



WESTERN NEWYORK DISTRICT
of **THE WESLEYAN CHURCH**



ANNUAL DISTRICT CONFERENCE

June 15, 2019

*Eastern Hills Wesleyan Church
Williamsville, New York*

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Agenda	1
Delegate Apportionment.....	4
Baptisms	5-6
DBA Summary of Action	7-8
Assistant District Superintendent	9
Nominating Committee.....	10
Sample Ballots.....	11-13
Nominee Biographies	14-23
DBMD Report.....	24-25
Ordination Candidates.....	26
Ministerial Transfers	27
Church Multiplication.....	28
Clergy Care Coordinators	29
Thrive Financial Initiative.....	30
Prayer Map	31
District Action Committee	32
Assessment Review Task Force	33
District Treasurer	34-39
Refresh Retreat & Family Camp	40
Urban Advocacy	41
Wesleyan Women	42
Director of Youth Ministry.....	43
Director of Children's Ministry.....	44
Auditor.....	45
Statistical Summary	46
Missions	47
Deceased List	48-49
Upcoming Events	50
DBA Report on Pastoral Relations	51-57



Western New York District of The Wesleyan Church
 158th Annual District Conference
June 15, 2019, 9:00 AM, Eastern Hills Wesleyan Church
Agenda

Worship in Song

Andrea Merrill, Eastern Hills Wesleyan Church

Welcome & Opening Prayer

Joseph W. (Joey) Jennings, District Superintendent
 Wayne Schmidt, General Superintendent of The Wesleyan Church

Service of Communion

Devotional: Michael Leamon, Pastor, Christ Chapel Wesleyan Church, Silver Creek, NY
 Steve Dunmire, Assistant District Superintendent

Conference Organization

Robin George, District Secretary

Election - Ballot #1: District Treasurer

Report of the District Superintendent

Joseph W. (Joey) Jennings

Excellence in Ministry: Kingdom Builders

Churches which celebrated more than 1 baptism per 50 members.

Celebration of Baptisms Video

Report of District Board of Administration (DBA) Summary of Actions

Robin George, District Secretary

Report of the Assistant District Superintendent

Steve Dunmire

Elections - Ballot #2: District Board of Administration

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

Morning Break

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

- Candidates for Ordination: Terri Niver
- Ordination Transfer: Cassandra Salter-Smith
- Licensed Ministers
- Ministerial Students
- Ministerial Transfers

Church Multiplication Presentation

Steve Johnson: *District Director of Church Multiplication*

Clergy Care Initiative

John & Becci Wood, *District Clergy Care Coordinators*

Thrive Financial Initiative

Karen Tucker, *District Thrive Coordinator*

Call to Prayer for Pastors

Elections - Ballot #3: Delegates to General Conference

- Ministerial Delegates (elect 3)
- Lay Delegates (elect 4)

Recognition of Guests

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

General Church Presentation

Wayne Schmidt, General Superintendent of The Wesleyan Church

Report of the District Action Committee

Elections - Ballot #4: District Committees

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

Report of the District Treasurer: Kim Pecora

- Statements of Financial Position
- Fund Activity Summary
- Assessment Payments from Churches
- 2019-20 Assessments
- 2019-20 Budget

Excellence in Ministry Awards: Kingdom Stewards

Churches which have given more than 10% of offerings to missions.

Reports from District Ministry Leaders

- **Refresh Family Camp:** Steve Dunmire
- **Urban Advocacy:** Steve & Ruth Strand

Other Written Reports

- **Wesleyan Women:** Kristen Sanasith
- **District Youth:** Tom Neary
- **Children's Ministry:** Chris Claassen
- Auditors Report
- Statistical Summary

Excellence in Ministry Awards: Kingdom Impact

Growth in Worship Attendance of more than 5% in past year

Call to Prayer for Churches

Educational Institutions Presentation

Afternoon Break

Missions Presentation

Robin Schara, *District Missions Director*

Dan Irvine, *World Hope International*

Elections - Ballot #5: District Directors

- Church Multiplication Director
- Missions Director

Remembering Pastors Promoted to Glory

- Wayne Cox
- Rick Long
- Atwood and Leona Cool
- Gordon Strong
- Richard Kaylor
- Fred Moore

Expression of Appreciation and Prayer of Commissioning

Upcoming Events:

- **Refresh '19:** July 28 - August 2, 2019, Houghton College
- **Service of Ordination:** October 20, 2019, 6pm, Hillside Wesleyan Church, Olean, NY
- **Pastor/Spouse Retreat:** February 9-11, 2020, Ellicottville, NY
- **2020 General Conference:** May 30-June 3, St. Louis, MO
- **2020 District Conference:** Saturday, June 20, 2020, Eastern Hills

Pastoral Relations Report

Robin George, District Secretary

Category of service for each ordained, licensed, and lay minister in the district.

Installation of District Board of Administration & Prayer of Commissioning

Adjourn

Number Of Lay Delegates Each Church Should Send To District Conference

June 15, 2019,
9:00am - 4:00pm

Church	Number of Lay Delegates	Members	Church Status
Anchor Church	1	27	Dev
Angola Wesleyan Church	1	32	
Ashwood Wesleyan Church	1	8	Dev
Bellville Wesleyan Church	1	13	Dev
Big Tree Wesleyan Church	3	80	
Bradford First Wesleyan Church	2	64	
Brookside Wesleyan Church	1	45	
Cattaraugus Wesleyan Indian Chapel	1	10	Dev
Christ Chapel Wesleyan	3	95	
East Aurora Wesleyan Church	1	38	
East Leon Wesleyan Church	1	30	
Eastern Hills Wesleyan Church	5	450	
Fellowship Wesleyan Church	4	147	
Fillmore Wesleyan Church	3	76	
Forestville Wesleyan Church	1	42	
Grace Community Wesleyan Church	1	65	Dev
Hess Road Wesleyan Church	3	97	
Higgins Wesleyan Church	1	31	
Hillside Wesleyan Church	2	72	
Home City Church	1	54	Dev
Houghton Wesleyan Church	5	415	
Joy Community Church	1	28	Aff
Levant Wesleyan Church	3	89	
Little Valley Wesleyan Church	1	39	
Lockport Wesleyan Church	1	5	Dev
McCrae Brook Wesleyan Church	1	17	
Mission of Christ	1	0	Dev
North Collins Wesleyan Church	3	99	
North Park Wesleyan Church	4	101	
Oakland Wesleyan Church	2	62	
Orchard Park Wesleyan Church	4	108	
Peace Wesleyan Church	1	41	
Resurgence City	1	0	Dev
The Vine Wesleyan Church	3	83	
Valley Wesleyan Church	1	24	Dev
Watermark Wesleyan Church	6	524	
ZionQuest Christian Fellowship	1	0	Aff
DBA Lay Members	6		
Target: 82	82	3111	

Key

Affiliate Churches	1
Developing Churches	1
17-50	1
51-75	2
75-100	3
101-200	4
201-500	5
500+	6

This number is in addition to ordained and licensed ministers and lay members of the District Board of Administration.



Western New York Baptisms 2018-2019

*"Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit"
(Matthew 28:19)*

Anchor Church

Jerry Clark
Jeremy Clark
Ava Johnson
Janelle Battista
Dominique Sosa

Angola Wesleyan Church

Aaron Durrance
Samantha Hill

Big Tree Wesleyan Church

Molly Connolly
Chris Denny
Isaac Hillman
George Miller
Maximus Mulhollan
Gracie Nasca
Emiia Pigeon
Haleigh Szymanski
Cassidy Turner
Camdyn Watson

Eastern Hills Wesleyan Church

Angel Gonzalez III
LeighMarie Stegman
Nicholas Winne
Shue Zheng
Houbo Jiang
Tony Keller
Hailey Cilano
David Shields
Rhonda Minkler
Keith Minkler
Jian Xiao Ke
Yan Xu
Deborah Ryan
Edward Dinki, Jr.
Cosmo Lanzetta
Joe Stroh
Tage Stroh
Luzi Li
Ashlee Tomaro
Dan Tomaro
Geniene Salemi
Anthony Lazzazero
Sandra Zang
Michael Zang

Fellowship Wesleyan Church

Eli Stark
Abe Stark
Chloe Green

First Wesleyan Church

Marian Laubham
Amanda Johnston
Peighton Reed
Dawkins Reed
Carly Wood
Jordon Johnston
Brooke Komidar
Lily Miller
Zara Thompson

Higgins Wesleyan Church

Dennis Fitzpatrick
Max Hodnett
Donald Bingman

Hillside Wesleyan Church

Suky Faulkner
Cindy Smith

Houghton Wesleyan Church

Macey Taylor
Rebecca Hutton
Nate Esh

Levant Wesleyan Church

Tyfeny Briggs
Logan Briggs
Alliyah Carlson
Tim Stickney
Scott Mattison
Marlena Mattison

Little Valley Wesleyan Church

Autumn Brumagin
Bryah Brumagin
Hunter Gross
Benjamin Waasdorp
Lillian Fitzgerald
Morgan Foster
Ella Green
Rebekah Butcher

McCrae Brook Wesleyan Church

Dan Palmer
Mike Stuck

North Collins Wesleyan Church

Jackson Cook
Harry Kaus Jr
Jordan Kemler
Dave Kreinheder
Morgan Kreinheder
Jack Law
Navaeh Paradiso
Dave Phillips
Avery Sentz
Rylan Sentz
Damion Shellito
Shawn Tufford
Frederick Porter

North Park Wesleyan Church

Natasha Brown
Alexander Linn
Elizabeth Linn
Samantha Pearse
Brittany Randall
James Randall
Zailey Randall
Deidre Rutkowski
Caleb Ward
Riley Wilson
Joseph Wojciechowski

The Vine Wesleyan Church

Dan Woelffel

Watermark Wesleyan Church

Eliza Adams
Brady Bermingham
John Bermingham
Jim Bessing
Katherine Gates
Noah Bialaszewski
Salina Bovo
Carolyn Brown
Carolyn Bubar
Ann Lloyd-Bukoski
Samantha Burgio
Melissa Burnett
Michael Busshart
Hayden Carder
Hunter Carder
Lainey Carder

Western New York Baptisms 2018-2019

*"Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit"
(Matthew 28:19)*

(Watermark, cont'd)

Madison Carder	Kayleigh Griffin	Andrew Murtha	Nathan Ventre
Aaliyah Cherry	Heidi Hiam	Mathew Niedermeier	Kathryn Villar
Annabelle Sankey	Maya McKeever	Jennifer Oparah	Dave Walczak
Joann Clifford	Kathleen Hoelzl	Lainey Overhoff	Mallory Ward
Zachary Vaughn	Heather Holden	Macy Overhoff	Susan Watson
Haylee Conrad	Isaiah Isler	Lindsay Parker	Carrie Witcher
Matthew D'Angelo	Nathan Isler	Cayla Partsch	Cheryl Wilson
Carrie Dellamore	Elena Jones	Michael Pasnik	Eric Zmyslo
Amanda Depke	Molly Kane	Moiria Prister	Silas Nash
Camden Devlin	Ayden Kaufman	Alex Pulinski	Bill Atrchabald
Crystal Devlin	Nate Kaufman	Krista Ramella	Diane Archabald
David Dueringer	Rachael Kaufman	Tamara Renowden	Sarah Barber
Jennifer Dueringer	Camden Kaufman	John Richmond	Steve Barber
Dave Dukarm	Kevin Keller	Lisa Roche	Sandra Darling
Maia Ott	Gerry Kelly	Mary Scalise	John Danna
Abigail Eisenmann	Julia Coughlin	Gianna Puglisi	Sharon Danna
Jackie Endress	Brenda Klimowicz	James Schultz	Sal Durante
Payton Essman	Jennifer Kline	Jayden Gallardo	Shelly Durante
Giuliana Fodor	Abigail Shaw	Shelby Simmeth	Jill Emerling
Sarah Forcucci	Mary Krstevski	Marie Sitarek	Scott Emerling
Julie Forcucci	Stephen Lewonka	Paul Smith	Michael Herr
Lacey Michaelangelo	Mildred Loew	Brittany Smyth	Natayla Jones
Ella Forrest	Beth MacCarrick	Mike Smyth	Debbie Langheier
Madison Forrest	Kylee Mackiewicz	Sheri Smyth	Carrie Occhino
Jacob Gartley	Lily Mackiewicz	Sofia Prey	Ann Van De Water
Paul Gartley	Matt Mackiewicz	Kris Szewc	Wes Van De Water
Sarah Genzel	Katie Malvin	Lauren Taylor	Joe Weber
Kathleen Gernatt	Luke Marshall	Reilly Thompson	
Tracey Gernatt	Gabriela Martin	Chloe Thomson	
Sean Gibbons	Mia McDonnell	Beth Thurston	
Aiden Goodier	Isaac McFarland	Joe Thurston	
Ethan Goodier	William McGinnis	Angela Totaro	
Emma Gordon	Gia Santasiero	Joseph Vegas	
Tahlia Gould	Reneé Moss	Mirella Ventre	

"A truly Christian life is nothing else than a daily baptism once begun and ever to be continued."

—Martin Luther

DISTRICT BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION

Summary of Action 2018 - 2019

August 2, 2018

1. Approved the pastoral vote for The Rev. Rob Engler to serve as the Sr. Pastor of the Fillmore Wesleyan Church.
2. Approved for a checking account to be established for the Mission of Christ Church and that The Rev. Stephen C. Strand and Mr. Paul Burdick to be listed as signees for the account.
3. Made annual appointments to various District directors, boards and committees.

