



August, 2011

HELP!! Ever felt that way?

Actually “help” is a good place to start ministry – isn’t it? As I begin this new ministry as our D. S. I have asked God for help.

I feel I have more questions than answers. As frustrating as this is, it seems to be the best place to start a new ministry season. It seems Biblical to not trust our own understanding but God’s .

**Psalm 121:1-2** *I lift up my eyes to the mountains – where does my help come from? My help comes from the LORD, the Maker of heaven and earth.*

The Psalm continues to say God will watch over us, which is a word of hope to any who cry out for help.

As I move into this new ministry, I want to be open to God’s direction and my need to trust God with more than my “needs” and “wants”. I ask you to pray for me and I will pray for you that as we minister together our “needs” or “wants”, sometimes we call this “ego”, is yielded to God and to God’s community, His church, as we seek to proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ wherever we are in ministry.

My desire is to help you any way I can to be fruitful in ministry and as a way of knowing how to help I have and will continue to visit around the district to become familiar with your settings.

I will let you know soon about a clergy meeting(s) so we can be together to meet each other and listen to how God is working in our lives and our churches.

In God’s Grace,

**Please pray for:** Rev. Charlie Boggs (Ret) on death of mother; Rev. Tom Langford – health issues; Rev. Dan Baker on the death of his brother

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Website: [www.acdistrictumc.org](http://www.acdistrictumc.org)

## **August Calendar Reminders**

**18** - Leadership Council @ 10:30 Lakewood Park UMC - **CANCELLED**

**22**- dCOM - Executive Board only 8:30 a.m. at First, Pt. St. Lucie

**15-31** - Annual Ministry Protection Property and Casualty Insurance Review (Annual Survey)

**15-31** - Annual Workers Compensation Salary Survey

**25** - District Congregational Excellence meeting at 11:00 - First, Ft. Pierce

**25** - Charge Conference paperwork should be online

**It is time again for the Church/Charge Conferences.** You will be receiving a memorandum from the District Superintendent concerning the conferences – what needs to be turned in early – and what needs to be turned in afterward. Please note that “minutes” of the conference are required. You will also be receiving the form to fax to the District office to let us know when you have chosen for your conference. Please return that by the date specified.

The District Superintendent will be presiding over the Conferences of the churches that received new Pastors since December 1, 2010. This listing will also be included in the mailing. He has chosen a few other churches to be Presiding Elder and you will see those listed also. If you would like him to be Presiding Elder at your conference, please call the District office and I will set that up for you. As last year, the Charge Conference forms will be online at the Conference website ([www.flumc.org](http://www.flumc.org)) along with our District website ([www.acdistrictumc.org](http://www.acdistrictumc.org)). If you have questions, please feel free to contact Linda or Patti at the District office.

**TAKE A HEALTH ASSESSMENT.** You may be eligible for the wellness incentive – a **\$100 prepaid gift card** - if you complete the assessment by **August 31, 2011**. **Go to:** [www.myuhc.com](http://www.myuhc.com)

## **CHURCH BUSINESS ADMINISTRATORS MEETING**

The Central Florida Chapter of the National Association of Church Business Administrators cordially invites you to attend the Thursday, Aug. 18, 2011 meeting beginning at 11:45 a.m. at the College Park Baptist Church, 1914 Edgewater Drive, Orlando 32804. Membership is not required to attend and first time guests are treated to a free lunch. It will be a “work meeting lunch” and we usually finish by around 1:15 p.m. To make reservations or for information, please contact Joanna Proferes at [jproferes@flumc.org](mailto:jproferes@flumc.org) or call 863-688-5563 ext. 151.

## **Mileage Rate Changes**

<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Rates 7/1 through 12/31/11</b>
Business	55.5
Medical/Moving	23.5
Charitable	14

## Community Arise Basic Disaster Ministry Training

This training provides an introduction to the unique and important role the faith community plays in disaster mitigation, preparation and response. You and your church will hear practical ideas on how to effectively respond to disaster in your community in cooperation with other churches, emergency management officials and the Disaster Recovery Ministry of the conference. You will understand the importance of communication and collaboration in meeting the needs of disaster survivors and the importance of being the church in the midst of crisis.

There is no cost for this training; however, **registration is required** for planning purposes. Check in begins 30 minutes before training time and lunch is provided. For more information or to register, please visit [www.flumc.org/DisasterRecovery](http://www.flumc.org/DisasterRecovery) and follow the links to Community Arise.

