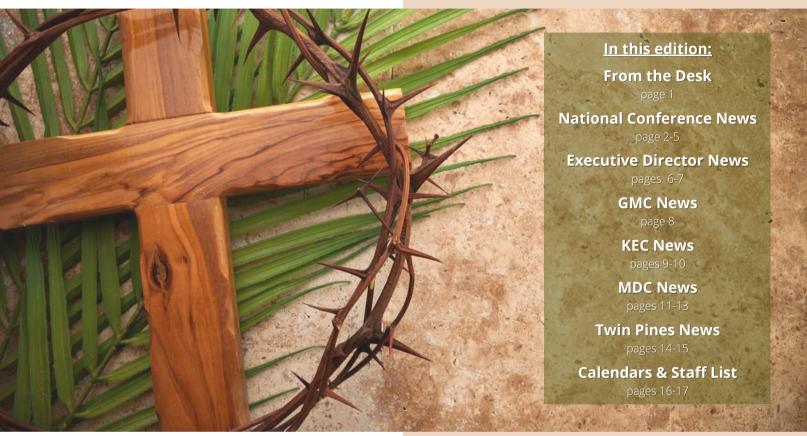
## EC LEADER



A publication of the Evangelical Congregational Church



## FROM THE DESK Bishop Randy Sizemore

Bishop Randy Sizemore

Kope "Be ready to g

OVERFLOWING

"Be ready to give an answer for the hope that lies within us." - from 1 Peter 3:15





#### **Speaking Schedule for 2023**

Bishop Randy is now scheduling his 2023 preaching schedule. If you would like to schedule him at your church, please contact Bishop Randy directly at <a href="mailto:rsizemore@eccenter.com">rsizemore@eccenter.com</a>.

# NATIONAL CONFERENCE 2023 MAY 24-26, 2023 MESSIAH UNIVERSITY, MECHANICSBURG, PA



### Our Vision:

"The Evangelical Congregational Church will be a dynamic movement of God led by pastors and laity who have a burning passion for God and a missionary zeal to reach the lost. We will creatively obey the Great Commission bu transforming plateaued and declining churches into healthy, disciple-making churches that are committed to evangelizing the communities to which God has called them. Healthy churches will reproduce themselves by planting churches in least-reached communities."

## Pre-Conference Meetings Schedule

#### Sunday, April 30

Buckeye District at Cottage Grove E.C., 4:00 - 6:00 p.m.

#### Monday, May 1

Allegheny District at Knox Grace E.C., 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

#### Thursday, May 4

Illinois District at Bethel E.C., 4:45 - 6:45 p.m.

#### Tuesday, May 9

Susquehanna Region at Reich's Church, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

#### Saturday, May 13

Delaware Region at Allentown Christ EC, 9:00 - 11:00 a.m.

#### Monday, May 15

Susquehanna Region at Mohn's Hill, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

#### Thursday, May 18

Delaware Region at Pitman Zion, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

## REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!

https://eccenter.com/event/2023national-conference/

Each attendee needs to complete **a separate registration form**; please do not combine registrations for multiple attendees.

If you are planning to secure hotel accommodations for the conference dates, there is a large event going on in the area the week of conference. Therefore, hotel space may be limited, and it may be best to book early.



## Ecclesiology And the Virtual Church

Ecclesiology is defined simply as the study of the nature and structure of the Christian Church from a biblical perspective. While the study of the nature and structure of the Christian Church has been around for millennia, the recent acceleration from in-person gatherings and worship of the church to on-line and even virtual gatherings and worship of the church, with an increasing number of exclusive virtual-only churches, prompted Bishop Sizemore and Kingdom Extension Associate Rev. Mike Snedeker to ask the Faith And Doctrine Committee to help us apply the theology of the Church to non-physical gatherings and worship of the Church. Below is a sketch of the beginnings of this conversation that we are inviting you into.

**The Question: Can "Virtual Churches (or Congregations)" be considered a local church?** The Faith and Doctrine Committee has begun consideration of this question. With considerable discussion, it seemed wise to place the question into the context of our denominational standards of doctrine as expressed in the Twenty-five Articles of Faith. The relevant articles are copied below.