September 18, 2018

1. Approved for the Western New York District to cover the cost for The Rev. Tom Neary's thorough assessment evaluation for church planting which is budgeted under the Church Multiplication budget.
2. Approved the official acts as reported by the District Superintendent for June-August 2018.
3. Approved the appointment of Mr. Paul Burdick as a lay member of the District Board of Church Development.
4. Approved for the Western New York District to back the Missions Project for Canaan, Haiti presented at District Conference and that it would be a goal for our district churches to get behind and that this would be our district emphasis as far as missions is concerned.

December 11, 2018

1. Approved the official acts as reported by the District Superintendent for September-November 2018.
2. Voted to affirm the recommendation as brought by the DBMD for Pastor Joshua Mason to be approved as a Licensed Minister in the Western New York District.
3. Approved for the Western New York District to secure the I-Direct Silver Co-Insurance family health plan for the District Superintendent for the monthly premium presented.
4. Approved the income tax designations for the parsonage allowance for Dr. Joseph W. Jennings, The Rev.'s Stephen & Ruth Strand, The Rev. Steven C. Johnson, and Pastor Robert H. Grimes.
5. Approved a Church Matching Scholarship to Indiana Wesleyan University for Ben Jennings for the 2018-19 year.

March 5, 2019

1. Approved the official acts as reported by the District Superintendent for December 2018-February 2019.
2. Approved for the Anchor Wesleyan Church of Buffalo, New York to be in the process for becoming an established Wesleyan Church.

June 5, 2018

1. Approved the official acts as reported by the District Superintendent for March-May 2019.
2. Approved for the Watermark Wesleyan Church of Hamburg, New York to assume the contracts for Joylan Theater (9, 11, 13 Main Street, Springville, NY) and the adjacent property. These contracts had previously been signed by Springville Crossing Church and will be assigned to the Western New York District of The Wesleyan Church. The purchase price for 9-11 West Main Street is \$160,000 for which payment will be covered up front by Watermark Wesleyan Church with the exception of a \$200,000 Note. The DBA granted approval of a loan (Note and Mortgage) of \$200,000 at 3.5% interest with the owners of the Joylan Theater and with the time of the loan to be worked out with the Note holders.

3. Approved the recommendation of the District Superintendent to appoint Dr. Steven L. Dunmire to the position of Assistant District Superintendent for the 2019-20 church year.
4. Approved the votes for the following pastoral calls: Matthew Rose (Appleton Hess Road); Jason Argo (Depew Vine); Dan Butcher (Little Valley); Karen Cleveland (East Leon); Dan Todd (Olean Hillside); and Mike Trippett (Angola).
5. Approved the appointments of the following as supply pastors: David Shamenda (Depew Home City); Steve Johnson (Buffalo Anchor); Karen Tucker (Lyndonville Ashwood); Robert Grimes (Caneadea Bellville); Kevin & Elaine Brooks (Lay Pastors/Wesleyan Indian Chapel); Barbara Farrow (Buffalo Grace Community); Matthew Rose (Lockport); Yoshua Bashizi (Lay Supply Pastor/Buffalo Mission of Christ); and Elijah Shamenda (Buffalo Resurgence City).
6. Approved a 3% increase in the salary of the District Superintendent for the 2019-20 Budget.
7. Approved a 3% increase in the salary of the District Office Administrator for the 2019-20 Budget along with a Christmas gift to equal one week's salary.
8. Approved the 2019-20 District Ministry Budget as amended.
9. Approved a recommendation to District Conference for a 3.5% increase to the district assessment cap for the 2020-21 conference year.
10. Approved declaring the following churches in financial distress and to reduce their assessable income by 90% for up to \$40,000 for developing churches: Lyndonville Ashwood, Caneadea Bellville, Cattaraugus Indian Chapel, Buffalo Grace Community, Buffalo Home City, Buffalo Mission of Christ, and Canaseraga Valley.
11. Approved the church budgets for the developing churches of the Western New York District.
12. Approved the Church Development grants as presented from the Church Multiplication Team.
13. Approved a motion to classify East Aurora Wesleyan Church in East Aurora, New York as a developing church in the Western New York District of The Wesleyan Church.
14. Approved a motion to appoint The Rev. Richard Nightingale as a Supply Pastor at the East Aurora Wesleyan Church for the 2019-2020 church year.
15. Approved the sale of the East Aurora Wesleyan Church house and property located at 33 Maple Road in East Aurora, New York contingent upon the District Building Committees' approval of the appraised value of the property, that there is no conflict of interest, and that the District Board of Administration holds the funds from said sale.
16. 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

Dear colleagues and friends,

It has been a pleasure to serve for a third year as Assistant District Superintendent. The duties of this role continue to complement my primary work at Houghton College. In this role, I serve on the District Board of Administration (DBA), the Executive Committee of the DBA, the District Board of Ministerial Development (DBMD), and I chair our Board of Church Development and Sustainability, which is tasked with providing oversight for our district's developing churches (2016 Discipline of the Wesleyan Church in ¶ 510). Serving on the Board of Church Development and Sustainability in 2018-19 was Paul Burdick (The Vine), Pastor Paul Gartley (Watermark), Pastor Justin Leininger (North Collins), and Dr. Jennings served on this board in 2018-19, and I deeply appreciate their faithful work this year.

The WNY District currently has eight developing churches, plus one non-traditional ministry, all of which receive oversight from the Board of Church Development and Sustainability:

1. Anchor Church – Buffalo, NY (Steve Johnson)
 2. Ashwood Wesleyan Church – Lyndonville, NY (Karen Tucker)
 3. Bellville Wesleyan Church – Caneadea, NY (Robert Grimes)
 4. Grace Community Church – Buffalo, NY (Barbara Farrow)
 5. Home City Wesleyan Church – Depew, NY (David Shamenda)
 6. Lockport Wesleyan Church – Lockport, NY (Matthew Rose)
 7. Mission of Christ – Buffalo, NY (Yoshua Bashizi)
 8. Valley Wesleyan Church – Canaseraga, NY (Jason Shambach)
- + Urban Advocacy – Buffalo, NY (Steve & Ruth Strand)

In 2018-19, we had meetings with the pastors throughout the year, we reviewed 2019-20 budgets and finances for all nine ministries, and we also conducted very encouraging pastoral reviews for Anchor Church (Steve Johnson) and Ashwood (Karen Tucker).

I want to thank Dr. Jennings for the opportunity and privilege to serve alongside him, and please join me again this year in praying for the Jennings as they lead and labor for the Wesleyan Church in Western New York.

Respectfully submitted in Christ,

Dr. Steven L. Dunmire

Assistant District Superintendent

Report of the Nominating Committee

District Treasurer

Kim Pecora

District Board of Administration

Ministerial (Electing 2)

Patti Ellis

Paul Gartley

Dan Jones

Justin Leininger

Lay (Electing 2)

Katie Bielecki

Rick Fohl

Bill Mills

Currently Serving on the DBA: *Joey Jennings (DS) Steve Dunmire (Assistant DS), Robin George (Secretary), Kim Pecora (Treasurer), Jon Cole, Paul Cronk, Julie Palmer, Ruth Strand, Jun Zhuang.*

General Conference Delegates

Ministerial (Electing 3)

Jim Clements

Megan Cusumano

Steve Dunmire

Dan Jones

Wes Oden

Ex Officio - District Superintendent,
Joseph Jennings

Lay (Electing 4)

Melissa Cahill

Rick Fohl

John Lee

Julie Palmer

Kim Pecora

Paul Young

Jun Zhuang

Nominating Committee

Ministerial (Electing 2)

Mike Dwyer

Bruce Ellis

Mike Trippett

Dale Argot

Lay (Electing 2)

Nicole Argo

Jeff Lawson

Kristen Sanasith

Action Committee

Ministerial (Electing 2)

Rob Engler

Steve Johnson

Dan Butcher

Lay (Electing 2)

Meg Kelly

Mark Tucker

Kathy Mason

Church Multiplication Director

Ken Nash

Missions Director

Robin Schara

Submitted by the 2019 Nominating Committee,

Tammy Dunmire, Joey Jennings, Todd Glendenning, Doug Ingersoll, Jan Stanton

SAMPLE BALLOTS



Ballot #1

District Treasurer (2-year term)

_____ Kim Pecora (Angola Wesleyan Church)

Ballot #2

District Board of Administration (2-year terms)

Ministerial (Electing 2)

_____ Patti Ellis (Forestville Wesleyan Church)

_____ Dan Jones (Orchard Park Wesleyan Church)

_____ Justin Leininger (North Collins Wesleyan Church)

_____ Paul Gartley (Watermark Wesleyan Church)

Lay (Electing 2)

_____ Katie Bielecki (North Collins Wesleyan Church)

_____ Rick Fohl (Eastern Hills Wesleyan Church)

_____ Bill Mills (Hillside Wesleyan Church)

Continuing to Serve on the DBA:

Jon Cole (Houghton Wesleyan Church)

Paul Cronk (Fillmore Wesleyan Church)

Steve Dunmire (Eastern Hills Wesleyan Church)

Robin George (Brookside Wesleyan Church)

Joey Jennings (District Superintendent)

Julie Palmer (Watermark Wesleyan Church)

Ruth Strand (Grace Community Wesleyan Church)

Jun Zhuang (Eastern Hills Wesleyan Church)

SAMPLE BALLOTS



Ballot #3

General Conference DelegatesMinisterial (Electing 3)*

- _____ Jim Clements (Watermark Wesleyan Church)
- _____ Megan Cusumano (North Park Wesleyan Church)
- _____ Steve Dunmire (Eastern Hills Wesleyan Church)
- _____ Dan Jones (Wesleyan Church of Orchard Park)
- _____ Wes Oden (Houghton Wesleyan Church)

**District Superintendent serves as Ex Officio Delegate to General Conference*

Lay (Electing 4)

- _____ Melissa Cahill (Brookside Wesleyan Church)
- _____ Rick Fohl (Eastern Hills Wesleyan Church)
- _____ John Lee (Watermark Wesleyan Church)
- _____ Julie Palmer (Watermark Wesleyan Church)
- _____ Kim Pecora (Angola Wesleyan Church)
- _____ Paul Young (Houghton Wesleyan Church)
- _____ Jun Zhuang (Eastern Hills Wesleyan Church)

SAMPLE BALLOTS



Ballot #4

Nominating Committee

Ministerial (Electing 2)

_____ Dale Argot (McCrae Brook Wesleyan Church)

_____ Mike Dwyer (Eastern Hills Wesleyan Church)

_____ Bruce Ellis (Forestville Wesleyan Church)

_____ Mike Trippett (Angola Wesleyan Church)

Lay (Electing 2)

_____ Nicole Argo (The Vine Wesleyan Church)

_____ Jeff Lawson (Eastern Hills Wesleyan Church)

_____ Kristen Sanasith (Houghton Wesleyan Church)

Action Committee

Ministerial (Electing 2)

_____ Rob Engler (Fillmore Wesleyan Church)

_____ Steve Johnson (Anchor Church)

_____ Dan Butcher (Little Valley Wesleyan Church)

Lay (Electing 2)

_____ Meg Kelly (Anchor Church)

_____ Kathy Mason (Angola Wesleyan Church)

_____ Mark Tucker (Ashwood Wesleyan Church)

Ballot #5

Church Multiplication Director

_____ Ken Nash (Watermark Wesleyan Church)

Missions Director

_____ Robin Schara (Eastern Hills Wesleyan Church)

2019 NOMINEE BIOGRAPHIES

Nicole Argo

Nominating Committee Lay Member

Nicole has served in full-time ministry with her husband for over 17 years. She grew up in foster care and because of all that God had done in her life, she became passionate about sharing her story with others. She has had the honor of serving at New Hope Children's Home in Arequipa, Peru and has done village ministry in Guatemala. God has given Nicole many opportunities to speak at different events including several women's conferences and retreats. She was recently a speaker / representative for Life Song for Orphan's Fundraiser in Tucson, AZ. Nicole has also volunteered with The Forgotten Initiative on several occasions helping to edit, advise on content, and writing the forward to the Who Loves book series. She has also led the women's ministry at Orchard Park Wesleyan Church and is on the WNY Wesleyan Women's District Committee. Nicole is a professional wedding and portrait photographer and owns her own photography business locally. She has recently joined the team at PATH (People Against Trafficking Humans). She has been married to Jason and together they have two children, Rowen and Sawyer. They currently serve at The Vine Wesleyan Church where Jason is the Lead Pastor.



Dale Argot

Nominating Committee Ministerial Member

Dale Argot is the lead pastor at McCrae Brook Wesleyan Church in Eldred. Before his arrival there, Dale and his wife Pam, who serves in an assistant role, spent 11 years in Virginia. There Dale served seven years as Worship Arts and Student Ministries Pastor at Parkway Wesleyan in Staunton. Dale was saved at 8 years old during a camp meeting in the Penn-Jersey District. It was as a senior in high school that he received the call to ministry. Over the next several years, God would continue to prepare him for the ministry. Eventually Dale and Pam would pack up the family and move to Indiana to attend Indiana Wesleyan University, graduating with a degree in Church Music. Several years later, God would call Dale to ordained pastoral ministry. He completed his ordination requirements attending FLAME classes. Dale was ordained in 2005. He enjoys music playing guitar, bass, and keys and enjoys leading musical worship. Dale has served in various roles in pastoral ministries since 1998. Dale and Pam have three children (Rebecca, Anna, and James) and two grandchildren.



Katie Bielecki

District Board of Administration Lay Member

Katie Bielecki is a Jesus loving, joke cracking, book reading, stay at home mom. She has been married to her best friend Don for 14 years. They have 5 children, ages 13, 11, 8, 5, and 3 that Katie loves homeschooling. She and her family reside on a small farm in North Collins where they attend North Collins Wesleyan Church. Together, Katie and Don serve as Youth Group leaders as well as a vocalist and bass guitarist on their church's worship team. She is also the middle school age Sunday School teacher. Katie has a passion for spiritual growth and unity within the body of Christ, as well as seeing that youth find connection, support, and a strong personal relationship with Christ.



