

Catch the Spirit 2010 planned for January 30

NIAGARAFRONTIER DISTRICT - The Niagara Frontier District "Catch the Spirit" training event is set for January 30, 2010 from 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Clarence United Methodist Church, 10205 Greiner Road, Clarence, NY 14031

SCHEDULE

Saturday, January 30, 2010
 8:00 am Registration, Coffee & Danish
 9:15-11:15 am Workshops
 11:30 am Lunch in Gym
 12:30 pm Worship in Sanctuary
 1:30-3:30 pm Workshops
 Vendors will be available before workshops and during lunch hour

FULL DAY WORKSHOPS

Select one and one alternative
 1. Basic Lay Speaking led by Cheryl Brown - This is a beginner's course for those who are interested in Lay Speaking. It will help you in leading, caring, and communicating so that you can serve the Church in many ways. You will learn how to lead worship, and will actually research, prepare and deliver a message. We will also discuss your calling, witnessing, teaching, leadership and service. The class will schedule more times to come together to become a certified local church lay speaker. Note: participation in this course does not guarantee certification. You will need to purchase Lay Speaking Ministries: Basic Course Participants Book" from Cokesbury ISBN#978-0-88177-552-5 and read the first chapter. Any questions, please call Cheryl Brown at 716-434-3348. Bring your Bible.

2. A Primer on the Mormons, Jehovah's Witness and New Age Movement led by Rev. Alan Jones - "Oh no! A Jehovah's Witness is coming up the front walk. What should I do?" Has that thought ever struck fear in your heart? This workshop will equip you to make an intelligent choice about what you might do, and do it without fear. We will take a look at three religious groups that are relatively new in their development, all less than 200 years old, yet which are fast growing and which you are likely to encounter one way or another. Our aim is to begin to equip you to carry on an intelligent conversation, if you so choose, where you can share your faith without the fear that you'll become confused or look foolish. The only way for a Mormon or

Jehovah's Witness to hear your faith story, may be by listening to what he/she might share with you.

3. Winds of the Heart led by Rev. Dr. Duane Priset - Keying off an image from a Celine Dion song, a glimpse of the century before John and Charles Wesley - the world of their parents and grandparents - through the heart Of John Bunyan's The Pilgrim's Progress, a devotional classic considered 2nd only to the Scriptures. As we examine the first part of the book, we'll toy with the idea of this classic being a precursor to John Wesley's comprehension of Christian perfection. Available at the class will be a copy of my rewriting of the entire book (for a very nominal fee. In preparation, Please purchase a copy of the book and read the first part - Christian's Journey.

4. Intro to Natural Church Development - Searching for Health & Fruitfulness in the local church led by Rev. Ron Isaman - This workshop will explore the principles of Natural Church development, the Characteristics of a healthy, growing congregation and how to use the Natural Church development process in the local church setting. Please explore www.ncd-international.org

5. Advanced Lay Speakers Course led by District Lay Speaker Team Member - This course will prepare you for certification as a District Lay Speaker. There is a 12 hour course requirement, so the instruction will coordinate additional meetings with the class to meet this qualification. Please bring your Bible. The instructor will contact you to advise of any other materials needed.

6. Celtic Christian Spirituality led by Rev. Greg Van Dussen - Celtic Christianity flourished long ago, but its impact continues to this day. Why? What is Celtic Christianity? How did Christian Celts change the world of their day? What does Celtic spirituality offer us and the Church today? We will enter the world of high crosses, round towers, ocean voyages, Celtic art and music, warriors and peacemakers. May God inspire our pilgrimage and the larger journey of our lives.

7. Creating a Church Website: the fast way led by Sandy Kramer - In this session we will learn how

to develop a church website while using the information from the bulletin or church newsletter. We will look at 6 steps for developing short cuts to making a 2-3 page website. If possible, bring an IBM compatible lap top computer. You will use MS Word, Notepad and learn HTML coding. Bring your church's latest newsletter or brochure and if possible have it on CD or your hard drive.

8. S/PPRC Training 101 led by Rev. Natalie Hanson - If you are new to the S/PPRC team or have not attended in the past, please consider this workshop essential to your ministry on the SPPR committee. A CD with a complete training manual will be provided to all attending.

9. The Dignity & Empowerment of Women: Society & the Bible led by Dr. David Pliss, Kathy Bahr, & Sherri Davern - This seminar will look at the historical and social places of women in the Bible and society, critically examining the relationships of power and status that have historically defined male-female relationships, partnerships and marriage.

HALF DAY WORKSHOPS AM or PM

10. Celebrating The Gospel in Stories led by Paul Gongloff - Sometimes people need a story more than food to stay alive. In the beginning was the Word. In the beginning it was the Story. The stories in our Christian tradition are lifelines. They are a necessity and we must tell them... creatively, humbly, joyfully. A workshop for those who want to make the Gospel sensible in today's world.

11. Introduction to Small Groups led by Dan Finch - We will present a revolutionary vision of the church, without committees, but with great closeness, personal growth, and more ministry than ever through a transition to becoming a small group oriented church. Optional read: Beyond Playing Church by Mike Slaughter or Simple Church by Geiger

12. Trustees Committee 101 led by Rev. Don Weaver and team - This course will offer the basics for being an efficient and responsible Trustee Committee. It will also include some great cost saving ideas for heat management. This course offers great informa-

tion whether you just came on to the Trustees Committee or have been involved for years.

