

*Serving in Western Pennsylvania and Northern Maryland*

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March 16, 2018

## OFFICIAL CALL TO THE 56<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEETING Lay Delegate, Youth Delegate, and Visitor Packet

**“Putting on Our Love Shoes”** is the theme of our 2018 Penn West Conference Annual Gathering & Meeting. We are meeting on **Friday, June 8, and Saturday, June 9, at California University of Pennsylvania** in California PA. This mailing serves as the *Official Call* to the meeting and contains information to be shared with those attending from your congregation.

Please remember that according to Article VII, paragraph 4, in our By-Laws:

*4. When the Conference meets, its voting membership shall consist of the ordained, commissioned and licensed ministers holding standing in its Associations, and of lay delegates selected by and representing the member churches. A church of not more than 200 communicant members, (members in full standing) shall be entitled to be represented by two lay delegates and a youth delegate; a church of 201-500 such members, by three lay delegates and a youth delegate; a church of more than 501 such members, by four lay delegates and a youth delegate. Youth delegates are those under the age of 19. ...Visitors are welcome with the privilege of voice but without vote. The members of the Board of Directors shall be voting members ex-officio.*

This packet includes a Registration Form for each lay and youth delegate (pastors are sent their own packet). There is also an extra Registration Form that can be copied for visitors. **Be sure to return all registration forms to 312 S. Maple Ave., Suite PWC, Greensburg PA 15601.** Please also look for online registration at [www.pennwest.org](http://www.pennwest.org). Reports and other materials should be posted on [www.pennwest.org](http://www.pennwest.org) by May 25.

In addition, please make copies of the materials listed below and distribute them to your delegates and visitors.

- Things to Know about the Annual Gathering & Meeting
- A Tentative Schedule
- Information on our Mission Project: “The LeMoyne Center (via RYE)”
- Directions and Map
- The Following Youth Forms: Medical Form, Covenant/Parental Release Form, Photographic/Media Consent Form, and Waiver of Liability Form

A lot of creative planning has gone into the preparation for the Conference Annual Meeting. We rejoice to have many presenters and honored guests, and our keynote presenter is the Rev. De Neice Welch, Pastor of Bidwell Street Presbyterian Church in Pittsburgh. Come ready to share in the hospitality, enjoy the gifts of others, learn ways to strengthen your local church, and celebrate the ways in which the Penn West Conference moves together into the future. I look forward to seeing you there.

Blessings!

David J. Ackerman

Penn West Conference  
United Church of Christ  
56<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting  
Friday June 8, and Saturday June 9, 2018

**Registration Form:**  
**You must fill out one for each person attending**

<b>Name:</b>	<b>Church:</b>	
<b>Address:</b>	<b>City:</b>	<b>Zip:</b>
<b>Telephone</b>	<b>E-mail:</b>	

Please ☒ all that apply:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> PWC Ordained/Licensed/Commissioned | <input type="checkbox"/> PWC Delegate          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> PWC Board Member                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Church Youth Delegate |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Visitor                            | <input type="checkbox"/> Youth Visitor         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Male                               | <input type="checkbox"/> Female                |

Please ☒ all that apply:

	Cost	Total
<b>RESIDENT ATTENDEES ONLY:</b>		
<b><i>Includes: Room, 4 Meals, &amp; Program Fee</i></b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> Single Room (limited availability)	\$ 165.00	
<input type="checkbox"/> Double Room (Roommate):	135.00	
<input type="checkbox"/> Thurs night after anti-racism training	55.00	

<b>YOUTH ATTENDEES ONLY:</b>		
<b><i>Includes: Room, 4 Meals, &amp; Program Fee</i></b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> Youth Double Room	75.00	\$ 75.00
Preferred roommate:		
<b>All youth must list name of chaperone who will also be in attendance:</b>		

<b>COMMUTING ATTENDEES ONLY:</b>		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Program Fee ( <i>All Commuters must pay</i> )	\$ 40.00	\$ 40.00
<i>You will purchase meals a la carte.</i>		

**\*Late fee of \$ 20.00 if not registered by May 31, 2018**

**Do you have mobility issues that will require assistance?** \_\_\_\_\_

Payment and registrations are due by **May 31, 2018**  
No refunds after May 31, 2018  
Please make checks payable to:  
**Penn West Conference**  
**312 S. Maple Ave, Suite PWC**  
**Greensburg, PA 15601**

