



Atlantic Central District
United Methodist Church

Atlantic Central District

E-Connection

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TRAINING LEADERS TO MAKE DISCIPLES OF CHRIST FOR THE TRANSFORMATION OF THE WORLD

**At the ATLANTIC CENTRAL DISTRICT ANNUAL TRAINING EVENT
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2009 9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
9625 NORTH MILITARY TRAIL, PALM BEACH GARDENS**

This FREE event includes a time of praise and worship, featuring Bishop Whitaker as our featured speaker. The day is designed to inspire and equip laity, lay staff, and clergy with a large variety of classes, refreshments, lunch, and a wonderful time for growing and connecting with other leaders in our district. It is provided by your Apportionments District Work Funds.

Childcare will be provided with reservations by January 31, 2009. Please plan to provide an unrefrigerated lunch and snacks for your children. Online reservations may be made to JPeterson@trinitypbg.org, or by calling (561) 622-5279, X 127.

The Staff Parish Relations Workshop, usually offered at a different time will be conducted at both morning and afternoon sessions. Other administrative areas will include Finance and Trustees. You are encouraged to bring as many as possible from these committees.

It is obvious that our communities are changing rapidly and MissionInsight provides a detailed report about the demographics and predictions of future changes. Dr. Mont Duncan will bring a full report on the demographics around your church if you email him by January 30th, with your request.

Brochures are being printed and will be delivered to each church. Please encourage your congregation to join you in attending this outstanding training opportunity. Any questions may be directed to Dottie Graves at dotnruss@cfl.rr.com or call (321) 722-3660.

- 9:00 REGISTRATION**
- 9:15 WORSHIP led by Rev. Bob Sheffey and the
Praise Team from 1st UMC, Boca Raton**
- 9:50 WELCOME**
- 10:00 FEATURED ADDRESS --- BISHOP TIMOTHY WHITAKER**
- 10:30 MORNING CLASSES**
- 12:15 LUNCH ON SITE**
- 1:45 AFTERNOON CLASSES**
- 3:30 ON THE ROAD AGAIN!**

DISTRICT JOYS AND CONCERNS:

-Jocelyn Adhemar (St. John Haitian Mission)
- Luke Sims
- Congratulations to Revs. Terri and John Hill on the birth of granddaughter Madeleine Jeanne Hill, daughter of C.J. and Amy Hill, Wilmore, KY
- Congratulations to The Ministry of Listening for 40 years of service to the female inmates of Brevard County Jail Complex. Members of First United Methodist Church of Titusville and Indian River City United Methodist Church of Titusville have been taking part in the ministry every Thursday morning since 1969!

DEADLINE FOR 2008 APPORTIONMENT EXTENDED

The deadline for remitting 2008 apportionments has been extended until **Jan. 15, 2009**. That means that payments sent into the Conference office need to be **received** by Jan. 15th. If they are received after the 15th they will be credited to 2009 apportionments. Because of the slowing economy the percentage of apportionments remitted through October 31 has dropped off significantly. At a recent Cabinet meeting, it was agreed on that only churches that pay 100 percent of the total connectional giving (apportionments, health insurance premiums, pensions, and property and casualty insurance) would be included in the listing of churches paying 100 percent and published in the Journal. Mickey Wilson, Conference Treasurer, encourages every church in the conference to make every effort to pay 100 percent," said Wilson. "Even in these difficult economic times, the call to be faithful stewards of all that God gives us does not diminish."

CHURCH AND PASTOR PROFILES

The church and pastor profiles should be reviewed and updated annually by all churches and all clergy in the Florida Conference. **They should be completed by Jan. 15th**. Though you may not anticipate a move, it is important that both the pastor and church profile be current and up to date by the appointment-making session of the Cabinet. It should be an honest reflection of the pastoral ministry and the profile of the church.

SPECIAL EVENT FOR POTENTIAL YOUNG CLERGY

The Center for Clergy Excellence will be holding a special event next February 20-22 for young adults, ages 18 to 25, who exhibit gifts for ministry. **"SCREAM: Get Ready for the Ride,"** will help young adults discern whether they are being called to fulltime Christian ministry. The event will be held at the Holiday Inn in Orlando near the entrance to Universal Studios. The cost to participate is a \$25 registration fee. The Rev. David Dodge, executive director of the Center, asks clergy in the Florida Conference to forward names of young adults who would then be invited to attend this event.

