



**WESTERN NEWYORK DISTRICT**  
of **THE WESLEYAN CHURCH**



***ANNUAL DISTRICT CONFERENCE***

***June 17, 2017***

*Eastern Hills Wesleyan Church  
Williamsville, New York*



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**\*Amended Financial Reports Added**

**Wesleyan Women Report Added - following page 37**

# Western New York District of The Wesleyan Church



## 156th Annual District Conference **Agenda**

*June 17, 2017, 9:00 AM, Eastern Hills Wesleyan Church*

### **Worship**

Dr. Armenio Suzano, Dean of Greatbatch School of Music, Houghton College

### **Welcome & Opening Prayer**

Dr. Joseph W. (Joey) Jennings, District Superintendent

Dr. Dennis Jackson, Executive Director of Global Partners, The Wesleyan Church

### **Service of Communion**

Devotional: Dr. Michael Jordan, Dean of the Chapel, Houghton College

### **Conference Organization**

Rev. Robin George, District Secretary

### **Report of the District Superintendent: Joseph Jennings**

### **Excellence in Ministry: Kingdom Builders**

*Churches which celebrated at least 1 baptism per 50 members.*

### **Celebration of Baptisms Video**

### **Ballot #1: District Treasurer**

### **Report of District Board of Administration (DBA) Actions: Robin George, District Secretary**

### **Report of the Assistant District Superintendent: Steve Dunmire**

### **Ballot #2: District Board of Administration**

- DBA Ministerial (elect 2)
- DBA Lay (elect 2)

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### **Morning Break**

**Report of the District Board of Ministerial Development (DBMD):**

- Candidates for Ordination - Jacob Leckel, Michael Trippett
- Licensed Ministers
- Ministerial Students
- Ministerial Transfers

**Church Multiplication Presentation**

Dr. Christopher Baldwin: *Director of Church Multiplication*

**Report of the District Treasurer: Kim Pecora**

- Funds & Bank Accounts
- District Ministry Fund – Receipts & Expenses
- Assessment Payments from Churches (100%)
- Other Funds (*Insurance, Refresh, Mission, Women, Church Development*)
- District Ministry Fund Budget for 2017-18
- 2017-18 Assessments

**Thrive Financial Initiative: Karen Tucker**

**Excellence in Ministry Awards: Kingdom Stewards**

*Churches which have given at least 10% of offerings to missions.*

**Recognition of Service and Retirement**

**Recognition of Guests**

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**Lunch** - *A lunch will be served at the church.*

**General Church Presentation**

**Report of the District Action Committee**

Ashley Ward, Action Committee Secretary

**Urban Advocacy Presentation: Steve & Ruth Strand**

**Elections - Ballot #3: District Committees**

- **Nominating Committee** (*electing 2 lay & 2 ministerial members*)
- **Action Committee** (*electing 2 lay & 2 ministerial members*)

**Reports from District Ministry Leaders**

- **Refresh Family Camp:** Matthew Rose
- **District Youth:** Jon Cole
- **Children's Ministry:** Megan Cusumano
- **Wesleyan Women:** Kristen Sanasith
- **Seniors Ministry:** Roy DeVries

## **Other Written Reports**

- Auditors Report
- Statistical Summary

**Excellence in Ministry Awards:** Kingdom Impact  
*Growth in Worship Attendance of at least 5%*

**Educational Institutions Presentation**  
Steve Dunmire, *District Education Director*

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## **Afternoon Break**

**Keynote Challenge:** Dennis Jackson

### **Missions Presentation**

#### **Elections - Ballot #4: District Directors**

- Church Multiplication Director
- Missions Director

#### **Remembering Ministers Promoted to Glory**

#### **Upcoming Events:**

- **Refresh '17:** July 30-August 4, 2017, Houghton College
- **Service of Ordination:** October 8, 2017, WC Hamburg - South Creek Campus
- **2018 District Conference:** Saturday, June 16, 2018, Eastern Hills WC

**Next Level Presentation:** Justin Leininger

#### **Church of Excellence Awards**

*Churches meeting all three "Excellence in Ministry" Categories*

**Pastoral Relations Report:** Robin George, District Secretary

*This lists the category of service for each ordained and licensed minister in the district.*

#### **Installation of District Board of Administration & Prayer of Commissioning**

#### **Adjourn**

**DISTRICT BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION**  
**Summary of Action 2016-2017**

**July 28, 2016**

1. Made annual appointments to various District directors, boards and committees.
2. Approved a Church Matching Scholarship to Indiana Wesleyan University for Ben Jennings.

**September 13, 2016**

1. Approved the official acts as reported by the District Superintendent for June-August 2016.
2. Granted approval for Mission of Christ to become a developing church plant with the Western New York District of The Wesleyan Church.
3. Approved the appointment of Yoshua Bashizi as a Lay Supply Pastor for the Mission of Christ developing church plant.
4. Approved for the Zion Quest Christian Fellowship Church to come into The Wesleyan Church as a Developing Church contingent upon the approval of Zion Quest.
5. Granted immediate payment to Zion Quest Christian Fellowship the amount that was held back from Home City and to table any remaining action on the matter to another time.
6. Granted approval for the Joy Community Church of Machias, New York to be brought into the denomination as either a developing or an established church tentative to Pastor John Gallegos becoming a licensed minister with the Western New York District of The Wesleyan Church.
7. Approved a loan from the district from the Church Development Fund to the Grace Community Church to help with costs incurred from a plumbing repair to be paid back by the end of this church year.
8. Approved to loan upfront and interest free to district churches the monies granted to them from the Oldham Little Church Foundation contingent upon the district office receiving a copy of the approval letter from the Foundation and as long as there are available funds in the district's account.
9. Approved the appointment of Mrs. Sue McClain to serve as the additional layperson on the District Board of Ministerial Development.
10. Approved the appointment of Mrs. Janet Hunt to serve as the Head of the Auditing Committee for the Western New York District.

**December 6, 2016**

1. Approved a district policy to record as fixed assets anything in excess of \$2,500.00 that is currently owned or that will be purchased by the district in the future.
2. Approved to have the District Treasurer and District Superintendent find someone other than the District Treasurer who is trustworthy and compatible and is willing to fill some division of the responsibility for the role of the District Treasurer and to bring a recommendation to the District Board of Administration.
3. Approved a procedure for submitting scholarship checks in behalf of children of the District Superintendent.
4. Approved to adopt a district policy that prohibits the District Superintendent from using the district car for other than business purposes except for de minimus personal use reported to the District Board of Administration and to do the taxable calculation to substantiate any de minimus personal use of the vehicle.

5. Approved for the Western New York District of The Wesleyan Church to conduct a serious review of district books, procedures, internal controls and matters of compliance on a bi-annual basis.
6. Approved the official acts as reported by the District Superintendent for September-November 2016.
7. Approved the recommendation of the Church Development Board for giving the sum of \$1,700.00 from the Church Development Fund to Zion Quest to be used toward the purchase and installation of an updated lighted sign as part of the money owed to Zion Quest by the Home City Church.
8. Granted approval to the sale of a small triangular strip of land of approximately 500 square feet from the district's owned Clark Farm property off from Centerville Road in Houghton, New York in order to meet the conditions over the location of the garage and to satisfy the resale of the previously owned property. The selling price for the property described is set at \$1,000.00 plus any and all legal fees associated with it.
9. Granted approval for a loan for the North Collins Wesleyan Church from the Wesleyan Investment Foundation for purchasing a tract of land on the corner between Bantle and School Roads with the final approval to come from the District Executive Committee.
10. Approved for Dr. Daniel P. Jones to serve as a Ministerial Member on the District Board of Ministerial Development to replace the vacancy created by the resignation of The Rev. Michael D. Leamon.
11. Granted approval for The Rev. Todd E. Glendenning to serve as the Director of District Missions for the Western New York District contingent upon his willingness to serve. If he is not able to serve then approval was given for Dr. Marcus W. Dean and then The Rev. Jason K. Argo to serve as District Missions Director if either would express a willingness to serve.
12. Approved to refer the matter of whether to establish a committee or else to find an individual to care for the Discipline's requirement for conducting an annual audit of the books to the District Superintendent and District Treasurer.
13. Approved the income tax designations for the parsonage allowance for both Dr. Joseph Jennings and The Rev.'s Stephen & Ruth Strand.

### **March 27, 2017**

1. Granted approval for The Vine Wesleyan Church of 425 Penora Street in Depew, New York to secure an additional \$60,000.00 to their current loan (2011) with The Wesleyan Investment Foundation at an interest rate of 5.5% to be applied toward funding for renovations to the children's ministry area in the downstairs of their facility. Any funds raised for the stated project would be exempt from USF.
2. Granted approval for the Big Tree Wesleyan Church of 4163 Fairview Parkway in Blasdell, New York to borrow the sum of \$90,000.00 from the Wesleyan Investment Foundation to be applied to the purchase of an apartment duplex in front of the church between the church's parking lots (4177 Fairview Parkway, Blasdell, NY) for a term of 20-years at the interest rate of 4.95%. Any funds raised for the stated project would be exempt from USF.

### **April 20, 2017**

1. Approved the official acts as reported by the District Superintendent for December 2016-February 2017.
2. Granted permission to add Kimberly Pecora (District Treasurer) and Maribeth Jennings (District Office Administrator) as contact persons for Independent Health Insurance.

3. Appointed Dr. Jun Zhuang as an Assistant District Treasurer for the Western New York District of The Wesleyan Church and granted authorization for his signature on district accounts and to having bonding done on all individuals who are authorized to handle the district finances.
4. Approved the pastoral calls for the following: Dan Butcher (Little Valley), Justin Leininger (North Collins), Richard Nightingale (East Aurora), Douglas Ingersoll (Blasdell), Paul Palmer (Nunda), Pat Jones (Williamsville), Bruce Ellis (Forestville), and Jason Claydon (Falconer Peace).
5. Approved an alternative leadership model for the Wesleyan Church of Orchard Park.
6. Approved a 3% increase in the salary of the District Superintendent for the 2017-18 Budget.
7. Granted approval to increase the salary for the District Office Administrator to \$23,000.00 a year with no honorarium for serving as the coordinator for the DBMD.

**June 6, 2017**

1. Approved the official acts as reported by the District Superintendent for March-May 2017.
2. Approved to reclassify Bellville Wesleyan Church as a Developing Church and to appoint Robert Grimes to serve as the Supply Pastor.
3. Approved the 2017-18 District Ministry Budget as recommended by the Budget Committee.
4. Approved the recommendation of the District Superintendent to appoint Dr. Steven L. Dunmire to the position of Assistant District Superintendent for the 2017-18 church year.
5. Approved the developing church budgets for the following churches: Buffalo Anchor, Lyndonville Ashwood, Buffalo Grace Community, Depew Home City, Lockport, Buffalo Mission of Christ, and Urban Advocacy.
6. Approved a recommendation to District Conference for a \$15,000.00 increase to the district assessment cap for the 2018-19 conference year.
7. Approved for the following churches to be considered as in financial distress and that they be exempt from the first \$40,000.00 of their income from their district assessment.
8. Approved a developing church grant from the Church Development Fund of \$2,000.00 as needed.
9. Approved the appointments of Yoshua Baxhizi and Byaombe Swedy as Lay Co-Pastors for the Mission of Christ Church and also other pastoral appointment changes and updates for the 2017-18 church year.
10. Approved the list of those who have requested to be excused from District Conference.

Respectfully submitted, District Board of Administration  
Western New York District, Robin W. George, District Secretary



**Report of the Assistant District Superintendent, 2016-17**  
**Dr. Steven L. Dunmire**

Dear colleagues and friends,

It has been a pleasure this year to serve as Assistant District Superintendent for the first time in 2016-17. The duties of this role resonate with the work I do at Houghton College, which make for a nice fit. I've learned a lot this year, and identified areas where I want to grow, but it has been a joy to serve with Dr. Joseph Jennings. As I urge you to pray for our District Superintendent, you should know that he prays for our district pastors and churches fervently.

As Assistant D.S. I serve on the District Board of Administration (DBA), the Executive Committee of the DBA, the District Board of Ministerial Development (DBMD), and this year I founded and chaired a **Board of Church Development and Sustainability**. This board has been tasked with giving oversight to our district's *developing churches* (defined in the 2016 Discipline of the Wesleyan Church in ¶ 510). Developing churches are usually new church plants, or churches with less than twenty members, and this new board provides oversight, assistance, and administrative support for them.

The WNY District currently has eight developing churches:

1. Anchor Church – Buffalo, NY (Pastor Steve Johnson)
2. Ashwood Wesleyan Church – Lyndonville, NY (Pastor Karen Tucker)
3. Bellville Wesleyan Church – Caneadea, NY (Pastor Robert Grimes)
4. Grace Community Church – Buffalo, NY (Pastor Cap Farrow)
5. Home City Wesleyan Church – Depew, NY (Dr. David Shamenda)
6. Lockport Wesleyan Church – Lockport, NY (Pastor Matthew Rose)
7. Mission of Christ – Buffalo, NY (Pastor Yoshua Bashizi)
8. ZionQuest Community Church – Cheektowaga, NY (Pastor Kimberly Gladden)

Pastor Justin Leininger (North Collins), Doug Rifenburg (Eastern Hills), and Dr. Jennings served on this board in 2016-17, and I deeply appreciated their input. The Board of Church Development and Sustainability is developing support systems, establishing structures, encouraging partnerships, setting expectations with our developing churches, and reporting on all of these to the DBA. In 2016-17 we made site-visits to every developing church (except for Belleville, which gained developing church status just this month).

On a personal note, thank you from the bottom of my heart for your prayers for our family this year through Tammy's brain decompression surgery (Chiari) last summer. Her recovery will be a long road, but we praise God for His protection, for His provision, and for how well she is doing. You have overwhelmed us with your prayers and concern.

Respectfully submitted in Christ,



Dr. Steven L. Dunmire  
Assistant District Superintendent

## DISTRICT BOARD OF MINISTERIAL DEVELOPMENT

We have received and examined all the annual service reports which have been submitted. We feel that there were no irregularities of such a nature that they should be reported to the District Conference. The following indicates members of the District responsible to submit an annual service report and whether their reports were approved, unsatisfactory or not received (1390.9). The DBMD recommends that the annual service reports be approved as received.

