



THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
HARRISBURG AREA – SUSQUEHANNA CONFERENCE

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Dear Laity and Clergy of the Susquehanna Annual Conference,

Grace to you in the name of Jesus Christ, Prince of Peace, Healer of our Brokenness, and Hope of the World!

According to disciplinary paragraph 417 of the *2016 Book of Discipline*, one of the significant responsibilities of the Resident Bishop is to appoint elders to be District Superintendents. The term of a District Superintendent is six years with the provision to allow for two additional years in consultation with the cabinet and the Committee on District Superintendency. District Superintendents are appointed to the Annual Conference and then assigned to a district.

Today, I wish to share with our conference family information about the appointment status for some of the current cabinet members.

The Rev. Marian E. Hartman has requested retirement at the 2019 Annual Conference. She has served the Scranton Wilkes-Barre District since November 2013. She has faithfully and effectively led this district through the on-going opportunities and challenges of our churches. Marian has previously served as the Chair of the Board of Ordained Ministry. Her contribution to our church has been remarkable throughout her pastoral ministry in several churches and her ministry of superintendency has been superb.

The Rev. Lori J. Steffensen will conclude her term of eight years as the State College District Superintendent this appointment year. She has served the State College District with distinction. During her tenure as a District Superintendent Lori's presence and voice at the Cabinet table has served our conference exceptionally well beyond the State College District. She is currently serving as the Dean of the Cabinet. She will return to pastoral ministry as she continues to offer herself to the ministry of our church.

We offer our thanks to Lori and Marian for their considerable time and significant difference made as District Superintendents. Thanks and praises be to God for the rich blessings our church has received from their outstanding servant leadership among us. Your prayers for Lori and Marian would be greatly appreciated as they face a new chapter of their life and ministry.

I have met with the District Superintendency Committees of both districts. They have provided valuable information about their district and the gifts, graces, and skills that are needed in their next District Superintendent. I covet your prayers during this time of discernment and decision.

I have also been in contact with the Altoona and York District Superintendency Committees. Each committee expressed a sincere desire to have their superintendent to continue. I am very glad to announce that the Rev. Dr. Kathleen E. Kind and the Rev. Dr. Charles W. Salisbury will continue as District Superintendents for the Altoona and York Districts respectively.

I have been so very blessed and privileged that during my time as the Resident Bishop of the Susquehanna Conference to have had exceptionally talented, as well as committed leaders serve on the Cabinet. I ask each of you to pray for the Cabinet as they continue to extend themselves to serve the Church in and through our beloved Susquehanna Conference for such a time as this.

With You in Christ's Ministry,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeremiah J. Park". The signature is written in a cursive style with a small cross symbol at the beginning.

Jeremiah J. Park