#### 119 OF THE CHURCH

The holy general church consists of the great body of believers who confess the Lord Jesus Christ and have life in Him. The individual church is a congregation or society of Christian believers, in which the pure worship of God is maintained, His holy word is preached, and His commandments and ordinances are sacredly observed.

#### **121 OF BAPTISM**

The sacrament of baptism is the formal application of water to an infant, or to an adult believer, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, as a visible sign and seal that the person so consecrated stands in a holy covenant relation to God and His people.

#### **122 OF THE LORD'S SUPPER**

The Lord's Supper is not merely a token of love and union that Christians ought to have among themselves but is a sacrament instituted in memory of the sufferings and death of Christ, whereby those who rightly and worthily receive the same partake of the body and blood of Christ by faith, not in a bodily but in a spiritual manner, in eating the broken bread and in drinking the blessed cup. We thereby also continually show forth our Christian faith and hope.

#### **123 OF CHURCH POLITY**

The Lord Jesus Christ ordained no particular form of government for His church, so that whatever polity, rules, regulations, rites, and ceremonies are adopted and approved by common authority, and are not repugnant to the word of God, may be acknowledged as sufficient to constitute a true church of the living God. Such polity, rules, rites, and ceremonies may be lawfully changed from time to time, as the needs of men and the diversity of nations, countries, and manners may require.

## NATIONAL CONFERENCE 2023 continued...

### **Faith and Doctrine Committee**

continued

## Ecclesiology And the Virtual Church continued...

The consensus of the committee at this point is that it is very difficult to conceive of a group of people meeting exclusively on virtual platforms meeting the stated and implied criteria of the articles. With regard to sacraments, the difficulty should be immediately apparent. Presenting oneself for baptism and having water applied in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit is a physical act, as in the witnessing of the act by those who will share in the task of living out the commitment made by the baptizand. The administration of the Lord's Supper also seems to require physical presence. We are not Zwinglian in our understanding of this sacrament, which is to say that Holy Communion is more than a memorial of the Lord; it is a time in which He is mystically present with us in the sharing of bread and cup when sanctified for this purpose and shared together with those who are gathered.

Another consideration is the concept of the church as the body of Christ. Bodies do things; in this metaphor of the body of Christ, what the church does is continue doing the works of Jesus. Again, this seems to require physical presence.

The committee is not suggesting that online opportunities for learning and fellowship are inappropriate. They make these possible for some people in a variety of ways and should be used accordingly. But this in itself does not constitute a local church.

Further conversation regarding these ideas will be welcomed by the Faith and Doctrine Committee.

#### Your Invitation:

Please join us for a guided discussion on this topic via Zoom, on June 22, 2023 at 7:30pm EST (6:30pm CST). An invitation with the zoom link will be emailed the week of June 12th.



### **NATIONAL CONFERENCE 2023**

continued...

## Conference Support Team Updates - Newest Website Features

• Online Directory with pictures, if available: This directory contains information for all those currently credentialed in the denomination along with those of superannuated, supernumerary and retired status. The front page listing contains basic information, but by clicking on any one individual's name, you can see more detailed information such as is found in Section 1 of the journal. Double check the links to your church websites and social media pages along with your personal and associated church information. If there is not a picture included in your directory listing, kindly send a close-up photo of yourself that clearly shows your face to office@eccenter.com.