Ader, Monty D.	Approved	Kofahl, Duane A.	Excused
Allen, April A.	Approved	Koppen, Neil A.	Approved
Archer, Ian L.	Approved	Lawson, Jeffery M.	Approved
Argo, Jason K.	Approved	Lawson, William R.	Approved
Argot, Dale M.	Approved	Lazewski, Arthur S.	Approved
Argot, Pamela L.	Approved	Lazewski, Teresa F.	Approved
Austin, Kevin M.	Approved	Leamon, Michael D.	Approved
Baldwin, Christopher M.	Approved	Leckel, Jacob R.	Approved
Baldwin, Tammy R.	Approved	Leininger, Justin P.	Approved
Bannister, Leroy N.	Approved	Lockie, Darryl S.	Approved
Bashizi, Yoshua	Approved	Loew, Melinda D.	Approved
Beers, Kevin D.	Approved	Logan, Ronald L.	Approved
Bennett, Richard A.	Approved	Long, Richard K.	Approved
Benson, Jessica M.	Approved	MacBeth, Wayne A.	Approved
Brawdy, Daniel J.	Approved	Markell, Paul F.	Approved
<b>Budwine, J. Corey</b>	<b>NO REPORT</b>	Mason, Joshua J.	Approved
Butcher, Daniel W.	Approved	Massey, Charles E.	Approved
Chase, Allen S.	Approved	McClain, Gregory W.	Approved
Cirocco, Gale E.	Approved	McGeorge, Alicia J.	Approved
Claassen, Christopher J.	Approved	McIntyre, Nila M.	Approved
Claydon, Jason W. H.	Approved	Merriam, Floyd E.	Approved
Claydon, Tammy M.	Approved	Meyers, Alan L.	Approved
Clements, Dominique	Approved	Miller, John L. IV	Approved
Clements James D.	Approved	Miller, Timothy J.	Approved
Cleveland, Karen M.	Approved	Moore, Fred J.	Approved
Cole, Jon P.	Approved	Mullen, Shirley A.	Approved
Cool, Atwood J.	Approved	Nash, Kenneth J.	Approved
Cox, Wayne P.	Approved	Neary, Thomas C.	Approved
Crassi, Roger M.	Approved	Nightingale, Richard W.	Approved
Crowell, Nelson D.	Approved	Niver, Terri L.	Approved
Currie, Eric A.	Approved	Nykyforchyn, William P.	Approved
Cusumano, M. Megan	Approved	Oden, Cynthia A.	Approved
Dean, Marcus W.	Approved	Oden, Wesley D.	Approved
DeVries, Roy H.	Approved	Palmer, Paul D.	Approved
Dewey, Shawn M.	Approved	Payne, D. Joseph	Approved
Duda, Daniel R.	Approved	Pocock, Steven R.	Approved
Duda, Martha M.	Approved	Priola, Stephen	Approved
Dunmire, Steven L.	Approved	Raines, Frederick A.	Approved
Duttweiler, Ronald P.	Approved	Rose, Matthew A.	Approved
Dwyer, Michael G.	Approved	Rowley, Rebecca G.	Approved
Ellis, Bruce M.	Approved	Schara, Robin W.	Approved
Ellis, Patricia A.	Approved	Schultz, Carl	Approved
Farney, Roger J.	Approved	Schweigart, Carol A.	Approved
Farrow, Casper C.	Approved	Shambach, Jason A.	Approved
Fidurko, Andrew J.	Approved	Shamenda, David	Approved
Funch, Adam	Approved	Shamenda, Elijah D.	Approved
Gallegos, John A.	Approved	Shea, Paul W.	Approved
Gallegos, Judy	Approved	Smalley, Laurie J.	Approved
Gartley, Paul E.	Approved	Smith, Bruce J.	Approved
George, Christopher R.	Approved	Smith, William J.	Approved
George, Melissa J.	Approved	Strand, Ruth W.	Approved
George, Robin W.	Approved	Strand, Stephen C.	Approved
Gladden, Kimberly B.	Approved	Strong, Gordon L.	Approved
Glendenning, Todd E.	Approved	Trippett, Michael J.	Approved
Grimes, Robert H.	Approved	Trotter, Alan D. Jr.	Approved
Haas, Bradley J.	Approved	Tucker, Karen L.	Approved
Hall, Clyde E.	Approved	Walker, Margaret D.	Approved
Hartman, John H.	Approved	Walters, J. Michael	Approved
Heitzenrater, Richard B.	Approved	Ward, Jonathan D.	Approved
Hess, Husdon S.	Approved	Wieder, Darren S.	Approved
Hill, Charles F.	Approved	Wilczek, Paul J.	Approved
Ingersoll, Douglas F.	Approved	Wilson, Daniel L.	Approved
Jennings, Joseph W.	Approved	Wood, E. John III	Approved
Johnson, Steven C.	Approved	Wood, Rebecca L.	Approved
Jones, Daniel P.	Approved	Woolsey, Warren M.	Excused
Jones, Justin R.	Approved	Wrigglesworth, Michael L.	Approved
Jones, Patrick B.	Approved	Yei, Suk May	Approved
Jordan, J. Michael	Approved		
Kaufman, Trevor J	Approved		
Kaylor, Richard G.	Approved		
King, Shawn F.	Approved		

We, the members of the District Board of Ministerial Development, make the following recommendations to the 2017 District Conference of the Western New York District:

**WE RECOMMEND:**

1. **the following for election to Ordained Ministers:** Jacob R. Leckel; Michael J. Trippett;
2. **granting a District Ministerial License for those pastoring to:** Daniel W. Butcher; Dominique Clements; Melinda D. Loew; Elijah D. Shamenda; and Suk May Yei;
3. **renewing a District Ministerial License for those pastoring to:** April A. Allen; Robert H. Grimes; Shawn F. King; and Terri L. Niver;
4. **renewing a District Ministerial License for Other Appointments for:** William J.(Duffy) Smith; and Alan D. Trotter Jr.;
5. **granting a license as a Ministerial Student to:** James McLean;
6. **renewing a license as a Ministerial Student to:** Monty D. Ader; Ian L. Archer; Yoshua Bashizi; Daniel J. Brawdy; Andrew J. Fidurko; Adam Funch; Trevor J. Kaufman; Jeffery M. Lawson; Joshua J. Mason; Shirley A. Mullen; and Stephen Priola;
7. **granting a Licensed Special Worker for Lay Workers for:** Paul Burdick.

## **MINISTERIAL TRANSFERS**

The following transfers were processed by the Western New York District of The Wesleyan Church during the 2016-2017 Conference year:

**1. ORDAINED MINISTERS TRANSFERRING OUT OF WESTERN NEW YORK:**

- a. Benjamin P. Beardsley to the Central New York District
- b. Gerald V. Drummonds II to the Pacific Southwest District
- c. William J. Nace to the Eastern New York New England District
- d. Carol R. Nace to the Eastern New York New England District
- e. Ray E. Selden to the Shenandoah District
- f. Justin E. Callicutt to the West Michigan District
- g. John H. Hartman to the Central New York District

**2. ORDAINED MIN. IN PROCESS OF TRANSFER OUT OF WESTERN NEW YORK:**

- a. Eric A. Currie to Florida District
- b. Paul J. Wilczek to Kentucky/Tennessee District

**3. ORDAINED MIN. PENDING COMPLETION OF DENOMINATIONAL TRANSFER:**

- a. John A. Gallegos from the Joy Community Church
- b. Judy Gallegos from the Joy Community Church
- c. Kenneth Nash from the United Methodist Church

**4. ORDAINED MIN. WHO HAVE APPLIED FOR DENOMINATIONAL TRANSFER:**

- a. Darryl S. Lockie to the United Methodist Church

## **Church Multiplication Director Report 2016-2017**

### **Wesleyan Church Church Multiplication Vision**

“Celebrating Every Time a Disciple makes a Disciple and a Church Multiplies itself until the Wesleyan Church has a transforming presence in every zip code.”

### **Church Multiplication Team Meetings**

The Church Multiplication Team met on three Saturdays in January, February, and March. Some of the topics we covered were as follows:

- The “every zip code” vision of the denomination
- To visualize a the Wesleyan presence in Western New York we created a map of WNY and of the city of Buffalo.
- How to help churches evaluate how they are doing and what next steps look like in their context
- If the vision is Churches Multiplying Disciples and Churches how we would go about evaluating, coaching, and equipping churches to this end.

### **May 2017 Leadership Development Journey Meeting**

The discussion led to inviting all churches to take the Level 5 assessment and then having an LDJ focused around the topics of Discipleship Pathways and Leadership Pipelines. This happened in the LDJ meeting in May.

### **Cultivate**

Still in conceptual phases we do appear to be forging an idea that we hope would garner more multiplication fruit in our district. The idea is called cultivate and comes out of a desire to more intentionally coach, equip and resource those who have a multiplication vision. This idea is to create an opportunity to have an a interactive and collaborative training time in the morning. We would then share lunch and for the afternoon we would have pastor individually and some collectively working on the steps of multiplication for their church. We would like to help make others available to coach and resource these pastors as they are working on their next steps and plans. More details to come.

I want to thank the members of the Church Multiplication Team for your time and investment. You are a gifted leadership group and it was a pleasure to serve with you.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Rev. Dr. Christopher M. Baldwin

Report of the District Treasurer  
**Summary of District Funds**  
 June 2016 - May 2017

<b>Funds</b>	<b>Beginning Balance</b>	<b>Income</b>	<b>Expenses</b>	<b>Ending Balance</b>
District Ministry Fund	\$273,418.75	\$236,451.84	\$228,978.84	\$280,891.75
General USF/EIF	\$0.00	\$468,123.00	\$468,123.00	\$0.00
Insurance Fund	-\$3,019.06	\$50,488.74	\$55,129.71	-\$7,660.03
District Car Replacement	\$16,730.54	\$4,035.50	\$16,792.94	\$3,973.10
District Parsonage Maintenance	\$9,052.38	\$6,700.00	\$2,207.51	\$13,544.87
Refresh Family Camp	\$23,056.78	\$38,343.25	\$40,236.53	\$21,163.50
Missions Fund	\$5,053.13	\$18,571.42	\$17,087.26	\$6,537.29
Women's Ministry	\$3,511.87	\$1,000.00	\$205.00	\$4,306.87
Camp Endowment	\$99,996.11	\$2,300.00	\$0.00	\$102,296.11
Church Development Fund	\$31,075.95	\$295,215.34	\$207,724.49	\$118,566.80
	<b>\$458,876.45</b>	<b>\$1,121,229.09</b>	<b>\$1,036,485.28</b>	<b>\$543,620.26</b>

<b>Accounts</b>	<b>Beginning Balance</b>	<b>Income</b>	<b>Expenses</b>	<b>Ending Balance</b>
Community Bank	\$22,920.93	\$1,121,229.09	\$1,036,485.28	\$57,664.74
Wesleyan Investment Foundation	\$435,955.52	\$50,000.00		\$485,955.52

Respectfully Submitted,  
 Kimberly Pecora, Treasurer

Report of the District Treasurer  
**Summary of District Funds**  
 June 2016 - May 2017

<b>Funds</b>	<b>Beginning Balance</b>	<b>Income</b>	<b>Expenses</b>	<b>Ending Balance</b>
District Ministry Fund	\$273,418.75	\$236,808.84	\$228,978.84	\$281,248.75
General USF/EIF	\$0.00	\$468,123.00	\$468,123.00	\$0.00
Insurance Fund	-\$3,019.06	\$50,488.74	\$55,129.71	-\$7,660.03
District Car Replacement	\$16,730.54	\$4,035.50	\$16,792.94	\$3,973.10
District Parsonage Maintenance	\$9,052.38	\$6,700.00	\$2,207.51	\$13,544.87
Refresh Family Camp	\$23,056.78	\$38,343.25	\$40,236.53	\$21,163.50
Missions Fund	\$5,053.13	\$18,571.42	\$17,087.26	\$6,537.29
Women's Ministry	\$3,511.87	\$1,000.00	\$205.00	\$4,306.87
Camp Endowment	\$99,996.11	\$2,300.00	\$0.00	\$102,296.11
Church Development Fund	\$31,075.95	\$295,215.34	\$207,724.49	\$118,566.80
	<b>\$458,876.45</b>	<b>\$1,121,586.09</b>	<b>\$1,036,485.28</b>	<b>\$543,977.26</b>

<b>Accounts</b>	<b>Beginning Balance</b>	<b>Income</b>	<b>Expenses</b>	<b>Ending Balance</b>
Community Bank	\$22,920.93	\$1,121,586.09	\$1,036,485.28	\$58,021.74
Wesleyan Investment Foundation	\$435,955.52	\$50,000.00		\$485,955.52
	<b>\$458,876.45</b>			<b>\$543,977.26</b>

Respectfully Submitted,  
*Kimberly Pecora*, Treasurer

**District Ministry**

June 2016 - May 2017

	Actual	Budget	% of Budget
<b>Income</b>			
Auxiliary Contributions			
Youth Ministry	13,139.29		
Children's Ministry	628.82		
Total Auxiliary Contribution	<b>\$ 13,768.11</b>		
District Ministry Income			
Interest Earnings	<b>9,331.46</b>	10,500.00	88.87%
Pastor & Spouse Retreat Income	9,484.25		
District Home/Office Utilities Reimbursement	91.56		
District Conference & Ordination	320.00		
Total District Ministry Income	<b>\$ 19,227.27</b>		
Total Income	<b>\$ 42,326.84</b>	<b>105000.00</b>	
<b>Expenses</b>			
District Work			
Boards & Committee Expenses	6,786.58	5,000.00	135.73%
Leadership Development	4,347.39	5,500.00	79.04%
Pastor & Spouse Retreat	15,785.93	5,000.00	315.72%
Pastors Wives' Event	438.00	1,000.00	43.80%
Prayer Emphasis	0.00	500.00	0.00%
District Conference & Ordination	5,082.54	5,500.00	92.41%
District Journal	2,675.60	2,500.00	107.02%
Total District Work	<b>\$ 35,116.04</b>		
Superintendent			
DS Salary	63,533.94	58,826.00	108.00%
Housing - DS	8,066.74	9,600.00	84.03%
SS Reimbursement for DS	13,118.94	13,300.00	98.64%
Total DS Salary	<b>\$ 84,719.62</b>		
DS Pension	10,429.75	10,431.00	99.99%
DS Health & Life Insurance	12,780.70	14,000.00	91.29%
DS Health Savings Acct	3,666.70	4,400.00	83.33%
Total Superintendent	<b>\$ 111,596.77</b>		
District Office			
Office Admin Salary	18,463.00	19,455.00	94.90%
Home/Office Utilites	5,295.97	6,500.00	81.48%
Office Supplies & Expenses	5,191.64	3,500.00	148.33%
Total District Office	<b>\$ 28,950.61</b>		
Team Honoraria			
Assisstant DS	1,800.00	1,800.00	100.00%
District Treasurer	6,089.16	6,500.00	93.68%
Asst District Treasurer	850.00	500.00	170.00%
District Secretary	5,500.00	6,000.00	91.67%
Church Multiplication Director	600.00	600.00	100.00%
Ministerial Training Coordinator	1,200.00	1,800.00	66.67%
Insurance Coordinator	3,060.00	3,060.00	100.00%
Events Coordinator	1,200.00	1,200.00	100.00%
Supplies for District Team	3,631.81	4,500.00	80.71%
Total Team Honoraria	<b>\$ 23,930.97</b>		



Auxiliaries			
Church Multiplication Team	2,155.04	3,000.00	71.83%
Youth Ministry Expense	12,681.92	3,000.00	422.73%
Wesleyan Men	0.00	500.00	0.00%
Children's Ministry	800.00	700.00	114.29%
Best Years Fellowship	0.00	250.00	0.00%
Total Auxiliaries	<b>\$ 15,636.96</b>		
Miscellaneous			
Travel & Hospitality	4,793.69	7,000.00	68.48%
Social Security for Employees	1,309.62	1,471.00	89.03%
Christmas Gift	1,670.00	1,690.00	98.82%
Property Insurance	2,171.50	1,500.00	144.77%
Memorial Gifts & Flowers	45.74	500.00	9.15%
Markell Scholarship at Houghton	500.00	500.00	100.00%
Emergency Asst for Pastors	2,326.00	2,000.00	116.30%
Unexpected Expenses	930.94	1,850.00	50.32%
Total Miscellaneous	<b>\$ 13,747.49</b>		
Total District Ministry Expense	<b>\$ 228,978.84</b>	<b>214933.00</b>	

#### **District Ministry Distribution of Funds**

District Car Fund	\$4,000.00
District Pasronage Fund	\$6,700.00
Missions Fund	\$2,500.00
Urban Advocacy	\$2,000.00
Youth Ministry	\$3,000.00
Women's Ministry	\$1,000.00

**District Ministry**

June 2016 - May 2017

	Actual	Budget	% of Budget
<b>Income</b>			
Auxiliary Contributions			
Youth Ministry	13,139.29		
Children's Ministry	628.82		
Total Auxiliary Contribution	<b>\$ 13,768.11</b>		
District Ministry Income			
Interest Earnings	<b>9,331.46</b>	10,500.00	88.87%
Pastor & Spouse Retreat Income	9,484.25		
District Home/Office Utilities Reimbursement	91.56		
District Conference & Ordination	320.00		
Total District Ministry Income	<b>\$ 19,227.27</b>		
Total Income	<b>\$ 42,326.84</b>	<b>\$ 10,500.00</b>	
<b>Expenses</b>			
District Work			
Boards & Committee Expenses	6,786.58	5,000.00	135.73%
Leadership Development	4,347.39	5,500.00	79.04%
Pastor & Spouse Retreat	15,785.93	5,000.00	315.72%
Pastors Wives' Event	438.00	1,000.00	43.80%
Prayer Emphasis	0.00	500.00	0.00%
District Conference & Ordination	5,082.54	5,500.00	92.41%
District Journal	2,675.60	2,500.00	107.02%
Total District Work	<b>\$ 35,116.04</b>		
Superintendent			
DS Salary	63,533.94	58,826.00	108.00%
Housing - DS	8,066.74	9,600.00	84.03%
SS Reimbursement for DS	13,118.94	13,300.00	98.64%
Total DS Salary	<b>\$ 84,719.62</b>		
DS Pension	10,429.75	10,431.00	99.99%
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DS Health Savings Acct	3,666.70	4,400.00	83.33%
Total Superintendent	<b>\$ 111,596.77</b>		
District Office			
Office Admin Salary	18,463.00	19,455.00	94.90%
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Total Auxiliaries	<b>\$ 15,636.96</b>		
Miscellaneous			
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Emergency Asst for Pastors	2,326.00	2,000.00	116.30%
Unexpected Expenses	930.94	1,850.00	50.32%
Total Miscellaneous	<b>\$ 13,747.49</b>		
Total District Ministry Expense	<b>\$ 228,978.84</b>	<b>214933.00</b>	

