

*Trinity United Methodist Church*



**CHURCH CONFERENCE  
OCTOBER 25, 2015**

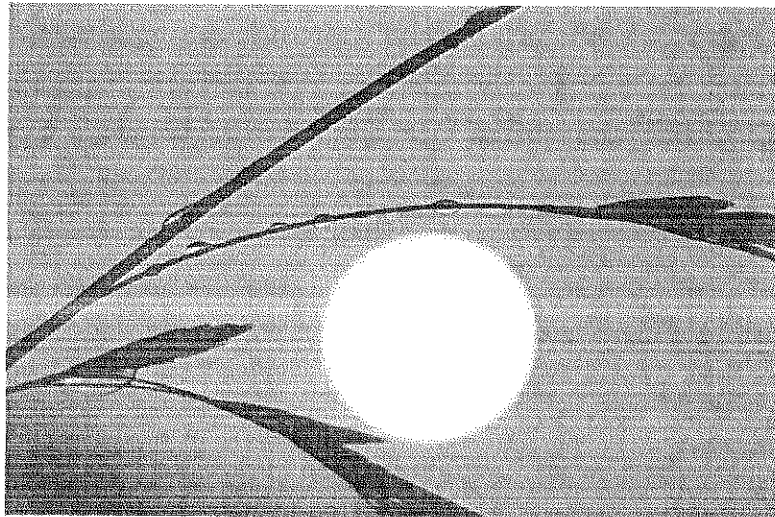
**Our Staff in Ministry**

Greater New Jersey Annual Conference United Methodist Church  
The Reverend Dr. John Schol, Resident Bishop  
Ms. Rosa Williams, Greater NJ Conference Lay Leader  
The Reverend Dr. Drew Dyson, Raritan Valley District Superintendent  
Mr. Arthur Harrell, Raritan Valley District Lay Leader  
The Reverend Hillary Johnson Crute, Pastor in Charge  
Ms. Diana Picurro, Treasurer  
Mr. Bob Speidell, Director of Music  
All the Members of the Congregation



*In Memorium*

*Reginald C. Crute*  
*June 29, 1940 - August 22, 2015*



<sup>13</sup> And I heard a voice from heaven saying, "Write this: Blessed are the dead who from now on die in the Lord." "Yes," says the Spirit, "they will rest from their labors, for their deeds follow them." Revelation 14:13



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4. ANNUAL REPORT OF TRUSTEES p. 7-10
5. FUND BALANCE REPORT 2013 p. 11-12
6. PASTOR'S REPORT –MINISTRY & MEMBERSHIP p. 11-18
  - a. The names of those on the 1<sup>st</sup> Year List are the pastor's report to Charge Conference. No action is being recommended. This list should be used to contact members who are no longer attending and to encourage them to return to active membership. **"Report on Professed Members Who Have Been Absent From The Fellowship"** p. 14-16
  - b. When was the last Membership Audit conducted? October 2, 2015  
By whom? Rev. Hillary Johnson Crute p. 17
  - c. Number of new member orientation classes since last Church Conference? 1
  - d. Have you conducted a Confirmation Class since last Church Conference? Yes
7. TREASURER'S REPORT (2013-14) p. 19-29

# Trinity United Methodist Church – Spotswood, NJ

## Annual Church Conference Minutes

**October 11, 2014**

Raritan Valley District Superintendent, Rev. Dr. Drew Dyson called meeting to order at 10:07am

Welcome & Introduction – Video Greeting by Bishop John Schol  
Greeting by District Superintendent - The Rev. Dr. Drew Dyson

### **Preparing our Hearts for Worshipful Work**

- a. Opening Song
- b. Scripture Meditation: The Hands of Jesus by Mrs. Arline Bernard
- c. Opening Prayer (in unison)
- d. Message: Shine! by the Rev. Dr. Drew Dyson

### **Fulfilling our Mission**

“The mission of the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference is to equip spiritual leaders to make disciples and grow vital congregations to transform the world.”

Vital Congregations – DS affirmed that we are in fact a vital congregation doing great works and encouraged us to be mindful of how we can be more vital next year than this year?

