Bishop Jung Announces New Structure and District Superintendents

Imagine No Malaria Inspires Wisconsin Conference!

Camp Transforms All Lives It Touches
In 2015, Wisconsin United Methodists are Cultivating and Nurturing as we continue our theme of Live the Fruit of the Spirit. At Annual Conference this June 12-15, Bishop Han Ku Kim of the Dongbu Conference will preach during Opening Worship; Bishop Hee-Soo Jung will preach during the Memorial Worship; and Susan Henry-Crowe, General Secretary of the General Board of Church and Society, will preach during the Ordination Service. Dr. Elaine Heath, McCreless Associate Professor of Evangelism at Perkins School of Theology, will lead an inspiring Bible study. And, we will enjoy music from Mark Miller, Assistant Professor of Church Music at Drew Theological School, and his band throughout the weekend. Visit www.tinyurl.com/WAC15 for all the information you need to know, and to register!
We Will Celebrate
Imagine No Malaria

At last year’s Annual Conference, Bishop Jung challenged us to raise $1 million for Imagine No Malaria (INM), an international United Methodist campaign. At this year’s Annual Conference, we will rejoice for the lives we have saved through our giving with a celebration during Plenary, and a live and silent auction to benefit INM on Saturday evening.

We Will Prepare for
Redistricting and
Conduct Business

In addition, we will prepare for our Conference to transition from 8 districts to 5 with new district lines and Superintendents, adopt a budget, recognize and congratulate retirees, learn from music leader and speaker Mark Miller, and take home new ideas and strategies from Learning Day workshops.

We Will Imagine
Wisconsin Anew

All of this is part of our focus to Imagine Wisconsin Anew with ongoing efforts to transform our congregations into vital centers of spiritual growth, sow the seeds of new faith communities, develop relationships with new and diverse people, and engage communities and people with life giving opportunities.

Monday, June 15 is
Learning Day!

Learning Day is included in your Annual Conference registration and is also open to all, free of charge.

Workshops will be offered in the morning and afternoon. Visit www.tinyurl.com/LearningDay15 for more information and to register!

Calling All Youth and Young Adults!

Youth ages 12-17 and Young Adults ages 18-30 are encouraged to register to be a youth/young adult member to Annual Conference! Visit www.tinyurl.com/WAC15YYA for all the information you need to know, and to register!

Stay Connected!

Visit the Communications table for Conference literature, flyers, brochures, DVDs, and other handouts for you and your church. You can find our table in the lobby near the main entrance to the Plenary. Visit Pat Falkner and Katie Hoeppner in the Middleton Room for I.T. support and printing help. And, stay connected to the latest news:

- Sign up for eNews and check your inbox for daily reports from Annual Conference. Visit http://www.wisconsinumc.org/subscribe to sign up! Daily reports will also be posted to the homepage of the website.
- Stay connected to us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/wisconsinumc and for youth members, www.facebook.com/wisconsinumcyouth!
- Join the conversation on Twitter! Tweet us at twitter.com/WisconsinUMC or @WisconsinUMC. You can also use the hashtag #wiumc when tweeting about Annual Conference.
- Check our Flickr page for new pictures every day: www.flickr.com/wisconsinconferenceumc.
- View the live stream of Friday, Saturday, and Sunday’s events at www.wisconsinumc.org.
Continuing the restructuring process, Bishop Hee-Soo Jung has announced the new five-district organization and new appointments. Bishop Jung shared that he is very much looking forward to working with the current and new Cabinet during this important transition time and in the ongoing work of implementing the “Imagine Wisconsin Anew” vision for new congregation initiatives and revitalizing existing Wisconsin congregations. Bishop Jung said, “The addition of a District Superintendent (DS) and the configuration of the five new districts will improve our ability to connect with each other to build vital outreach to the people of Wisconsin. This team will provide both ongoing and new leadership to help guide our Conference into the future.”

Several celebrations to welcome the new appointments are scheduled for the upcoming months, including:

» North West District -
  July 18, 10 a.m. to noon
  Eau Claire Lake Street UMC

» South West District - July 19, 4 p.m.
  Dodgeville UMC

» North Central District -
  July 25, 10 a.m. to noon
  Stevens Point: St. Pauls - The Springs UMC

» North East District - July 26, 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.
  Appleton: Zion UMC

» South East District -
  August 1, 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
  Oconomowoc: Good Shepherd UMC

The five District Superintendents will be:


In addition, Bishop Jung announced that Rev. Dan Dick, currently serving as Director of Connectional Ministries, will be appointed as Assistant to the Bishop, and Rev. Sam Royappa will be appointed as the Director of Connectional Ministries. Sam has served as DS in the Capital and Coulee Districts for the last eight years.

