

...AND
KNOW

GOD
that I am
PSALM 46

DISTRICT CONFERENCE | MAY 3, 2025

**LONG ISLAND
EAST
DISTRICT**

DISTRICT CONFERENCE

Saturday, May 3, 2024

9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

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A Message from the District Superintendent

My Beloved Long Island East District Family:

What a joy and a blessing it is for me to serve Christ with you as your District Superintendent. It amazes me that we have been living our United Methodist Faith in Jesus Christ together for ten months! It seems like last week it was 29 June, and Lisa and I were moving into the District Parsonage!

The two scriptures which guide my ministry and life are Nehemiah 8:9-12 and Luke 12:6-7. The Nehemiah passage declares, "The joy of the Lord is your strength!" In Luke 12:6-7, Jesus says to us, "Are not five sparrows sold for two pennies? Yet not one of them is forgotten by God. Fear not, you are of more value than many sparrows."

When we take time to be still, Jesus shows us that nothing is too small to be beyond God's saving love. We are all loved deeply by God who sent Jesus to give his life so that all creation might have life in abundance! Jesus' deep, sacrificial love for us is born out of God's joy, which gives Jesus the strength to go to the cross, and gives us strength to welcome, forgive, care for and love everyone!



Resident Bishop
Thomas J. Bickerton



Over the past ten months you have allowed me to share in your joys, sorrows, challenges, disappointments, hopes and dreams. Thank you. Together we are trusting that our God who loves every sparrow, is giving us all the joyous strength we need to do the work to ensure that when it comes to the United Methodist Faith on Long Island, our best days are ahead of us!

Affectionately,
DS Ric Hanse

District Conference Worship – “Be Still and Know”

Prelude

Gathering & Welcome – Rev. Ric Hanse, District Superintendent

Opening Prayer

Hymn of Praise No. 89 “Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee” UMH # 89

Call to Worship Psalm 46 United Methodist UMH # 780

Praise & Worship

Old Testament Reading Nehemiah 8:9-12

Gospel Reading Luke 12:6-7

Messages: “We Know that God Is God!”

District Co-Lay Leaders: Lorraine Leak & Fred Dymek

Mission of Peace Participants: Lourdes Dom, Eva Abel

Offering for UMCOR

Anthem

Praying Together

- Prayers for the least, last and lost
- Prayers for our communities
- Prayers for those in the church

Dedicating our Lives to Jesus Christ

Hymn of Dedication “God of Grace and God of Glory” UMH # 577



Open Hearts.
Open Minds.
Open Doors.

The people
of The United
Methodist
Church®

REGIONALIZATION: EFFECTIVE MINISTRY IN EVERY CULTURE

Regionalization allows United Methodists throughout our connection to best serve their unique communities as they share the love of God, make disciples and transform the world.



WHAT IS REGIONALIZATION?

- Regionalization allows each region of the church to make decisions that will best support outreach and ministry efforts in their specific setting. This ability is already in place in the central conferences; regionalization will bring that ability to the U.S. as well.
- Regionalization was developed collaboratively by United Methodists across the globe.
- It was adopted by an overwhelming majority of General Conference delegates.
- Nine regional conferences will comprise The UMC: one in the U.S. and eight in Africa, Europe and the Philippines.



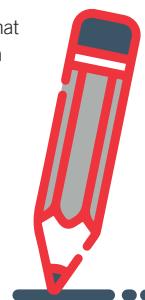
WHAT CAN'T REGIONAL CONFERENCES DO?

- Create their own constitution or adopt any policy in violation of the constitution contained in the General Book of Discipline
- Alter The Doctrinal Standards, Our Theological Task, The Ministry of All Christians or The Social Principles



WHAT CAN REGIONAL CONFERENCES DO?

- Draft and publish their own regional Book of Discipline, hymnals, books of worship and other liturgical resources
- Set requirements for ordination and licensed ministry with respect to their needs and resources
- Set standards for lay membership
- Develop practices around marriage ceremonies, funerals and other rites that align with cultural contexts and laws in each country
- Reorganize their annual conferences, districts or charge conferences to best serve their missional needs and convene their own judicial courts
- Work with annual conferences to ensure policies and practices align with the laws in each country



WHAT NOW?

- The regionalization plan will require amending the United Methodist Constitution. Constitutional amendments must be passed by at least 2/3 of General Conference, which already happened.
- Now, the amendments must be ratified by annual conferences. Amendments must be supported by 2/3 of the total voting members of all the annual conferences combined – this process could last until 2026.
- The Council of Bishops will announce when the amendments have met the threshold to become church law.

“Regionalization is a pathway to make manifest the world-wide nature of The United Methodist Church. It will expand the Church’s witness, embrace the cultural diversity, strengthen the connection and empower each missional context.”

BISHOP TRACY SMITH MALONE, PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL OF BISHOPS



COOPERATIVE PARISH REPORTS

Central Suffolk Cooperative Parish

The Central Suffolk Cooperative Parish continues to witness God's faithfulness in a powerful way. We are made up of six vibrant congregations: Bible Korean UMC- Rev. Chong Il Kim, Central Islip UMC & Hauppauge UMC- Rev. Wayne Redman, Commack UMC- Rev. Roslyn Lee, Long Island Korean UMC (LIKUMC)- Rev. Jae Hyun Kim and Smithtown UMC- Rev. Lydia Han, each bringing unique gifts, yet united in mission and purpose. We have been blessed with shared leadership, deepened relationships, and the transformative power of working together for the kingdom of God.

Ministry Highlights 2024–2025:

- Bishop's Day in the District: The privilege of hosting Bishop Thomas J. Bickerton was a highlight for our parish. It was a day of connection, vision, and renewal, strengthening our commitment to one another and to the mission of the Church.
- Joint Lenten Services: We came together during the season of Lent, beginning with a reflective Ash Wednesday service hosted by Hauppauge UMC and continuing through Maundy Thursday at the Commack UMC and Good Friday at the Smithtown UMC. These shared services fostered a deeper sense of unity, reminding us of the power of communal worship and the bonds we share in Christ.
- Growing Connections Among Our Congregations: Through regular clergy gatherings and ongoing efforts to collaborate, we are witnessing a greater sense of belonging within the Cooperative Parish. We desire to develop a shared vision through prayer and praise. In that way we will be more focused on the way we minister to the larger community, care for one another, and support the work of each church.



~Rev. Roslyn Lee

East End Cooperative Parish

The pastors and congregations of the East End parish continued to explore ways to grow together in Christ and serve our 10 communities. Pastor Tracy Moore and Rev. Joanne Utley serve as co-coordinators. The 10 churches and the pastors who serve them are East Hampton First and Hampton Bays: Kenny McQuiller, East Moriches and Center Moriches: Tracy Moore, Riverhead: Phil Hardt, Hamptons: Joanne Utley, North Fork: Ken Bohler, Westhampton and East Quogue: Samuel Jaesam Lee, Beach: East End Parish. Highlights of our past year include

- Care of Beach UMC: We have strived to help Beach UMC transition from their 16 years served by their beloved Pastor Jack King and powerhouse wife/ministry partner Joyce to being served without a dedicated pastor but rather by the entire coop. They have done remarkably well, stepping up to take on many new responsibilities and maintaining their missional orientation within the community. We are very proud of this congregation! We have some other plans in the works for this congregation as well.
- Sag Harbor UMC: We have brought some life back to this church which was standing idle by holding several events there including an all parish retreat in October, a Christmas concert with Christian artist Dave Pettigrew in December, and some youth group meetings. We look forward to more in the coming year.
- Pastor Ken and Pastor Tracy, assisted by Hampton Bays member, Audrey Pasierb have offered confirmation classes to the parish again this year with 4 youth from 3 different churches participating.
- Ongoing is youth fellowship with director Rob Soria. Meetings are offered weekly with worship, Bible study and fun as well as frequent off site events. Young people from 3 of our churches participate regularly but the reach is extended as a good number of youth from around the parish join for special events. Pastor Kenny McQuiller and Pastor Tracy Moore join in the fun and nurture as well.
- Several of our pastors and a number of committed laity offer protestant worship on Tuesdays for the residents of Westhampton Care Center. Among them are Pat Chuppe, Kenny McQuiller and Tracy Moore. The “congregation” there is as large as some of our regular congregations. They are extremely grateful but I believe those coming in from outside the center are equally if not more blessed by these services.
- The Seven Last Words of Christ was offered to the Riverhead community as well as our parish by Rev. Phil Hardt on Good Friday.
- The clergy gather for monthly lunches rotating churches, for sharing prayer and devotions, parish planning and fellowship.

We are most grateful to the lay speakers and retired clergy who help us cover our pulpits as we rotate to serve our parish congregation, Beach UMC. We look forward to continuing to serve the communities of the east end of Long Island and sharing the good news of Jesus Christ here as we grow together in the coming year. May it be so!

Respectfully submitted by

~Rev. Joanne Utley and Pastor Tracy Moore

Mid-Island Cooperative Parish

Our Mid-Island Cooperative Parish is comprised of nine wonderful churches: Christ Church PJS, First UMC of Pt. Jefferson, Ghana UMC, Lake Ronkonkoma UMC, North Shore UMC, Setauket UMC, St James UMC, Stony Brook Community Church, Trinity UMC, at the present time.

We will be reimagined with a new Parish endeavor beginning in July with four of the churches, that will be called *North Shore Villages Cooperative Parish*. We will be welcoming Rev. Catherine Schuyler to lead this new configuration! We also wish Pastor Tom Kim blessings in his retirement and Pastor Steven Kim many blessings in his new appointment.

We have been a busy “body” of Christ offering combined church Bible studies, having monthly CP Council Meetings, officiated under the esteemed leadership of Susan Campbell and Barbara Yatauro, and monthly pastoral meetings, *while breaking bread!* The five CP Pastors, along with Lay Servants and some retired clergy, have also spent the past year serving in two of our non-pastoral appointed churches to offer pulpit supply in both Stony Brook Community Church and First United Methodist of Pt. Jefferson—with a combined Communion service that rotated in their church venues every first of the month. We have been honored to serve both church congregations!

Over the past year, we have gathered for the following: Charge Conference Celebration at Christ Church PJS, The Outdoor Nativity Play during the Dickens Festival at First UMC of Pt Jefferson, The Easter Cantata at St. James UMC, five Thursday Lenten Soup and Service meetings, and some combined Holy Week services. During these Lenten services, the Mid Island CP churches raised funds during our offertory to sponsor those who desired to attend the Youth Retreat at Camp Quinipet.

