



Atlantic Central District

July Calendar

4 - Independence Day Holiday
19- NCD - 4 p.m. - Community of
Hope UMC - 14101
Okeechobee Blvd.,
Loxahatchee

August Calendar

18 - Leadership Council @ 10:30
Lakewood Park UMC
22- dCOM - Executive Board only
8:30 a.m. at First, Pt. St.
Lucie
25 - District Congregational
Excellence meeting at
11:00 - First, Ft. Pierce

District Joys and Concerns

Rev. Dan and Toni Parrish welcome
their new grandson, Chase Andrew
Parrish on 6/16

Dr. Gary Spencer

District Superintendent
DS-AC@flumc.org

Patti Moxley

Administrative Assistant
flumc-ac@flumc.org

Linda Graham

Financial Admin Assistant
flumc-ac2@flumc.org

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**Welcome to our new District Superintendent,
Dr. Gary Spencer and his wife, Judy! Now the
journey begins!!**

We also welcome to the Atlantic Central District:

Doug Swan – Community UMC, Belle Glade
Tom Tift – Associate Pastor at First UMC, Boca Raton
Jim Lake – Faith UMC, Boynton Beach
Don Corbit – First UMC, Boynton Beach
Melissa Stump – First UMC, Cocoa Beach
Craig and Dionne Hammond – First UMC, Melbourne
Steve Hart – First UMC, Port St. John
Joe Andujar – Associate Pastor at First UMC, Port St. Lucie
Skip Parvin – First UMC, Titusville
Todd Stube – Good Shepherd UMC, West Palm Beach
David Branson – Lakeside UMC, Lake Worth
Jacquie Leveron – Lakewood UMC, Ft. Pierce
John Denmark – Trinity UMC, Palm Beach Gardens

**Congratulations to the following Pastors who were
commissioned, licensed or ordained:**

Elder in Full Connection

Shirley Groom, Louis Tamburro, Dionne Hammond

Provisional Elder

Patti Aupperlee, Doug McClain, Gene Yotka

Local Pastor

Rachel Hollingsworth, Tom Tift

Conference Board of Pension & Health Benefits introduces Wellness Initiative

Every day, Americans face the risks of developing chronic diseases. No one is immune to these risks. The risk of heart disease, high blood pressure, osteoporosis, diabetes, being overweight and some cancers can all be reduced by incorporating healthy behaviors such as physical activity, good nutrition, and stress reduction into our daily lives.

To begin addressing these and other health issues, The Conference Board of Pension & Health Benefits is introducing a wellness initiative for *clergy and laity* enrolled in the conference health insurance plan. This initiative will provide medical screenings to help diagnose problems at the earliest stage, encourage prompt treatment and follow up care of identified health conditions, provide specialized support for those with chronic diseases, promote fitness and exercise programs to help preempt diseases, health education to raise awareness on how to lead an active and healthy lifestyle, and behavior modification programs that help curtail tobacco use or attain weight control.

The programs and tools being made available through this initiative are provided by United Healthcare, the administrator of the conference health insurance program. UHC offers an extensive array of programs and tools that can support you and your family, from advice on diet and exercise to coaching programs that provide specialized support for people living with chronic diseases like asthma and diabetes. The health and wellness section of the website www.myuhc.com also offers a large library of articles, calculators, quizzes and other information to support your efforts to live a healthy life.

I know from experience how difficult it is to live a healthy balanced life. But, I hope you will take this opportunity to evaluate your physical and mental health needs and make a commitment to take some action to care for yourself.

I'm also asking you to support this initiative by completing the United Healthcare online Health Assessment. Just go to www.myuhc.com and register or login to the home page and click the link **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. Please share this opportunity with lay employees of your church, if they are enrolled in the Conference United Healthcare plan, as they are eligible for the incentive too.

Prepaid gift cards will be mailed by the end of September, 2011. The eligibility criteria for this incentive are listed below.

Thank you, in advance, for your support of this important initiative.

Eligibility Requirements for the Wellness Incentive

- Participants and their spouses (clergy and laity) who are enrolled in the Florida Conference United Healthcare Choice Plus plan for active participants are eligible for this incentive.
- Married couples who are both enrolled in United Healthcare's Choice Plus plan can earn up to \$200. Both the participant and spouse must each log in to the www.myuhc.com web site using their own unique username and passwords. (Spouses cannot take the Health Assessment under the participant's username).
- For married participants with a spouse not enrolled in the Florida Conference's United Healthcare Choice Plus plan, only the participant needs to take the Health Assessment to qualify for the \$100 incentive.
- For retired couples where one participant is enrolled in the United Healthcare Choice Plus plan and the other participant is enrolled in a Medicare Supplement plan, only the participant enrolled in the United Healthcare Choice Plus plan needs to take the Health Assessment to qualify for the \$100 incentive.

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 have been 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.

