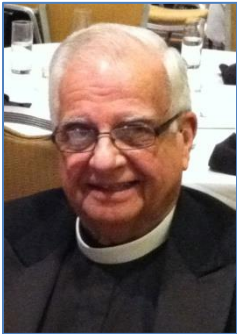




Local Pastor Licensing School Handbook 2014 Edition

Welcome Note from the Rev. John J. Dromazos, Dean



This is a time for new beginnings! You have heard the call of God to enter into the ministry of the United Methodist Church, and now you are on your way. I welcome you to what is a great adventure that begins with your first class and continues beyond as you are licensed and sent forth by our Bishop. To paraphrase an ad that I have seen for a business school: **“YOU ARE NEEDED.”** Indeed you are, and as you read through this handbook, you will discover that training for ministry as a Local Pastor does not end at the conclusion of ten Saturdays, but is a lifelong venture into all the courses you will experience. I urge you to realize that you, as never before, are asked to **“Make Disciples for the Transformation of the World.”** *This is your calling. This is your task. This is your ministry!*



2013 Local Pastor's Licensing School Class

Overview of the Licensing School

Licensing School for Local Pastors is a program of the Course of Study conducted by the Susquehanna Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church under the supervision of the Board of Ordained Ministry. It prepares persons within The United Methodist Church to be licensed as local pastors. The approval of your District Superintendent and Conference Registrar for Local Pastors is required to register. Four basic areas of ministry will be studied: Public Worship, Pastoral Leadership, Organization of a Parish, and Educational Ministry.

The faculty of the Susquehanna Annual Conference Licensing School is composed of seasoned pastors who have served with excellence in the field. They fully understand the challenges and complexities of Christian ministry in contemporary life and culture and they continue to grow and innovate to meet the demands of sustaining a vital ministry for a healthy church.

These are challenging times. The Church is experiencing a dramatic transition in its organization and way of expressing the ministry and mission of Jesus Christ. It is not “business as usual.” The former way of doing ministry was to organize a congregation around its typical strengths so as to attract people to the church for worship. In our day, attractional ministries are proving to be ineffective ways of carrying out the ministry of Jesus Christ.

The Licensing School offers a strong foundation for the beginning of your vocational Christian ministry. The ongoing work of preparation and learning is never complete and this is just your start. It is a long, patient journey. By preparing you with a solid foundation we aim to provide you with the tools, procedures, practice and role models for the next step in your call to serve Jesus Christ in vocational Christian ministry.

Eligibility

Each candidate for ministry is expected to follow the procedures outlined in ¶311 of the 2012 Book of Discipline:

Declared candidates [in the Susquehanna Annual Conference] shall submit to a satisfactory medical report (Form 103) and complete the psychological assessment as directed by the Board of the Ordained Ministry. Also, the background check process must be prior to being approved as a certified candidate.

Only **certified candidates** or those upon a District Superintendent’s recommendation, those who anticipate being certified during the upcoming six (6) months may attend Licensing School.

The Studies for License as a Local Pastor are offered according to the guidelines developed by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry. The guidelines suggest a minimum total of 80 hours of study in four practical areas: Public worship and preaching, organization of a

parish for nurture and mission, educational ministries in the church, and pastoral care for spiritual formation. The Susquehanna Annual Conference is a leader among the Annual Conferences in hosting an excellent and challenging school.

To be approved for the License for Pastoral Ministry in the Susquehanna Annual Conference, UMC the candidate must:

- a) Have graduated from an accredited high school or its equivalent;
- b) Be a professing member in good standing of the UMC or a baptized participant of a recognized UM Campus Ministry or other UM ministry setting for a minimum of one year;
- c) Have worked through the candidacy studies with an approved mentor;
- d) Have received the recommendation of his or her local charge conference;
- e) Been interviewed by and approved as a certified candidate by the district committee on ordained ministry; and
- f) Have completed the Studies for License as a Local Pastor or one-half of the credit hours necessary for a Master of Divinity degree from a University Senate approved school.

****Note: You will not be eligible to receive a license for Pastoral Ministry simply by completing this course. All required steps must be completed. The License is awarded based upon the recommendation of the District Committee on Ministry to the Bishop and is granted upon appointment. If no appointment is available, you will be listed as "approved but not appointed"***

Costs

The cost is \$600 payable to *Susquehanna Conference of the United Methodist Church* (303 Mulberry Dr., Mechanicsburg, PA 17055-2053). Check for that amount must be mailed with the Registration Form. Books and resources given to you by the instructors are included in the registration fee. See: *online registration-page 5*)

Location

All classes are held at Christ Community UMC which is located on 3939 Park Rd, Hummels Wharf, Selinsgrove, PA 17870.

