

TABLETALK is a publication of The Rocky Mountain Conference Office of Communications
Information and Concerns of RMC Leadership, for RMC Leadership

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Conference News and Resources

Annual Conference Is Coming!

Annual Conference (AC) is coming June 13th-16th. The Marriott has no more rooms at the low contracted rate of \$69/night. The Radisson Hotel Denver Southeast, a short distance away by light rail train or car, has limited rooms at this same rate. Telephone reservations may be made at: 303-695-1700 or 800-333-3333 and ask for the group rate for the "United Methodist Church--Rocky Mountain Conference." Other News about Annual Conference is on the RMCUMC.org web, under Conference Information, Annual Conference 07.

The Radisson is at 3200 South Parker Road, Aurora , CO 80014, just across the street from the Nine Mile light rail station. You can use the new light rail system to go to the Marriott Denver Tech Center Hotel. A special timetable for your use will be available at the registration table. Fares are \$1.50 each way (.75 if you are over 65). Visit RTD-Denver.com for complete information.

We have added a map to the Radisson and a link to the Light Rail information to the Annual Conference 07 web page, under Conference Information.

Vans and Stories Needed At Annual Conference

The Annual Conference Diversity Committee is looking for a few GOOD VANS/BUSES, and qualified drivers for those vans/buses for Annual Conference in June. These can help people get to the Conference Special Meals and for any other Special Needs that are requested of us to make the Annual Conference a better experience.

The Annual Conference Diversity Committee is also looking for the GOOD, the BAD, the UGLY experiential stories from people willing to share, regarding diversity, racial acceptance and inclusiveness in written form or for the CD/DVD version via video. These stories (or portions of the stories) will be used for educational purposes to go with lesson DVDs each church will receive after Annual Conference.

Please contact Leaan Williams for van transportation and stories, 303-377-1454 (please leave detailed message and repeat phone number to receive return calls), leaans@hotmail.com (please note AC Trans or AC Stories in subject line so I can make sure they get through spam and junk mail protection).

Annual Conference Session Registration

If you have registration questions, contact Nancy Cox, 303-389-9455 or 800-536-3736x155 and she will be happy to help you. Early registration closes May 25; no special meals can be ordered after June 1.

Annual Conference Child-care

If you plan to sign up for child-care you need to do that as soon as you can. If you have used child-care in the past you should have received the forms, if not let us know. If you wish to use child-care for the first time please contact Tommy Gleaton, 303-756-1588; e-mail: tgle105463@aol.com.

The Annual Session Agenda

Skip Strickland, Director of Mission and Ministry writes, "You may have noticed the schedule for this year's session will be demanding. We need to do more work in a shorter period of time. Remember we will be electing delegates for General and Jurisdictional Conference. The actual agenda is a moving target, but remember the conference opens with a short plenary on Wednesday night, June 13th and the Opening Communion Worship service. The Conference will conclude on Sat. night June, 16th with the Service of Commissioning and Ordination.

"Watch for additional updates about 2007 Annual Conference Session. Please begin to pray for the success of this year's session."

Annual Conference Health Screening

The Rocky Mountain Conference Board of Pensions and Health Benefits invites you to stop by the Lupine Room during annual conference for your annual blood screening. This blood testing will enable you to complete the Health Risk Assessment for your annual \$150 healthy reward (for RMC clergy). How can you go wrong? This program is made possible by the General Board of Pensions and Health Benefits in conjunction with ProCheck Health Screening. This is free for all those enrolled in the conference health insurance; a reduced rate is available for all others wishing to have this testing done. More info on the Web.

Another Meal Opportunity At Annual Conference

Deacons' and Diaconals' Luncheon at Annual Conference, Thursday, June 14 at noon, Darcy's Restaurant and Pub, 4955 S. Ulster (within 3 blocks of the hotel on the west side of Ulster). \$20 (includes beverage and gratuity) Please make out checks to the Rocky Mountain Conference, and add Deacons' Luncheon on the notation line. Send them to RMCUMC, Attn. Nancy Cox, at the Conference Office. Questions? Contact Rev. Marla Kauerz, 303 797-7935 or mkauerz@earthlink.net Everyone is welcome!!

