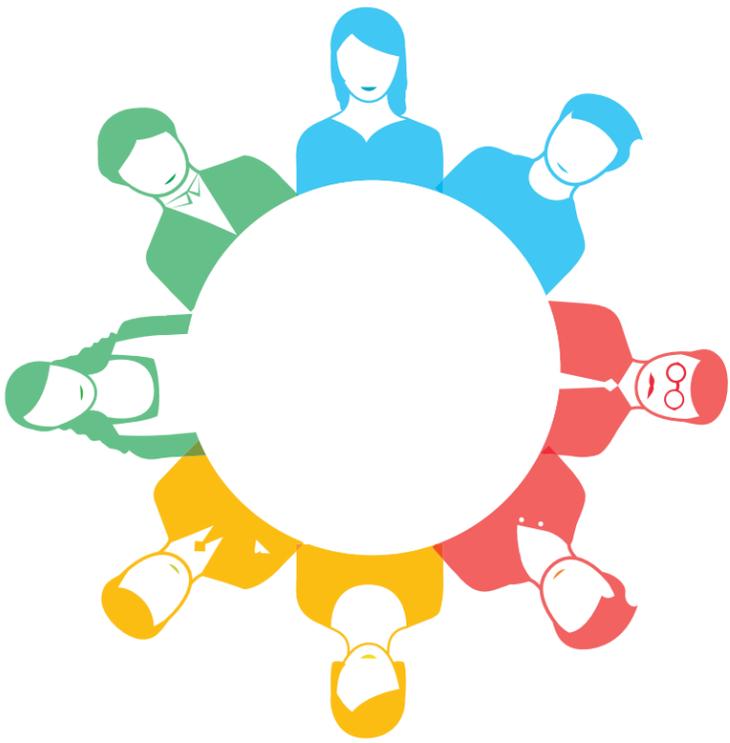
New Subscriptions, renewals, address changes, and corrections should be addressed to Beverly Karlovich, [bkarlovich@gnjumc.org](mailto:bkarlovich@gnjumc.org) or by mail to:

United Methodist Relay | 205 Jumping Brook Road, Neptune NJ 07753

#### FOR ADVERTISING RATES, INFORMATION and PLACEMENT

Carolyn Conover, [cconover@gnjumc.org](mailto:cconover@gnjumc.org)

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## GET STARTED.

There are thousands of resources available for you to dive deeper into small group ministry. We've helped make some of the best easily available. The small groups pages on the Greater New Jersey website is a great place to start: [www.gnjumc.org/small-group](http://www.gnjumc.org/small-group)

### WHAT YOU WILL FIND:

1. **Something to Inspire:** Videos are available to stimulate small groups interest and to help inspire leaders.
2. **Something to Watch:** A 90 minute training presentation is available for use in understanding leader roles, goals and facilitation.
3. **Something to Read:** The curriculum library compiles information from more than 100 recommended study curriculum from your peers in GNJ.
4. **Someone to Talk to:** The Small Group Resources team are committed to sharing with you their experience and offering you guidance in your small group program no matter where you are in the process. These are clergy and laity who have been in your shoes.

## FOR SMALL GROUPS RESOURCES, INFORMATION AND SUPPORT:



Contact **Beth Caulfield**,  
Director of Small Groups  
Ministry

[bcaulfield@gnjumc.org](mailto:bcaulfield@gnjumc.org)  
908.938.1379

## WHY SMALL GROUPS?

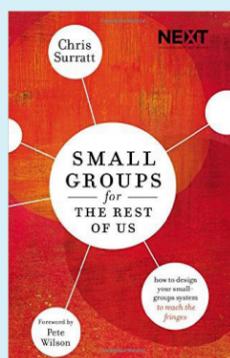
**Small groups are fundamental to the foundations of Methodism.**

Small groups... provide people with opportunities for practicing skills for faithful discipleship... worship, faith sharing, the creation of new faith communities, spiritual discernment, Bible study, theological reflection, prayer, community building, service with the poor and marginalized, and advocacy for peace and justice.

*The Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church ¶256.1*

## GO DEEPER.

The Connectional Ministries Team has put together a short list of recommended reading for small groups.

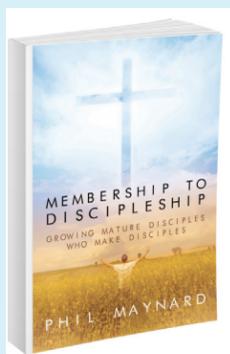


### Small Groups for the Rest of Us: How to Design Your Small Groups System to Reach the Fringes

Pastors, church staff and small group leaders are trying to figure out how to make small groups work in their church and they don't know how. *Small Groups For The Rest Of Us* gives them practical, proven strategies on moving people

from the fringes into biblically based communities.

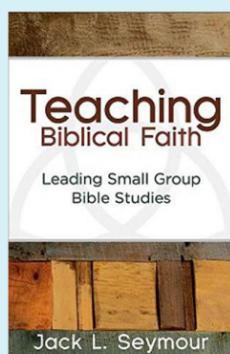
Available at: [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com)



### Membership to Discipleship

Membership to Discipleship offers a fresh, creative framework for thinking about how the discipleship process works, as well as plenty of hands-on strategies and real-life examples of putting theory

into practice. Available at: [www.emc3coaching.com](http://www.emc3coaching.com)



### Teaching Biblical Faith: Leading Small Group Bible Studies

This book provides a manageable way to inspire conversation about the many ways the Bible can be taught, the purposes and outcomes of each approach, and how biblical wisdom shapes personal and corporate decision-making. Available at:

[www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com)



You can purchase these books from websites listed above or check them out at Annual Conference. Cokesbury will be featuring these resources in the Greater New Jersey bookstore in May. Available at: [www.cokesbury.com](http://www.cokesbury.com)



# Coach Approach Transforms Ministry in GNJ

By Paige Chant  
pchant@morrowchurch.org

In 2015, the United Methodist Church of Greater New Jersey set an ambitious goal: to have 300 clergy members experience a season of coaching by the end of 2017. So far, more than 150 clergy members have signed up, and to hear many tell it, the experience has been nothing short of transformational.