Students are invited to pack a lunch and healthy snacks for each class day. This saves time otherwise spent on leaving the site to find lunch. Class groups often form close bonds with each other and become learning communities, learning from each other. Most groups will also bring snacks to share together. Coffee, tea and pitchers of water are provided.

Attendance Policy: *Attendance at all class sessions is required.*

This is not negotiable. Each class session is densely packed with a great deal of information. Missing a class session or a day means you will have missed vital parts of the learning process. If you have made plans for vacation or to be out of class for a week or two, then you need not register. This is a requirement by the Conference Board of Ordained Ministry as well as the Division of Higher Education and Ministry of the United Methodist Church. If illness prevents you from attending on a given Saturday, then it will be an excused absence with a physician's note. However, it is up to the student to notify the instructor or instructors for makeup work.

Timely Completion of All Assigned Work

Readings and assignments must be completed prior to class sessions. If the student does not do the work ahead of time the rest of the class suffers and valuable teaching time is lost.

While no grades are given, pass/fail will be determined by the completion of assigned work by the instructors.

Online Registration Form:

http://scboom.org/files/dcom_resources/RegistrationforLicensingSchool-2014.pdf

Students From Neighboring Annual Conference

Students from neighboring Annual Conferences are welcome to attend. They must, however, be a certified candidate with the express and written permission of their District Committee on Ministry and their District Superintendent. Inquiries for enrollment can be made to the Dean of the School, Rev. John Dromazos at: jdromazos@susumc.org



Courses

As prescribed by the 2012 edition of the Discipline of the United Methodist Church, the courses are:

- Worship
- United Methodism 101
- Church Administration
- Preaching/Homiletics
- Christian Education and Discipleship
- Pastoral Care

Also: There will be time for meetings with the Local Pastor Registrar and District Superintendents, and for Boundaries Training.

Faculty

Rev. John J. Dromazos, 82 Rosemont Pl, Lewisburg, PA 17837, 717-377-6630, jdromazos@susumc.org or jjdromaz@yahoo.com

Rev. Dr. Robert Cook, 100 S. Church St. Waynesboro, PA 17268, 717-762-7042, rcook@susumc.org or kerygma5@yahoo.com

Rev. Donald Ciampa, 1784 Winterhaven Dr., Mechanicsburg PA, 17050, 717-766-9737, dciampa@susumc.org

Rev. Bonnie Ort, 3550 N. Progress Ave, Harrisburg, PA 17110, 717-545-3530, bort@susumc.org

Rev. Charles Kind 33328 Lake Shore Circle, Millsboro, Del 19966 ckind@susumc.org

Rev. Dr. Kathy Kind, 1381 Plank Rd., Suite 104, Duncansville, PA 16635, 814-693-9220, kkind@susumc.org

And guest lecturers from the Annual Conference

Course Information

CHURCH ADMINISTRATION: Leading a congregation in Vital Ministry

-Rev. Dr. Robert Cook

The pastor is a steward of the *mysteries of God* (I Corinthians 4:1). As such, the practice of Christian ministry requires the pastor to be versed in things both spiritual and practical in order to lead the congregation to effectively be the body of Christ in their community, to minister as the physical presence of Christ and to witness to the proclamation of Jesus for our world. This 10-hour course segment is an introduction to the theology and practice of Christian Ministry as expressed by our Wesleyan heritage and our shared covenant with Scripture and our United Methodist Discipline.

Participants will gain a basic familiarity with the organization of the United Methodist Church and how each local United Methodist Church is organized for ministry. They will learn how to draft a basic plan for ministry, how to think of ministry as a team, understanding *Connectionalism* in the United Methodist context, leading administrative and program committees to a missional way of being church and a variety of practical organizational points significant to the practice of ministry.

Participants will be provided with a 2012 copy of the Discipline of the United Methodist Church and a number of relevant handouts will be provided online by the instructor. Participants are encouraged to purchase Calvin Miller's, *"Letters to a Young Pastor"* (David C Cook 2011, ISBN: 0781405777). Each participant will draft a sample plan for organizing ministry in a local United Methodist Church. Grading will be based on preparation, participation and their plan for ministry.