Total Paid \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_ Cash  
**Paid by:**  
\_\_\_ Personal # \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_ Church # \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_ Date Recvd \_\_\_\_\_



**Tentative Abbreviated Schedule**  
**Annual Gathering & Meeting, 2018**  
**"The Penn West Conference: Engaging in Covenantal Relationships;**  
**Sharing God's Love with All"**  
**"Putting On Our Love Shoes"**

**Friday, June 8**

10:00	Registration opens
10:30-11:30	Lemington Gospel Chorale Concert
11:30-1:00	Lunch
1:00-2:00	Opening Worship
2:00-2:45	Business Session One
2:45-3:00	Break: Move to designated tables
3:00-3:15	Dwelling in the Word One
3:15-4:15	Session One: The Rev. De Neice Welch
4:15-4:30	Travel to Workshop One
4:30-5:15	Workshop One
5:15-6:30	Dinner
6:30-6:45	Evening Prayer: Donna Jarrell
6:45-8:00	Evening Celebration
8:00-9:00	After-Hours Programs
9:00-11:00	Youth Program: Lights out at 11:00 PM

**Saturday, June 9**

7:00-8:30	Breakfast
8:30-8:45	Necrology Service: Judith Tobias
8:45-9:30	Business Session Two
9:30-9:45	Dwelling in the Word Two
9:45-10:45	Session Two: The Rev. De Neice Welch
10:45-11:00	Travel to Workshop Two
11:00-11:45	Workshop Two
11:45-1:15	Lunch
1:15-1:30	Dwelling in the Word Three
1:30-2:30	Session Three: The Rev. De Neice Welch
2:30-3:30	Closing Worship with Holy Communion and Installation of new PWC Officers

## **THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT THE PENN WEST CONFERENCE ANNUAL GATHERING AND MEETING**

**Arrival and Welcome** – Directions to California University and a campus map are included in this mailing. Overnight accommodations are in the Johnson Hall dormitory. We will have bright-vested volunteers available for help with moving in and registering. As you enter the campus, your first stop should be to temporarily park in the front of the Convocation Center to register. (If, for some reason, you need to spend more time here, you should utilize parking lot #11, near Gallagher Hall). Your second stop should then be to travel down Third Street and temporarily park by Johnson Hall to unload your vehicle (commuters, of course, may skip this step). Then you should proceed up Hickory Street and park in lot #17. If lot #17 becomes full, you may get a pass to park in lot #19. The dining hall is “Goldrush” in the Eberly Student Center. There is a 4-5 minute walk between the Convocation Center and Johnson Hall, and the dining hall is roughly in between these buildings. If you have mobility issues, golf carts are available to transport you. Be sure to let our volunteers know and they will be happy to assist you.

**Bath Towels & Pillows** – These are provided, but if you wish, you may bring your own.

**Bookstore** – We will again have our bookstore that will include a variety of United Church of Christ items. Credit cards, cash, and checks will be accepted. We are no longer able to invoice churches for payment.

**Conference Choir** – Everyone is welcome to sing in the choir for the Closing Worship on Saturday. Rehearsal times are announced in the schedule.

**Dress** – Dress is casual. Please bring an umbrella in case it rains!

**Offerings** – Our offering for our opening worship service on Friday afternoon will be directed toward the LeMoyne Center in Washington PA, via our Regional Youth Event efforts. The offering for our closing worship will be directed toward the fund to support the educational efforts (for children & pastors) in the Northwest Luzon Conference of the United Church of Christ in the Philippines (the SHEEP fund). We would like our churches to receive offerings for these in advance so that these gifts are received not simply from the delegates who attend but from our churches themselves. We are also hoping that our youth will receive a “noisy offering” for the offering at our opening worship. We are hoping to receive our offerings in shoes or boots!

**Prayer Chapel** – We are planning to have a Prayer Chapel available in a room near the plenary space in the Convocation Center. Thank you to Betty Royer for hosting this. You are welcome to visit this space if you wish to find a quiet environment for prayer and meditation.