Reverend Diane Pacione, pastor of Seaville United Methodist Church, first began thinking about coaching as a way of maintaining her involvement in ministry during retirement, which at the time was still a good five to six years away.

"What I didn't anticipate," she said, "was how transformational it was going to be for all aspects of my ministry and consequently my church, and that's the thing I'm most excited about."

A season of coaching typically lasts eight months, with eight hour-long meetings, or 16 half-hour meetings, between coach and clergy member. These meetings can be done face-to-face or over the phone. Clergy who are interested in being coached complete a questionnaire about how they view themselves and their ministry and what they hope to get out of the coaching experience. They also specify their top three choices for a coach. Once a coach is assigned, the clergy member and coach enter into a covenant that explains the expectations for the coaching relationship.

Coaches are trained in Coach Approach Skill Training, or CAST, a training program in peer coaching directed by Reverend Chris Holmes, PCC. Holmes, who is certified as a coach through the International Coaching Federation, was endorsed by the United Methodist Church for the ministry of coaching in 2009 and was a featured leader at the 2015 Bishop's Clergy Convocation.

Gateway South District Superintendent Reverend Myrna Bethke has been an enthusiastic champion of coaching as an effective way for the conference to reach its goals. Bethke's involvement in coaching first began several years ago

**"The coach approach begins with the basic belief that everyone is created, resourceful, and whole."**

and the experience remained with her over the years. When she began working with the district, she was trained in Holmes's CAST program, which felt like the natural next step in strengthening her coaching skills.

"Coaching has an effect on increasing the vitality of our congregations," Bethke said. "It helps significantly to move us toward the strategic goals of Greater New Jersey."

"The coach approach begins with the basic belief that everyone is created as creative, resourceful, and whole, and the answer lies within them, so if you start reminding people that's who they are, then they respond that way, and that becomes transformational," said Pacione.

Pacione describes coaching as a "dual journey," where both the leadership of a church and the congregation of a church look together at new possibilities for their ministry together. "Instead of looking at problems, you look at possibilities. And that, to me, is the transformational piece."

In each coaching session, the person being coached directs the conversation and brings to the session what it is she or he wants to talk about. After a time of sharing, the coach asks questions designed to help the person focus and reflect on what has been shared. By the end of the session, the coach and the clergy member develop an action plan to move forward and identify people who can support the person and hold the person accountable.

For Bethke, this is precisely what sets the "coach approach" apart from other methods.

"It helps people to discover the answers that they already have and commits them to action and accountability," said Bethke.

Reverend Blessings Magomero, senior pastor of Salem United Methodist Church in Pleasantville, first began coaching in April of 2015. He thought he was well-equipped in his ministry through his previous experiences and classes he'd taken, but he soon found coaching to be an eye-opening experience.

"It is an exploration into the discovery of myself and the future of the ministry I am in," said Magomero. "It has assured me that I am not an island. Coaching has helped me to think beyond myself and imagine a world I did not know before."

Throughout his season of being coached, Magomero says, he has grown not only in his approach to ministry and leadership within his church, but in his relationship with others. Coaching has helped him discover the time and the space "for rest, for fitness, for more time with family. I have learned to disconnect, to breathe, to recharge and come back to ministry."

Both Pacione and Magomero have witnessed exciting growth in their church leadership and ministry possibilities since participating in the coaching program. Pacione's church community has begun new and innovative ministries like Conversations Uniting Presence & Scripture (CUPS), a monthly gathering aimed at reaching younger people (though older people are also welcome and often attend). One Tuesday evening a month, Pacione and other church leaders gather at a local tavern for appetizers and an informational question-and-answer period about issues of faith. People at the bar write down their questions and put them in a brandy snifter, and Pacione answers them in the casual, friendly atmosphere of the tavern. In a shore town like Seaville, gatherings like this are part of the culture, and they can help reach new people in ministry.

Pacione's church also began a new Vacation Bible School centered around the dramatic arts. Each year they choose a different story from the Bible and write their own curriculum, build their own set, and stage a play that draws in children from their church and from the greater

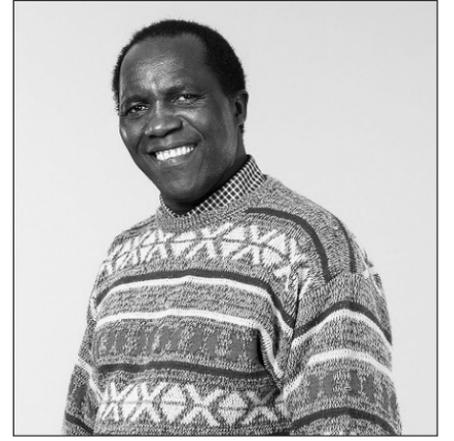


Photo by Paul Guba  
Reverend Blessings Magomero, senior pastor of Salem United Methodist, first began coaching in April of 2015.

community.

"Coaching was the spark that ignited everything else," Pacione says of her church's new ministries.

For Magomero, coaching has inspired "a critical analysis" of his ministry. "Instead of pushing other people to change," he said, "it made me change. In order to understand others, I have to change, and a leader that can change inspires others."

"Coaching is not an obligation," says Magomero. "It is not about 'I am not doing well.' It is about progress, about enlightenment that will bring you and your ministry to another level. It will make your life more joyful."

Pacione echoes this sense of joy and freedom that comes with the experience of coaching.

"It's about being invitational in a way that feels safe and comfortable," said Pacione. "You're not giving away your own power or your own creativity, but you're inviting others to share with you. I think that's one of the most powerful things about coaching."

Eventually, Bethke said, she hopes for coaching "to be part of the norm for clergy and congregational resourcing for Annual Conference so that everyone has a sense that this is something that really helps us grow our vitality."