All of these appointment changes are effective July 1, 2015. In addition, Rev. Ann Spindt Henschel, Heartland and Chippewa DS, will be leaving the Cabinet after six years of service effective July 1 to take a family leave. Rev. Steve Polster, currently serving as Assistant to the Bishop, will retire July 1. Following are the appointments and biographies.
currently serves as lead pastor at Cargill UMC in Janesville and on various Conference boards.

**Rev. Scott Carlson: South West District**
Scott Carlson graduated from Seminary at United Theological Seminary in the Twin Cities in 1991, was ordained a Deacon in 1989 within the North Dakota Annual Conference, and was ordained an Elder in 1994 in the Wisconsin Conference. He has served a variety of congregations throughout his career, including his most recent appointment at Sun Prairie UMC for more than ten years.

**Rev. Deborah Thompson: South East District**
Deborah Thompson is an ordained Elder in the United Methodist Church, and received her Masters in Divinity from Methodist Theological School and her B.S. in Political Science from Adrian College.
She has served as the DS for the Metro Region since 2012, and was previously the Mission Coordinator for the Conference. She is the current chair of the North Central Jurisdictional Commission on Religion and Race.

**Rev. Sue D’Alessio: North East District**
Rev. D’Alessio is a graduate of Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary for her M.Div (ordained Elder in 1990). She has served as the DS for the Nicolet-Winnebago Region since July 1, 2014. Prior to that, she served as pastor at Community United Methodist Church in Oak Creek. She has over twenty years of experience as a pastor and served six years on Conference Staff in Wisconsin as Director of Connectional Ministry and California-Pacific Conference, where she was Director of Leadership Development before returning to Wisconsin.

**Rev. Dan Dick: Assistant to the Bishop**
Dan Dick has served as the Director of Connectional Ministries with the Wisconsin Conference since 2009. He worked for the General Board of Discipleship in Nashville for 15 years – providing resources in stewardship, leadership development, spiritual formation, congregational and Conference planning, spiritual direction, spiritual gifts discovery, and conflict transformation. He has been a speaker and teacher around the world, and author of fourteen books and hundreds of articles.

**Rev. Sam Royappa: Director of Connectional Ministries**
Samuel Royappa has been in ordained ministry since 1983. He has a B.A. and M.A. from Madurai-Kamaraj University, South India, and Bachelor of Divinity from Serampore University, North India, and Doctor of Ministry from Asbury Theological Seminary, KY. He was ordained in the Methodist Church in India where he served as a lead pastor and as a District Superintendent from 1983 to 1999. Upon his transfer to The United Methodist Church in 2000, he served two United Methodist congregations at West Bend and Wausau: Wesley. He was appointed as a DS to Capital Coulee districts in 2007.
As we go through this Easter season, I’m reminded about the amazing role model we have in Jesus Christ. And, to be honest, sometimes his example is more than a little intimidating. His actions were rebellious and extraordinary; he got angry, disappointed, and scared; he called people out on their doubts; he overturned tables — and, in doing so, he overturned everything that we thought we knew about living a God-filled life. In his life, his death, and his resurrection, Jesus transformed the world. And the craziest part of this story is that he calls us to do the same.

We are called — just like those original disciples — to have faith in the power and work of a loving, transformative God. Throughout our lives, God gives us opportunities to dream big and to make change in the world around us. Imagine No Malaria (INM) is one of those important opportunities. I’m inspired by the work of INM and our Church, and I hope you are too.

INM is our UMC effort to raise $75 million to end deaths and suffering from malaria in Sub-Saharan Africa. The UMC is overseeing millions of dollars in fundraising efforts, while also using our 200 years of experience working in Africa to direct how that money is being implemented on the ground.

By this point, you probably know a little about malaria. One person killed every minute. Over 200 million cases every year. Billions of dollars in lost income and working hours. And all of this happens because of a mosquito bite. But the story doesn’t have to end there. When you are looking at a problem like malaria that is this chronic, I think we limit ourselves by allowing the cloud of apathy, distance, and suspicion to overshadow the amazing progress that’s being made. Imagine No Malaria is working to change that.

The Imagine No Malaria initiative is transformative, using a different approach that goes far beyond handing out bed nets. By focusing on education, prevention, treatment, and communication initiatives, the UMC organizes accountable and sustainable grassroots programs. In just the last eight years, the UMC and our partners — including the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and the United Nations Foundation have cut the number of malaria deaths in half. And with a continued effort, many leading researchers believe that youth today will see the end of malaria in their lifetimes.