Bright Spot Testimonies given by:

Barbara Lockwood – Focus on what brought her to TUMC

Margaret Hodes – New small group, “Hearts to Hearts Stitchers”

Diana Picurro – Vitality in the congregation and progress forward

Affirming our Journey – SPRC Chair, John Walker: The focus this year will be on congregational identity, self awareness, and vision. We need to be sure of what God is calling us to do.

### **Conducting our Business**

- a. Election of Recording Secretary(¶247.4 )  
Diana Picurro was nominated: All approved, none opposed
- b. Lay Leadership/Nominations Report and Election of Church Leaders & Trustees  
Accepted as written in report, to be effective 1/1/15. All approved, none opposed
- c. Staff Parish Relations Report, Approval of Pastoral Compensation (¶247.13)

Specifically, our attention was called to the following:

Line #1: Clergy Salary: Increase to \$32,192

Line #11: Housing Exclusion Resolution: \$22,000

Line #32: Clergy Continuing Ed and Travel Expenses: \$2,000

Accepted as written in report. All approved, none opposed.

d. Trustee Report: Neil Picurro, Chair shared that maintaining the church and parsonage facilities has been a coordinated effort with The Brethren Disaster Relief Ministries since this past January. DS recognized the ministry and care given and is grateful. All approved the report as written, none opposed.

e. 2013 Audit/Fund Balance Report: All approved, none opposed.

f. Membership Report (¶247.15): The following individuals were on the Members Absent From Fellowship 2<sup>nd</sup> year list for removal, as they did not respond to any form of communication:

Fran Klinsky (MCC)	Dalton Pignataro
Karen Krieg-Kletzkin (MCC)	Mary Pignataro
Damien Cippon	Patrick Pignataro
Jan Mezey	Daniel Soltys
Maureen Molitor	Kimberly Soltys
Chindinma Okafor	Lesley Soltys
Chinenye Okafor	Thomas Syers
Lee Pateman	Elsie Ahrens
Amy Pateman	

All approved, none opposed.

g. Pastor's Report – Pastor Hillary Johnson Crute shared briefly that since we are now once again united, she feels strongly that we need a vision to live into.

The Pastor also acknowledged that she has deep gratitude and appreciation for the good work of Diana Picurro since her inception as Treasurer almost two years ago.

District Superintendent's offered closing remarks.

Litany of Recommitment

Closing Song & Benediction by DS

Conference adjourned at 11:12am.

Respectfully Submitted by Diana Picurro

**Trinity UMC-Spotswood  
Church Officers Report for 2015-2016**

**Staff**

<b>Position</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Term</b>
Pastor	Hillary Johnson Crute	n/a
Treasurer	Diana Picurro	n/a
Director of Music	Robert Speidell	n/a

**Officers**

Lay Leader	Esther Clayton	2016
Membership Secretary		
Attendance Recorder(s)	Harold Hodes, Jr.	2016
Lay Member to Annual Conference	Phil Manziano	2016
Alternate Lay Member to Conference	Ernie Zih	2016
Administrative Council Secretary		
Children's Sunday School Superintendent		
Church Historian	May Jerzak	2016
Church Council, Chairperson	Donna Kanka	2016
Finance Chairperson		
Coordinator of Adult Education	Arline Bernard	2016
Membership Care	Margaret Hodes	2016
Communications/Webmaster	Amanda Zih	2016

**Staff Pastor-Parish Relations Committee**

**Chairperson** Sharon Biles

**Class 2016**

Sharon Biles

Barbara Lockwood

**Class 2017**

Kim Walker

**Class 2018**

Sandra Adams

Penny Dittman



	<b>Position</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Term</b>
<b>Trustees</b>	President	Neil Picurro	2017
	Vice President	Don McPherson	2016
	Treasurer		

<b>Class 2016</b>	<b>Class 2017</b>	<b>Class 2018</b>
Don McPherson	Neil Picurro Ernie Zih	*Hillary Johnson Crute

**Nominating Committee on Lay Leadership**

<b>Class 2016</b>	<b>Class 2017</b>	<b>Class 2018</b>
Helen McPherson Ann Marie Clayton	Sandra Adams Diana Picurro	*Ann Munn

**At- Large**     Barbara Lockwood

Date Effective: 1/1/2016	<b>2016 CLERGY COMPENSATION AND EXPENSE REPORT</b> Greater New Jersey Conference	District Raritan Valley
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Clergy Name: Hillary A. Johnson Crute	Clergy Day Phone: 201-390-3591	Appointment Status: (circle one) <u>3/4</u>
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Conference Relationship: (circle one) {see legend on instruction page}  
FE

Church Names and City (list city if not shown in name)

Church A Trinity Spotswood	Ch B	Ch C
Church A # 7061	Ch B #	Ch C #

PLEASE REVIEW INSTRUCTIONS AS A GUIDE WHEN COMPLETING THIS FORM.