Dan Butcher

Action Committee Ministerial Member

Daniel Butcher currently lives in Little Valley, NY with his wife Maria, and is blessed with four children. He currently is the pastor at Little Valley Wesleyan Church where he and his family have now led for 2 years. Daniel is currently taking courses through the Oklahoma Wesleyan University Cross-Training program and is working towards ordination. He also works for Cattaraugus Community Action as a facilitator of the fatherhood connection, and 24/7 Dad's programs as well as a commercial sexual exploitation of children awareness trainer with Pastor Al Meyers. Daniel is very appreciative of his life in the ministry. All for the Glory of God.



Melissa Cahill

General Conference Lay Delegate

Melissa Cahill was raised in a Wesleyan parsonage and accepted Jesus as her Lord and Savior at the age of four. She is a member of the Brookside Wesleyan Church in Wellsville, New York. Melissa taught in a local, Christian, elementary school for eleven years and is currently a special education teacher for BOCES. Each summer, she looks forward to the District Refresh Retreat where she has served as the Nursery Director for the past eighteen years



Jim Clements

General Conference Ministerial Delegate

Jim Clements is originally from Corner Brook, Newfoundland. He has been married for 27 years to Gisele (UB Medical Simulation Acting & WNY Improv) and has two children; Dominique (Executive/Worship Pastor in Indiana) and Dawson (Among the Wolves singer/song writer in New York). Jim has a BBA from Acadia University, and has been serving in ministry since 1994. Jim currently serves as the Executive Pastor at Watermark Wesleyan Church in Hamburg, New York, now in his 12th year in this role. Jim has also served at Wesleyan Headquarters, other districts and churches in the Indiana, Virginia and Illinois prior to coming to Western New York. He is a second career pastor as he worked for a large oil and trucking conglomerate after graduation from University prior to answering the call to ministry. In 1996 the Clements family moved to the United States to pursue ministry and to determine the call they felt upon their lives. Upon entering the U.S. Jim served in the finance office of the General Treasurer at Wesleyan Headquarters. In 1998 he moved into full-time pastoral ministry and was ordained in the Wesleyan Denomination in July 2002. Jim's passion is for the church to be relevant and to keep the local church strong within its communities. He believes ministry to your community is done best by those who live within it. He says, "Sometimes it takes a huge sledge hammer to break the mold in an effort to change and live in the crazy, thus allowing God to show us it is not crazy at all. It is better to have tried something and fail then to sit paralyzed with resistance to change." Jim and Gisele love to travel and experience the world our God has created and all the uniqueness within it. Jim has a long-term passion and frustration with hockey as he appreciates the game within the game but was happy to celebrate his team finally winning the Stanley Cup in 2018.



Megan Cusumano

General Conference Ministerial Delegate

Megan Cusumano has been walking with the Lord for 35 years. Throughout her journey as a Christian she has served in many various roles within the church including service on the LBA, worship team, teacher, Children's Ministry Director, youth ministry, nursery coordination, teacher, janitor, and trustee. For the past eleven years Megan has been serving as assistant pastor at North Park Wesleyan Church in Cuba where she has worked reaching her community through children's ministry and also weekly outreach services. She serves as the director of the Cuba Council of Churches Food Pantry and Holiday Assistance Programs. Megan has also served for several years as director and a member of the WNY District Children's Ministry team.



Steve Dunmire

General Conference Ministerial Delegate

Steve is a born-and-raised Western New Yorker who serves as Director of Ministry Resources at Houghton College. In addition to his primary ministry at Houghton, he also serves as Assistant District Superintendent of the WNY District, as a member of the preaching team at Eastern Hills Wesleyan Church, and also serves as Camp Director for the WNY District's Refresh Retreat & Family Camp. Prior to his time at Houghton, Steve spent 11 years as a lead pastor, and 1 year as a youth pastor. Steve is married to Tammy Dunmire and they have four children. He was ordained in 2007.



Mike Dwyer

Nominating Committee Ministerial Member

Mike Dwyer has served Christ for 20 years. He is an Ordained Minister in the Wesleyan Church and serves as Executive Pastor for Eastern Hills Wesleyan Church. He previously worked as an attorney and social service case worker. Mike has served his church as Men's Ministry Coordinator, adult Sunday School teacher, as a Children's Church host, usher, greeter, and as a delegate to District Conference. He has assisted in ministry at Grace Community in Buffalo, Faith Wesleyan in Cheektowaga and has served on the District Board of Administration and as Church Multiplication Director.



Bruce Ellis

Nominating Committee Ministerial Member

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 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.



Patti Ellis

District Board of Administration Ministerial Member

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 28 years. She has worked as a substitute teacher and is currently working part time as a dental assistant in a pediatric practice. The Ellis' have 3 children and 7 grandchildren. Areas in which she has served in the district include: Director of Social Concerns, Nominating Committee, District Board of Administration, Teens and Talent Director, Youth Camp Counselor, and Pastor and Spouse Retreat Committee.



Rob Engler

Action Committee Ministerial Member

Rob has served the local church in several capacities over the past two decades. At Big Tree Wesleyan Church, he took on the roles of youth pastor and assistant pastor from 2005-2015. During those years, the Lord impressed upon him the prompting to serve the church and its people as a senior pastor in the Rochester area. The Engler family has recently relocated and has been serving at Fillmore Wesleyan Church for the past nine months. They are excited about this new ministry opportunity. Rob is an alum of Houghton College and also possesses a Master's degree in Transformational Leadership from Northeastern Seminary. Rob is married to Amy and has six children, ranging in ages from 18 to 6. He enjoys being outdoors and more specific, fishing and hunting in his spare time.



Rick Fohl

District Board of Administration Lay Member & General Conference Lay Delegate

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 Rick has worked at Lucent Technologies (now Alcatel-Lucent) starting as a Systems Engineer and worked his way into Global positions of Global Business Development Manager and Product Line Manager traveling extensively throughout the world. This experience cemented his faith and highlighted the critical void and importance of actively evangelizing the message of Jesus Christ to the entire world. A few years back Rick felt the call to support, and work with Mission of Christ, a developing church within our district, on the west side of Buffalo which attracts Congolese refugees. Along with teaching English lessons on Monday nights, Rick with the help of his wife Karen has provided bikes through bike drives, heavy socks and jackets for the winter, clothing of all sorts, and even helped members of the congregation find jobs. Rick was raised in a Christian family in Clarence, NY. He served on the LBA and as the Vice Chair at The Vine for many years prior to moving back to Clarence Center. Rick currently serves on the Worship Team and Security team at EHWC and has a traveling Worship Team that will fill in and substitute at other churches in the district as needed.



Paul Gartley

District Board of Administration Ministerial Member

Paul Gartley is the Wholeness Pastor at Watermark Wesleyan Church and has been on staff since April of 1999. During Paul's time at Watermark he has served as the High School Pastor, Pastor of Student Ministries, and Outreach Pastor. Each of these opportunities has helped prepare Paul for his present role. Currently, Paul oversees all ministry that happens at Watermark, from the youngest to the oldest. Under Paul's leadership Watermark has embraced a new disciple making paradigm. Paul's team recognizes that everyone attending Watermark Wesleyan is on a journey of Discovering Wholeness in Jesus, which is the driving force behind everything they do as a church. No matter how long someone has followed Jesus, they are all broken and have areas of their lives that need to be surrendered to become more like Jesus: perfectly whole. Watermark Wesleyan seeks to do this through the power of the Holy Spirit focusing on four functions of Jesus' ministry, Save the Lost - Heal the Saved - Train the Healed - Send the Trained. These four pillars establish an intentional, relational framework through which we discover wholeness in Jesus. Under Paul's leadership every ministry at Watermark Wesleyan is being restructured around this new ministry model. Paul is native to WNY and as a result has a firm grasp on WNY's unique culture. His heart breaks for as many people as possible to discover wholeness in Jesus from our Post-Christian, Post-Modern communities. Paul was ordained in the Wesleyan Church in 2004. He is married to Holly Gartley and they have three wonderful children.



Steve Johnson

Action Committee Ministerial Member

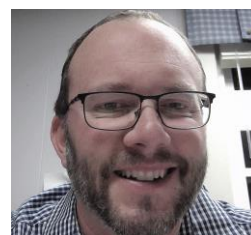
Steve Johnson is the pastor of Anchor Church in North Buffalo. He is married to Lindsey and they have two children, Ava (7) and Charlie (5). Steve was born and raised in Indiana and is a graduate of Indiana Wesleyan University. He moved to Western New York in 2006 to serve as youth pastor at Fellowship 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.



Dan Jones

District Board of Administration Ministerial Member & General Conference Ministerial Delegate

Dan Jones is the Lead Pastor of the Orchard Park Wesleyan Church. Before Dan came to the Western New York District he was the pastor at the Avon Wesleyan Church in the Central New York District for 9 years. Dan also chaired the District Board of Ministerial Development (DBMD) in Central NY District for 5 years and was a member of the Discipleship Committee. Dan grew up on a dairy farm and came to Christ as a child at the small rural church where he grew up, met his wife Karen and served as an assistant pastor. After sensing God's call to pastoral ministry Dan left the farm to attend Houghton College and then earned an M.Div. from Princeton Theological Seminary. During his seminary training Dan pastored a small suburban Wesleyan Church in the midst of transition helping them regain



established church status. Dan is passionate about helping churches reach their communities with the Gospel. While pastoring at Avon, he attended Fuller Theological Seminary earning a Doctor of Ministry studying discipleship and evangelism. Dan has led the Wesleyan Church of Orchard Park in planting Resurgence City – a church plant in downtown Buffalo. He currently serves on the DBMD in WNY and is an adjunct professor at Wesley Seminary and Equipping for Ministry at Houghton.

Meg Kelly

Action Committee Lay Member

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. She was a member of the core team establishing Anchor Church in North Buffalo and currently serves as a Worship Leader and Executive Ministry Assistant for Anchor Church and works full time as a general dentist.



Jeff Lawson

Nominating Committee Lay Member

Jeff Lawson has been attending Eastern Hills Wesleyan Church for 19 year and has been a member for the past 11 years. He grew up in the Jamestown area and attended Free Methodist churches, a sister denomination. Jeff came to Christ at the age of 9, thanks to the influence of his grand aunt, Ruth, and grand uncle, Danny, who took him to Sunday school and prayed with him on a regular basis. Jeff was a Youth leader and on the board of stewards at a previous church in Rochester. For the past 11 years he has been serving in the following ministries: Thrive singles ministry, where he is a part of the leadership team, a Captain for the usher team, a facilitator for DivorceCare, Congregational Care, and a delegate to the district conference. Jeff is presently a Ministerial Student in the Western New York District. He is married to Caroline for almost 2 years. He is presently employed as a skip verifier for Empire Verification Services.



John Lee

General Conference Lay Delegate

John has been following Jesus since he was 11 years old. He serves on the board of Watermark Wesleyan, World Hope International and is Chairman of the Houghton College Board of Trustees. John is a retired Praxair corporate executive who is applying the experience he gained in his career to the development of Christ's Kingdom in low income communities in Buffalo. He is married to Susan and has two daughters, two sons-in law and two granddaughters who live in Jersey City and Philadelphia.



Justin Leininger

District Board of Administration Ministerial Member

Justin is the Lead Pastor of North Collins Wesleyan Church, where he has served for the past four years. He and his wife, Julie, both graduated from Houghton College. They were married in 2004 and they have three children - Stella (9), Seth (6), and Sawyer (3). Prior to coming to Western New York, Justin served as Pastor of Family Ministries at Bethany Wesleyan Church (2008-2015) and Assistant Pastor at the Pine Grove Wesleyan Church (2004-2008). Ordained in 2006, he served for 10 years as District Youth President of the Penn-Jersey District and was the 2013 Youth Pastor of the Year Award recipient from Houghton College. As is true for the North Collins Wesleyan Church, Justin is active in the community. He also loves most sports, running, and outdoor activities.



Kathy Mason

Action Committee Lay Member

Kathy is the Secretary to the Superintendent and District Clerk of North Collins Central School District, where she has worked for 23 years. She holds an Associate's Degree from Erie Community College. She and her husband have one daughter and son-in-law and reside in North Collins. Kathy has been walking with the Lord since 2000. Some of the roles she served at North Collins include Local Board of Administration, Worship Team, Pastoral Advisory Committee, and VBS Team. Kathy also served for five years on the Worship Team at Angola Wesleyan Church. Kathy is honored to be nominated and enjoys serving in ministry.



William Mills

DBA Lay Member

Dr. Bill Mills is a 1980 graduate of Houghton College and holds a Masters from USC. He studied medicine at Hahnemann Medical School and did his residency at Tatem Brown Clinic. He is a Family Practice Physician and is the Senior Vice President of Quality and Professional Affairs for the Upper Allegheny Health System. He is a specialist in the area of addiction medicine. He has served on several community boards in the Olean area. Bill became a follower of Jesus Christ in high school and continues to grow in his faith. He is a leader at Hillside Wesleyan Church where he currently serves as the Vice Chair of the Local Church Board of Administration, is on the worship team and teaches Sunday School. He has been married to his wife Beth since 1981 and they have four children and nine grandchildren.



Ken Nash

Church Multiplication Director

Ken has been an ordained pastor for 22 years. Through those years of service, he discovered that church growth is a byproduct of church health. So, he spent much time in evaluation and doctoral study on how to help the church become the best witness to the world. Through this passion, Ken became a church planting coach and consultant around the country for the United Methodist Church. In 2016, after much prayer and discernment, Ken and Christine, along with their 4 children (Taylor currently 19, Silas 16, Elijah 13 and Mason 3), moved to Western New York and joined the Wesleyan movement through the Lord's developing call on their lives.



