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April 10, 2019

SOUL FOOD

In the Wilderness



Through prayerful reflection, we have changed our upcoming Annual Conference theme from “One in Ministry to All the World” to “Wilderness.” We do this, not because we do not believe that God’s Holy Spirit is making us one in ministry to all the world, but to acknowledge that we are not currently experiencing the God-given unity that exists through our faith and baptism. The recent General Conference has not left us

with a sense of oneness, unity, wholeness and connection. We are not feeling it. We are not witnessing it. It doesn’t mean it isn’t true, but that we are not currently experiencing this “Promised Land,” to which God is leading us. We are nowhere close to our Promised Land; we are together wandering in the wilderness.

READ MORE

LATEST CONFERENCE NEWS

ERT Training Scheduled for June 1 at New Lisbon: Winding Rivers UMC

The Emergency Response Team helps clean up after a natural disaster. Attend this training to learn the purpose of the ERT, safety, procedure, and how to speak to survivors. Cost is \$25.00, includes background check and lunch. Attendees must be 18 years old. Register online at www.etches.com/ert2019 or call Conference Registrar Kristy Yang at 608-837-7328.

Appleton: Emmanuel UMC Hosting Missionary Jean Pierre Ndour

Appleton Emmanuel UMC will be hosting a coffee hour for Pastor John Pierre Ndour, a missionary from Senegal, on April 12, 2019 at 10 a.m. All are welcome to come and hear how God is working in Senegal. [Find event details here](#). The Wisconsin Conference will be welcoming other missionaries this summer. To invite a missionary to your church, please contact [Ben Morris](#), Conference Mission Secretary.

Attend Annual Mission Luncheon at Annual Conference 2019

Persons with an interest in the mission activities of the Wisconsin Annual Conference are invited to attend the Annual Mission Luncheon on Sunday, June 16. To attend this luncheon, please contact Mary Balson by May 20, 2019. The cost of the luncheon is \$15. Persons who have purchased the meal plan for the Annual Conference cannot use their meal ticket for this luncheon.

CONNECTIONAL NEWS

Connectional Table Ponders Role Post-GC2019

As conversations happen across The United Methodist Church about possible denominational splits, the Connectional Table wants a place at the table. Heather Hahn reports on discussions within the body that coordinates the denomination's mission and ministry. [Read story.](#)

Opinion: 5 Reasons to Consider a U.S. Church

The U.S. church is the only member of the world Methodist family that doesn't have regional autonomy, writes the Rev. Mark Holland in a Mainstream UMC blog. Holland details five reasons it is time to consider some version of an autonomous U.S. church in the wake of General Conference 2019. [Read commentary.](#)

Groups Approve Plan to Divvy up Slashed Budget

After almost a week of sometimes tense conversation, the Connectional Table and General Council on Finance and Administration each approved allocations in a slashed budget. A big sticking point was the 35 percent budget cut for United Methodist Communications, which includes UMNews. Heather Hahn reports. [Read story.](#) [Read Connectional Table press release.](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Traces of the Trade: A Story from the Deep North

April 13, 2019 in Stevens Point. The Wisconsin Conference is joining with three other denominations to sponsor this event to promote healing across racial divides.

Strategies and Strengths Discovery Day for Planting New Ministries

May 7, 2019 at Bashford UMC. Sponsored by the New Ministries Strategy Board and the Office of Congregational Development for all graduates from the ICD program. Registration deadline: April 26.

2019 Summer Camp Programs

WIUMCamps offers a variety of programs throughout the summer for campers of different ages and interests. [Learn more.](#)

Annual Conference 2019

June 14-17, 2019 at the KI Convention Center in Green Bay, WI. Early bird registration ends May 17.

Bishop Jung's Interfaith Retreat and Bus Tour

July 12-13, 2019 in Madison, WI. Sponsored by the Wisconsin Conference Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Relationships. Registration deadline: July 8, 2019.

2019 Spiritual Formation Academy: Boundless Compassion in a Broken World

October 27 – November 1, 2019 at the Siena Retreat Center. Early registration ends July 1, 2019.

REMINDERS

Register for Blueprint for Wellness

All participants in the HealthFlex active health insurance plan are encouraged to sign up for the BluePrint for Wellness health check during Annual Conference. Register by June 1, 2019.

Submit Annual Conference Award Nominations

Nominations for Annual Conference Awards are now being accepted.

Celebrate Native American Ministries Sunday on May 5

When you support Native American Ministries Sunday, you equip seminary students who will honor and celebrate Native American culture in their ministries and you empower congregations that are finding fresh new ways to minister to their communities with the love of Christ. [Download Pastor and Leader's Kit](#).

Apply for a 2019 Summer Camp Staff Position

Wisconsin United Methodist Camps are hiring college students and graduating high school seniors. The summer season for staff is May 29 - August 16, 2019. More information at WIUMCamps.org/BestJobEver.

HELP WANTED

[UM Hospitals Ministry Chaplain \(Part Time\)](#)

[Director of Music and/or Organist/Pianist](#)

[Office Manager \(Part-Time\)](#)

[Music Ministry Coordinator \(Part-Time\)](#)

[Director of Children and Family Ministries \(Part-Time\)](#)

[Youth Ministry Coordinator \(Part-Time\)](#)

LOCAL ACTIVITIES

[Homemade Lasagna Dinner \(De Forest\) \(Sat Apr 13 @12:00AM\)](#)

[Traces of the Trade - Day of Discussion \(Stevens Point\) \(Sat Apr 13 @10:00AM\)](#)

[The Last Supper Recreation \(Marshfield\) \(Mon Apr 15 @ 7:00PM\)](#)

[View Full Calendar](#)

INPUT FOR ENEWS

If you have a Conference-related event, a hallelujah moment or a newsworthy story that you want included in ENEWS, or if you have a suggestion for ENEWS, contact: mediacontact@wisconsinumc.org. Please send your submissions by the Friday prior to the week you would like the information featured. Note that ENEWS is also posted weekly on the [Wisconsin Conference](#) website. If you experience a web problem after hours, please report the issue to 608-729-4349.



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