



THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
HARRISBURG AREA – SUSQUEHANNA CONFERENCE

303 Mulberry Drive, Suite 100 • Mechanicsburg, PA 17050-3198  
Phone (717) 766-7871 • Fax (717) 766-3210 • Email: [bishoppark@susumc.org](mailto:bishoppark@susumc.org)

Bishop Jeremiah J. Park

**Christy Mackey**  
Executive Admin. Asst.  
[cmackey@susumc.org](mailto:cmackey@susumc.org)

**Rev. Gregory C. Myers**  
Clergy Assistant  
[gmyers@susumc.org](mailto:gmyers@susumc.org)

**Rev. Dr. Thomas Salsgiver**  
Clergy Assistant  
[tsalsgiver@susumc.org](mailto:tsalsgiver@susumc.org)

**Sarah Filizzi**  
Admin. Assistant  
[sfilizzi@susumc.org](mailto:sfilizzi@susumc.org)

*We wait in hope for the Lord;  
God is our help and our shield . . .  
May your unfailing love rest upon us, O Lord,  
even as we put our hope in you.  
(Psalm 33)*

March 23, 2020

Dear Sisters and Brothers of the Susquehanna Conference,

Grace to you in the name of Jesus Christ, Prince of Peace, Healer of our Brokenness, and Hope of the World.

We know that many of you have questions regarding Annual Conference, scheduled for May 28-30. The conference leaders are continuing to discuss what is best for your safety and how we can care for the important business we must address at Annual Conference.

We are monitoring our local, state, and federal government decisions to ensure that we comply. We will continue to weigh what is known about the virus, evolving government directives for public health, and contract obligations to determine the best ways to accomplish the requirements for the Annual Conference. As the situation unfolds, we will decide whether the conference will meet at the end of May or another time.

***Therefore, we have decided to delay registration for the 2020 Sessions of Annual Conference.*** We're sorry for this delay, but we know you understand. Under the current circumstances, we need to proceed with responsible stewardship of resources like finance, labor, and materials, as well as the absolute mandate of safety.

I, along with the Cabinet, continue to pray for you, your congregations across the Susquehanna Conference, and the hurting world. Please join me in prayer for those who are sick, their families, and loved ones; for those who serve in and through the medical system; for those who are affected in other ways, including those who are not working, those who have lost vital services, and those whose lives are drastically changed by this global pandemic.

Even in this crisis we are better together as we pray for and support each other. Let us continue to lift up all of our clergy and congregations with our prayers and our gifts, for our churches' ministries are called to continue now and into the future.

May we, God's people, look to the God of Hope for strength and intervention so that our community and world may turn the corner towards health and wellness, sooner rather than later. Lord, have mercy.

Praying with you,

Jeremiah Park