Wes Oden

General Conference Ministerial Delegate

Wes has been a follower of Christ all of his life and has been a pastor for 34 years. He was ordained in 1986 and serves full-time as Senior Pastor of Houghton Wesleyan Church. He has served in that capacity for 23 years. Previous to that, Wes pastored 11 years in the Wisconsin District, serving as their Assistant District Superintendent, chairing their District Board of Ministerial Development and as Director of Global Partners. In this district, he has served on the District Board of Administration. He is married to Rev. Cindy Oden who is also a pastor at Houghton Wesleyan Church. Wes and Cindy have two grown sons and a four-year-old granddaughter and one-year-old grandson.



Julie Palmer

General Conference Lay Delegate

Julie Palmer is a member of Watermark Wesleyan and has been involved with the Wesleyan Church for over 30 years. She has served on 2 overseas missions trips, served on worship teams, led a small group for years with her husband, led a women's Bible Study for several years, served on a prayer deliverance team and has been a member of the Outreach Committee at Watermark. She is married to Jeff who is a teacher in the Amherst School District and he is currently serving on the worship team. They have 4 children 2 of which have been adopted into their home. God placed a deep burden for women and children who are victims of exploitation on Julie's heart and called her into ministry in 2012 as the Executive Director of PATH Inc. (People Against Trafficking Humans) and founder of the PATH Enrichment Center. She has a Masters degree from the University of Buffalo Counseling and Educational Psychology Department and a Bachelors in Music Therapy. She has worked in the field of mental health for over 20 years and has been an instructor for the BOCES Teacher Center on multiple topics. She completed a Trauma-Informed Care Champion Learning Collaborative as a Health Fellows Program through the University of Buffalo and completed a Harvard Business School Not-for-Profit Management Program Course. She was a speaker for TedxBuffalo on the topic of Human Trafficking. Under God's direction and Julie's leadership, PATH has grown as a not-for-profit with a mission to end exploitation through education, prevention and restoration. The PATH Enrichment Center in the city of Buffalo provides support services to women and children who are at risk or have been affected by human trafficking in Western New York offering restoration and healing. She is currently serving on the District Board of Administration. She seeks the Lord's leading in all she does and she would be honored to serve as General Conference Delegate.



Kim Pecora

District Treasurer & General Conference Lay Delegate

Kim is a member at Angola Wesleyan Church where she is currently serving as Treasurer, leading a ladies Bible study and having fun getting ready for VBS in a few weeks. She is married to Bryan with 4 beautiful children and 3 grandchildren. Kim is very thankful God has provided this opportunity to serve as District Treasurer and get to know many of our church Treasurers better. It has been an honor to serve on the District Board and be a part of such a great team. She has just accepted a part-time position at PATH and excited to begin the week after District Conference.



Kristen Sanasith

Nominating Committee Lay Member

Kristen Sanasith is the Director of Women's Ministry for the Wesleyan Denomination within WNY's District. She is a member of Houghton Wesleyan Church where she serves on the worship team and volunteers in multiple areas including Women's Ministry. Kristen is a 4th grade teacher at Genesee Valley Central School, the wife of Souly Sanasith and mom of Layton, Carson, Kallan and Cora. The Sanasith family lives in Houghton and find it a privilege to have established an open door policy with the students from Houghton College within the past 12 years. Kristen is excited to be a candidate for the Nominating Committee and looks forward to building deeper connections with the people within our district.



Robin Schara

Missions Director

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 EHWCC 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.



Mike Trippett

Nominating Committee Ministerial Member

Mike joined the Western New York District in August of 2013, in the role of solo pastor at Angola Wesleyan Church, where he still serves today. Mike is a second career pastor who previously worked in the state of New Jersey as a licensed environmental technician. His work responsibilities consisted mostly of soil boring, well drilling and heavy equipment operations. Under the pastoral care of Rev. Fred Moore, Mike gave his heart to the Lord in the summer of 1997 while attending Bethany Wesleyan Church in the Penn-Jersey District (now the Northeast District) of the Wesleyan Church. In 2007 while attending The Gospel Chapel Wesleyan Church in Northampton PA, Mike began to sense a call to ministry and after seeking counsel from his pastor and friend Rev. Ken Reigard, he began his educational journey to become an ordained minister in September 2008. Mike enrolled in the FLAME program of the Wesleyan Church, and in 2009 Mike earned his ministerial license and joined the staff at The Gospel Chapel Wesleyan Church as Pastor of Youth Ministries. While working full-time as a well driller and equipment operator, overseeing a youth ministry, and trying to maintain a healthy family life, Mike continued taking the classes required for ordination. In 2013 Mike began to sense the Lord leading him to resign from his full-time job, as well as his position as pastor of youth ministries, and pursue full-time ministry as a lead pastor. It didn't take long for an opportunity to present itself and Mike and Marie



accepted the call to pastor the Angola Wesleyan Church in Western NY. Mike continued his education while serving as solo pastor at AWC under the supervision of district superintendent Rev. Joey Jennings. After 9 years of ministerial education, Mike was ordained on October 8, 2017. Mike and Marie were married in December of 1989 and have been blessed with two children, Brett (28) and Blaire (21). Mike's hobbies and interests include hunting, fishing, sports, reading and woodworking. Mike finds special pleasure in spending time with Marie, while walking the beach and searching for beach glass.

Mark Tucker

Action Committee Lay Member

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 thirty-three 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. Mark served on the 2017 District Action Committee.



Paul Young

General Conference Lay Delegate

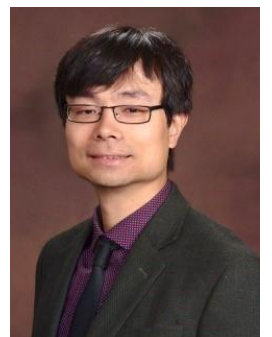
Paul grew up in the Atlantic district, attended Bethany Bible College, and graduated from Houghton College in 1976. In 1980 he joined the faculty of Houghton College, where he now serves as Dean of the Faculty. Paul teaches an adult Sunday School class and sings in the choir at the Houghton Wesleyan Church, and has served for many years on the District Board of Ministerial Development. Paul and Debbie have three daughters, all involved in music ministry.



Jun Zhuang

General Conference Lay Delegate

Jun was born in China where he did not have a chance to know God in the first 22 years of his life. In 2002 Jun came to the U.S. for graduate study when he firstly entered a church. In November 2003 Jun and his wife, Jie Zhao, were baptized in Lexington Chinese Christian Church, Lexington, Kentucky. They have been following the Lord since then and serving in local churches as lay members. Jun got an M.S. degree from the University of Kentucky in 2004 and a Ph.D. degree from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 2008. In August 2008, Jun joined the University at Buffalo where he is currently a tenured Full Professor in Industrial and Systems Engineering. Since August 2008 Jun and his family have been attending and serving at Eastern Hills Wesleyan Church (EHC) -- Chinese Church (EHC). Jun's father and mother visited Buffalo from China, got to know Jesus Christ, and were baptized at the EHC in March 2010. Jun and Jie are members of the EHC. Jun has served on the District Board of Administration (DBA) of the WNY District of the Wesleyan Church since June 2014 (and served on the DBA Executive Committee since July 2015, and as an Assistant District Treasurer since March 2017). Jun is passionate about being a disciple by spreading the Gospel as well as building up the Church.



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.

Allen, April A.	Approved	Lazewski, Teresa F.	Approved
Argo, Jason K.	Approved	Leamon, Michael D.	Approved
Argot, Dale	Approved	Leckel, Jacob R.	Approved
Argot, Pamela L.	Approved	Leiningner, Justin P.	Approved
Austin, Kevin M.	Approved	Lockie, Darryl S.	Approved
Baldwin, Christopher M.	Approved	Loew, Melinda D.	Approved
Baldwin, Tammy R.	Approved	Logan, Ronald L.	Approved
Bannister, LeRoy N.	Approved	MacBeth, Wayne C.	Approved
Bashizi, Yoshua	Approved	Markell, Paul F.	Approved
Beers, Gary L.	Approved	Mason, Joshua J.	Approved
Beers, Kevin D.	Approved	McClain, Gregory W.	Approved
Bell, Melissa	Approved	McGeorge, Alicia J.	Approved
Bennett, Richard A.	Approved	McIntyre, Nila M.	Approved
Brawdy, Daniel J.	Approved	Merriam, Floyd E.	Approved
Brooks, Elaine	Approved	Meyers, Alan L.	Approved
Brooks, Kevin	Approved	Miller, John Lester.	Approved
Budwine, John C.	Approved	Miller, Timothy J.	Approved
Butcher, Daniel	Approved	Mullen, Shirley	Approved
Case, Jonathan	Approved	Nash, Kenneth J.	Approved
Chase, Allen S.	Approved	Neary, Thomas C.	Approved
Ciocco, Gale E.	Approved	Nightingale, Richard W.	Approved
Claydon, Jason W. H.	Approved	Niver, Terri L.	Approved
Claydon, Tammy	Approved	Nykyforchyn, William P.	Approved
Clements, James D.	Approved	Oden, Cynthia A.	Approved
Cleveland, Karen M.	Approved	Oden, Wesley D.	Approved
Cole, Jon P.	Approved	Palmer, Paul D.	Approved
Cook, Joseph	Approved	Payne, David J.	Approved
Crassi, Roger M.	Approved	Pocock, Steven R.	Approved
Crowell, Nelson D.	Approved	Raines, Frederick A.	Approved
Cusumano, Mary M.	Approved	Reiller, Edward M.	Approved
Dawson, Mat	Approved	Reukauf, John P.	Approved
Dean, Marcus W.	Approved	Rose, Matthew A.	Approved
DeVries, Roy H.	Approved	Rowley, Rebecca G.	Approved
Dewey, Shawn M.	Approved	Salter-Smith, Cassandra L.	Approved
Duda, Daniel R.	Approved	Schara, Robin W.	Approved
Dunmire, Steven L.	Approved	Schultz, Carl	Approved
Duttweiler, Ronald P.	Approved	Schweigart, Carol A.	Approved
Dwyer, Michael G.	Approved	Sebian, Richard	Approved
Ellis, Bruce M.	Approved	Shambach, Jason A.	Approved
Ellis, Patricia A.	Approved	Shamenda, David	Approved
Engler, Robert M.	Approved	Shamenda, Elijah D.	Approved
Farney, Roger J.	Approved	Shea, Paul W.	Approved
Farrow, Barbara	Approved	Sherman, Andrew T.	Approved
Fidurko, Andrew J.	Approved	Smalley, Laurie J.	Approved
Funch, Adam	Approved	Smith, Bruce J.	Approved
Gallegos, Judy	Approved	Smith, William J.	Approved
Gartley, Paul E.	Approved	Strand, Ruth W.	Approved
George, Christopher R.	Approved	Strand, Stephen C.	Approved
George, Melissa J.	Approved	Todd, Becky J.	Approved
George, Robin W.	Approved	Todd, Daniel G.	Approved
Gladden, Kimberly B.	Approved	Trippett, Michael J.	Approved
Glendenning, Todd E.	Approved	Trotter, Alan D.	Approved
Grimes, Robert H.	Approved	Tucker, Karen L.	Approved
Haas, Bradley J.	Approved	Walker, Margaret D.	Approved
Hall, Clyde E.	Approved	Walters, J. M.	Approved
Heitzenrater, Richard B.	Approved	Ward, Jonathan D.	Approved
Hill, Charles F.	Approved	Wieder, Darren S.	Approved
Ingersoll, Douglas F.	Approved	Wilson, Daniel L.	Approved
Jennings, Joseph W.	Approved	Wood, Caleb	Approved
Johnson, Steven C.	Approved	Wood, Eldred J.	Approved
Jones, Daniel P.	Approved	Wood, Rebecca L.	Approved
Jones, Justin R.	Approved	Wrigglesworth, Michael L.	Approved
Jones, Patrick B.	Approved	Yei, Suk May	Approved
Jordan, John M.	Approved		
Kaufman, Trevor J.	Approved		
Kent, Stanley L.	Approved		
King, Shawn F.	Approved		
Koppen, Neil A.	Approved		
Lawson, Jeffery	Approved		
Lawson, William R.	Approved		
Lazewski, Arthur S.	Approved		

We, the members of the District Board of Ministerial Development, make the following recommendations to the 2018 District Conference of the Western New York District:

WE RECOMMEND:

The following for election to Ordained Ministers:

Terri L. Niver

Granting Ordination Transfer:

Cassandra Salter-Smith

Election to Commissioned Minister:

None

Listing as an Ordained Minister in Process of Denominational Transfer:

Judy Gallegos

Jonathan Horton

Granting a District Ministerial License for those pastoring to:

Joshua J. Mason

Renewing a District Ministerial License for those pastoring to:

Daniel W. Butcher

Andrew Fidurko

Robert H. Grimes

Trevor Kaufman

Shawn F. King

Elijah D. Shamenda

Listing as Licensed Minister on Loan from another District:

Michalla Veach (Great Lakes District)

Granting a license as a Ministerial Student to:

Becky Beers

Bethany Elliott

Tori Jordan

Andrea Merrill

Michael Prutsman

Rebecca Ventre

Renewing a license as a Ministerial Student to:

Yoshua Bashizi

Melissa Bell

Daniel J. Brawdy

Joseph Cook

Adam Funch

Jeffery M. Lawson

James McLean

Shirley A. Mullen

Edward Reiller

Andrew Sherman

Caleb Wood

2019 Ordination Candidates



Pastor Terri Niver

First Wesleyan Church, Bradford, PA

Terri has been the pastor of First Wesleyan Church since 2013 and she has been in the ministerial training process since 2009. She has been married to Kevin Niver since 1983 and they have two children. Terri and Kevin began attending First Wesleyan Church in 1989 and she began to hear the call of God on her life for vocational ministry. In addition to capably pastoring a growing church, Terri has a degree in Mechanical Engineering and works full-time as a Quality Manager at Keystone Powdered Metal. The District Board of Ministerial Development has recommended Terri for ordination in 2019.

