

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE NORTHEAST DISTRICT



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NED – North East District

February 28, 2019

Office Hours: Monday – Friday 8:00 am to 4:30 pm Closed 12-1 pm

We know that all things work together for good for those who love the Lord, who are called according to his purpose. Romans 8:28



The photo above comes from our pretty little church in Greeley. They say when the sun comes out on Sunday morning, you can feel the warmth on your back coming from its gentle glow. Down in Greeley's basement I found another beautiful gem. A sign on the wall says simply: "FEAR NOT TOMORROW. GOD IS ALREADY THERE."

These are important words to take to heart – especially this week. As the Special General Conference gathers in St. Louis this Saturday. The collective blood pressure of 8 million United Methodists just went up. How will the vote go? What will be approved? Will our denomination fracture? Will our local church split? Can my church survive a schism? What if Pastor and church don't agree? What if the Special General Conference doesn't approve anything? What will the future bring?

I don't have the answers to these questions, but I can say with confidence that whatever tomorrow may bring, I will not be afraid because God is already there! God truly does work in all things, turning and shaping them for good.

Whatever this coming week brings, God will be smack dab in the middle of it, bringing us a future with a hope, not a fear.

Keep the Faith,

Work like it all depends upon us and pray like it all depends upon GOD.

Paul

Dear Iowa Conference Laity and Clergy,

The 2019 Special Called General Conference will take place in St. Louis from February 23-26. This Special Session has been called by the Council of Bishops to find a way forward beyond the impasse around LGBTQ identity, interpretation of scripture and the unity of the church. The General Conference is the highest legislative body in the church and the only group that can decide church law and speak officially for the global denomination.

I would invite you to use this [attached prayer](#) in worship on Sunday, February 24, as well as in your personal devotions. I would also encourage you to access the special Iowa Annual Conference website, gc2019.iaumc.org, where you can follow the proceedings of General Conference by live-streaming.

May the tender mercies of our God give wisdom and hope to our delegates and episcopal leaders for such a time as this.

Blessings,

Bishop Laurie

Pray for the General Conference 2019 that will be February 23 – February 26, 2019. Resources available can be viewed [here](#). If you have any questions, feel free to email the NE District Office and we will help with any questions you have.

IN MISSION TOGETHER – AKA - Rainbow Covenant.

Are you wondering what information you will need to keep for this new reporting system? They are having 3 main items to report on – giving, serving and partnership. Click here to view the [flyer](#) for more information. See more information on the web page: <https://www.iaumc.org/ingathering/#iac>

The Office of Congregational Excellence is offering a day-long retreat for local churches throughout the Iowa Annual Conference who are interested in learning the elements of a Discipleship Pathway process and how to begin the first steps of creating a pathway for your local church.

The Discipleship Pathway Day Retreat will take place on Saturday, March 2nd from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (*registration the day of the event will begin on 9:30 a.m.*) at Ankeny First United Methodist Church, Uptown Campus, which is located at 206 SW Walnut St., Ankeny, IA 50023. Online registration is available and open through Friday, February 22nd.

Registration costs are \$10.00 per person, which includes the costs of lunch and light refreshments throughout the day.

We will share together in worship and collaborative learning as well as participate in large group plenary training sessions and small group breakout sessions with time allocated for action planning with your local church leadership team.

For more information, please contact Naomi Sea Young Wittstruck, Interim Associate of Congregational Excellence at naomiseayoung.wittstruck@iaumc.org. See more information here: <https://www.iaumc.org/eventdetail/discipleship-pathways-retreat-12673242>

Do you have a dream for your church and just need a “little bit” more funds to accomplish this dream? Have you filled out an application for a District Askings grant yet? Find this application under “Resources” on the NE District web page at: <https://northeast.iaumc.org/resources>
You have until Feb. 15th to get this application mailed or emailed to the NE District Office to see if you are eligible. THIS HAS BEEN EXTENDED TO MARCH 1ST!!!! Come on NE District – get your applications in. They will be handed out at the District Conference on Sunday April 28th – Mark your calendars now to be there to accept your grant money. Make your dream a reality today.

If you are wanting to save money on mailing your church’s newsletter – feel free to email the NE District office your newsletter. Send them to: karen.wersinger@iaumc.org
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Just FYI – if the Cedar Falls Schools are closed – the NE District office will be closed also. Stay safe and warm.

Lay Servant Training available in the North Central District. See all information [here](#).
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IOWA LICENSING SCHOOL Information click on this web page for more information.
<https://www.iaumc.org/iowalicensingschool>

Parsonage Inspection Reports are due - we also have a "NEW" form - Parsonage Information Sheet - and you can view these on our NE District Web page at: <https://northeast.iaumc.org/forms>

Friday February 15th – District Askings Grant Application are due – *they are now on the NE District web page under “Resources”.* <https://northeast.iaumc.org/resources> **EXTENDED TO FRIDAY MARCH 1ST**

Friday March 1st – Fund Balance Report – aka – Audit Report – ***is due in the NE District Office*** – see the NE District web page and this is under “Forms” - <https://northeast.iaumc.org/forms>

Sunday April 28th - NE District Conference is scheduled – more information to come later (District Askings Grants are handed out here.)

Friday May 1st – Another Set of Eyes are due – by everyone – ***even if you are retiring the end of June.***

June 7 – 11th – Annual Conference in Des Moines – see web page at Iowa Conference - <https://www.iaumc.org/eventdetail/12062135?month=6&year=2019&day=1&display=m> Hotels are available to make your reservations.

** If you have a Lay member to Annual Conference that was not in your fall charge conference minutes – get this information to me ASAP as I have registered everyone that I have information on. All Clergy have been registered also. Do you have your charge conference minutes turned into the NE District Office yet? Please do so right away.
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Parsonage Inspection Reports are due - we also have a "NEW" form - Parsonage Information Sheet - and you can view these on our NE District Web page at: <https://northeast.iaumc.org/forms>

Leadership information is due at the NE District Office this week. If you have elected “new” officers, please get that information turned in.



Don't Miss the
DEADLINE!



I CAN'T SEEM TO GET AHEAD OF THIS SNOW! HELP! PRAY FOR ME PLEASE!