**District Ministry Distribution of Funds**

District Car Fund	\$4,000.00
District Pasronage Fund	\$6,700.00
Missions Fund	\$2,500.00
Urban Advocacy	\$2,000.00
Youth Ministry	\$3,000.00
Women's Ministry	\$1,000.00

SEE NEXT PAGE FOR AMENDED REPORT

**Assessment Payments from Churches**

June 2016 - May 2017

	<b>Actual Paid</b>	<b>Total Assesment</b>	<b>% of Budget</b>
Angola	9,985.00	9,985.00	100.00%
Bellville	3,016.00	3,016.00	100.00%
Big Tree - Blasdell	23,437.00	23,437.00	100.00%
Bradford First	7,963.00	7,963.00	100.00%
Brookside - Wellsville	13,039.00	13,039.00	100.00%
Cattaraugus Indian Chapel	1,181.00	1,181.00	100.00%
Christ Chapel - Silver Creek	14,651.00	14,651.00	100.00%
East Aurora	6,893.00	6,893.00	100.00%
East Leon	2,340.00	2,340.00	100.00%
Eastern Hills - Williamsville	116,000.00	116,000.00	100.00%
Fellowship - West Seneca	55,742.00	55,742.00	100.00%
Fillmore	16,210.00	16,210.00	100.00%
Forestville	6,482.00	6,482.00	100.00%
Hamburg	116,000.00	116,000.00	100.00%
Hess Road - Appleton	29,350.00	29,350.00	100.00%
Higgins	11,276.00	11,276.00	100.00%
Hillside - Olean	12,655.00	12,655.00	100.00%
Home City	400.00	757.00	52.84%
Houghton	61,602.00	61,602.00	100.00%
Levant - Falconer	27,351.00	27,351.00	100.00%
Little Valley	5,014.00	5,014.00	100.00%
Lockport	1,621.00	1,621.00	100.00%
McCrae Brook - Eldred	4,643.00	4,643.00	100.00%
North Collins	18,287.00	18,287.00	100.00%
North Park - Cuba	23,327.00	23,327.00	100.00%
Oakland - Nunda	11,329.00	11,329.00	100.00%
Orchard Park	42,772.00	42,772.00	100.00%
Peace - Falconer	6,759.00	6,759.00	100.00%
The Vine - Depew	31,443.00	31,443.00	100.00%
Valley - Canaseraga	6,180.00	6,180.00	100.00%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 686,948.00</b>	<b>\$ 687,305.00</b>	

<b>Distribution of Funds</b>	
District Ministry Fund	\$194,125.00
District Car Fund	\$4,000.00
District Parsonage Fund	\$6,700.00
Church Development Fund	\$14,000.00
General Church	\$214,468.00
Educational Institutions	\$253,655.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$686,948.00</b>

### Assessment Payments from Churches

June 2016 - May 2017

	Actual Paid	Total Assesment	% of Budget
Angola	9,985.00	9,985.00	100.00%
Bellville	3,016.00	3,016.00	100.00%
Big Tree - Blasdell	23,437.00	23,437.00	100.00%
Bradford First	7,963.00	7,963.00	100.00%
Brookside - Wellsville	13,039.00	13,039.00	100.00%
Cattaraugus Indian Chapel	1,181.00	1,181.00	100.00%
Christ Chapel - Silver Creek	14,651.00	14,651.00	100.00%
East Aurora	6,893.00	6,893.00	100.00%
East Leon	2,340.00	2,340.00	100.00%
Eastern Hills - Wiiliamsville	116,000.00	116,000.00	100.00%
Fellowship - West Seneca	55,742.00	55,742.00	100.00%
Fillmore	16,210.00	16,210.00	100.00%
Forestville	6,482.00	6,482.00	100.00%
Hamburg	116,000.00	116,000.00	100.00%
Hess Road - Appleton	29,350.00	29,350.00	100.00%
Higgins	11,276.00	11,276.00	100.00%
Hillside - Olean	12,655.00	12,655.00	100.00%
Home City	757.00	757.00	100.00%
Houghton	61,602.00	61,602.00	100.00%
Levant - Falconer	27,351.00	27,351.00	100.00%
Little Valley	5,014.00	5,014.00	100.00%
Lockport	1,621.00	1,621.00	100.00%
McCrae Brook - Eldred	4,643.00	4,643.00	100.00%
North Collins	18,287.00	18,287.00	100.00%
North Park - Cuba	23,327.00	23,327.00	100.00%
Oakland - Nunda	11,329.00	11,329.00	100.00%
Orchard Park	42,772.00	42,772.00	100.00%
Peace - Falconer	6,759.00	6,759.00	100.00%
The Vine - Depew	31,443.00	31,443.00	100.00%
Valley - Canaseraga	6,180.00	6,180.00	100.00%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 687,305.00</b>	<b>\$ 687,305.00</b>	

<b>Distribution of Funds</b>	
District Ministry Fund	\$194,482.00
District Car Fund	\$4,000.00
District Parsonage Fund	\$6,700.00
Church Development Fund	\$14,000.00
General Church	\$214,468.00
Educational Institutions	\$253,655.00
	<b>\$687,305.00</b>

## Insurance Fund

June 2016 - May 2017

<b>Beginning Balance</b>	<b>\$ (3,019.06)</b>
<b>Income</b>	
Health Insurance	4,678.74
Life Insurance	7,608.00
Workers Comp	38,202.00
Total Insurance Fund Income	<b>\$ 50,488.74</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	
District Property Insurance	2,732.00
Health Insurance	4,399.55
Life Insurance	9,523.15
Workers Comp Expenses	38,475.01
Total Insurance Expenses	<b>\$ 55,129.71</b>
<b>Current Balance</b>	<b>\$ (7,660.03)</b>

**Refresh**  
June 2016 - May 2017

<b>Beginning Balance</b>	<b>\$ 23,056.78</b>	
	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Budget</b>
<b>Income</b>		
Refresh Offerings	436.00	
Refresh Additional Donations	54.00	
Refresh 100 Club	2,115.75	5,050.00
Refresh Registration & Meals	35,737.50	38,000.00
<b>Total Refresh Fund Income</b>	<b>\$ 38,343.25</b>	<b>43050.00</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
<b>Personnel</b>		
Camp Director	599.99	600.00
Speaker / Room / Transportation	2,435.24	2,000.00
Worship Director	0.00	600.00
Morning Praise Director	100.00	100.00
Musicians	1,500.00	900.00
Nursery Director	599.99	600.00
Nursery Helpers	1,580.00	1,600.00
Gr 1-2 Children's Director	590.00	600.00
Gr 1-2 Children's Helpers	10.00	500.00
Gr 3-4 Children's Director	854.99	600.00
Gr 3-4 Children's Helpers	0.00	500.00
Gr 5-6 Children's Director	599.99	600.00
Gr 5-6 Children's Helpers	75.00	500.00
Teen Director	599.99	600.00
Teen Assistant	388.76	500.00
Registrar	699.99	600.00
Registrar Assistant	200.00	100.00
Videographer	50.00	100.00
Photographer	50.00	100.00
Seminar Director	100.00	0.00
Organist	0.00	100.00
Activities - Sports	100.00	250.00
Activities - Movies	0.00	100.00
Head Usher	0.00	100.00
<b>Total Personnel</b>	<b>\$ 11,133.94</b>	<b>12250.00</b>
<b>Meals</b>	<b>17,619.45</b>	<b>20000.00</b>
<b>Supplies</b>		
Nursery	309.73	350.00
Gr 1-2 Children	500.00	
Gr 5-6 Children	590.00	
Registration / Publishing / Printing	1,101.77	
<b>Total Supplies</b>	<b>\$ 2,501.50</b>	<b>350.00</b>
Afternoon Activities	2,775.89	100.00
Facility Rental (Chapel, Gym, Add't Dorm)	5,640.75	1000.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 8,416.64</b>	<b>1100.00</b>
Contingency	565.00	400.00
<b>Total Refresh Family Camp Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 40,236.53</b>	<b>34100.00</b>
<hr/>		
<b>Current Balance</b>	<b>\$ 21,163.50</b>	

**Missions**  
June 2016 - May 2017

<b>Beginning Balance</b>	<b>\$ 5,053.13</b>
<b>Income</b>	
Missions Fund Income	
Mission Fund Revenue	535.00
Haitian Pastors Conference	15,536.42
Total Missions Fund Income	<b>\$ 16,071.42</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	
Missions Fund Expense	833.26
Haitain Pastors Conference	16,254.00
Total Missions Fund Expenses	<b>\$ 17,087.26</b>
District Funds Budget	2500.00
<b>Current Balance</b>	<b>\$ 6,537.29</b>



## Women's Ministry

June 2016 - May 2017

<b>Beginning Balance</b>	<b>\$ 3,511.87</b>
<b>Income</b>	
Total Women's Income	<u>\$ 0.00</u>
<b>Expenses</b>	
Women Ministry Expenses	205.00
Total Women's Expenses	<u>\$ 205.00</u>
District Funds Budget	1000.00
<b>Current Balance</b>	<b>\$ 4,306.87</b>

## Church Development

June 2016 - May 2017

<b>Beginning Balance</b>	<b>\$ 31,075.95</b>
<b>Income</b>	
Church Development Fund	
Temporary Church Loan Income	8,000.00
General Contributions from Churches	942.07
Hamburg - South Creek	12,000.00
General Contributions from Churches	<b>\$ 20,942.07</b>
Assistance for Pastors	200.00
Seed Money	1,314.26
Sale of Union Rd	107,038.31
Urban Advocacy	54,272.62
Mission Of Christ Income	4,750.00
Anchor Church	37,464.08
ZionQuest	1,600.00
Batavia Property	24,634.00
East Side Initiative - UMAP	43,000.00
Total Church Development Fund Income	<b>\$ 295,215.34</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	
Church Planting Grants	
Anchor Church Dist Grant	15,000.00
Total Church Planting Grants	<b>15,000.00</b>
Ashwood Dist Assistance	2,000.02
Grace Community Dist Assistance	8,159.65
Total Developing Church Grants	<b>10,159.67</b>
Anchor Church Designated Support	37,464.08
Urban Advocacy Designated Support	65,633.09
Total Designated Support	<b>103,097.17</b>
Church Development	500.00
Temporary Church Loans	8,000.00
Eastside Initiative - UMAP	43,000.00
ZionQuest	3,410.00
Church Consultation Process	4,444.16
Union Rd Parsonage Renovation	5,617.72
Mission Of Christ	4,750.00
Total Church Development Expenses	<b>\$ 197,978.72</b>
<b>Current Balance</b>	<b>\$ 128,312.57</b>

## 2017-18 USF/EIF Assessments

Church	16-17 Assessable Income	District Assessment 4%	United Stewardship Fund 2.75%	Education Institution Fund 3.25%	TOTAL Assessment 10%	Monthly Payments
Anchor Church	\$23,768	\$238	\$163	\$193	\$594	\$50
Angola Wesleyan Church	\$103,694	\$4,148	\$2,852	\$3,370	\$10,369	\$864
Big Tree Wesleyan Church	\$202,224	\$8,089	\$5,561	\$6,572	\$20,222	\$1,685
Brookside Wesleyan Church	\$127,834	\$5,113	\$3,515	\$4,155	\$12,783	\$1,065
Cattaraugus Wesleyan Indian Chapel	\$7,108	\$284	\$195	\$231	\$711	\$59
Christ Chapel Wesleyan	\$127,654	\$5,106	\$3,510	\$4,149	\$12,765	\$1,064
East Aurora Wesleyan Church	\$58,598	\$2,344	\$1,611	\$1,904	\$5,860	\$488
East Leon Wesleyan Church	\$27,506	\$1,100	\$756	\$894	\$2,751	\$229
Eastern Hills Wesleyan Church	\$2,795,562	\$21,600	\$43,500	\$51,500	\$116,600	\$9,717
Fellowship Wesleyan Church	\$579,287	\$21,600	\$15,566	\$18,399	\$55,564	\$4,630
Fillmore Wesleyan Church	\$173,367	\$6,935	\$4,768	\$5,634	\$17,337	\$1,445
First Wesleyan Church	\$63,870	\$2,555	\$1,756	\$2,076	\$6,387	\$532
Forestville Wesleyan Church	\$61,150	\$2,446	\$1,682	\$1,987	\$6,115	\$510
Hess Road Wesleyan Church	\$279,014	\$11,161	\$7,673	\$9,068	\$27,901	\$2,325
Higgins Wesleyan Church	\$99,987	\$3,999	\$2,750	\$3,250	\$9,999	\$833
Hillside Wesleyan Church	\$145,836	\$5,833	\$4,010	\$4,740	\$14,584	\$1,215
Home City Church	\$64,642	\$986	\$678	\$801	\$2,464	\$205
Houghton Wesleyan Church	\$720,956	\$21,600	\$18,810	\$22,238	\$62,648	\$5,221
Levant Wesleyan Church	\$270,000	\$10,800	\$7,425	\$8,775	\$27,000	\$2,250
Little Valley Wesleyan Church	\$52,101	\$2,084	\$1,433	\$1,693	\$5,210	\$434
Lockport Wesleyan Church	\$17,509	\$700	\$481	\$569	\$1,751	\$146
McCrae Brook Wesleyan Church	\$44,272	\$1,771	\$1,217	\$1,439	\$4,427	\$369
North Collins Wesleyan Church	\$189,449	\$7,578	\$5,210	\$6,157	\$18,945	\$1,579
North Park Wesleyan Church	\$118,861	\$4,754	\$3,269	\$3,863	\$11,886	\$991
Oakland Wesleyan Church	\$104,045	\$4,162	\$2,861	\$3,381	\$10,405	\$867
Peace Wesleyan Church	\$59,603	\$2,384	\$1,639	\$1,937	\$5,960	\$497
The Vine Wesleyan Church	\$371,036	\$14,841	\$10,203	\$12,059	\$37,104	\$3,092
Valley Wesleyan Church	\$53,152	\$2,126	\$1,462	\$1,727	\$5,315	\$443
Wesleyan Church of Hamburg	\$4,529,162	\$21,600	\$43,500	\$51,500	\$116,600	\$9,717
Wesleyan Church of Orchard Park	\$373,516	\$14,941	\$10,272	\$12,139	\$37,352	\$3,113
<b>District Totals</b>	<b>\$11,928,597</b>	<b>\$212,879</b>	<b>\$208,330</b>	<b>\$246,401</b>	<b>\$667,609</b>	<b>\$57,276</b>

You can set up online payments at [WNYDistrict.com/districttreasurer](http://WNYDistrict.com/districttreasurer)  
 Or mail assessment payments to WNY District, 4669 Pinecrest Terrace, Eden, NY 14057

## Thrive Financial Initiative 2016-2017

The Wesleyan Church began a new program last year. Through the initiative, local churches can build thrive teams, make assessments, develop plans to address real solutions, and tap into thousands of dollars of financial help and educational assistance which can help spiritually, intellectually, relationally, and financially.

During the 2016-2017 church year, two churches fulfilled the requirements to receive matching funds: Falconer Levant and Orchard Park.

Rev. Karen Tucker, TFI Coordinator for WNY District

# REPORT OF THE ACTION COMMITTEE REPORT

June 17, 2017

## Amendments to the WNY District Standing Rules

### Annual District Conference

#### 1. DISTRICT CONFERENCE – TIME AND PLACE

The annual District Conference shall be at a date set by the District Board of Administration in cooperation with the General Superintendent. The District Board of Administration shall determine the meeting place for District Conference.

#### 2. DELEGATE’S CREDENTIALS

It shall be the duty of the pastor to ~~forward to the District Secretary the church (not missionary) delegates’ credentials from his charge two weeks prior to District Conference.~~ **register the elected lay delegates for his/her church by the due date set by the District Superintendent.**

#### 3. REPORTS TO DISTRICT CONFERENCE

All annual reports to the Annual District conference shall be prepared and sent to the District Secretary no later than two weeks prior to District Conference.