		Church A	Church B	Church C		TOTAL
1	Church Salary	35,297			1	35,297
2	GNJAC Equitable Compensation Grant	-			2	-
3	GNJAC Salary Supplement Grant	-			3	-
4	Taxable Cash Allowances (e.g. non-vouchered expenses, bonuses, etc.)	-			4	-
5	Housing Allowance	-			5	-
6	Total Salary -- Add Lines 1 through 5 for all churches	35,297	-	-	6	35,297
<b>Tax Sheltered Salary Items (Do not report in W-2 Box 1)</b>						
7	Tax-deferred UM Personal Investment Plan (UMPIP) withheld from salary shown on line 6 (Report in W-2 Box 12, Code E)	6,000			7	6,000
8	Other Tax-deferred IRS Section 403(b) investment withheld from salary shown on line 6 (Report in W-2 Box 12, Code E)	-			8	-
9	Health Insurance Contribution (IRS Section 125) 2% withheld from salary shown on lines 1-3 NOTE: 2% will automatically calculate upon entering premium amount on line 21. (Report in W-2 Box 14)	-			9	-
10	Flexible Spending Account contribution (IRS Section 125 Cafeteria Plan) withheld from salary on line 6 - Maximum allowable contribution is \$2,550 (Report in W-2 Box 14)	-			10	-
11	Housing Exclusion: Amount of line 6 paid to clergy for housing related expenses paid by pastor. Enter amount from A or B on 2016 CLERGY HOUSING EXCLUSION RESOLUTION form. (Report in W-2 Box 14)	24,000			11	24,000
12	Total Tax Sheltered Salary - Add Lines 7 through 11	30,000	-	-	12	30,000
<b>Taxable Salary Items (Report in W-2 Box 1 - Lines 13, 14, 15)</b>						
13	Tax-paid UM Personal Investment Plan (UMPIP) withheld from salary shown on line 6	0			13	-
14	Health Insurance Contribution 2% withheld from salary shown on lines 1-3 ONLY if not deducted on line 9.	0			14	-
15	Expenses paid directly by the local church not included in lines 1-14 (See Instructions for examples)				15	-
16	Cash paid to clergy line 6 minus lines 7 8 9 10 13 & 14	29,297	-	-	16	29,297
17	Total Federal Taxable Salary line 6 minus 12	5,297	-	-	17	5,297
18	Total Salary = Lines 12 + 17 (Must equal line 6)	35,297	-	-	18	35,297

Minimum Salary Full Member \$42,562 Provisional, Assoc. Member \$39,157 FT Local Pastor \$37,029 (+ \$300 per year of full-time service)

6.