Rev. Cassandra Salter-Smith

ZionQuest Christian Fellowship

Cassandra is transferring her ordination credentials from the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church. She has served in ministry since 1991. She holds an M.Div. and a Doctor of Ministry degree from Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School. She and her husband Marvin have been married since 1985 and they have two children. Cassandra is the Assistant Pastor working with Rev. Kim Gladden at our affiliate church ZionQuest Christian Fellowship. The District Board of Administration has approved her ordination transfer. We welcome Cassandra to the Wesleyan community.



DISTRICT ORDINATION SERVICE

Sunday, October 20, 2019, 6:00 PM

Hillside Wesleyan Church

MINISTERIAL TRANSFERS

The following transfers were processed by the Western New York District of The Wesleyan Church during the 2018-2019 Conference year:

ORDAINED MINISTERS TRANSFERRED INTO WESTERN NEW YORK:

Gary L. Beers from Northeast District
Jonathan Case from Iowa-Minnesota District

ORDAINED MINISTERS TRANSFERRED OUT OF WESTERN NEW YORK:

Bradley J. Haas to Shenandoah District
Stanley L. Kent to Central New York District
Christopher J. Claassen to Crossroad District

ORDAINED MINISTERS IN PROCESS OF TRANSFER OUT OF WESTERN NEW YORK:

None

ORDAINED MIN. PENDING COMPLETION OF DENOMINATIONAL TRANSFER:

Judy Gallegos from the Joy Community Church
Jonathan M. Horton from Free Methodist Church

ORDAINED MIN. WHO HAVE APPLIED FOR DENOMINATIONAL TRANSFER:

Darryl S. Lockie to the United Methodist Church

LICENSED MINISTERS TRANSFERRED OUT OF WESTERN NEW YORK:

None

MINISTERIAL STUDENTS TRANSFERRED OUT OF WESTERN NEW YORK

James McLean to Northeast District
Richard Mason Sebian to Central New York District

Report of the Church Multiplication Director

VISION

The Wesleyan Church has an amazing vision for the denomination. We believe God's unfolding kingdom looks more like a movement than an organization. And kingdom growth, a true movement, looks like many churches planted and revitalized. That is why the 'Win' for the Wesleyan Church is to: Celebrate every time a disciple makes a disciple and the church multiplies itself until we have a transforming presence in every zip code.

UPDATES

Anchor Church: Anchor is a Developing Church and under that boards supervision but is on track to become an established church in the coming year. They are also beginning to plan and pray for a permanent worship space in North Buffalo.

Resurgence City Church: Elijah Shamenda launched public services this past Fall in the Theater District of downtown Buffalo. Resurgence seeks to be a multi-ethnic church and has been focused on reaching the communities near the church and creating deep community and discipleship to those who find it home.

Mission of Christ: This church on the Westside of Buffalo continues to be led by Yoshua Bashizi. Mission of Christ has moved to a Developing Church and under that boards supervision. The congregation continues to grow in size and health under Yoshua's leadership.

NEXT

My goal is to continue to do my part in equipping churches to Celebrate every time a disciple makes a disciple and the church multiplies itself until we have a transforming presence in every zip code. The need for more churches in WNY is great. And as much as I have tried to do my part in this position as multiplication director, I feel I cannot give it the time and attention it deserves. My hope is that as our district grows in its passion and effectiveness in church multiplication, that I can continue to be a support and coach to those who are called to plant churches. I will be praying for our next director and will be excited to see what God will do in the coming years in WNY.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve!

Respectfully Submitted,

Steve Johnson

Report of the District Clergy Care Coordinators

With over 4,000 ordained clergy in The Wesleyan Church, not to mention licensed ministers and those in ministerial preparation, providing clergy care can be a daunting task. Yet clergy care is so critical! "It takes healthy pastors to have healthy churches." Being a pastor is different than all other helping professions. Our church leaders need to understand this better and also our pastors need to understand this better for themselves.

The Education & Clergy Development (ECD) decided to collaborate with districts to find a better way to assist with clergy care. ECD has encouraged each district to appoint a District Clergy Care Director, someone or someone(s) that will come alongside of the district superintendents to partner for clergy care. We were asked last Summer, 2018, by Dr. Jennings if we would take on this new role and we have been privileged over this last year to serve in this capacity.

While it has been a year mostly of awareness, letting pastors and churches know that this new position exists and that we want to be more intentional about clergy care in direct, holistic and tangible ways. We have had the opportunity to meet with several clergy and clergy couples who just needed a listening ear of a peer, someone who could help them discern more objectively where they are and what might be some healthy steps to take for their own self-care or for the care of their marriage/family.

Surveys have been distributed, meetings have happened, phone calls have taken place and many cards of encouragement have been sent to the incredible pastors who serve faithfully here on the Western New York District. It has been a year of learning what incredible resources are available to pastors both within the Wesleyan Denomination and outside and making pastors, pastoral couples and their families aware of these.

While we have enjoyed serving in this capacity for the district this last year, we will not be able to serve going forward. We know how vital it is to have someone serving in this role that not only has a heart for pastors, but also has the availability. Our upcoming re-location, new partnership with SonScape Retreats and the launching of Restoration Destinations keeps us from having this availability.

We know that God will provide others to take up the mantle of leadership as the District Clergy Care Director. We will look forward to working with them to make the transition as seamless as possible.

Thank you for allowing us to serve in advancing the care and support of our WNY District Clergy and for entrusting us with your stories and lives.

Revs. John & Becci Wood

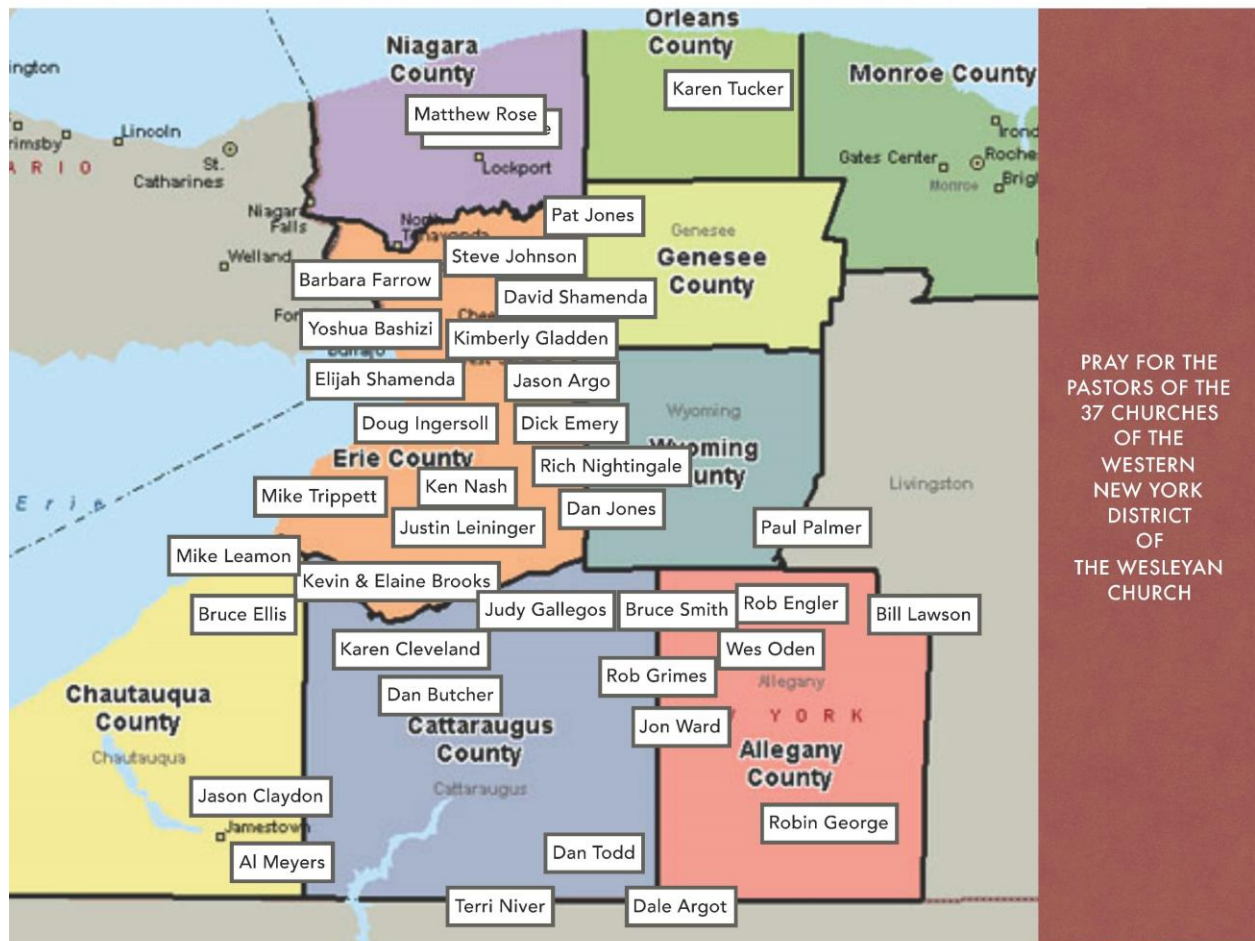
Report of the Thrive Financial Initiative Director

Thrive Financial Initiative 2019

Church	Total TFI Grant	Pastors	Participant year	District Amount
Mission of Christ	\$ 2,500.00	Yoshua Bashizi	Year 2	\$ 500.00
Levant Wesleyan Church	\$ 2,500.00	Al Meyers	Year 3	\$ 500.00
Williamsville Eastern Hills Church	\$ 2,500.00	Andrea Merrill	Year 1	\$ 500.00
	\$ 7,500.00			\$ 1,500.00

Rev. Karen Tucker

Thrive Financial Initiative Director



Report of the Action Committee

Amendments to the WNY District Standing Rules (pages 33-41 in the District Journal)

That which is recommended to be deleted is in ~~Strikethrough~~

That which is recommended to be added is in **Bold**

Standing Rule 11 –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 **annually** ~~by July 1st of each year~~ until ordained or commissioned.

(This simplifies some of the guidelines for those in ministerial preparation)

Standing Rule 38 – Group Property Insurance

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

(Recommend moving this language to #44 Deeds and Property Insurance)

Standing Rule 40 – Election of Local Church Officers

C. The spouse and family members (immediate and extended) of any pastor should not serve on the Local Board of Administration or should recuse themselves during ~~pastor relations and budgetary deliberations~~ **pastoral evaluations, recommendations of renewal of call, or discussion of pastoral compensation.**

(This is a clarification of the rule)

Standing Rule 41 - Budget Assessment Cap

The District Budget shall be computed on only the first ~~\$570,000~~ **\$590,000** of assessable income. This budget cap shall be reviewed annually by the District Board of Administration and any changes be recommended to the Annual Conference.

(Recommended by the District Board of Administration - 6/4/2019. This represents a 3.5% increase and would take effect for the 2020-21 church year if approved.)

Submitted by the 2018-19 Action Committee,

Joey Jennings, DS

Kim Pecora, Treasurer

Steve Priola

Matthew Rose

Marie Trippett

Jonathan Ward

Assessment Review Task Force

The following is an update from the Assessment Review Task Force.

No Action is needed at this time.

It is the recommendation of the Assessment Review Task Force that the district reduce the district assessment to a percentage level that would comply with the recommendations of the denominational USF Study Team and that we would make adjustments to the District cap to compensate. Currently, the recommended percentage for District Assessment will be 3.75%. Because this will not be finalized until the 2020 General Conference, the exact numbers will be presented to the 2020 District Conference and will take effect in 2021. Once the amount of reduction is confirmed, the team will make specific recommendation as to ways to make up this revenue on the district level such that the district maintains approximately the same budget.

The team is also recommending that every church in the district, including developing and affiliate churches, be asked to contribute some amount to the mission. Currently, affiliate churches do not pay assessment and developing churches can have most or even all of their assessment reduced by the DBA. The DBA has implemented this change this year in their designation of assessments such that every church will be asked to contribute at least 1% of their Assessable Income.

A third recommendation is still being developed which would explore the advantages of the district expanding its services to include central services for local churches (finances, human resources, etc.). Several of our churches have hired people to accomplish these tasks and it is hoped that we can find some savings from pooling these tasks together in one position. This additional position would work initially with our larger churches and would be funded by assessing our largest churches an additional percentage above the cap or maximum assessed income.

