



# KANSAS EAST ANNUAL CONFERENCE

*Your partners in  
making disciples  
of Jesus Christ for  
the transformation  
of the world*

## **KANSAS EAST CONFERENCE OFFICE**

Location: 4201 SW 15th St  
Topeka, KS 66604

Mail: PO Box 4187  
Topeka, KS 66604-0187

Telephone: 785-272-9111

Toll Free: 877-972-9111

Fax: 785-272-9135

Web site: [www.kansaseast.org](http://www.kansaseast.org)

## **KANSAS AREA OFFICE**

Location: 9440 E Boston St  
Wichita, KS 67207-3603

Telephone: 316-684-0266

Toll Free: 800-745-2350

Fax: 316-684-0044

# Kansas Area Bishop



## **Bishop Scott J. Jones**

Resident Bishop

[kansasbishop@kswestumc.org](mailto:kansasbishop@kswestumc.org)

Kansas Area Office, Suite 160

316-686-0600

Scott Jameson Jones currently serves as the resident bishop of the Kansas Area of the United Methodist Church with offices in Topeka and Wichita.

He was ordained a deacon in the Kansas East Annual Conference and elder in the North Texas Annual Conference. From 1986 to 1997, he served as pastor of three congregations in North Texas. In 2003-04, he served as interim pastor at Stonebridge UMC in McKinney, Texas. From 1997 to 2004, he served on the faculty of Perkins School of Theology at Southern Methodist University. In 2004, he was elected a bishop by the South Central Jurisdictional Conference and assigned to serve as the resident bishop of the Kansas Area.

He currently serves as chairperson of the World Wide Nature of the Church Study Committee and the Council of Bishops' Task Force for Theological Education. He also serves as a member of the South Central Jurisdiction Mission Council Executive Committee.



## **Susan Steuber**

Administrative Assistant

[ssteuber@kswestumc.org](mailto:ssteuber@kswestumc.org)

Kansas Area Office, Suite 160

316-684-0600

Supports the resident area bishop. Manages the episcopal office's finances in consultation with the conference treasurer's office. Manages all correspondence, makes travel arrangements and maintains the bishop's calendar.

# Kansas East District Offices

## ■ FIVE RIVERS DISTRICT

**Dennis Ackerman**, District Superintendent  
ds@5riversds.com

**Marvé Ralston**, Administrative Assistant  
office@5riversds.com

3300 Clinton Parkway Ct., Suite 110  
Lawrence, KS 66047-2629  
785-841-4804 • 785-841-4820 (fax)

## ■ FLINT HILLS DISTRICT

**Howard Johnson**, District Superintendent  
hjohnson@kansaseast.org

**Libby Oberdorf**, Administrative Assistant  
flinthills@kansaseast.org

104 S 4th St, Suite 3  
Manhattan KS 66502-6110  
785-776-7730 • 785-776-7742 (fax)

## ■ KANSAS CITY DISTRICT

**Mike Chamberlain**, District Superintendent  
ds@kcdistrictumc.org

**Stephanie Huber**, Administrative Assistant  
admin@kcdistrictumc.org

129500 Metcalf Ave, Suite 200  
Overland Park KS 66213-2600  
913-722-4775 • 913-722-0061 (fax)

## ■ PARSONS DISTRICT

**Janet Maxwell**, District Superintendent  
jmaxwell@kansaseast.org

**Jane Reeves**, Administrative Assistant  
parsonsdistrict@kansaseast.org

500 Leawood Dr, PO Box 244  
Parsons KS 67357-0244  
620-421-9149 • 620-421-2253 (fax)

## ■ TOPEKA DISTRICT

**Evelyn Fisher**, District Superintendent  
efisher@kansaseast.org

**Marie Pearce**, Administrative Assistant  
topdist@kansaseast.org

4201 SW 15th St, PO Box 4187  
Topeka KS 66604-0187  
785-272-9111 • 785-272-9135 (fax)  
877-972-9111 (toll-free)

# Administration



## **Gary Beach**

Assistant to the Bishop & Treasurer  
gbeach@kansaseast.org  
785-272-9111 or 877-972-9111

As Assistant to the Bishop works closely with the Bishop to assist him in all his responsibilities. May represent the bishop at institutional board meetings, lead and/or monitor project planning and development, advise the bishop on scheduling matters, supervise all conference staff except those related to Clergy and Congregational Excellence, assist with routine correspondence, and other duties as assigned.