Fundraiser for Clergy Covenant Fund Coming Up

Annual Conference is fast approaching and now is the time to help us help each other. The copy below is for use as a bulletin insert and/or newsletter article to help us gain support for this worthwhile cause. We are asking each church to please take a moment and lift this up, so that the clergy covenant fund might grow and serve. If you have and questions or want to help contact me at: Paul Brunner pbrunner234@msn.com 303.279.2162 If you want to play in this fun and VERY relaxed tournament contact Bill Selby at integrit4u@comcast.net

Annual Conference Golf Tourney

Wed. June 13th, 7:30 am tee off time.

Sponsored by The Center for Pastoral Effectiveness

All proceeds go to the Clergy Covenant Fund.

The cost to play is \$125 each for golf, cart, food, prizes.

The Clergy Covenant Fund helps ministers and their families who come upon financial emergencies. Like the minister whose child developed a rare disease which required extensive travel and time off. This Fund serves those who spend their lives serving others.

NOW, if you don't play golf, or can't make it that day you can still help out by sponsoring a hole, one of the special contests or making a contribution to the fund. Contact Pastor {your name here} or Rev. Paul Brunner at 303.279.2162 pbrunner234@msn.com if you would like to play in the tournament or if you will support this worthwhile cause.

Future AC Dates

The dates and locations of the 2008 and 2009 Annual Conferences are: June 18-21, 2008, Denver Marriott Tech Center; June 17-20, 2009, Grand Junction Convention Center. By action of the 2006 Annual Conference, AC05, Annual Conferences will be held 3 out of 4 years in the Denver Metro area. The 2013 Conference will be held in Southern Colorado, with future alternate locations including Utah and Wyoming.

Holly Celebrates Easter after Tornado

by Terilynn Russ, pastor at LaJunta

Amid contradictions of remarkable assistance and continued hardship, Holly, Colorado residents celebrate the Easter season in the aftermath of a killer tornado.

At 8 p.m. on March 28, a tornado passed through without warning the center of Holly, a town of 1000. The National Weather Service determined the twister was an EF-3 (Enhanced Fujita Scale of tornado damage) with winds up to 150 mph. The storm left a path of destruction 600 feet wide and a mile long. Approximately 160 homes suffered at least some damage with 50 homes ruled unfit to live in. The United Methodist parsonage and the church were among them.

The winds exploded every window in the parsonage with one exception. The window next to Sheri Moorman's head remained intact, possibly saving her life. The Rev. Dave Moorman, pastor of Holly UMC, calls his wife's experience "just one of a thousand miracle stories" shared by survivors of the deadly tornado. Over 500 people found comfort in sharing their personal resurrection stories on Easter Sunday when the community gathered for worship in the Holly High School gymnasium. Read the rest of the story on the web: rmcumc.org/News/Holly

Conference Treasurer Position Open

Les Ludlam, President of the Conference Council on Finance and Administration announced this month that "effective April 26, 2007, Jack H. Ford no longer serves the Annual Conference as Treasurer/Director of Support Services/Pension Officer." The position is now formally open. A position description and application process is on the Church Resources->Jobs page on the RMCUMC.org web.

Until this position is filled, Pat Moore (Pat@rmcumc.com) will serve as Interim Treasurer and Donna Hite (Donna@rmcumc.com) will serve as Pension Officer.

If you have questions concerning the conference budget or financial and benefit petitions to be voted upon at Annual Conference you may contact any CF&A member. If there are any Trustee-related issues or questions, please contact Rev. Stephanie Muñoz (scmunoz@comcast.net) or me. Contact Les at lludlam@wyoming.com.

Conference CF&A Church Tithe Proposed

CF&A has worked for several years on how to improve the connection with local churches to help them understand how their money is being used. We have also been concerned about the complexity of the existing apportionment formula and its vulnerability to inaccuracies in local church annual expense reports.

Along with a new budget, CF&A is proposing a new approach to apportionments in petition AC03. If AC03 is approved, instead of apportioning on the basis of 2 year-old expense data, apportionments starting January 2008 will be a tithe (10%) plus second-mile giving (1%) based on a local church's adjusted gross revenue on a monthly basis. This petition represents a step forward in faith and a culture shift in how we work together to fund our common ministries. Its success will depend upon local church willingness to participate in this change to a tithing basis for giving. AC03 is on the web: [Conference Information->Annual Conference 07](#).