As we come to our end of our Mid-Island Cooperative Parish configuration, our hearts will always be knitted together! In Christ, let us begin again, hopeful by a fresh new endeavor where we joyfully serve the Lord, remain unified in one accord by the Holy Spirit, and share the Good News of the Gospel in the name of Jesus Christ—for the transformation of this world!

Submitted by

~Pastor Sharon Pizzo, Co-Chairperson

~Pastor Prince Donkor, Co-Chairperson

North Shore Central Nassau Cooperative Parish

The North Shore Central Nassau Cooperative Parish consists of nine dynamic, vital churches serving in the area of the north and central part of Long Island. The North Shore Central Nassau Cooperative Parish is made up of the following UM churches, and these churches are served by wonderful, talented, dedicated, faithful pastors working tirelessly for the Lord:

- Farmingdale United Methodist Church - Rev. Claire Wu
- United Methodist Church of Sea Cliff – Rev. Miyeong Kang
- Port Washington United Methodist Church – Rev. Barbara Whitlow
- The Village Church of Bayville – Rev. Susan Cirillo
- Hicksville United Methodist Church - Rev. Iwy Patel-Yatri
- New Dream Korean United Methodist Church - Rev. Namsuk Kim
- New York Plainview Korean United Methodist Church - Rev. David Wongeun Kang
- Risen Rock Korean United Methodist Church - Rev. Dong Kyu Kim
- Westbury United Methodist Church - Rev. Beverly Mary A. Morris

Since our parish is large, we divided it into two small groups of nine churches. The first group consists of four churches on the North Shore: Port Washington, Sea Cliff, Bayville, and New Dream. The second group is composed of five churches: Farmingdale, Hicksville, New York Plainview, Westbury, and Risen Rock Korean.

We are truly blessed to have two dedicated lay coordinators, Sheila Fontana (Sea Cliff) and Angela Pratt-Barrett (Westbury), who play a pivotal role in our parish. Their unwavering passion and faith have led them to actively engage in ministry and service alongside the pastors and other laity, enriching our community with their blessings.

The wonderful hymn “We Are the Church” declares, “I am the church! You are the church! We are the church together! All who follow Jesus, all around the world! Yes, we’re the church together!” (*UMH 558, Refrain*) The North Shore Central Nassau Cooperative Parish is the church where singing, praying, laughing, crying, caring, and proclaiming the Good News are performed all over the community and world.

Most of all, the North Shore Central Nassau Cooperative Parish is a diverse cooperative community consisting of several churches with distinct cultural and ethnic backgrounds. Despite our differences, we have come together to develop a shared ministry, which has allowed us to get to know each other and work towards unity. While every church retains its unique heritage and culture, we are committed to embracing our diversity and celebrating it as a strength.

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North Shore Central Nassau Cooperative Parish, continued

We have been meeting every two months via Zoom to discuss the areas of ministry we can start. In the first six months, we searched for our vision together and took time to build relationships through brainstorming various worship and mission ideas, fundraising events, and other activities. We also prayed fervently for one another and shared our joys and concerns together during these meetings.

The first group in North Shore had joined Good Friday worship at Sea Cliff. The choir from three churches and Sea Cliff community were great. They led the congregational song and offered an anthem. Their songs made the worship inspiring and touching.

The best highlight was to have a Holy Week joint meditation service. We gathered for an in-person worship and had a unique experience of being a multicultural and multiethnic cooperative parish. During the worship service, the scriptures were read in English, Korean, and Spanish. The music and songs were performed in different styles, from jazz to classical. This worship experience helped us to heal, harmonize, and find joy, as well as gave us a deeper vision to interact and share our unique heritages and cultures in Christ. Many special thanks to Rev. Beverly Mary A. Morris who delivered an incredible sermon.



North Shore Central Nassau Cooperative Parish, continued



The North Shore Central Nassau Cooperative Parish has full hearts and a mission to carry Christ's light, sharing love and grace with all those in need. We also collected offerings during Holy Tuesday joint worship to support Immigration Law and Justice New York (formerly known as NY JFON.) On May 3rd, we plan to have "Blessings in the Afternoon at the Gazebo: Gospel Singing and Praise" in Farmingdale. The nine churches will get together for singing and praising God. We hope and pray that the neighbors in Farmingdale community would accept Jesus through this event.



Our Parish continues to build our relationships through lay/clergy and sharing the practices together. Even though we are different, we are connected and united in the love of Christ as we worship together, as we pray for one another, as we grow together in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior, as we care for one another, as we support one another, as we share our resources, as we mission together, as we reach out to the needy, and as we love one another.



Ecclesiastes 4:12 says, "And though one might prevail against another, two will withstand one. A threefold cord is not quickly broken." This is the DNA of Central Nassau Cooperative Parish. As a coordinator of our Parish, I am so grateful for our pastors and lay members and for their prayers and dedication to their call to ministry in difficult times. Thank you for the opportunity to serve.

Respectfully submitted,

~Rev. Claire Wu

~Rev. Miyeong Kang

North Shore Central Nassau Cooperative Parish Coordinators

North Shore Suffolk Cooperative Parish



The North Shore Suffolk Cooperative Parish continues to learn the ropes of cooperative parishes and stretch the envelope. Located on the north shore of LI and straddling the Nassau-Suffolk county line, our cooperative parish consists of Centerport UMC, Dix Hills UMC, St. Paul's UMC (Northport), Union UMC (East Northport), West Hills UMC, Huntington-Cold Spring Harbor UMC, and Woodbury UMC. Our cooperative parish clergy meet on the first Tuesday mornings of each month, and our cooperative parish council meets on the first Tuesday evenings with the leadership of Linda Hees and David Czeisel as cooperative parish coordinators.

We have a lot of successes to share. Once again, we had great representation at the District Mission Walk and Picnic last May as we worked for our various mission goals. We also expanded our sandwich-making efforts for the Tri-CYA youth agency in Huntington's summer program from four weeks to seven this year. It was wonderful to provide lunches for these children, who may have gone hungry all day without the program. Come September, we continued our tradition of having a cooperative parish picnic, which was hosted by Union UMC.

But the neat thing about our cooperative parish is how people feel free to attend one another's events and ministries, intentionally mixing things up. For example, members from our churches help out with the Agape Garden at Dix Hills UMC, help to staff the thrift shop at St. Paul's UMC, volunteer to help unload pumpkins at Union UMC and assist the Restless Souls Haunted House at West Hills UMC. This year, we created a cooperative parish brochure of adult small groups to encourage people to find a study that is right for them and fits their schedule.

Hosted by our cooperative parish, Dinner Church takes place at St. Paul's UMC every 2nd and 4th Wednesday from 5:15-6:45 pm, and two churches from beyond the parish have come to experience it and bring it back to their own churches. Last May, we hosted a Dinner Church that honored local educators, which was a big success. Russ Jenkins has been a huge help this year in volunteering his time to cook, which has kept down expenses and the food has truly been amazing. Larry Sprinkle also preached several times at Dinner Church this year, and adults and children who attend find this style of participatory worship engaging.

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North Shore Suffolk Cooperative Parish, continued

As in previous years, our cooperative parish met for Lenten services every Wednesday at noon, rotating churches and encouraging lay servants to preach. Soup and sandwiches were shared after each weekly service. In addition, our congregations observed Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, and Good Friday together. All of our Holy Week and Easter services were publicized on a combined flyer.



Our cooperative parish also ran the Alpha Course for the third time at Café Portofino on Main Street in Northport. As in the past, the participants wanted to continue meeting together, so this time, we have begun meeting together weekly to discuss some of the questions that they are generating themselves.

Last year, our NSSCP Maundy Thursday service featured a combined choir, which was so well-received that it led us to put together a NSSCP Musical Celebration on February 2nd from 2-5 pm at St. Paul's UMC. About a hundred participants gathered to hear amateur and professional Christian musicians offer praise around the theme, "The Joy of the Lord is your strength!" (Nehemiah 8:10) Amanda Whaley, conducted the combined choir with Joe Ferrante as the accompanist, and Joe Ferrante also worked with some of the soloists. We were amazed at the glory of God and at the talents of so many musicians in our midst!



In 2024 our parish organized a combined Administrative Assistants' luncheon, where staff from across the parish were able to meet and network with each other. The event was so well-received that they requested that the clergy join them for this year's event!

~Rev. David Czeisel and Linda Hees

South Shore Cooperative Parish

The South Shore Cooperative Parish has grown stronger over the past year. We continue to operate with a western branch (First Amityville, Babylon, Bay Shore, and Islip) and an eastern branch (Sayville, Bayport, Patchogue, and Bellport), but we now also have one South Shore parish council, with both branches coming together for regular meetings.

Some highlights from the year include:

- The seven clergy of the parish have worked together to provide pastoral, administrative, and worship support for Bayport UMC, after Bayport's pastor Seijn Cha transitioned to military chaplaincy as of August 2024.
- We provided the potluck meal for DS Hanse's installation.
- The western branch churches took turns hosting bimonthly midweek worship services and had some youth events together.
- Western and eastern branch churches each had shared worship services for Ash Wednesday, Holy Week, and Easter sunrise.
- Laity and clergy from the entire parish contributed to a Lenten devotional booklet, which our churches have found to be a rich faith resource.
- We also had a movie outing to see "King of Kings" during Holy Week.
- We were invited to join the first cohort of the NYAC Thriving Cooperative Parish Initiative. We attended an orientation in January and have begun the process of working with the first group of consultants, Partners for Sacred Places, to develop a property mission statement.

~Rev. Melissa Boyer

Southwestern End/County Line Cooperative Parish

The Southwestern End/County Line Cooperative Parish consists of seven churches on the south shore of Long Island along the border of eastern Nassau County and western Suffolk County. Our Cooperative Parish Council meets monthly on the second Tuesday of each month.

- **Rev. Sue H. Yun. (Coordinator)**
 - Massapequa: Community UMC
- **Rev. Heejo Lee**
 - Bellmore UMC
 - East Meadow UMC
 - Merrick UMC
- **Rev. Enock Yatri**
 - Seaford UMC
- **Led by Laity**
 - Amityville: Simpson UMC
 - Lindenhurst: Grace UMC

I. Mission Statement:

Our focus this year was on formulating a mission statement. As of 1/14/25, the following Definition, Mission and Vision were approved by our Cooperative Parish Council.

