



As the holiday season approaches, the Mountain Sky Conference's Ministry in a Time of COVID Management Task Force just released new guidelines to help local churches maintain safety while worshipping and gathering. Please refer to the (Re) Launch Church 2.0 addendum on the [Conference website](#) and email the team at covid19taskforce@mtnskyumc.org. To further help pastors with worship planning, the Cabinet is continuing to offer pre-recorded videos for the Sunday before or after Thanksgiving and for the Sunday after Christmas. If you have any questions about the videos, please email communications@mtnskyumc.org.

Charmaine Robledo, Director of Communications

Cabinet-produced Thanksgiving service now available!



The Mountain Sky Conference Cabinet offers a special worship service for local churches to use this Thanksgiving holiday. We hope you can use this worship service

this Sunday, Nov. 22 or the Sunday after Thanksgiving, Nov. 29. The full video, order of worship and individual clips are available for download from a public [shared Google Drive](#). You can also go to the [Videos page online](#).

Responsible Stewardship updates:

General and Jurisdictional Apportionments: What do you do when you find a mistake?



*Written by Pat Otstot, First UMC, Billings, MT
Member, Council on Finance and Administration*

The Conference Council on Finance and Administration is taking the steps to correct a mistake. Over the past year, we have tried a new system to manage Mission Shares and General Church Apportionments. Because of General Conference 2019, we changed our method of collecting funds for the conference and general church to a two-part system, Mission Shares for the local conference of 10 percent, and Apportionments for the General Church of about 3 percent on average.

After much analysis, including the complexity of the new system, the misunderstanding of the new system, and the pandemic, we have determined there is a huge shortfall in the amounts we have collected for the General Church Apportionments. [Read more](#)

Next Responsible Stewardship webinar Dec. 8 to focus on clergy payroll

Join the Responsible Stewardship monthly webinar every second Tuesday of the month from 11 a.m. to noon MST. **The Dec. 8 webinar will cover Clergy Payroll: Administration and Processing Basics.** Register for the monthly webinars by clicking the button below. A Zoom link will be provided to registrants.

REGISTER

For the full webinar schedule and to view past recordings, go to the [Responsible Stewardship page online](#)

Honoring Transgender Day of Remembrance on Nov. 20



Responsible Stewardship

Dec. 8, 2020 from 11:00 a.m. - 12 p.m

Clergy Payroll: Administration & Processing Basics

"The Mountain Sky Conference will live 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."

MOUNTAIN SKY CONFERENCE



*Submitted by Courtney VonLindern
Designer for NextGen & Inclusiveness Ministries
Mountain Sky Conference*

Nov. 20 is often acknowledged as Transgender Day of Remembrance (TDOR) within the transgender and broader LGBTQ+ community. It is a day to acknowledge the violence many transgender people face in our world, especially transgender women and femmes of color. It's also a chance to call allies into action as we come together to fight against the dehumanization of and violence toward our transgender siblings.

[Read more](#)

Planning for a more inclusive church



By Heather Hahn

Nov. 17, 2020 | UM News

The United Methodist Church stands to lose more members and churches because of the issue of race than debate over LGBTQ inclusion, said Bishop LaTrelle Easterling.

Nevertheless, she said, United Methodists should not back down from the denomination's commitment to dismantle racism.

"We don't have time to wait," the Baltimore-Washington Conference bishop said.

"People can't breathe."

Easterling was among 18 United Methodist leaders who spoke with urgency about the issues confronting the church during the fourth annual Inclusiveness Conference, organized by the United Methodist Association of Retired Clergy. [Read more on UMNews.org](https://umnews.org)

Global Solidarity, Shared Responsibility: World AIDS Day 2020 worship

Each year, the world community commemorates World AIDS Day on December 1. This day is a valuable time to remember those who have died from HIV or AIDS. It is also an opportunity to share pertinent information about HIV.

On Tuesday, December 1, 2020, The United Methodist Global AIDS Committee (UMGAC) will sponsor an online worship service. "Global Solidarity, Shared

Responsibility" is the theme for the service, [which will be available for viewing on this page.](#)



Additional updates

- Register for November Vital Conversations:** The next Vital Conversations Zoom will be at **11:30 a.m. MST on Wednesday, Nov. 25** and the topic will be on church websites. Register for the November Vital Conversations by clicking the button below. A Zoom link will be provided to all registrants. [See the full schedule on the event listing online.](#) For more information, please email vitality@mtnskyumc.org.