As Treasurer oversees the financial and administrative services of the Annual Conference and is available for consultation with pastors, church officers, and appropriate conference and church committees regarding financial and administrative issues.



## **Niki Buesing**

Assistant Treasurer  
nbuesing@kansaseast.org  
785-272-9111 or 877-972-9111

Responsibilities: maintain and review general ledger; oversee church remittances, health insurance, pension and other receipts; calculate and distribute apportionments, serve as conference statistician, and assist the treasurer.



## **Jan Swift**

Administrative Services  
jswift@kansaseast.org  
785-272-9111 or 877-972-9111

Support activities related to treasurer's office and administrative services duties. Processes vouchers for all conference expenses.



## **Sherrie Antholz**

Administrative Services  
santholz@kansaseast.org  
785-272-9111 or 877-972-9111

Support activities related to treasurer's office and administrative services duties. Posts receipts from individuals and churches.



**Carol Fusaro**

Benefits Officer

cfusaro@kansaseast.org

785-272-9111 or 877-972-9111

Manages the benefit products which include pension, health and wellness; consults with participants and families in preparation for retirement, benefit enrollment, incapacity leave, and other benefit-related programs and concerns; is a resource and conference contact for the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits. Committee responsibilities: Conference Board of Pension and Health Benefits and Area Health and Wellness Committee.



**Peggy Mihoover**

Benefits Assistant

pmihoover@kansaseast.org

785-272-9111 or 877-972-9111

Assists with the management of the benefit products and administrative duties associated with the benefits department.



**Karen Robertson**

Conference Secretary

conferencesecretary@kansaseast.org

785-272-9111 or 877-972-9111

Responsible for working with the Sessions & Rules Committee to plan and administer the annual conference session. Compiles and publishes the Annual Conference Journal and prepares the minutes for Annual Conference. Serves as secretary of the Leadership Team.



**JoEllen McGranahan**

Receptionist

office@kansaseast.org

785-272-9111 or 877-972-9111

Receives and directs calls, assists callers, maintains the conference website calendar, and handles building staff support activities.

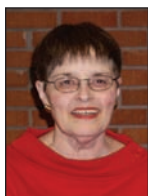
# Clergy & Congregational Excellence



## **Linda Louderback**

Area Director of Clergy and  
Congregational Excellence  
llouderback@kswestumc.org  
Kansas Area Office, Suite 110  
316-684-0266 or 800-745-2350

Focuses on leading the staff and committees of the annual conferences to facilitate congregational excellence and clergy excellence. Oversees and evaluates revitalization efforts for local congregations, and supervises all areas of program ministries including discipleship, mission and advocacy, and leadership development for local church leaders. Oversees all programs for lay and clergy certification in sexual matters such as Boundary Awareness, Safe and Sacred Spaces and Clergy Ethics.



## **Kay Inman**

Administrative Assistant  
kinman@kansaseast.org  
785-272-9111 or 877-972-9111

Administrative support for the area director, Clergy and Congregational Excellence projects and operations, support of program staff members and related conference committees, domestic and international travel insurance, online event registration definitions, annual conference preparation support, conference event preparations, website updates, database issues, and mailings.



## **Frank Pritz**

Consultant for Pastoral and  
Congregational Concerns  
fpritz@kansaseast.org  
785-272-9111 or 877-972-9111

Directs two-year Residency Programs for provisional members and anyone entering full-time local pastor ministry; works with district superintendents to utilize conflict intervention, mediation and prevention for effective and healthy ways to work through conflict and change; consults regarding sexual ethics issues as a member of the Sexual Ethics Implementation Team; serves on the Kansas

Area Sexual Ethics Committee and works with this committee to plan and lead training for clergy.



**Michelle "Micki" McCorkle**

Nebraska-Kansas Area Registrar  
registrar@kswestumc.org  
Kansas Area Office, Suite 110  
800-745-2350 or 316-684-0266

The registrar facilitates the work of the Boards of Ordained Ministry by tracking and coordinating recruitment efforts, overseeing the candidacy process, supporting candidates through the process, overseeing the credentialing and status change processes, training personnel working with candidates, and overseeing the policies and guidelines of the boards of ordained ministry.