- **Definition:** The Southwest End/County Line Cooperative Parish is a blend of 7 churches with their pastors who, with God's help, actively seek to build up the body of Christ through outreach, missions, prayer and service to God and our communities. We are welcoming churches to all peoples.
- **Mission:** To strengthen our congregations, as the body of Christ so that our transformation will spark global change. To gain this effect, we will pool our gifts and resources to create synergies, consolidate for efficiency and amplify our collective ministries, ensuring God's grace is awake in our neighborhood thereby transforming this broken world!
- **Vision:** A unified body of United Methodists, unencumbered by distractions of financial stress and building maintenance, focused on worshiping and engaging in ministries together that expand our outreach in our communities.

II. Joint Worship Services:

Two joint worship services were held in Fall 2024:

- A special prayer service "Creating Change Together" on October 29th at Community UMC in Massapequa. Prayers, readings, scriptures, and responsive reflections on world peace and social justice were shared by pastors and members of all churches in our parish. A display board and handouts were created with information about the United Methodist Church's emphasis on social justice, civil responsibility and engagement in public life as part of our Christian ethics.

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Southwestern End/County Line Cooperative Parish, continued

- A joint Thanksgiving Worship Service on Tuesday, November 26th, at Bellmore UMC. Attendees were invited to bring canned goods to donate to Grace UMC's food pantry. Malcolm Hall from Bellmore UMC planned the service and delivered the sermon. The anthem "Thank You, Jesus" was performed by a joint parish choir anthem. The service was well attended, and we were blessed with inspiring music and messages.

In Spring 2025, the following joint worship services were held:

- During Lent, we had joint weekly worship services and fellowship on Wednesday nights, that rotated locations among the churches. Most of the services started with a light dinner at 6 pm, followed by a worship service at 7 pm. Our parish Lenten study program was "The Sanctuary for Lent 2025" authored by Justin LaRosa.
- On Good Friday, a joint worship service was held at Bellmore UMC. The service included an interactive, dramatic presentation that enabled the congregation to reflect upon the crucifixion and picture themselves being present on that occasion. Malcolm Hall delivered the message.

III. Joint Outreach Ministry

Our parish generously supported the New Hour Prison Ministry with donations of gifts for families at Christmas and donations of toiletries for incarcerated women who are re-entering society during Lent. Offering from our joint Lenten worship services will go towards funding summer camp at Quinipet for children of New Hour.

IV. Joint Fellowship

A cooperative parish group bus trip to Lancaster, PA is planned for May 7-9. The trip will include transportation, 2 nights lodging, meals, admission to the show "NOAH" at the Sight and Sound Theatre, admission to a show at the Magic and Wonder Theater, plus visits to The Amish Experience and other local Lancaster sights.

V. Joint Prayer

In our SWE/CL Cooperative Parish prayer, we seek divine guidance in discerning ways to organize, unify and present God's message of grace to the world. We pray for a breakthrough that will show us a new way to experience revival as seven congregations brought together with one mission to serve and glorify God's name in our Long Island community.

~Rev. Sue H. Yun - Clergy Coordinator

~Deborah Holland - Lay Coordinator

Western End Cooperative Parish

The Western End Cooperative Parish Comprises:

- First UMC of Baldwin
- Freeport UMC
- Hempstead UMC English & Spanish
- Uniondale UMC
- Wesley UMC
- The Good Shepherd UMC

Overview: A Spirit of Unity and Revival

The Parish continues to flourish in unity, mutual respect, and collaborative ministry. From June 2024 to April 2025, we have grown stronger as a family of churches working together as one body in Christ.

We celebrate the Parish's strong and vibrant state. All our pastors have faithfully participated in every initiative and activity, modeling what it means to labor side by side in love and mission. Truly, it has felt like a well-knit team, where each member contributes uniquely and wholeheartedly. Great pastors, great spirit, significant momentum.

Advent & Christmas: A Celebration of Light and Fellowship

On December 8, 2024, The Good Shepherd UMC and their pastor, Rev. Dr. Nelson Ngoy Kalombo, graciously hosted our Parish-wide Christmas Nativity Service and Dinner. It was a beautiful evening of worship, caroling, and warm fellowship, highlighted by a free dinner that expressed genuine Christian hospitality.

For many, this event marked a turning point—a realization that we are stronger together than apart. The joy in the room, the singing, the laughter, and the shared meal reminded us that community is not just a concept—it's a blessing we must nurture.

Lenten Services 2025: A Journey of Reflection and Empowerment

Our Lenten observance began on Ash Wednesday (March 5, 2025) at First UMC of Baldwin and culminated with a powerful Good Friday Service (April 18, 2025) at Hempstead UMC. Each week, we journeyed from church to church, experiencing the richness and diversity of our congregations.

The schedule included:

- March 5 – First UMC of Baldwin (Ash Wednesday)
- March 12 – Wesley UMC
- March 19 – Uniondale UMC
- March 26 – The Good Shepherd UMC.

continued...

Western End Cooperative Parish, continued

- April 2 – Hempstead UMC (English)
- April 9 – Freeport UMC
- April 16 – Hempstead UMC (Spanish)
- April 18 – Good Friday Service – Hempstead UMC

Our intentional focus on laity empowerment made this year's Lenten journey a transformational experience. In each Wednesday service, the laity planned, led, and preached, while the clergy stepped back to support—only preaching on Good Friday.

The result? An overwhelming excitement and engagement among lay members. They rose to the occasion with joy and boldness, proving once again that every member is a minister. Their feedback was very encouraging. As a result of the corporate experience, the following exciting decisions have been made:

- i. We will continue to gather bi-monthly as Western End Corporate Parish, once every two months, to worship together as a cooperative parish. The first gathering will occur on 4th June 2025 at Hempstead United Methodist Church.
- ii. We have agreed to hold a picnic together this summer. A committee has been chosen to investigate and bring us a report on where to go for the picnic together at our next meeting in May.
- iii. We have agreed to investigate the possibilities of doing periodic Bible Studies together.
- iv. Advocate for Local Preaching School for Spanish Local Preachers, alongside the English."

Laity Leadership Development

In response to the enthusiasm of our lay members, we elected a Laity Leadership Team to help guide and mobilize the lay voice across the Parish. These individuals will support coordination, communication, and involvement in future initiatives.

Regular Meetings and Fellowship

Our Cooperative Parish meets monthly on the third Monday, providing a space for connection, planning, and prayer. We only paused our March meeting this year due to the weekly Lenten services, but the rhythm of our gatherings has helped keep us aligned and inspired.

Final Word: The Road Ahead

The Western End Cooperative Parish is no longer just a structure, it is becoming a movement. A movement of shared worship, mutual support, and Spirit-led growth. We believe that the Lord has only just begun a good work among us, and we press forward with hope, unity, and purpose.

"How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity!" – Psalm 133:1

With gratitude and joy,

~Pastor Ebenezer Aduku, Coordinator

RECOGNITION OF LAY SERVANTS

Brothers and sisters, it is time for us to recognize those persons who have responded to a call to serve by becoming local church lay servants and certified lay servants.

A Lay Servant is:

- A member of a local church who is ready and desirous to serve the Church;
- Who is well informed on the Scriptures and on the doctrine, heritage, organization, and life of The United Methodist Church,
- And who has received specific training to develop skills in witnessing to the Christian faith through spoken communication, church and community leadership, and caregiving ministries.

**From fall 2024 to spring 2025 the following
have completed Lay Servant Ministries classes**

Basic, Rev. Lydia Han		
Vanitha Babumoses	Patricia Hayward	Frank Rudy
Elizabeth Reuter	Daniel Ikpeme	Rosalind Schmidt
Minai Chauhan	Christine Kipling	Andrew Sinclair
Patricia Chuppe	Laurie Nitchke	Ginny Veteri
Douglas Durfee	Jannet Ortiz	Anjali Vyas
Noeline Gittens	Jayamevan Panagodage	Jayalakshi Widanalage
Robyn Hagans	Benigno Rodriguez	

Discipleship Begins With Relationship, Rev. Dr. Marjorie Nunes		
Jose Angel Carranza	Deaconess Evana Lewis	Deaconess Maria Maine
Dianne Graham	Joycelyn King	Elaine Short
Jill Hale	Nelson King	
Joan Hamillton Carranza	Monica Klug	

RECOGNITION OF LAY SERVANTS

Discover Your Spiritual Gifts, Lori Janson, CLM		
Christine Baptiste - McCalla	Betty Gastelua	Ken Mello
Catarina Choi	Jennifer Hilsenbeck	Suzanne Sgueglia
Mary Czeisel	Robin Mah	

From Your Heart to Theirs, Rev. Calvin Collins		
Daniel J Breslin	Debbie Kolacki	Bruce A. Wolper
Gregory Cortelyou	Theresa Lloyd	Lydia Wyclif
R Kyle Dunlop	Joan Minniti	
Debbie Guptill	Pearl Skelaney	

Lay Pastoral Care Giving, Rev. Lynda Bates-Stepe		
Betty Gastelua	Dianne Graham	Kevin Lloyd
Danny Gastelua	Janet Griebert	Nancy E. Sturm
Ken Gesseck	Sheryl Hall	Doreen Yancy-Wood
Rich Gleason	Georgia Kalivas	

Lay Servants Lead Conflict Resolution, Rev. Ken McQuiller		
Nathalie Marie Alenski	Laura McEvoy	Lois S. Muller
Pamela P. Ford		

RECOGNITION OF LAY SERVANTS

Lay Servants as Christian Transformational Leaders, Rev. Wayne Redman

Carolyn Acciarito	Wendy Felician	Dorothy Lynagh
Florence Bell	Kim Gill	Maria Maine
Linda Beyer	Timothy Gill	Gary Schaffrick
Carol Cinetti	Linda Hendrickson	Lydia Wyclif
Donna Prather Davis	Jong Youn Lee	

Living Our United Methodist Beliefs, Elaine Short, CLM

Linda Beyer	Fred Dymek	Jolene P McClean
Luis Bonilla	Patricia Dymek	Nancy B McClelland
Rosa Bonilla	Betty Gastelua	Karen Gierie Newman
Donna Lynn Dunlop Brown	Danny Gastelua	Larry Sprinkle
Joan B Hamilton- Carranza	Jennifer Hilsenbeck	Rhona Marie Wilson
Jose L. Angel Carranza	Lori J Janson	Shanna Wurth
Edgardo Castro	Deaconess Evana Lewis	Lydia Wyclif
R Kyle Dunlop	Theresa Lloyd	Steven Yantz

Planning Worship, Elaine Short, CLM

Kennuth G. Adams	Janet Griebert	Kathleen Smith
Jose Angel Carranza	Angella R. Osborne	Donald Lee Warner
Joan B. Hamilton- Carranza	Andrew Sinclair	Lydia Wyclif

RECOGNITION OF LAY SERVANTS

Leader to Congregation:

L. People of the Long Island East District, as brothers and sisters of these candidates, do you recommend these persons as servants of Jesus Christ?