About The Instructor: The Rev. Dr. Robert Cook has been in full time vocational Christian ministry since 1978. Bob has served a variety of churches from rural and suburban to small city, in both multi-point charges and single station churches. Bob has served on several committees in the Annual Conference and was registrar for Local Pastors and Associate Members from 2000-2008. Bob has served at Christ Church, Waynesboro, since 2004. He has been an instructor for the Licensing School since 2011. He is married to Shirley and they have a daughter, Kate who is married (Luis) and a grandson, Alejandro.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND DISCIPLESHIP

-Rev. Bonnie Ort

Christian Education is a means of facilitating spiritual growth and discipleship. We will explore teaching and learning in three segments:

- Learning—how people learn, how people know and experience God, how people express their faith, mentors and role models, environments for learning, spiritual disciplines.
- Teaching—a theology of discipleship, using resources effectively, planning a lesson, teaching the Bible, communicating our faith, keeping it real and relevant, telling our story.
- Making disciples for today and tomorrow—the path to discipleship, evaluating curriculum, small groups, confirmation for teens and adults, the pastor's Bible study, Sunday School, Vacation Bible School, blogs, websites and social media, internet resources, connecting learning and doing.

The textbook for this class is *Christian Education in the Small Membership Church*, by Karen B. Tye. It will provide the background for our discussion and sharing around the table.

About The Instructor: The Rev. Bonnie Ort is a graduate of York College and Lancaster Theological Seminary. Bonnie was certified as a Christian Educator through studies at Wesley Theological Seminary and has served as coordinator of Christian Education and small group ministries in larger church contexts. For the past 15 years, Bonnie has served as pastor in a cooperative parish, a multi-point charge, and now Paxton UMC in Harrisburg. Her service has provided her with considerable experience in making disciples in a wide variety of settings. Bonnie is married to Bill and both enjoy spending time with their Welsh Corgi, Trevor.

UNITED METHODISM 101

-Rev. Charles Kind

In this short seven hour course, we will explore what it means to be a United Methodist. Furthermore, we will discuss in depth, "What it means to be a United Methodist Pastor".

Texts for the course will include the following: The Book Of Discipline, Major United Methodist Beliefs by Max B. Stokes, The United Methodist Social Principles, Questions and Answers About The United Methodist Church, by Thomas S. McNally, two monographs from the Channing Bete Co. called The History of The United Methodist Church and About Being United Methodist. and copied Support Materials will be provided.

The class format is twenty percent lecture and the balance of the time spent in sharing and discussion of assigned reading materials. There will be two short written assignments.

About The Instructor: The Rev. Charles Kind enter ordained ministry as a second career. He is an experienced administrator and certified in Nursing Home administration. He is a graduate of Rockland Community College, Dickenson College, the University of North Texas and Wesley Theological Seminary. Charlie pastored 3 congregations in his active ministry. He has always loved Methodism and its history. Charlie is married to Nessie and the father of three children, including the Rev. Dr. Kathleen Kind.

WORSHIP: Leading Meaningful Worship in the 21st Century

-Rev. Dr. Kathleen Kind

This course will focus on the pastor's role in leading passionate and meaningful worship for today's Church. This will include best practices in preparing worship for Sunday mornings, funerals, weddings, and special services. We will also explore resources like the United Methodist Hymnal and Book of Worship. We will explore various styles of worship as we consider the variety of places where one might serve in the Susquehanna Conference.

About The Instructor: The Rev. Dr. Kathleen Kind is a graduate of Huntingdon College and Wesley Theological Seminary. Having served as a student pastor and then under appointment in two different Districts as a pastor, Kathy has led congregations through transition and change. She is currently serving as District Superintendent of the Altoona District.

HOMILETICS/PREACHING

-Rev. John J. Dromazos

Preaching is the art of communicating—communicating the Gospel. Our contemporary era has many forms of media and having the ability to communicate clearly and concisely in all formats is vital for communicating the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The basics of preaching and oral communication are the foundation for preaching in a service of worship. This is a hands-on experiential study which explores lectionary preaching with students writing and orally delivering their sermons before each other. Emphasis will be given to seeing preaching as a craft to be worked on for their entire years of ministry. Tools regarding writing and delivery will be given and discussed. The course text is: "From Pew to Pulpit" by Clifton Guthrie will be supplied to the class. This text provides the basics for good preaching based on Scripture and sound Theology.