To me, that’s the transformation we are called to make. That’s the effect that we can have as a global, dynamic community of faith. And we aren’t done yet. Imagine No Malaria is one of those projects where we are actively rejecting the idea that just because something is doesn’t mean it’s the way it always will be. It’s the promise of what Church can be in the world today, and what our Church — together — can do.

So get inspired and get involved. And transform the world with us.
Fun Ways to Get Involved with Imagine No Malaria!

Bid High and Often at the INM Auction

This year at our Annual Conference session at the Madison Marriott in Middleton, we will be hosting both a silent auction and live auction after the Saturday night buffet on June 13, 2015. All donations from the auctions will support Imagine No Malaria – the UMC campaign and the WI Conference mission project this year. If you have an idea for a donated item, please fill out the form at www.ImagineNoMalariaWI.org/auction and we will contact you regarding your donation. We are also looking for volunteers to help us set up on June 13. If you would like to volunteer or if you have questions about auction donations, contact Wisconsin INM Field Coordinator Nicole Wilken at nwilken@wisconsinumc.org or 608.837.7328. And don’t forget to attend the auction on Saturday, June 13!

Order Your Bishop Jung Bobblehead or SWAT T-Shirt Today!

As a special fundraiser for Imagine No Malaria, contribute $100 and receive a Bobblehead of Bishop Jung! To order your Bishop Bobblehead, visit www.tinyurl.com/INMBobblehead or send in your printed order form to INM Coordinator, 750 Windsor St., Sun Prairie WI 53590.

We also have SWAT T-Shirts available for a discounted rate of $10! For a list of current inventory and for ordering information, visit www.ImagineNoMalariaWI.org/SWATShirt.

All proceeds from these fundraisers go to the life-saving work of Imagine No Malaria!

End Malaria One Step at a Time!

Many United Methodists across the state participated in the INM Walks on World Malaria Day, April 25th. Thank you for all those who walked and helped raise money on this day. If you would still like to host a walk event for INM, visit www.ImagineNoMalariaWI.org/walk for more information and resources.

Bishop Jung Invites You to Join the INM Holy Club

Back when John Wesley founded our Methodist tradition along with his brother and friends, people used to call them the “Holy Club.” This name was used to connect them to their covenant with God, and the understanding that their faith could bring transformation to the world and emphasis on helping the needy.

Join the INM Holy Club

This year, our Wisconsin Conference mission project is Imagine No Malaria (INM), and I invite you to get involved in this life-saving campaign. Over the past few months, I have been asking leaders of our Conference to consider making a multi-year pledge or one-time gift of $5,000 or more, and to join our “INM Holy Club” of donors. And I extend the invitation to you. I am looking for 100 individuals or families across the Conference who would be willing to join at this level.

Let’s Return to Our Missional Roots

From the reorganization of the districts to the reevaluation of our future through Imagine Wisconsin Anew, our Conference is going through some exciting changes. But some of the greatest change has happened at the local church level – in the hearts and minds of people across the Conference as they and their congregations get involved in the extraordinary ministry of Imagine No Malaria. Be part of this incredible change. For more information, visit www.ImagineNoMalariaWI.org/HolyClub.

In God’s Hands,

Bishop Hee-Soo Jung
We are so thankful for the passion that Wisconsin Conference churches and congregations have demonstrated for our Imagine No Malaria (INM) effort. So many have shown creative ways to raise funds. Here are a few of the extraordinary ways Wisconsin churches are getting involved with Imagine No Malaria!

**Congregation Involvement**

» At the new Korean church start in Madison, Pastor Myunghoon Han and the rest of the congregation held its first missional event during UW-Madison’s final exam period in December to raise money for Imagine No Malaria. For three days, church members made and sold Kimbab, a style of Korean sushi, to feed students and educate them about Imagine No Malaria. The congregation raised over $370.

» Community UMC in Elm Grove has hosted a Mission Gift Festival every year since 2003 to help make a difference during the Christmas season. This past December, eight organizations were represented at this alternative gift giving event, including Imagine No Malaria and a variety of local and national mission organizations. Donations raised for Imagine No Malaria were $1,465.

» Pastor Jeff Nicholas at Trinity UMC in Beaver Dam distributed tubes of mini M&M’s to his congregation during Advent. Church members were encouraged to take the M&M tubes home, eat the M&Ms, then fill up the tube with quarters and bring it back to the church. Including the tube money and a community dinner to celebrate Mardi Gras, the Beaver Dam congregation surpassed their goal of $10,000!