Rod Groom, Associate Lay Leader & Lay Servant Ministries Director

Phone: 772 595 5731 Email: rod.groom@gmail.com



2011 Summer Missions

**Changing lives, Changing churches, Changing you.
Ocala Area Mission July 16-23, 2011**

There are neighborhoods just like yours with people waiting to feel a touch from God. There are people just like you who want to share God's love with others, but they are afraid and don't know how to begin.

Celebrate Jesus Missions offer opportunities to get out into the neighborhoods and share the love of Jesus in invitational ways. *No experience is necessary!*

Volunteer missionaries (that's YOU!) stay at a host church and work with that church family to offer acts of kindness and prayer to their neighbors. Activities include handing out free gifts to neighbors, offering free car washes, delivering homemade goodies to local businesses, giving out cold water bottles at parks.....you'll learn new skills to try at home!

Complete an application and send it to our office. Applications available at www.CJMission.org Come as an individual, couple or family. Application fee: \$150 individual; \$50 for each additional family member

*Celebrate Jesus Inc., PO Box 3386, Orlando, FL 32802-3386
Phone: (407) 893-7305; E-mail: celebrate.jesus@CJMission.org*

Methodists United in Prayer

Many from our district were blessed to meet with the Cuban Bishop, Ricardo Pereira, at the annual conference in Tampa. Members of the MUIP Task Force met with the Bishop over lunch at Hyde Park UMC on Saturday, June 4. He was quite receptive to our questions and was open to helping us get more visas so more of us can travel to Cuba more often. He gave us an overview of the history of the Methodist Church in Cuba, and it's phenomenal growth in recent years. That evening, the Task Force sponsored a reception for the Bishop and his wife, Maritza, where many people were able to meet and converse with him. On Sunday, June 5, he preached at both services at Hyde Park UMC. Bishop Whitaker introduced Bishop Pereira as "our brother in faith." Bishop Whitaker said, "I know I can speak for the people of Florida when I say what a blessing it has been to be in contact with the people of the Methodist Church in Cuba."

The Bishop told attendees at the conference that these are exciting days for the Methodist Church in Cuba. The church has had more freedom than it has had in 50 years, and it is growing at a rate that would be the envy of any denomination in the United States. He attributed the growth to training people for personal evangelism. It is a lesson he hopes the Cuban church can teach to Methodists in Florida.

We continue to explore avenues to be able to have more people travel to Cuba to experience the rich blessing we receive from them, and are currently working on a clown ministry to take to them. If you have a sister church and may be interested in providing them with a clown ministry, please contact one of the coordinators for more information.

We continue to try to strengthen the relationship between those sister churches who have become inactive, and to establish new sister church relationships. For assistance in strengthening a relationship that has been established or if your church is thinking about becoming a sister church, please contact Shirley or Marj and they would love to share information and do a slide presentation of the blessings you will receive.

We have now published the second issue of our newsletter, The Cuba Connection.

[The Cuba Connection](#)

Coordinators - Shirley Dunlap – 321-984-2167 – shirley.dunlap@att.net

Marj Green – 321-543-1419 – humbird46@cfl.rr.com

THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION HAS BEEN RECEIVED FROM THE FLORIDA CONFERENCE DISASTER RECOVERY MINISTRY:

At this time the North Alabama Conference has requested only UMCOR-certified ERT's. As they are getting their work teams together to serve in recovery, consider hosting a Community Arise Basic Disaster Ministry Training in late summer, early fall and then attending **ERT Training October 28th and 29th** in order to receive UMCOR certification.

Please let your congregations know that monetary gifts may be sent to UMCOR EMERGENCY ADVANCE #3021326 either to UMCOR or to FL Conference Treasurer.

STORM RESPONSE UPDATES FROM FL. CONFERENCE DISASTER RESPONSE MINISTRY:

"For those who are frustrated by the need for ERT training, I understand that in a disaster of this magnitude, we just want to go and help. I want to make clear that there are other organizations who are calling for volunteers. If you feel called to serve with those organizations, and are invited, our blessings go with you. However, if you want to serve during this phase of the response, under the direction of the United Methodist Church, this is the channel through which you do that. I believe ERT makes us the best volunteer we can be: skill, safety, pastoral care. I again, urge folks to not go into heavily devastated areas on their own. It is unsafe..."*Matt Lacey, Director of Mission and Advocacy for the North Alabama Conference*

Florida Churches will be needed in long-term recovery

Authorities anticipate that Alabama will be in recovery for at least 18 months or more once the work of long-term recovery begins. Instead of lamenting that you are not ERT trained and certified, **begin now to put a work team together to do repairs and rebuilding, helping survivors put their homes and their lives back together. These work teams could be needed as early as late summer, but the need will certainly continue long into 2012 and perhaps beyond.** Know your capacity and do that which God calls you to do.

For more information or if you would like to know more about sending a work team when the relief phase is completed and recovery work begins, please contact Disaster Recovery: (800) 282-8011 Ext. 148

Joyfully,

Rev. Patti Aupperlee, Atlantic Central District Disaster Coordinator

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 1.



Final Renfro Trust
Guidelines 2011.doc



Final Renfro Trust
Fund Application 201:



Renfro Trust Fund
Letter 2011.docx

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.