About The Instructor: The Rev. John J. Dromazos graduated from the State University of New York at Fredonia and is a graduate of the Pittsburgh Theological seminary with a master's degree in divinity with honors in history and theology. John was ordained in 1967 and served a variety of churches. He has been the Dean of the Licensing School since 1996. John retired from Chambersburg First United Methodist Church in 2009 and leads a very active retirement. He is Pastor Emeritus at Beaver Memorial UM Church in Lewisburg where he is involved in teaching, preaching and leadership. John leads the Chi Rho singers, has served as the interim Chaplain at Bucknell University and is an experienced spiritual director. John is married to Barbara, is the father of 3 adult sons and seven grandchildren. And he is very fond of Lily—a 5-year old Maltese.

PASTORAL CARE

-Rev. Donald Ciampa

Pas-tor 1. A Christian minister or priest having spiritual charge over a congregation or other group, 2. A lay person having spiritual over a person or group, 3. A shepherd. **Pas-tor, pastored, pastoring.**

The purpose of this course is to equip persons, with limited experience and theological education, to serve a United Methodist parish in the area of Pastoral Care. It is intended to be very basic, short on theory and long on practice. The Method will be through a combination of Class and Field Work. The class work will include about 50% lecture and 50% discussion, (This varies according to the size of the class). The field work will include hospital (or institutional) visits and doing some interviews. Out-of-Class Work will not be extensive, but will include Bible study and developing some schedules and charts.

About The Instructor: The Rev. Donald J Ciampa was born in Rockwood Pennsylvania, the second of five sons and 3 daughters born to Donald N. and Dorothy Ciampa. His father and all four brothers were United Methodist Ministers. Donald is married to Joanne Harner of Fairborn, Ohio. They have a son and two daughters, six grandchildren and two great grandchildren. Pastor Ciampa was ordained in 1958 and served three churches, 17 years at Altoona Otterbein, 13 years at First United Methodist Church in Lewistown and 17 years at First United Methodist Church in Mechanicsburg. After retiring in 2004, he has served interims at Allison United Methodist Church in Carlisle, Community United Methodist Church in New Cumberland, Trinity United Methodist in New Kingstown, Shepherdstown United Methodist Church in Mechanicsburg, and Hope Eternal United Methodist Church in New Port. He has taught Local Pastor's School for forty years.



Boundaries Training

It is the policy of the Susquehanna Annual Conference that all appointed pastors must be certified every three years in boundaries training and in Safe Sanctuaries procedures. This will be offered during the course of the Licensing School.

Inclement Weather Plan

In the event of inclement weather, Rev. John Dromazos will make a decision regarding the class session by 10 pm on the Friday night before class. Please check your email or call Rev. John Dromazos at 717-377-6630

***Rev. Dromazos will be away on the weekend of February 1st. Rev. Dr. Bob Cook will be responsible for making the weather plan decision. You may reach him at kerygma5@yahoo.com or 717-372-8310**



Introducing Local Pastors at Annual Conference 2013

Options Following This Course

Upon successfully completing this course you will be given a certificate of completion by the Dean. An additional copy will be sent to the Office of the Bishop and to the members of the Cabinet. It is important to schedule a meeting with your District Superintendent to discuss future eligibility for appointment. You may want to discuss your eligibility for seminary or for the Course of Study for Local Pastors.

After completion you or the District Committee on Ministry may decide you should not be eligible for appointment, or, an appointment may not be available. We encourage you to be active in leadership in your local church. Your gifts and graces are certainly needed there.



2014 Class Schedule

	Jan 25	Feb 1	Feb 8	Feb 15	Feb 22	Mar 1	Mar 8	Mar 15	Mar 22	Mar 29
9:00a	Welcome	Christian Education	Worship	Preaching	Admin-istration	UM 101	Worship	Boundar-ies	D.S.	UM 101
10:00a	Preaching	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓
11:00a	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓
12:00p	↓	↓	↓	↓	<u>Lunch</u>	↓	↓	<u>Lunch</u>	<u>Lunch</u>	↓
1:00p	<u>Lunch</u>	<u>Lunch</u>	<u>Lunch</u>	<u>Lunch</u>	Admin-istration	<u>Lunch</u>	<u>Lunch</u>	Pastoral Care	Local Pastor Registrar Admin-istration	<u>Lunch</u>
2:00p	Worship	Pastoral Care	Pastoral Care	Christian Education	↓	Christian Education	Admin-istration	↓	↓	Preaching
3:00p	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓
4:00p	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	Closing
5:00p	Dismissal	Dismissal	Dismissal	Dismissal	Dismissal	Dismissal	Dismissal	Dismissal	Dismissal	Dismissal

