

Thanks for being so in tune with the Mountain Sky Conference! The growth of our fellowship is astounding. Today, nearly 700 people signed up for the **Pilgrimage to the Land of Love**, a pledge to work independently, as congregations, and as an institution for racial justice. This week, we are excited to announce a **new Mission Engagement newsletter** which will be released on Monday, Sept. 21. The Mountain Sky Conference's Missions Team has been working overtime over the last few months toward COVID-19 relief and other disaster response efforts such as wildfires. Make sure you [subscribe](#)!

Diana Agra, Media and Communications Specialist

Mountain Sky Mission Engagement newsletter to be released Monday, Sept. 21!



Soon Mountain Sky Conference will be restarting a monthly newsletter solely focused mission engagement. The Mission Engagement newsletter will focus on a new mission topic each month. **In September, we will focus on Disaster Response** and will include local, regional, and global mission stories. Subscribe now to receive this newsletter! You can [subscribe here!](#)



Follow the Mountain Sky Pilgrimage to the Land of Love



Thank you to all of you who have signed up to join the Mountain Sky [Pilgrimage to the Land of Love](#). We now have nearly 700 who have made their pledge! You can still follow along by accessing the [archived emails](#) from the first week and also getting into the conversation on social media using the hashtag **#MSCPilgrimage**. More information about the Pilgrimage to the Land of Love is at www.mtnskyumc.org/pilgrimage.

Leadership and Vitality announcements

Supporting youth ministry the topic for Sept. 16 Vital Conversations



Please join Superintendent Jeff Rainwater this week on Sept. 16 at 11:30 a.m. when he and guests Chris Wilterdink and Amanda Daniell will discuss supporting youth ministry. Chris Wilterdink is the Director of Young People's Ministries, Discipleship Ministries of The United Methodist Church. He believes that ministry with and among young people is life-giving for individuals and transformational for the church.

Leaders who facilitate spiritual maturation bless the church of the present and of the future.

Amanda Daniell is the Coordinator of Young People's Ministries and Camping Ministry for the Mountain Sky Conference. Amanda brings an extensive experience of young people's ministries as well as camping ministry from her previous home state of Texas and now the Mountain Sky Conference. She currently resides in Riverton, WY.



REGISTER

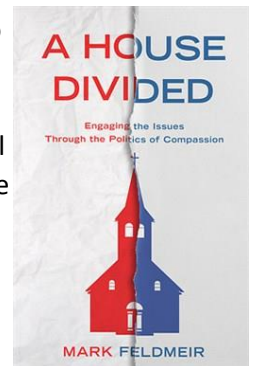
'A House Divided: The Politics of Compassion' the topic for Sept. 23 Vital Conversations

Please join Superintendent Annie Arnoldy on Wednesday, September 23 at 11:30 a.m. as she welcomes Rev. Mark Feldmeir to discuss how, as people of faith, we are called to practice a politics of compassion in our broken world.

If you've grown weary of the hyper-partisanship that plagues and paralyzes our national debate; if you're exhausted by the "outrage industrial complex" that vilifies those on the other side of the political aisle; if you're exasperated by our current culture of partisan divisiveness that turns friends and family members into enemies and makes political progress impossible--there is a more hopeful, generous, and faithful alternative. [Read more](#) about this event and **register for these Vital Conversations below!**

Please note: Vital Conversations will now be held weekly, starting Sept. 16. For the full schedule and to see past topics and videos of Vital Conversations, please go to the [event listing online](#).

REGISTER



Music Copyright Workshop with Dave Merkel on Sept. 16



Do you have questions about music copyright for your online and in-person worship services? Wondering what license you need and what coverage that license gives you?

Dave Merkel, our conference's worship developer and coordinator of AnywhereChurch.org, is leading an online workshop on **Wednesday, Sept. 16, 6:30 to 8 p.m. MDT**, to answer your questions and help you navigate the complexities of music copyright including respecting creators' property, use of music on social

media, and more. Please register online to receive a Zoom link for the event.

REGISTER

Vitality Grants applications window open through September

As we mentioned several weeks ago, the window for Vitality Innovation Grants (up to \$5,000) is now open until the end of September. Look over the description online at www.mtnskyumc.org/vitalcongregationsresources and apply if you have a "ministry experiment" or "entrepreneurial endeavor" you want to try!

APPLY

Save the date: HealthFlex Exchange Training Webinar on Sept. 29



Wespath will host a HealthFlex Exchange webinar training **Sept. 29 at 1 p.m.-2:30 p.m MDT** that covers how HealthFlex Exchange is structured as MSC will be transitioning to this new format effective January 1, 2021.

HealthFlex Exchange helps the UMC provide affordable health benefits. If you are currently on HealthFlex please mark your calendars to attend this critical training. You can [register here](#) and use the Webinar ID: 954-269-475.