August 6, 2011 10am – 3pm	Killearn UMC 2800 Shamrock Street South Tallahassee, FL 32309
August 13, 2011 10am – 3pm	Cypress Lake UMC – Ft. Myers 8570 Cypress Lake Dr. Ft. Myers, FL 33919
August 20, 2011 10am – 3pm	First UMC Mt. Dora 439 East 5 <sup>th</sup> Avenue Mt. Dora, FL 32757
August 27, 2011 10am – 3pm	First UMC Callahan 449644 Hwy. 301 Callahan, FL 32011
August 28, 2011 1pm – 6pm	First UMC Live Oak ** (This training is on Sunday afternoon.) 311 Ohio Ave. South Live Oak, FL 32064
September 10, 2011 10am – 3pm	Wesley Memorial UMC-Tampa 6100 Memorial Hwy. Tampa, FL 33615
September 24, 2011 10am – 3pm	South Shore UMC 11525 Big Bend Rd. Riverview, FL 33569
October 15, 2011 10am – 3pm	Conway UMC-Orlando 3401 S. Conway Rd. Orlando, FL 32812

## Early Response Team (ERT) Training

**NOTE:** Community Arise Training is required before taking ERT Training.

Early Response Teams (ERT) are self-contained teams who enter a disaster zone at the invitation of local emergency management officials. ERT's offer a Christian presence and are trained to provide various types of physical, emotional and spiritual assistance to disaster survivors. ERT's are registered with the Disaster Recovery Ministry of the Florida Conference and Disaster Recovery coordinates team placement with emergency management to get help where it is needed most after a disaster.

The two-day ERT training focuses on types, phases and levels of a disaster and explains what is meant by early response. It also covers spiritual and emotional care, support from the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR), faith-based response in disaster, and team leadership needs and equipment. Attendees receive a disaster response manual, T-shirt and badges identifying them as trained early responders for the Florida Conference and UMCOR.

**COST:** \$30 per person/\$40 per couple and includes housing, three meals, T-shirt, background check, ERT badges and manual. MUST BE 18 OR OLDER.

October 28 and 29, 2011 – Warren Willis Camp, Fruitland Park, Florida  
Training begins Friday evening at 5:30 and ends Saturday afternoon at 4:00.

For more information or to register, please visit [www.flumc.org/DisasterRecovery](http://www.flumc.org/DisasterRecovery) and follow the links to Early Response Team Training.

## UMVIM (United Methodist Volunteers in Mission) Team Leader Training

UMVIM Team Leader Training prepares volunteers to lead teams to projects in the United States and around the world. You will learn how to organize a mission trip from recruiting the team, to picking the location, getting support, staying safe, planning the work and much more. Not sure if you're ready to lead a team? Come and learn what it takes – you'll be well informed and a better team member!

**COST:** \$25 per person. Participants receive a Team Leader Manual and lunch is included.

Please register online at: [www.flumc.org/UMVIM](http://www.flumc.org/UMVIM)

If you have questions, please contact Pam Garrison or Greg Harford in Disaster Recovery Ministry. [pgarrison@flumc.org](mailto:pgarrison@flumc.org) or (800) 282-8011 ext. 148  
[gharford@flumc.org](mailto:gharford@flumc.org) or (800) 282-8011 ext. 195

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## United Methodist Men: Do You Want Fellowship and Inspiration?

If so, then the Men's Spiritual Retreats slated for this October are for you! The 2011 spiritual focus is "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." (Joshua 24:15) Three retreat events designed to renew and equip men for ministry and service will be held this October at the Life Enrichment Center in Fruitland Park. Click here for the Retreats brochure for all the information you'll need. Full payment for the events is due by August 15. For more information about UMM and their latest newsletter, visit the website at <http://www.ummflconf.org> or call Joe Moxley, District Coordinator at (321)693-1171.

## Thirty-first Annual Clergy/Ministers' Mates Retreat

Friday, November 4 to Sunday, November 6, 2011  
Florida UM Life Enrichment Center, Fruitland Park, FL

Spiritually-guided, uplifting worship services led by Juddy Karei, Asbury Seminary student from Kenya who will educate and inspire you. Special sessions designed for mates who are young or new to ministry, those who are suffering from "moves anxiety," dealing with child-rearing issues, major life changes, or simply in need . . . Interesting discussion sessions led by mates who have been in ministry for 10+ years.

Fun and engaging breakout sessions designed to suit most everyone's taste!

Can't join us for the whole weekend, but still want to come? Sign up for the one-day retreat! Partial scholarships will be available for first-time attendees and mates with financial needs. WATCH FOR YOUR BROCHURE IN THE MAIL OR REGISTER [\[Click Here\]](#) beginning June 1.