		Church A	Church B	Church C	TOTAL
<b>Parsonage or Housing Allowance</b>					
19	Parsonage provided for clergy? If Yes-enter the value found on line 18 on this line (19) If No skip to Benefits ( Non-Taxable )	no			
20	Parsonage value for pension purposes. If a Parsonage provided (Line 19 is YES), Multiply Line 19 times 0.25 (25%)	#VALUE!	-	-	20 #VALUE!
<b>Benefits (Non-Taxable)</b>					
A. If you are a SP or PL enter X here					
B. If you are a DM DR OR RA RD RE RL RO RP SY CP enter X here					
C. If you are less than full time as an OF enter X here					
D. If you are less than full time as an AM FD FE PD OA OD OE OF OP PE enter X here					
21	Health Insurance Premium for Conference Plan - rates are located on page one of the instructions (Do not deduct amounts on lines 9 or 14)				21 -
22	Net Health Insurance Line 21 minus line 9 or 14				22 -
23	Pension Plan Compensation Line 18 + Line 20 if a Parsonage provided OR Line 18 if parsonage is not provided.	35,297	-	-	23 35,297
24	Clergy Retirement Security Program (CRSP) for FT, 3/4, 1/2 time Clergy or UMPIP - this applies to 1/4-time Clergy no longer eligible for CRSP-see instructions)= Line 23 times 0.125 (12.5%)	4,412	-	-	24 4,412
25	Comprehensive Protection Plan (CPP) for Full-Time = Line 23 times 0.03 (3%) Plan Compensation (Line 23) must be equal to or greater than 60% of the CAC (\$65,157 x 60% = 39,094) If not, go to Line 26.				25 -
26	CPP for Less than Full-Time (3/4 & 1/2) and FT clergy with plan compensation less than \$39,094 (60% of CAC). Enter amount of \$2,289 (For 1/4-time enter 2,963) Not available for Part-time Local Pastor or Student Local Pastor. See instructions.	2,289	-	-	26 2,289
27	Other non-taxable benefits (describe)				27 -
28	Total Benefit Costs - Add Lines 22 + 24 + (25 or 26) + 27	6,701	-	-	28 6,701
<b>Reimbursed Business Expenses (Non-Taxable) These are operating expenses of the church, not salary</b>					
29	Travel Expense	2,000			29 2,000
30	Continuing Education	500			30 500
31	Other Business Expenses				31 -
32	Total Reimbursed Business Exp. - Lines 29 + 30 + 31	2,500	-	-	32 2,500

Signatures. The undersigned parties state that the information shown on this Report is true and correct. This report does not constitute an employment agreement and/or benefit plan between the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference and the clergy identified herein, but is only a report of the clergy's compensation and benefits paid by the clergy's charge or employing unit to or for the benefit of the clergy.

Clergy: *Kellie Johnson Crute* 9/27/2015  
Church Council Chair: *Donna Harker* 9/27/2015  
Church Council Chair: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
PPR Chair: *Shirley* 9/27/2015  
PPR Chair: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
District Superintendent: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Distribute signed copies. Pastor, PPR Chair(s), Church Treasurer(s), and District Superintendent

District Superintendent checks, approves, & forwards copy to Conference Office (corrections, if necessary to be initialed by all above)

# Report of the Trustees

## GREATER NEW JERSEY ANNUAL CONFERENCE

THE TRUSTEES ARE AMENABLE TO THE CHARGE CONFERENCE AND AS SUCH ARE REQUIRED TO MAKE AN ANNUAL REPORT.

Additional reports should be made as requested by the Church Conference or Church Council or equivalent. Numbers in parentheses refer to paragraphs in the 2012 Book of Discipline (§2550). Copies of this report should be filed with the recording secretary, pastor, district superintendent and the board of trustees.

Church: Trinity UMC, Spotswood NJ

Charge: 7061

District: Raritan Valley

Annual Conference: Greater New Jersey

For the period beginning: (enter date of prior Church Conference) \_\_\_\_\_ and ending: (enter date of current Church Conference) \_\_\_\_\_

1. Organization for the current conference year was effective (date) \_\_\_\_\_ by electing the following officers (no less than three, and up to nine persons):

	Name	Year Term Expires
1. President	<u>Neil Picurro</u>	<u>2017</u>
2. Vice President	_____	_____
3. Secretary	_____	_____
4. Treasurer	_____	_____
5. Member	<u>Don McPherson</u>	<u>2016</u>
6. Member	<u>Ernie Zih</u>	<u>2017</u>
7. Member	<u>Hillary Johnson Crute</u>	<u>2018</u>
8. Member	_____	_____
9. Member	_____	_____

2. Is the local church incorporated (§2529.1)?  Yes  No  
 If not previously submitted, please attach a copy of the church's incorporation papers with this report.