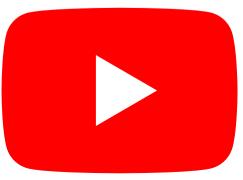
Front page listing



**Detailed Contact Card** 



• Church Information Updates form: If there are revisions or updates that need to be made to your online directory entry or if there have been changes in the leadership or staff of your church, it is extremely helpful for us to have that information here at EC Center. That way, when sending out information such as conference registration invitations or bulletin inserts for special offerings, we are reaching the most accurate list of individuals who need to receive this information. Even if you think you may have sent us updated information, kindly fill out the form so we may double check our records. This takes the place of the annual survey we used to have you complete. If you would like your church administrator or secretary to have access to the member login portion of the website to complete this form, please have them email <a href="www.websateon.org/websates">www.websates</a> double check our records. This takes the place of the annual survey we used to have you complete. If you would like your church administrator or secretary to have access to the member login portion of the website to complete this form, please have them email <a href="www.websates.org/websates



• YouTube Link: In the bottom right hand corner of our website, you will now find a link to our YouTube channel. Wait, the denomination has a YouTube channel??? YES, WE DO!!! It is here you will find videos from last year's conference sessions, Bishop Randy Sizemore's EC Leader videos and also Bishop Emeritus Bruce Hill's "Lament" series. If you are unable to attend this year's conference but plan to watch the sessions, this is where they will be available so click the link and subscribe to the channel today so you can easily connect during the conference.

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR NEWS KEVIN HENRY



The annual disability premium was due January 15, and the Benefit Corporation administrative fee is due by April 15, 2023. Retirees are not subject to the administrative fee. Both of these fees are listed in the Treasurer's Guide available on the EC website. Many have remitted the disability fee timely, and a few have already submitted the administrative fee; we thank you for your diligence and hard work.

Treasurers please confirm that you are remitting your ministry fund payments on the correct monthly form. Although, for 2023 the ministry fund percentage remained at 5.65%, it is easier on us to have the correct form submitted. We have implemented a process to accept ministry fund payments electronically. Electronic payments are not mandatory. If you are interested in remitting your ministry fund payments electronically, please contact, Kevin Henry, <a href="khenry@eccenter.com">khenry@eccenter.com</a>. I can explain the process to you.

To date about 60% of pastoral compensation forms have been returned. Thanks to all the churches that have responded. We will be reminding non-compliant churches to complete and submit their pastoral compensation forms. Please save Dave King some work by submitting your pastoral compensation forms as soon as possible.

As always, please contact Dave King, Benefits Administrator, or Kevin Henry, Executive Director, with any questions or problems, <a href="mailto:dking@eccenter.com">dking@eccenter.com</a>, <a href="mailto:khenry@eccenter.com">khenry@eccenter.com</a> or 717-866-7581.

### Kevin Henry

Executive Director <a href="mailto:khenry@eccenter.com">khenry@eccenter.com</a> or 717-628-2171.



## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR NEWS KEVIN HENRY

continued...



403(b) Pension Plan Transition

The transition of the EC 403(b) Pension plan should be almost completed at the time the April EC Leader is released. Beginning the week of April 3, 2023, local churches can begin submitting pension contributions via the Nationwide website. Website login information was released to the contact on the Nationwide affiliate set-up form during mid to late March. If you have not received your login information please contact Cindy Davis, <a href="mailto:newplan@nationwide.com">newplan@nationwide.com</a>. Any pension contributions received at the EC Benefits office will be returned to the church. The EC Benefits office is no longer able to process pension contributions.

If you are a 403(b) pension plan participant you will soon receive an email, most likely after April 1st, from Nationwide with instructions to establish your online account. Please set-up your online Nationwide account as soon as possible. Once you have logged into your Nationwide account, please verify

your contact information, social security number, account balance and beneficiary information is correct. I am being told that participants will have access to the Empower Retirement/Prudential system for a period of time after March 21, 2023. Please do not delay checking your account information at Nationwide. If you have difficulty establishing your Nationwide online account, please contact Nationwide Solution Center at 1-888-867-5175. Also, please note, there will be another Nationwide contribution training session on Thursday, March 30, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. held via Zoom. Please register at <a href="retirement.eccenter.com">retirement.eccenter.com</a> by clicking on the blue Contribution Processing Training button. The Zoom link will be sent about 24 hours before the training

Thanks to everyone for completing the workers compensation forms on a timely basis. The audit is currently in process, and we hope to have a final bill soon from Church Mutual. We get questions from time to time on completing a workers compensation claim. The process is not complicated but it is confusing since claims are not filed often. Each church is responsible for filing their own claims at the time of the incident or shortly thereafter. The easiest method is to use Church Mutual's online claim reporting portal, File a Claim | Church Mutual. Fill out the claim form with the best information available: the employer is the local EC church; each EC church is listed on the policy; and the policy number is 07-174436. Please call with any questions.