Assessment Review Task Force

Jim Clements

Paul Cronk

Janet Hunt

Joey Jennings

Wes Oden

Mike Trippett

WNY District of the Wesleyan Church
Statement of Financial Position
As of May 31, 2019

ASSETS**Current Assets****Bank Accounts**

100000 CKNONPRO 0001 (XXXXXXXXX 0001)	150,209.86
---------------------------------------	------------

104000 Wesleyan Inv Foundation	415,955.52
--------------------------------	------------

Total Bank Accounts	\$	566,165.38
---------------------	----	------------

Accounts Receivable

120000 Accounts Receivable	-7,061.78
----------------------------	-----------

Total Accounts Receivable	-\$	7,061.78
---------------------------	-----	----------

Other Current Assets

120125 Accounts Receivable - Other	0.00
------------------------------------	------

120500 Other Current Assets	0.00
-----------------------------	------

141000 Prepaid Expenditures	0.00
-----------------------------	------

145000 Prepaid Pension	3,272.70
------------------------	----------

Undeposited Funds	0.00
-------------------	------

Total Other Current Assets	\$	3,272.70
----------------------------	----	----------

Total Current Assets	\$	562,376.30
----------------------	----	------------

Fixed Assets

District Church Buildings	67,485,922.00
---------------------------	---------------

District Parsonages	4,529,100.00
---------------------	--------------

Total Fixed Assets	\$	72,015,022.00
--------------------	----	---------------

TOTAL ASSETS	\$	72,577,398.30
--------------	----	---------------

LIABILITIES AND EQUITY**Liabilities****Current Liabilities****Accounts Payable**

210000 Accounts Payable	0.00
-------------------------	------

Total Accounts Payable	\$	0.00
------------------------	----	------

Other Current Liabilities

210125 Accounts Payable - Other	0.00
---------------------------------	------

241100 403B Payable	600.00
---------------------	--------

250000 Deferred Revenue	11,697.41
-------------------------	-----------

Total Other Current Liabilities	\$	12,297.41
---------------------------------	----	-----------

Total Current Liabilities	\$	12,297.41
---------------------------	----	-----------

Total Liabilities	\$	12,297.41
-------------------	----	-----------

Equity

Opening Balance Equity	72,516,989.34
------------------------	---------------

Retained Earnings	16,085.02
-------------------	-----------

Net Revenue	32,026.53
-------------	-----------

Total Equity	\$	72,565,100.89
--------------	----	---------------

TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$	72,577,398.30
------------------------------	----	---------------

WNY District of The Wesleyan Church
Fund Activity Summary
 June 1, 2018 - May 31, 2019

Funds	*Beginning Balance	Revenue	Expense	Ending Balance
District Ministry	289,086.71	228,874.05	219,205.29	298,755.47
General USF/EIF	(17,089.81)	704,328.74	689,794.00	(2,555.07)
Insurance	(11,312.10)	-	9,438.65	(20,750.75)
District Car Replacement	5,059.98	4,000.00	2,691.09	6,368.89
District Parsonage Maintenance	15,795.73	6,500.00	3,593.99	18,701.74
Refresh Family Camp	17,451.86	30,472.84	35,463.43	12,461.27
Missions	3,479.50	2,180.02		5,659.52
Wesleyan Women	4,791.06	1,000.00	1,411.81	4,379.25
Camp Endowment	103,296.11	-		103,296.11
Church Development	100,553.75	135,416.21	125,416.57	110,553.39
Youth	6,939.57	12,948.96	7,229.46	12,659.07
Restricted		550.00		550.00
Total	518,052.36	1,126,270.82	1,094,244.29	550,078.89

Revenue	1,126,270.82
Less Expenses	(1,094,244.29)
Total 2018 - 2019 Revenue	32,026.53

**Prior period adjustment to pension per auditors + reconciling adj from 2016*

2018-19 Church Assessments Paid

Church	2017-18 Assessable Income	2018-19 Assessment	Assessment Paid YTD	% Paid
Anchor Wesleyan Church	\$115,298	\$5,765	\$5,765	100%
Angola Wesleyan Church	\$96,124	\$9,612	\$9,612	100%
Ashwood Wesleyan Church	\$41,658	\$166	\$166	100%
Big Tree Wesleyan Church	\$230,991	\$23,099	\$23,099	100%
Bradford First Wesleyan Church	\$68,314	\$6,831	\$6,831	100%
Brookside Wesleyan Church	\$139,269	\$13,927	\$13,927	100%
Christ Chapel Wesleyan	\$134,125	\$13,413	\$13,413	100%
East Aurora Wesleyan Church	\$47,418	\$8,802	\$8,802	100%
East Leon Wesleyan Church	\$25,918	\$2,592	\$2,592	100%
Eastern Hills Wesleyan Church	\$2,797,722	\$117,200	\$117,200	100%
Fellowship Wesleyan Church	\$649,841	\$58,182	\$58,177	100%
Fillmore Wesleyan Church	\$173,851	\$17,385	\$17,385	100%
Forestville Wesleyan Church	\$60,203	\$6,020	\$6,020	100%
Hess Road Wesleyan Church	\$281,500	\$28,150	\$28,150	100%
Higgins Wesleyan Church	\$128,633	\$12,863	\$12,868	100%
Hillside Wesleyan Church	\$143,215	\$14,322	\$14,322	100%
Home City Wesleyan Church	\$76,549	\$6,119	\$6,119	100%
Houghton Wesleyan Church	\$787,926	\$65,887	\$65,887	100%
Levant Wesleyan Church	\$243,725	\$24,373	\$24,373	100%
Little Valley Wesleyan Church	\$52,554	\$5,255	\$5,256	100%
Lockport Wesleyan Church	\$18,209	\$1,821	\$1,821	100%
McCrae Brook Wesleyan Church	\$43,355	\$4,336	\$4,336	100%
North Collins Wesleyan Church	\$197,185	\$19,719	\$19,719	100%
North Park Wesleyan Church	\$158,193	\$15,819	\$15,819	100%
Oakland Wesleyan Church	\$100,691	\$10,069	\$10,069	100%
Orchard Park Wesleyan Church	\$369,990	\$36,999	\$36,999	100%
Peace Wesleyan Church	\$60,386	\$6,039	\$6,039	100%
The Vine Wesleyan Church	\$314,825	\$50,715	\$50,715	100%
Valley Wesleyan Church	\$56,481	\$1,648	\$1,648	100%
Watermark Wesleyan Church	\$4,555,557	\$117,200	\$117,200	100%
District Totals	\$12,100,953	\$704,326	\$704,329	100%

2019-20 District/USF/EIF Assessment

Church	18-19 Assessable Income	District Assessment 4%	United Stewardship Fund 2.75%	Education Institution Fund 3.25%	TOTAL Assessment 10%	Monthly Payments
Anchor Church*	\$75,084	\$2,253	\$1,549	\$1,830	\$5,631	\$469.28
Angola Wesleyan Church	\$87,706	\$3,508	\$2,412	\$2,850	\$8,771	\$730.88
Ashwood Wesleyan Church*	\$30,166	\$121	\$83	\$98	\$302	\$25.14
Bellville Wesleyan Church	\$25,215	\$101	\$69	\$82	\$252	\$21.01
Big Tree Wesleyan Church	\$216,649	\$8,666	\$5,958	\$7,041	\$21,665	\$1,805.41
Brookside Wesleyan Church	\$135,755	\$5,430	\$3,733	\$4,412	\$13,576	\$1,131.29
Cattaraugus Wesleyan Indian Chapel*	\$6,942	\$28	\$19	\$23	\$69	\$5.79
Christ Chapel Wesleyan	\$137,100	\$5,484	\$3,770	\$4,456	\$13,710	\$1,142.50
East Aurora Wesleyan Church	\$52,733	\$2,109	\$1,450	\$1,714	\$5,273	\$439.44
East Leon Wesleyan Church	\$20,065	\$803	\$552	\$652	\$2,007	\$167.21
Eastern Hills Wesleyan Church	\$2,410,525	\$22,800	\$43,500	\$51,500	\$117,800	\$9,816.67
Fellowship Wesleyan Church	\$614,559	\$22,800	\$16,373	\$19,355	\$58,528	\$4,877.33
Fillmore Wesleyan Church	\$167,521	\$6,701	\$4,607	\$5,444	\$16,752	\$1,396.01
First Wesleyan Church - Bradford	\$72,008	\$2,880	\$1,980	\$2,340	\$7,201	\$600.07
Forestville Wesleyan Church	\$61,393	\$2,456	\$1,688	\$1,995	\$6,139	\$511.61
Grace Community Wesleyan Church*	\$30,000	\$120	\$83	\$98	\$300	\$25.00
Hess Road Wesleyan Church	\$269,394	\$10,776	\$7,408	\$8,755	\$26,939	\$2,244.95
Higgins Wesleyan Church	\$129,817	\$5,193	\$3,570	\$4,219	\$12,982	\$1,081.81
Hillside Wesleyan Church	\$160,365	\$6,415	\$4,410	\$5,212	\$16,037	\$1,336.38
Home City Church*	\$74,943	\$1,398	\$961	\$1,136	\$3,494	\$291.19
Houghton Wesleyan Church	\$804,389	\$22,800	\$20,721	\$24,499	\$68,019	\$5,668.29
Joy Community Church	\$47,008	\$470			\$470	\$39.17
Levant Wesleyan Church	\$236,284	\$9,451	\$6,498	\$7,679	\$23,628	\$1,969.03
Little Valley Wesleyan Church	\$66,738	\$2,670	\$1,835	\$2,169	\$6,674	\$556.15
Lockport Wesleyan Church	\$22,638	\$906	\$623	\$736	\$2,264	\$188.65
McCrae Brook Wesleyan Church	\$50,652	\$2,026	\$1,393	\$1,646	\$5,065	\$422.10
Mission of Christ*	\$12,722	\$51	\$35	\$41	\$127	\$10.60
North Collins Wesleyan Church	\$244,735	\$9,789	\$6,730	\$7,954	\$24,474	\$2,039.46
North Park Wesleyan Church	\$206,266	\$8,251	\$5,672	\$6,704	\$20,627	\$1,718.88
Oakland Wesleyan Church	\$105,612	\$4,224	\$2,904	\$3,432	\$10,561	\$880.10
Orchard Park Wesleyan Church	\$462,740	\$18,510	\$12,725	\$15,039	\$46,274	\$3,856.17
Peace Wesleyan Church	\$60,398	\$2,416	\$1,661	\$1,963	\$6,040	\$503.32
Resurgence City*	\$42,547	\$0			\$0	\$0.00
The Vine Wesleyan Church	\$294,837	\$11,793	\$8,108	\$9,582	\$29,484	\$2,456.98
Valley Wesleyan Church*	\$52,935	\$517	\$356	\$420	\$1,294	\$107.79
Watermark Wesleyan Church	\$4,562,188	\$22,800	\$43,500	\$51,500	\$117,800	\$9,816.67
ZionQuest Christian Fellowship*	—	\$356			\$356	\$29.67
	\$12,050,629	\$227,070	\$216,937	\$256,577	\$700,584	\$57,275.65
* Church Plant/Developing Church Reduction		4.00%	2.75%	3.25%	10%	

Payments can be made online: WNYDistrict.com/treasurer
or mail checks to WNY District, 4669 Pinecrest Terrace, Eden, NY 14057

District Ministry Fund Budget for 2019-20

Sources of Income

INCOME	2018-19 Budget	2018-19 Actual	2019-20 Budget
Church Assessments - District	\$216,181	\$216,181	\$227,070
Interest Income	\$10,000	\$10,346	\$12,500
Assessments for Church Planting	\$24,000	\$22,800	\$32,000
Budget from Reserves/Surplus			\$14,125
TOTAL INCOME	\$250,181	\$249,327	\$285,695

How Income is Distributed to Various Funds

Fund Distribution	2018-19 Budget	2018-19 Actual	2019-20 Budget
District Ministry Fund	\$225,261	\$226,527	\$237,195
District Car Fund	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$4,000
District Parsonage Fund	\$6,500	\$6,500	\$6,500
Church Development Fund	\$24,000	\$24,000	\$32,000
Youth Ministry Fund	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000
Women's Ministry Fund	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
Total Distributions	\$265,761	\$267,027	\$285,695

District Ministry Fund Budget

EXPENSES	2018-19 Budget	2018-19 YTD	2019-20 Budget
District Work			
Boards & Committees Expenses	\$6,000	6,117.71	\$6,000
Leadership Development/Books	\$5,000	4,663.75	\$5,000
Retreat/The Gathering	\$10,000	5,490.02	\$6,000
Pastors Wives' Event	\$2,500	2,153.00	\$2,500
Prayer Emphasis	\$500	0.00	\$500
District Conference & Ordination	\$5,500	6,312.62	\$6,500
District Journal	\$2,100	1,969.00	\$2,000
Superintendent			
District Superintendent Salary	\$71,889	71,888.96	\$74,045
Wesleyan Pension Plan	\$10,847	10,846.68	\$11,105
Insurance - Health & Life	\$14,000	15,243.06	\$15,432
Health Saving Account	\$4,400	4,400.04	\$4,400
SS Reimbursement for DS	\$13,829	13,829.40	\$14,159
Christmas Gift - DS	\$1,776	1,741.00	\$1,424

District Ministry Fund Budget for 2019-20

EXPENSES	2018-19 Budget	2018-19 YTD	2019-20 Budget
District Office			
Office Administrator	\$23,460	23,460.06	\$24,164
Christmas Gift - Office Admin			\$465
Home/Office Utilities	\$6,000	5,341.67	\$6,000
Office Expenses	\$4,000	6,573.23	\$5,000
Social Security for Employees	\$1,760	1,794.52	\$1,800
Team Honoraria			
Assistant District Superintendent	\$2,400	2,000.00	\$2,500
District Secretary	\$6,000	5,499.96	\$6,000
District Treasurer	\$5,500	2,200.00	\$5,500
Assistant Treasurer - Receivables	\$2,400	1,800.00	\$2,600
Assistant Treasurer - Payables	\$1,800	6,000.00	\$2,000
Events Coordinator	\$1,200	1,000.00	\$1,200
Supplies for District Team	\$2,000	1,000.00	\$2,000
Auxiliaries			
Church Multiplication Team	\$3,000	\$1,200	\$3,000
Urban Advocacy	\$3,000	\$0	\$3,000
Children's Ministry	\$500	\$607	\$500
Miscellaneous			
DS Travel & Hospitality	\$7,000	5,979.00	\$7,000
Various Insurance	\$2,000	0.00	\$7,000
Gifts & Flowers	\$400	113.22	\$400
Markell Scholarship at Houghton	\$1,000	1,000.00	\$1,000
Emergency Assistance for Pastors	\$1,500	6,185.00	\$5,000
Unexpected Expenses	\$2,000	945.00	\$2,000
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$225,261	\$217,504	\$237,195

Report of the Refresh Retreat & Family Camp Director

Refresh 2019

In 2019 we are excited to have Hannah Kerr as our worship leader (HannahKerrMusic.com), and Dr. Meredith Griffin (Senior Pastor of Harvest Christian Fellowship in Wilmington, DE) as our camp speaker. We will also have Houghton College summer ministry teams leading our teen track, a fantastic lineup of adult seminars, and wonderful programming for children. Many of the activities you love will be back (including softball under the lights!), but we are also adding new activities for 2019, including a FOAM PARTY (just wait until you see it)!