#### 4. SERVICE REPORTS AND CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE

A. The Minister’s Annual Service Report shall be ~~sent to the District Superintendent’s office not later than two weeks prior to District Conference.~~ **submitted online on the Wesleyan Pastoral Portal by the due date set by the District Superintendent.**

B. It shall be the duty of each minister to be in attendance at the entire District Conference session unless otherwise excused by the District Conference or the District Board of Administration.

#### 5. COMMUNION SERVICE

District Conference shall commence with a communion service. The communion table is to be prepared by the host church. All pastors and delegates are urged to be present.

#### 6. DISTRICT CONFERENCE ACTION COMMITTEE

A. The District Conference shall elect a District Action Committee that shall be separate from the District Board of Administration, which shall consist of the District Superintendent, or his/her appointed substitute, as chairperson, the District Treasurer, and four members-at-large, two ministerial and two lay members.

B. The date, time and meeting place of the District Action Committee shall be included in the District calendar which is printed on the back of the District Conference Journal. The District Action Committee shall assist any delegates who desire to bring action to the floor (cf. *Discipline* 1150). Proposed resolutions

coming through the District Action Committee must be sent to the District Office two weeks prior to the meeting of the District Action Committee.

#### 7. NOMINATING COMMITTEE

There shall be a Nominating Committee consisting of the District Superintendent, as ex officio chairperson, and two ordained ministers and two lay members elected by the District Conference. The elected members shall not succeed themselves (cf. *Discipline* paragraph 1172). Officers, boards and committees shall be elected through the use of a nominating ballot prepared by the nominating committee, with the provision that nominations may be made from the floor. The nominating committee will seek the widest possible input from churches in the District.

#### 8. REPORT TO LOCAL CHURCH

Within two weeks following the close of conference, a report will be brought to the congregation **or local board of administration** by a delegate, highlighting events of the conference **and changes in the Standing Rules.**

### DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION

#### 9. DISTRICT OFFICERS

- A. The District Superintendent is the chief administrative officer of the District. The election, duties, and responsibilities of that officer are specified in the *Discipline* (1300-1310).
- B. The District shall have an Assistant District Superintendent. The office shall be filled annually among the ordained ministers of the District (1180:32) upon nomination by the District Superintendent and appointment by the District Board of Administration (1320).
- C. ~~The District Treasurer shall be elected by the District Conference (1335). The District Treasurer shall be the treasurer for all District funds.~~ **The District Treasurer shall be elected by the District Conference (1335). The District Treasurer shall be the treasurer for all District funds or additional treasurers may be approved by and report to the District Board of Administration.**

#### 10. DISTRICT BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION (DBA)

- A. The District Board of Administration shall consist of thirteen members including the District Superintendent (chair), the Assistant District Superintendent, the District Secretary, the District Treasurer, and nine members-at-large elected by the District Conference in such a manner that six members of the District Board of Administration shall be lay members. The members at large, the District Secretary and the District Treasurer shall serve two-year terms.
- B. The executive committee of the District Board of Administration shall be composed of the four executive officers (Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent, Secretary, Treasurer) and one lay member to be appointed by

the District Board of Administration upon nomination by the District Superintendent.

#### 11. DISTRICT BOARD OF MINISTERIAL DEVELOPMENT

- A. The District Board of Ministerial Development shall consist of the District Superintendent, as chairperson or his/her appointee, the Assistant District Superintendent, the District Secretary who shall also serve as recording secretary, and nine additional members, four of which shall be ordained ministers and five shall be layperson. The four ordained ministers and five laypersons shall be elected by the District Board of Administration. The term of office for the elected members shall be three years with the elections so arranged that approximately one-third shall be elected each year.
- B. The Council on Ordination shall consist of ordained ministers serving on the District Board of Administration and the District Board of Ministerial Development.
- C. A ministerial student must apply 30 days in advance of a District Board of Ministerial Development meeting to be included on the board's agenda. If under 30 days notice the student will be placed on the next meeting's agenda.
- D. Each person under the supervision of the District Board of Ministerial Development is expected to provide the Board with a letter of recommendation from his/her local church by July 1<sup>st</sup> of each year until ordained or commissioned.

#### 12. DISTRICT SPIRITUAL FORMATION

- ~~A. The District Children's Ministries committee shall consist of the District Director of Children's Ministries, the District Superintendent ex officio, and two additional members appointed by the DBA. They shall assist in planning and promoting District Children's Ministries activities and appointing the Kid's Camp committee.~~
- ~~B. The District Youth Director shall work with the District Superintendent and the District Youth Cabinet to plan and promote District youth activities throughout the year.~~
- A. The District shall offer a variety of spiritual formation ministry opportunities during the year. The DBA will work with the District Superintendent to appoint or designate the leader and/or the committee for each ministry or for each activity or event. The opportunities offered by these ministries will be partially supported by distributions from the District Camp Endowment Fund via the DBA guidelines and as approved by the DBA. These ministries may include: Refresh Retreat and Family Camp, Youth Camp or District sponsored activities, Kid's camps (as a stand-alone event or part of Refresh), and other District wide activities or events for adult groups such as men, women, and seniors. Spiritual Formation Ministries that may have an annual director appointed by the DBA or elected by the District include: Children, Youth, Men, Women, and Seniors.**

***B. The Refresh Retreat and Family Camp committee shall plan and promote, provide staff and oversee the operation of Refresh (except for the main services). The Refresh committee chair shall be appointed by the DBA. The Refresh committee shall consist of the chair, District Superintendent –ex officio, and additional members as needed, who shall be appointed by the Refresh committee and approved by the DBA. The District Superintendent or his/her appointee (approved by the DBA) shall chair the main camp services along with the Refresh committee chair. The DBA shall establish the dates of Refresh and engage the evangelists and musicians. The Refresh committee shall submit their budgets to the Spring DBA meeting.***

13. DISTRICT BOARD OF CHURCH MULTIPLICATION

- A. The Board of Church Multiplication shall consist of the District Superintendent or his/her designee as chairperson, the District Director of Church Multiplication, three ordained ministers and three layperson appointed by the District Board of Administration.
- B. This board is charged with the task of researching, initiating, promoting and funding the multiplication of local churches and to cooperate with the District Board of Administration in the oversight of such initiatives. These duties are enumerated in greater detail in the *Discipline*, paragraph 1423.
- C. The District Director of Church Multiplication shall be elected by the District Conference. His/her duties are described more fully in the *Discipline*, paragraph 1426.

***(NEW PARAGRAPH #14 – with renumbering for subsequent paragraphs)***

***DISTRICT BOARD OF CHURCH DEVELOPMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY***

- A. ***The District Board of Administration may appoint a Board of Church Development and Sustainability to assist in overseeing and supporting churches which are categorized as Developing Churches.***
- B. ***The Board of Church Development and Sustainability shall consist of the District Superintendent or his/her designee as chairperson, the District Director of Church Development and Sustainability, and up to three ordained ministers and three lay persons appointed by the District Board of Administration.***
- C. ***This board is charged with the task of oversight of all Developing Churches within the district. This delegated responsibility is to involve reviewing the church's support for its pastor, recommending to the DBA a financial budget, and helping to develop a Local Advisory Council in each church. The board will also help to resource these churches by recommending district grants, seeking assistance from other churches and providing guidance with the goal of each church meeting the criteria for an established church (see Discipline, paragraph 518).***



#### 14. DISTRICT CAMPS

The District may operate three camps annually: Family Camp, Youth Camp and Kid's Camp.

- A. The Family Camp committee shall plan and promote, provide staff and oversee the operation of Family Camp (except for the main camp services). The Family Camp chairperson shall be appointed by the DBA. The Family Camp committee shall consist of the chairperson, assistant chairperson, District Superintendent ex officio, and additional members as needed who shall be appointed by the Family Camp committee and approved by the DBA. The District Superintendent or his/her appointee (approved by the DBA) shall chair the main camp services along with the Family Camp committee chairperson. The DBA shall establish the dates of Family Camp and engage the camp evangelists and musicians. The Family Camp committee shall submit their budgets to the spring DBA meeting.
- B. The Youth Camp committee may be appointed by the District Youth Cabinet. The director of Youth Camp may be the District Youth President or an appointee of the District Youth Cabinet approved by the DBA. The Youth Camp committee may operate the camp, submitting their budgets to the spring DBA meeting.
- C. The Kid's Camp committee may be appointed by the District Children's Ministries committee. The director of Kid's Camp may be the District Director of Children's Ministries or an appointee of the District Children's Ministries committee approved by the DBA. The Kid's Camp committee may operate the Kid's Camp, submitting their budget to the spring DBA meeting for approval.

#### 15. SOCIAL CONCERNS

The District Board of administration may appoint a Director of Social Concerns who shall make available information and resources as requested by the District Superintendent and the local church.

#### 16. INSURANCE

The District Board of Administration shall appoint an Insurance Director and may appoint a committee consisting of the District Superintendent as chairperson, Insurance Director, one ordained minister and one lay member.

#### 17. GENERAL CONFERENCE DELEGATES

No person should accept the position of Delegate to General Conference unless he/she expects to be present for the entire session. The District Superintendent is required to communicate this resolution to the delegates three weeks before General Conference convenes.

## DISTRICT STATISTICAL AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION

### 18. STATISTICAL AND FISCAL YEAR

The closing date for the District statistical and financial year shall be May 31<sup>st</sup>. The quarters of the fiscal year shall close August 31<sup>st</sup>, November 30<sup>th</sup>, February 28 (29<sup>th</sup>), and May 31<sup>st</sup>. The District Treasurer's books shall close June 10<sup>th</sup>. Any money received after that date shall be credited in the new fiscal year.

### 19. STATISTICAL REPORTS

The pastor shall input completed statistical reports on the denomination's website by two weeks prior to District Conference, or the date set by the District Secretary.

### 20. DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT'S SALARY

Any changes for the District Superintendent's benefits for the ensuing year shall begin at the beginning of the month following approval by District Conference.

### ~~21. CAMP ENDOWMENT FUND DISBURSEMENT~~

~~The camp interest fund may be disbursed in such a way that 50% be given to Houghton Family Camp, 25% to District Wesleyan Youth, and 25% to District Children's Ministries. These funds will not be released until the DBA approves the various camp budgets at its spring meeting. The proposed budgets shall be in the District Office no later than March 1<sup>st</sup>.~~

### 22. BUDGET COMMITTEE

The District Board of Administration shall appoint a Budget committee to construct a District Expense Budget. Members shall be the District Superintendent as chairperson, District Treasurer, one ordained minister and one lay member.

### 23. AUDITING

The District Board of Administration shall provide for the auditing of all District treasurers' books annually, either by an elected District Auditing Committee or by employing a certified public accountant, charter accountant or public account.

## PASTORS

### ~~24. DATE OF PASTORAL VOTE~~

~~When a pastoral vote is necessary according to the *Discipline*, it shall be taken throughout the District on the first Sunday of April, except when this date falls on Easter, in which event the pastoral vote shall be taken the following Sunday.~~

### ~~25. PASTORAL VOTE REVIEW~~

~~If a favorable pastoral vote is a majority, but less than eighty percent (80%), the DBA shall review pastoral relations and the pastor shall remain only at the recommendation of the DBA.~~

#### **24. PASTORAL VOTE**

***When a pastoral vote is necessary according to the Discipline, it shall be taken on a date designated by the District Board of Administration. If a favorable pastoral vote is a majority, but less than eighty percent (80%), the DBA shall review pastoral relations and the pastor shall remain only at the recommendation of the DBA.***

#### 26. PASTORAL SUPPORT

- A. The churches of the District, in addition to the regular stipulated salary, are urged to pay mileage for the use of the pastor's car in church work (it is suggested that the mileage rate allowed by the IRS be used), pastor's utilities, health insurance premiums, life insurance premiums and social security. The pastor's telephone expense, except for his personal long distance calls, shall be considered church incidental expense.
- B. The churches of the Western New York District shall furnish their parsonages with both a stove and a refrigerator.
- C. Churches who enter into a financial agreement with the pastor may, when needful, make adjustments of his/her obligation quarterly. The salary agreement is with the pastor involved rather than the office filled. A full settlement of the pastor's salary shall be made before the time of the Annual District conference.

#### 27. PASTORAL SERVICE YEAR

Pastoral changes shall take place on Monday following the second Sunday of July. Any exceptions shall be by written permission of the District Superintendent. A pastor will begin his/her service when his/her appointment is approved by the District Board of Administration (1233:9), with final approval by the District Conference (1180:26).

#### 28. PASTOR'S VACATION

- A. District pastors shall be given a minimum of three weeks vacation with pay (18 days plus three Sundays). Vacations shall range from a minimum of three weeks to a maximum of five with consideration being given to years of full-time service to The Wesleyan Church (guidelines for vacation time are: 1-9 years = 3 weeks; 10-19 years = 4 weeks; and 20 or more years = 5 weeks).
- B. Vacation may only be accumulated by prior agreement with the Local Church Board and upon moving any accumulated vacation will be forfeited and no cash would be paid in lieu of vacation except in special situations where the District Board of Administration shall determine otherwise.
- C. The church shall pay for the pulpit supply.

#### 29. PASTORS SABBATICAL

Every Wesleyan church is encouraged to provide a sabbatical leave for its pastor(s) every seven years of service. A sabbatical shall be for a minimum of four weeks in excess of vacation time with financial provisions as approved by the Local Board of Administration (724).

#### 30. PASTOR'S MOVING EXPENSE

The church calling a pastor to serve them shall make moving arrangements and be responsible for moving expenses, and if it necessitates the pastor moving across state lines, the cost of car registration and license shall be paid, not applying to salary.

#### 31. PASTOR'S RESPONSIBILITY TO THE DISTRICT

Every District pastor is expected to serve in at least one District ministry (LDJ, camps, auxiliaries, board & committees). ***Lead/Solo Pastor's attendance for monthly LDJ (Leadership Development Journey) is a requirement, while Assistant Pastors are encouraged to attend. All pastors are required to attend District Conference, and the Ordination Service, unless otherwise excused by the District Superintendent.*** Attendance at Refresh Family Camp is encouraged and it is strongly suggested that the Local Board of Administration encourage and support pastoral attendance and involvement. Furthermore, pastors will not be required to use their personal vacation time when assisting at or attending District camps.

#### 32. PASTOR'S APPRECIATION MONTH

The Western New York District shall observe October as Pastor(s) Appreciation Month. The Vice-chair or a person appointed by the Local Board of Administration shall have the responsibility to see that plans be made for proper observances throughout the month. The District Superintendent shall be responsible for sending appropriate notification to the Vice-chair of the Local Board of Administration.

#### 33. MEMBERSHIP IN THE WESLEYAN PENSION FUND

Everyone receiving work at the hands of the District shall be a member of the Wesleyan Pension Fund, in accordance with the Discipline, paragraph 4400-25. The money for this shall be sent to the pension fund of The Wesleyan Church. It shall not be used to purchase individual retirement benefits or be given to the pastor to purchase his/her own retirement insurance or for his/her own use.

#### 34. HEALTH INSURANCE PREMIUMS

The Western New York District of The Wesleyan Church provides a group health insurance plan to each pastor (including any ministerial staff) and each full-time ministerial employee of the District. Each church will be direct billed by the insurance provider. If an eligible person leaves the employ of an eligible church or of the District, he or she may continue the policy for a maximum of 18 months on an individual basis and at his or her own expense as allowed by the

insurance provider. Delinquent participants will be notified after missing the first required payment; and if payment is not forthcoming; after two months, “grace period” coverage will be terminated.

#### 35. LIFE INSURANCE COVERAGE

The Western New York District of The Wesleyan Church shall provide \$50,000 of life insurance on each pastor (including any ministerial staff) and each full-time ministerial employee of the District. Life insurance premium payments shall be made monthly to the Insurance Director by the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month in which they become due. After two months “grace” period, unless special consideration has been granted, delinquent participants will be notified that their coverage has lapsed. If an eligible person leaves the employ of an eligible church or of the District, he or she may continue the policy on an individual basis.

#### 36. CONTINUING EDUCATION

Each local church should encourage its pastor in continuing education credit by providing for the expense, or as much of the expense as possible, to a seminar or convention annually.

