

THE AMERICUS District NEWSLETTER- FEBRUARY 2012

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A GOD-SIZED VENTURE

In February the Bishop and Cabinet will begin in earnest the appointive process. We will be seeking to place pastors and churches together, if they are not already, for the up building of the Kingdom of God. Much prayer and reflection will go into this process. Multiple issues will feed into this involved time of discernment. However, even with the most thorough of information and the shared wisdom of the Bishop and Cabinet, it is not adequate in and of itself. This is truly a God-sized venture. Only if God, through the power of the Holy Spirit, provides divine guidance can we do that which is best for the Kingdom of God.

I know all too well, what a time of high anxiety this can be for pastors and churches. I have waited for that call from the district superintendent as you have, almost afraid to pick up the phone to see if this is the long expected call (even call identification has not eased the anxiety). As long as we itinerate as Methodist clergy, this time of anxiety will be there.

You have been in my prayers as we journey through this trying time. Each superintendent is lifting up the pastors and their families during the appointive process. We realize that this is a God sized venture. As we pour ourselves into this process please pray that God will indeed give us wisdom and insight that is far beyond our own that the process of the placement of pastors will truly build up God's Kingdom and grow His Church. God bless you!

Wayne

Love

JOHN 15:13





It seems so strange that the first day of Lent is upon us so suddenly. We just celebrated the wondrous birth of our Lord and now we will begin the first day of Lent on February 22. As we prepare and anticipate the coming of Jesus during Advent, so now, we must prepare ourselves for the death of our precious Lord and Savior during Lent. Jesus will finally fulfill his promise to us throughout the ages. Are we ready to follow Christ throughout our lives and prepare ourselves for eternal happiness in heaven? Are we willing to follow the true path to glory as our Lord, Jesus Christ did? Lent is a time for us to examine our hearts and ask for forgiveness of our sins. Now is the time to make straight the way of the Lord.

Pastor Retirement

Pastors planning to retire are, according to the Book of Discipline, required to let the Bishop, the District Superintendent, and the Chair of the Board of Ordained Ministry, know in writing of their intentions to retire. They are to do this in writing at 120 days prior to annual conference.

Bishop King has decided that he wants that count back to be 120 days from the day of the clergy session. **That means the deadline for these letters will be February 5, 2012.**



THE DISCIPLE COVENANT CONFERENCE

Something New: For You- Your Team- Your Congregation

February 24-25, 2012, Macon Centreplex (Macon Coliseum), Macon, GA

You can go online to register at www.disciplecovenantconference.org

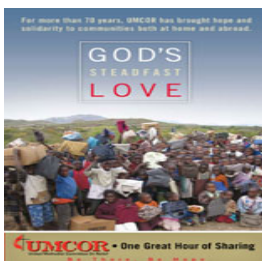
The cost prior to January 18 registration is Adults \$35, Youth \$20, Children 6 months to 5th grade free. Registration January 18-February 21 an extra \$10 is added to the registration fee and on-site registration is \$55 Adults; Youth \$40. Registration does not include meals or housing.

THE BOOK OF DISCIPLE NOW ONLINE

(UMNS) The 2008 edition of the *Book of Discipline*, the United Methodist Church's official law book, is now available online without charge in a read and search version. The Book of Discipline will be revised next year at the 2012 General Conference, making the 2008 edition obsolete.

One Great Hour of Sharing March 18, 2012

One Great Hour of Sharing is just weeks away. When you give to One Great Hour of Sharing, you help build the strong foundation on which all other UMCOR ministries are built. UMCOR brings relief to 15 annual conferences. In less than 2 months, UMCOR disbursed about \$250,000 in emergency grants to 15 United Methodist annual conferences across the United States. Please mark your calendars and be generous to help this wonderful cause.



CLERGY SEXUAL ETHICS WORKSHOP

Sexual Ethics Workshop is scheduled for February 9, 2012, at Epworth By The Sea from 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. This workshop is required every three years for persons serving under appointment by the Bishop (clergy, local pastors, extension ministers, appointed lay speakers). Cost is \$35, which includes lunch (collected at the door). Checks can be made payable to South Georgia Conference. To register, please e-mail cpcassistant@sgaumc.com. This event is sponsored by the Conference Commission on Pastoral Counseling. Please note that spouses and lay employees who are not appointed by the Bishop are not eligible to attend the workshop.