An Orientation To 21st Century Ministry

The Transformational – Missional Pastor

John Monteleone has a modest guitar shop on Long Island. There he labors day by day with a variety of woods sawn from trees he has personally chosen. His workshop is fitted with the tools of his trade. Many of these tools are hand tools: saws, chisels, planes of many kinds and other tools that only he could name their function. Each tool fits his hand well for the work he does. He has been at his craft for over 40 years and there is probably no craftsman in the world quite like John Monteleone. He is considered to be a modern day Stradivarius of acoustic guitars.

John Monteleone does not build guitars solely for his own benefit and certainly does not mass produce them. They are built for a particular guitarist and their unique abilities. Monteleone is passionate for his craft for his clients. What he does allows them to express their gifts and art to their highest and best capability. It is his calling. His gifts allow others to play beautiful music.

God's calling upon your life has placed you into the beginning of process that will guide you to become a crafts-person of discipleship. Your calling asks you to develop the raw passion and the gifts you presently have into the highest expression of vocational Christian ministry, which is to lead people to meet Jesus Christ and to learn his ways and to know him personally so that the music of faithful discipleship is expressed through their lives and out into their communities. Jesus, like no other, can transform a human heart into an instrument of God's grace.

Our pastoral leaders must understand and practice a ministry that is *transformational*. A transformational pastor is a spiritual leader, called and qualified to train and equip followers of Jesus Christ for the mission of changing our world. A transformational pastor is also a *missional* pastor, who by example and life leads the people of God in worship and study so that the people will take the mission of Jesus out into their daily life. A missional church is one that continues the mission of Jesus out into its community, moving beyond its doors. Just as Jesus met the community where it was, so too, will our pastors and congregations be trained and set free to meet our neighbors where they live, work, play, go to school and shop.

A transformational-missional church differs from the traditional model of church in this manner: *it is a return to the apostolic way*. Traditional church uses a variety of methods to attract people to their particular congregation. This is an *attractional* model. The church seeks to attract, welcome and make faithful members of people who will support the congregation. In this style of ministry the formula is called "ABC" – or, attendance, buildings and cash, for that is the focus of the congregation's ministry. In this time of social dislocation, community alienation that often manifests itself in acts of violence the message of Jesus' shalom is needed more than ever.

The transformational-missional church takes the essential message of Jesus and invites people to a personal relationship with him. But the message does not end with the focus of personal salvation. The disciple of Jesus grows to know and model their life after Jesus and to live out

his teachings in ways that their life and the ministry of their church impact the community transformationally. The Church needs to be present to the community in a life-changing way.

Transformational congregations will experience vital worship, intentional discipleship, risk-taking mission and extravagant generosity. They will do more than offer welcoming hospitality, they will be invitational communities inviting people to know and experience the love of Jesus in a community that is willing, like Jesus, to get their hands dirty in the work of ministry.

It is not “business as usual” anymore for the church. It is not enough to organize a service, preach a sermon, visit the sick and shut-ins, and attend committee meetings. The old metrics of attendance, buildings and cash are no longer relevant. The transformational-missional pastor crafts the gifts of joy, generosity, wonder, compassion and fearless witness into the lives of their congregation. This dynamic flows out of the building and into the entire community. The poor find that the church cares. The hungry find food for their table. The homeless find a people who do not shun them but will help them. The youth find a safe place and the abused find hope and acceptance. Families find a spiritual home and everyone has opportunity to discover their own gifts and how to put them to work to multiply the ministry of Jesus. Our ministry is about following Jesus and continuing his work in our community. His song of grace is played through the instruments of our hearts and hands

John Monteleone did not become a master craftsman overnight; it has taken many years and he is still learning. Your ministry is just beginning. Learning the tools and how to use them well is what our licensing school is about. Our hope for you is that you become a pastor of excellence leading congregations into ministry that transforms their community. As you begin this next faithful step in your journey of vocational Christian ministry, be open to the leading of the Holy Spirit, be deliberate in learning the essential skills for ministry, be patient with yourself in the journey and walk as closely as possible with Jesus, who called and will make you fit for his service.