DISTRICT CALENDAR

27-28 – Thanksgiving Holiday – District office closed

DECEMBER

4 – RIM Group –@ District office 10– noon

15 – dCOM -8:30 @ First UMC, Pt St. Lucie

24-31 - Christmas Holiday – District office closed

JANUARY

1-2 – New Year Holiday – District office Closed

5-7 – Pre-Retirement Seminar www.fumf.org

8 – Leadership Council @ Lakewood Park UMC 11:00

13 – Refocus Group @ District office 9:00 a.m.

15 – Deadline for receiving 2008 apportionments

15 – Deadline for Pastor and Church Profiles

Clergy may send the names and addresses of young adults in an e-mail to Winnie Dean at wdean@flumc.org. Space is limited to the first 75 registrants.

FLORIDA CONFERENCE EXPANDS E-LEARNING MODULE

The Florida Conference continues to expand its long-distance, e-Learning opportunities with the introduction this week of "Come Let Us Worship," a training module for worship teams and leaders. The new online module is available free at <http://www.flumcelearning.com/>.

CLERGY KIDS RETREAT 2009...JANUARY 23 - 25, 2009

The annual Clergy Kids Retreat will be here at the Warren Willis Camp in Leesburg. The cost is **\$80 per person; \$230 max for family**. (Some scholarships are available upon request.) If you have never been, it's a great way to meet other members of that "very special group" known as Clergy Kids or Preacher's Kids. If you have missed a few years, don't worry, we still play nine-square, that great band of young musicians still come up from Miami, and everyone has fun! If you have been coming, we want you to come back because it's just not the same without you! For questions call Rhonda Kleckner at 352-316-5582 or Sally Campbell-Evans at 850-766-0018.

ASBURY SEMINARY HOSTS KINGDOM ENCOUNTER, FEB. 2-4, 2009

Asbury Theological Seminary will host Kingdom Encounter: Reaching the World from Feb. 2-4, 2009, on its Orlando, Fla., campus. The keynote speakers are Danny Wuerffel, 1996 Heisman trophy winner and executive director of Desire Street Ministries, and Tyron Inbody, professor emeritus of theology at United Theological Seminary in Dayton, Ohio. The 2009 Kingdom Conference features plenary and break-out sessions with both keynote speakers and ministry leaders in and around Orlando who are reaching the world for Christ. Attendees will also experience vibrant worship and interactive small-group seminars together. Seminary credit and continuing education units will be available. For a complete schedule and conference registration information, visit <http://www.asburyseminary.edu/kingdom-encounter/registration> or call 1.800.2ASBURY.

"HITCHHIKERS GUIDE TO EVANGELISM" WORKSHOP OFFERED

Have you or members of your local church wondered how you can better share God's Good News in this post-modern, topsy-turvy world? Are people in your congregation afraid to utter the "E" word—Evangelism?

If the answer is yes, you're invited to a day-long series of workshops presenting the "Hitchhikers Guide to Evangelism," sponsored in part by the office of Congregational Transformation of the Florida Conference.

Bill Easum and Bill Tenny-Brittian—two renown leaders in the field of teaching understandable, practical and effective evangelism—will be at Hyde Park United Methodist Church in Tampa, Saturday, Feb. 28, to bring a series of workshops for laity and clergy to come to terms with the "E" word. Onsite registration opens at 8:30 a.m.; the workshops begin at 9 a.m.

The sessions begin with a reminder that culture has changed and the church is largely operating as if the community is what it used to be. From there, the conference

will explore how effective evangelism is changing (and must change) to reach the growing population of un-churched and never churched people.

Registration is open now. Early registration (before Feb. 7, 2009) is \$85. Clergy who bring four people attend for free. For more information and to register, visit www.easumbandy.com.

2009 COUPLE'S RETREATS: "WALKING WITH JESUS"

Now is the time for you to register for the 2009 Couple's Retreat of your choice, March 13-15 or March 20-22. The theme is "Walking with Jesus" and it is sure to be a wonderful experience with exciting leaders at both retreats. For more information and to print out registration go to: www.ummflconf.org

Conference Center Auditors Needed

The Florida Conference is looking for retired or partially-employed people interested in performing church audits on an as needed basis. This person would travel to a church and review the necessary records, complete a questionnaire, and mail the questionnaire, year-end financial statement and other necessary back-up documents to the Conference and who would then prepare a report based on the information they have gathered.

Requirements: Accounting or auditing background; available to work two days a week for at least 26 weeks of the year; have transportation available to travel within the district they live in; and be able to work on own with little or no supervision.

The positions pay \$20/hour plus expenses. Training will be provided. To apply, send resumes to Wendy McCoy, director of Human Relations for the Florida Conference, at wmccoy@flumc.org.



The District office staff wish to all of
You a most joyous and holy season!
Blessings to you all...

Mike, Patti and Linda

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