### LOCAL CHURCH

#### 37. LOCAL CHURCH GOALS

Each local church in the Western New York District shall develop goals and implement a strategy for outreach and discipleship and be prepared to share them with the District leadership.

#### 38. DISTRICT MISSIONARY SUPPORT

The churches of the District are urged to prayerfully considered giving priority support to the Global Partners missionaries from our region so that these workers would be fully funded and backed with a solid prayer team.

#### 39. GROUP PROPERTY INSURANCE

The Western New York District provides a group property insurance policy. Each church will be direct billed by the insurance provider.

#### 40. GROUP WORKERS COMPENSATION

THE Western New York District provides a group workers compensation insurance in which all District churches in New York State are required to participate, unless proof of comparable insurance can be shown to the District Board of Administration. Churches shall pay the worker’s compensation premium to the Insurance Treasurer within 60 days of the billing date, unless special consideration has been granted.

#### 41. ELECTION OF LOCAL CHURCH OFFICERS

- A. Each local church shall elect its officers ~~in the months of May or June~~, ***near the close of the fiscal year*** and the beginning of the term of office shall be

left to the discretion of the local church. Each local church, upon the election of their local trustees **and Local Board of Administration members** shall forward the names to the District Office for final ratification by the DBA. **update their church leaders in the Wesleyan Pastor Portal.**

- B. The District strongly discourages the election of multiple members of the same family to the Local Board of Administration.
- C. The spouse and family members (immediate and extended) of the Senior, Associate and Assistant Pastor should not serve on the Local Board of Administration, or should recuse themselves during pastor relations and budgetary deliberations.

#### 42. BUILDING AND REMODELING PLANS

- A. The District Board of Administration, in carrying out the work of the board in church and parsonage building and location shall annually appoint a District Building committee, to which it shall refer new building projects and remodeling projects exceeding ten percent of the value of the building.
- B. A church requesting approval of building plans and financing must submit plans for building and financing to the District Superintendent at least 30 days prior to the meeting of the District Board of Administration at which the plans will be considered. The District Board of Administration is authorized to make adjustments to this requirement.

#### 43. CHURCH INDEBTEDNESS

Local churches shall not procure notes or loans to exceed 10% of their last year's total receipts without approval of the District Board of Administration. ALL LOANS shall be reported to the District Superintendent, no matter what the amount.

#### 44. BUILDING PROJECT ADJUSTMENT

All appeals from the local church for the deducting of "extra funds" raised during the year and designated specifically for a District approved building project from its United Stewardship Fund obligation must be filed with the District Superintendent by March 1<sup>st</sup>. "Extra funds" refer only to those additional funds raised for the approved building project and do not include monies that have already been deducted from USF Base; ongoing mortgage payments, past or future; nor operating budget monies used for the project.

#### 45. DEEDS AND PROPERTY INSURANCE

It is required that each chairperson or acting chairperson of the Local Board of Administration furnish the District Superintendent a copy of the deed of all church properties and a certification of insurance of all church-owned properties, and that this be brought up to date each insurance renewal. The District highly recommends that each church participate in the District Group Property insurance program. Any church which does not participate must be insured for full replacement cost and with liability coverage comparable with the District coverage.

#### 46. NON-PAYMENT OF UNITED STEWARDSHIP FUND AND DISTRICT BUDGETS

The pastor, vice-chair and treasurer (or the chairperson of the finance committee if the church has such an office) of a church which does not meet its USF and District Budget obligations shall be required to meet with the District Board of Administration before convening of District Conference to explain the reason for default. For a local church that has not met its budget requirements for two consecutive years, the District Board of Administration may recommend a special vote of District Conference to approve the pastor's appointment.

#### 47. BUDGET ASSESSMENTS FOR NEWLY ORGANIZED CHURCHES

Newly organized churches shall be assessed on an escalating scale as follows: First year at 25%, second year to 50%, third year at 75%, and thereafter at 100%.

#### 48. BUDGET ASSESSMENT CAPS

The District Budget shall be computed on only the first \$540,000 **\$555,000** of assessable income. This budget cap shall be reviewed annually by the District Board of Administration and changes be recommended to the District Conference.

### MISCELLANEOUS

#### 49. ORDINATION SERVICE

Arrangements for the ordination service shall be in the hands of the District Board of Administration and the General Superintendent.

#### 50. SERVICE RECOGNITION

~~C. There shall be a Service Recognition committee of two members, one ordained minister and one layperson from the same geographical area, elected by the District Conference from nominations submitted by the Nominating committee for terms of four years. The committee shall prepare a memorial page for the conference journal in honor of pastors and conference officials who have passed away during the preceding year. Further, a brief time of memorial and service recognition may be provided on the conference agenda. Certificates of services will also be presented recognizing stationed service in The Wesleyan Church, or its predecessors of 10 years, 20 years and each 5 years thereafter.~~

~~D. At retirement a plaque shall be given recognizing the years of stationed service to The Wesleyan Church and its predecessors. In addition, if the person who is retiring has completed 25 years or more of stationed service to The Wesleyan Church or its predecessors, an appropriate gift shall be given.~~

~~E. Those included in this recognition are persons from the Western New York District serving the church in a full-time capacity as a licensed, ordained, or commissioned pastor, teacher, missionary, evangelist, special worker, or administrator who is appointed to such capacity of service in The Wesleyan Church or one of its institutions.~~

*There shall be a Service Recognition Committee of 2-4 people appointed by the District Board of Administration. The committee shall be responsible for providing appropriate recognition for persons from the Western New York District serving the church in a full-time capacity as a licensed, ordained, or commissioned pastor, teacher, missionary, evangelist, special worker, or administrator appointed to service in The Wesleyan Church or one of its institutions. The committee will be responsible for recognizing ministers beginning at 10 years of service and every 5-year increment thereafter and upon retirement. This service of recognition may take place at the Annual District Conference, District Ordination Service or other venue as determined by the District Board of Administration.*

*Editorial Change – replace “Family Camp” with “Refresh Retreat & Family Camp” throughout the document.*

Respectfully Submitted,  
**2017 District Conference Action Committee**

Jason Argo, Ministerial Member  
Marcus Dean, Ministerial Member  
Tammy Dunmire, Lay Member  
Joseph Jennings, District Superintendent  
Kim Pecora, District Treasurer  
Ashley Ward, Lay Member



## URBAN ADVOCACY REPORT TO DISTRICT CONFERENCE 2017

**General Conference of The Wesleyan Church**, June 4-8, 2016, was hosted in Buffalo, with Wesleyans from around North America and around the world. Sunday afternoon during the conference, several international Wesleyan representatives were invited to preach in local Bhutanese-Nepali, Burmese and Swahili-speaking congregations. These distinguished guests were welcomed warmly.

A pre-conference seminar, ***“Faithful Presence,”*** included approximately 150 people- both visiting guests and Buffalo ministry resource persons who shared stories of how, as followers of Jesus, we can become fully engaged in communities we serve. Jeremiah 29 extends a call to God’s people in Babylonian captivity: “Seek the welfare of the city and pray to the Lord on its behalf.” Likewise, the vision of faithful presence calls us as believers to enact the shalom of God and to pursue it actively. Christians share a world with others, and we can contribute to its overall flourishing in the places we live and work. So, our ministries are a long-term project, especially as we face challenges with growing needs of immigrants and refugees, race and poverty, and the need to build up the church. Seminar break-out groups addressed collaborative church ministry, health care, education, and anti-human trafficking. Themes of faithful and transforming presence continue to be echoed by Wesleyan Church leaders.

For fall semester at ***Houghton College Buffalo***, 55 young adult students were enrolled and welcomed. Ruth taught “Literature of the Bible” and Steve, “History of Christianity.” We also coordinated times of student fellowship, Bible studies and visiting speakers who encouraged students in their faith.

Barbara Farrow and family worked with ***Grace Community Church*** to host a surprise appreciation event for Pastor Cap in October. Last summer Eastern Hills Church led a VBS and did major renovation of the playground. Grace Community church has a deep desire to grow in collaboration with the neighborhood for the sake of making this community of Buffalo’s westside a better place.

***Mission of Christ*** has been developing leadership and children’s ministries, and the congregation continues to grow. Pastor Yoshua Bashizi has been joined by Pastor Byaombe Swedy in leading this work. Six new believers were prepared for baptism this past year. In November, this congregation moved into House of Grace to share the building with Grace Community.

***Other church and ministry partnerships*** are being explored. You can be a blessing-- with a congregation, in mentoring, or a day’s work in the city. Pray about and follow God’s leading for service.

***Spiritual care at Jericho Road Community Health Center***-Ruth has continued work with spiritual care at clinics on westside and eastside and stepped into leadership responsibility in April. This gives many opportunities to serve spiritual needs—for long-time Buffalo residents, newcomers to our community and Jericho Road staff.

***“Immigrant Connection”*** – is a ministry of The Wesleyan Church, featured at General Conference. It prepares churches to respond to legal needs of low-income immigrants. Steve is developing resources for capacity to open this ministry in our region as God directs. *Church Leader’s Guide to Immigration (World Relief, p. 11)* describes this as a missional opportunity for the transforming Gospel through the lives of immigrants. We don’t want to miss this blessing.

Thank you for your prayers and partnership.

Steve and Ruth Strand

## GOD'S WORK IN BUFFALO – PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

*Grace Community* –175 Potomac- **Soccer Camp** instructors and assistants needed – July 26-28 (Contact Joe Piazza - [joejpiazza@hotmail.com](mailto:joejpiazza@hotmail.com))

*Mission of Christ* – 175 Potomac- with Swahili and Kinyarwanda speakers through an interpreter, you may help with **children's ministry on a Sunday afternoon** and support the young leaders. (Contact Ruth Strand – [urbanadvocacy@gmail.com](mailto:urbanadvocacy@gmail.com))

*House of Grace* – 175 Potomac- **work projects** that will bless three congregations and other ministries in this building, (Contact Steve Strand– [urbanadvocacy@gmail.com](mailto:urbanadvocacy@gmail.com))

*City Life youth ministry* –225 Glenwood Ave, provide a **meal**, help with **urban gardening**, or apply to serve as a **youth ministry volunteer** (Contact Rod McCallum - [rmccallum@yfcmail.org](mailto:rmccallum@yfcmail.org))

*Vive* - 50 Wyoming – **Summer Youth Program** – facilitate 3 hours of programing for **children, ages 3-10**, 3-5 days one week of the summer. Activities could include stories, crafts, games, songs, etc. (Contact Ruth Strand – [ruth.strand@jrhc.org](mailto:ruth.strand@jrhc.org) or Marie Moy, Manager of Volunteer Engagement - [marie.moy@jrhc.org](mailto:marie.moy@jrhc.org))  
Other volunteer opportunities at Vive – transportation to area churches; construction projects and sorting donations

*Shakespeare Comes to (716), Peace of the City* – **Youth Theater**-- Shea's Smith Theater, 658 Main St., support youth in their performances on June 29 and 20, 7 pm (doors open at 6 pm), "Pay as you can"

*Urban Church Partnerships or "Immigrant Connection"*- (Contact Steve at [urbanadvocacy@gmail.com](mailto:urbanadvocacy@gmail.com))

## REFRESH DIRECTORS

2016 was another great year for Refresh!

Pastor Mike Hilson (Senior Pastor of New Life Church in La Plata, Maryland) did a wonderful job as our evening rally speaker. Houghton graduate Taylor Wilding (Worship Director at Victory Highway Wesleyan Church) capably led the music ministry.

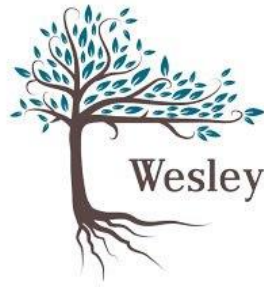
A great team of WNY people made *Refresh16* happen. Katie & I would like to give special thanks to Joey & Maribeth (and the District Board) for their support and Kim Pecora for overseeing our finances. We had an amazing leadership team. Our children's ministries were led wonderfully by Melissa Cahill (nursery), Bob & Julie Dahlin (grades 1-2), Harold Blew (Grades 3-4), and Al Myers (grades 5-6). The teen tract was led by Jon Cole with much help from Houghton College ministry team members (Thanks Steve Dunmire!). Megan Cusumano provided additional children's activities. Thanks to each of you (and to your helpers!). Special thanks also to our team of helpers from our home church (Hess Road Wesleyan). We literally couldn't do it without you!

We are so thankful to Houghton College for providing us a wonderful campus to enjoy. Much thanks to Becca Crouch and her staff for helping to make all of Houghton's resources available to us and working with us so much throughout the year.

*Refresh17* will take place July 30<sup>th</sup> – August 4<sup>th</sup>. Our evening speaker this year will be Pastor Derek Vreeland. Derek is a Discipleship Pastor at Word of Life Church in St. Joseph, Missouri. Dr. Armenio Suzano Jr. (Dean & Director of the Greatbatch School of Music at Houghton College) will be our worship leader. We're so looking forward to this week together!

As usual, there will be plenty of great seminars, music, afternoon activities, food, etc. Please check out [www.refreshathoughton.com](http://www.refreshathoughton.com) for more information. Registrations are due by July 1<sup>st</sup> and may be completely filled out online.

Respectfully submitted,  
Matthew & Katie Rose (Co-Directors)



## Wesleyan Women's Movement

May 10, 2017

Dr. Joseph W. Jennings

District Superintendent

Western New York District of the Wesleyan Church

Dear District Conference,

I would like to begin by communicating my sincere thanks to the District as well as to Joey Jennings for offering me the opportunity to step into the Director of Women's Ministry role during the summer of 2016. I am loving every bit of it.

Our leadership group consists of Ashely Ward, Daniella Shambach, Kim Pecora, Nicole Argo, Julie Leininger, Robin Schara, and myself (Kristen Sanasith). We meet monthly to plan future events, recap past successes and pray for this ministry.

Within this past year, Wesleyan Women have coupled with various larger institutions/organizations to extend our reach. On April 22, 2017 we were wrapped into Houghton College's Women of Worship event which included speakers from Proverbs 31 Ministry as well as a concert by Laura Story. About 100 women took part in the option specifically tailored for our group, which included a fellowship dinner and front section seating during the evening events.

During Refresh Camp this summer, Wesleyan Women will be throwing a Generations Tea. We will have various short testimonies from women representing multiple life stages of how God is being glorified in this season of their life.

In the fall, we are working with P.A.T.H. (People Against Trafficking Humans) to have an awareness walk through Chestnut Ridge Park. We will be raising funds for P.A.T.H. through registration fees. We also will incorporate Steve Dunmire and his daughter Hannah's beautiful music for worship.

We are also in the beginning stages of exploring the possibility of another New York City road trip! This will possibly happen early spring 2018.

I have been exceedingly blessed to have Ashley Ward continue to serve in our group and lend wise advice throughout these past months. I'm looking forward to how God will use us in the months ahead.

Many thanks,

Kristen Sanasith



## WNY Youth Ministry Report 2017

Some highlights from last years district youth events included the Love Buffalo home missions trip (July 11-15), the teen track at Refresh Family Camp (July 24-29), and our district winter retreat at Camp Hickory Hill (Jan 27-29).

I am very grateful to this district for investing in the lives of our teens. These events gave time and space for us to seek God, to focus our lives on Him and on His word, and to be a part of His work in our world.

Ongoing goals (in bold) include:

### 1. Support our smaller church youth ministries in concrete ways:

- a. Offer regular training in youth ministry and Safechurch practices.
  - i. We met twice this year and are really enjoying these times of team building, refreshment, good ideas, and training.
  - ii. *“Stewards of Children” child sexual abuse prevention training course* – We are making this training available at no cost for all children and youth ministry workers in our district. This course satisfies the national office guidelines for children and youth ministry workers. Pastor Jon Cole is able to come to your facility and do the training for your children and youth ministry staff. Give him a call for more details.
  - iii. FUEL – Feb 2-4, 2017 several youth workers from our district attended the Wesleyan youth leaders gathering in Indianapolis. It was a fantastic time of equipping and fellowship! Join us next year for this exciting time of growth!



### 2. Continue to help make district-wide events more financially viable for students:

- a. We are building intentional budgets with an eye toward supporting district events and making them more affordable for your students!
- b. The National Youth convention is planned for Christmas vacation 2019, put it on your calendar now!