For more information, send us an email at [FLUMC-mates@cfl.rr.com](mailto:FLUMC-mates@cfl.rr.com) or send us a message on our Facebook page under "Florida Conference UM Ministers' Mates"

## 17<sup>th</sup> Annual C.R.O.S. Ministries CROS WALK

211 Trinity Place

Sunday, October 9

Registration begins at 2:30p.m.

Walk starts at 3:00p.m.

The walk begins in front of Holy Trinity Church on Flagler.



### Recruiter Rallies are scheduled for August 28 and August 29.

If you are going to be your congregation's/group's recruiter, please complete the attached form and R.S.V.P. to me which rally you will be attending. The form is a pdf file that you can download to your computer, complete, and email back to me.

**Sunday, August 28, 5:00p.m. - 6:00p.m.**  
**United Methodist Church of the Palm Beaches**  
900 Brandywine Road, West Palm Beach

**Monday, August 29, 5:30p.m. - 6:30p.m.**  
**St. Paul's Episcopal Church**  
188 S. Swinton Avenue, Delray Beach

Creation Care Task Force

### EARTH CARE NOTICE

If you and your congregation are struggling with why and how to manifest the loving concern that God has for creation, your conference Creation Care Task Force are glad to help you out. Members of our group would consider providing programs for your church's weekly activities or for workshops and retreats. As with every aspect of our spiritual walk, accepting accountability for our part in God's purpose frees us from guilt and releases us into a deeper walk with the Creator. Your task force is happy to come along beside you and help you and your congregation gets the footing to represent the Creator's loving kindness to your community. Contact Melinda Trotti, Director of Justice and Outreach of the Annual Conference at 1-800-282-8011 x 504 or email [mtrotti@flumc.org](mailto:mtrotti@flumc.org) for more information.

If your congregation would like to look at ways to promote earth stewardship to your membership or community, you may be interested in the "Cool Congregations Challenge", through the Interfaith Power and Light. Check it out at [Take the Cool Congregation Challenge](#).



## Help Our Kids Go Back to School!

Won't you help ALL of our kids be ready for Back to School with a gift of \$50 or even \$25?

### **DONATE NOW!!**

#### **\$34 - ELEMENTARY BACKPACK**

Complete school supplies and backpack for an elementary school student (pencils, paper, notebook, folders, etc.)

#### **\$63 - MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL BACKPACK**

Complete school supplies and backpack for a middle/high school student (supplies, calculators, binders, pens, etc.)

#### **\$228 - NEW SCHOOL CLOTHES**

Shirts, pants, and shoes for one resident

**\$357 - COMPLETE BACK TO SCHOOL PACKAGE** School supplies, lab fees, athletic equipment and fees, band/music fees, clothes for one year

**\$986 - HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR PACKAGE** Complete back to school package as well as yearbook, prom, announcement and graduation fees

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**The Renfro Trust gives out up to \$5000 to UMC's in the SEJ that are located in rural areas. Please check out these attachments to learn the details!!! The deadline for applying is Sept**



Final Renfro Trust  
Guidelines 2011.doc



Final Renfro Trust  
Fund Application 2011:



Renfro Trust Fund  
Letter 2011.docx

## **ADVANCED LAY SERVANT CERTIFICATION – ON LINE CLASSES OFFERED**

Six online courses for advanced lay servant certification are being offered this summer by the Institute for Discipleship. These courses are approved by the General Board of Discipleship. While more expensive than classes offered here in the district or in the conference, online courses offer the benefits of convenience, additional study time and several start times throughout the year. Sharing in the traditional classroom or workshop setting is always to be preferred, but if your schedule will not allow it, try one of these courses:

<http://beadisciple.com/layspeakingministries.html> If you are offered the option while registering, please include my email address for notice of course completion.

## **LAY SERVANT MINISTRIES – CLASSES AVAILABLE**

**WELLINGTON – ST. PETER UMC:** BASIC COURSE with Bruce Robertson, on two consecutive Saturdays, **September 24<sup>th</sup> and October 1<sup>st</sup>**, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Please buy and read the text, *Lay Speaking Ministries Basic Course Participants Guide*, in advance.

For all classes listed below, you must register with Rod Groom, buy and read the required text from [www.cokesbury.com](http://www.cokesbury.com) in advance, and complete all 10 hours of class for credit. Bring \$10 cash or a check or money order made out to Atlantic Central District.

**SEBASTIAN:** LAY SPEAKERS DISCOVER SPIRITUAL GIFTS with Don Bolinger and Mary Lou Rothfuss at First UMC – Sebastian on Friday night and Saturday, **September 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>** (Friday night 6:30 to 9:00 p.m., Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.). The required text is *Each One A Minister: Using God's Gifts for Ministry*, by William J. Carter.