Churches not included in the denominational workers compensation group policy: Ohio, Illinois and Kentucky churches. However, your individual state mandates workers compensation coverage. Please confirm that all employees of the church are covered by workers compensation insurance. Per EC Benefits Corporation policy H.3.b, churches not covered by the denomination group workers compensation policy shall submit proof of workers compensation coverage by July 1 of each year. Please submit proof of your workers compensation coverage to:

EC Benefits
100 W Park Ave
Myerstown, PA 17067
Or fax 717-866-7553 or email <a href="mailto:dking@eccenter.com">dking@eccenter.com</a>



#### Global Ministries Community of the Evangelical Congregational Church

Facilitating Mission Workers Empowering National Churches Engaging the Local Church

### Raising up the Next Generation

continuation...

Raising up the next generation of missionaries is imperative.

Equipping cross-cultural workers to establish strong, indigenous, reproducing churches among unreached language groups used to be the foundation of Christian missionary efforts. But over the last decades, attempts to take the Gospel to unreached, unengaged language groups – those with no Bible and no hope of access to the Gospel without a committed, long-term missionary – have plummeted.

Most people sitting in our pews on a Sunday morning really have no idea how few missionaries and truly, how little mone, goes to these completely unreached people.

While related statistics are often imprecise and differ, the Joshua Project does estimate the number of unreached people groups - those with less than 2 percent evangelical Christians and no Bible translation ranges from 6,900 to 7,400. Of those, 2,700-3,100 are unreached, unengaged language groups in places where no Christians live and no Bible translation exists. It's believed that about 3 billion people roughly 40 percent of the world's population – don't know of Jesus nor anyone who does. -Sharon Dierberger, World Magazine

"Interpreting the Great Commission - What does it mean to take the Gospel to the ends of the earth?"

It's difficult to read of these statistics, hear the stories from our very own missionaries, and witness first-hand the great needs from our EC churches in Japan, India, Nepal, Mexico and Liberia, and not feel the deep conviction of needing to believe God for fresh revelation, a fresh move of His Holy Spirit, and a refreshing of our hearts to have a missionary zeal to reach the lost.

Along with the prophet Isaiah (26:8) – His name and His renown are the desire of our heart here at the GMC. May it be true of this dynamic movement of God we call the EC Church. Will you join us in prayer this month for those God may be calling to be the next generation of missionaries?



To know how your church can partner directly with an EC missionary or an International EC Church, call the GMC office at 717-866-7581 x 1109; or email ecglobal@eccenter.com.

Connect with us on Facebook: Global Ministries Community

Dee Jaramillo **GMC** Deputy Director



## Praying For Your Community

I recently came across this article by Dan Darling on how to pray for your community. I think we often talk about praying for the community, but we struggle with how. I found his suggestions helpful:

- 1. Pray for the Holy Spirit to convict the hearts of men of their need for Christ.
  - In our community, something like 85% of people are unchurched. That means they don't attend a Bible-believing church at all. This is a staggering number. Which is why churches, instead of fighting over the 15%, must go after the 85%. The churches in a given community must work hard to bring the gospel message to the community, but more importantly, it means the 15% should be on its knees in prayer before the Lord, praying for an outpouring of His Spirit.
- 2. Pray that the Church in the community will be faithful to present the gospel message, clearly, creatively, and faithfully.
  - Pray for your own local expression of the Church and pray for the larger body of Christ in your community. Pray that the Church will boldly present Christ to the community, even as the gospel becomes more controversial in the broader culture. Pray also for unity around this purpose within your local church and among Bible-preaching churches in the community. Your church cannot reach every soul; it will take all believers to faithfully share Christ. Pray also for creativity in faithfully presenting Christ in a context that reaches people where they are.
- 3. Pray that your church and all local churches will become burdened about the lost in your community.
  - I once had lunch with a pastor in our community. He is the one who shared those statistics about the unchurched. Then he said to me, "85% of the people in our community may be going to a Christless eternity. Are we okay with that?" Evangelism begins with a burden; it begins with a God-directed passion to love the lost into the Kingdom. It is God who does the work of salvation; and it is God who draws men, not our clever programs. But God uses people.
- 4. Pray that your church would be biblically faithful in its evangelistic approach.
  - Evangelism is at the heart of God's mission; it is our purpose as ambassadors for Christ. But God cares as much how we win the lost as that we do it. Pray that your church does not become so enslaved to the god of pragmatism that you lose the heart of the gospel itself or that your ministry becomes so much about what the wider culture thinks about you than glorifying God. Where this line is may be different for every church, but mostly pray that your church keeps at the core of its mission the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