**Denise Rogers**

Registrar's Assistant  
drogers@kswestumc.org  
Kansas Area Office, Suite 110  
800-745-2350 or 316-684-0266

Provide office support for the area Board of Ordained Ministry registrar.



**Connie Wilson**

Kansas Area Transition into Ministry  
Program Director  
ConWils@kc.rr.com  
Kansas City District Office  
816-589-4954

The TIM director is responsible for coordinating recruitment of residents and churches, training of teaching pastors and lay committees, coordination of peer group facilitators and meetings and budgetary accountability. The director works closely with the bishop and the area director of clergy and congregational excellence.



**Sue Hughes**

Secretary  
shughes@kansaseast.org  
785-272-9111 or 877-972-9111

Handles all Safe and Sacred Space Certification records, Institute registration, CVLI licensure and other assigned projects.



**Lonnie Bailey**

Local Church Ministry Consultant

[lbailey@kansaseast.org](mailto:lbailey@kansaseast.org)

785-272-9111 or 877-972-9111

Works with conference and district organizations and committees, small to mid-sized congregations, and individuals in areas related to rural ministry, poverty, and social justice issues and how churches can be in ministry with their communities; connects people regionally to social service agencies, local disaster response and Volunteer In Mission teams and other ministry options; and relates to district and conference committees as needed.



**Julie Pohl**

VIM/Disaster Response Coordinator

[kseastvim@yahoo.com](mailto:kseastvim@yahoo.com)

PO Box 518, Elwood, KS 66024

816-390-0324

Facilitates conference mission trips; works with the conference, local churches and organizations to train, provide speakers and coordinate response to local disasters; researches mission opportunities; develops, updates and implements the conference Disaster Response Plan; assists local churches with disaster response planning; communicates mission and disaster response opportunities; and develops and implements volunteer training programs and disaster response certification protocol.



**Brenda Davids**

Director of Student Ministries

[bdavids@kansaseast.org](mailto:bdavids@kansaseast.org)

319-610-2980

Coordinates youth and young adult ministries and events for the conference. Promotes and assists youth and youth workers in local churches to serve young people in our congregations. Mentors youth as they progress from local youth leadership to district, conference and jurisdictional youth leadership. Serves as a resource person for grants, scholarships and mission opportunities for youth and young adults.



### **Jessica Thompson**

Director, Camp Chippewa

[jthompson@kansaseast.org](mailto:jthompson@kansaseast.org)

2577 Idaho Rd., Ottawa KS 66067-9007

785-242-6797

The camp director is responsible for overseeing the day-to-day operations of Camp Chippewa, supervision and training of staff, and promoting the use of the camp to local churches and districts. Oversees planning summer camp program and special events throughout the year.



### **James Rickner**

Site and Livestock Program Director,  
Camp Chippewa

[office@campchippewa.org](mailto:office@campchippewa.org)

2577 Idaho Rd, Ottawa KS 66067-9007

785-242-6797

Responsible for the daily care, maintenance and development of the Camp Chippewa facilities and livestock. Responsibilities also include overseeing the daily operation of the Camp Chippewa horseback riding program.

## **Area Communications**



### **Lisa Elliott Diehl**

Area Communications Director

[ldiehl@kswestumc.org](mailto:ldiehl@kswestumc.org)

Kansas Area Office, Suite 110

316-684-3638 or 866-915-3638

Responsibilities include develop and evaluate communications strategies and tools and resource the bishop and area extended cabinet. Available to work with conference organizations and local churches to implement Rethink Church campaign, plan communication strategies and prepare for crisis communication needs.

Additional Kansas Area responsibilities: coordinate media relations, develop websites, electronic newsletters, Mission and Ministry promotional campaign strategies and materials, consult for planning, implementing and evaluating mission interpretation strategies and programs, and provide communication support for Bridges to the Future.