**PALM BEACH GARDENS:** TEACHING ADULTS with Steve Dunlap at Trinity – Palm Beach Gardens on **September 10<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>**, two Saturdays in a row, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The required text is [Start Here](#): *Teaching and Learning with Adults*, by Barbara Bruce.

**PORT ST. JOHN:** BASIC COURSE with Mike Bowen, and the Advanced Course: FROM YOUR HEART TO THEIRS: DELIVERING AN EFFECTIVE SERMON with Gary Jones, both at First UMC – Port St. John, on **September 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>** (Friday night 6:30 to 9:00 p.m., Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.). The texts are *Lay Speaking Ministries Basic Course Participants Guide*, or *From Your Heart to Theirs Participants Guide*.

**ROCKLEDGE:** LAY PASTORAL CARE GIVING with Janice Long at Rockledge UMC on two consecutive Saturdays, **October 15<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>**, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. The required text is *Lay Pastoral Care Giving*, by Tim Farabaugh.

**BOCA RATON:** A possible class at First UMC – Boca in January.

**FORT PIERCE:** Classes as needed at First UMC – Fort Pierce (contact me below!). I will most likely offer one of the below in January. Call or email and let me know what **you** would like! New and “newer” possible classes include: Aging and Ministry in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, Go Preach!, Transforming Evangelism, Living as a United Methodist (Replaces UM Heritage Course), Becoming a Class Leader, Extending The Table, Spiritual Leadership (Replaces Servant Leader Course), Creating a Culture of Just Peace, Following a Biblical Roadmap (Replaces Leading Bible Study), Spanish Translation of the Basic Course, Spanish Translation of Devotional Life in the Wesleyan Tradition.

**DIRECTIONS, REGISTRATION, FURTHER INFORMATION:** If you have questions, would like to register for any of the above, or are interested in putting together a class at your own church, contact: Rod Groom, Lay Servant Ministries, Atlantic Central District  
772 595 5731 (Home)      772 359 2695 (Cell)      [rod.groom@gmail.com](mailto:rod.groom@gmail.com)

**EXPLORATION 2011**, an event for young adults ages 18-26 who are exploring God's call to ordained ministry in The United Methodist Church, will take place **Nov. 11-13 in St. Louis, MO.**

Sponsored by the UMC's General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, the event provides a chance to learn more about the call to ordained ministry through worship, prayer, workshops, networking, and small groups. Find out more at [www.gbhem.org/exploration](http://www.gbhem.org/exploration) or <http://www.facebook.com/ExploUMC>

There will be a group from Florida traveling to the event together, flying in and out of Orlando, with Rev. Emily Oliver (Center for Clergy Excellence), Dave Sippel (Director of Young People's Ministries) and other campus ministers and young clergy, and we hope you'll join us! We currently have spots for 15 young adults to travel with us, with airfare paid by the Florida Conference.

Your airfare from Orlando to St. Louis and back will be paid for by the Florida Conference, and you will pay your own registration fee. The registration fee will cover your two-night stay at the Millennium Hotel, meals, and program fees. The cost is \$150 for early registration (now through September 5), \$175 for standard registration (September 6-25), and \$200 for late registration (September 26-October 3).

#### **Want to join us on the trip?**

- 1) Email Emily to sign up for one of the 15 paid-for airfare spots, and
- 2) Register yourself for the event at [www.gbhem.org/exploration](http://www.gbhem.org/exploration) and pay your own registration fee.

Your place in the group will not be finalized until you complete both of these steps!

**Questions?** Email Emily at [emily.oliver@flumc.org](mailto:emily.oliver@flumc.org) or Dave at [dsippel@flumc.org](mailto:dsippel@flumc.org)

### **Tax Refund Opportunity for Local Churches**

- Does your church have 25 or less employees?
- Do you provide health insurance for these employees?
- Are you paying more than 50% of the cost of the health insurance premiums?
- Is your average annual payroll wages less than \$50,000 per person?



Specific instructions  
for the credit.doc

If you can answer yes to all of these questions, you may qualify for a refundable tax credit for a percentage of the cost of the employer's share of the health insurance premiums. Yes, we said "refundable" as in money sent back to you from the IRS. Does this sound too good to be true? The Credit for Small Employer Health Insurance Premiums was part of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act passed by Congress in March of 2010, and was intended to motivate smaller employers into providing health insurance to their employees. So if you answered yes to all of the above questions, follow the link to find out how to calculate this credit for your church, and how to file once you've finished the calculations. Word of warning: the calculation sounds complicated, but this link will walk you step by step through the process and get you successfully to the other side, and hopefully to a much appreciated refund.