

The Susquehanna Annual Conference

Journeys of Faith: Celebrating the Retirement of Our Pastors

Friday, June 14, 2013 7:00 p.m.

Note: All hymn words and responsive readings will be projected on the screens.

*You are invited to stand

GATHERING MUSIC

*OPENING PRAISE AND CALL TO WORSHIP

“You are Good” Israel Houghton
“Let the Praises Ring”

*PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Rev. James Copulos
Wrightsville, PA

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Deuteronomy 31:1-8

A JOURNEY PERSPECTIVE

“Looking Back” Bishop Jeremiah J. Park
Susquehanna Conference of the United Methodist Church

THE JOURNEY OF WORD

Rev. Paul Amara
Plains, PA
Rev. Karen McCachren
Lewistown, PA

SCRIPTURE LESSON

John 21:15-18

REFLECTION

RESPONSE

Leader: This is the Word of God...faithfully proclaimed by you...for the people God.

All: Thanks be to God!

HYMN

“Thy Word is a Lamp” Amy Grant
Michael W. Smith

RECOGNITION

Rev. Chuck Sprenkle
Chair of Conference Relations
Manchester, PA

THE JOURNEY OF SACRAMENT

Rev. Cecily Eisley
Springsville, PA
Rev. Mike Bealla
Director, Connectional Ministries
Harrisburg, PA

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Matthew 28:18-21 &
Matthew 26:26-28

REFLECTION

RESPONSE

Leader: Tonight we celebrate your ministry of Sacrament among us. We praise God for the authority of Christ working through you. We praise God for your obedience to His Call, for through the witness of your journey the mystery of faith has continued, and is now proclaimed:

All: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again!

HYMN

“One Bread, One Body” John B. Foley
(Singing the Refrain - Verse 2 - Refrain)

RECOGNITION

Rev. Chuck Sprenkle
Chair of Conference Relations

THE JOURNEY OF ORDER AND SERVICE

Pastor Brian Lucas
Paxtonville, PA
Pastor Jeffrey Wilt
Mount Wolf, PA

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Ephesians 4:11-13

REFLECTION

RESPONSE

Leader: Tonight we celebrate your service among us, as you ordered the life of congregations around our annual conference.

All: We give thanks for your journey of order among us. You offered us the example of Christ by encouraging us in His love. May you continue to be confirmed and strengthened in the way that leads to life eternal.

HYMN

“O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee” Washington Gladden
H. Percy Smith

RECOGNITION

Rev. Chuck Sprenkle
Chair of Conference Relations

THE OFTEN OVERLOOKED JOURNEY

Rev. Dr. Gary Weaver
Chair of Sessions Committee
Bloomsburg, PA
Rev. Rebecca Foote
Lewisburg, PA

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Joshua 24:15

REFLECTION

RESPONSE

Leader: Tonight we offer you – the spouses and family members of our retirees – our humble and heartfelt thanks.

Through your service we are reminded of our sacred vows to uphold the Church by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness.

All: We give thanks for your years of loyal and dedicated ministry. May we, like you, continue to uphold the Church with our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness.

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING FOR JOURNEYS OF SERVICE

Leader: Let us pray.

All: We thank you, O God, for the many gifts of these faithful men and women.

We give thanks for their journeys of service as they ordered our congregational lives, equipped us with the Sacraments, and faithfully preached Your Holy Word.

Grant to each of them and their families rest and renewal that they may continue to have a sense of Your abiding presence all the days of their lives. Amen.

OFFERING

Tonight's offering will benefit **The Mongolian Mission.**

OFFERTORY

“Lord of Lords” Trad. Mongolian
Mr. Matthew Wensel

*THE DOXOLOGY

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Rev. Randall G. Bennett Jr.
Selinsgrove, PA

SCRIPTURE LESSON

2 Kings 2:9-15

A JOURNEY PERSPECTIVE

“Looking Forward” Bishop Mark J. Webb
Upper New York Conference of the United Methodist Church

PASSING THE MANTLE

Representing the Retiring Class
Rev. Rodney Miller
Nescopeck, PA
Rev. Patricia Woolever
New Bloomfield, PA

Those Being Ordained
Michelle Bodle
Mainesburg, PA
Julia Piper
Mount Union, PA

HISTORIC EXAMINATION FOR ADMISSION INTO FULL CONNECTION

A PRAYER FOR LIFE'S JOURNEY

Bishop Jeremiah J. Park

Bishop: Let us pray.

God of Life and Love, You travel with us upon all of life's journeys. Your Holy Word reminds us that "for everything there is a season, and for every matter a time under heaven."

All: We pray, O Lord, for those retiring:

Bishop: As they begin a new season on their journey with You, may they continue to grow in grace and in the knowledge and love of Jesus Christ. May they seek out opportunities to pass along their years of wisdom, while also taking time for rest, reflection, and renewal.

All: We pray, O Lord, for those being ordained:

Bishop: As they begin a new season on their journey as Full Members of the Susquehanna Annual Conference, may they live fully into their journey of Word, Sacrament, Order, and Service. May they be filled with grace, purpose, wisdom, and mercy – that as they lead and care for others – they will not forsake their personal devotion to you and to their families.

All: We pray, O Lord, for all of us made alive by Your grace, and gathered here upon this journey:

Bishop: May we be mindful of the brevity of life, take time to reflect upon Your goodness regardless of circumstance, and journey together under the Lordship of Jesus Christ. May we – no matter the season – be focused upon making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world! We ask and pray these things in the matchless name of Jesus Christ.

All: Amen.

***CELEBRATION SONG**

"Friend of God"

***BENEDICTION**

Rev. Earl W. Roberts
Greentown, PA

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2013 Retirees

Towanda L. Acey
Virginia E. Baker-Betz
Peter M. Beddia
James R. Behrens
Marsha J. Bookhammer
Andrew T. Bradley Sr.
Lloyd D. Canfield
Richard A. Clark
Valerie M. Delooze
Richard H. Gentzler
Nancy Lee Goff
Phyllis Arlene McKinney Hunter
Larry H. Kreischer
William E. Kuhn
Martin H. Lorah

Joan M. Maruskin
Rosamond B. Mason
Rodney K. Miller
Patricia J. Newhart
Earl W. Roberts III
Gayle Roberts
Vernon E. Shenberger
Arthur D. Shotts
M. Lynn Snyder
David J. Spearly
Margaret H. Spengler
Richard S. Spering Sr.
Joyce M. Treas
Ronald A. Warfle
Patricia A. Woolever



...on a journey of faith

*Journeys of Faith:
Celebrating the Retirement of Our Pastors*

Annual Conference 2013
Messiah College, Grantham, PA