Summer Church Music Workshop Florida Southern College July 17th to 22nd

The Florida Chapter of the Fellowship of United Methodists in Music and Worship Arts will hold its 55th Annual Church Music Workshop from Sunday afternoon, July 17th - Friday noontime, July 22nd, at Florida Southern College in Lakeland. Anyone involved in church music or worship planning, are invited to join us. Our theme is "The Best Table – Do This in Remembrance of Me". We are asking all pastors in the conference to forward this information to the music and worship leaders in their church and encourage them to take this opportunity to connect with other church musicians and worship leaders in the conference and be renewed. For more information and for registration information, please visit our website at: www.floridafellowship.org or contact Joan FitzGerald, Workshop Chairperson, at joan.fitzgerald@verizon.net.

FLORIDA HOUSING LAUNCHES STATEWIDE HARDEST-HIT FUND PROGRAM

On Tuesday, April 5, Florida Housing Finance Corporation (Florida Housing) announced that unemployed or underemployed homeowners in Florida, who are having difficulty paying their mortgages, will be able to apply for financial assistance from the Florida Hardest-Hit Fund (HHF) beginning, April 18. The program will be available to troubled homeowners in all 67 counties in the state. "For the homeowners who qualify, this temporary relief from their mortgage payments will provide some 'breathing room' so they can focus on becoming re-employed at a level that will allow them to resume making payments on their own."

Homeowners in every Florida County may apply for financial assistance from the fund by using the official HHF website: www.FLHardestHitHelp.org. The site contains all the information users will need to begin the application process, including a program fact sheet, answers to frequently asked questions and links to resources that may be helpful to those experiencing economic challenges.

Did you miss the opportunity to have your picture taken at Annual Conference for our pastoral directory?

We want to include you -- please send us your photograph! Send your photo to: Tony G. Kerns 12941 Solola Way Trinity, FL 34655
Photos must be received by July 15. Photos will not be returned, so please send us a copy that you do not want back. Digital photos may be submitted by email to tkerns@lifetouch.com

Mileage Rate Changes

Purpose	Rates 1/1 through 6/30/11	Rates 7/1 through 12/31/11
Business	51	55.5
Medical/Moving	19	23.5
Charitable	14	14

The IRS reimbursement has been increased as indicated , beginning July 1 trough Dec 31.

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 further information, please contact Joanna Proferes at jproferes@flumc.org or call 863-688-5563 ext. 151.

Lee Johnson and Ed Hampton of *TransformU* will be the guest speakers. In addition to *Angel Flight America*, a non-profit group of volunteer pilots who provide charitable medical transportation, Lee and Ed developed *TransformU*; a seasoned group of independent coaches, trainers and consultants for non-profits, profits and even the U. S. Military. FYI – Lee Johnson is a member of the First United Methodist Church of Tavares and Ed Hampton is a member of St. Luke’s Lutheran Church in Orlando.

Come join us on Aug. 18...you will be glad you did. Also, check out the National Association online at www.nacba.net.

Take Time to Listen

For many people today, including Christians, the art of really listening to another person much less to God, seems all but lost. In a world of instant communication, with email, text messaging and twitter, information is quickly exchanged but seldom do we pause long enough to consider what is really being said. The pace of life is intense and ultimately harmful as a sustaining practice. We need to take time to listen.

At its heart, the Academy for Spiritual Formation is an experience in listening: to one another, to oneself, to God. During the two-year experience, participants are guided in a course of reading and instruction in Christian spirituality, yet this is not the heart of the program. It is in the silence and in the worship, in the small groups and around the table that one begins to feel heard. And then one begins to listen, really listen with the ears of one’s heart to the heartbeat of God.

Beginning July 26, 2011, the two-year Academy for Spiritual Formation will be offered at the Life Enrichment Center in Leesburg, FL. For the first time, it will be a multi-cultural experience with both English and Spanish speaking leadership. New and continuing faculty presenters make this an especially strong offering, including some you may recognize: Wendy Wright, Juan Bek, Carmen Gaud, Bob Mulholland, Paul Chilcote, Linda Douty, Steve Harper and others. All faculty presenters are chosen because of their ability to listen and every one brings a wealth of insights and gifts to share.

There is still time to apply for Academy #32 but you need to hurry! More information and an application are available at www.upperroom.org/academy or by calling 1-877-899-2781, ext. 7233.

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 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 th 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 ** 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

** This training is on Sunday afternoon.

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 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 Volunteer in Mission teams to projects in the United States and around the world. You will learn the "ins and outs" of organizing a mission trip from recruiting the team, to picking the location, getting support, staying safe, planning the work and much, much more. You'll also enjoy a wonderful time of fellowship with other "mission-minded" folks.

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

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If you have questions, please contact Pam Garrison or Greg Harford in Disaster Recovery Ministry.

pgarrison@flumc.org or (800) 282-8011 ext. 148
gharford@flumc.org or (800) 282-8011 ext. 195