## Transformational Leaders Grow Church Younger

By Beth Caulfield,  
Director of Small Groups  
bcaulfield@gnjumc.org

More than 200 Greater New Jersey leaders came out for "Growing the Church Younger," a Day of Learning sponsored by the Northern Region Resource Team on Saturday, March 5th.

The day focused on equipping leaders to better understand, attract and build disciples of children, youth, young adults and young families. Workshops included focus on reaching millennials, covenant small groups for youth and young adults, spiritual growth for children in the digital world, holistic sexual education and values and mission partnership opportunities in Cuba. The event was tailored to and attracted UMC clergy, laity and Drew Theological students.

The event also celebrated the multiculturalism and diversity within the Northern Region which is comprised of the Palisades, Skylands and Gateway North Districts. Rev. Beth Caulfield, Director of Small Groups, opened the day by greeting participants in the eight different languages preached in the region's churches. The opening worship, led by Eric Drew, Director of Worship, and a diverse band from around GNJ highlighted praise music in English and Spanish. Band members led prayer in Spanish and Korean and Nicole Caldwell Gross, Director of Mission, invited all present to pray in unison in their native tongues. New translation equipment was used to assist in reaching diverse worshippers in new ways. Translation was provided by Rev. Jin Kook Kim, Young Ji Kim, Sung Woo Lee, Rev. Onay Lopez, Rev. Charles Perez and Rev. Lourdes Magalhaes.



Photo by Seth Bechtold  
Melanie C. Gordon, Director of Ministry with Children at Discipleship Ministries led workshops at the "Growing the Church Younger" Day of Learning.

"I've been around GNJ for 17 years and this is the most sensitivity to and encouragement of multiculturalism I have ever seen. I am a big fan!" said Charles Perez, Pastor of First UMC in Dover. Perez also commented, "I feel especially good that GNJ is providing training and encouraging us to address the elephant in the room: the missing young people."

Discipleship Ministries supported the event by leading several workshops. Melanie C. Gordon, Director of Ministry with Children at Discipleship Ministries led workshops on what children should expect from the church and how to equip parents to use resources in the digital

world and social media to enhance their children's spiritual growth. She commented at the end of the day that she was "very appreciative of being part of such a relevant and engaging event that attracted enthusiastic leaders."

Millennial engagement was the hot topic for the day. Chris Wilterdink who also serves with Discipleship Ministries as the Director of Program Development for Young People's Ministries led workshops on engaging millennials and authenticity and Trey Wince, GNJ's Director for New Disciples followed up on his popular "Skinny Jeans" approach to millennials and discussed how to choose

what to do just as you choose what to wear.

Dr. Kate Ott, author of *Sex + Faith: Talking with Your Child from Birth to Adolescence* and Assistant Professor of Ethics at Drew Theological School, taught two workshops on holistic sexuality. She commented "I was very appreciative for the diversity of individuals and congregational ministries that I was introduced to via my workshops."

The workshop which covered controversial questions and how to approach them holistically was new to many attendees. Meryl Dietz, laity from Grace UMC in Wyckoff thanked her for this perspective and said she "hadn't thought about teaching about sexuality holistically."

The event was held at Bethany Wayne UMC. As hosts, the staff and laity at Bethany Wayne served radical hospitality. The United Methodist Women provided breakfast and lunch for the entire conference and the UM Men's group handled the logistics like setting up tables and chairs and serving as parking lot attendants.

Beth Caulfield, as part of the Regional Leadership Team that organized the event said there were three things that made the event so successful, "Prayer, partnership and teamwork."

"The organizing team was focused on creative, smart and bold action so that we could launch a new kind of event for Greater New Jersey," said Caulfield. "The goal is to provide content to our congregations that is relevant to the issues they are facing today in a format that is accessible and fresh. We look forward to offering more such events, building on what we have learned and what we anticipate as needs for the future."



# IGNITE

CONFERENCE 2016

# LET THERE BE LIGHT

**SEPT. 30 - OCT. 2**

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**BELLARIVE**



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# Buttzeville Pastor Builds More than Cabinets

By Carolyn Conover,  
Director of Communications  
cconover@gnjumc.org

The spiritual symbolism of being both a carpenter and a man of God is not lost on Scott Maat, but he generally sees things much more simply.

This carpenter turned pastor started his trade when he was 16 because he wanted to be independent and saw that he had the gifts and talents to build things.

He has spent the last 35 years using those gifts and talents to become a master in the carpentry trade, crafting beautiful cabinets for homes and buildings.

"Carpentry gives me the ability to go into people's homes and meet them," said Maat. "You never forget the people. I can hear someone's dream and build it."

Five years ago, he was studying Wesley in a small group at Branchville UMC. He felt the call to ministry, but like many, he hid from it until he heard it again and again.

"One day, in the carpentry shop, God said 'ENOUGH!' I went home and told my wife that I'd been called to ministry and she said 'I know already. It's about time. You've been driving me crazy.'"

That day started his journey to become a licensed local pastor and for the last five years, he has been appointed to Buttzeville United Methodist Church in the Skylands District.

With his leadership, Buttzeville has grown to 32 people in worship each week, with 11 children.

"Scott has worked in collaboration with the laity in Buttzeville to help focus them spiritually on mission," said Steve Bechtold, Superintendent for Skylands District. He has co-lead mission teams to Appalachia, West Virginia and the Jersey shore with A Future With Hope where his carpentry skills were a blessing.

He's finishing up a new mission now. Maat was selected to build the cabinetry in the conference rooms of the Mission and Resource Center (MRC).

The MRC has four main conference rooms including the Learning Center which can seat 250 and be divided into thirds.

Maat constructed credenzas for these rooms that can house television screen lifts and supplies for the meeting rooms.

He also created the wall unit in the media center on the first floor. These are custom-designed, hand-crafted cabinets built with the highest quality.