As we look to the new year, pray for Pastor Tom Neary as he takes over the role of DYP! Also pray that God will make our churches places where young people are drawn into transforming relationships with Jesus. Pray that our youth will experience Jesus in personal and powerful ways as we worship and serve together! Also pray that God will enable each of us as adults to live our lives with Christ in such a way that young people in our spheres of influence cannot help but be drawn to Him. Finally, pray for our study of God’s Word, that this solid foundation will result in students who are effective, lifelong, servants of Jesus Christ.

May God richly bless you in this upcoming year! Pastor Jon Cole



## Director of Children's Ministries

The WNY District children's ministry team continued to explore new ideas and resourcing opportunities for the children and children's ministry leaders in our district and our denomination.

This past summer the team once again participated in Refresh Camp at Houghton College, where we organized a couple of rounds of "Organized Mass Chaos" on The Quad. This event was an opportunity for children and families to come have some crazy, chaotic fun with items such as shaving cream, crackers, cheese puffs, and toilet paper. A fantastic, yet messy time was enjoyed by everyone in attendance. We also enjoyed a time of bottle rocket creation, both adults and children, as we prepared for our annual water bottle rocket launch, scheduled for after Friday morning worship in Wesley Chapel. We launched over 30 rockets - some multiple times! It was an enjoyable time for the whole camp to come together for some fun.

On Saturday, March 4<sup>th</sup>, we hosted our own WNY District #KidzStuff17 Conference. Keynote speaker, Tracy Parker, from Victory Highway Wesleyan Church, shared about the important stages of children's lives and how we as a church can make the most of these moments we have available to us. During the event, several speakers shared about important topics such as child safety, community outreach, sharing the Bible stories in engaging ways, and worship music for kids. Over fifty children ministry workers from our district and other districts attended this daylong event. We plan to make this an annual event. I would like to take a moment and thank Chris Claassen for his hard work and organization of this year's event. His efforts made this successful event possible.

#KidzStuff18 is scheduled for Saturday, February 24, 2018 at The Wesleyan Church of Hamburg. We are planning short "Ted Talk" style presentations with table discussions as well as even more hands on events to help encourage and energize children's ministry in the local churches.

I would like to thank the WNY District for allowing me the opportunity to minister to their children and children's ministers over the past six years. Due to my increasing responsibilities in my current church setting, I am unable to continue serving as our district's children's ministry director. However, I do plan to continue on as a part of the WNY District children's ministry team. I am grateful for the opportunity to serve this district and for the many friendships and memories I have made over the years. It has been a true blessing.

In Christ,

Megan Cusumano

## **DISTRICT DIRECTOR OF BEST YEARS FELLOWSHIP**

Once again it has been a privilege to serve as the BYF (+55) Director. The annual senior luncheon was held on Monday, July 25, at Refresh Camp. The program consisted of Steve Johnson, Anchor Church Plant; Matthew Rose, Lockport "Refinery"; and Steve Strand, Urban Ministry Update.

The program "Senior's for the City" (designed to hear from representatives of the various Buffalo West Side Ministries with a noon lunch following), was rescheduled for September, but due to a lack of response this program was canceled.

Plans for the Refresh Senior Luncheon, on Monday, July 30, will feature our District Superintendent, Joey Jennings, with the emphasis of "Preparing the Church for Revival." Please encourage your seniors to register and attend this special time of fellowship and inspiration.

Rev. Roy DeVries

Best Year's Fellowship (+55) Director

## **Report from Audit Committee**

Based on the Audit Committee's Review of the financial information and discussions with those responsible for the finances of the District, the financial statements for the fiscal year ending May 31, 2017 appear to be reasonably stated following the principles of fund accounting.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the District Board of Administration of the Western New York District, Inc. and management of the District and is not intended to be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

June 12, 2017



**Statistical Summary**  
WNY District of The Wesleyan Church  
2016 - 2017

	2015	2016	2017	Change	%
<b>Membership</b>					
<b>Student Members</b>	93	118	119	1	0.8%
<b>Community Members</b>	743	771	<i>discontinued</i>		
<b>Members (formerly Covenant Members)</b>	2,235	2,195	2,748	553	25.2%
<b>Ministries</b>					
<b>Average Worship Attendance</b>	6,933	6,825	7,177	352	5.2%
<b>Average Sunday School Attendance</b>	1,938	1,832	1,738	-94	-5.1%
<b>Persons Saved</b>	356	403	476	73	18.1%
<b>Persons Baptized</b>	171	229	367	138	60.3%
<b>Discipleship Responsibility List</b>					
<b>Children</b>	2,444	2,850	3,133	283	9.9%
<b>Youth</b>	1,190	1,136	1,005	-131	-11.5%
<b>Adults</b>	6,522	6,303	6,630	327	5.2%
<b>Easter Sunday Attendance</b>	10,261	10,511	12,033	1,522	14.5%
<b>Property</b>					
<b>Value of Church Buildings</b>	\$70,201,557	\$70,367,770	\$69,940,648	-427,122	-0.6%
<b>Value of Parsonages</b>	\$3,916,077	\$4,051,100	\$4,789,000	737,900	18.2%
<b>Total Indebtedness</b>	\$7,748,635	\$7,079,090	\$6,500,760	-578,330	-8.2%
<b>Income</b>					
<b>Tithes and Offerings</b>	\$11,285,188	\$11,924,365	\$11,290,085	-634,280	-5.3%
<b>Total of All Revenue</b>	<b>\$13,624,081</b>	<b>\$13,642,237</b>	<b>\$13,177,303</b>	<b>-464,934</b>	<b>-3.4%</b>
<b>Disbursements</b>					
<b>Salary to Pastors</b>	\$908,177	\$996,746	\$1,035,027	38,281	3.8%
<b>Other Benefits to Pastors</b>	\$849,262	\$805,319	\$803,976	-1,343	-0.2%
<b>Salary to Assistant Pastors</b>	\$920,690	\$966,872	\$1,024,942	58,070	6.0%
<b>Other Benefits to Assistant Pastors</b>	\$897,553	\$865,310	\$1,016,088	150,778	17.4%
<b>Global Partners Missionaries</b>	\$325,763	\$284,971	\$262,570	-22,401	-7.9%
<b>World Hope International</b>			\$79,169	new category	
<b>All Other Missions</b>	\$1,510,206	\$1,392,684	\$1,328,765	-63,919	-4.6%
<b>Benevolent Ministries</b>	\$193,837	\$199,157	\$224,984	25,827	13.0%
<b>Total of all Disbursements</b>	<b>\$13,162,421</b>	<b>\$12,800,608</b>	<b>\$13,321,325</b>	<b>520,717</b>	<b>4.1%</b>

Dear WNY District,

There are new challenges facing Christian colleges in New York State. Governor Cuomo and New York State recently rolled out a plan for the Excelsior Scholarship, a new scholarship program which promises to cover the cost of tuition at SUNY and CUNY schools for some residents of New York State. While any attempt to make higher education more accessible and affordable is to be commended, this legislation makes it even more challenging for colleges like Houghton when private educational institutions were already facing an uphill climb.

At such a time as this, you can help Houghton College and our other Wesleyan Educational Institutions by encouraging high school students to take all of the factors into consideration. In particular, there are several key factors to keep in mind about the Excelsior Scholarship:

- It does *not* include room, board, and fees.
- Students must be enrolled full-time and graduate within four years.
- Students must then stay in NYS for the same number of years as they received the scholarship.
- The scholarship becomes a *loan* if any of these conditions are not met.

Meanwhile Houghton College provides a Christ-centered education for a lifetime of significant impact.

- Houghton consistently ranks in the top 3% of best value institutions in the nation (*USA Today, 2017*).
- Houghton's student-to-faculty ratio of less than 14:1 is part of an exceptional learning environment.
- Houghton has the best retention rate of any institution in Western New York (*Buffalo Business First College Guide, 2015*).
- Houghton's average time to graduation is 4.1 years, and our graduation rate is one of the best in NYS.
- 97% of graduates reported employment or graduate school enrollment *within nine months of graduation*.
- Houghton College provides a Christ-centered education in the Wesleyan tradition.

We are confident that for most students the actual cost of attendance at Houghton is competitive with other institutions, while providing an exceptional educational experience in a Christ-centered environment.

On behalf of all of our Wesleyan colleges, universities, and seminaries, thank you for your generous support of Wesleyan higher education through your USF/EIF dollars. Houghton College, Kingswood University, Indiana Wesleyan University, Oklahoma Wesleyan University, Southern Wesleyan University, and Wesley Seminary exist to serve the church. Your support makes for stronger Educational Institutions and a strong Wesleyan Church.

In Christ,



Dr. Steven L. Dunmire  
WNY District Director of Education

## DISTRICT DIRECTOR OF GLOBAL PARTNERS

*...so that all people may know of your mighty acts and the glorious splendor of your kingdom*  
Psalm 145:12

Many thanks to all of the members of the Western New York District. Your generous support of our 2016 project, “**Adopt a Pastor**” raised **\$15,536** to send all of our Haitian Pastors to the first ever, “EQUIP HAITI Pastor’s Retreat.” Your kingdom investment allowed almost 200 pastors to assemble together and be refreshed and trained and to gain a new sense of cooperation between the Haitian pastors for moving forward.

Last year, we presented three concluding recommendations for our districts’ strategic continued partnership with Haiti and WNY rose to the occasion:

- 1) Partner with a church – Thank you to the churches that have continued to explore ways of partnering with churches in Haiti.
- 2) Sponsor a Pastor – Goal met of our district being the sole district sponsor side of the support for the historic empowering event at the Equip Haiti Pastor’s Retreat. We even had money left over to send an additional gift to the Haitian National Church!
- 3) Attend the Partnering Well Seminar – thanks to all who joined us at Family Camp last year where we presented suggested points of partnering well:
  - a) LISTEN (to what the people are saying, Haitian theologians, etc...)
  - b) LEARN (from those on the field and the Haitian National Church)
  - c) LOVE (Treat Haitians with dignity and respect)
  - d) LEVERAGE (Invest in empowering and training)
- 4) Join a mission team – Thank you to all who have been part of mission outreaches over the past year.

Our district has been on a journey with the country of Haiti for many years. Let us not be weary in well doing. This Facebook post update from our missionaries Carl & Maya Giles give us cause for celebration. We can be thankful that perhaps we are playing a small part in this empowerment process through encouraging and equipping the Haitian pastors:

“Yesterday we had a fruitful meeting with the National Church re the Development of the Petit Goave Campus. Can't wait to see what 2018 has in store for this campus. Their goal is to become a self-sustaining national church! Can't be prouder!! Here is what WE can do to help: a MISSIONARY FAMILY (construction & hosting background) and many CONSTRUCTION TEAMS that will be doing repairs & new buildings! Many prayers are appreciated!”

So Western New York District, carry on!

Peacefully,

Kimberly Gladden, WNY District Global Partners Director

# DBA REPORT ON PASTORAL RELATIONS

## I. ORDAINED MINISTERS

### A. APPOINTED ORDAINED MINISTERS (3250-3345)

#### 1. DISTRICT SERVICE

The District Superintendent and other ordained ministers in full-time service of the district in a ministerial capacity (3320):

1. **Joseph W. Jennings, District Superintendent**

#### 2. PASTORAL AND LOCAL SERVICE

Ordained Ministers appointed as pastors, associate or assistant pastors within the district (3255):

1. **Jason K. Argo – Assistant, Orchard Park**
2. **Dale M. Argot – Eldred**
3. **Pamela L. Argot – Assistant, Eldred**
4. **Christopher M. Baldwin – Depew, Vine**
5. **Tammy R. Baldwin – Assistant, Depew, Vine**
6. **Kevin D. Beers – Assistant, Hamburg**
7. **Richard A. Bennett – Assistant, Williamsville**
8. **J. Corey Budwine – Assistant, Depew, Vine**
9. **Gale E. Cirocco – Assistant, Hamburg**
10. **Christopher J. Claassen – Assistant, Hamburg**
11. **Jason W. H. Claydon – Falconer Peace**
12. **Tammy M. Claydon – Assistant, Falconer Peace**
13. **James D. Clements – Assistant, Hamburg**
14. **Karen M. Cleveland – East Leon**
15. **Jon P. Cole – Assistant, Houghton**
16. **M. Megan Cusumano – Assistant, Cuba**
17. **Shawn M. Dewey – Assistant, Williamsville**
18. **Michael G. Dwyer Jr. – Assistant, Williamsville**
19. **Bruce M. Ellis – Forestville**
20. **Patricia A. Ellis – Assistant, Forestville**
21. **Casper C. Farrow – Buffalo, Grace Community**
22. **Paul E. Gartley – Assistant, Hamburg**
23. **Robin W. George – Wellsville**
24. **Kimberly B. Gladden – Cheektowaga, Zion Quest**
25. **Douglas F. Ingersoll – Blasdell**
26. **Steven C. Johnson – Buffalo Anchor**
27. **Daniel P. Jones – Orchard Park**
28. **Justin R. Jones – Assistant, Williamsville**
29. **Patrick B. Jones – Williamsville**
30. **Richard G. Kaylor – Assistant, West Seneca**
31. **Neil A. Koppen – West Seneca**
32. **William R. Lawson – Fillmore**
33. **Jacob R. Leckel – Assistant, West Seneca**
34. **Michael D. Leamon – Silver Creek**
35. **Justin P. Leininger – North Collins**
36. **Alicia J. McGeorge – Assistant, Fillmore**
37. **Nila M. McIntyre – Assistant, Olean**
38. **Alan L. Meyers – Falconer Levant**

39. **Thomas C. Neary – Assistant, Hamburg**
40. **Richard W. Nightingale – East Aurora**
41. **William P. Nykyforchyn – Assistant, Hamburg**
42. **Cynthia A. Oden – Assistant, Houghton**
43. **Wesley D. Oden – Houghton**
44. **Paul D. Palmer – Nunda**
45. **D. Joseph Payne - Appleton**
46. **Matthew A. Rose – Lockport/Assistant, Appleton**
47. **Rebecca G. Rowley – Assistant, Fillmore**
48. **Robin M. Schara, Assistant, Williamsville**
49. **Jason A. Shambach – Canaseraga**
50. **David Shamenda – Depew, Home City**
51. **Paul W. Shea – Assistant, Houghton**
52. **Laurie J. Smalley – Assistant, Houghton**
53. **Bruce J. Smith – Freedom**
54. **Michael J. Trippett - Angola**
55. **Karen L. Tucker - Lyndonville**
56. **Jonathan D. Ward – Cuba**
57. **Darren S. Wieder – Assistant, Hamburg**
58. **Daniel L. Wilson – Assistant, Appleton**
59. **E. John Wood III – Assistant, Hamburg**
60. **Rebecca L. Wood – Assistant, Hamburg**

**3. EVANGELISTIC SERVICE**

- a. General Evangelists (3270, 3285): None
- b. Associate General Evangelists (3270, 3280): None
- c. Reserve Evangelists (3270, 3274, 3285:2): None

**4. DENOMINATIONAL SERVICE**

- a. Ordained Ministers elected by the General Conference or General Board of Administration as general officials (3320): None
- b. Ordained Ministers employed at the International Center, or those elected or employed by the board of directors of a general subsidiary corporation other than an educational institution, for full-time general church service in a ministerial capacity as set forth in 3320 (cf. 1655:31):
  1. **Kimberly B. Gladden (Director of Discipleship)**
- c. Ordained Ministers appointed by the General Board of Administration for service in a ministerial capacity as missionaries or workers under the General Departments of Evangelism and Church Growth or World Missions as set forth in 3300:
  1. **Kevin M. Austin – Global Partners (Czech Republic)**
  2. **Christopher R. George – Global Partners (Australia)**
  3. **Melissa J. George – Global Partners (Australia)**
- d. Ordained Ministers employed to serve in a ministerial capacity on the administrative staff or faculty of a general educational institution of The Wesleyan Church or one of the seminaries approved by the Wesleyan Seminary Foundation (3310, df. 2365, 2382):
  1. **Marcus W. Dean – Houghton College**
  2. **Steven L. Dunmire – Houghton College**
  3. **J. Michael Jordan – Houghton College**
  4. **John L. (J. L.) Miller – Houghton College**

**5. CHAPLAINS (3330):**

Ordained Ministers approved by the Committee on Chaplains and commissioned by the government as military chaplains, or employed as full-time professional institutional chaplains: None

**6. INTERCHURCH SERVICE (3335):**

Ordained Ministers employed in a ministerial capacity in interchurch service, serving with an educational, evangelistic or missionary organization not directly related to The Wesleyan Church, provided such service is approved by the district conference.