3. Name(s) in which title to each piece of property is recorded, as shown by civil land records (§§2536, 2538):

	Name(s)	Office	Book	Page
Church Buildings	<u>Trinity Spotswood, NJ</u>	<u>Jersey city, NJ</u>	<u>1917</u>	<u>538</u>
Church Buildings	_____	_____	_____	_____
Parsonages	<u>Methodist Church of Spotswood, NJ</u>	<u>New Brunswick, NJ</u>	<u>1513</u>	<u>177</u>
Parsonages	_____	_____	_____	_____
Other	_____	_____	_____	_____
Other	_____	_____	_____	_____

- a. Who is the custodian of deeds and other legal papers? Trustee President
- b. Where are they kept? church safe on site

4. Does each deed contain trust clause (§2503)?  Yes  No

5. Do you have a long-term plan for the replacement of facilities and equipment as they deteriorate?  Yes  No
6. Has an annual accessibility audit for church properties been conducted (§2533.6)?  Yes  No  
*(Resources for accessibility audit can be found on the conference website. The audit does not need to be submitted. Please attach an action plan addressing any issues arising from the audit.)*

7. Insurance (§§2533.2, 2550.7)

- a. Please include a copy of the Master Certificate of Insurance received from Sovereign Insurance Group.
- b. Do you have any insurance in addition to the insurance described on the attached Master Certificate of Insurance?  Yes  No (Please provide information using chart below.)

Item Insured/ Insurance	Replacement Value	Amount of Coverage	Type of Coverage	Company	Restricted By Coinsurance (Yes or No and amount)		Expires When
					Y	N	
_____	\$ _____	\$ _____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	Amount: _____	_____
_____	\$ _____	\$ _____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	Amount: _____	_____
_____	\$ _____	\$ _____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	Amount: _____	_____
_____	\$ _____	\$ _____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	Amount: _____	_____
_____	\$ _____	\$ _____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	Amount: _____	_____

- c. Have the buildings been inspected for fire and other safety hazards within the past year?  Yes  No
- d. Have you assessed the replacement value within the last 5 years?  Yes  No
- e. Who performed the assessment? Sovereign
- f. Was the assessment provided to Sovereign Insurance Group and was coverage adjusted appropriately?  
 Yes  No
- g. Is the amount of insurance adequate?  Yes  No  
*(To determine adequacy of coverage, please use the GCFA Insurance Worksheet found at www.gcfa.org)*
- h. Does the church have a GNJAC Certified Safe Sanctuary Policy?  Yes  No

8. Are all income-producing and permanent funds listed in the Fund Balance Report?  Yes  No

- a. If not, please attach a detailed list.
- b. Are these investments "socially responsible" and do they make "a positive contribution toward the realization of the goals outlined in the Social Principles of the Church" (§§2533.5, 2550.9)?  Yes  No

President of Trustees Signature:  
 (Please print and sign)



Printed Name:

Neil Picurro

Date:

9/27/2015

# MASTER POLICY CERTIFICATE OF INSURANCE

January 1, 2015



TELEPHONE (800)222-4478      FAX (610)535-6810  
400 W LANCASTER AVE  
DEVON, PA 19333

THIS CERTIFICATE IS ISSUED AS A MATTER OF INFORMATION ONLY AND CONFERS NO RIGHTS UPON THE CERTIFICATE HOLDER. THIS CERTIFICATE DOES NOT AMEND AFFIRMATIVELY OR NEGATIVELY, EXTEND OR ALTER THE COVERAGE AFFORDED BY THE POLICES BELOW. THIS CERTIFICATE OF INSURANCE DOES NOT CONSTITUTE A CONTRACT BETWEEN THE ISSUING INSURER(S), AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE OR PRODUCER, AND THE CERTIFICATE HOLDER. A COMPLETE COPY OF THE POLICY IS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST FROM SOVEREIGN INSURANCE GROUP.

**NAME OF INSURED:**  
TRINITY U.M.C  
70 MANALAPAN RD  
SPOTSWOOD, NJ 08884

Conf# 7061

**COMPANIES AFFORDING COVERAGE**

COMPANY A - MERCER INSURANCE COMPANY OF NJ  
COMPANY B - CHURCH MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY  
COMPANY C - ASPEN SPECIALTY INSURANCE COMPANY