## **Kingdom Extension Community News**

## FROM THE DESK Rev. Mike Snedeker, KEC Associate

continued...

Praying For Your Community continued...

#### 5. Pray that YOU will be the one God sends.

We pray, we talk, we train, we preach, then we rinse, lather and repeat. What we fail to do is actually go out and share Christ with the lost. Pray that you, not your neighbor or the choir director or the youth pastor, would be the one sent by God on mission. That you would have such a fire and passion in your heart for those who do not know Jesus that it would motivate you to be a missionary in your community. And pray that God will expose you to potential relationships with unsaved people, where you can assemble the building blocks of fruitful, gospel-transferring relationships.

(https://danieldarling.com/2012/02/5-ways-to-pray-for-your-community)

Mike

Please continue to pray this month for the following new church planting opportunities that God is raising up:

Mike Coulson and People's EC Church in the Virtual Space – Echo, the name of this church that is meeting in Virtual Space, is reaching people with the gospel and making disciples. Pray that the team will continue to develop and grow. Also, pray that a recent funding grant they applied for will be approved.

Manuel and Luz Arias in Lexington, South Carolina – The Arias family is starting a new EC Church. Manuel and Luz are developing a team for ministry as well as strategizing ways to share the gospel in tangible ways. Pray for wisdom, strength and renewed energy for this couple.



**Haitian Church Plant** – One of our couples who recently went through our Pastoral Assessment Center is feeling called to plant a church in Reading, PA or Lancaster, PA specifically targeting the Haitian community! Pray as God gathers the planting team, gives them a specific vision for the future and energizes them for this task.

**New Church Planters** – We have four other individuals/couples that are exploring their potential call to become church planters with the EC Church. Please pray for clear vision for these couples. Also pray for courage as they consider taking a difficult step in an uncertain ministry realm.

**Greater Impact** – Please pray for churches across our denomination as they look to expand and even multiply their impact on their communities. Pray for wisdom for our pastors and leaders. Pray for eyes to see the needs of their communities and pray for creativity as they step into the opportunities to meet those needs with the love of Christ.

## **Ministerial Development Community News**

## Institute for Church Leadership Rev. Dr. Joel Kime

Our winter class, Hermeneutics, is underway, so mark your calendars for our spring class. See all the details below. This class would be excellent for your congregation to participate in. Students can either audit the class for \$50 or take it for ICL credit for a \$50/month subscription.

#### Old Testament Survey Tuesdays, May 2 - June 13, 6:30-9:15 p.m.

**Instructor:** Tim Valentino

**Course Description:** In this course the student surveys Old Testament literature, history, geography, culture, theology, and structure to understand and communicate what the Old Testament reveals about God. Additional issues addressed include:

- Who are the important people and nations?
- What the significant events, and where do they happen?
- How is the Old Testament put together?
- How does the Old Testament apply to us today?
- What resources are available to understand, teach, and preach the Old Testament?

To sign up or get more information, contact Joel Kime: <u>joel.faithchurch@gmail.com</u>.