Over the year's Maat has helped District Superintendents Jisun Kwak and Bechtold with some of their cabinetry needs.

When the Trustees were looking for a cabinet maker for the Mission and Resource Center, they put his name forward.

"We needed a carpenter and God provided one of our own family members" said Bishop John Schol of Maat's work. "Scott's work is beautiful and we are truly blessed by his talents as a builder and as a pastor."

Maat spent two months crafting the cabinetry. He believes the cabinets will provide a sense of permanence to the new building and is grateful for the opportunity to work toward kingdom time instead of chronos time.

His future however is not in carpentry, said Maat. "It's what I do, it's not who I am."

"Being a carpenter has let me work from home. I have had the time and flexibility to spend more time with my wife and family. It's a good life. It's been a real gift."

Bechtold praised Scott's commitment to ministry, "He is a great example to others who see themselves working full time but fulfilling their spiritual calling in ministry."

Maat knows that there is both an end and a future in sight, "There's going to come a day when my knees will give out and carpentry will no longer be an option. Then I'll turn my life over to full time ministry. It is where I belong."



Photo by James Lee

Pastor Scott Maat built the cabinetry in the Mission and Resource Center

*We are thankful for everyone who has used their talents to build the Mission and Resource Center including significant work from United Methodists including:*

**Jack Green, General Contractor, Jack Green Construction**

**Norman Cetuk, Forman, Jack Green Construction**

**Leanne Hoffmann, Director of Engineering and Planning, Neptune Township**

**Scott Maat, Carpenter and Pastor of Buttzeville UMC**

**Garey Hope, granite pillar for baptismal font, owner of Will Hope and Son and retired Elder.**

## New Staff Announcements

Moving from maintenance to mission is at the forefront of the realignment of staff into regional teams and shared services. As a result of this shift, the leadership of Greater New Jersey assessed current staff and assembled new teams to support the structure. The first wave of hiring for administrative support has been complete and the following are new assignments starting in April.

**Kaitlynn Deal – Communications Administrative Assistant**

Kaitlynn attends Brick United Methodist Church where she has helped run events for the youth and Sunday School programs. She has a BA in Communication from Rutgers and is working on a MA at Monmouth University. She is starting her career in communication and has a wide variety of experiences in marketing and nonprofits. She is a highly organized and dedicated person and is coming to us from Elijah's Promise where she served as Volunteer and Donation Coordinator.

**Kristina Carver - Regional Administrative Assistant**

Kristina brings a wealth of capabilities ranging from marketing and communications to multi-tasking and managing several projects. She possesses strong computer skills, analytical thinking, problem solving and leadership capabilities. Kristina is a graduate of Moravian College and a native of New Jersey.

**Deborah Sidorakis - Regional Administrative Assistant**

Deborah has over 20 years of experience as an administrative assistant. She has strong computer skills and a proven record of being able to prioritize and work within a team. Deborah is very excited for the opportunity to work at GNJAC where she believes our work



Photo by Brittney Reilly

As a part of the Maintenance to Mission plan, GNJ welcomed new administrative staff on April 4th. From left: Kristina Carver, Krystina Michalopoulos, Deborah Sidorakis, Kaitlynn Deal, Michael Basile, Diana Picurro

is transformational. Deborah is a graduate of The Stuart School of Business Administration.

**Krystina Michalopoulos - Regional Administrative Assistant**

Krystina is energetic and passionate about her work making a difference. One of her greatest accomplishments was working with women who were dealing with substance abuse and helping them to rehabilitate. She has strong computer skills and leadership qualities. Krystina is a graduate of Neptune High School (Valedictorian) and graduated with honors from New York University.

**Diana Picurro - Connectional Ministries Administrative Assistant**

Diana who currently serves as the Administrative Assistant for the Northern Shore District will be the Administrative Assistant for GNJ resourcing and will work in the Connectional Ministries Team. Diana has been with GNJ for 2 ½ years serving as the Administrator for the Northern Shore District. She is a person of moral integrity and has a strong work ethic. Diana has strong computer skills, is detailed oriented and enjoys working as part of a team. She looks forward to the opportunity to grow new relationships, as well as to contribute to resourcing our transformational leaders and congregations. Diana is a graduate of The Cititone Institute of Business Adminis-

tration.

**Michael Basile - Property Assistant**

Michael most recently worked in maintenance and grounds for the Long Branch and Monmouth Beach school systems. As property assistant, he will be responsible for all maintenance and meeting set up at the Mission and Resource Center

Because of transition in two positions, there are five additional positions to be filled including: the Assistant Director of Development, Editorial Manager, Property Manager, and Administrative Assistant for the Episcopal Office. Information on applying for open positions is available at [www.gnjumc.org](http://www.gnjumc.org).



Photo by Brittney Reilly

# Opening Day at the Mission and Resource Center

Continued from page 1

moving boxes were already placed in their offices and their computers were in place and ready to go.

“The move went smoothly. We had a great committee working on it,” said Taylor, “There were many, many moving parts but everyone handled their part nicely.”

Rev. Lou Strugala, who chaired the building committee of the Board of Trustees couldn't agree more. “Once the resolution was passed at Annual Conference, the pieces all fell into place,” Strugala said.

Rev. Cliff Still, the chair of the Board of Trustees was also on hand for the first day. “I'm proud to be a part of the work that will go on here,” said Still, “United

Methodists glorify God by doing his work in a place that lifts us all up together.”

The Mission and Resource Center was designed to do more than house the Greater New Jersey staff. It is equipped with beautiful meeting spaces for agencies and committees of the Connectional Table. It has a video and audio recording studio that will allow for higher quality productions and be available for use to congregations and outside groups. It has a full service kitchen facility so that events and meetings can be catered.

“We intentionally named this facility the Mission and Resource Center because this building is all about how we support the work of the church out in the community,” said Bishop John Schol,

“Our focus is to quip transformational leaders to make vital congregations. Our capacity to resource our leaders has never been greater.”

