



DWD PEACE CENTER NEWSLETTER
DETROIT WEST DISTRICT - UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
DETROIT ANNUAL CONFERENCE
26275 NORTHWESTERN HIGHWAY, SOUTHFIELD, MI 48076
248.356.1020, Ext. 137

Websites: www.umc-detconf.org or www.hopeumc.org
e-mail: peacecenter@sbcglobal.net

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Blessed are the peacemakers for they shall be called the children of God;
Matthew 5:9(KJV)

ADULT AND YOUTH PEACEMAKING PROGRAM

On January 10, 2007 The Detroit West District Leadership Team endorsed and supported the Detroit District Peace Center Peacemaking for Conflict Resolution Adult Sunday School and Youth “**Let’s Work It Out**” classes. Both are shorten versions of the regular six-week course that is facilitated two times a year. It is hoped that all churches in the West District will take advantage of the course packets, which are available at the Peace Center.

Hope UMC is the first church which will incorporate the Adult Peacemaking program in Sunday School and the Youth program will be made a part of the Vacation Bible School and Confirmation Classes in the fall, 2007.

Youth “Let’s Work It Out” Class

Director Barbara Talley facilitated the three-week Youth “Let Work It Out” class. There were approximately 20 youth who attended the classes. Youth were from an Alternative Boys School, Southfield Middle Schools , and various community churches. The youth learned about the Understanding Conflict, Responding to Conflict and Preventing Conflict.

LIBERIA, WEST AFRICA AND DETROIT WEST DISTRICT UNITED METHODIST 12-17 YOUTH PLAN PEN PAL PROGRAM

Letters were sent to three Liberian, West Africa United Methodist Superintendents asking their endorsement of a youth pen pal program with the Detroit West District youth, 12-17 years. Rev. Dorothy Macaulay, Superintendent of Tappita District responded with 71 applications and pictures of Liberian youth

who want to participate in the program. Cliff Stallings, West District Youth Coordinator will help to implement the program in the local churches.

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR LEONARD HUNTER FACILITATES THE SIX-WEEK Peacemakers Class

Have you ever caught yourself looking out a window? Day dreaming while you're in a class. Well that will not occur at a peacemakers class. Even though the class title is **Peacemaker** it is action pack for your mind, as your mind searches for the conflict that deals with the issue the class is examining. Now you stop and say to your self what is the right decision: Do I run away or do I attack. What are my chances of wining or losing?: Why do I want to win or lose?: How do I feel about the person I dealing with?: What is their Authority in this situation? Then Mr. Hunter says" can you tell the class your response on how to peaceful resolve the conflict we are discussing. Now you are back on track with the class. This is what it can be like when attending the **PEACEMAKER** Class, please join us in the next class.

PEACE CENTER CONTRIBUTES TO WEST DISTRICT LIBERIA PROJECT

The Peace Center purchased 10 shares toward the West District Liberia Project to help complete several project. Partnership Leader, Rev. Dr. Charles S.G. Boayue, Jr, Senior Pastor of Second Grace UMC and his team went to Liberia in February 2007 and had a successful trip working on designated projects.

U. S. SENATOR CARL LEVIN RESPONDS TO PEACE CENTER LETTERS AND CARDS

In recognition of September 21, 2006 International Day of Peace, over 200 cards were collected from youth expressing their wish for peace. The cards and a letter was sent to President George W. Bush urging him to implement or adhere to the eight (8) points of the Declaration of Peace Statement. A copy of the letter was sent to U.S Congressmen. The following is an excerpt from U.S. Senator Carl Levin's letter dated January 12, 2007.

"On December 6, 2006, the Baker Hamilton Study Group issued a powerful, comprehensive plan for a change in course, including calling for an end to the open-ended commitment of American troops as a way of pressing the Iraqis to take responsibility for their own future. The report calls for U.S. combat brigades to move out of Iraq to take responsibility for their own future. The report calls for U.S. combat brigades to move out of Iraq by the first quarter of 2008, subject to unexpected developments in the security situation on the ground. It also suggests the only way we can maximize the chances of success in Iraq is if the Iraqis come together politically and take over the responsibility for their own country. The ideas the Baker Hamilton Study Group propose in this report are

totally consistent with my amendment (an amendment urging the President to begin the phased redeployment of U.S. troops from Iraq by the end of 2006) and with what many of us have been urging for a long time.”

PEACE CENTER SUBMITS RESOLUTION TO THE DETROIT ANNUAL CONFERENCE

This will be the second year that a resolution has been submitted to the Detroit Annual Conference asking local to recognize International Day of Peace. September 21, 2007 will be observed by having special worship services and 24 hour prayer vigils devoted to commemorating and strengthening the ideals of peace both within and among all nations and peoples.

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Guiding Committee

Louis Samuel, Chair

Hope UMC, Southfield, MI

Don Archambeau, Vice Chair

Redford Aldersgate UMC, Redford, MI

Rev. Janet M. Engler

Burton Christ UMC, Flint, MI

Lois Holman

Second Grace UMC, Detroit, MI

Lori Trapp

Hope UMC, Southfield, MI

Harold Stanton, Advisor

Annual Conference PWJ Coordinator

Barbara Talley

Peace Center Executive Director

Leonard Hunter

Assistant Director &

Peacemaker Reconciler Trainer

Katrina Titus

Youth Volunteer Coordinator

Denise Burke

Newsletter Editor

Loretta Woolridge/Dayse Andrews

Dialogue Leaders

Jacqueline Diamond-Hall

Librarian-Lending Library

Al Talley

Historian

MISSION STATEMENT

To provide leadership in Peace With Justice transformation to the Detroit West District Ministry through implementation of appropriate United Methodist Church Social Principles and Discipline, and appropriate Detroit and General Conference Resolutions. To have a positive impact on the promotion of peace, understanding, and justice in all areas and levels of the West District church and the larger community, fostered by tolerance, non-violence, and respect for and among diverse cultures and religions, based upon God's principles of love, reconciliation and forgiveness