Invite Folks In!

In a new initiative, the Conference Communications Committee has purchased time on a new radio show called "Jazz and the Spirit" which will be starting Sunday morning June 3 (7:00 a.m.) on Smooth Jazz 104.3, heard in the Denver Metro Area from Longmont to Monument, and on the World Wide Web. The Communications Committee is doing this as a pilot project, looking at perhaps repeating this type of advertising in other major markets of the Conference.

Your church is invited to consider purchasing one or more of these times in the coming six-month period. There are three available per week. The content could be Igniting Ministry radio spots, perhaps tied in with the theme of a national series done by United Methodist Communications, with customized tag lines.

If you want to participate, contact Ben@rmcumc.com, one of the staff for the Communications Committee, and say when you would like your announcement to air, and what you would like to say in addition to your church's name. As part of your participation, we would like you to cover the cost of your announcements: \$50/60-seconds. If cost is an issue, please call or write Ben at the Conference office.

With the program on the World Wide Web, folks in the entire Conference (and around the world) can listen here: www.smoothjazzdenver.com/home/listenlive.html You have to register to listen, but you can opt out of the contests and e-mail choices if you wish.

Adam Morgan, producer of the new show, says that Jazz composers and lyricists have had a connection with faith for a long time, and that this weekly show celebrates this connection. He is excited that the Methodist voice will be heard!

Ethics Education Task Force Urges Response

The Conference Ethics Education Task Force is trying to plan for a new round of training experiences as a result of the legislation passed at the 2006 Annual Conference session, AC11. There are still a number of churches who have not responded to several e-mails requesting number of employees and hosting possibilities. Since Petition AC11 was amended in Legislative Committee to mandate a workshop on Ethics and Sexual Misconduct for all employees in every ministry setting, at least once in every four years, the Task Force needs to know how many employees each church has. In addition, the Task Force would like to know if your location can host one of the workshops at a date to be determined. If you or your church has not responded, please do so as soon as possible to Tommy Gleaton, Chair, at TGle105463@aol.com.

Missions News

Annual Conference Missions Parade Continues

This year again there will be a PowerPoint Missions Parade, to acknowledge and celebrate the mission work of the churches in the Rocky Mountain Conference. Please send Betsy Keyack a picture of one of the missions in which you are involved. Missions includes helping another church, serving in your local community, supporting a mission with monetary or in-kind donations, having a covenant relationship with a United Methodist missionary, or taking a mission trip. Pictures can be emailed to Betsy at bkeyack@att.net or mailed to her at 10317 S. Charissglen Circle, Highlands Ranch, CO 80126.

Bridge of Love News!

Thank you, Churches of the Rocky Mountain Conference for your generous gifts. The need continues and we ask for your help to make a step forward. The mission project, "Bridge of Love", has collected more than \$37,000.00 in the past four years. As sponsors of this mission project, the Board of Lay Ministry expresses appreciation for your generous response.

Again this year we ask you to promote the "Bridge of Love" offering in your churches and bring to the 2007 Annual Conference. The loose change offering will be received at the Plenary Session Thursday, evening, June 14, 7 P. M. The offering will be divided between the two Angola Conferences for the medical needs of their children. Thank you, churches of Rocky Mountain Conference! Wouldn't it be great to raise \$13,000.00 this year bringing our total to \$50,000.00! Contact Judy Hill with questions, 970-358-4389 or e-mail Hillej@plains.net.