**COVERAGE**

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT THE POLICES OF INSURANCE LISTED BELOW HAVE BEEN ISSUED TO THE INSURED NAMED ABOVE FOR THE POLICY PERIOD INDICATED. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY REQUIREMENT, TERM OR CONDITION OF ANY CONTRACT OR OTHER DOCUMENT WITH RESPECT TO WHICH THIS CERTIFICATE MAY BE ISSUED OR MAY PERTAIN. THE INSURANCE AFFORDED BY THE POLICES DESCRIBED HEREIN IS SUBJECT TO ALL THE TERMS EXCLUSIONS AND CONDITIONS OF SUCH POLICES. LIMITS SHOWN MAY HAVE BEEN REDUCED BY PAID CLAIMS

CO LTR	TYPE OF INSURANCE	POLICY NUMBER	EFFECTIVE DATE	EXPIRATION DATE	LIMITS
A	PROPERTY	REL3000003	01/01/2015	01/01/2016	BLANKET PROPERTY LIMIT \$ 955,797
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> REPLACEMENT COST				BOILER MACHINERY LIMIT \$ 30,000,000
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGREED AMOUNT				PROPERTY DEDUCTIBLE \$ 1,000
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SPECIAL FORM INCLUDING THEFT				WINDSTORM DEDUCTIBLE \$ 1,000
A	COMMERCIAL GENERAL LIABILITY	REL3000003	01/01/2015	01/01/2016	GENERAL AGGREGATE \$ 4,000,000
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCURRENCE BASIS				PRODUCT - COMP/OP AGG \$ 4,000,000
					PERSONAL & ADV INJURY \$ 2,000,000
					CGL OCCURRENCE \$ 2,000,000
					SEXUAL MISCONDUCT LIABILITY \$ 2,000,000
					PASTORAL CNSL LIABILITY \$ 2,000,000
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CLAIMS MADE BASIS, RETROACTIVE DATE 12/1/2004, \$1,000 PER CLAIM DEDUCTIBLE				EMPLOYEE BENEFITS LIABILITY \$ 2,000,000
				FIRE DAMAGE (Any one fire) \$ 1,000,000	
				MEDICAL EXPENSE (Per Person) \$ 10,000	
A	AUTOMOBILE LIABILITY	CAP0006364	01/01/2015	01/01/2016	COMBINED SINGLE LIMIT \$ 1,000,000
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> HIRED AUTOS				
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NON-OWNED AUTOS				
A	UMBRELLA/EXCESS LIABILITY	UMB00062142	01/01/2015	01/01/2016	EACH OCCURRENCE** \$ 25,000,000
C	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UMBRELLA FORM/EXCESS	CX002XD15			CONFERENCE AGGREGATE** \$ 25,000,000
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SELF INSURED RETENTION	** COMBINED TOTAL LIMIT OF TWO POLICES			RETENTION \$ 10,000
B	WORKERS COMPENSATION & EMPLOYERS LIABILITY	07-747534 07-747519	01/01/2015 12/01/2014	01/01/2016 01/01/2015	WC STATUTORY LIMITS
	THE PROPRIETOR				EL EACH ACCIDENT \$ 500,000
	PARTNERS/EXECUTIVE OFFICERS ARE	CMIC Account#: 0308301 Rating Group ID: 405			EL DISEASE - POLICY LIMIT \$ 500,000 EL DISEASE - EACH EMPLOYEE \$ 500,000
A	DIRECTORS & OFFICES (D&O)	REL3000003	01/01/2015	01/01/2016	D&O EACH CHURCH OCC \$ 2,000,000
	EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES LIABILITY (EPL)				D&O EACH CHURCH AGG \$ 4,000,000
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SELF INSURED RETENTION \$2,500 EACH				EPL EACH CHURCH OCC \$ 1,000,000
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CLAIMS MADE BASIS				EPL EACH CHURCH AGG \$ 1,000,000
	COVERAGE IS ONLY PROVIDED FOR NOT FOR PROFIT CHURCH OWNED & CONTROLLED ENTITIES				RETROACTIVE DATE 01/01/2002

**OTHER COVERAGE**

AS A MINIMUM EACH MEMBER IS AFFORDED: 12 MONTH ACTUAL LOSS SUSTAINED BI/EE, \$50,000 VALUABLE PAPERS, \$50,000 BUS.PERS.PROP. IN TRANSIT, \$50,000 PASTOR'S PROF.PROPERTY, \$25,000 PERSONAL PROPERTY OF OTHERS, \$100,000 EMPLOYEE DISHONESTY BOND, \$50,000 DEPOSITORS FORGERY, \$20,000 INSIDE/\$10,000 OUTSIDE THEFT & DESTRUCTION, \$25,000 TREES & SHRUBS, \$50,000 ELECTRONIC DATA PROCESSING EQUIPMENT, \$1,000,000 TOTAL LIMIT FOR LAW OR ORDINANCE A, B, C.