#### **EC Ethos Class**

The purpose of this class is to familiarize those who are seeking credentials in the EC Church, local church leaders or anyone interested with our theology and the foundations of our practices as a denomination. The EC Articles of Faith and ten broad theological areas will be discussed to help learners clearly understand our theological tradition, our trajectory and how our theology connects to our practices. Classes are offered by Zoom only.

Instructor: Rev. Kirk Marks **Dates & Times of the Class:** 

October 27 (6-9pm) & October 28 (9am-4pm) November 17 (6-9pm) & November 18 (9am-4pm)

"Small Towns, Big Challenges" is the theme for Rural Home Missionary Association's annual Small-Town Pastors' Conference, Monday through Wednesday, April 17 to 19. Location is Grace Church in Morton, Illinois. Pastors and wives are welcome. The conference features general sessions and a variety of seminars as well as a women's track. Cost is \$120 per pastor, \$160 per couple, \$60 for students, and \$100 for a student and wife. Area hotels offer reduced rates. Registrations should be postmarked by April 3. For more information, go to https://www.rhma.org/conferences/ or call 866-263-2350.





## Ministerial Development Community News

...continued

### **Pastoral Health**

Rev. Dr. Gary Brown

As the point person for the pastoral health arm of the Ministerial Development Community, this is a statement of the vision for member care for pastors. It was written jointly by myself, Rev. Dr. Gary Brown; and Rev. Dr. Ken Schira and Rev. Dr. Robert Santucci. We presented this to the Ministerial Development Community and then to the Conference Network Team. It is our hope that our connectional system will develop healthy networks of pastors, who are able then to monitor and maintain their own health.

## <u>A Vision for Member Care of EC Pastors to Encourage their own Self Care</u> September 2021

#### THE GOAL STATEMENT

The goal of the pastoral health arm of the Ministerial Development Community is to develop and implement member care strategies which equip EC pastors toward caring for themselves, spiritually, physically and emotionally.

## THE VISION STATEMENT A Biblical View of Ministerial Member-Care Leading to Self-Care

**Paul to Timothy:** In his own version of "member care" for his ministry team, Paul says to Timothy, "Keep a close watch on yourself and on your teaching." (1 Timothy 4:16a). Paul nearly always worked in a team. The members are well-known to us through his letters and Luke's description of their travels in Acts.

**The Galatians to the Galatians:** Paul had earlier urged believers in Galatia to, "Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ" (Gal. 6:2), emphasizing that we are our brothers' keepers in spiritual matters, sort of "member care" among members of a local congregation. The goal of this Biblical vision was self-care, as described in Galatians 6:5, " For each will have to bear his own load."

Jonathan to David: Perhaps Paul was remembering the special relationship between David and Jonathan in our previous passage. When David was running for his life from King Saul, Jonathan, David's friend and Saul's own son and heir, found David in hiding (I Samuel 23:16). Jonathan "strengthened David's hand in God." On the strength of his friend's encouragement, David went on to escape and gather a band of men around him. Years later, David was alone and under pressure from his own men who had lost their families when David led them to help the Philistines in battle. In 1 Samuel 30:6, we read how "David strengthened himself in the LORD his God." This is an Old Testament model for the ongoing investment of resources by mission agencies, churches and other mission organizations for the nurture and development of missionary personnel of "member care." The encouragement that David received from Jonathan empowered him to care for himself in God when he was facing trouble alone.

#### An EC Church View of Member-Care Leading to Personal Self-Care.

The term "member care" is borrowed from the world of global missions. The following definition, although broader in scope, expresses the values of member-care by the National Conference of the EC church for its pastors. The Evangelical Alliance Mission (TEAM) definition of member-care is, "the ongoing investment of resources by mission agencies, churches and other mission organizations for the nurture and development of missionary personnel."

### **Ministerial Development Community News**

...continued

### **Pastoral Health**

Rev.Gary Brown

#### A Vision for Member Care of EC Pastors to Encourage their own Self Care

September 2021 continued...

#### THE VISION STATEMENT

A Biblical View of Ministerial Member-Care Leading to Self-Care continued...