## **Main Campus**

***250 University Ave. California, PA 15419***

### **From the East (Harrisburg, Philadelphia)**

Pennsylvania Turnpike to New Stanton Exit 75, Interstate 70 West to Exit 37A (Toll Road 43)

### **From the Northeast (Scranton)**

Interstate 81 South to Pennsylvania Turnpike, Pennsylvania Turnpike West to New Stanton Exit 75, Interstate 70 West to Exit 37A (Toll Road 43)

### **From the North (Erie, Pittsburgh)**

Interstate 79 South to Interstate 70 Exit, Interstate 70 East to Exit 37A (Toll Road 43)

### **From the Southeast (Baltimore, Md., Washington, D.C.)**

Interstate 70 West to Pennsylvania Turnpike, Pennsylvania Turnpike West to New Stanton Exit 75, Interstate 70 West to Exit 37A (Toll Road 43)

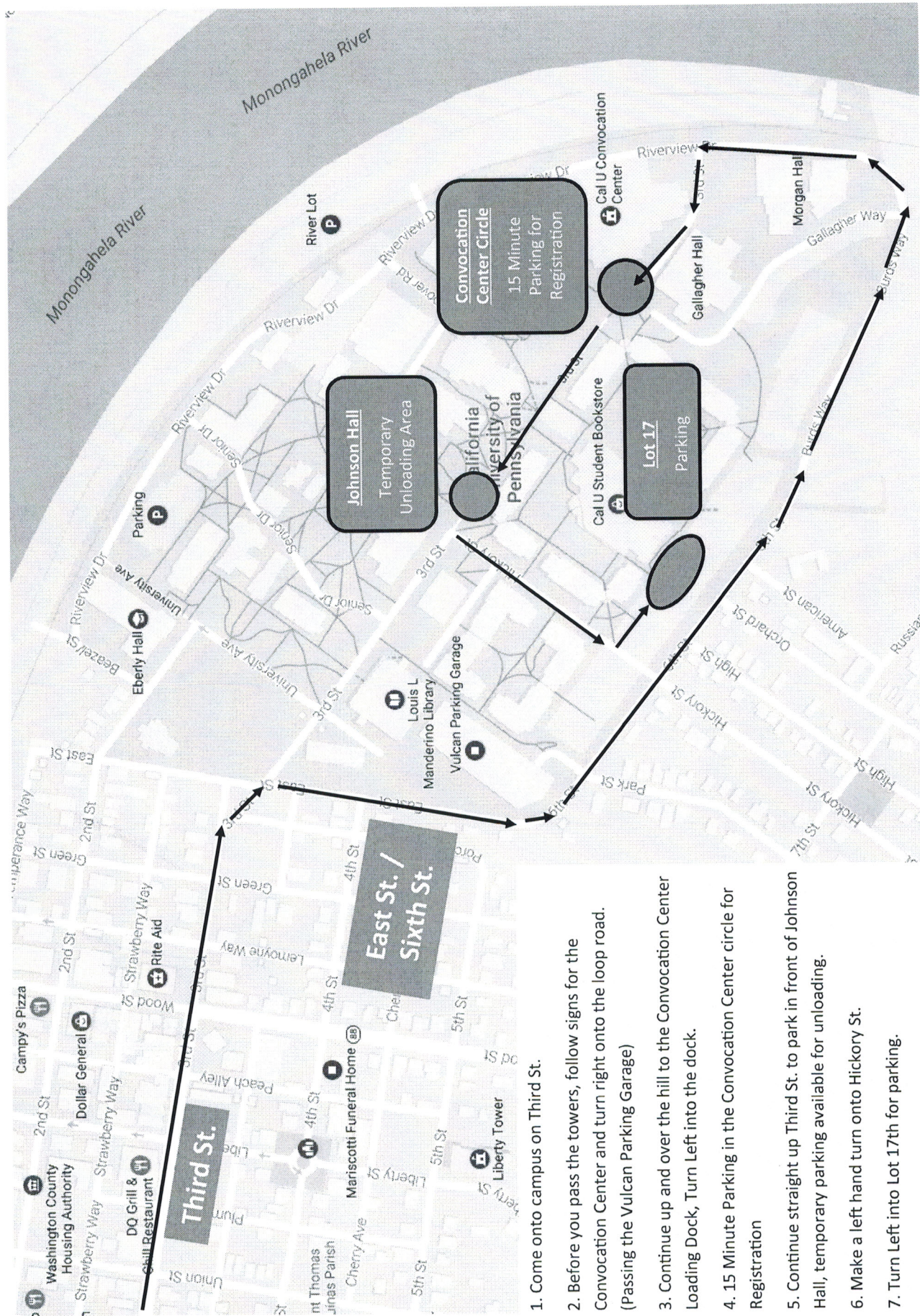
### **From the West, Southwest (Ohio, West Virginia)**

