Opening Celebration

Community Arts Center - Williamsport, PA

The 2026 Susquehanna Annual Conference

Opening Celebration

Thursday, June 4, 2026 1:00 p.m.

Note: All hymns and responsive readings will be projected on the screens.
*You are invited to stand.

GATHERING WORDS Donna Dickinson

OPENING SONG** ***"Praise"
Elevation Worship

CALL TO WORSHIP Rev. Helen Learn

Leader: When the world around us seems to be falling apart,

ALL: We love boldly.

Leader: When the people around us are paralyzed in fear,

ALL: We love boldly.

Leader: When the future is uncertain,

ALL: We love boldly!

Leader: We the people of God, called by Christ, filled with the Spirit of God

ALL: Rise up and love boldly!

SONG OF PRAISE** ***"Goodness of God"
Bethel Music & Jenn Johnson

OPENING PRAYER Beth Zeiler

Leader: Divine Love, Be our vision,

ALL: That we may see ourselves and our neighbors as you see us.

Leader: Divine Grace, Be our wisdom,

ALL: That we may respond with radical love in a world filled with fear.

Leader: Divine Hope, Be our light,

ALL: That we may see clearly the way of Christ. Open our ears and hearts so your love may permeate our knowledge, our emotions, our being so we may reflect your love better. In Christ we pray. Amen.

SCRIPTURE — **Matthew 22:36-40**
Pastor Josh Tobias

SONG** — ***"Love the Lord"
Lincoln Brewster

MESSAGE — ***"Rise Up. Love Boldly."***
Bishop Héctor A. Burgos-Núñez
Resident Bishop - Susquehanna & Upper New York Episcopal Area

SONG OF RESPONSE — ***"Come Rest on Us"***
Maverick City Music feat. Brandon Lake & Eniola Abioye

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING — Rev. Kristopher Sledge

Offering will benefit ***The Building the Beloved Community Fund Advance #9300***

The Building the Beloved Community Fund is a ministry to help our Susquehanna Conference to resist racism, promote diversity, connect churches to their neighbors, support cross-racial appointments, and build strong race relations. Give to the Building the Beloved Community Fund through baskets that are passed or online at https://susumc.org/donations/bbcf/

OFFERTORY — ***"Agradecido"***
Danny Gokey

OFFERING PRAYER — Rev. Kristopher Sledge

COMMUNION — Bishop Burgos-Núñez
Provisional Deacon Quinton De Beer

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING — Betsy Huels

CLOSING PRAISE** — ***"Act Justly, Love Mercy, Walk Humbly"
Pat Barrett

***BENEDICTION** — Rev. Gary Allshouse

Empty communion cups will be collected and recycled following communion