Volunteering at Holly

Any work teams interested in going to Holly to help with tornado clean up can contact the Holly Volunteer Center at 719-537-6047. All volunteer efforts are being coordinated through this number. They like at least a couple of days notice from work teams. Jayne Adams, the Bishop's Executive Assistant, is collecting names and numbers for work teams who may want to participate in longer-term work there. Contact her at Jayne@rmcumc.com or 303-733-0083. More at rmcumc.org/News/Holly

"Nothing But Nets" Program - Slam Dunk for Angola

The program to fight malaria through the "Nothing But Nets" Program now has the possibility of sending the treated malaria nets to Angola, where the Rocky Mountain Conference has a special covenant relationship

with two United Methodist Conferences. In discussions with the leadership for the program we can designate the funds to be used for distributing the nets throughout Angola. Contributions may be sent to Rocky Mountain Conference and on the memo line put "Angola-Nets". Churches and individuals are able to receive Conference Advance Special credit. As the money is received it will be sent through the United Nations Foundation to the World Health Organization in Angola for purchase of the malaria treated nets. Find out all about this program here: rmcumc.org/News/Communications/NbN.htm and here: www.umc.org/nets/

The Conference Community

Prayer Concerns and Caring For The Conference Community

Prayer Concerns are offered for the Clergy and Lay Members and leadership of the Annual Conference and their immediate families, as a way to nurture the community of the Annual Conference. Prayer concerns are listed on the Prayer Concerns pages on the Conference web site: RMCUMC.org/Community. More information about each of these named is on those pages. Please keep in your prayers:

- the parsonage family at Montrose, **Mark and Beth Marston** and their children **Rachel** (10) and **Kelly** (7). Kelly has been diagnosed with leukemia and flown to Children's Hospital in Denver. Expressions of care may be sent to them c/o First UMC, 19 S. Park Ave., Montrose, CO 81401 or pastor@montroseumc.org.
- **Tim Cook**, lay member from St. Paul's, Boulder, whose father Bill is experiencing pain and difficulty breathing, due to lung cancer and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD). Expressions of care may be sent to Tim at tmnsan@netzero.com.
- **Friends and family of Eula Redenbaugh**, long-time lay member of the Rocky Mountain Conference, who died Monday, May 14. A memorial service was held May 22nd at First UMC Boulder.
- The **people of Holly, Colorado and Greensburg, Kansas** and surrounding area, who have suffered tornado devastation. Visit rmcumc.org/News/Holly for much more information.
- **Mary Woods**, retired clergy and her son Allan. Mary has moved into an assisted living facility, due to declining health and her elder son, Allan, has had emergency aorta surgery. Mary also fell recently. Expressions of care to Post Office Box 4784, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87196, or EhenWoo@aol.com.
- **Doris Greenwood**, retired RMC clergy, living in Grand Junction, is recovering from a minor stroke. Expressions of care may be sent to her at 2237 Idella Court, Grand Junction CO 81501.
- **Jeff Rainwater**, pastor of Center and Saguache UMC, whose grandmother has died. Expressions of care can be sent to pastorjeff@centurytel.net.
- **Mac McGrew**, pastor at Ordway (and moving to Casper Christ) who is recovering from surgery. Expressions of care can be sent to pastormac@clergy.net or 116 West 4th Street, Ordway, CO 81063.

Thanksgivings

- **Kathy Smith**, associate minister at Hilltop UMC, Sandy, UT, gives thanks for all the prayers lifted up for her grandson Jesse, who developed bleeding in the brain. His last report was that it was stopped and there was no damage. Celebrate with her at KathySmithHUMC@aol.com.
- **Lu Wilson**, retired RMC clergy, expresses her thanks for letters and cards of support during her recent hip surgery. She is recovering well and can be reached at vlwilson@yahoo.com.

Appointments

Updated appointment list on web: rmcumc.org/CHI/Journal/Appointments.htm

Effective July 1:

- **Al Strauss** is appointed to the San Juan Cooperative Parish serving as pastor at First UMC in Cortez.
- **Lynn Evans** will retire June 30 as previously announced.
- **Jerry Hershops** will be appointed associate minister to St. Andrew UMC. Jerry has been serving St. Andrew as a student local pastor.
- **Fred Amborn** is appointed to Yellowstone Annual Conference to serve Grace UMC in Livingston, Montana and Shields Valley UMC in Clyde Park.
- **Susan Otey** to Grace United Methodist Church in Billings, Montana. Susan graduates from Iliff School of Theology June 1. She will be commissioned at the 2007 Rocky Mountain Conference annual session.
- **Gary Haddock** is appointed to Redlands UMC in Grand Junction.