1. **Wayne A. MacBeth (World Hope International)**
2. **Frederick A. Raines (Athletes In Action)**

**7. SPECIAL SERVICE (3345):**

Ordained Ministers serving in active ministry not otherwise provided for, if such service is approved by the district conference.

- |                                   |                                    |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. <b>Ronald P. Duttweiler</b>    | 5. <b>Stephen C. Strand</b>        |
| 2. <b>Richard B. Heitzenrater</b> | 6. <b>Ruth Woolsey Strand</b>      |
| 3. <b>Paul F. Markell</b>         | 7. <b>Michael J. Wrigglesworth</b> |

**B. RETIRED ORDAINED MINISTERS:**

Ordained Ministers retired because of age or incapacitated by infirmity, provided they were either on the appointed list, on reserve, or on educational leave at the time of such incapacitation or retirement (3370):

- |                              |                                |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. <b>LeRoy N. Bannister</b> | 13. <b>Ronald L. Logan</b>     |
| 2. <b>Allen S. Chase</b>     | 14. <b>Charles M. Massey</b>   |
| 3. <b>Atwood J. Cool</b>     | 15. <b>Floyd E. Merriam</b>    |
| 4. <b>Wayne P. Cox</b>       | 16. <b>Timothy J. Miller</b>   |
| 5. <b>Roger M. Crassi</b>    | 17. <b>Fred J. Moore</b>       |
| 6. <b>Nelson D. Crowell</b>  | 18. <b>Steven R. Pocock</b>    |
| 7. <b>Roy H. DeVries</b>     | 19. <b>Carl Schultz</b>        |
| 8. <b>Daniel R. Duda</b>     | 20. <b>Carol A. Schweigart</b> |
| 9. <b>Roger J. Farney</b>    | 21. <b>Gordon L. Strong</b>    |
| 10. <b>Hudson S. Hess</b>    | 22. <b>Margaret D. Walker</b>  |
| 11. <b>Charles F. Hill</b>   | 23. <b>J. Michael Walters</b>  |
| 12. <b>Duane A. Kofahl</b>   | 24. <b>Warren M. Woolsey</b>   |

**C. RESERVE ORDAINED MINISTERS (3360):**

Ordained Ministers available for but without appointment. An ordained minister who remains on reserve for two consecutive years shall be automatically transferred to the list of ordained ministers without appointment unless continued on reserve by vote of the district conference. (*\*Denotes number of years listed in this category*).

- |                                  |                                 |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. <b>Jessica M. Benson *</b>    | 5. <b>Teresa S. Lazewski *</b>  |
| 2. <b>Todd E. Glendenning **</b> | 6. <b>Richard K. Long *</b>     |
| 3. <b>Clyde E. Hall IV *</b>     | 7. <b>Gregory W. McClain **</b> |
| 4. <b>Arthur S. Lazewski *</b>   |                                 |

**D. ORDAINED MINISTERS ON EDUCATIONAL LEAVE (3350:1):**

Ordained Ministers enrolled in a seminary or other graduate school for advanced training for church service.

**1. Bradley J. Haas – Asbury Theological Seminary**

**E. ORDAINED MINISTERS WITHOUT APPOINTMENT (3380):**

1. Ordained Ministers not available for appointment: None (*\*Denotes number of years listed in this category*).

2. Ordained Ministers employed in other than a ministerial capacity by the general church (3320), by a general educational institution or one of the seminaries connected with the Wesleyan Seminary foundation (3310) or in interchurch service (3335): None

3. Ordained Ministers not otherwise listed: None

**F. ORDAINED MINISTERS IN PROCESS OF DISTRICT TRANSFER: None**

Ordained Ministers receiving appointment by the district conference 1240:1 A, B, C or D but whose process of transfer between districts of The Wesleyan Church are not yet completed:

1. PENDING COMPLETION OF DISTRICT TRANSFER

2. APPLIED FOR DISTRICT TRANSFER

**1. Eric A. Currie to Florida District**

**2. Paul J. Wilczek to Kentucky/Tennessee District**

**E. ORDAINED MINISTERS IN PROCESS OF DENOMINATIONAL TRANSFER (3104; 3390):**

Ordained Ministers from another denomination who have been granted recognition as ordained ministers in process of transfer (1180:29a; cf. 1390:3; 3104):

1. PENDING COMPLETION OF DENOMINATIONAL TRANSFER

**1. John A. Gallegos from Joy Community Church – Joy Community**

**2. Judy Gallegos from Joy Community Church – Joy Community**

**3. Kenneth Nash from the United Methodist Church – Hamburg**

2. APPLIED FOR DENOMINATIONAL TRANSFER

**1. Darryl S. Lockie to the United Methodist Church**

***II. COMMISSIONED MINISTERS***

**A. PASTORS (3255): None**

Commissioned ministers appointed as pastors or as full-time associate or assistant pastors of Wesleyan churches in that district (317; 1083:3).

**B. OTHER APPOINTMENTS (3059): None**

Commissioned ministers appointed to service in a local church Christian education program (3310:2) or in a ministerial capacity to district, denominational or interchurch service (3250; 3300; 3320; 3335) and those in retirement (3059:4).

- C. **COMMISSIONED MINISTERS WITHOUT APPOINTMENT (3380): None**
- D. **COMMISSIONED MINISTERS IN PROCESS OF DISTRICT TRANSFER: None**
- E. **COMMISSIONED MINISTERS IN PROCESS OF DENOMINATIONAL TRANSFER: None**
- F. **RETIRED COMMISSIONED MINISTERS (3370:2): None**

### ***III. LICENSED MINISTERS***

#### **A. PASTORS (3255):**

Licensed ministers appointed as pastors or as full-time associate of assistant pastors of Wesleyan churches in that district (317; 1083:3).

1. **April A. Allen – Assistant, West Seneca**
2. **Daniel W. Butcher – Little Valley**
3. **Dominique Clements – Assistant, North Collins**
4. **Robert H. Grimes – Caneadea, Bellville**
5. **Shawn F. King – Assistant, Williamsville**
6. **Melinda D. Loew – Assistant, Hamburg**
7. **Terri L. Niver – Bradford**
8. **Elijah D. Shamenda – Assistant, Orchard Park**
9. **Suk May Yei – Assistant, Williamsville**

#### **B. OTHER APPOINTMENTS:**

Licensed ministers appointed to service in a local church Christian education program (3310:2) or in a ministerial capacity to district, denominational or interchurch service (3250; 3300; 3320; 3335).

1. **William J. “Duffy” Smith – WNY District Coach**
2. **Alan D. Trotter Jr. – Assistant, United Methodist Church (Bradford, PA)**

#### **C. IN PROCESS OF DISTRICT TRANSFER:**

1. PENDING COMPLETION OF DISTRICT TRANSFER
2. APPLIED FOR DISTRICT TRANSFER

#### **D. IN PROCESS OF DENOMINATIONAL TRANSFER: None**

Licensed ministers or their equivalent from other denominations who have been granted recognition as licensed ministers in process of transfer (3104).

### ***IV. MINISTERIAL STUDENTS***

#### **A. MINISTERIAL STUDENTS**

Those approved by the district conference to be licensed as ministerial students as set forth in 3015:1.

- |                             |                              |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. <b>Monty D. Ader</b>     | 7. <b>Trevor J. Kaufman</b>  |
| 2. <b>Ian L. Archer</b>     | 8. <b>Jeffery M. Lawson</b>  |
| 3. <b>Yoshua Bashizi</b>    | 9. <b>Joshua J. Mason</b>    |
| 4. <b>Daniel J. Brawdy</b>  | 10. <b>James McLean</b>      |
| 5. <b>Andrew J. Fidurko</b> | 11. <b>Shirley A. Mullen</b> |
| 6. <b>Adam Funch</b>        | 12. <b>Stephen Priola</b>    |



**B. MINISTERIAL STUDENTS IN PROCESS OF DISTRICT TRANSFER: None**

1. PENDING COMPLETION OF DISTRICT TRANSFER

3. APPLIED FOR DISTRICT TRANSFER

***V. LAY WORKERS***

**A. COMMISSIONED SPECIAL WORKERS (3450; 3470): None**

**B. COMMISSIONED SPECIAL WORKERS IN PROCESS OF TRANSFER (3450; 3470): None**

**C. LICENSED SPECIAL WORKERS (3450; 3460):**

1. Paul Burdick

**D. COMMISSIONED LAY MISSIONARIES (3490): None**

**E. SUPPLY PASTORS (3260): None**

**F. DENOMINATIONAL OFFICERS: None**

Respectfully submitted, District Board of Administration  
Western New York District, Robin W. George, District Secretary

## **Report of the Nominating Committee**

June 17, 2017

### **District Treasurer**

- Kim Pecora (Angola Wesleyan Church)

### **District Board of Administration**

#### Ministerial (Electing 2)

- Jason Argo (Orchard Park Wesleyan Church)
- Patti Ellis (Forestville Wesleyan Church)
- Patrick Jones (Eastern Hills Wesleyan Church)
- Jason Shambach (Valley Wesleyan Church)

#### Lay (Electing 2)

- Rick Fohl (Eastern Hills Wesleyan Church)
- Jeff Klau (Levant Wesleyan Church)
- Greg Niver (Wesleyan Church of Hamburg)
- Charles Wallace (Wesleyan Church of Hamburg)

Currently Serving on the DBA: *Joey Jennings (DS) Steve Dunmire (Assistant DS), Robin George (Secretary), \_\_\_\_\_ (Treasurer), Ruth Strand, Wes Oden, Paul Cronk, Barb Farrow, Jun Zhuang*

### **Church Multiplication Director**

- Christopher Baldwin (The Vine Wesleyan Church)
- Steve Johnson (Anchor Wesleyan Church)

### **Global Partners Missions Director**

- Marcus Dean (Fillmore Wesleyan Church)
- Robin Schara (Eastern Hills Wesleyan Church)

### **Nominating Committee**

#### Ministerial (Electing 2)

- Neil Koppen (Fellowship Wesleyan Church)
- Paul Palmer (Oakland Wesleyan Church)
- Paul Shea (Houghton Wesleyan Church)
- Steve Strand (Grace Community Wesleyan Church)

#### Lay (Electing 2)

- Betty Barnett (Orchard Park Wesleyan Church)
- Judy Hilliker (Christ Chapel Wesleyan Church)
- Katie Rose (Hess Road Wesleyan Church)

## **Action Committee**

### Ministerial (Electing 2)

- Jason Claydon (Peace Wesleyan Church)
- Bruce Ellis (Forestville Wesleyan Church)

### Lay (Electing 2)

- Meg Kelly (Anchor Wesleyan Church)
- Daryl Stevenson (Houghton Wesleyan Church)
- Mark Tucker (Ashwood Wesleyan Church)
- Rick Ulrich (Eastern Hills Wesleyan Church)

Submitted by the 2016-17 Nominating Committee,

*Patti Ellis*

*Steve Johnson*

*Gary Stith*

*Nadine Houghton*

*Joey Jennings*

# SAMPLE BALLOTS

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## Ballot #1

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### **DISTRICT TREASURER**

- Kim Pecora
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

## Ballot #2

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### **DISTRICT BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION – MINISTERIAL (ELECTING 2)**

- Jason Argo (Wesleyan Church of Orchard Park)
- Patricia Ellis (Forestville Wesleyan Church)
- Patrick Jones (Eastern Hills Wesleyan Church)
- Jason Shambach (Valley Wesleyan Church)

### **DISTRICT BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION – LAY (ELECTING 2)**

- Rick Fohl (Eastern Hills Wesleyan Church)
- Jeff Klau (Levant Wesleyan Church)
- Greg Niver (Wesleyan Church of Hamburg)
- Charles Wallace (Wesleyan Church of Hamburg)

## SAMPLE BALLOTS

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### Ballot #3

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#### **NOMINATING COMMITTEE – MINISTERIAL (ELECTING 2)**

- Neil Koppen
- Paul Palmer
- Paul Shea
- Stephen Strand

#### **NOMINATING COMMITTEE – LAY (ELECTING 2)**

- Betty Barnett
- Judy Hilliker
- Katie Rose

#### **ACTION COMMITTEE - MINISTERIAL (ELECTING 2)**

- Jason Claydon
- Bruce Ellis

#### **ACTION COMMITTEE – LAY (ELECTING 2)**

- Meg Kelly
- Daryl Stevenson
- Mark Tucker
- Rick Ulrich

### Ballot #4

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#### **CHURCH MULTIPLICATION DIRECTOR**

- Christopher Baldwin
- Steve Johnson

#### **DISTRICT GLOBAL PARTNERS DIRECTOR**

- Marcus Dean
- Robin Schara

# Nominee Biographies

## **Jason Argo**

*District Board of Administration - Ministerial  
Nominee*

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Jason serves as the Assistant Pastor at the Wesleyan Church of Orchard Park. Though he is originally from Western New York, Jason has ministered in Wesleyan Churches in Pennsylvania, Michigan, and Virginia. His faith journey began as a teenager at Eastern Hills Wesleyan Church where he discovered his call to pastoral ministry. He and his family moved home to Western New York in 2014. Jason is a graduate of Houghton College (2002) and Wesley Seminary (2011). His passion is to see God's people fall more in love with Jesus, more in love with one another, and more in love with the local community God has placed them in.



## **Christopher Baldwin**

*Church Multiplication Director Nominee*

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Christopher has been walking with the Lord since July 1990. He is the founding and lead Pastor of the Vine Wesleyan Church in Lancaster/Depew and director of Encounter Buffalo Ministries. Prior to this, Pastor Christopher served on the staff of Eastern Hills Wesleyan Church in Williamsville and as Lead Pastor of Levant Wesleyan Church in Falconer. Pastor Christopher has served the district previously as a teacher at Houghton Family Camp, as a member of the DBA, and on the Church Multiplication Team. Pastor Christopher is a graduate of Houghton College (1995) and earned a Master of Divinity (1998) and Doctorate of Ministry (2006). He was a Beeson Scholar Fellow at A.T.S. in 2003-4 and his dissertation was on the Missional Church. He is married to Rev. Tammy Baldwin and they have two children.



## **Betty Barnett**

*Nominating Committee - Lay Nominee*

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Betty is a member at the Wesleyan Church of Orchard Park, NY. She is a retired elementary school teacher and a homemaker. She has been walking with the Lord and has attended The Wesleyan Church of Orchard Park for more than 30 years. Betty has served as a member of the District Board of Administration, as a delegate to General Conference, as Best Years Fellowship Director along with her husband Bob, on her church's Local Board of Administration (vice chair), in the choir, as a Sunday School teacher, as Sunday School Superintendent, as Chair of Little People's Preschool Board, on the Missions Committee, has served as a Mentor for World Hope (Buffalo) and as a Children's Church Director.



# Nominee Biographies

## **Jason Claydon**

### *Action Committee - Ministerial Nominee*

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Jason is the lead pastor at Peace Wesleyan Church. He is a graduate of Indiana Wesleyan University (2001). He has been serving in ministry for 16 years. Thirteen of those years were in the Western PA District, where he served as a kids' camp counselor for four years and also served on District Action Committee, and District YAI President for two years.

Jason is from the WNY District, having a spiritual heritage from both the Faith and Eastern Hills Wesleyan Churches. Jason serves alongside his wife Tammy and is blessed with two boys: Paul (13) and Collin (4). At Peace Wesleyan Church Jason is highly involved in the community and is active in various Substance Abuse Recovery Ministries.



## **Marcus Dean**

### *District Global Partners Director Nominee*

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Marcus W. Dean is currently professor of Intercultural Studies and Missions at Houghton College, is chair of the Global Studies Department, and oversees the Off-Campus Studies Office. He has occasionally taught in the Houghton College Equipping for Ministry program. He is a member of the Fillmore Wesleyan Church, leads the missions committee, frequently teaches Sunday School, and is on the LBA. He is also on the Fillmore Central School Board. Before coming to Houghton College he and his family served for 15 years in theological education with the Wesleyan Church as missionaries in Colombia and Puerto Rico. Prior to missions service, he pastored a church in Indiana. He and his wife Dixie have 3 sons, two daughters-in-law, one grandson and one granddaughter.



