

The Susquehanna Annual Conference

# Celebration of Ministry

Friday, June 10, 2016 7:00 p.m.

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

\*You are invited to stand

**GATHERING MUSIC** Mr. Matthew Wensel, Piano  
Mr. Phillip Loewen, Saxphone  
*Grace UMC - Lewistown, Pa.*

**SONGS of PRAISE** *“Come Thou Fount”*  
*Words and Music by John Wyeth*

**PRAYER of PRAISE**

**THE JOURNEY OF PASTORAL MINISTRY**® Written by Rev. Randall G. Bennett Jr.  
Presented by Rev. Randall G. Bennett Jr.  
Rev. Michelle L. Whitlock  
*Waverly UMC - Waverly, Pa.*

## — THE JOURNEY of WORD —

**SCRIPTURE LESSON** John 21:15-18

**REFLECTION**

**RESPONSE**

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

**Congregation: Thanks be to God!**

**HYMN** *“Thy Word is a Lamp”*  
*The United Methodist Hymnal, p. 601*  
*Words: Amy Grant*  
*Music: Michael W. Smith; arr. by Keith Phillips*

Those being recognized will move from the floor to the stage during the singing of the hymn.

**RECOGNITION** Rev. Dr. Gary Weaver  
*Chair, Committee on Sessions*  
*Wesley UMC - Bloomsburg, Pa.*

## — THE JOURNEY of SACRAMENT —

**SCRIPTURE LESSONS** Matthew 28:18-21 and  
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:

**Congregation: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again!**

**HYMN** *“One Bread, One Body”*  
*The United Methodist Hymnal, p. 620 - Singing the Refrain – Verse 2 - Refrain*  
*Words and Music: John B. Foley; harm. by Gary Alan Smith*

Those being recognized will move from the floor to the stage during the singing of the hymn.

**RECOGNITION** Rev. Dr. Gary Weaver

## — THE JOURNEY of ORDER and SERVICE —

**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.

**Congregation: 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** *“I Am Thine, O Lord”*  
*The United Methodist Hymnal, p. 419 - Singing Verses 1 and 2)*  
*Words: Fanny J. Crosby*  
*Music: William H. Doane*

Those being recognized will move from the floor to the stage during the singing of the hymn.

**RECOGNITION** Rev. Dr. Gary Weaver

## — THE OFTEN OVERLOOKED JOURNEY —

**SCRIPTURE LESSON** Joshua 24:15

**REFLECTION**

**RESPONSE**

Leader: 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.  
**Congregation: 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.

**Congregation: 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** *The offering tonight will benefit Mongolian Mission of the United Methodist Church*  
*Advance #2440*

**OFFERTORY** *“Jesus Paid It All”*  
*Words and Music by Alex Nifong, Elvina Paul, and John Grape*

**MESSAGE** **SandStory: Epic Stories in a New Light**  
Joe Castillo

**PASSING the MANTLE** **Representing the Retiring Class**  
Rev. Mike Druck  
*Chestnut Grove UMC - Dillsburg, Pa.*  
Rev. Donna Lynne Vaux  
*Mountainview Parish UMC - Mansfield, Pa.*

**Representing the Order of Deacons**  
Rev. Karen McCachren  
*First, Grace, and Lake Park UMC's - Lewistown Pa.*

**THE ORDINATION CLASS OF ELDERS**  
Janet L. Durrwachter  
Brent A. Stouffer

**THE ORDINATION CLASS OF DEACONS**  
Megan C. Burd-Harris

## — HISTORIC EXAMINATION for ADMISSION into FULL CONNECTION —

**A PRAYER for LIFE'S JOURNEY** Bishop Jeremiah J. Park  
*Resident Bishop of the Harrisburg Episcopal Area*

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.”

**Congregation: 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.

**Congregation: 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 as elders and deacon. 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.

**Congregation: 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.

**Congregation: Amen.**

**CELEBRATION SONG** *“And Can It Be that I Should Gain”*  
*The United Methodist Hymnal, p. 363*  
*Words: Charles Wesley*  
*Music by: Thomas Campbell*

\*BENEDICTION

Rev. Dr. E. Ann Walker  
Neidig Memorial UMC- Harrisburg, Pa.

\*POSTLUDE

## 2016 Retirees

Keith R. Beasley-Topliffe  
Gary M. Blankley  
Michael T. Bodek  
Judy C. Christmann  
George W. Clippinger  
Douglas M. Compton  
William J. Danis  
Michael A. Druck  
Robert J. Eddinger  
Kathleen M. Ehrsam  
John R. Eidam  
Stephen E. Gallaher  
Robert A. Graybill  
Troy R. Harrold  
Vicki A. Jordan  
Brenda D. Mitchell  
Jay A. Morris  
Thomas A. Page  
Jeffrey L. Rarich  
Ann R. Runnels  
Michael Shambora  
Charles W. Sprenkle  
Jean L. Swett  
Donna Lynne Vaux  
E. Ann Walker  
R. Bruce Wallace  
Philip T. Wanck  
H. Aden Wertz III  
Patricia A. Wise

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**Alive**  
*in Christ*  
**TOGETHER**



*... Creating New Places for New People*

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Annual Conference 2016  
Messiah College, Grantham, Pa.