February 3	Gary Page-FL-Americus Concord
February 10	Angie Kaylor- Wife of Wesley Kaylor
February 15	Jim Smith-FE- Cordele First
February 16	Fran Kinservik- Wife of Mark Kinservik
February 20	C.G. Haugabrook- RE
February 23	Faye Yawn-LS- Shelton's Chapel/Scotland/Dodge Chapel
February 24	Dot Helm- Wife of Graton Helms
February 25	Virginia Northington- Wife of Rocky Northington
February 28	Sharon Moseley- Wife of DS Wayne Moseley

FEBRUARY CALENDAR



January 29-Feb1	Winter Camp Meeting- Epworth by the Sea
February 7	Eastern Cluster Meeting- 10 am- Eastman UMC
February 6-9	Appointive Cabinet Meetings- Epworth By The Sea
February 9	Sexual Ethics Training- 10 am- Epworth By The Sea
February 12	Boy Scout Sunday
February 10-11	Early Response Team Training- Gray UMC, Gray, GA
February 13-15	Appointive Cabinet Meetings- Epworth By The Sea
February 16	Central Cluster Meeting- 10 am Cordele 1st
February 20	President's Day
February 20	Western Cluster Meeting- 10:30 am- Magnolia Manor
February 21	Eastern Cluster Meeting- 10 am- Eastman UMC
February 22	ASH WEDNESDAY
February 24-25	The Disciple Covenant- Macon Coliseum
February 27-28	Appointive Cabinet Meetings- Epworth By The Sea

Ministers' Spouses' Retreat

The Ministers' Spouses' Retreat is scheduled for March 16-18, 2012, at Epworth-By-The Sea. Pastors are asked to get with their PPR Chairs and see if they can find some way to help fund this fun and educational program for all the minister's spouses who wish to attend. Our District is responsible for clean-up and Sunday morning communion service. Registration forms will be mailed or e-mailed soon. Please let Sharon know if you are going, need transportation or need a roommate (shmoseley54@gmail.com). We look forward to having a

UPCOMING IN 2012

March 4-7	Board of Ordained Ministry- Methodist Children's Home- Macon
March 5-7	A Lenten Spiritual Renewal Retreat- Epworth-By-The Sea (The Porpoise-Given Life)
March 12-14	Appointive Cabinet Meetings
March 16-18	Confirmation Retreat- Epworth-By-The Sea
March 16-18	Spouse's Retreat- Epworth-By-The Sea
March 18	One Great Hour of Sharing- UMCOR
March 26-28	Appointive Cabinet Meetings
March 30-31	Early Response Team Training- St Simons UMC, St. Simons
April 9-11	Appointive Cabinet Meetings
April 17 **	Transition Workshop/Clergy- Dublin FUMC (9:30am-3:30pm)
April 18 **	Transition Workshop/Clergy- Tifton FUMC (9:30am-3:30pm)
April 20-22	A Marriage Enrichment Retreat- Epworth By The Sea
April 24	Sexual Ethics Training- 10am- Warner Robins FUMC
May 19	Transition Workshop/Part-time Clergy/Lay Speakers- Eastman FUMC- 10am-3pm
May 21, 24	Springtime by the Sea- Epworth-By-The Sea
June 3-5	South Georgia Annual Conference- Macon
June 13	Moving Day

** Every moving pastor is to attend one of the workshops. If a minister is unable to attend the nearest workshop, he/she is expected to attend the other **

SAFE SANCTUARIES VIDEO

The Office of Connectional Ministries will launch a new video version of Safe Sanctuaries basic orientation by *January 15, 2012*. Initially the video and supporting handouts will be available at www.sgaumc.org. Local churches can access the video segments online as they offer training in their local churches. A DVD version is expected to be available for purchase at a nominal fee by February 1, 2012.

Interpreter Enrollment for 2012

Interpreter is a publication for lay and clergy leaders in local United Methodist churches across the United States. Published six times each year by United Methodist Communications, each issue includes a cover package of feature articles for local leaders and other stories and articles providing ideas and resources. Each congregation is eligible to receive 10 complimentary subscriptions for leaders (five prints, five digital). Online enrollment for 2012 is available at <http://enrollment.umcom.org>. You can also subscribe as an individual or purchase additional subscriptions for leaders and future leaders in your congregation. To receive a sample copy of *Interpreter*, e-mail your request to interpreterm@umcom.org.

IMPORTANT NOTE: There will be only 1 Confirmation Retreat this year. The first retreat, originally scheduled for March 2-4 **has been cancelled**. With having only 1 retreat on March 16-18, there is a maximum attendance of 500 allowed on campus and 50 off campus participants that will be accepted. Registrations will be on a first come first serve basis. A registration form can be downloaded from the Epworth by the Sea website. If you have any questions please contact Diane or Jim at 888-266-7642.

If you have an email address and would prefer to receive your Newsletter via e-mail please contact Martha at