A possible revised view of member-care/self-care: The ongoing investment of resources shared denominationally through the District Field Directors (DFD's) and driven by the Evangelical Congregational Church for the pastoral development of self-care, and toward a movement of healthy pastors, churches, and their varied ministries.

**Our Rationale:** The itinerancy is defined by the Evangelical Congregational Church as a "self-disciplining body of ordained elders" (2016 EC Discipline, paragraph 514). Pastors (DFDs) helping local pastors to help themselves. Member-care encourages self-care. District Field Directors can be effective in this way by developing strategies that deliver member care services.

The outcome of producing a culture of pastors, healthy enough and supported enough to care for themselves in their ministries is a connectional byproduct of member-/self-care.

#### Healthy Pastors: an Emerging Picture of Member-Care

A brainstorming session with the Conference Network Team in October 2020 described what the District Field Directors are currently doing to maintain healthy pastors in their districts. This created a picture of how these men were caring for their pastors. Picture if you will, a DFD meeting regularly, one-on-one and in groups to let the pastors talk. This has helped pastors feel connected and not alone. Lay delegates are also brought into the loop of caring for their own pastors. The local district fellowships of EC Church pastors meet regularly. This provides a place for pastors to be vulnerable. Study days on relevant topics are scheduled, enriching those who participate. Good questions are asked to help bring about creative thinking and problem-solving. The District Field Directors, pastors themselves, "are not seen as threats but as partners with fellow pastors in their local ministries." Pastors benefit from a culture of encouragement. Pastors' wives find fellowship and friendship among each other. Pastoral families have a sense that the EC church cares about them, and, where deemed appropriate, referrals are made to professional counselors. EC Care funds help pay for needed counseling.

#### A Picture of a Preferred Future

Because it is difficult to give others what you do not have yourself, the sabbath principle is better encouraged. Pastors are asked by their Pastoral Relation Committees (PRC) when and how they take their weekly days off. Generous vacations are offered to pastors and their families. Intentional sabbaticals are regularly sought and practiced among our pastors, resulting in fresh leadership in the churches.

The above are both activities that are currently done to deliver care for members as well as dreams of what it could look like among us. These are visions of a preferred future, to be delivered by the denomination to the men who lead our congregations, who in turn are safe places for the lost to be found by Christ.

## WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS SPRING AT...

Twin Pines has many things scheduled in the spring. Mark your calendar now and check the website for updates.



#### Spring Fling Children's Retreat - April 21-23



What a great weekend to introduce children to the ministry of Twin Pines than with a children's retreat! Spring Fling introduces children to Twin Pines Camp and challenges them in their relationship and

discipleship of Jesus.

For more details and group registration information, go to *bit.ly/2023TPSF*.

#### Spring Spruce Up - May 2-4



This event is a mid-week retreat to help the ministry "spruce up" camp and prepare for summer ministry! Projects include both indoor and outdoor sprucing-up. And there are always tasks for volunteers of any

skill level!

You may choose to participate in all or part of the retreat. Registration is requested for the camp to have work in mind for those attending for meal counts and overnight housing. To register: call the office-570.629.2411, or send an email to <a href="mailto:beverly@twinpines.org">beverly@twinpines.org</a>. Or, if these dates do not work for you, you may also contact the camp to pick a day to volunteer.

#### For Ladies Only Retreat – May 16-18



Sue Duffield is a well know speaker and musician, and she will return for the For Ladies Only Retreat. Ladies from your church will not want to miss out on this fantastic mid-week retreat of spiritual growth

and challenge. Registration information is available at bit.ly/2023FLORetreat.



Summer Camp Schedule and Registration are available at bit.ly/2023SummerSchedule



## WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS SPRING AT...

continued...





#### **Assistant Director**

Twin Pines Camp, Conference and Retreat Center offers quality Christian summer programming as well as retreats and facilities for adults, youth and children. Twin Pines is searching for an Assistant Director to oversee the areas of guest group booking and programming Twin Pines sponsored retreats. A qualified candidate will also assist in the day-to-day operations of the camp, oversight of employees including the summer staff, and summer programming.