You can register for a day, or for the week at www.RefreshAtHoughton.com

Refresh 2018

2018 was a fun year for Refresh. We had all looked so forward to having Mark Wilson as our speaker, and we were disappointed when he had to cancel at the last minute due to illness (certainly not the kind of last-minute changes I was hoping for in my first year as camp director!), but I'm grateful to those who stepped in at the last minute to speak: Justin Leininger, Ken Nash, Wally Fleming, Aaron Duvall, Mike Walters, and our District Superintendent – each ensuring that we had a wonderful and meaningful week.

As a result of how much everyone enjoyed the variety of speakers we had in 2018, we may plan to have different speakers every night of camp in the future.

2018 REGISTRATION BREAKDOWN

Number	Age Group
3	Newborn to 18 months
18	18 months to 3 years
22	PreK & Kindergarten
20	Grades 1 & 2
24	Grades 3 & 4
26	Grades 5 & 6
57	Grades 7-12
174	Adults
348	TOTAL PEOPLE

Looking to the Future of Refresh

While Refresh 2019 is just around the corner, we are already looking ahead to 2020, planning creative activities for the future to take full advantage of our location at Houghton College, crafting new and creative ways to expand visibility of camp, and creating resources so churches can help us get the word out. Watch in October for brand new promotional materials for Refresh 2020.

Respectfully submitted in Christ,
 Dr. Steve Dunmire
 Camp Director, Refresh Retreat & Family Camp at Houghton College

Report of the Urban Advocacy Team

Urban Advocacy exists to equip and encourage the church in ministry to global need in the local context of Buffalo. Our purpose is to promote community service, spiritual health, edification of urban congregations, and to raise awareness of need and build partnerships with district churches. We offer connection and representation in the city for WNY District Wesleyan Churches to supplement and build on the role that many congregations already have.

Some notable aspects of this past year include the following:

- 1) Spiritual care ministry has extended to the new Broadway Jericho Road Community Health Center and has continued at Barton and Genesee clinics and *Vive* on Wyoming.
- 2) Six believers were baptized through Mission of Christ Church. The congregation gave rise to a second congregation of another denomination. This created unique challenges for Pastor Yoshua Bashizi, but Mission of Christ has grown as a welcoming congregation to serve Swahili and Kinyarwanda speakers in Buffalo. Ruth leads the Children's Church Ministry team and develops multicultural teaching material, with plans to identify adult support staff. Many district churches give support to Mission of Christ congregation, and to the work of Global Bridge to offer English classes.
- 3) Pastor Barbara Farrow and worship leader Michael Farrow brought Grace Community Church through on solid ground this past year. A Legacy of Love Ministry Celebration in February marked one year after the death of Pastor Cap Farrow, and the congregation continues to grow spiritually, musically, and in their sense of being the church in the city.
- 4) At Houghton College Buffalo, Steve served this past year as interim dean. This year from Houghton College Buffalo, the 15 multilingual graduates came from diverse countries- *Burma, Congo, Kenya, Malawi, Puerto Rico, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Tanzania and Thailand*. They were joined by 15 graduates from Houghton College Utica.
- 5) As well, the first 2 graduates from Hope House walked across the Houghton College stage. Buffalo News covered the story in an article on May 13- "Cheaper to Educate than Incarcerate." This program, directed by Rebekah Kimble, "educates parolees through Houghton College and Peace Prints of WNY" to offer "comprehensive re-entry services to men and women involved in the criminal justice system."
- 6) In the fall, Houghton's newest program is slated to open on the East Side of Buffalo with another two-year degree, offered as "a spiritually rooted college education with a focus on the rich tradition of American moral and intellectual engagement." Director Julian Cook seeks to equip "students from communities of color to take on the challenges of this age with well-informed civic engagement and ethical leadership."

Ministries we will explore for Urban Advocacy in the coming year include

- 1) Extension of Trauma Informed Care through American Bible Society, in collaboration with River Rock Church and others.
- 2) Theological Education opportunities for urban ministers.

Thanks for your participation, prayers and support.

Respectfully,
Steve and Ruth Strand

Report of the District Women's Ministry Director

This year has flown by and I'm excited to reflect on a year well invested in as one of our district's Wesleyan Women. I continue to feel overwhelmed to be used by a God of love and patience. The Wesleyan Women in our district are hungry for a deeper faith and greater purpose as we strive towards loving God and others well.

As I catalog this year's efforts through Wesleyan Women, I realize we have had a unique year. In years past Wesleyan Women has had more events to show than this year. While we did fellowship, worship, plan, and volunteer, there was a distinct shift into discipleship. This new move happened as we began planning for the Fresh Grounded Faith conference held at Easter Hills Wesleyan Church this past May. I had the privilege of being included from the very beginning steps of planning.

Social media played a vital role in communication and incorporation of the women within our district. The women who make up our district helped our team pick the supporting speakers to Jennifer Rothschild; Ann Voskamp and Laura Story for the conference as they cast their vote over Facebook. They also played a vital role in sharing marketing material through their Wesleyan church's social media platforms. To unite the Wesleyan Women as we prayerfully anticipated this conference, lay women from multiple churches within our district held Bible Studies/book clubs written by one of the speakers at Fresh Grounded Faith. We shared with each other (over Facebook) the transformations taking place in each of our churches as women grew in their faith in Jesus Christ. As a leadership team, the decision was made to gift women in our district with tickets to the Fresh Grounded Faith conference who lead Women's Ministry in the churches throughout the district. Being finally united at the Fresh Grounded Faith conference this month was like a homecoming a year in the making.

Wesleyan Women's leadership team of myself, Alison Leckel, Julie Leininger, and Nicole Argo will meet in June to discuss an event we will host at this year's Refresh family camp and also review choices for a fall trip with women throughout the district. Thank you for this opportunity to minister to and with strong daughters of a good God within this Western New York district.

Kristen Sanasith

Report of the District Youth Ministry Director

This year we focused on equipping students and leaders to do ministry as well as outreach to be intentional with why we did the events we did. We believed WHY we did things was just as important as what we did. We focused these through three main events to accomplish our focus.

E416, we partnered with Central NY and Houghton college for the main focus of equipping. We held events in November and March for both students and adult youth leaders to sharpen their skills and grow together as influencers for our local communities. A huge thank you to Steve Dunmire and Houghton College for their extra work putting this together for our students!

D-Camp was another area of focus on equipping and training for our students. The students who attended this camp were all approved by their youth pastor to attend because they showed a desire and initiative to grow in their faith and understanding of Jesus. This was a time of rest for students, a time to learn and to discover how God has gifted them for His Kingdom use!

Winter Retreat is our outreach focused event! We had students who come from families that do not attend any church or could care-less about the spiritual growth of their kids attending our retreat this year! The students had fun even though we had to shorten the event because of weather!! Huge THANK YOU to Jon Cole and Steve Dunmire with Houghton College for all their work on this event. Students who attended were responsive to the Gospel and those who were far from Him humbled themselves and grew closer to Christ!

This has been a tough year for leadership in our district youth. I (Rev. Tom Neary) would not have imagined at the start of the year to be finishing the year in Georgia and moving our family to plant a church. I would not have imagined the personal hardships that Joe (Co-Director for Winter Retreat) and his family had to endure with his health. I would not have imagined all that Jon (Winter Retreat Director) has gone through with his family and beauty and pain that cancer brought. I am sure I could sit with you and you could tell me about your hardships this year we would be in awe together. We will be in awe because through all the hardships we did the only thing we know to do, rely on God. Finding our strength and hope in Him. I can tell you that you can't buy a better curriculum for students to see the faithfulness of our God then a life passionately pursuing Jesus through hard times. For all the prayer and support for all three of us we thank you! I am thankful for the time I was able use my influence to lead our leaders and students, it has been an honor and a privilege to serve, thank you!

Respectfully Submitted, Rev. Tom Neary

Report of the District Children's Ministry Director

I thank you for the opportunity to serve as the Children's Director for the past two years. It has been a privilege to serve directly with two wonderful pastors, April Allen & Megan Cusumano. Donna Zangara has also been a tremendous resource and help.

The major event was a children's ministry volunteer training day held on March 9. Our guest speaker was Ryan Frank from KidzMatter. We had over 60 people in attendance. Leaders and volunteers from 10 Wesleyan Churches in our district and 5 other churches from various denominations participated. Dale, Pam & Anna Argot were a huge help at this event.

I would like to encourage the district churches to continue to share children's ministry ideas, and resources. I pray that it not only continues but that it grows.

Thanks again for the opportunity to serve,

Pastor Chris Claassen

Report of the Auditor

In compliance with the *2016 Discipline of the Wesleyan Church*, and the guidelines provided by the FASB (Fund Accounting Advisory Board) in 2014 for not-for-profit organizations, the financial records of the WNY District of the Wesleyan Church were submitted for review to the individual indicated below.

Based on the Auditor's Review of this financial information and discussions with those responsible for the finances of the District, the financial statements for the fiscal year ending May 31, 2019 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.

Paul Burdick

June 10, 2019

Statistical Summary
 WNY District of The Wesleyan Church
 2018 - 2019

	2018	2019	Change	%
Membership				
Student Members	121	97	-24	-19.8%
Adult Members	3,111	2,978	-133	-4.3%
Total All Members	3,232	3,075	-157	-4.9%
Ministries				
Average Worship Attendance	7,072	6,891	-181	-2.6%
Persons Saved	379	436	57	15.0%
Persons Sanctified	39	77	38	97.4%
Persons Baptized	204	267	63	30.9%
Discipleship Responsibility List				
Children	3,302	2,542	-760	-23.0%
Youth	1,234	1,110	-124	-10.0%
Adults	5,561	8,786	3,225	58.0%
Total Responsibility List	10,097	12,438	2,341	23.2%
Zip Codes Covered	38	42	4	10.5%
Property				
Value of Church Buildings	\$69,583,995	\$69,382,922	-\$201,073	-0.3%
Value of Parsonages	\$4,675,000	\$5,041,100	\$366,100	7.8%
Total Indebtedness	\$6,095,258	\$5,979,160	-\$116,098	-1.9%
Income				
Tithes and Offerings	\$11,380,562	\$12,490,836	1,110,274	9.8%
Total of All Revenue	\$13,728,425	\$13,726,338	-2,087	-0.0%
Disbursements				
Salary to Pastors	\$1,059,684	\$1,129,817	70,133	6.6%
Other Benefits to Pastors	\$844,358	\$746,697	-97,661	-11.6%
Salary to Assistant Pastors	\$869,544	\$715,813	-153,731	-17.7%
Other Benefits to Assistant Pastors	\$1,049,927	\$657,481	-392,446	-37.4%
Global Partners Missionaries	\$260,724	\$298,845	38,121	14.6%
World Hope International	\$81,507	\$86,061	4,554	5.6%
All Other Missions	\$1,177,709	\$861,221	-316,488	-26.9%
Benevolent Ministries	\$288,868	\$275,096	-13,772	-4.8%
Total of all Disbursements	\$13,052,581	\$13,252,632	200,051	1.5%

Report of the District Missions Director

The District Mission Team

The following people are on the Global Missions District Board. Dennis Willis, Karen Tucker, Marcus Dean, Mike Wrigglesworth, Steve Strand and Mike Trippett. Thank you, team, for your partnership. It has been my pleasure to serve with you in this capacity within the WNY District of the Wesleyan Church.

The District Mission Team is continuing with an International, National and Local mission focus for the WNY District of the Wesleyan Church to participate in.

Internationally: The Canaan, Haiti Project

Our Village Partnership is with the Wesleyan Church in Haiti, Global Partners and World Hope International. We are partnering with a newly planted Wesleyan Church in Canaan, Haiti. The village is home to 1,500 families who were severely affected by the earthquake in 2010. These families are extremely poor and have little or no resources to live. One of the biggest challenges is the limited access to water in this community of 5,000 people. The community of Canaan started as a tent city after the earthquake. These displaced people never had a home to go back to. The government gave them a plot of land but there is no electric, clean water, latrines or schools. The recently planted Wesleyan Church is headed by a trio of National Wesleyan Pastors who have a heart for this community. We can come along side of our Wesleyan brothers and sisters and make an enormous global impact, that will change lives forever with this sustainable project in Canaan, Haiti.