P. We do.

L. Do you promise to support and help nurture them in this new ministry?

P. We do.

Leader to all Lay Servant Candidates:

L. You have been recommended and endorsed, and have affirmed your commitment. Therefore, by the authority granted to me by the Committee on Lay Servant Ministry, I recognize you as local church or certified lay servants with all the powers and responsibilities inherent with each. Go forth to fulfill the ministry that you have received in the Lord.

Leader to the gathered congregation:

L. Let us pray... Almighty God, whose Word is truth, in the keeping of which is eternal life: We thank You for these persons whom this day we set aside in Your name as local church or certified lay servants. Prepare them in body, mind, and spirit for their task and continue them in Your grace, that they may increase and bless Your Church through their labors, in the name of Christ Jesus our Lord. **Amen.**

**Dear Pastors of these lay servants and certified lay servants – please properly recognize them at your local church worship services using the following recommended liturgy:*

BROTHERS AND SISTERS,

In the presence of these persons, please renew your membership vow to be loyal to Christ in The United Methodist Church and faithfully participate in its ministries by your prayers, your presence, your gifts, your service, and your witness.

- Do you believe you have been called by the Holy Spirit to use your skills to lead in your church and community, to expand your caring ministries, and to witness to the Christian faith in worship and other settings?
- Do you intend to live a life in keeping with the teachings and example of Jesus Christ?
- Do you believe the scriptures of the Old and New Testaments?
- Are you willing to serve your congregation in any way called upon by your pastor or Charge Conference?
- Are you willing to take the initiative in program support and give leadership to the total work of the local congregation?
- Are you willing to lead meetings for prayer, study, and discussion; to assist in the conduct of worship; and to care for others?
- Are you willing to continue your study, improve your skills, and grow in wisdom and ability?

2025 Long Island East District Nominations Committee Report

* Denotes chairperson

Bold type indicates new nominee to committee

Note: those elected take office on July 1

DISTRICT COUNCIL ON MINISTRIES

MEMBERS

District Superintendent	Ric Hanse
Co-Chairpersons	Ken Mcquiller, KYLE DUNLOP
Treasurer	TBS
Secretary	David Czeisel
Co-Lay Leaders	TBS
Associate Lay Leaders	ELAINE SHORT, MARY CZEISEL, JAIME NOVESTERAS
Board of Trustees Chair	Won Tack Lee
Children / Youth Council Representative	Josh Yun
Committee on Ordained Ministry Chairperson	Roslyn Lee
Committee on Superintendency Chairperson	Claire Wu
Church Location and Building Committee Chair	TBS
Communications	LINDA HEES
Education Chairperson	David Czeisel
Lay Servant Ministries Co-Directors	ELAINE SHORT, Wayne Redman
Missions Coordinator	CATARINA CHOI
Parish Development Chairperson	Ken Bohler
Spiritual Life Coordinators	Sharon Pizzo
United Methodist Men Chairperson	JAIME NOVESTARAS
United Women in Faith Chairperson	SUSAN DEWEY-HAMMER

THE DISTRICT COMMITTEES

SUPERINTENDENCY

Richard Lawton Hanse (District Superintendent), *Claire Wu, Tammie Rae Keeler, Tracy Moore, Miyeong Kang, Prince Donkor, FRED DYMEK, DANNY GASTELUA, LORRAINE LEAK

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

District Superintendent Richard Lawton Hanse, *Chair*
Class of 2025: MICHELE SANCHEZ , Chong Il Kim
Class of 2026: David Czeisel, Tammie Rae Keeler, LINDA HEES
Class of 2027: FRED DYMEK, Iwy Patel-Yatri
Class of 2028: **ALLIE BOSUNG**, Chong Il Kim, **LINDA HENDRICKSON**
Debra SanPablo, Claire Wu, Karen Burger, Melissa Boyer, Lynda Bates-Stepe, Richard Lawton Hanse (District Superintendent)

2025 Long Island East District Nominations Committee Report

* Denotes chairperson

Bold type indicates new nominee to committee

Note: those elected take office on July 1

DISTRICT COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY

(For Information Only – Elected at Annual Conference)

Laity

FRED DYMEK, LORRAINE LEAK, KIT MACE, CATHERINE MCDONOUGH,
MICHELLE STUART

Clergy

Ebenezer Aduku, Chong Il Kim, Miyeong Kang, Prince Donkor (Vice Chair), Roslyn Lee (Chair)

ANNUAL CONFERENCE AT LARGE MEMBERS

FRED BREWINGTON, ELAINE SHORT, **BOB WHYTE, ROSE SCHMIDT**

COMMITTEE ON LAY SERVANT MINISTRIES

ELAINE SHORT (Co-Chair), Wayne Redman (Co-Chair), Ken Bohler, FRED BREWINGTON, LINDA HEES, FRED DYMEK, NANCY FOGG, MARY CZEISEL, **Calvin Collins, Lynda Bates-Stepe**

PARISH DEVELOPMENT

*Ken Bohler, CLAIRE BURENVICH, Tammie Rae Keeler, Esteban Isaac, Richard Lawton Hanse (District Superintendent)

BOARD OF CHURCH LOCATION AND BUILDING

Richard Lawton Hanse, District Superintendent

Class of 2025: DWIGHT ANDREWS, MICHAEL WHITE

Class of 2026: Ken Bohler, Tom MacLeod

Class of 2027: WILL FORD, DANNY GASTELUA, CLAUDE STUART

Class of 2028: **Doug Madlon, Ebenezer Aduku, MIKE SANTORO**

DISTRICT STATISTICIANS

Daehyun Park, **DAN NIELSON**

ANTI-RACISM TASK FORCE

*Prince Donkor, FRED BREWINGTON, Roslyn Lee, Tracy Moore, ELAINE SHORT, DIANE BURKHARDT, ESTEBAN ISAAC, LARRY SPENCER

2025 Long Island East District Nominations Committee Report

* Denotes chairperson

Bold type indicates new nominee to committee

Note: those elected take office on July 1

COMMUNICATIONS

*LINDA HEES, David Czeisel, LARRY SPENCER, Won Tack Lee, BILL FLIPSE, **KYLE DUNLOP, LAURIE KUHN**

DISTRICT MISSIONS COMMITTEE

*CATARINA CHOI, SUSAN DEWEY-HAMMER, David Czeisel (Mission Walk), Claire Wu

Mission Walk & Picnic Team

*David Czeisel, JENNIFER CZEISEL (Registrar), Sue Cirillo, Claire Wu, DANA SARIKAYA, ELAINE SHORT, DANNY GASTELUA, LINDA HEES, MARY CZEISEL, LINDA BEYER

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

*David Czeisel, Ken Bohler, Lillian Hertel, Calvin Collins, BILL FLIPSE, ELAINE SHORT, SHANNA WURTH

DISTRICT YOUTH COUNCIL

DANA SARIKAYA, SHANNA WURTH, ROBERT SORIA, LINDA BEYER, VIRGINIA LORENZI, CHRISTINE CASTELLANO, David Czeisel, Josh Yun, Ken McQuiller, **Melissa Boyer**

EVANGELISM COMMITTEE

David Czeisel, Nelson Kalombo Ngoy, Lydia Han, Kenny McQuiller, Phil Hardt, Debbie San Pablo, Sue Cirillo, ELAINE SHORT, ROSA BONILLA GARCIA, CAROLYN MARSHALL, ANGELA PRATT-BARRETT, BILL FLIPSE

SPIRITUAL LIFE

*Sharon Pizzo, Ken Bohler, Lynn Hazel, Tracy Moore, Wayne Redman, **Bob Liebold Adrienne Brewington**, JOE CALZONE, LORRAINE LEAK, CAROLYN MARSHAL, ELAINE SHORT

HISPANIC FELLOWSHIP

Esteban Isaac, KATHERINE AMAYA, LUIS BONILLA, ANA GAITANO, JOSE GATANO, ROSA BONILLA GARCIA, HEIDI LAMOTE, JOSE MEDIA, PAZ RIVERA, NANCY RODRIGUEZ, KAROLINA VASQUEZ

LONG ISLAND EAST DISTRICT COOPERATIVE PARISHES 2025-2026

Central Nassau Rev. Claire Wu, Parish Coordinator	Central Suffolk Rev. Prince Donkor, Parish Coordinator	County Line Rev. Sue Hyosuk Yun, Parish Coordinator
Bayville East Norwich: New Dream Korean Farmingdale Hicksville Old Westbury, Risen Rock Ban Suk Plainview: New York Korean Port Washington Sea Cliff Westbury	Central Islip: First Commack Commack: Long Island Korean Coram: Trinity Dix Hills: Bible Korean, Hauppauge Kings Park: Lucien Ghana Saint James Lake Ronkonkoma Coram: Trinity	Amityville: Simpson Bellmore East Meadow Lindenhurst: Grace Massapequa: Community, Merrick Seaford
East End Rev. Joanne Utley, Rev. Tracy Moore, Parish Coordinators	Middle Island Rev. Sharon Pizzo, Parish Coordinator	North Shore Suffolk Rev. David Czeisel, Parish Coordinator
Center Moriches East Moriches: Centennial, East Hampton: First Hampton Bays East Quogue Westhampton: Community Riverhead Southampton: Hamptons, Southold: The Vine at North Fork Westhampton Beach: Beach	Coram Lake Ronkonkoma Port Jefferson Station: Christ	Centerport Dix Hills East Northport: Union, Huntington-Cold Spring Harbor Huntington Station: West Hills Northport: St. Paul's Woodbury
North Shore Villages Rev. Cathy Schuyler, Parish Coordinator	South Shore Rev. Melissa Boyer, Parish Coordinator	Western End Rev. Ebenezer Aduku Parish Coordinator
Port Jefferson: First Setauket Stony Brook: Community Wading River: North Shore Note: This is a Blended Parish where the above churches share a Lead Pastor and two Associate Pastors.	Amityville: First Babylon Bayport Bay Shore Bellport Islip Sayville Patchogue	Baldwin: First, Franklin Square: Wesley Freeport Hempstead Uniondale West Hempstead: Church of the Good Shepherd

RECOGNITION OF NEWLY ELECTED DISTRICT LEADERS

L: All those in favor of electing these leaders to these positions, please indicate by saying, “Thank God for the laborers!”