In addition to the staff, all nine district superintendents, the field staff of A Future With Hope and special guests joined in the day's opening activities. Special guests included Conference Lay Leader Rosa Williams, the contractor Jack Green and his family, construction foreman Norm Cetuk, and architects Steve Carlidge and April Horvath.

The staff wasted no time however getting back to business. By noon, the Cabinet was meeting in Conference Room A that overlooks Jumping Brook Road and other team members were

already unpacked and at their desks.

A special dedication ceremony is being planned for April 15 at 10:30 a.m. and all clergy and laity in Greater New Jersey are invited to attend. Bishops Devadhar, Lyght, and Schol will be leading the dedication service and special guests include: General Secretary Alfred T. Day of the General Commission of Archives and History, Dr. Javier Viera, Dean of Drew School of Theology, Dr. Ginny Samuel, Associate Dean of Drew School of Theology, and elected officials of the township and State of New Jersey.

Following the dedication there will be tours of the new Mission and Resource Center. Register to attend the dedication on April 15, by going to [www.gnjumc.org](http://www.gnjumc.org).



Photo by Brittney Reilly

The cabinet starts work in the new Mission and Resource Center.



Photo by Brittney Reilly

Jisun Kwak, Delaware Bay District Superintendent, and Varlyna Wright, Capital District Superintendent, joined in the first day activities.



Photo by Brittney Reilly

Jay Kim, Benefits Services Manager, and Steve Bechtold, Skylands District Superintendent enjoyed opening day.



Photo by Brittney Reilly

Alexa Taylor, Benefits Services Manager, settles into her new office.

# Rethink Church Grants in Cranford, Wildwood Crest

By Jessica Stenstrom

Jessica\_stenstrom@yahoo.com

During this Lenten season, Cranford UMC took advantage of a Rethink Church Digital Advertising Grant available through United Methodist Communications (UMCOM) which targeted area residents through ads on popular websites.

"From Feb 15 through Easter, UMCOM publicized our church's Easter worship opportunities using our church logo and the Rethink Church branding in the ad space of major websites for users in our local area," said Rev. Cameron Overbey, pastor of Cranford UMC. "For instance, someone in Cranford or Garwood might log onto weather.com or CNN.com and our ad would be likely to appear in the ad space."

Overbey said the grant allowed Cranford UMC to show off their recently launched new website which was linked in the ads. "It helped to create a buzz and was a conversation starter, encouraging members to invite others to our Easter services."

He said that while browsing local sites, he did see Cranford UMC's ad several times; even managing to take a screen shot. "I'm not sure the increased advertising yielded any new Easter visitors, but having our name and logo out there can only help!"

UMCOM offers many resources for local churches through their Rethink Church program, especially each Lent and Advent season. This Lent churches could order up to 100 free door hangers and invitation cards printed with specific local church information. Churches could also edit a free 23 second customizable video to use online and in social media as part of their Easter advertising. In ad-

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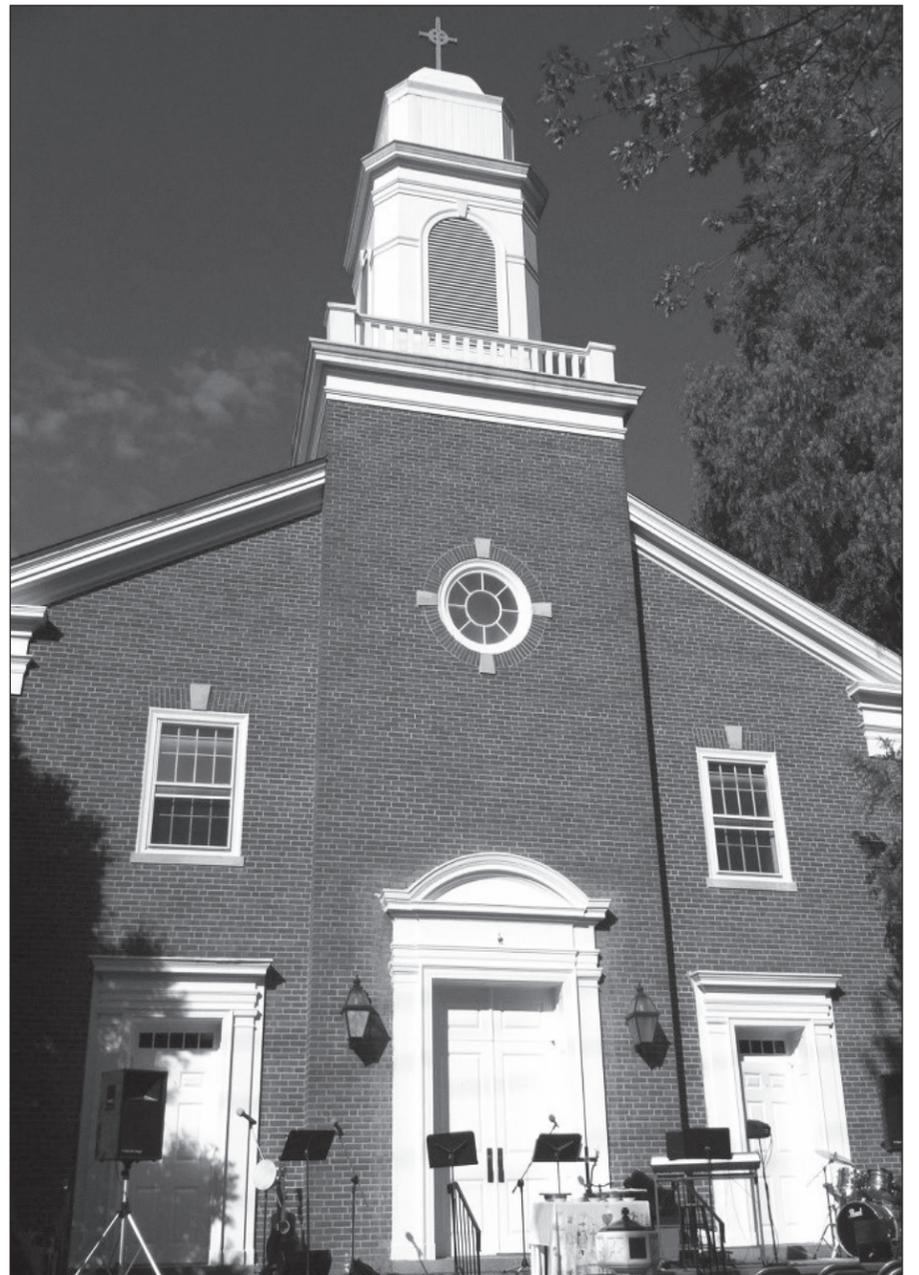
dition to the free resources, churches can also choose to participate in a low-cost direct mail program through UMCOM.