The Canaan Village Partnership is \$70,000 for four years. There are 7,100 people attending a Wesleyan church in the WNY district. That means, if every person who attends a church in the WNY district, would donate \$10.00 per year this project would be over-funded! To financially support the Canaan Village Partnership, send your donation to: WNY District of the Wesleyan Church, 4669 Pinecrest Terrace, Eden, NY 14057 or donate online at <https://www.wnydistrict.com/donate/>

Nationally: Disaster Relief Chaplaincy Training

If there is a desire from anyone in the WNY District to attend Disaster Relief Chaplaincy Training to be trained as a first responder to natural disasters locally or nationally, Karen Tucker can guide you on the process. karen.tucker@asburyseminary.edu

Locally:

Director of Local Outreach Projects

A helpful resource is being created of the local outreaches in the WNY District. Marcus Dean is overseeing this project and would appreciate any suggestions you have of places to serve in the WNY District. marcus.dean@houghton.edu

Disaster Relief Trips

District Disaster Relief Team headed up by Mike Trippett as the need arise. Contact Mike if you are interested in updates steelersfootball43@roadrunner.com

Mission Trips:

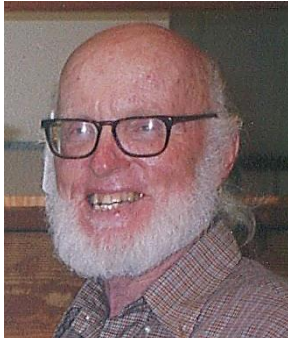
Proposed Haiti Mission Trip to visit the Canaan Village Partnership – March 23-28, 2020 - Approx. cost: \$1800. Contact Robin Schara for more details rschara@easternhillchurch.org

If your church has a mission trip that you would like to promote in the district, email Maribeth Jennings mjennings@wnydistrict.com and she can post your mission trip on the district mission web-page.

Submitted by Rev. Robin Schara
District Missions Director

Pastors Promoted to Glory

*"Well Done, Good and Faithful Servant.
Enter into the joy of your Lord!"*



Rev. Wayne Cox



Rev. Richard K. Long



Rev. Atwood & Leona Cool



Rev. Gordon L. Strong



Rev. Richard G. Kaylor



Rev. Fred J. Moore

The following brothers and sisters have gone home to be with the Lord during the 2018-2019 conference year

“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to obtain an inheritance which is imperishable and undefiled and will not fade away, reserved in heaven for you.”

I Peter 1:3-4

Big Tree Wesleyan Church

Linda Burns
Rev. Wayne Cox
Sally Ebeling
Jim Johnson
Sam Stanton
Angie Swann
MaryLou Widdowson

Eastern Hills Wesleyan Church

Gary Forrest
Carlene Troyer
Lorraine Cowan
Glenn Zuch
Helene Gerow
Gary Garvey
Mary Cramer
F. Earle Ganzenmuller
Michael Tedesco, Sr.
Robert Bearfield
Gail Kirk
Debbie Cooper
Esther Reinbold
Morgan Smith
Joyce LoBracco
Luz Bedoya

Fellowship Wesleyan Church

Shirley Hanes
Jean Field
Fred Johnson
Terre Frankowski
Millie Stadelmaier
Mary Baskerville
Frank Hathaway
Corinna Walkowiak

First Wesleyan Church

Gerald Newburg
Lewis Williams
Rev. Fred Moore

Hess Road Wesleyan Church

Elmer Zoloyne
Betty McCloud

Hillside Wesleyan Church

Rev. Richard Long
Rev. Gordon Strong

Houghton Wesleyan Church

Mildred Berry
Monica Bra mer
Florence Teuber
Roselyn Danner
John Essepian

Levant Wesleyan Church

Debbie John
Shane Corrigan
Helen Burch
Dakota Spencer

Little Valley Wesleyan Church

Glen Rohm
Don Case
Lillian Mettler
Walt Easterly

McCrae Brook Wesleyan Church

Merle Gustin

Oakland Wesleyan Church

Lorma Rathbun
Wilma Gleason

Peace Wesleyan Church

Carl Sellers

Valley Wesleyan Church

Lois Marshall
Frank Marshall

Watermark Wesleyan Church

Rena Beer
Tom Beuler
Dorothy Bossert
Michael Chambers
Bruce Cooper
Roger Farney
Donald Gregory
Michael Heim
Catie Honeck
Sylvia Jacobs
Linda Johnson
Rev. Richard Kaylor
Karin Meyer
James Walsh
Irmgard Webb



Upcoming Events

Refresh Retreat & Family Camp

July 28 - August 2, 2019

Houghton College

Service of Ordination

October 20, 2019, 6pm

Hillside Wesleyan Church, Olean, NY

Pastor/Spouse Retreat

February 9-11, 2020, Ellicottville, NY

2020 General Conference

May 30-June 3, St. Louis, MO

2020 District Conference

Saturday, June 20, 2020

Eastern Hills Wesleyan Church

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

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

1. **April A. Allen – Assistant, Fellowship Wesleyan Church (West Seneca)**
2. **Jason K. Argo – The Vine Wesleyan Church (Depew)**
3. **Dale M. Argot – McCrae Brook Wesleyan Church (Eldred, PA)**
4. **Pamela L. Argot – Assistant, McCrae Brook Wesleyan Church (Eldred, PA)**
5. **Kevin D. Beers – Assistant, Watermark Wesleyan Church (Hamburg)**
6. **Richard A. Bennett – Assistant, Eastern Hills Wesleyan Church (Williamsville)**
7. **Jason W. H. Claydon – Peace Wesleyan Church (Falconer)**
8. **Tammy M. Claydon – Assistant, Peace Wesleyan Church (Falconer)**
9. **James D. Clements – Assistant, Watermark Wesleyan Church (Hamburg)**
10. **Karen M. Cleveland – East Leon Wesleyan Church (Cattaraugus)**
11. **Jon P. Cole – Assistant, Houghton Wesleyan Church**
12. **M. Megan Cusumano – Assistant, North Park Wesleyan Church (Cuba)**
13. **Michael G. Dwyer Jr. – Assistant, Eastern Hills Wesleyan Church (Williamsville)**
14. **Bruce M. Ellis – Forestville Wesleyan Church**
15. **Patricia A. Ellis – Assistant, Forestville Wesleyan Church**
16. **Paul E. Gartley – Assistant, Watermark Wesleyan Church**
17. **Robin W. George – Brookside Wesleyan Church (Wellsville)**
18. **Kimberly B. Gladden – ZionQuest Christian Fellowship (Cheektowaga)**
19. **Douglas F. Ingersoll – Big Tree Wesleyan Church (Blasdell)**
20. **Steven C. Johnson – Anchor Church (Buffalo)**
21. **Daniel P. Jones – Wesleyan Church of Orchard Park**
22. **Justin R. Jones – Assistant, Eastern Hills Wesleyan Church (Williamsville)**
23. **Patrick B. Jones – Eastern Hills Wesleyan Church (Williamsville)**
24. **William R. Lawson – Valley Wesleyan Church (Canaseraga)**
25. **Michael D. Leamon – Christ Chapel Wesleyan Church (Silver Creek)**

26. Jacob R. Leckel – Assistant, Fellowship Wesleyan Church (West Seneca)
27. Justin P. Leininger – North Collins Wesleyan Church
28. Alicia J. McGeorge – Assistant, Fillmore Wesleyan Church
29. Nila M. McIntyre – Assistant, Hillside Wesleyan Church (Olean)
30. Alan L. Meyers – Levant Wesleyan Church (Falconer)
31. Kenneth J. Nash – Watermark Wesleyan Church (Hamburg)
32. Richard W. Nightingale – East Aurora Wesleyan Church
33. Terri L. Niver – First Wesleyan Church (Bradford)
34. William P. Nykyforchyn – Assistant, Watermark Wesleyan Church (Hamburg)
35. Cynthia A. Oden – Assistant, Houghton Wesleyan Church
36. Wesley D. Oden – Houghton Wesleyan Church
37. Paul D. Palmer – Oakland Wesleyan Church (Nunda)
38. Matthew A. Rose – Hess Road Wesleyan Church (Appleton)
39. Rebecca G. Rowley – Assistant, Fillmore Wesleyan Church
40. Cassandra L. Salter-Smith – Assistant, ZionQuest Christian Fellowship (Cheektowaga)
41. Robin M. Schara, Assistant, Eastern Hills Wesleyan Church (Williamsville)
42. David Shamenda – Home City Church (Depew)
43. Paul W. Shea – Assistant, Houghton Wesleyan Church
44. Bruce J. Smith – Higgins Wesleyan Church (Freedom)
45. Daniel G. Todd – Hillside Wesleyan Church (Olean)
46. Becky J. Todd – Assistant, Hillside Wesleyan Church (Olean)
47. Michael J. Trippett – Angola Wesleyan Church
48. Karen L. Tucker – Ashwood Wesleyan Church (Lyndonville)
49. Jonathan D. Ward – North Park Wesleyan Church (Cuba)
50. Darren S. Wieder – Assistant, Watermark Wesleyan Church (Hamburg)
51. Suk May Yei – Assistant, Eastern Hills Wesleyan Church (Williamsville)

- b. Ordained ministers on loan to other districts of The Wesleyan Church for service as supply pastors (3100:2; 3260:1). None
- c. Ordained ministers appointed to serve in a local church spiritual formation or Christian education program (3310:2). None

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)** (Also listed in Pastoral Service)

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)**
4. **Melinda D. Loew – Global Partners (Mongolia)**

- c. 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. **Jonathan Case – Houghton College**
2. **Marcus W. Dean – Houghton College**
3. **Steven L. Dunmire – Houghton College**
4. **J. Michael Jordan – Houghton College**
5. **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. **Christopher M. Baldwin (EquipWNY)**
2. **Tammy R. Baldwin (Christian Central Academy)**
3. **Frederick A. Raines (Athletes in Action)**
4. **E. John Wood, III (SonScape and Restoration Destinations)**
5. **Rebecca L. Wood (SonScape and Restoration Destinations)**

7. SPECIAL SERVICE (3345):

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

1. **Ronald P. Duttweiler (Trinity Church of Nunda)**
2. **Clyde E. Hall (Riverside Chapel, Salamanca)**
3. **Paul F. Markell (Counseling Ministry)**
4. **Stephen C. Strand (Urban Advocacy)**
5. **Ruth Woolsey Strand (Urban Advocacy)**
6. **Alan D. Trotter (Tower Church, Bradford, PA)**
7. **Michael J. Wrigglesworth (Windom Community Church)**

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. LeRoy N. Bannister | 11. Charles F. Hill |
| 2. Gary L. Beers | 12. Ronald L. Logan |
| 3. Allen S. Chase | 13. Wayne A. MacBeth |
| 4. Gale E. Cirocco | 14. Floyd E. Merriam |
| 5. Roger M. Crassi | 15. Timothy J. Miller |
| 6. Nelson D. Crowell | 16. Steven R. Pocock |
| 7. Roy H. DeVries | 17. Carl Schultz |
| 8. Daniel R. Duda | 18. Carol A. Schweigart |
| 9. Roger J. Farney | 19. Margaret D. Walker |
| 10. Richard B. Heitzenrater | 20. J. Michael Walters |

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. J. Corey Budwine** | 7. Thomas C. Neary* |
| 2. Shawn M. Dewey** | 8. David J. Payne* |
| 3. Neil A. Koppen* | 9. Jason A. Shambach* |
| 4. Arthur S. Lazewski *** | 10. Laurie J. Smalley* |
| 5. Teresa S. Lazewski *** | 11. Daniel L. Wilson** |
| 6. Gregory W. McClain* | |

D. ORDAINED MINISTERS ON EDUCATIONAL LEAVE (3350:1): None

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

E. ORDAINED MINISTERS WITHOUT APPOINTMENT (3380):

1. Ordained Ministers not available for appointment: (*Denotes number of years listed in this category).

1. **Todd E. Glendenning****

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

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: None
2. APPLIED FOR DISTRICT TRANSFER: None

G. 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):

3. PENDING COMPLETION OF DENOMINATIONAL TRANSFER
 1. **Judy Gallegos from Joy Community Church**
 2. **Jonathan M. Horton from Free Methodist Church**
4. 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):

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).

1. **William J. "Duffy" Smith – WNY District Coach**

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. **Daniel W. Butcher – Little Valley Wesleyan Church**
2. **Andrew J. Fidurko – Assistant, Hillside Wesleyan Church (Olean)**
3. **Robert H. Grimes – Bellville Wesleyan Church (Caneadea)**
4. **Trevor J. Kaufman – Assistant, Watermark Wesleyan Church**
5. **Shawn F. King – Assistant, Eastern Hills Wesleyan Church (Williamsville)**
6. **Joshua J. Mason – Assistant, Big Tree Wesleyan Church (Blasdell)**
7. **Elijah D. Shamenda – Church Planter, Resurgence City (Buffalo)**

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. **Michalla Veach (On Loan - Great Lakes District) – Assistant, Watermark Wesleyan Church**

C. IN PROCESS OF DISTRICT TRANSFER

1. PENDING COMPLETION OF DISTRICT TRANSFER: None
2. APPLIED FOR DISTRICT TRANSFER: None

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. Yoshua Bashizi | 10. Jeffery M. Lawson |
| 2. Becky Beers | 11. Andrea Merrill |
| 3. Melissa Bell | 12. Shirley A. Mullen |
| 4. Daniel J. Brawdy | 13. Michael Prutsman |
| 5. Joseph Cook | 14. Ed Reiller |
| 6. Mat Dawson | 15. Andrew Sherman |
| 7. Bethany Elliott | 16. Rebecca L. Ventre |
| 8. Adam Funch | 17. Caleb Wood |
| 9. Tori Jordan | |

B. MINISTERIAL STUDENTS IN PROCESS OF DISTRICT TRANSFER

1. PENDING COMPLETION OF DISTRICT TRANSFER: None
2. APPLIED FOR DISTRICT TRANSFER: None

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):** None
- D. COMMISSIONED LAY MISSIONARIES (3490):** None
- E. SUPPLY PASTORS (3260):**
 1. Yoshua Bashizi – Mission of Christ (Also Ministerial Student)
 2. Elaine Brooks – Cattaraugus Wesleyan Indian Chapel
 3. Kevin Brooks – Cattaraugus Wesleyan Indian Chapel
 4. Barbara Farrow – Grace Community Wesleyan Church
- F. DENOMINATIONAL OFFICERS:** None

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