**Susan Cooper**

Association Communications Director  
scooper@kswestumc.org  
Kansas Area Office, Suite 110  
316-684-3638 or 866-915-3638

Assists the director in implementing the communication strategies of the Kansas Area conferences, including crisis communication needs. Specific areas of responsibility are: collect, write, and edit submissions to the weekly Communique and Weekly Update newsletters and Kansas West Connection; collect and write news and maintain the Area websites; resource local church communication questions, edit communication materials; and co-produce Mission and Ministry interpretation materials.



**Britt Bradley**

Video and Electronic Media Specialist  
bbradley@kswestumc.org  
Kansas Area Office, Suite 110  
316-684-3638 or 866-915-3638

Responsible for video production and communication support. Specific areas of responsibility: mission and ministry promotional videos, Bridges to the Future video segments, special project videos for the Bishop and conference ministries, create video stories for Area websites, post videos to social media platforms, resource local church communication questions, take photographs, and serve as back-up for the e-newsletters.



**Toby Levy**

Administrative Assistant  
tlevy@kswestumc.org  
Kansas Area Office, Suite 110  
316-684-3638 or 866-915-3638

Provides clerical support for the area communications staff. Specific areas of responsibility: technical support for video conferencing and web meetings, processing video orders and DVD duplication, assisting with web site maintenance and training, and secretarial support for the area communications committee.

## New Church Development



### **Kent Melcher**

Area Superintendent of New Church Development

[kmelcher@kansaseast.org](mailto:kmelcher@kansaseast.org)

785-272-9111 or 877-972-9111

Relates to the Kansas East Commission on New Church Development, the Kansas West Commission on New Church Development, the Kansas Area appointive cabinet, and the area extended cabinet. Resources these groups to establish new congregations by developing policies, procedures, strategic plans and priorities. Responsibilities include new church site demographics, funding and resource development, leadership development, working with racial/ethnic teams to plan for and establish new ethnic churches, particularly Hispanic congregations. Available to visit churches to preach and/or speak.



### **Javier Rios**

Director of Hispanic Ministries

[puededefe@yahoo.com](mailto:puededefe@yahoo.com)

708 SE Lime, Topeka KS 66607-1961

785-354-7262

Oversees efforts to reach out and minister to Hispanic/Latino population. Educate churches about the needs of Hispanic ministries in the conference and assist congregations in developing ministries to serve this community. Support and guide non-Hispanic churches in their efforts to reach Hispanic/Latino people, and encourage and resource existing ministries. Develop new missions and fellowships by identifying new leadership, both lay and clergy. Train and assess new pastoral leaders. Develop financial resources for Hispanic ministry.



### **Bonnie DeBusk**

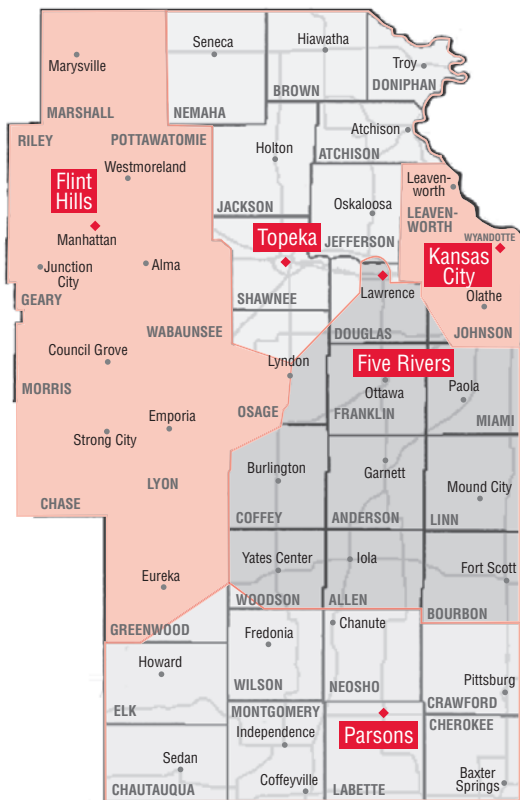
Administrative Assistant

[bdebusk@kansaseast.org](mailto:bdebusk@kansaseast.org)

785-272-9111 or 877-972-9111

Provides clerical and administrative support for the Area Superintendent for New Church Development. She is administrator for demographics resource site (MissionInsite) and researches demographics for churches, communities and other related projects.

# Districts of the Kansas East Annual Conference



## Where is the conference office?