Cranford is one of two churches in Greater New Jersey that have received these grants. This past Advent season, First UMC in Wildwood Crest was awarded a Rethink Church Digital Advertising Grant as well.

The next opportunity to apply for a UMCOM digital advertising grant will come this August when applications become available for the 2016 Advent season.

To qualify for a digital advertising grant, applicants must have a working, welcoming church website that clearly indicates UMC affiliation. Applicants must also agree to use UMCOM's pre-designed ads. Applications must be received at least two months prior to the target date preference. The church also must complete a follow-up evaluation after the completion of advertising gauging the success of the grant and if there was any increase in attendance during the campaign.

More information on Rethink Church Digital Advertising Grants is available at <http://www.umcom.org/services-products/digital-advertising-grants>.



Photos Supplied

Cranford UMC received a digital advertising grant from UMCOM.

United Methodist Homes of New Jersey is now...



## United Methodist Communities

Abundant Life for Seniors

As a leader in senior living and wellness, we have met the needs of our communities, residents and families for 109 years. While our faith-based values remain constant, we have broadened our ministry to include home and community based services, reaching seniors wherever they live. For a complete listing of our communities, visit [UMCommunities.org](http://UMCommunities.org) and discover the innovative ways we can support your loved one.



[www.UMCommunities.org](http://www.UMCommunities.org)

Affordable Senior Living | Independent Living  
Residential Living | Assisted Living  
Memory Support | Respite | Short-Term Rehab  
Skilled Nursing | Hospice



## United Methodist Homes of New Jersey is Now United Methodist Communities

NEPTUNE, N.J. — Throughout its 109 year history as a leader in senior living and care, United Methodist Homes of New Jersey has grown and changed to reflect the needs of its communities, residents and families. In response to numerous initiatives, the organization has changed its name to *United Methodist Communities* and adopted the tagline, *Abundant Life for Seniors*.

What's behind the new name? The word "Communities" speaks to engagement with older adults in many locations and reaching seniors wherever they may live, to improve community health and wellness. It better describes current services and more effectively explains the mission and Strategic Plan, which focus on person-centered living and home and community-based services.

President and CEO, Lawrence D. Carlson, stated, "We have a more influential voice as a system of ten communities, versus ten individual communities. This will help build statewide impact and long-term name recognition."

Its larger statewide brand presence will be reflected in the ten sites, with the parent name placed first. The revised individual community names retain their heritage, but align with the parent organization; for example, the

East Orange community is now United Methodist Communities at Bishop Taylor. The others are: Bristol Glen (Newton), Collingswood (Collingswood), Covenant Place (Plainfield), Francis Asbury (Ocean Grove), PineRidge of Montclair (Montclair), Pitman (Pitman), The Shores (Ocean City), Wesley by the Bay (Ocean City), and The Wesleyan (Red Bank).

United Methodist Communities' new logo is derived from the roof shape of the previous logo. Expanding the shape into four richly-colored and connected houses in the form of a cross, conveys unity in mission, diversity, and faith-based roots and values. The four houses symbolize a colorful and rich tapestry of abundant life and point outward, indicating reach outside of its physical locations.

United Methodist Communities will continue to offer Independent, Residential and Assisted Living; Memory Support; Post-Acute Rehabilitation; Respite; Long Term Care; and Hospice. Its goal is to help seniors successfully age-in-place, whether they remain in their own homes or choose to live on one of the 10 campuses across New Jersey.

For additional information call United Methodist Communities at 732-922-9800 or visit on the web at [UMCommunities.org](http://UMCommunities.org).

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## GNJ Pastor Tokpah Bishop Finalist In Liberia

By Jeff Wolfe

Rev. David Tokpah returns to his native Liberia each year to attend that area's annual conference. The next time he goes back he may become its bishop.

Tokpah, currently the pastor at New Covenant UMC in Hamilton, N.J., was one of two episcopal candidates to emerge from the voting process in February at the 183rd Liberia Annual Conference. The final vote will be taken when 80 delegates from the West Africa Central Conference meet in December to decide who will replace retiring Liberia Bishop John Innis starting in January of 2017.

The process of Tokpah becoming a bishop started a few years ago. In 2011, he was first approached by friends in Liberia with the idea, but he wasn't so sure then. Last year he was asked about it again, and said he felt ready to move forward.

When results from the first ballots were announced last month, he was the

top vote getter. In the final vote, he finished second, making him one of the two nominees for Liberia. The other nominee is Rev. Samuel Quire, administrative assistant to Bishop Innis.

"I was very surprised," Tokpah said of the voting. "Especially since I don't live there. But I have been in touch with several clergy and laity for the past four years. For any job in the church, I think you have to have what I call some kind of stomach feeling to know that it is the right thing to do. I have been praying about it a lot."

In the February voting, 13 clergy were nominated for bishop in the first round. Ten were eliminated after the first vote. The next day, Quire won the second round with 581 votes, Tokpah netted 509 votes. According to nominating rules, the Rev. James Labala, with 429



TOKPAH

*Photo provided*  
**The election process for bishop in Liberia started with 13 candidates. GNJ's Rev. David Tokpah emerged as one of two finalists.**

votes, was eliminated from the process but could be nominated on the central conference floor in Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire, in December.