Thank God for the laborers!

CONSECRATION LITANY

L: Dear Friends, you have each been called by God to different forms of leadership in the church. Your respective ministries are a serious responsibility and meant by God to be a blessing to us all. In love, I thank you for accepting your obligation and challenge you to offer your best to the Lord, to this people, and to our ministry in the world. Live to honor Christ in all your ways and make Him known in your witness and your work. I remind you all –

1. to acknowledge yourselves to be faithful disciples of Jesus Christ;
2. to devote yourselves to the service of God in the world?
3. to so live that you enable our church to be a people of love and peace
4. to do all in your power to be responsible for the tasks for which you have been chosen
5. to do all you can to assist and encourage each other in the responsibilities to which you have each been called, giving each other your cooperation, your counsel, and your prayers

L. Let us pray... Almighty God, pour out Your blessings upon these Your servants. Grant them grace to give themselves wholeheartedly in Your service. Keep before them the example of our Lord, who did not think first of Himself, but gave Himself for us all. Let them share His ministry and consecration that they may enter into His joy. Guide them in their work. Reward their faithfulness with the knowledge that through them, Your purposes are accomplished. In Jesus’ name we pray.

Amen.

LAY LEADERS' REPORT

Co-Lay Leaders, Long Island East District Report

- Thanks be to God! Christ is risen! We are the Forgiven People experiencing the presence of the Holy Spirit with us always!
- We move forward full of the joy that Christ lives within us to fulfill the call on our lives for the Kingdom of God.
- The following is a summary of some of the ministry areas, the Co-Lay Leaders and Laity Leadership Team of the LIE District participated in during the past annual conference year:
- Co-Lay Leaders, as members of the Superintendency Committee, gather via teleconference with other members and the District Superintendent, for weekly prayer on Wednesday mornings to pray for the needs of the district, the conference and the world. District Co-Lay Leaders, as members of the Superintendency committee, assisted in the planning and presentation of a beautiful Installation Service for DS Hanse, at Babylon UMC, hosted by the South Shore Cooperative Parish.
- Laity in our district participated in leading worship on Laity Sunday in October as well as taking leadership roles in their various cooperative parishes.
- The Annual Laity Convocation was held on November 16th in White Plains. The Long Island East District was well represented in the attendance. Our Bishop was in attendance at the Convocation all day. It was great to see our Bishop, the very next day, as preacher at the 150th Anniversary Celebration of Sea Cliff UMC in Long Island East District. DS Hanse provided an uplifting presentation; the food and fellowship were wonderful.
- Our district was honored that Bishop Bickerton set aside Feb. 24th to meet with the LIE clergy and laity coordinators at Commack UMC to speak about the pivotal vision forward. The feedback by many laity was appreciative that the bishop took the time to share especially, during his enormous responsibilities as the Bishop of the New England Conference.
- District Lay Leaders, as members of the District Committee on Ordained Ministry (dCOM), attended meetings in support of the candidate interview & certification process, for those on the journey to elder, local pastors and certified lay ministers.
- Our District Lay Servant Ministry program has offered 10 classes thus far and have more than 100 people taking classes.

continued ...

Co-Lay Leaders, Long Island East District Report, continued

- The District Spiritual Life Task Force held a District Clarion Call to prayer, on a Tuesday morning in the Lenten season. Persons, throughout the district came together and witnessed the powerful presence of God as we praised, worshipped and brought our requests to God. The Spiritual Life Committee meets approximately twice a month via ZOOM, telecom and in person for prayer and ministry planning.
- Food pantries continue to operate in many churches. The need is especially great due to the cut back in funding and support by both federal and state agencies.
- District Youth Ministries are active and expressing their faith in worship and in service to the community. The District Youth Retreat is scheduled for April 25-27 at Camp Quinipet.
- The District Mission Walk, which raises funds for church mission projects, will take place on May 10th at Belmont Lake State Park. Each church has a goal of \$200 and will use the money for the mission ministry of their choice. To raise the funds, they will take a walk around the park. Each church must register. The district provides wonderful music, delicious food and joyful fellowship.
- Cooperative Parish Councils are progressing at their own pace and unique makeup. Some are working together to effectively fulfill the ministry needs of their geographic communities, identifying ways that laity and clergy can make disciples for Jesus Christ. The South Shore parish held combined Holy Week services. Every fifth Sunday, the South Shore does a pulpit swap, in which pastors rotate and preach, other than their home church. The North/ Central Nassau Cooperative, through combined effort, will host a gospel fest after District Conference today. The East End Cooperative Parish has begun a dinner ministry. North Shore Suffolk is actively engaged together in training and outreach. They gather for a time of networking and best practices for some of the ministry committee areas.
- The District Nominations Committee has met in person to discern fulfillment of the ministry needs of our district.
- The Conference Nominations Committee is also in meetings to provide effective leadership on the way forward and in preparation of Annual Conference.
- Parish Development has met and completed the assignment of awards in support of district ministry requests.
- The Buildings and Locations Committee has met as necessary in response to appropriate church building location needs.

continued ...

Co-Lay Leaders, Long Island East District Report, continued

- The LIE District is participating again this year in the NYAC Board of Laity's "Six weeks of meditation & prayer in preparation for the Annual Conference. LIE will facilitate the meditations Monday–Friday, May 19th – May 23rd. This year the devotions will be via ZOOM at 7:00 am for 10 – 15 minutes. ZOOM ID; 818-9888-5888; PW126031
- District Certified Lay Ministers are Lori Janson, Elaine Short, Mary Czeisel who provide a wealth of ministry to the community; preaching, teaching, prison ministry, children's ministry, serving on district and conference committees, to name a few.
- Long Island East District Conference, Sat., May 3, 9:00 AM, Bible Korean United Methodist Church.
- New York Annual Conference, June 6-8, Hilton Stamford Hotel and Executive Meeting Center. LAITY SESSION, June 5, 6 PM -8 PM. Registration closes May 2.
- What a blessing it has been to have the joyful, faith-filled leadership of District Superintendent Rev. Richard Hanse, who engaged our District Committee in a time of reflection and visioning. His first year with us is going by so quickly. We recognize his attentiveness to understand the details of ministry in Long Island East. We continue to pray for him and his family, and look forward to the good things that God will do in guiding him in the ministry of the United Methodist Church of the Long Island East District.
- This is the last Lay Leader Report that Fred and Lorraine will submit, as we will both retire from serving in this role; with God's grace, we will continue to serve in other capacities. It has been a blessing for us to serve along with 3 successive District Superintendents, Rev. Adrienne Brewington, Reverend Julia Yim, and Rev. Richard Hanse. We have witnessed their faith, their love for God and for the people of God. We believe serving with them has strengthened our faith. In these challenging times, the need for God is undeniable and we pray that we, lay and clergy of the United Methodist Church, lean into Christ to follow Him in all the ways that we should go, in Jesus' name, Amen.
- We move forward full of the joy that Christ lives within us to fulfill the call on our lives for the Kingdom of God.
- Associate Lay Leaders are Lori Janson & Elaine Short.

TRUST IN THE LORD,

~Co-Lay Leaders; Lorraine Leak, Fred Dymek

DISTRICT COUNCIL ON MINISTRIES REPORT

District Council on Ministries

From Ken Bohler and Danny Gastelua, grace and peace to you in the name of God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ! Please accept the following as our report on the activities of the District Council on Ministries of the Long Island East District of the New York Annual Conference.

The District Council on Ministries is comprised of the DS, district lay leaders, communications Liaison, and the chairpersons of each of the other committees within the district.

The committee regularly meets on a monthly basis to review the activities of each of the district committees and to discern the best way to advance committee agendas and how to work cooperatively to advance the mission of striving to share God's love by *creating* safe places where all are accepted and welcomed, *connecting* the needs of people to the presence of God, and *transforming* the world through Christ.

This past year was our first with our new DS Rev Ric Hanse. The DS introduced himself to the members of the committee while offering his background and journey as a disciple of Christ through the Methodist churches of the NYAC to become the DS of Long Island East. Each of the members likewise gave brief background information while introducing themselves. The Committee with its new members and DS operated as usual until January of this year when DS Ric called a time out on business as usual and had the committee meet in person at Central Islip UMC where he signaled that he was looking for us all to share what we thought were the positive points of the District, what was working well. Then we shared what we thought were the growing edges, where there was room for improvement. Lastly, we shared our dreams, what we imagined was possible for our local churches, our District, and our denomination.

The DCOM committee has resolved to send a monthly report of all the LIE District activities to each of the Cooperative Parish leaders to more effectively disseminate information to the local churches. We believe that when more of us know what is being done and offered in the District, we will have more participation, which should invigorate us all. Kind of like being "Born again", I read something about that somewhere. 😊

In conclusion (Amen!) we look forward to us all being more connected, walking together the path that God has lighted for each of us to take. A walk that leads to an abundant life for our District, our local churches, and each one of us. Praise God!

We alternate monthly meetings between full committee meetings and meetings just attended by the “executive board” of the DCOM.

The committee again sought to ensure that all of our ministry events were consistent with the Mission, Vision and Core Values of the NYAC.

We are looking for new ways for the District events to leverage the new parish model to increase participation and cooperation between all of our local churches. We also discussed the problem of poor communication between the committee and pastors and congregants outside of the committee.

All this to build the Body of Christ and make disciples of Jesus for the transformation of the world.

The following is a brief summary of some of the events LIE District helped organize:

Disciple to Disciple (D2D)
The District Mission Walk and Picnic
The Global Leadership Summit (GLS)
District Youth Council
Lay Leaders
District Mission Coordinator
Anti-Racism Task Force
Lay Servant Ministry
Spiritual Life Committee
Superintendency Committee
Parish Development Committee

May God bless and lead all our ministries for the coming year.

Amen

Respectfully submitted by

Ken Bohler

Danny Gastelua

COMMITTEE REPORTS

The Anti Racism Task Force

The purpose of the Anti Racism Task Force is to educate the people in our district to examine the ways that racism exists and persists in our world. In the past few years, the Anti Racism Task Force has been blessed to celebrate both Juneteenth and Rev Dr. Martin Luther King Day with worship and fellowship, bringing attention to how devastating racism can be. Unfortunately, we have lost the majority of our committee members in the past year, and we are unable to function to the best of our abilities with the few members remaining. We have taken this year to attempt to rebuild this committee so we can get back to creating spaces to discuss and strategize around anti-racism and develop anti racism strategies for our communities.