- **Pam Everhart** will be appointed to First UMC, Fort Collins as an Associate. As was previously announced **Joyce Curtis**, who formerly served as First UMC's Associate, has retired.
- **Kay Krebs** will begin as supply pastor to Deer Park UMC.
- **Spring Erickson**, a recent Iliff graduate, will be appointed to the Fleming/LeRoy charge of the Northeast Colorado Cooperative Parish.
- **Deb Edwards**, currently finishing studies at Claremont School of Theology is appointed to Cedaredge Community UMC. Deb will be commissioned toward Elders Orders at this Annual Conference.
- **Pete Meese** has been appointed to the UMC in Cody, Wyoming in the Yellowstone Conference.
- **Thomas Cross** is appointed to Broomfield UMC as an Associate.
- **Larry Paulson** will be appointed to Ellicott.
- **Gene Raiford**, Iliff student completing his first year, will supply Simla UMC.
- **William (Mac) McGrew** will be appointed to the Christ United Methodist Church in Casper.
- **Meghan Feldmeyer** to an extension ministry as Worship Coordinator of the Duke University Chapel
- **Atamani Longolongofolau** is appointed as a part-time local pastor to ToAeOfa UMC in Kearns, Utah. Atamani has been serving this congregation as lay supply pastor.
- **Chuck Cram**, currently serving Aspen Community UMC is appointed to Oakridge UMC in Oakridge, Oregon in the Oregon/Idaho Conference.

Towaoc Ute Mountain Church Burned

The congregation at the Towaoc Ute Mountain Presbyterian Church on the Ute Mountain Ute Reservation has lost its church building due to a fire that was set early Thursday morning, April 26. The church is a Presbyterian Church (USA) mission and is a part of the San Juan United Parish served by RMC clergy Bud Rousset.

One of the areas where the fire was started was the altar. The building has suffered extensive damage but there were no injuries. Because the fire was an obvious arson, the FBI is investigating. Please keep this congregation in your prayers as they deal with this event. Notes of encouragement may be sent to remetha@qwest.net or to Bud Rousset, PO Box 1016, Cortez, CO 81321. Visiting this web site to learn more: www.utemountainute.com.

The Ute Tribe, the Presbyterians, and the United Methodists of the San Juan United Parish are committed to rebuilding the church. A native language service on Sunday mornings and a UMC service on Sunday nights will now be held in the community center in Towaoc. There is some insurance money but it will not cover all the cost. Donations may be made through the San Juan United Parish, Towaoc Mission, Remetha Gustafson Treasurer, P.O. Box 1016, Cortez, CO. 81421. If you are interested in work team help, you may contact Remetha, and she will have Bud get in touch with you later in May, or check with the UMVIM coordinators (see web address 65.110.74.16) for more information.

E. Fred Sullivan Dies

E. Fred Sullivan, retired local pastor who served the Beulah UMC from 1993 - 2004, died on Friday, May 4. He was a veteran, serving in WWII in the Navy. He was active in Lions Clubs and Masons. His obituary is on the Conference Prayers Page: rmcumc.org/Community/YaBB.pl?num=1178420316. Expressions of care for his spouse Gloria Sullivan and their family may be sent to 4334 36th Lane, Avondale, CO 81022.

William Davis Dies

William A. Davis, retired RMC clergy serving as a missionary in China died May 2. He retired from the Rocky Mountain Conference in 2004. His service with the Rocky Mountain Conference was at Community College of Denver, Las Animas, and the McCurdy School. He was on assignment in China when he retired and continued to serve there after retirement. In lieu of flowers the family asks memorials to the charity of your choice. He is survived by former spouse Vineta Davis of 13257 E. Nevada Ave, Aurora, CO 80012, and several children. Condolences may be sent to the family at the following e-mail address: colocoug@hotmail.com.

Pueblo Churches Merge

As of May 16, 2007, St. Paul UMC, Pueblo merged with Wesley UMC, Pueblo. St. Paul history goes back to 1885 when Mesa Methodist Church was organized as a mission. Wesley UMC was organized in 1890. Neither church is new to mergers; both have experienced several in their histories, including United Brethren; Evangelical Church; Evangelical United Brethren; African Methodist Episcopal; Methodist Episcopal, South; and a Japanese congregation. The new congregation retains characteristic, and physical reminders of all. Rev. Kim James serves Wesley UMC and Rev. Larry Paulson will join in pastoral leadership until June 30, 2007. Rev. Skip Strickland, Director of Mission and Ministry, represented the Conference at the ceremony.