Tokpah said having a day between the votes allowed others to rally support for him.

"I am humble and happy because I think this was God's doing," he said. "I did not expect to be in the top five or so. At Annual Conference, people began to group themselves to talk to other churches on my behalf."

Tokpah also pointed out that the United Methodist Bishop in Liberia is not only a religious leader, but a political leader, too. Current Liberian President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf and several of her cabinet members are United Methodist as well.

"It is almost like a political process where you have to answer questions about what you think of this issue or that issue," Tokpah said of the election process. "The politicians of the country are very concerned about who is going to lead the church after the bishop retires. They count on the bishop to get support from the people."

One issue Tokpah has talked about is churches in Africa becoming less dependent on outside financial support for

building and capital projects.

"One thing I am very passionate about is that even though the church is growing in Africa, leaders need to look at how to sustain it," he said. "Once you get a grant from the government, then it is not free. You have to pay for it one way or another. One thing I would like to see the church in Africa do is have at least 50 or 60 percent of their own funding for projects."

Tokpah said the way GNJ Bishop John Schol is leading the rebuilding efforts after Superstorm Sandy with A Future With Hope helps him believe that Africa can do something similar with its building projects.

"As a church, we are living into Bishop Schol's vision for a conference after a national disaster," Tokpah said. "It shows we can do something. That's one thing that other conferences can learn from."

Tokpah says he wouldn't be able to do the job of bishop without support from his wife, Jestina.

"If you are elected in Liberia it is difficult to say you can lead the church alone," he said. "The culture is quite different from here and you are dealing with all kinds of issues. You are looking at spiritual, political and social issues. At the end of the day, you need someone you can talk to."

## Making New Disciples: A Conversation with Trey Wince

Earlier this year, Trey Wince, took on the position of Director of New Disciples on the Connectional Ministries team. The Relay staff caught up with him to find out what he's been up to since he joined the team:

**Relay:** What does "Making a New Disciple" mean to you? How does that fit into GNJ's strategic plan?

**Trey:** It's interesting that the word "disciple" has its roots in the idea of being a "learner." If I'm not careful, I can sometimes get caught up in the "momentous" aspect of becoming a disciple of Jesus - as if discipleship is a switch that we flip once and then move on to the more important matters of faith. Learning about the person of Jesus and the endless implications that his life, death, and resurrection have on my life is, well...an ongoing process. That's what making a new disciple is. It's a process.

Making new disciples is the key to fulfilling our mission of supporting vital congregations that will transform the world. We're also launching new faith communities and helping our congregations become more comfortable with the idea of sharing our faith stories. If we take the process of making new disciples seriously, practice the sometimes-difficult task of articulating that process to others, and look toward our surrounding neighborhoods, I think GNJ's strategic goals will follow. More people will become interested in becoming fellow learners, our churches will begin to grow, our small groups will attract more meaningful conversations. All in all, I'm excited to watch and support new, creative initiatives all across our conference.

**Relay:** What is the difference between making new disciples and evangelism?

**Trey:** Simply put, "evangelism" is the act of sharing our faith. Often, we only think of that as telling our testimony, and while that is part of things, there's much more to it. We are telling a story about what we believe in EVERYTHING we do. Day to day, that means the way we treat people in checkout lines and interstates actually says something about what we think of God (which isn't always so good). On Sundays, our churches are not just sharing their faith from the pulpit. They're telling their stories of faith in the way they hang signage for newcomers, clean their facilities, and welcome people from the moment they pull into the parking lot. Like I said, EVERYTHING we do is an act of evangelism.

We make new disciples when we practice good evangelism. When we



*Photo by James Lee*

**Trey Wince, Director of Making New Disciples**

share what we say we believe about God in everything we do, people are infinitely more likely to join us as fellow disciples: to commit to a life of learning from and following Jesus Christ. Things like a prayer of commitment, baptism, church membership, and increased involvement in the Church's mission are all signs of new discipleship.

Bottom line, I think the evangelism and discipleship almost can't happen apart from each other. Churches that practice good evangelism grow. Time and time again, churches' best evangelists are their "newest, new disciples." It turns

out that people who have recently experienced the radical grace and love offered by Jesus can't help but tell their friends!

**Relay:** GNJ's strategic plan has a goal of 90 new faith communities. What is a new faith community?

**Trey:** Great question! I have to admit that I panicked a little when I saw the number "90", but by "new faith communities" we mean variety of things. A church who begins a new worship service is beginning a new faith community. Same goes for the church that launches a second or third site. Calvary UMC in East Brunswick is a Korean speaking congregation that has begun actively empowering their younger members to lead in new ways. In the process, they have supported the launch of Greenhouse Church which is already planning to launch a second campus! Over and over again, we see that the churches who go through the hard work of launching new faith communities get better and better at it.

I also feel like our "Communities of Hope" will serve as new faith communities as they begin to grow and develop around New Jersey. This helps prevent us from being too laser-focused on new

churches when it might be a better investment to simply help our healthiest congregations expand their ministries further into their surrounding areas.

**Relay:** What kinds of new faith communities have we started and are they successful?

**Trey:** By far, the most common way of launching a new faith community has been through new worship services, and yes, many have been quite successful! Last fall, Kingston UMC went through the hard work of establishing a new worship service focused on their community's unchurched population. Since launch, their Sunday attendance has increased nearly 40%! In my (humble) opinion, just about every healthy and growing congregation in Greater New Jersey should be, in the very least, exploring the possibility of a new worship service in the coming years. Oftentimes, it creates stress on a congregation to make significant changes to an existing worship service. However, a completely new worship service can be designed to connect with a new demographic in the area without infringing any longstanding traditions. Interestingly, even when the

*Continued on page 11*

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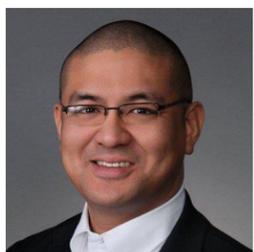


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# Teen Sisters Put Faith in Action Through Service

By Paige Chant  
pchant@morrowchurch.org

For Brooke and Brittany Boetticher, commitment to service seems to run in the family. The two teenage sisters, first began serving their community by donating canned goods as a part of their Sunday school program at Hurdstown United Methodist Church of Lake Hopatcong. Soon they were making sandwiches for the Bridge Run and collecting donations for the food pantry at the grocery store.