~Elaine Short

Long Island East Lay Servant Ministries

Grace and peace to you in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

As we continue to navigate the ever-evolving dynamics of ministry, we are deeply aware of the physical and spiritual challenges facing our churches. In this season of increased reliance on lay leadership and the growing need for pulpit supply, we entered 2025 keenly aware of the vital importance of proper training for the laity. While recognizing that the role of our lay servants and speakers has never been more critical, our objective was to avoid responding to this challenge from a *"culture of desperation."* Instead, we are called to embody a *"culture of excellence."*

This excellence is rooted in a steadfast commitment to the calling of lay ministry—one that does not seek shortcuts or quick fixes but ensures that every layperson stepping into leadership has been properly trained, guided, and supported. The work of lay servants is not simply to fill gaps but to proclaim the Gospel and to serve with the competence, passion, and integrity that reflects the heart of Christ.

We are committed to providing the resources and direction necessary to equip laity for this vital ministry. But we also recognize that this is a collaborative effort between the laity and their pastors. Clergy play an essential role in mentoring, guiding, and supporting lay servants, ensuring that they not only meet the educational requirements of lay servant ministry but are also spiritually grounded and prepared for the work ahead.

continued...

Long Island East Lay Servant Ministries, continued

This year, our Lay Servant Ministries Committee team finished their classes prior to Holy Week. Certificates will be emailed to each participant who completed the course as well as to their pastors so they can be celebrated in their churches. We will be planning classes for the spring, summer and fall this year, as we look forward to equipping many Lay Speakers this year. To date, we have had 153 registrations for classes with 49 being from out of district, and were blessed with one registration that was actually out of our conference. This committee also approved two Certified Lay Speakers, Fred Dymek and Kysten Ellison as well as approving two Certified Lay Ministers to advance to the district Committee on Ordained Ministry, Mary Czeisel and Kysten Ellison.

We continue to urge our clergy to continue encouraging members of your congregation to participate in the training and development opportunities offered by our Lay Servant Ministry Team. These courses are designed to strengthen the skills and spiritual gifts of laity so they can serve effectively in preaching, teaching, and other ministries. Proper preparation, as outlined by the Book of Discipline, is not optional but essential.

Together, we will strive to build a ministry that reflects the excellence and grace of God—one where both clergy and laity are equipped to lead with wisdom and compassion, regardless of the challenges we face. Let us commit ourselves to this work, trusting that as we invest in our laity, we are investing in the future of the Church.

LSM is different than the other committees with nominations. Here are our members

Rev. Wayne Redman Co-director
Elaine Short, CLM, Co-director
Linda Hees
Fred Dymek
Lori Janson CLM
Rev. Lynda Bates-Stepe

Rev. Ken Bohler
Rev. Calvin Collins
Rev. Prince Donkor
Rev. Lydia Han
Rev. Ken McQuiller
Rev. Dr. Marjorie Nunes

“Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters,” Colossians 3:23

In partnership with you for the Kingdom,

~Elaine Short - CLM - Long Island East District, The United Methodist Church

~Rev. Wayne Redman - Long Island East District, The United Methodist Church

Committee on Ordained Ministry (dCOM) Report

Grace and peace to you in the name of our Risen Lord, Jesus Christ!

The Long Island East District Committee on Ordained Ministry celebrates another fruitful and Spirit-led year of discernment, guidance, and affirmation of those called to ministry within our United Methodist connection in our district. First, I take this time to thank our District Superintendent Rev. Ric Hanse and our 14 dCOM team members. Their commitment to our work has been inspiring. What a blessing it has been to see the partnership of our clergy and laity come together for such an important part of building God's kingdom.

We are honored to report that during this conference year, we had five meetings affirming 10 individuals for Licensing as Local Pastors and 3 individuals were certified as Certified Lay Ministers, and further we had 2 introductions with individuals who are on the path to Certified Lay Ministry. Each of these individuals brings unique gifts, spiritual depth, and a passion for serving God's people in their respective contexts.

Our committee approached each interview, review, and discernment process with prayerful care and intentionality. It has been a sacred privilege to walk alongside those who are courageously answering God's call, and we remain humbled by the vulnerability and vision each candidate has brought to the table.

We give God thanks for the vibrant partnership between the District Committee on Ordained Ministry, local church who have raised up leaders, pastors and SPRCs, the District Lay Ministry team and many others who make this vital work possible. These connections make possible the holistic support and accountability that our candidates need to thrive in their spiritual journeys and ministry preparation. Together, we embody the connectional nature of our church: one that uplifts, equips, and sustains those who serve.

As we look ahead, we do so with great joy and deep excitement for the unfolding work of God in the Long Island East District. We are witnessing a fresh wind of the Spirit stirring among us in emerging leaders whose callings are grounded in justice, mercy, and transformative love for the making of Disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Let us continue to nurture, encourage, and celebrate the leaders God is raising among us. And may we remain faithful to the work of discernment, support, and empowerment as we equip the next generation of servant leaders in the name of Jesus Christ

With gratitude and hope,

Rev. Roslyn Lee

Chairperson of the Long Island East

District Committee on Ordained Ministry



District Education Committee

Our District Education Committee radically changed its approach in how to educate and empower the people of the Long Island East District in the past year. Our previous model was focused on the **Disciple 2 Disciple (D2D)** workshop in January-February. Although recent experiments were made using a hybrid format since the pandemic, and efforts were made to consolidate from two locations to one, it was clear that we were not getting back to our pre-pandemic numbers, and presenters who had traveled long distances only found themselves with a few participants. In our best estimation, this was not due to the quality of the participants, as we often had at least a few, fabulous, well-known presenters!

Therefore, D2D was scaled way back this year to its essential function – providing training for members of the Finance, Trustees, and Staff-Pastor Parish Relations Committees. The trainings were held as early in the new year as possible and moved to a purely online format, in order to accommodate as many people as possible. All D2D webinars were held on Zoom from 4-5 pm:

- 1/5 - SPPRC with Rev. Ric Hanse (LI East District Superintendent). 23 participants
- 1/19 - Finance with Lonnie Chafin (NYAC Treasurer). 12 participants
- 1/26 - Trustees with Rev. Angela Redman (UM City Society). 12 participants



In order to supplement this learning, our committee turned to the **Global Leadership Summit**, organized by the Global Leadership Network – a non-denominational network of international churches. Our district has been attending the Summit for decades, and the Summit's incredible talks on leadership are like a series of TEDx talks from some of the most prominent leaders in their respective fields. Previous attendees typically reported feeling more empowered, creative, and energized in their leadership. This year, our usual host site on Long Island closed, so we decided to purchase a subscription to the Team365 resource – which gives us access to the Summit talks for one year to show to up to 25 participants for a fraction of the cost of having individual participants attend. Our district used this resource to share several of the Summit talks on Sunday afternoons from 2:00-3:30 pm:

continued...

District Education Committee, continued

- Nov. 3 - "Permission To Obsess" by Craig Groeschel – 8 participants
- Nov. 10 - "Getting Happier In An Unhappy World" by Arthur C. Brooks - 9 participants
- Nov. 17 - "Span of Control" by Carey Lohrenz - 5 participants
- Nov. 24 - "Unleash The Most Powerful Force In Business" by Marcus Buckingham - 6 participants
- Feb. 16 - "7 Frequencies of Communication" by Erwin McManus – 7 participants
- Feb. 23 - "Harness The Power Of Story" with Kindra Hall – 7 participants

Additionally, we asked the UM City Society to organize a webinar on the topic of **grant-writing for churches**. They were kind enough to oblige, and that webinar happened on Zoom on February 11th from 7-9 pm.

As always, we would love to see more participation in these offerings and invite you to encourage your congregants to participate in these helpful trainings! We also welcome your ideas, so let us know if you have any ministry training needs.

District Communications Committee

"No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket" (Mt. 5:15)

The Communications Committee continues to support local churches, cooperative parishes, and the district by promoting missions, ministries, and special events through various platforms, including the district website www.liedistrict.com, the district Facebook page: Long Island East District of NYAC, electronic advertising platforms, and flyers

A concerted effort was made to advertise Christmas, Ash Wednesday, and Easter services to local communities on Long Island through publicity websites, as well as local church websites and social media.

Churches and Cooperative Parishes are encouraged to improve their visibility in the digital space:

- Make sure your website and social media pages have current information
- Check your listing on Google.com, umc.org/en/find-a-church, NYAC.com, liedistrict.com for accuracy and correct errors
- Add photos and reviews to Google and Yelp
- Send notices of upcoming events to webmaster@liedistrict.com, as well as to the other churches in your cooperative parish
- Post events on your social media pages and ask your congregation members to **share or re-post**. This expands your reach, and adds their endorsement.

~Linda Hees, Communications Committee Chair

LI East District Youth Council

“Don’t say, ‘I’m only a child.’ Where I send you, you must go...” – Jeremiah 1:7

One of the most unique things about our Long Island East District is its District Youth Council. Up until this year, we have been the *only* district to have a district youth council working with our young people for about a decade. Thankfully, the LI West District is now beginning to organize a youth council of its own, and the annual conference has created an ad hoc team called Young People's Ministries to work with children, youth, and young adults. The hope in the latter is that, by considering the entire young portion of a person's life, we can create programming that mentors a person in Christian discipleship from childhood through young adulthood.

Having the only district youth council that survived the pandemic meant that our district youth council has had an active role in providing leadership on the annual conference levels. We are also trying to serve as a point of contact for local churches and cooperative parishes, many of whom are starting their own ministry with young people, and may need some rallying points where the larger Church can provide organization and some critical mass. Churches don't need to have a weekly youth group to get started; they just need a couple of chaperones willing to take whatever youth they know to a district youth or annual conference youth gathering! Once they make friends, we believe they'll want to connect with other youth back home.

To this end, our District Youth Council organized the following events on the district level:

❖ **Mission Walk & Picnic** – May 11, 2024

We provided our retreat band, and our youth council ran games for younger kids.

❖ Trip to Splish Splash Waterpark – August 2024

❖ **Youth Council Meeting and visit to “Restless Souls” – October 18, 2024**

Our youth council met to plan upcoming activities, and stayed for the West Hills UMC's haunted house.