Help and Prayers Asked For Kenyan Methodist Elder

Handi Jo Dolloff-Holt, pastor of Trinity UMC in Kearns, UT, writes:

"Many of us in the Utah churches have been blessed by the ministry of Rev. Alice Kairigi and her family. Rev. Kairigi is an ordained elder in the Methodist Church of Kenya. Bishop Mary Ann Swenson ordained her in June of 2000 as a courtesy to the Bishop of Kenya. Alice and her husband Moses are in the United States on a student visa, Alice from Kenya and Moses from Uganda. They both returned to Kenya in April for the funeral of her father. She was granted a visa to return with their three children. They expected Moses would be granted his as well, however his visa was denied by the American Consulate in Uganda.

"To help our colleague, Trinity United Methodist Church, Kearns, & Christ United Methodist Church, Salt Lake City, are co-sponsoring a benefit concert to raise funds to help pay for the cost of childcare while Alice finishes her doctorate at the University of Utah. While most of you will not be able to attend, I am asking for your support. If you and/or your churches can make a donation, please make it payable to Christ United Methodist Church, 2375 East 3300 South, Salt Lake City, Utah 84109. Please add the Kairigi to your prayers as well." Flyer: rncumc2.org/News/KairigiFundRaiser.pdf

Kairigi Family Benefit Concert, June 3, 2007 at 6 PM
Christ United Methodist Church, 2375 East 3300 South, Salt Lake City, UT

Music by: Christ UMC Graceworx Band, The Wesley Bell Ringers, Trinity UMC Tongan Choir, Mountain Vista UMC Choir and Praise Band, and others. A love offering will be taken during the concert. If you would like to contribute and cannot attend the concert, please make checks payable to Christ United Methodist Church and put Kairigi in the memo of your check. Please contact Rev. Handi Jo Dolloff-Holt for further information. (801) 968-6891 trinityumcpastor@qwest.net

Rickards To Be Honored

A memorial service for Rev. Harold Rickard will be held at 10:00 am June 21, 2007 at Golden First UMC. Harold was partner in marriage with Margaret Bauman Rickard, father of five, pastor in rural Vermont, United Methodist missionary to Okinawa and Japan for 31 years following WWII, and a life-long advocate on justice and peace issues, working through the Rocky Mountain Annual Conference of the UMC since returning to the U.S. from Japan in 1982. The letter that will be mailed to family and friends around the world is on the RMCUMC.org Bulletin Board under Church and Society: rncumc.org/Community/YaBB.pl?num=1179876046

Positions Available

If you or a friend of yours is interested in working for a church, visit rncumc.org/CR/Jobs/
Recent postings include:

Utensil Sanitization Machine Operator, Buckhorn Camp (posted 5/22/07)
Childcare Coordinator, Burns Memorial UMC, Aurora (posted 5/22/07)
Director of Children and Family Ministries, Lakewood UMC (posted 5/22/07)
Administrative Assistant, First UMC, Castle Rock (posted 5/18/07)
Worship Leader, Blended Worship, SonRise UMC, Pueblo West (posted 5/18/07)
Administrative Assistant, First UMC, Castle Rock (posted 5/18/07)
Worship Leader, Blended Worship, SonRise UMC, Pueblo West (posted 5/18/07)
Contemporary Worship Music Director, Wheat Ridge UMC (posted 5/8/07)



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of The United Methodist Church
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TableTalk Publication and Subscription Information

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Archives of the 2007 RMCUMC News posts are here: rmcumc.org/News/Communications/news.htm

TableTalk is edited by Ben Roe, Information Administrator. The next TableTalk will be published via e-mail in late June and sent a few days later by US Postal Service bulk mail. It will contain items sent prior to the date of publication. To subscribe to TableTalk, send an e-mail (or a postcard) with your name, church, and e-mail address to ben@rmcumc.com or the address above.