**DESCRIPTION OF OPERATIONS/LOCATIONS/VEHICLES/SPECIAL ITEMS**

ONLY CHURCHES AND CHURCH OWNED AND CONTROLLED ENTITIES ARE ELIGIBLE FOR THIS PROGRAM. ALL COVERED LOCATIONS ARE LISTED IN THE MASTER POLICY. ALL VEHICLES ARE COVERED UNDER SEPARATE INDIVIDUAL POLICES.

ADDITIONAL INTERESTS

AUTHORIZED INSURANCE REPRESENTATIVE

REFER TO MASTER POLICY

TIFFANY M. LUPO

*Tiffany M Lupo*



Greater New Jersey Conference  
of The United Methodist Church

**NAMED INSURED: TRINITY U.M.C - 7061**

**COVERED LOCATIONS 01/01/2015-01/01/2016 POLICY PERIOD**

BUILDING TYPE	ADDRESS	BUILDING LIMIT/CONTENTS LIMIT
CHURCH	70 MANALAPAN RD, SPOTSWOOD, NJ 08884	\$563,761 / \$135,747
PARSONAGE	329 SUMMERHILL RD., SPOTSWOOD, NJ 08884	\$250,580 / \$5,709

**TOTAL BLANKET BUILDING AND CONTENTS LIMIT FOR YOUR CHURCH \$955,797\***  
**WINDSTORM DEDUCTIBLE \$1,000**

\*If the total blanket limit is exhausted as a result of a covered cause of loss to "building" or "personal property", Mercer Insurance agrees to pay an additional 25% of the blanket limit listed above.

Listed above are your covered church locations. Please review this information for accuracy. Any Named Insured or location owned/controlled by the church that are not listed above are NOT covered. Please contact Sovereign Insurance Group immediately should you have any changes or questions.

The Conference recommends that each church obtain a professional insurance replacement cost appraisal, which outlines the replacement cost of all church property.

Please review this information for accuracy, sign, date and return to Sovereign Insurance. PLEASE KEEP A COPY FOR YOUR RECORDS.

**IT MUST BE RETURNED BY FEBRUARY 1, 2015.**

*[Handwritten Signature]*

Authorized Representative

Date

*1/28/15*

10



**SOVEREIGN**

INSURANCE GROUP

Return to return to Sovereign Insurance 400 W Lancaster Ave, Devon, PA 19333

fax 610.535.6810 email TiffanyL@sovereign.com

If you fax or e-mail the signed form to Sovereign the original does not need to be mailed back.

## 2015 Pastor's Report to Church Conference

"Blessed are those that mourn, for they shall be comforted." Matthew 5:4

I begin with giving thanks: for all the many expressions of sympathy and love that I received the last 6 months during Reginald's illness and entering eternal life. I am so grateful for understanding hearts and minds, as I go through this chapter of life. I could not have done it without the cooperation of the congregation and many, many friends.

Looking back at the past year:

Preaching and Worship, and Pastoral Care are my strongest gifts to the church. We have maintained high quality worship services and continue to strive to help people experience the presence of God each week. I have intentionally trained others in worship leading, planning, and designing. There is heavy involvement in worship by the entire congregation in praise, liturgy, and witness. The worship workshop I attended last year has born much fruit, and we successfully produced two well attended and appreciated worship series for Advent and Lent. Thanks to the many hands that made it possible to decorate, produce videos, agape gifts that helped enhance the experience.

I am visiting and taking communion to the home bound members. As much as possible, I get other lay people to assist me. We have a strong team in Margaret Hodes and Penny Dittman, who continue to call and write notes of encouragement to the home bound and those in crisis.