❖ **UM Family Christmas Festival – December 7, 2024**

Our Youth Council organized a Christmas party for the children of the community at Babylon UMC, featuring approximately 50 people playing games, eating treats, singing songs, making crafts, having fun, and acting out a pop up pageant.




continued...

LI East District Youth Council, continued


- ❖ **Youth Council Meeting** – January 26, 2025 at Community UMC (Massapequa)
- ❖ **Youth Bowling** – March 2, 2025 at Strike 10 Lanes, Deer Park - *55 bowlers, plus chaperones, attended our bowling event!*
- ❖ **Youth Council Meeting** – March 16, 2025 at Commack UMC
- ❖ **District Youth Retreat (“GROW”)** – April 25-27, 2025 at Camp Quinipet
Our annual retreat has 76 people registered to attend worship, workshops, games, a campfire, and so much more – all run by our youth!




In addition, part of our District Youth Council’s responsibility is to help promote opportunities at the annual conference and jurisdictional level events. Here are a few that we helped promote this year:

-  **IgniteNJ “&GO”** – October 11-13, 2024.
A ministry of the Greater NJ annual conference in conjunction with the New York annual conference, youth who attended got to worship with Christian music artist, Jonathan Traylor, and more!



-  **NYAC “Methodist In The City”** – November 9, 2024
A walking tour of lower Manhattan, we visited the historic John Street Methodist Church, South Street Seaport, and Governor’s Island. Youth participated in a historical scavenger hunt, bike and ferry rides, and a tour of the oldest Methodist church in North America!



-  **UM Army** – July 21-27, 2024 & January 17-19, 2025

Youth from our district participated in the regional summer camp in West Hartford, CT last summer, and we hosted a UM Army “pop-up” commuter camp at Bayport UMC this past winter. As part of this program, youth do home improvements and cleanups at the homes of people in need in the community.

continued...

LI East District Youth Council, continued

NEJ “Mission of Peace” - February 2025

*An annual mission trip organized by the Northeastern Jurisdiction of the UMC.
This year, our young representatives – including Commack UMC’s Joel Lee -
went to Hawaii!*

In the coming year, we have a number of big events taking place. Our annual youth retreat at Camp Quinipet is scheduled to take place a week before District Conference. The theme this year is “GROW”, as our youth are growing into a formidable leadership voice in our church! We also are advocating for the return of a lay servant class for youth and for the return of Chrysalis – the youth weekends for the Walk To Emmaus. Both of these would be a boon to our youth’s souls and leadership.

There is a flyer for upcoming youth events in this booklet, and we encourage everyone to bring their youth. We can help you get there! Those interested in upcoming activities can be added to our email list for youth, parents, and chaperones. If you would like to be added to the email list - or get your youth involved in our District Youth Council – please contact Pastor David Czeisel at David.czeisel@nyac-umc.com.

The Mission Committee of the LIE District

To the respectful DS, Reverend Richard Hanes, Pastors, and all laity of the LIE District, The mission committee would like to share the ministry we focused on and achieved in 2024. I share the individual church’s efforts in sharing God's love by serving underprivileged neighbors and others. I appreciate their affectionate service for others every day! If we are together in the mission, we can do something more to deliver God’s Love. It does not take much to serve our neighbors who need help.

The committee has encouraged serving neighbors who are facing difficulties in their lives, such as women and children experiencing homelessness and individuals with disabilities. NYPUMC (Rev. David Kang) at Plainview and FUMC (Rev. Clare Wu) at Farmingdale are on a mission for the second year. NYPUMC supports the Milal Disabled Association by providing a monthly meal and promoting fundraisers. Huntington UMC supplies sandwiches to neighbors.

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The Mission Committee of the LIE District, continued

Rev. David Czeisel (St. Paul UMC) maintains his passion for mission work with the youth group. He has a distinct report regarding the youth mission.

The collection of UMCOR kits for the flood-affected area has been very successful. Bayport UMC has more than 55 flood kits and 20 hygiene kits, while Hicksville has over 12 kits waiting to be delivered to the Central Hub in PA.

We also want to share plans to focus on and achieve goals in 2025 with our diligent Pastors and laity of the LIE District. I request your cooperation to ensure that the ministry can continue successfully.

The Mission Committee includes Rev. Barbara Whitlow, Rev. David Czeisel, Susan Dewey-Hammer, and Catarina Choi, who serves as the Mission Coordinator.

What we had achieved in 2024:

1. Two HUBs will be available in the LIE District starting in 2025, one at Hicksville UMC (Rev. Iwy Patel-Yatri) for Nassau County and one at Bayport UMC (Margaret King) for Suffolk County. All the UMCOR kits are stored in these HUBs.
2. Huntington UMC: Making sandwiches to serve children.
3. Farmingdale UMC: Serve the homeless at the Bethany Women's Shelter with a game.
4. Plainview UMC: Visit a Disabled organization in Queens, serve them hot food, and support a fundraiser yearly. Also, serve hot food and gifts to the Bethany Women's Shelter.
5. The Monthly Zoom meeting continues.

What plans will be achieved in 2025?

1. Continue the monthly mission committee meeting, or as necessary, for an update.
2. Sharing each church's mission activity with the mission committee is encouraged to improve the effectiveness of the district mission.
3. Recruit more members for the mission committee.
4. Farmingdale and Plainview UMCs will continue the mission for our community.
5. Choose a district-level mission project that could support a Ukrainian missionary.
6. Form a fundraising team to accomplish the project.
7. Further discussion on homelessness in the LIE District is necessary.

Thank you so much for your unceasing prayers and support!

Abundant Blessings to All!

Catarina Choi, Mission Coordinator (catchoi55@gmail.com)

District Mission Walk & Picnic

The 2024 District Mission Walk and Picnic was the biggest success we've ever had! Held for the first time at Belmont Lake State Park, we had over 200 participants from 31 churches, representing all 9 cooperative parishes wearing their assigned colors. There was music from Endless Hallelujah Praise, Bill Flipse, and the LI East District Youth Praise Band. Pastor Iwy Patel-Yatri shared an uplifting sermon. Food was a stretch, but we managed. There was an icebreaker, tai chi, flower planting, sidewalk chalking and face painting. Pastor Doug Madlon organized a softball game, Ellen

Cheeseman assembled a group for line dancing, and the District Youth organized some games for the younger children. Some people took advantage of the paddle boats, kayaks and nearby playground. Many people brought their dogs, which was something new we were able to offer at this new venue. District Superintendent, Rev. Julia YeonHee Yim, was honored as our "Mission Walk Champion" for all of her years of support for this effort. In 2024, we raised \$8,768 together for various mission



projects, as determined by the local churches themselves.

The **2025 District Mission Walk & Picnic** is ready to go at Belmont Lake State Park again. This year, our event will be held on Saturday, May 10th. There were some issues with the permit process and the online giving pages this year, resulting in a late announcement to the churches. Undaunted, we expect another fabulous turnout from our district churches, and pray for their success in generating funding for their Spirit-led ministries!

**Go to LIEdistrict.com/missionwalk
and register your church and your walkers today!!!**

~Rev. David Czeisel

Parish Development Committee

To all my brothers and sisters in the Long Island East District may God's grace, mercy and peace, be with you all.

This was a good year for the local churches in the District as all received something towards their grant appeals, with most receiving exactly what was requested. The spectrum of needs included: Technology upgrades for more effective worship, support of pantries, Hispanic ministries, college and young adult ministries, dinner churches, youth construction skill mentoring, LGBTQIA and homeless outreach, and a Korean cultural center and summer school.

There are some problems, though, notably that currently there are only three members on the committee. It's far too much work for three people to vet, help form, and process all the requests while also fulfilling the requirement to visit each local church that's submitting a grant request. I am suggesting, ok, let's be honest, PLEADING! for each parish to have a representative on this committee. It would greatly serve the local churches in your parish to have 'one of your own' on the committee to champion your ministries. This becomes more important year by year as the pool of available funds for distribution from the Conference dwindles and the competition for those funds from the other Districts increases. Not that we are looking to get all that we can for ourselves but to honestly make the best case for our mission work while respecting the needs and efforts of our brothers and sisters throughout the Conference.

We would also like to offer more help in educating and assisting our cooperative parishes and local churches in writing a grant but currently we just don't have the staff to do so. Please consider joining the committee to help the LIE District be better represented this Autumn.

May the grace of Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Respectfully submitted by

~Ken Bohler, LLP

Spiritual Life Ministry Committee

The Long Island Spiritual Life Ministry is a gathering of dedicated prayer warriors that continue to meet almost monthly, either by in-person gathering, Zoom meeting online, or prayer conference calls.

We have met in person to break bread, lift up the numerous needs of this world, our conference, churches, pastors, and laity — and everything else that lies in between. We continue to seek the Lord for Holy guidance going forward—as well as to discern the intentional movement of this ministry.

We have also attended churches, upon invitation, for members of this team to visit and pray for those pastoral needs and the needs of their specific church body.

For our Lenten Long Island East Prayer Gathering, we hosted a prayer meeting at First United Methodist Church of Central Islip on Tuesday, April 8. The presence of the Lord was in our midst and the prayers of the people were echoed throughout the sanctuary. We are considering another prayer initiative to gather once again in July — *as we pray to see more join us.*

May all that we do, be accomplished by God's will, wonder, and way that is made known through the power of prayer. We pray to remain relevant in this district setting and for others to take part in this ministerial endeavor — as prayer should undergird everything we do and be the heartbeat that pulsates in and through the church universal!

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 NRSV

~Pastor Sharon Pizzo, Chairperson

~Carolyn Marshall, Laity Co-Chairperson

Committee on District Superintendency

*“Oh come, let us sing to the Lord;
let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!
Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;
let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!”
(Psalm 95:1-2, ESV)*

I am grateful to have had the opportunity to serve on the

District Superintendency Committee for the past year. Most importantly, the District Superintendency Committee and the entire Long Island East District family express our heartfelt gratitude and deep appreciation for the leadership of Rev. DS. Ric Hanse, who serves as our new District Superintendent. We give thanks to God and praise for our new great leader, who has transformative leadership, a strong faith, collaboration in ministry, and thoughtfulness and kindness.

