



**RESPONSIBLE STEWARDSHIP NEWS
NOVEMBER 2021**



Reminder: Daylight savings time ends November 7

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November

Join us to discuss **STEWARDSHIP: PLEDGING YOUR COMMITMENTS WITH YOUR PRAYERS, PRESENCE, GIFTS, SERVICE AND WITNESS.**

Tuesday, November 9 at 11am.

REGISTER: <https://www.mtnskyumc.org/responsible-stewardship-webinars>

December

Interactive Roundtable: Year End Preparation and New Year Payroll Updates. Bring your questions!

Tuesday, December 14, 11am

REGISTER: <https://www.mtnskyumc.org/responsible-stewardship-webinars>



IMPORTANT REMINDER for Healthplan Participants:

Heathflex Open Enrollment runs from November 3 through November 18. In order to complete your annual health elections, you must be registered in Benefits Access hosted by Wespath.

Click here to access [Wespath](#).



Autumn, Annual Conference, and a new Nominations Report remind us of that simple childhood hand game – here's the church, here's the steeple, open the doors, and look at all the people! It is the people, all the people, of this conference that make us what we are – a group of believers living "in God's grace and abundance as we lead a re-energized peaceful and compassionate movement to claim the life-changing love of Jesus Christ for ALL people." So many in our Conference have served us, led us, worked with us and cared for us. We are deeply grateful to all of you for sharing your talents across our Conference. **Thank you for serving as Responsible Stewardship leaders. We will miss those of you whose terms are ending, we look forward to serving another year with those**

of you whose terms continue, and we welcome our new team members. The bounty of committing your prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness to Mountain Sky is reaped far beyond our Conference borders and is deeply appreciated.

Conference Statistician

We extend our special gratitude to Rev. Dr. C. Dennis Shaw, who has served as Conference Statistician for more that twelve years. His expertise, wisdom, and faithful dedication have been invaluable through our experiences of transition and growth. Dennis continues to serve on the Council on Finance and Administration.

We welcome Rev. Ann Lantz as our new Conference Statistician. Ann is currently appointed as Senior Pastor at Estes Park UMC. She is the third of four generations of Methodist clergy and is eager to serve our welcoming and affirming Conference in her new role.

Council on Finance and Administration

Thank you to out-going members: Akilah Bixler, Vira Brock and Philip Cardin

Welcome incoming members: Kevin Kidwell, Ann Lantz
2021-2022 CF&A

Bruce Berger (President), Anil Dewan, Barry Welliver, Dennis Shaw, Kristina Walker, KyeongSu Jung, Kevin Kidwell, Laura Rainwater, Patricia Otstot, Sharon Langfeldt, Ann Lantz, Sami Pack-Toner, Sherri Ferriman, Barry Welliver, Angela Thomas, Annie Arnoldy, Kristi Kinnison, Chris Carr

Conference Board of Trustees

Thank you to out-going members: Scott Schiesswohl, Jeremy Scott, Tonya Whaley

Welcome incoming members: Jeremiah Harris, Kelly Murdock-Billy, Janeen Hill

2021-2022 Board of Trustees

Nanci Bockelie (President), JR Casner, Greg Fisher, Neena Hagans, Jeremiah Harris, Mark Jackson, Ruth Ann Russell, Janeen Hill, Paul Smith, Al Strauss, Kelly Murdock-Billy, Angela Thomas, Rich Marsh, Jessica Rooks

Board of Pension & Health

Thank you to out-going members: Bill Benjamin, Joe O'Leary, Reuben Wilbur

Welcome incoming members: Steve Goodier, Susan States

2021-2022 Board of Pension & Health

Kimal James (Chair), Steve Goodier, Sarah Merchant, Greg Myers, Susan States, Sandy Towns, Phil Vogels, John Weibel, Angela Thomas, Jana Collins, Tezenlo Thong



Supporting the Connectional Church: A November Update on Year-End Statistics



Written by Reverend Doctor C. Dennis Shaw, Retired Elder in the Mountain Sky Conference and a member of the Council on Finance and Administration.