The Brethren Disaster Ministries has made a tremendous positive contribution to our church and community. Their understanding of sacrificial servanthood is exemplar. They have done numerous repairs to our church facilities and parsonage. They have helped in the garden and refurbished the prayer garden. The floors sparkle and the kitchen and bathrooms are immaculate. They reach out to our neighbors in times of need. Over **700** people have resided at our church and gone out to serve others through this partnership.

Crisis care is another strong aspect of my ministry. I try to make a visit to anyone that I know is in the hospital. I will meet people in the emergency room or before surgeries to offer prayer and a supportive presence. I serve as a community chaplain when there is a disaster.

Heart to Heart Stitchers, our newest small group continues to meet weekly. The group of up to 8 or 9 incorporates a devotional, prayer time and sharing, a lunch (often provided by Maude Cantora) and completing craft projects together. It is gratifying to see a small group take off and become well rooted and watered. We had our annual Baby Shower, for the Quaker home in Hamilton Township. A car loaded with new baby items, including 52 handmade baby blankets, were donated to the home.

With the sudden departure of the Brethren Disaster Ministries, we have maintained the weekly Wednesday night Fellowship Dinner. So far, we have met every week and enjoyed up to 16 people fellowshiping together. It was a joy to reverse the invitation and have the Brethren come up and be our guest at the Garbage Can Cookout in October and invite BDM to Trinity for dinner. It was a joy to have 25 BDMers join with us. Food was plentiful, delicious, and of course, we ended with several kinds of homemade ice cream! We will continue to meet as often as possible. I believe that as we get to know each other better, we will begin to understand and trust each other more.



We welcomed Helen Hunter, a certified lay minister in the UMC, this year. Helen is from the Wesley United Methodist Church in South Plainfield, and was introduced to me by her pastor, the Rev. Gina Kim. Helen is a licensed clinical social worker with a specialization in elder care. She has worshipped with us, and fellowshiped on Wednesdays, offering counsel, prayer, and words for encouragement. Helen helped to put together the new workshop series: Caring for the Family. With her connections in social services, we were able to locate professionals to speak on a number of topics of interest to our community (long term care, Alzheimer's Disease, Parkinson's, Medicaid eligibility, and more.)

**We again partnered with Lifeline Health Screenings.** We had dozens of people come into our church for health screenings. At our screenings last year, Lifeline caught someone who was at high risk for stroke and someone else with diabetes that had not been diagnosed before. The company gave us 3 free screenings, all which were used by individuals.

One of the ministries that has been most successful this past year has been our **Hospitality Ministry**. We housed over 700 people at the church and parsonage. We made hundreds of agape gifts and sent each volunteer a greeting card at Christmas and Easter. Some of them brought the cards to show me. Hospitality is something we are doing well. A door has opened in this area and disciples are showing that they have the gifts to complete the job. **Could God be calling this church to move away from "traditional church" and into hospitality ministry? Do we have the wisdom and courage to say yes to something that sounds weird? Remember, we serve a God who spoke to Moses through a burning bush, and was born, King of kings, in an animal feeder surrounded by the lowest of creation: a God of paradoxes and possibilities!**

I recently read an article on leadership by Robert Steven Kaplan<sup>1</sup> He writes, "**What is the vision**, how do you add value that's distinctive, and what are your top 3 or 4 priorities," Kaplan explains. "That is the prism through which you judge every action you take – who you hire, how you sit, where you spend money, what [goes] to market. **Everything flows from that.**"<sup>2</sup>

Scripture validates this in Proverbs 29:18, "Where there is no [prophetic] vision, the people cast off restraint, but blessed is the one who keeps the law." I am paraphrasing the English Standard Version to make a point: unless the people keep close to the prophetic Word of God, they tend to wander, and there is a loss of social order. It is one of the reasons churches disintegrate and splinter: they lose sight that God's Word and God's will has to be at the center of all they do and say. The result is what happened when Aaron made the golden calf and the people went wild and abandoned their worship of God for an idol. It still happens today: we get off track of the goal that God set for us and begin to worship idols made by our own hands and minds instead of the living God.

**I remind us that there are so many in our congregation and community in need of**

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<sup>1</sup> Kaplan, Robert Steven, *What it Takes to be a Leader*, <http://hbswk.hbs.edu/item/what->

<sup>2</sup> Ibid