The District Superintendency Committee is committed to praying without ceasing. Our committee joins DS. Ric in prayer every Wednesday morning via conference call, as he prays for all the pastors, congregations, and the needs of the district. Additionally, we have been one of the busiest committees over the past year. We welcomed DS. Ric, Lisa, and his family to the parsonage and planned his installation service. We almost met every month to support DS Ric and his family last year. Many thanks to each of the members of the District Superintendency Committee for their time, support, and dedication.

The district superintendency committee serves according to the guidelines of the Book of Discipline. (§669) The purpose of the committee on district superintendency shall be to support the district superintendent of the district in the oversight of the spiritual and temporal affairs of the Church with special reference to the district where the superintendent has responsibilities. In fulfilling this purpose, the committee shall give attention to the following responsibilities:

- a.)To advocate for adequate budget support services for the district superintendent, such as adequate secretarial support, travel, continuing education, and parsonage needs (523.2; 711.1a).
 - b.)To be available for counsel.
 - c.)To keep the district superintendent advised concerning conditions within the district as they affect relations among the district superintendent, the laity, the clergy, and the district agencies.
 - d.)To establish a clearly understood process for observing the district superintendent's ministry with direct evaluation and feedback, with special concern for the inclusiveness of the Church and its ministry with respect to sex, race, and national origin, and implementation of the consultative process in appointment making.
- continued....

Committee on District Superintendency, continued

e) To consult with the district superintendent concerning continuing education and to arrange with the Cabinet and bishop for the necessary time and financial assistance for the attendance of the district superintendent at such continuing education events as may serve his/her professional and spiritual growth.

f) To interpret to the people of the district and to the district boards and agencies the nature and function of the district superintendency.



Please join us as we undergird DS. Ric in prayer, support, and respect for all his efforts as he serves to strengthen our district. May God continue to fortify him with God's mighty power as he serves our district. May God continue to bless the LIE district richly.

Prayerfully submitted,

~Rev. Claire Wu



District Treasurer's Report

Our district finances have become quite active in recent years. As the events in our district have grown, so too has the support that we provide. I would like to thank our district and annual conference staff for all of their assistance over the last 8 years in my time as district treasurer, and I am especially grateful for the patience of the district's laity and clergy. It has been an honor to serve you.

In addition to these funds, we are also blessed to have received parish development funding for youth ministry, anti-racism work and evangelism. While we did not receive another \$6,000 in each of these ministry areas this year, we still have some funding leftover from the previous grant cycle.

Our fiscal year runs from July to June, and this year our total budget is \$26,450 – exactly the same as last year's budget. The annual conference recently cut the amount designated for districts in half, but so far, this has not affected us much, since many of the districts don't fully spend their allocated funds. LI East District continues to offer valuable programs to our churches and stands out as one of the most active in our annual conference.

2024-2025 Budget Amounts

Anti Racism Ministries	\$6,000
Clergy Gatherings	\$4,250
Discipleship Training	\$ 500
Evangelism	\$6,000
Youth Ministry	\$3,150
Other	\$6,550
TOTAL	\$26,450

~Rev. David Czeisel

United Women of Faith

Long Island East currently has at least 17 congregations with regularly meeting groups of United Women in Faith. We are working on increasing our membership and having a meeting for everybody in the Fall. In the summer, we will be doing a program that will help us "cultivate hope that is honest about our current conditions and hope that is restorative. How does Christ teach us to embody hope when our backs are against the wall?" From ***Practicing Hope*** by Tabatha Holley.

United Women in Faith seeks to connect and nurture women through Christian formation, leadership development, creative fellowship, and education so that they can inspire, influence, and impact local and global communities.

~Susan Dewey-Hammer

Long Island East District Trustees Report

On August 7, 2024, the introductory meeting between the LIE District Trustees and newly appointed District Superintendent, Reverend Ric Hanse was held at the District Parsonage 357 MacArthur Blvd., Hauppauge, NY. This meeting was opened and presided by Meeting opened and presided by Rev Won Tack Lee- the acting chair of the LIE District Trustees.

The first order of business for this meeting was the election of a new slate of officers (All votes were unanimous)

- Wayne Redman elected President.
- Won Tack Lee elected Vice President.
- Tom Sattler was elected Treasurer.
- Nancy Fogg was elected Recording Secretary.

Listed below are Areas of Business in need of attention that the team has identified at subsequent meetings and is currently working on:

Parsonage Walk-Through

Interior:

- Installation of new blinds for all second-story windows.
- Installation of pull-down attic stairs
- Installation of smoke alarms in all second-story rooms.
- Refinish oak flooring in kitchen; resurfacing of kitchen cabinets.
- Service the existing central vacuum system cabinets.
- Install a second humidifier in basement area
- Servicing of furnace, water heater and air conditioning.
- Replacement of railroad ties on retaining wall.
- Upgrade the current internet service account

Exterior:

- Cleaning of outside deck, fence, house siding and gutters

Respectfully Submitted,

~Rev. Wayne K. Redman

United Methodist Men

First, the good news. For the first time in almost a decade, there will be a National Men's Gathering. This will take place July 31 – Aug 3, 2025, at Epworth by the Sea, on St. Simons Island, GA. The flyer is added at the end of this booklet.

Second, there is some bad news too. We were saddened to be informed of the death of Wayne Carty, in March, 2025. Wayne brought a certain vibrancy to every LIE gathering and church event he attended. He served the UMM well over the years, including as 2nd Vice-President before the pandemic. Peace, Brother.

Yes, LIE District, the UMM are still out there, in churches here and there, but getting us together continues to be an effort. Doing men's ministry in solitary churches doesn't bear much fruit. I would love to hear of any ministries or activities you are doing to help spread the word and inspire other groups. I will make myself available to any Pastor, Parish, or men's group (chartered or not) that desires to see new vibrancy and initiatives in LIE District Men's Ministry. My personal contact info is: Kevin Lloyd, 516-477-2439 or klloyd947@gmail.com.

Monthly pancake breakfasts don't inspire younger men's ministry and they don't do much for older men's waistlines either. It's time to seek new endeavors that men's ministry never had to deal with in previous generations: men as widowers or cancer survivors, men as caregivers to children or grandchildren due to a loved one's addiction, to gay men who never had a place in church before...

Finally, a poem to cheer you up:

Living the gospel of Jesus Christ
That's how we best spread the word.
'cuz we all know it's more than,
"Brother, have you heard"...

We're in the pulpits and the prisons
Assisting men, women and youth.
United Methodist Men will be there,
'til all God's children hear the truth.

*~Kevin Lloyd - Secretary - North East
Jurisdiction, New York Annual Conference*



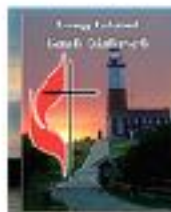
The flyer is for the "Men's & Scouting National Gathering" held from July 31 to August 3, 2025, at Epworth by the Sea, St. Simons Island, GA. It features the United Methodist Men logo in the top left corner. The main title is "Men's & Scouting National Gathering" with the subtitle "Traveling with Your WHY?". Below the dates, the location is listed. A central image shows a map of the area with a red location pin and a smartphone displaying a map. At the bottom, there are two QR codes for "Room Registration" and "Conference Registration". A quote from Proverbs 6:1-6 is at the bottom left, and a small image of a hand holding a compass is at the bottom right.

Men's & Scouting National Gathering
Traveling with Your WHY?
JULY 31- AUGUST 3, 2025
Epworth by the Sea
St. Simons Island, GA

Room Registration

Conference Registration

"My son, do not forget my teaching, but keep my commands in your heart, for they will prolong your life many years and bring you peace and prosperity. Let love and faithfulness never leave you; bind them around your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart. Then you will win favor and a good name, in the sight of God and man. Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight."
Proverbs 6:1-6



Growing In Christ With Our District Youth...

NYAC Young People's Ministries
Youth Lock-in
Hangout all night with your friends in the church!

When: May 23 (7pm) - May 24 (3am)
Where: First LMC, Mt. Vernon
For all youth in middle and high school

Register At:
<https://nyac.org/nyacapp.com/TPMLockin2025>

LI East District Youth Council Meetings:

Youth are needed to help us plan District Youth Events!!!

Next District Youth Council Meeting:

TBD

For more information or to be added to our email list,
contact Pastor David Czeisel at
631-827-6431 or david.czeisel@nyac-umc.com

October 10-12, 2025
Wildwood, NJ

GENESIS
GNITECONFERENCE
2025

Learn More At gniteNJ.org

Other Upcoming Youth Events:

- **District Mission Walk & Picnic**
May 10, Belmont Lake State Park
Help us run games for younger kids!
Register at liedistrict.com/missionwalk
 - **NYAC Confirmation Rally—June 28, 2025**
NYAC Conference Center, White Plains, NY
- Watch for more great summertime events at
liedistrict.com/youthcouncil

NORTHEAST, USA

CAMP DATES:

YOUNG ADULT: HAMPTON, VA
MAY 25-31, 2025

MIXED AGE: YORK, PA
JULY 6-12, 2025

MIXED AGE: CT AREA
JULY 13-19, 2025

MIXED AGE: CENTERPORT,
LONG ISLAND, NY
JULY 20-26, 2025

COST:

\$325.00/PERSON
DEPOSIT: \$75.00

REGIONAL DIRECTOR:

GNA GRIBBS
GNAGRIBBS@UMARMY.ORG

Make sure that you're on our email list!

Request to be added to the list by emailing Pas-
tor David at David.czeisel@nyac-umc.com

7TH ANNUAL MISSION WALK

5K WALK & PICNIC

SAT., MAY 10 @ 9:30AM
AT BELMONT LAKE STATE PARK
PINE PAVILION

Participants



Register Here

Register for FREE at:
[liedistrict.com/
MissionWalk](http://liedistrict.com/MissionWalk)



Our Church Is Raising Funds For:

WALK STARTS: 11AM

Special Thanks To

Host Church of the Conference:

- Rev. Chong Il Kim and the Congregation of Bible Korean UMC for their loving hospitality.

Our Presenters

- District Co Lay Leaders Lorraine Leak and Fred Dymek
- Mission of Peace Participants Lourdes Dom and Eva Abel

Music Ministries

- Pianist Sun Mi Han
- The Praise Band from First UMC of Central Islip

Media Ministry

- Kyle Dunlop for PowerPoint and Multimedia Ministry

District Conference Journal

- Linda Hees for coordinating and creating the District Conference Journal
- Andrea Salcedo for printing the District Conference Journal

We are grateful to you and grateful for you!

View or download a LARGE PRINT version
of this booklet at liedistrict.com/DC

Download a copy for your records.