13. Adult Christian Ed & Small Groups led by Sheila Rader & Deacon Bonnie LeValley - Come spend time with us as we share helpful ideas for adult classes & small groups. We will preview some DVD based curriculum and share what does and doesn't work. We will discuss different types of group, those based on specific needs, involving a life changing circumstance, or held in different settings. Bring one idea that was an exceptional experience for you. There will be time to browse the free materials available from the Conference Resource Center.

MORNING ONLY WORKSHOPS

14. Let The Spirit Move You led by Rev. Jennifer Green - This workshop will focus on the basics of liturgical dance. No previous dance experience is necessary. Logistics will be talked about on how to begin a liturgical dance team in your congregation. Ideas will also be given about choreography and resources available. Please wear comfortable clothing as we will be moving.

15. Vacation Bible School led by Deb Coatsworth - Coming to you in the summer 2010, an out of this world curriculum by Cokesbury called "Galactic Blast". During our time together we will discuss and share our experiences of what works well and doesn't work so well at VBS. This workshop will include discussion, ideas and creative thinking, particularly geared toward Galactic Blast. May the force be with you.

16. Christian Education in the Small Membership Church led by Susan Scharf - Small congregations have special challenges when it comes to Christian Education, but we can turn these challenges into opportunities. Join with us as we look at the issues of space, money, staffing, and curriculum. You will learn practical suggestions for making the most of your setting. Christian Education is alive in small membership churches - let's share our stories!

WORKSHOPS AFTERNOON ONLY

17. Help Me! Connecting with Teens & Tweens led by Deacon Dee Finch - Reaching and con-

necting to youth today can be a wonderful or difficult experience. This workshop will explore ways youth learn and what they need to experience as they are on the journey of becoming Disciples. There are many tools, activities, and curriculum youth will get excited about. Various resources will be available to peruse as well as seasoned youth leaders to chat with to gain insights.

18. Disaster planning as ministry to others, or "Oh no! It's too late now!" led by Rev. Carl Chamberlain - Disaster managers have learned from experience that good disaster planning is one of the best tools for disaster response. Participants will be introduced to our Conference Disaster Response plan, our donations warehouses, UMVIM, UMCOR and how churches and denominations cooperate during disasters. Participants will identify ways they and their congregations can help others when disasters happen at home and at a distance. Prior reading: Mark 12:28-33; explore these websites - <http://new.gb-gm-umc.org> <http://new.gb-gm-umc.org/umcor/> <http://www.missioncentral.org/>

19. Guided Autobiography led by Georgia Whitney - Guided Autobiography is a process that helps people to write a personal history with the aid of a plan that uses a series of life themes. This class offers a starting point, short, structured assignments; the chance to discover depth and meaning in life stories by exploring different themes; and most important, motivation and encouragement of an interested audience. Optional Reading: Telling the Stories of Life Through Guided Autobiography Groups by J.E. Birren & K. Cochran, Johns Hopkins Univ. Press

REGISTRATION WAS DUE January 17. If you are not registered and would like to know if there is still room in the workshop of your choice contact:

Sandy Kramer (Telephone 585-300-0537)
 7678 Gilbert Rd
 Bergen, NY 14416

You may need to bring a bag lunch. COST IS \$25 if paid after January 15th

Checks made payable to Western New York Conference must be included with registration.

Haiti from page 4

As The Rev. Rebecca Clark, posted on Facebook, she "continues prayers for the victims of the Haiti quake -- the names we know, and the ones we will never know."

Please watch uppernewyork.org, wnyumc.org, and ncnyumc.org for updates.

The United Methodist Committee on Relief began assessing the needs and preparing to respond immediately. UMCOR asks for prayers for all who are affected by the disaster. United Methodist resources will be part of this immediate and long term work. Utilizing existing relationships they are able to quickly mobilize aid to directly assist communities in both the early and long-term recovery from this destruction.

Genesee Valley Leadership Training Day from page 7

Youth Ministry - A youth perspective - DCYM
 Upper New York Conference - update and info - Bill Gottschalk-Fielding
 One hour sessions:
 United Methodist Men - an invitation to ministry - Harold Lauer
 United Methodist Women - an invitation to mission - Nancy Sue Foltz

Schedule

8:45 to 9:15 a.m.
 Registration
 9:15 to 10:00 am.

Worship
 10:00 to 11:00 a.m.
 Morning Workshop
 11:00 to 12 noon
 Morning Workshop
 12:00 to 1 p.m. Lunch
 1:00 to 2:00 p.m.
 Afternoon Workshop
 2:00 to 3:00 p.m.
 Afternoon Workshop
 3:00 p.m. Worship
 4:00 Depart

Childcare provided, free of charge during workshops.

Registration Form (one form per person, make copies as needed)
 Name:
 Phone:
 Church:
 Please select workshop(s) for the morning session and/or workshop(s) for the afternoon session.

Morning Workshop(s)
 (Indicate Workshop Title Below)

Afternoon Workshop(s)
 (Indicate Workshop Title Below)

I will enjoy a tasty meal:
 yes no
 Please circle one response

Child care provided free during workshops
 #of children age(s)

Cost: \$20 per person
 (Lunch included)