This is the third in a series of articles addressing elements of why and towards what end we are asked to support The United Methodist Church beyond the local church. To read the article, [click here.](#)



Financial Literacy Seminar

Conference Models for Improving [or Strengthening] Financial Literacy
Wespath's Clergy Financial Well-Being Initiative invites conference leaders to join us for an informative 60 minute seminar about models for improving clergy financial literacy. We will share examples of programs and strategies in the Western North Carolina Conference and other conferences building models to increase financial well-being. We look forward to sharing strategies and effective models for changing lives.

November 3, 2021 - 2:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada).

Register here: https://a18814.actonsoftware.com/acton/ct/18814/s-02c6-2110/Bct/l-02df/l-02df:11/ct1_0/1/lu?sid=TV2%3A01pLd9cYb

For more information about this initiative and clergy financial well-being resources, visit: <https://www.wespath.org/for-plan-sponsors/UMC-clergy-financial-well-being>

(A collaborative project led by Wespath Benefits and Investments, General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, Discipleship Ministries and National Association of United Methodist Foundations funded by a Lilly Endowment, Inc. grant through their Initiative to Address Economic Challenges Facing Pastoral Leaders.)



2022 Property and Liability Insurance Update

We have completed the task of offering churches the best options currently available for the renewal of the Multi-peril insurance policies. Thanks to all those involved for your cooperation and diligence through the process. The January 1, 2022 renewal policies for the Multi-peril and Auto have been issued.

Please note the following:

- If you made changes through the exception process, you will receive an endorsement amending the policy to reflect the changes you requested.
- If you have Opted-out of the program for the first time, the policy will be canceled.

- If you were approved to Opt-out last year and we received your request for this year, you will not receive a policy
- Multi-peril invoices will be sent in December with the 1st payment due January 1, 2022
- The umbrella and worker's compensation (if applicable) invoices will be mailed in December or January.
- Invoices will be sent from the Conference office in January for Cyber Liability, Directors and Officers Liability, and Employment Practices Liability (EPL).
- If, for any reason, you do not intend to be included in the conference insurance program and have not submitted an exception or an Opt-out request, please contact us immediately. It is important that we know the status of insurance for all churches.

Contacts for questions: Pamela Keeser |Church Mutual Insurance Company
| 303-805-3749 Direct | pkeeser@churchmutual.com

Dedicated Church Mutual Customer Service Agents | 1-800-554-2642,
Option 4, Claire Zimmerman, MountainSkySupport@churchmutual.com
Deirdre McGee | Property Casualty Insurance Coordinator | Mountain Sky
Conference | 303-389-9464 | dmcgee@mtnskyumc.org.
Please review your policies and contact us with any questions.





Would you like to learn more about Mission & Ministry within the Mountain Sky Conference? You are invited to post Conference "meet-ups." Think of these as open houses where you can ask questions, learn how to become involved, and meet the people who are helping to shape ministry and mission throughout the Conference. Abundant Health, Circuits, Creation Justice, Disability Committee, Disaster Response & UVMIM, East Angola Advocacy, GBGM & Western Jurisdiction Mission Advocates, Racial Justice Movement and Ministries Taskforce, and Youth Missions are looking forward to connecting with you. [Please register for these November meetings here.](#)



GCFA: Understand Electronic Giving: A Tool For Your Church

[Click Here](#)

GCFA: Overview of US Copyright Laws: Infringement: Did you know?

[Click Here](#)



Mountain Sky Conference:

<https://www.mtnskyumc.org/responsiblestewardship>

Mountain Sky Conference Ministry Financials: <http://umcdata.net/sky>

UMC General Council on Finance & Administration/group ruling:

<https://www.gcfa.org/services/legal-services/group-ruling/>

Church Mutual Insurance: <https://www.churchmutual.com/>

Wespath Benefits / Investments: <http://www.wespath.org>

Discipleship Ministries: <https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/equipping-leaders/stewardship>



Responsible Stewardship Team

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Please share this email with your Finance and Administration teams.

The Conference office will be closed Wednesday-Friday, November 24-26.

The Responsible Stewardship Team is thankful for all our colleagues in the Mountain Sky Conference.

We hope you all have a great Thanksgiving!