REGISTER

- Join Mountain Sky Ministry Crossroads:** Last week, the Mountain Sky Conference launched a new website called Mountain Sky Ministry Crossroads. It is a platform to find resources for ministry and network with others for ministry support and innovation. [Learn more and join today!](#)
- November is Native American Heritage Month:** November is National Native American Heritage Month, also known as American Indian and Alaska Native Heritage Month. This is another opportunity for us to engage in learning about the history and lived experiences of our Native siblings. [Learn about the land you are residing on](#) | [Give to the Mountain Sky Conference Native American Ministries Fund](#)
- Follow the Mountain Sky Pilgrimage to the Land of Love:** The Mountain Sky Conference's Pilgrimage to the Land of Love is in its final week! You can follow along by accessing the archived daily reminders from previous weeks on the [Pilgrimage website](#). Did you find a daily email thought-provoking or inspirational? Get into the conversation on social media using the hashtag **#MSCPilgrimage** and **#mtnskyumc**. More information about the Pilgrimage to the Land of Love is at www.mtnskyumc.org/pilgrimage.
- UPDATED! Mountain Sky holiday office closures:** The Mountain Sky Conference offices will be closed on the following dates for the upcoming holiday season:
 - Thanksgiving: Thursday, Nov. 26 and Friday, Nov. 27

- Christmas and New Year's Day: Wednesday, Dec. 23 to Friday, Jan. 1

Prayer Requests

Prayers are requested for the Rev. Tracy Hausman, whose father recently passed away. Hausman currently serves Park City United Methodist Church, Park City, UT. Condolences and expressions of care may be sent to Park City UMC, 4501 Highway 224, Park City, UT 84098.



Prayers are requested for the nephew of Colleen and Jeff Wakeley: Scott King, his wife Amanda, and their three children. They all tested positive for COVID. Colleen serves as the administrator for the Montana District. Expressions of care can be sent to montana@mtnskyumc.org.

An updated prayer list with details can be found on the [Prayer Requests page](#) online.

Appointments/Assignments

Go to the [Appointments/Assignments page](#) online to see an updated list of appointments and assignments. A list of [current church openings](#) for the Mountain Sky Conference is online.

What's Happening?

- [Coping with Heartache During Covid and the Holidays - Nov. 19](#)
- [Responsible Stewardship Monthly Webinar: Clergy Payroll - Dec. 8](#)

Learn more about these and other activities on the [Conference Calendar](#).

Classifieds

- Director of Communications - Arvada UMC, Arvada, CO
- Community Curator - Lakewood UMC, Lakewood, CO
- Director of Pastoral Care - Frasier Meadows, Boulder, CO

Go to the [Classifieds page](#) online for new job postings, items for sale, and items for free. Visit the [Conference Employment Opportunities](#) page for job postings at our conference offices. Also, submit a classified ad online!

Communications Guidelines

The Conference Communications Office strives to inform and connect clergy and laity to the missions, ministries, news, and events of the Mountain Sky Conference of The

United Methodist Church. We welcome the submission of news and requests (job openings, ministry materials) that benefit the local church and serve the mission of our larger connection. Go to the [Communications Guidelines page](#) online for more information on how to submit items and to get media resources for your communications needs.

Subscriptions

You are receiving this email because you subscribed to the Mountain Sky Conference communications list. This list includes the weekly Mountain Sky Conference News delivered on Tuesdays, Bishop Oliveto's letters and blogs, a bi-weekly Thursday newsletter from Superintendents Annie Arnoldy and Jeff Rainwater and urgent news as needed. **Clergy are required to receive these newsletters.** Go to www.mtnskyumc.org/subscribe to sign up for the communications list or to check your subscription status.

Newsletter Archive

Bookmark this [Newsletter Archive link](#) for past email communications from the Conference.

We welcome your feedback! Email communications@mtnskyumc.org with newsletter questions, website issues, or general inquiries.

Follow us on social media:



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