» Trinity UMC in Racine holds a yearly Pringle Can Super Bowl Fundraiser and, this year, the donations are going to Imagine No Malaria! Lay member Paula Thorson said, “We encouraged everyone in our congregation to take a can of Pringles chips home to enjoy while they watch the Super Bowl on February 2 and use the can for a bank to put their loose change in.” The Pringle cans will then be returned on Mother’s Day in May.

» Barron UMC member Don Peterson recently went on a hunting trip to the Brooks Range in Alaska with guide Billy Molls. The trip offered time for reflection, prayer, and discussing scriptures – as well as inspiring an idea for a church event when Peterson returned home. Barron UMC hosted a wild game meal, featuring samples of venison, elk, and fish, with all proceeds from the meal going to INM. The event raised over $2,500!

» Waukesha First raised more than $1,800 at a Pi Day event to benefit INM. Over 100 people attended and more than 60 pies were donated for a live auction. The “Pie the Clergy” challenge gave people the opportunity to hit a clergy in the face with a pie. Other activities included a pie walk, a contest to see who could recite the most digits of pi, and a pie-eating contest!
Youth Involvement

» Following the “Don’t Bug Me” Youth event, the youth group at Iola UMC made pipe cleaner mosquitoes and scattered them around the church, hung mosquito nets on the ceiling, and held an Imagine No Malaria Jeopardy game.

» At Bethel UMC, the kids used coloring pages to raise money for Imagine No Malaria during Lent. Each week, they colored a different INM coloring page and sold the artwork to the congregation for $10 each. As Pastor Joyce Rich said, “In short, every time you cover your refrigerator with new artwork, a family is covered with a bed net!”

» Youth members at Madison: First UMC had a long-standing tradition of holding a fruit sale each year to raise money for mission trips. After attending the “Don’t Bug Me” event in November, the group saw even more potential for their fruit sale, and this year, they raised $1,700 and donated it to INM!

» Sunday School Students at Madison: Wellspring UMC held a trail mix sale between worship services to “Cover the Bug” for INM. Each bag of trail mix purchased allowed the buyer to pin a piece of “mosquito net” on top of the mosquito on the students’ display. At the end of the sale, the “bug” was covered and $165 was raised for INM!

This brings the total amount the students raised for INM to over $325!

Giving Tuesday

On Tuesday, December 2, 2014, organizations across the country joined together to promote giving. As an incentive, the General Board of Global Ministries matched up to $1 million given through the Advance on that day. In total, over $2.5 million was donated through the Advance in addition to the $1 million match. In the Wisconsin Conference, over $73,743 was given on Giving Tuesday to support mission projects all around the world, including $28,525 for Imagine No Malaria! Thank you to everyone who gave generously on Giving Tuesday!
We Are the Church … Together!

The day-to-day demands of congregational ministry are relentless. There is always something to do — a sermon to write, parishioners to visit, meetings to attend, emails and phone calls to return, special programs to prepare, classes to teach, small groups to lead — right here, right now. It is all too easy to lose sight of the bigger picture: The United Methodist Church is a worldwide communion of faith. As United Methodists, we are connected to mission and ministry not only in our own congregations, but throughout our communities, conferences, country, continent and world.

I have been blessed in the past few months with opportunities to see our global connection at work. I am an elected member of our General Board of Church & Society (GBCS) in Washington D.C. Most United Methodists in our local congregations are unaware of the amazing work our GBCS does on behalf of us all. Anyone who cares about the plight of farm families, biomedical ethics, addictions, domestic violence, human trafficking, drug trade, business ethics, political corruption, violations of global human rights, or gender and racial equality is served by GBCS. Currently, Church & Society is exploring a revision of our Social Principles to make them globally and culturally relevant. I have been honored to attend listening sessions in Washington D.C. and Abuja, Nigeria, as part of this project.

The result of the two listening sessions I attended is a clear desire for our Church to live theologically, biblically, and ethically balanced lives as a witness to the love and grace of God in the world. We may not agree on every single belief or practice, but we do hold core values and principles in common that define who we are as United Methodists. As different as we may be in America or Africa, we share significant agreement in love of God and Jesus Christ. Together, we seek the guidance of God’s Holy Spirit to build God’s kingdom in every way possible.

One significant example of this is the Imagine No Malaria campaign. Our General Boards of Global Ministries and United Methodist Communications are in partnership with the General Board of Church and Society to spearhead this campaign. It is a beginning point for United Methodists to make a difference in the world. Meeting with church leaders in Nigeria confirmed the blessing that Imagine No Malaria provides, and focuses the ongoing need for partnership as we live forward into the future. The problems of poverty and overpopulation throughout the African continent mean that more lives require more resources. Imagine No Malaria is simply the first chapter in a much larger story we will write in Africa. Making sure that the infants we save now live to healthy and productive adulthood in the future is the challenge that lies ahead.

