

## FROM THE OFFICE OF THE NORTHEAST DISTRICT



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Weekly on Wednesday

August 29, 2018

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

The office is closed on Friday's until Labor Day.

### LOVING

Every church wants to be warm, hospitable and welcoming to guests and visitors, and every church can remember guests and visitors that came once only to never come back again. Even with our best intentions in mind, many congregations don't consider the questions that guests have in mind but never ask.

No matter how inspiring worship is, regardless of how great the coffee after church might be, guest readiness is about more than worship and hospitality, it's about the unspoken rituals and routines, the insider and outsider language, the confusing signs and symbols that members take for granted and guests don't understand. Imagine going to a restaurant and having an amazing meal, only to have a waiter tell you that you're sitting at someone's favorite table so it would be best if you moved, and it's fine that you brought kids with you, but they should probably eat somewhere else if they make any noise. The restaurant might make amazing food, but if the experience is bad, patrons are unlikely to return.

On October 27th from 10 am to 3 pm, the Northeast District and Waterloo First UMC will be hosting Jason Moore as he presents a seminar on **"5 Things Your Visitors are Thinking but Won't Ask"**. This hands-on seminar will help congregations better connect with guests and visitor's so churches can build lasting relationships.

Our presenter, Jason Moore, is an author, speaker and worship church who is passionate about helping. He has designed worship with Adam Hamilton, Brian McLaren, Michael Slaughter, Tony Campolo, Len Sweet and many more. Jason was an animator and illustrator for the worship design team at Ginghamburg Church for a number of years and in addition to his seminar and consulting ministry, Midnight Oil, Jason works part-time as the Creative Worship Specialist for the Miami Valley District of the United Methodist Church in Dayton, Ohio.

You can register for the seminar through the Northeast District office. The cost of the seminar is \$15 per person and includes lunch. Please register no later than Monday, October 22nd.

To register yourself or your church, please send your name(s), church, address, phone, and email address to Northeast District UMC, 2303 West 1st Street, Set #2, Cedar Falls, IA 50613 or email Karen at

[karen.wersinger@iaumc.org](mailto:karen.wersinger@iaumc.org) Or see flyer [here](#) and use this form to mail in your registration. Please use one (1) registration form per person. Grace and Peace, Nate Nims.

## LEARNING

Clergy Professional Interviews have been set – **have you completed the paperwork on your People Dashboard yet?** *These are needed one (1) week prior to your interview.* You will get a reminder email if you have not completed them. To get to the People Dashboard, you can go to the NE District web page at: <https://northeast.iaumc.org/> and then go to the People Dashboard link here.

Charge Conferences have been set – do you know when your Church Charge Conference is? Have you completed the Church Dashboard charge conference forms? Your new Leadership Form is here also and needs to be updated. Please make sure you have this completed one (1) week prior to your Church Charge Conference. If you are not sure when yours is, please contact the NE District Office.

FORM I: This updated form is now available on the NE District web page along with the guidelines. ***This has to be turned into the NE District Office one (1) week prior to your church charge conference.*** Check it out at: <https://northeast.iaumc.org/>

## LEADING

Bishop Laurie Haller's "A Way Forward" will be Sunday November 18<sup>th</sup> at the Cedar Falls UMC in the afternoon – stay tuned for more information soon.

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Sunday Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup> from 2-4 PM at Cedar Falls, First UMC, come to our "Welcome and Installation Ceremony" for our new District Superintendent – Paul Wilcox. Clergy and churches were sent an email that we will need a "vial" or small amount of your NE District waters. Please bring this with you to the ceremony and see how this is used in our service.

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Matthew 25 grant applications are available on our NE District web page - <https://northeast.iaumc.org/> The deadline is September 14, 2018. Mail or email these to the NE District Office.

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October 16<sup>th</sup> at New Hampton UMC is the "Race the power of an illusion" event. See flyer [here](#).

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UMCOR Information update:

### **Updated information for Ingathering, 2018**

(please see that this information gets to the person(s) who are assembling kits asap.)

You may or may not be aware that UMCOR has changed a few things regarding both the hygiene and school kits. Here are differences and changes we need to be aware of (as of Aug 20, 2018).

**Hygiene kits** – no metal nail files or emery boards. **ONLY fingernail or toenail clipper.**

10 band-aids, instead of the 6 previously asked for.

Folding directions are in ingathering book, and slide packet into 1-gallon zip lock bag and close.

**School kits** – kits are to be **packed in 2-gallon zip lock bags** (instead of cloth school bags.)

kits are to contain **3 one-subject notebooks, AND a package of loose-leaf paper**

(Wide ruled or college rule accepted).

Stack paper, put smaller items on top and slide into bag, burp and close.

**THIS YEAR ONLY** – if you have school kits assembled with just the spiral notebooks, we will still send them. If you can add a pkg of loose leaf, great! Next year will be different. Many did not realize they are asking for BOTH kinds of paper.

**THIS YEAR** – if you have cloth bags you have packed the school supplies in, you may bring them as they are. DO NOT use both plastic and the cloth bag. Keep kits in cloth bags and kits in plastic separated so they can be boxed for shipping, but, add the numbers together on the remittance sheet – they all have the same value.

If you have unused cloth bags, consider donating them locally or sending them to Midwest Mission, 1001 Mission Drive, Pawnee IL 62558. You may also bring them to their truck at Annual Conference.

[Click here to download the 2018 Remittance Form](#) . Use ONLY this form. For UMCOR directions, <https://www.umcor.org/UMCOR/Relief-Supplies>

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**Great News:**

Do you have a lot of extra books, or VBS supplies on hand and do not know what to do with them?

Great news, Independence First UMC has graciously agreed to help us out for the NE District. They have room available to store these supplies so that when our NE District churches need something, give them a call and see if they have it available. More information will be coming soon as this idea just formed.

So, check out your closets and see what you can donate to store here for other churches to make use of.

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Iowa Licensing School information for 2019 – see flyer [here](#).

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Office of Pastoral Care / Counseling flyer – click [here](#).

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