



Atlantic Central District

Michael C. Oliver, District Superintendent

May Calendar

1 - Announcement Sunday
5 - Clergy Excellence Committee 11:30
*15 - Annual Conference Orientation
19 - Leadership Council 10:30
Lakewood Park UMC, Ft. Pierce
*19 - Clergy Team Meeting
*22 - Annual Conference Orientation
23 - dCOM - 9:00 @ First UMC, Port
St. Lucie
24 - NCD at District office 4:00 p.m.
30 - District office closed Memorial Day
31 - **June 3** - District office closed for
Florida Annual Conference

- **Please read article**

District Joys and Concerns

*Tornado victims & families
Pastors & Churches going
through moves
Congratulations to Rev. Louis
and Andrea Tamburro, St.
Andrew UMC, Titusville, on the
birth of their son, Caleb Andrew
on April 22nd

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District Pre-Conference Orientations

Sunday, May 15, 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. Wesley UMC
2075 Meadowland Avenue, West Melbourne, FL 32904-4951

Sunday, May 22, 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. Trinity UMC
9625 North Military Trail, Palm Beach Gardens, FL 34410-5498

Pastors, please make sure your church's Lay Member to Annual Conference has this information. Please bring your Annual Conference workbooks with you.

Clergy Team Meeting

There will be a Clergy Team Meeting on May 19th at 1:30 p.m. The meeting will be held at Lakewood Park UMC, 5405 Turnpike Feeder Rd., Ft. Pierce. Our guest speaker will be Rev. Jeff Stiggins, Executive Director of Congregational Excellence. All clergy are expected to attend. If you cannot attend, you must contact the D. S. via email at DS-AC@flumc.org no later than May 13th.

From: Pam Garrison, Manager of Disaster Recovery

As news continues to pour in on the devastation and loss of life from the tornadoes that ripped through the south, many have asked how they can help. We are in communication with our partners, UMCOR and UMCVIM, and they are in touch with the affected conferences to offer support and assistance when requested. At this time, we are being asked to stand by until the needs assessment process is completed. Please do not begin collecting material donations and supplies until we know exactly what is needed. As Christians, our hearts go out to hurting people and we want to "do" something. Until we have been invited by the local authorities to provide volunteers or resources, the very best thing we can do is pray. We also invite you to give generously to US Spring Storms 2011, **UMCOR**

Emergency Advance #3021326. When you give to this UMCOR Advance, you can be assured that 100% of your donation goes to those who have been affected by the storms.



Celebrate Jesus

Do You Love Golf and the Gospel?

If you love golf and the gospel, then the Third Annual Celebrate Jesus Golf Classic may be for you!

The 2011 Classic, held in conjunction with the 2011 Florida Annual Conference in Tampa, will be on Tuesday, May 31, 2011, at the Summerfield Crossing Golf Club in Riverview, Florida. More about the course is available [here](#). All you need to join us for an 8 a.m. check-in and 8:30 a.m. shotgun start is included in our [brochure](#).

Celebrate Jesus, Inc. is a non-profit organization with a vision to “awaken passion and equip people to share the gospel and reach neighbors for Jesus Christ.” All proceeds from the golf classic will benefit Celebrate Jesus, Inc.’s work and its 2011 missions in the Lakeland and Ocala areas. For information about our ministry and organization, visit our website at www.cjmission.org. If you have any questions, contact Tournament Director Rev. Tom Willetts at pastortom@embarqmail.com or 239-634-7608.



Celebrate Jesus

2011 Summer Missions

Changing lives, Changing churches, Changing *you*.

Lakeland Area Mission
June 18-25, 2011

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

For those needing CEUs...!

The August 8th – 11th Wisdom and Grace conference at Lake Junaluska offers a professional track workshop; participants earn one CEU. This year's leader is Brian Jones, Senior Research Engineer, Interactive Media Technology Center, Georgia Tech. Entitled "Technologies to Support Aging-in-Place," Mr. Jones will cover advanced technologies that have the potential to help older adults remain in their home longer, while reducing the need for constant on-site supervision by both professional and family caregivers. Participants will learn about technologies for: 1.) monitoring independent ambulation (daily activities), 2.) providing medication reminders and adherence, and 3.) assisting with social communication. A portion of the workshop will introduce the future of such technologies providing: wellness coaching to maintain health; tools for self-management of chronic conditions; and the potential to enable clinicians to provide more personalized care through better understanding of the individual's behavior and needs. Demonstrations of some products currently available in these categories will be provided to help participants understand how they function.