"I have taught them that we are here to help each other," said Janet Boetticher, the girls' mother. "It is not all about us, that we are God's children and this is what he wants us to do. They love it so much and are excited to help others."

Now, after dedicating countless hours of time and effort to their local community, both Brooke and Brittany have been honored with awards for their service.

Brooke Boetticher, a student at Cen-

tenary College, was recently awarded the Don Brown Memorial Scholarship for her volunteer service and commitment to CUMAC, a non-profit organization in Paterson that works to alleviate hunger in local communities.

The Don Brown Memorial Scholarship is an educational award of \$500 to students who are pursuing a career in ministry, human services, or a related field. Eligible applicants must be high school seniors or current college students, and they must show a commitment to CUMAC's mission "to feed people and change lives."

Brooke was awarded the scholarship at the 18th Annual HELP Dinner and Silent Auction, an annual fundraising event that honors CUMAC's supporters and volunteers.

"My volunteer work has allowed me to see that even though my life has difficulties, there are many more people who

need help even more than I do," said Brooke. "It also helps me realize just how many people are helping me out, and helps me appreciate the blessings and help that I have much more."

Brittany Boetticher, a freshman at Jefferson Township High School, recently was named "Top Youth Volunteer of the Year" by her high school as a part of the Prudential Spirit of Community Awards.

As a Girl Scout, Brittany leads a troop for younger Girl Scouts whose families face financial hardship and are therefore unable to pay the traditional membership fees. She also worked with fellow Girl Scouts to restore a local campfire pit at a town camp, which earned her the Silver Award, the second highest honor the Girl Scouts of America bestows and the highest award that a Girl Scout Cadette can earn.

Brittany's service work extends to several other community organizations,

including Operation Christmas Child, a project of Samaritan's Purse International Relief, the Jefferson Township Municipal Alliance, and, like her sister Brooke, CUMAC.

"Volunteering makes me feel good knowing that I am actually making a difference in the lives of children in my community and even around the world," said Brittany. "Each time I volunteer, I learn something new."

For both sisters, their commitment to service has been inspired by their United Methodist faith. Their upbringing and involvement in the Hurdstown UMC community has taught them the importance of serving others.

"I remember learning, when I was confirmed, that an integral part of being a United Methodist is one's service," Brooke said. "It's something that I feel I need to do to share God's love with people."

## Trey Wince

Continued from page 9

new worship service doesn't quite pan out, churches are left better off for having asked important questions about how to connect with the neighborhood.

**Relay:** I have an idea about starting a new worship service, a satellite campus or a new faith community. How do I get started?

**Trey:** SO GLAD YOU ASKED! We want to get *really* good at this, so we're doing our best to make launching new faith communities as clear and well-supported a process as possible. In fact, we've just assembled a 10 step "Pathway to Planting" outline that will give pastors a good idea for what to expect. The first

step is really easy, though...just email me at [twince@gnjumc.org](mailto:twince@gnjumc.org)

**Relay:** How will you be able to help GNJ get to its goals of building new faith communities and making new disciples?

**Trey:** Before I get too far into plans and strategies, I should say that nothing's moving forward if God doesn't want it to, so we'll need to keep a listening ear out for wherever God is pointing us. That said, I think we need to begin actively working church development into our way of thinking. Instead of "survival mode," we need to shift imaginations toward the possibilities of new communities, new locations, and new methods of connection with new faces. This stuff is contagious, and once a few leaders begin launching new faith communities, it will inspire the entire conference to join in.

## OBITUARIES

**Gladys F. Hulitt**, widow of former retired elder Rev. Daniel Heulitt, died on March 15. A service will be held on April 23, at 1 p.m. at Centre Square Union UMC, 2180 Centre Square Road, Swedesboro, NJ 08085.

Memorial donations (in lieu of flowers) may be sent to: Good Samaritan Center at 433 W. 5th Street

Waconia, MN 55387 or Centre Square Union UMC C/O Rev. Daehyun Park at 7 Church Street, Bridgeport, NJ 08014.

Expressions of sympathy may be sent to Dan Hullitt at 7830 Laketown Road, Waconia, MN 55387.

**Ruth P. Shannon**, spouse of former retired elder Frank Shannon, died on March 3. No service has been arranged at this time.

### THE CONNECTION

A blog on the 5 markers of vitality by the Connectional Ministries Team

[www.gnjumc.org/connection](http://www.gnjumc.org/connection)



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Feeding People • Changing Lives

In 2012, the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference stepped out in faith and made a bold commitment to the Mission Fund Campaign to raise \$2 million for Imagine No Malaria to save lives in Africa and \$7 million to help rebuild homes and lives for people who suffered devastating loss during Superstorm Sandy.



**ONE OFFERING WILL  
BE TAKEN AT ANNUAL  
CONFERENCE FOR THE  
MISSION FUND.**

All congregations are encouraged to share their gifts at this time.

**WE HAVE ALREADY:**

- saved 90,000 lives in Africa.
- rebuilt 204 homes.



**IMAGINE WHAT MORE  
WE CAN DO TOGETHER.**

Renew your congregation's  
commitment to the Mission Fund.

**FIND OUT MORE AT:**

[www.gnjumc.org/  
themissionfundcampaign](http://www.gnjumc.org/themissionfundcampaign)