

View this newsletter online



April 24, 2019

Bishop Jung Denounces Acts of Violence in Sri Lanka

Terrorism in all its forms and functions is unacceptable and indefensible. The bombings on Easter Sunday in Sri Lanka are heinous acts of cowardice and terrorism. I call upon all my Christian brothers and sisters to join in mourning and prayer for the victims and their families. Additionally, I call upon our Wisconsin Conference to become a witness for peace, refusing to condone violence in any form, and seeking in all ways to extend love, grace, forgiveness, and merciful justice throughout our world. This is a heartbreaking and senseless tragedy for Easter Sunday, but we are a people of resurrection and new life. May we pray God's Spirit be with the people of Sri Lanka.

SOUL FOOD

The Other Side of Easter



While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. 'This', he said, 'is what you have heard from me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.'

Acts 1:4-5

With all that is happening in our denomination and in our Wisconsin Conference, we truly needed Easter to come this year to remind us of the great and glorious power God has for transformation and redemption. We stand in need of new life – new possibilities, new purpose, new hearts, and new minds. Easter brings us hope following despair, light following darkness, and promise following failure.

[READ MORE](#)

LATEST CONFERENCE NEWS

Winding Rivers UMC Leads Juneau Co Flood Relief, Receives UMCOR Grant

Winding Rivers United Methodist Church has been participating in the Juneau County flood relief and recovery efforts since day 1. They assisted with shelter, distributed supplies, and hosted Early Response Teams. As the situation changed from a relief effort to a recovery effort, they became more organized with community partners and have now accepted to lead recovery efforts. Throughout this process, the Wisconsin Conference Disaster Response Committee has been supporting the efforts with knowledge, flood buckets, Early Response Teams, finances, communication with UMCOR, and inviting UMCOR to train the Disaster Case Managers. UMCOR has approved a grant to Winding Rivers UMC for just under \$1.1 million dollars to assist with the flood recovery efforts. [Read UMCOR newsletter.](#)

Dinner Meeting to Focus on UMC Future

Friday evening, June 14, during the 2019 Annual Conference dinner break, Wisconsin UMs can hear from one of the Western Jurisdiction (WJ) leaders in the current dialog seeking to discern what new thing God may be seeking to birth. Rev. Mary K. Huycke will speak on *Future Possibilities for The United Methodist Church: a Western Jurisdiction Perspective*. [READ MORE](#)

Additional Pension Consultation Slots Added

Due to the large number of clergy who signed up for a Pension Consultation during Annual Conference, our Wespith consultant has agreed to add a few more slots on Friday and Saturday, June 14 and 15. These are open to clergy and lay employees of the annual conference who are considering retirement in the next five years. There are very limited time slots still available. [Register here](#). For more information, contact Jean Nicholas, Conference Benefits Officer at jean.nicholas@wisconsinumc.org.

Morrow Home Community Looking for Volunteers

Morrow Home Community, one of the Wisconsin Conference's Health and Welfare Ministries, is looking for volunteer drivers for their Meals in Motion program. The program delivers weekday noon meals to seniors in local homes. Drivers receive mileage and a meal. If interested, please call 269-3168 and ask for Renee Thurston.

Madison: First UMC Hosting Lyons Lecture on May 4

Madison: First UMC is hosting a lecture featuring Brian McLaren as part of their annual lecture series on Saturday, May 4 from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Brian McLaren is a renowned author, speaker, activist, and public theologian. A former college English teacher and pastor, he is a passionate advocate for “a new kind of Christianity” – just, generous, and working with people of all faiths for the common good. [Register here](#).

CONNECTIONAL NEWS

Top Court Meets in Aftermath of GC2019

The United Methodist Church's top court meets April 23-26 to review the Traditional Plan adopted by the special General Conference, along with an exit plan that would allow local churches to leave the denomination. Linda Bloom has the preview. [Read story](#)

REMINDERS

Register for 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. [READ MORE](#)

May 1 Deadline for Annual Conference Award Nominations

Nominations for the following Annual Conference Awards are now being accepted: Thelma W. Gregg, Harry Denman, Love in Action, Perry Saito, Francis Asbury and Lois C. Olsen “Ministry of Memory” Award. [READ MORE](#)

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. [READ MORE](#)

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.](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Strategies and Strengths Discovery Day for Planting New Ministries

May 7, 2019 at Bashford UMC. Registration deadline: April 26. [READ MORE](#)

2019 Summer Camp Programs

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

ERT Training

June 1, 2019 at New Lisbon: Winding Rivers UMC. [Register here.](#)

Annual Conference 2019

June 14-17, 2019 at the Green Bay KI Convention Center. Early bird registration ends May 17. [READ MORE](#)

Ride the Bus to YOUTH 2019

If you are headed to YOUTH 2019 with your church, join other Wisconsin churches on the bus ride to Kansas City on July 10, 2019 and back on July 14. [Register here.](#) Registration deadline: May 20, 2019

Bishop Jung's Interfaith Retreat and Bus Tour

July 12-13, 2019 in Madison, WI. Registration deadline: July 8, 2019. [READ MORE](#)

Boundaries Training

It is mandatory for all pastors serving local churches to attend before 2020. There are three sessions scheduled in October of 2019 for any pastors who did not attend one in 2017. [Register here.](#)

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. [READ MORE](#)

HELP WANTED

[Campus Minister/Director \(Full-Time\)](#)

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

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

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

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

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

LOCAL ACTIVITIES

[Spring Pork Chop Dinner \(Union Grove\) \(Sat Apr 27 @ 3:30PM\)](#)

[Leading in a Rapidly Changing World \(Sun Prairie\) \(Mon Apr 29 @11:00AM\)](#)

[Lyons Lecture with Brian McLaren \(Madison\) \(Sat May 04 @ 9:00AM\)](#)

[Workshop for Teens \(Milwaukee\) \(Sat May 04 @ 1:00PM\)](#)

[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.



[Request to unsubscribe](#) if you're no longer interested in receiving communications from the Wisconsin Conference.