A qualified candidate will be a believer in Jesus Christ with a background in guest services and working with youth. The candidate must possess good communication skills, be organized, be customer oriented and be a self-starter. This person should also be competent in the use of technology. This position is located at Twin Pines Camp in Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania, with a starting salary based on experience, includes benefits and possible on-site housing. Interested candidates may request a job description and should submit a resume to Executive Director, Shawn Fetterhoff at <a href="mailto:shawn@twinpines.org">shawn@twinpines.org</a> or 3000 Twin Pines Camp Rd, Stroudsburg, PA, 18360.

#### **Food Service Manager/Chef**

Twin Pines Camp, Conference and Retreat Center offers quality Christian summer programming as well as retreats and facilities for adults, youth and children. Twin Pines is searching for a Food Service Manager/Head Chef to oversee the food service for all of the camp's retreats and summer camp programming.

A qualified candidate will be a believer in Jesus Christ with a background in cooking for large groups. This person should also have experience in managing kitchen inventory, including ordering. The candidate will oversee kitchen staff and assign work as appropriate. The qualified candidate should also have knowledge of specialty diets to meet the needs of the guests. This position is located at Twin Pines Camp in Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania, with a starting salary based on experience, includes benefits and possible on-site housing. Interested candidates may request a job description and should submit a resume to Executive Director, Shawn Fetterhoff at <a href="mailto:shawn@twinpines.org">shawn@twinpines.org</a> or 3000 Twin Pines Camp Rd, Stroudsburg, PA, 18360.



## **CALENDAR**



#### Sunday, April 2

Palm Sunday
Day of Prayer for Kingdom Extension Community
Liturgical Color - Purple

#### Thursday, April 6

Maundy Thursday

#### Friday, April 7

Good Friday
Day of Prayer for the EC Church
EC Church Center Closed

#### Sunday, April 9

Easter Sunday Liturgical Color - White

#### Monday, April 10

EC Church Center Closed

#### Saturday, April 15

Health Insurance Due

#### Sunday, April 16

Liturgical Color - White

#### Sunday, April 23

Liturgical Color - White

#### Sunday, April 30

Liturgical Color - White 2023 Pre-Conference Meeting: Buckeye District at Cottage Grove EC Church

## Ministry Funds and Insurance & Benefits Mail to:

EC Church Center 100 W. Park Ave. Myerstown, PA 17067

\*Mother's Day Offering

Mail to:

StoneRidge Retirement Living 440 E. Lincoln Avenue Myerstown, PA 17067



### <u>MAY 2023</u>

#### Monday, May 1

Pre-Conference Meeting: Allegheny District at Knox Grace EC Church

#### Thursday, May 4

National Day of Prayer Pre-Conference Meeting: Illinois District at Bethel EC

#### Friday, May 5

Day of Prayer for the EC Church

#### Sunday, May 7

Day of Prayer for Kingdom Extension Community Liturgical Color - White

#### Tuesday, May 9

Pre-Conference Meeting: Susquehanna Region at Reich's EC

#### Saturday, May 13

Pre-Conference Meeting: Delaware Region at Christ EC Allentown

#### Sunday, May 14

Mother's Day

#### Mother's Day Offering\*

Liturgical Color - White

#### Monday, May 15

Health Insurance Due 2023 Pre-Conference Meeting: Susquehanna Region at Mohn's Hill EC

#### Thursday, May 18

Ascension Day

2023 Pre-Conference Meeting: Delaware Region at Zion EC Pitman

#### Sunday, May 21

Liturgical Color - White

#### Wednesday, May 24, through Friday, May 26

2023 EC National Conference at Messiah University

#### Sunday, May 28

Pentacost Sunday Liturgical Color - Red

#### Monday, May 29

Memorial Day EC Church Center Closed





Evangelical Congregational Church Center 100 West Park Avenue, Myerstown, PA 17067 717-866-7581

office@eccenter.com / www.eccenter.com
Office Hours: Monday - Thursday
8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.



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Wendy Beard
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