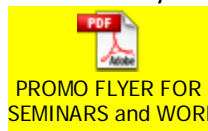
Additionally, the conference preacher is Dr. Leonard Sweet. For more information and/or to register, go to <http://www.lakejunaluska.com/wisdom-and-grace/>.

Lilly Endowment Announces 2011 National Clergy Renewal Program

Lilly Endowment seeks to strengthen Christian congregations by providing an opportunity for pastors to step away briefly from the persistent obligations of daily parish life and to engage in a period of renewal and reflection. Renewal periods are not vacations, but times for intentional exploration and reflection, for drinking again from God's life-giving waters, for regaining enthusiasm and creativity for ministry. In the 2011 National Clergy Renewal Program, the Endowment anticipates awarding as many as 150 grants of up to \$50,000 each directly to Christian congregations for the support of a renewal program for their pastor. Up to \$15,000 of the grant may be used for congregational expenses associated with the renewal program. **Deadline for submission of proposals is May 12, 2011.** Notification of grant awards will be made in September 2011. <http://www.clergyrenewal.org/>

Workshop Resources from Congregational Excellence

It is their goal to offer and facilitate training and coaching throughout the conference on district and local church levels. Please feel free to connect with any of the Conference staff in Congregational Excellence if you are interested in any of the workshops.



Lay Servant Ministries Survey

Lay Servant Ministries is looking for your input to help us plan our future activities within the Atlantic Central District. Please give us a couple of minutes to answer ten quick questions: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/K8R5LMM>

United Methodist Volunteers in Mission Team Leader Training

UMVIM Team Leader Training prepares volunteers to lead short-term mission teams to projects in the United States and around the world. Learn about recruiting the team, picking the location, getting support, staying safe, planning the work, preparing the team spiritually, and more. Cost is \$25 per person. Participants receive a Team Leader Manual and lunch is included. To register online: www.flumc.org/UMVIM. For more information contact Pam Garrison (800) 282-8011 x 148 or pgarrison@flumc.org.

Wesley Hispanic UMC – Coral Gables

May 7, 2011 9:00 – 4:00

New Covenant UMC – The Villages

Sept. 10, 2011 9:00 – 4:00

Summer Church Music Workshop to be held at Florida Southern 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.

This has been approved as alternate credit (3.5 CEUs) for recertification of Lay Servant Ministries by Gwen Dube, Conference Director for Lay Servant Ministries.

The FOUNDATION OFFERS ... two scholarships that are intended exclusively for the use of United Methodist students who wish to further their education beyond high school. The **Sinclair Scholarship** is specifically for *incoming freshmen* with strong academic skills and a record of service to church and community. The **Alice W. Lockmiller Scholarship** is available to United Methodists who are full-time students attending a junior college, senior college, university, seminary or other institution for educational or occupational training beyond the high school level. Applicants do not have to be incoming freshmen. Please see the attached poster [here](#) for further information.

Couples Spiritual Retreat Offered May 20-22 – Life Enrichment Center

Sponsored by the Florida Conference United Methodist Men, the retreat centers on the theme "As for Me and My House." The retreat includes praise time, plenary sessions and breakout sessions, offering time to take your discipleship deeper. Registration and program information are available in the [brochure](#), which you can print and share with your church. Costs vary depending on length of stay, where you stay, and how many meals you need while on-site. Additional information and registrations forms may be downloaded at www.ummflconf.org or by contacting the United Methodist Men toll free at 877-815-3692.

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 at 9 a.m. on Monday, April 18. On this day, the program will become available to troubled homeowners in all 67 counties in the state.

“We’re now in the position to offer this financial assistance statewide to the people out there who are desperately struggling to stay in their homes,” said Steve Auger, executive director of Florida Housing. “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.

United Methodist Men – Congratulations on all of the good things your UMM groups are doing in our District. Supporting local missions, summer camps, Bible Studies and work around the church are great and support the local churches and their communities. Please remember to look at the dates to renew your charter so that the spirit of mission and service will go out to the national and international communities as well. Keep up the good work!

Yours in Christ,
Joe Moxley
District Representative