## **Bruce Ellis**

### *Action Committee Ministerial Nominee*

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Bruce has been the pastor of the Forestville Wesleyan Church since July of 1991 and has served the district as Sunday School Director, Director of Evangelism and Church Growth, Member of the District Board of Administration, Coordinator and member of the District Board of Ministerial Development, District Action Committee, District Nominating Committee and Pastor's Retreat Planning Committee. He currently serves as a member of the School Board of Education for the Forestville Central School and has initiated various ministries within the school community. He remains committed to impact the rural community of Forestville with the message of Jesus. In 2014, Houghton College awarded Bruce the Claude A. Ries Pastor of the Year Award.



# Nominee Biographies

## **Patricia Ellis**

### *District Board of Administration Ministerial Nominee*

Patti is originally from the Philadelphia area. She was active in the United Church of Christ until she moved into a foster home at the age of 15. She then attended the Olivet Wesleyan Church in Glassboro, NJ. There she made a solid commitment to Christ and accepted God's call into ministry. Patti graduated from United Wesleyan College with a Bachelor of Science degree in Youth Ministry and Music. She has been married to Bruce Ellis since 1987. They served on staff at the Weedville Wesleyan Church for four years. She was ordained in 1992 in this district and has been serving as Assistant Pastor at the Forestville Wesleyan Church (with Bruce) for 26 years. The Ellises have three children and seven grandchildren. Areas in which she has served in the district include: Director of Social Concerns, Nominating Committee, DBA, Teens and Talent Director, Youth Camp Counselor, and Pastor and Spouse Retreat Committee.



## **Rick Fohl**

### *District Board of Administration Lay Nominee*



Rick is currently serving on the DBA and would be honored to be elected to another term. Serving alongside such an extraordinary group of believers has been an enriching and rewarding experience. For many years his professional career as a Global Business Development Manager for Lucent Technologies, involved traveling extensively throughout the world. This travel highlighted the critical void and importance of actively evangelizing the message of Jesus Christ throughout the world. Most recently Rick has felt called to support, and work with Mission of Christ, a developing church within our district, on the west side of Buffalo which attracts Congolese refugees. Rick has been privileged to have served for many years on the LBA at The Vine Wesleyan Church in Depew. Most of those years serving as the LBA Vice Chair. While at The Vine he has been involved in planning, budgeting and overall church management. Additionally he has held leadership roles on several teams and committees including the worship team, sound team, growth groups, and the buildings and grounds committee. Rick also led the construction of the Depew Food Pantry which is situated on the campus of The Vine. Recently Rick and Karen have moved into a new home in Clarence Center and therefore have transferred their covenant membership from The Vine to Eastern Hills Wesleyan. Rick grew up in a Christian family, in Clarence and came to know Jesus when he was very young.



# Nominee Biographies

## Judy Hilliker

### *Nominating Committee – Lay Nominee*

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Judy is a member of Christ Chapel Wesleyan Church and lives in Silver Creek. She is the daughter of Bob Barnett, grew up in a Christian home and was raised in the Christ Chapel church all her childhood years...but has been a strong follower of Jesus Christ for 30+ years. She is the co-owner of "God's" business, Hae Jude Custom Signs and Apparel in Silver Creek for 23 yrs. Her passion is to have others always see God through her throughout her daily routine. Judy has worked with and has helped her husband, John Hilliker, working with teens for the past 25 yrs. She has served on the local church board for the past 4 yrs.



## Steve Johnson

### *Church Multiplication Director Nominee*

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Steve Johnson is the pastor of Anchor Church in North Buffalo. He is married to Lindsey and they have two children, Ava (5) and Charlie (3). Steve was born and raised in Indiana and is a graduate of Indiana Wesleyan University. He moved to Western New York in 2006 to serve as youth pastor at Fellowship Wesleyan Church. From 2010-2014, Steve was an assistant pastor at the Wesleyan Church of Hamburg. Anchor Church started in the hearts of Steve & Lindsey in the Fall of 2013. They spent the

following year in prayer and in preparation to make sure they were not crazy and that this was really something that God was doing. It involved many visits to North Buffalo and even commuting to take their daughter to Pre-K in the neighborhood. The Johnsons moved into the neighborhood at the end of that year, just in time to celebrate Christmas. In 2015, Anchor Church began in the Johnson's home as they started forming a small group of people who had a similar heart for the neighborhood and city. That year was also an opportunity to become part of the neighborhood they love. They became neighbors, friends, community leaders, designated drivers, ears that listen, and a pastor to people who didn't have one.

## Pat Jones

### *District Board of Administration – Ministerial Nominee*

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Pat was born and raised in the south-central Pennsylvania town of Chambersburg, about a half hour west of Gettysburg. He grew up loving to be outside and playing sports, especially basketball, hiking, water skiing and golf. He came to know Christ at the young age of 7, and at the same time felt that God wanted him to be a pastor. He is a 1977 graduate of Chambersburg High School; 1981 graduate of Huntington University in Huntington, Indiana with a B.A. in Bible and



# Nominee Biographies

Religion; a 1983 graduate of the Huntington University Graduate School of Christian Ministries with a Masters in Christian Ministries degree; and a 1988 graduate of Evangelical School of Theology in Myerstown, PA with a Master of Divinity degree. He and his wife Pam have been married since June 5, 1982. They have two children: Jalonna Krueger (husband Brian) and Justin (wife Janelle) and four grandchildren. Jalonna is the Grace Kids Central Lead at Grace Church in Erie, PA. Justin serves as the Pastor of Assimilation at Eastern Hills. Pat served three different pastorates in Pennsylvania for a total of 23 years and then served for four years in his former denomination's headquarters. Since October 2009 he has served as the lead pastor of Eastern Hills Wesleyan Church near Buffalo, NY. His passion is to help people know Jesus and progress in their journey with Him.

## **Meg Kelly**

*Action Committee – Lay Nominee*

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Meg relocated to North Buffalo in 2013 to pursue her DDS and fell in love with the city, its people, and the vision of Anchor Church to see our community “anchored in the hope of Jesus that is expressed in love, community, and service to others.” She became a follower of Christ 6 years ago and was baptized at Anchor’s first baptism service in 2016. Meg’s faith journey took a tortuous path and has brought about a desire to engage in relationship and share the grace and faithfulness of God with the broken and derelict, especially those on the fringes of traditional society. She was a member of the core team establishing Anchor Church in North Buffalo and currently hosts a Missional Community in her home and serves as a Worship Leader and Executive Ministry Assistant.



## **Jeff Klau**

*District Board of Administration Lay Nominee*

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Jeff Klau was raised Jewish and was born again in 1974. He joined the Wesleyan Church in Bartlesville, Oklahoma in 1978. He married Joyce in 1979 and the Klaus have two adult children, no grandchildren (yet). He joined Levant Wesleyan Church in 1993. He has been employed as a Sales Engineer for a heating, air conditioning and plumbing wholesaler since 1996. In the local church he has served on the Board, as a trustee and head trustee, visitation ministry, drama and music ministry, and as a delegate to District Conference. He currently serves in the nursery and as a “Kidventure” leader. In the District he has served on the Action Committee and Church Growth and Evangelism Committee. Outside the church he has served on the local Intervarsity Steering Committee, and he is currently board chair of Impact Campus Fellowship, serving over a thousand students and educators weekly in over twenty public senior high and middle schools, in Chautauqua and Cattaraugus counties in New York and Erie and Warren Counties in Pennsylvania.

# Nominee Biographies

## Neil Koppen

### *Nominating Committee Ministerial Nominee*

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Neil Koppen has been walking with the Lord for 46 years. He has been a member of the Wesleyan Church 34 years, pastoring for 32 years. He pastored in the Iowa/Minnesota District for 15 years, serving 4 congregations. He has been here in Western New York for 17 years, serving the last 7 years as the Sr. Pastor at Fellowship Wesleyan. In Iowa/Minnesota, he was District Youth President, Youth Camp Director, on the District Board of Administration, District Board of Ministerial Development, District Nominating Committee, District Action Committee and District Camp Board. In Western New York, he served as District Superintendent (10 years); chaired nearly every District Committee and Board. He also served on the Houghton College Board of Trustees and was elected their Board Secretary.



## Greg Niver

### *District Board of Administration Lay Nominee*

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Greg Niver is currently serving as the facility manager at the Wesleyan Church of Hamburg. He has been in this role since 2009. His background previously to that was in mechanical contracting. His mechanical engineering degree came from Rochester Institute of Technology in 1993. He was born in Buffalo, raised in Depew, attended Lancaster High School and has lived in West Seneca for the last 24 years. Greg had the privilege of growing up in a Christian home with two amazing parents. Greg was saved at an early age, dedicating his life to the Lord as a young man in college. He has served with the youth ministry for many of those years since dedicating his life to the Lord. Greg married his high school sweet heart Shannon 24 years ago. They have two children. Their son will be a junior at University of Buffalo and their daughter will be a senior at Orchard Park High school.

## Paul Palmer

### *Nominating Committee Ministerial Nominee*

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Paul Palmer is the Pastor at the Oakland Wesleyan Church in Nunda. He has been serving there for 16 years, (2 years as Assistant Pastor and 14 years as Senior/Solo Pastor). He is married to his wife Rebekah and has 3 children, Jeremy (Danielle), Noah (Hilary) & Raychael and has 5 grandsons. Paul has served on the Nominating Committee for one term and has served as the Social Concerns Director for 2 years. Paul is now on the Livingston County Hospice Board (12 years) and is the Chaplain for the New York 52 Red Knights Motorcycle Club. Paul also drives school bus for Keshequa Central School (16 years).



# Nominee Biographies

## **Katie Rose**

### *Nominating Committee Lay Member*

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Katie Rose has been walking with Christ for over 20 years. She is a member of Hess Road Wesleyan Church where her husband, Rev. Matthew Rose serves as Pastor of Discipleship. Matthew is also the pastor of Lockport Wesleyan Church and The Refinery. Katie volunteers as Communications Coordinator at both locations, and is currently pursuing an M.A. in Ministry Leadership. Katie also co-directs our district's Refresh Retreat & Family Camp with Matthew. They have three daughters, Kenzie Marie (6), Tierza Joy (5), and Everly Anne (1).



## **Robin Schara**

### *District Global Partners Director Nominee*

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God prepared Robin to be a Global Mission Pastor all her life. As a pre-Christian, she graduated with a Travel and Tourism certificate landing a job as a travel agent right out of school. For fifteen years she traveled the world for her profession. This started her love for cross-cultural experiences. God captured her heart after the premature birth of her second child beginning her relationship with Christ. In 2007 she started as the Director of Women's Ministry at Eastern Hills Wesleyan Church which put her on a path toward ordination through Flame Classes. In 2010 she accepted the role of Global Mission Pastor also. Now Robin leads trips all over the world to support ministry partners. She has led teams to Cambodia to fight Human Trafficking, Zambia and Mozambique to minister to school aged children, China and Nepal to teach Scripture in the underground church, Haiti to support EHCW Compassion Child Development Center, Australia to run a sports camp and Cuba to teach English. God prepared Robin before she was a Christian by equipping her to do to what she is doing now as a Missions Pastor. Robin was ordained in 2015.

# Nominee Biographies

## Jason Shambach

*District Board of Administration Ministerial Nominee*

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Jason Shambach was raised in a small, rural church in central Pennsylvania that faithfully taught him to treasure Scripture and love Jesus. He graduated from Houghton College with degrees in religion and biology and then received his M.Div. at Asbury Theological Seminary. In 2010, God called him and his wife, Daniella to love and serve Valley Wesleyan Church and the Canaseraga area community. Jason enjoys serving the district in several ways, presently through the District Board of Ministerial Development and the District Board of Administration. He's passionate about theological reflection, interpreting our American culture, and having meaningful conversations with others.

## Paul Shea

*Nominating Committee Ministerial Member*

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Paul Shea is a member of Houghton Wesleyan Church, Paul was ordained a minister in 1973 by the Illinois District. He served that District as youth president and youth camp director as well as a pastor during a nine year period. In 1978 Paul and Debbie, a musician, moved to Sierra Leone with two daughters. Their third was born at Kamawkie Hospital. From 1978-1990 the Sheas served the Wesleyan Church of Sierra Leone in youth discipleship, administration and theological education. They have lived in Houghton since 1990 when Paul worked at Houghton Academy and completed his graduate studies in missions. After one year as interim staff at Houghton Wesleyan Church, Paul began full time service at Houghton College, working with international students and teaching missions. He enjoys teaching, preaching, discipling young adults and a little golf now and then. He is currently serving as volunteer assistant pastor at Houghton Church.



## Daryl Stevenson

*Action Committee Lay Nominee*

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A native of Spencerport, NY, (and Spencerport Wesleyan Church), Daryl H. Stevenson lives in Houghton and has been a member of the Wesleyan Church there for nearly 35 years, since he joined the college's psychology faculty. Professionally, he is a licensed clinical psychologist, has both taught psychology and held collegiate administrative posts, and has assisted the Wesleyan Church's Global Missions department and the Salvation Army with periodic interviewing, screening, and interventions. As a retiree and

# Nominee Biographies

Professor Emeritus, he remains engaged in church committees and activities. Daryl has served on the local church Board of Elders, as Vice Chair of the Elders, and sings in the church quartet and choir. He and his wife of 47 years, Gudy, are Houghton graduates, have raised three now-married Houghton-graduate sons, and enjoy their eight grandchildren (but sadly, from distance). The Stevensons participate in multiple avenues of community service. Daryl's passions include woodworking and gospel/barbershop quartet singing.

## **Steve Strand**

### *Nominating Committee Ministerial Nominee*

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Steve Strand came to faith in Christ early in life and has worked 30 years in ministry, at three churches in the US and also in Costa Rica and Honduras. He was ordained in 1987 and served full-time as a pastor of Peace Wesleyan Church for eleven years, six years as a missionary in Central America, seven years as an Assistant Pastor at the Houghton Wesleyan Church, and three years in the West Michigan District. Steve has served the WNY district as Director of Global Partners, with Houghton Family Camp and with the Church Multiplication Task Force. Since 2014 he has served in Urban Advocacy for the Western New York District.

## **Mark Tucker**

### *Action Committee Lay Nominee*

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Mark accepted the Lord at a concert while he attended Spring Arbor College, thirty-five years ago. After graduating, he became a social worker and has served in the capacity of meeting the needs of the mentally ill for twenty-eight years. (Upon arriving in New York, he took a job in a hospital as a mental health worker for four years. But he is now, happily, back in social work.) Mark is married to Karen whom he met at Spring Arbor. Karen has been the pastor of Ashwood Wesleyan Church in Lyndonville since 2011. Mark has served at any position the church needed filled for the more than thirty years they have been in pastoral ministry. These jobs include teaching youth, children and adults; building and repair of church property; and all the "little" things that go unnoticed unless they are not completed. Currently, Mark is teaching Sunday School and running the children's mid-week program. He is also doing repair on the church building.



# Nominee Biographies

## **Rick Ulrich**

### *Action Committee Lay Nominee*

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Rick Ulrich has been a follower of Christ since age 15, confirmed in St. Paul Lutheran Church in Clarence Center, NY. He was a worship leader in the national Evangelical Lutheran Youth Organization, Ongoing Ambassadors for Christ. He and his wife (31 years) Shari and have attended Eastern Hills Wesleyan for 16 years. They have been blessed with two beautiful daughters, Ashley and Amber. He has served in the Men's Ministry, the Children's Ministry, Worship Arts and the Tech Team. He is presently serving on Eastern Hills Local Board of Administration and has just been

re-elected to a second 3-year term. He is employed by Fire Safety Systems of Buffalo, NY for the last 35 years, where he is honored to serve as the Vice President of Operations. He is a veteran of the USAF. He has a lay worship team that serves at various churches or church organized events, wherever the Lord leads them.

## **Chuck Wallace**

### *District Board of Administration Lay Nominee*

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Chuck is a long-time member of the Wesleyan Church of Hamburg. Through the years he has been a member of the Local Board of Administration, Trustees, fund raising committees, etc. He led an adult Sunday School class for over twenty years. He currently serves on the District Board of Administration and the Church Multiplication Team. He has also served on numerous other District boards and committees.

Chuck is a founding member of the organizing committee for the Frank Reich/Athletes in Action Call to Courage Breakfast. This group also sponsors the annual Night Out with the Bills outreach to local youth. Chuck is self-employed as a manufacturer's representative.