“He who began a good work you will be faithful to complete to the day of Christ.” (Phil 1:6)

Moving From the Traditional Model of Doing Church To The Transformational – Missional Form

Ezra Earl Jones former General Secretary of the United Methodist General Board of Discipleship offered a useful way of seeing and comparing the traditional Church model so that pastors and church leaders can begin to perceive more effective ways of leading our churches through this time of dramatic change.

For many of our church members and constituents, the model of church was a programmatic one. But churches also mirrored the culture by moving into consumerist ways of being the church. One attended worship services—the iconic meaning of church became attending a service. Essentially, one participated in prayers, hymns and giving, but listened passively to the sermon. Afterwards, they left the building and went back to their everyday life and work. Conversely, if one did not like their church, they left and found a new one, often saying something like, “I wasn’t fed there.”

In many communities, the church was the center of social life. Dinners, youth dances, denominational sports leagues, and mission society fundraisers dominated social calendars. There was no need to go out into the community to recruit members. The message for as long as anyone could recall was that people needed to go to church. It was, as many believed, the “right thing” to do. People of all ages came on their own. All that was asked of the new members was that they support the church with their "prayers, presence, gifts, and service." In our times, few believe they need to attend a church service and this has been seen in the dramatic downturn in church attendance. A recently study revealed that as many as 20% of Americans report no church affiliation of any kind nor the interest in such.

Dr. Jones outlined the unspoken membership covenant implicitly entered by those who joined churches in that era in this way:

- 1. You will make a decision for Christ, to join the church or to live by Christian values;**
- 2. The church will provide experiences of worship and programs for a variety of desires and needs;**
- 3. We will focus on building a strong, vital church (i.e. “program”)**
- 4. You will agree to support the church with your prayers, presence, gifts, and service;**
- 5. How you live your life is your decision. We'll try to influence how you take responsibility for your life but we can't take that responsibility for you.**

One has to ask: what does this have to do with the powerful preaching and teaching of Jesus? Jesus never proclaimed the gospel of church membership. He dared us with these words: **follow me**. He challenged to trust God and live into a radical life of love, peace-making, justice-creating and joyful discipleship.

Many long-time church members don't seem to get that Christian discipleship involves much more than church membership, worship attendance, participation in church socials, and fulfilling stewardship pledges. They don't get that the church, and dutiful membership in it, are not the ends but the means of developing a deeper relationship with God through Jesus Christ. You will experience that many are unwilling to delve into the actual teachings of Jesus and what it means to follow him. They tend to feel that in a world of change the old way of church has worked for them all along. This calls for great patience on the part of pastoral leaders and the willingness to develop along with current members and leaders effective ways to understand and appropriate the means to move into the transformational-missional path.

Not all church members are regular attendees or are committed disciples, but committed disciples tend to be active, vibrant church members. So, our pastoral task is to organize our churches to become communities of people, disciple to Jesus Christ, whose lives evidence a transformation from self-concern to the concerns of Jesus for our communities and our world. This is our mission.

Dr. Jones suggests that, in order to be faithful, the church needs to be redefined by introducing a new membership covenant. In this new paradigm, the church is a group of people who:

- ***Journey together;***
- ***Form a community;***
- ***Stay focused on Christ;***
- ***Practice the spiritual disciplines;***
- ***And are accountable to one another in their discipleship;***
- ***Work together to make a real and measureable difference in the well-being of their community;***
- ***Reach out beyond the community to the world.***

Dr. Jones' new paradigm is essentially a return to our Wesleyan roots because it is a contemporary restating of Wesley's method of Christian discipleship. Wesley's goal was to wake up the church and unchurched alike and move them from thinking "church services" to the life-changing blessing of true discipleship to Jesus and to actual spiritual growth where they lived out what it meant to love God and neighbor. Wesley's method was a forward path of "holiness of heart and life" through active participation in class meetings, worship attendance, regular observance of the sacraments and dynamic service in their community.

As you begin your journey into vocational Christian ministry you need to know it is not "business as usual." The Susquehanna Annual Conference is looking for pastors who understand the transformational-missional model of Wesleyan Christianity and will learn ways to help their churches to live into this model.

We want you to know that we are with you in this journey. We are a connective people who believe in supporting, encouraging, guiding and faithfully serving Jesus Christ with you. We believe that Jesus calls us to a future joyful witness, worship and service. May God guide us together on this journey of faith and renewal.

