



Together in Mission and Ministry

News from the Greenwood District



LOVE NOTES

TAKING CARE IN THE NEW YEAR



Rev. Dr. Stephen L. Love
District Superintendent

²⁸“Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. ²⁹Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

Matthew 11:28-30

I was recently reminded that those of us who serve can easily get so involved in serving God and others that often we neglect to care for ourselves. I have witnessed this also happens to those who are caregivers and civil servants in our communities. Sometimes our lives can be filled with so much that we need help and Jesus has invited us to lighten our load by coming to him.

Today as we have just begun another conference year, we celebrate the ministries of our local churches of the Greenwood District. I know that we have been challenged in many ways and yet we have continued to support ministries beyond the walls of our churches. I encourage each of us to continue to seek God’s guidance as we serve our respective communities. I have heard about blessing boxes, community gardens, VBS, grief ministries, and children and youth ministries which are thriving.

I also want to encourage us to remain faithful and stretch ourselves in supporting missional givings through our apportionments. Currently, we are just over 30% of our apportionments and we are beginning the second half of our year. I ask that we pray and seek

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- 2023-2024 Set-up Meeting
- Annual Conference Information and Links
- 2023 Charge Conference Information

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God's guidance as we take a look at our budgets now and share this invitation with our congregations to make a special effort to give monthly so that we may reach our goal. Let us all commit to do more than we have done before. I am asking that we each reach beyond our figures for last year beginning now. Thank you for making the effort now as we improve the lives of others.

"Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest..." Let us care for ourselves as we serve this present age. Let us remember to continue to lift one another up in prayer.

We have had some transitions in pastoral leadership and I would like to welcome the following pastors to the Greenwood District: Rev. Dr. Laura Canine Parrish - Central, Newberry; Rev. Jason Wilson - St. Mark Greenwood; Joie Rogers Epworth/Springdale Charge, Kathy Cinnamond - Hopewell/Sharon Charge. We pray for all pastors who have served in these places and now for those who come to lead our congregations forward.

We also pray for the pastors and churches who are no longer a part of our denomination but continue to serve faithfully in their specific communities. In our district please pray for: Rev. Bob Huggins - Butler/Shiloh; Rev. Nels Ledwell - McCormick; Rev. Cheryl Remchuck-Hodges.

Grace and peace,



Rev. Dr. Stephen L. Love
District Superintendent



Happy Birthday

July 4: Ben Barnett
 July 7: Carissa Taylor (Patrick)
 July 20: Jesse Rogers



July 25: Mitchell and Carol Wray
 July 27: Robby and Jennifer Lybrand

2023 APPORTIONMENTS UPDATE

We are half-way through 2023 so we would expect to see that churches have paid at least 50% of their 2023 apportionments. As you can see from the information below, some churches are behind that 50% mark.

Here is the apportionment update as of July 5, 2023

- 100% - 5 churches
- 75-99% - 2 church
- 50-74% - 20 churches
- 25-49% - 21 churches
- 1-24% - 4 churches
- 0% - 22 Churches



ANNUAL SET-UP MEETING

Our annual set-up meeting is set for **August 10, 6:30 p.m.—8:30 p.m., at Johnston UMC, 471 Lee St., Johnson.** Mark your calendars now. You are reminded to keep this date clear. Please avoid scheduling vacations, side trips, etc., that would interfere with your attending this first clergy meeting of the 2023-2024 Conference Year.



Regularly check the [Greenwood District](#) webpage for up-to-date information, especially for 2023 Charge Conference information.



NEW HOPE UMC Golf Tournament

August 19, 2023

Be on the lookout for more details!

ATTENTION!



Access to Charge Conference forms and reports will open in August. You are strongly encouraged to begin working on gathering information for your reports now (e.g., Nominations and Leadership, demographics for the Pastor's Report).

CHARGE CONFERENCE TRAINING

- WHEN:** August 20, 2023; 3:00 p.m.—4:30 p.m.
- WHERE:** Goff Hall (multi-purpose room), Rivers St. Campus, St. Mark UMC
- WHO:** Pastors, Church Admins/Secretaries; Committee Chairs—PPRC, Trustees, Finance, Membership, and any person with responsibility for completing a charge conference report.

[Up-to-Date Charge Conference Information](#)

Including the consultation and charge conference schedules, ministerial support form information, Charge Conference order of worship, Pastoral Consultation Form, and other important links.