Interstate 70 East to Exit 37A (Toll Road 43)

### **From Toll Road 43**

Take the California Exit (bear right at end of exit). Stay straight toward Wood Street. Follow Wood Street down to intersection at Third Street (at stoplight). At stoplight, turn right onto Third Street and follow straight onto campus.







# Regional Youth Event Supplies Needed!

We are honored and excited to be host conference on the upcoming 2018 Regional Youth Event on July 19-22! As the host conference, our main responsibility is logistics and hospitality. An area that we are currently coordinating is a "comfort room". This area will be staffed during the hours of the event by volunteers that are able to evaluate the need for a trip to the infirmary due to illness or injury, care for those who do not need to go to the infirmary and provide a comfortable place for attendees that may just need a break. In addition to volunteer staff, we are also in need some supplies to stock the room properly. Following the event, all unused items will be donated to Camp Living Waters! We thank you in advance for your generosity!

**Supply donations will be accepted at our upcoming Annual Gathering and Meeting!**



Bottled Water  
Small bottles of Gatorade  
Disposable Ice Packs  
Various Sizes of Band-Aids  
Disposable Cups  
Aloe Vera (Sunburn Relief)  
Sun Block (50+ )  
Sanitary Supplies for Girls

If you would like to volunteer to help staff the comfort room, please contact Bonnie Kautz, Comfort Room Coordinator, at 724-478-4576 or [bm kautz@me.com](mailto:bm kautz@me.com).

**Any time that you can give will be greatly appreciated.**

#### **Volunteer Requirements:**

- ~ Must be comfortable working with youth (teen-agers),
- ~ Must be able to tolerate the sight of blood
- ~ Must be able to tolerate observing persons vomiting
- ~ Have some knowledge of first aid
- ~ Must submit all clearances to the conference office prior to event.

#### **Volunteers would be expected to:**

- ~ Maintain order and quiet
- ~ Help keep the area clean
- ~ Help calm any youth that have some anxiety issues
- ~ Help with maintaining a record of youth treated (illness/injury, and treatment)
- ~ Help with first aid as requested

**Thank you for your generosity and support of the Regional Youth Event!**

## Mission Projects/Offerings 2018



### The Eastern Regional Youth Events Supports the LeMoyne Community Center in Washington PA

The **LeMoyne Community Center** in Washington, PA (about 30 minutes from the CALU campus) has a very rich history dating back to the 1800s when successful carriage maker, Robert Forrest, opened his home to feed and care for the poor in the area. Upon his death, he left his property to the African American community. This Christ-like love of neighbor, love of children, and good stewardship of the little piece of creation in his care has continued throughout the property's history as this home and property was eventually transformed into a center that fed, educated, and supported the needs of this under served community. Today the property has a community garden and playground, a head start program, a feeding program (at the center and mobile), and several programs that serve neighbors of various ages and needs.

The Penn West Conference of the United Church of Christ is so grateful for the opportunity to work with this dynamic center. The youth from this year's Eastern Regional Youth Event will be working with the Center on various mission opportunities such as working in the garden and on the grounds, preparing and serving meals, and teaching youth at the various feeding sites. Our youth will all have an opportunity to put their faith into action and participate in and witness the three great loves that are woven into the fabric of the LeMoyne Community Center—love of neighbor, love of children, and love of creation.

For more details about the Center, please visit <http://lemoynecommunitycenter.org/>.

The mission offering at our *Opening Worship Service* will go towards our Eastern Regional Youth Event's efforts to support the LeMoyne Center.



### SHEEP Fund

The offering at our *Closing Worship Service* on Saturday will go to support the **SHEEP Fund**. This fund goes toward Sustaining Hope for Educational Expenses in the Philippines. We are proud to support our partners in the Northwest Luzon Conference of the United Church of Christ in the Philippines as we help to provide funds for educational expenses for children as well as for candidates for professional ministry. Thank you for supporting the SHEEP Fund of our Conference!