In March, I was honored to be part of the leadership of a global consultation on the future of Hispanic and Latino leadership in our United Methodist Church. This experience broke through the dividing walls of “us/them” to point to one Church for all of us together. We don’t have a Korean Church and an African-American Church and a Hispanic/Latino Church and a Hmong Church — we are ONE United Methodist Church living as kingdom people. Our global community needs us to provide a living witness to what it looks like for all people to live together as one. Events like this consultation at Duke University in March are critical early steps in moving us from being “multicultural” (many different cultures) to “intercultural” (cultures connected and combined into new, lasting relationships).

We are the Church together. Whether it is with the church in the next neighborhood, in the circuit or district, in our Conference or the Conferences around us, across the country or around the globe, we are one body of Christ, bound together by our love of God and the power of the Holy Spirit. Celebrate the unity and promise we have in being a “United” Methodist Church. And make sure everyone knows — together we are living our discipleship, and indeed we are transforming the world.
Camp Transforms All Lives That It Touches

This article will not detail a story of a camper who has become Christian for the first time, or who has finally learned to make sense out of the Bible. One good story only tells you that one life was changed. I want you to know that the stories we tell of changing campers’ lives are not the exception. They are the expectation. Camp and retreat ministry is well situated to consistently and intentionally transform lives. We do this by providing practical life skills and by embodying the hope that what we teach in church could actually be true.

Application skills like collaboration, creativity, initiative, leadership and responsibility are taught extensively at summer camp. Campers learn independence as they live away from the familiarity of family/home. They practice teamwork and interpersonal skills as they work together with their cabin group. And the variety of new activities encourages not only curiosity, but leadership, respect, and initiative.

So it turns out, camp is helping our kids to be healthy, productive members of adult society. Our United Methodist camps, however, add another element to that powerful mix. We live these skills in the context of intentional Christian community.

Camp is where we go to live out our faith -- to literally get our hands dirty -- by gardening, tie-dying a shirt, fishing, making a camp fire. As we live together and serve one another, we begin to see that the ideal of God’s Kingdom may not be fully realized yet, but it is possible.

At camp, we see the last become first when those who are bullied at home have a chance to shine. We learn how to love our enemies as we practice confession and forgiveness – because conflict is sure to rise up when we live together 24/7. When we take turns hopping for the dinner table or putting away our sports equipment, we learn how to serve one another. Camp counselors live the parable of the 99 sheep at every staff meeting. They don’t talk about the campers who are fitting in. They work together to find ways to make sure that every last camper is making friends and connecting with faith.

Camp is a great catalyst to open our campers’ eyes to a faith that is possible. To experience first-hand the difference camp can make, register for Summer 2015 at www.WiUMcamps.org.

Keep Informed and Stay Connected!

In addition to Reflections, our print publication, we also publish a weekly Enews email newsletter, which contains timely information about important UMC events, tips and resources, and more. Visit our YouTube page at www.youtube.com/WisconsinUMC to view videos and our Flickr page at www.flickr.com/photos/WisconsinConferenceUMC to view photos from the Wisconsin Conference and The United Methodist Church. Be sure to read and post comments on our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/WisconsinUMC or our Twitter page at www.twitter.com/WisconsinUMC. Additionally, visit our website at www.WisconsinUMC.org for information, tools, and links to all of our communications vehicles. You can sign up to receive Enews or share your story or event, by emailing mvirnig@wisconsinumc.org.

Reflections

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### Conference Events

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>MAY 16</strong></td>
<td>Celebration for D.S. Sam Royappa</td>
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<td>Dodgeville UMC</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>MAY 16-17</strong></td>
<td>Change the World Weekend Throughout WI</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>MAY 31</strong></td>
<td>Peace with Justice Special Sunday Throughout WI</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>JULY 12-17</strong></td>
<td>Youth Rock 2015 Mission Trip Janesville</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>JULY 20-24</strong></td>
<td>Mission u Westwood Conference Center, Wausau</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>JUNE 12-15</strong></td>
<td>Wisconsin Annual Conference Madison Marriott West</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>JULY 19-24</strong></td>
<td>Wildfire! 2015 Mission Trip Superior</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>AUGUST 19-20</strong></td>
<td>Clergy Day with Dr. Tim Bias, General Secretary, Discipleship Ministries Green Lake</td>
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### New District and DS Celebrations:

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<th>District Description</th>
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For a more comprehensive list of events and training opportunities, visit our website [www.WisconsinUMC.org](http://www.WisconsinUMC.org)