REGISTER

There are numerous health benefits resources currently available on the Conference website: www.mtnskyumc.org/healthwellness

Mountain Sky Conference seeks 10 young adults to send to Strengthening the Black Church Conference



The Mountain Sky Conference is seeking to create a team of 10 young adults (ages 18-35) to attend the [Transformational Virtual College Tour](#). We will be giving priority to Black, Indigenous, and other People of Color to attend the event as a way to help elevate the event's vision to "Intentionally increase an ecosystem of support for African Americans and racially diverse young adults to consider answering a call to ordained ministry."

The United Methodist Church initiative Strengthening the Black Church for the 21st Century (SBC21) and the National Network of Young Adults (NNYA) recently announced the Transformational Virtual College Tour as a part of their Learning In Transformation (LIT) Conference!

We are looking to attend the Sept. 24 and 25 events as a team. If you are interested, please contact Courtney VonLindern at nextgen@mtnskyumc.org for more information and read more about the [event online](#).

Additional updates:

- **September 15 - Oct. 15 is National Hispanic Heritage Month** - National Hispanic Heritage Month traditionally honors the cultures and contributions of both Hispanic and Latino Americans as we celebrate heritage rooted in all Latin American countries. Here in the Mountain Sky Conference, we are grateful for the dedication of our Hispanic/Latino pastors, laity, and their ministries. Over the next few weeks, we will be sharing information about Hispanic/Latino ministries within our Conference so that we can give thanks to God, pray for, and support. [Read more Inclusive Ministries stories](#)
- **September is Suicide Prevention Month** - Mountain Sky Conference is collecting [resources](#) for how you can help prevent suicide during the months of September. Send along your resources in your District to communications@mtnskyumc.org.
- **Mountain Sky Prophets Episode #2 released** - Khasidy is a high school senior in Montana, and she's got plenty to worry about: a pandemic, college applications, scholarship, and...school shootings? Khasidy shares what it's like to get an education while looking for the nearest exit and worrying about the future of our country and planet. Listen at <https://anchor.fm/mtnskyprophets>
- **Dare to Dream: 2020 Grants available:** The Mountain Sky UM Foundation announces grants to fund transformative ideas that will create systemic changes in ministry, vitality, and financial health. We are eager to partner with you, and help your dreams come true. You can call the Mountain Sky Conference United Methodist Foundation at 303-778-6370 or by emailing Kristi@MountainSkyUMF.org. [Dare to Dream Application](#)
[Dare to Dream blog](#)
[Grants page](#)

Prayer Requests

Prayers of hope and strength for Rev. Bob Carlisle, retired deacon who is undergoing treatment for liver cancer. Bob served nearly 20 years at Trinity UMC, Denver, CO. Expressions of care can be sent to: rzcii@bellsouth.net or 2056 Morrison Ave., Spring Hill, TN 37174.



Prayers for Stan Steuri, retired pastor and veteran, who has been hospitalized after he fell down and broke his pelvis. Also prayers for his wife, Barb Steuri, for strength. They are from Tooele UMC in Utah.

Prayers to those evacuating Buckhorn Camp in Colorado due to wildfires. According to the Camp Director, Austin Hubbard, on Sept. 7, people in the area have been ordered a mandatory evacuation.

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?

- [Montana Clergy Weekly Zoom Meeting - Sept. 15 and every Tuesday \(Zoom\)](#)
- [Foundation of Lay Servant Ministries Course Series - Sept. 17 and every Thursday through Oct. \(Zoom\)](#)
- [Peaks Pikes Peak United Methodist Women Annual Gathering and Meeting - Sunrise UMC, Colorado Springs, CO - Sept. 19](#)
- [Mile High Metro United Methodist Women Annual Gathering and Meeting - Sept. 19 Zoom meeting](#)
- [Trinity District United Methodist Women Annual Gathering and Meeting - Sept. 19](#)
- [Sermon planning workshop - Sept. 22-24 \(online\)](#)
- [Utah/Western Colorado District Monthly Zoom Meeting 4th Tuesday of each month - Sept. 22](#)
- [UMC of the Resurrection's Leadership Institute 2020 - Online - Sept. 24-25](#)
- [Interfaith Alliance of Colorado Force For Good Awards - Oct. 6](#)
- [Memorial celebrating the life of Rev. Dr. John Lee - Oct. 11](#)
- [Mountain Sky United Methodist Foundation Board of Directors Meeting - Oct. 30](#)

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

Classifieds

- Free church banners and felt - University Park UMC, Aurora, CO
- Youth Coordinator - Christ UMC, Great Falls, MT
- ROAR VBC Kit - Centennial, CO
- Part-Time Youth Director - Heritage UMC, Littleton, CO
- Director of Children and Youth Ministries - Belong Church, Denver, CO
- Audio Video Coordinator - Heart of Longmont UMC, Longmont, CO
- Free PPE and related supplies for Denver churches
- Chief Financial Officer - North Texas Annual Conference of the UMC
- Worship Music Leader - Evergreen UMC, Evergreen, 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.

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