

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
KANSAS AREA

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*Serving the Kansas East and
Kansas West Conferences*

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July 12, 2010

To: Lay members of the Kansas East and West Annual Conferences
Clergy members of the Kansas East and West Annual Conferences

Dear Friends,

As you heard in the presentation at Annual Conference, the Nebraska-Kansas Area Transition Team is working very hard at discerning how best to form the new episcopal area which will be created September 1, 2012. We are asking the big adaptive questions first before proceeding to the more technical questions (like where is the episcopal office going to be located and what is the name of the new area). We continue to ask for feedback on the following questions:

- What is the missional purpose of the annual conferences?
- How do we best develop lay and clergy leaders for these three conferences?
- Considering answers to the previous questions, what factors should we all think about with regard to the configuration of conferences in this new episcopal area?

We think there should be much more conversation about these and other matters related to the transition. Hence we are holding listening events in each district of all three conferences. You (and any other interested persons) are invited to attend and participate. While the one in your district would be most appropriate, you may find that another listening time and place is more convenient. You are welcome to attend any one and even more than one if you wish. The format and content will be the same for all eleven in Kansas. I will be attending each one along with the host District Superintendent. Members of the transition team will be attending as many as their schedules allow.

You do not need to make an advance reservation—just come and join the conversation about the future of United Methodist witness in these two states. Listed below are the dates within the two Kansas Conferences. I hope to see you there.

July 24	3:30-5:30pm	Manhattan First UMC – Flint Hills District
August 7	3:00-5:00pm	Newton Trinity Heights UMC – Hutchinson District
August 8	1:30-3:30pm	Concordia Trinity UMC – Salina District
August 10	6:30-8:30pm	Mt. Vernon UMC – Wichita East District
August 28	10am-12 noon	Topeka Countryside UMC – Topeka District
	3:00-5:00pm	Parsons Wesley UMC – Parsons District
September 11	10am-12 noon	Dodge City First UMC – Dodge City District
	3:00-5:00pm	Russell Trinity UMC – Hays District
September 18	10am-12noon	Shawnee UMC – Kansas City District
	2:00-4:00pm	Ottawa First UMC – Five Rivers District
September 23	6:30-8:30pm	Goddard UMC – Wichita West District

Grace and peace,

Scott J. Jones