

faithful, fruitful, bold

## Equipping Laity for Leadership

Equipping lay persons for leadership in their local church is a high priority in the South Georgia Annual Conference. Cultivating persons who know and embrace God's vision and who are prepared to focus their churches on disciple-making are major aspects in our development of spiritual leaders.

The LAOS event is one of the intentional ways we invest in leadership development.

Scheduled for January 19-21, 2007, at Epworth By The Sea, *LAOS: The people of God called, equipped and empowered* is intended to train lay persons from every-sized congregation for more fruitful spiritual leadership in their local church. LAOS is the Greek word from which we derive the word laity. In its purest sense, LAOS reminds us that every Christian is called to make disciples of Jesus Christ.

"We are very excited about this LAOS event," said Roy Blackwood, South Georgia Conference Lay Leader. "Last year's response was so positive. We are confident that both new and experienced local church leaders will benefit from the each of the presentations as we focus on how to be the most effective leaders possible for the sake of God's kingdom."

The first worship service will begin at 8:00 p.m. on Friday evening to allow more time for people to arrive from all parts of the conference. The event will conclude with lunch on Sunday.

Bishop Mike Watson expressed his excitement about this event, "I encourage you to

*"The training provided will equip each leader to go back home to offer more focused leadership grounded in God's vision for faithful, fruitful and bold congregations and ministries all across South Georgia."*

*--Bishop Mike Watson*

bring several leaders from your church to the LAOS event. The training provided will equip each leader to go back home to offer more focused leadership grounded in God's vision for faithful, fruitful and bold congregations and ministries all across South Georgia."

This year's plenary presentations will focus on the mystery of God's call for each of us, the challenges of offering leadership during changing times, the desire of God that every soul be redeemed, and the dynamic ministry we share as United Methodists.

Dr. Derek McAleer will be the preacher for this year's event. Derek is a gifted preacher who has focused on developing spiritual leaders in each of the local churches he has served. He has taught in several district leadership training events,

**SEE LAOS PAGE 8**

## News in Brief

**Pastors Salaries:** For the 2007 clergy compensation list, visit <http://www.sgaumc.org/communicator/ClergyCompensation07.pdf>.

**Confirmation Retreats:** Registration for both confirmation retreats has begun. (See page 4)

**Safe Sanctuaries Training:** Three Safe Sanctuary trainings have been scheduled in 2007. (See page 6)

**General Conference Delegation:** The number of S GA delegates to General Conference has declined. (See page 6)

**Winter Camp Meeting:** Jackson, Laycock will offer leadership at Winter Camp Meeting. (See page 7)

**Annual Conference Information:** Plans are being made for the 2007 AC June 3-7. (See pages 10-12)

**General Conference Elections:** The delegation elections process is defined. (See page 13)

God envisions faithful, fruitful and bold congregations and ministries passionately growing mature disciples of Jesus Christ who are living vessels of the Holy Spirit's desire and miraculous power to redeem every soul and circumstance.

## Need-based Evangelism

BY DR. BRAD BRADY\*

Jesus was a great observer of the human condition. Jesus paid attention to the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of all with whom he came in contact.

In fact, it was Jesus' normal practice to deal with the emotional or physical condition of people prior to speaking to them about their spiritual needs.

Jesus' merciful care for the body, mind and life circumstances

demonstrated a genuine love for each human being. These authentic expressions of care and concern removed many barriers so people would be ready to hear spiritual truth and respond to the invitation to new life.

"Need-based evangelism" is one way to describe Jesus' faith sharing approach. Jesus recognized a person's basic need prior to addressing the state of their soul. The spiritual dimension of one's life was important to Jesus, but He demonstrated His love for the whole person.

Many of Jesus' disciples, throughout the generations, followed this same pattern. Harry Denman, the late great Methodist lay evangelist, ministered to the whole person as he shared faith.

Denman summarized his observations with the well-known quote, "Behind every heart's door there is a hurt, a hope, or a longing." Denman met people at their point of need and then shared faith in Jesus.

Need-based evangelism is a strategy that still works today. Hurts, hopes and longings are all around us. The people who worship with us, who live within the shadow of our steeples, and who live in far away places are starving to have their hurts, hopes and longings taken seriously.

As people experience the gospel authentically lived out through expressions of love and acts of mercy, there is much more receptivity to the gospel message. In short, the gospel lived out in deed prepares people for the gospel shared through word.

There are congregations across South Georgia practicing need-based evangelism every day.

Recently, I witnessed Albany First United Methodist Church's supper with their neighbors. This downtown church has a weekly Sunday evening practice of feeding and visiting with their neighbors as a prelude to sharing a brief gospel message.

The night I attended nearly two-

*As people experience the gospel authentically lived out through expressions of love and acts of mercy, there is much more receptivity to the gospel message.*

hundred poor and/or homeless persons gathered for food and fellowship. Church members served and sat at the tables with their neighbors, called each other by name, treated with dignity those for whom Christ died, and expressed genuine love through their acts of mercy.

When it came time for worship, the singing was robust, the praying was heart-felt, the preaching was like the ointment on the wounds of life, and the response was indicative that the whole gospel was shared for the whole person.

Need-based evangelism is an approach used by local churches of all sizes throughout our Annual Conference. Feeding the hungry, caring for the poor, tutoring the young, and ministering to the families of deployed soldiers are just a few of the basic human needs being addressed by our congregations in tandem with sharing the gospel.

As we begin 2007, I encourage your congregation to have a conversation about need-based evangelism. Why not look at the human needs around you? Hurts, hopes and longings are all around you. Pray for God's guidance and for people willing to risk sharing the gospel in deed and word.

You will be amazed at God's working through you and at the receptivity of people to the Good News as you seek to "by all means, win some!"

\*BRAD BRADY is the Director of Connectional Ministries for the South Georgia Conference.

## Instructions for Petitions to General Conference

The General Conference, which meets every four years and is made up of delegates from United Methodist Annual and Central Conferences throughout the world, is the only body that may officially speak for the United Methodist Church. The decisions General Conference makes help create the United Methodist *Book of Discipline*, the book of rules and procedure for the denomination. "Any organization, clergy member, or lay member of The United Methodist Church may petition the General Conference..." (§507, *The Book of Discipline*). Petitions to the 2008 General Conference must be postmarked by October 26, 2007. Petitions may be sent directly to the General Conference and do not require prior endorsement of the Annual Conference. For complete instructions and guidelines, visit <http://archives.umc.org/interior.asp?mid=7139>.

## News from the Administrative Services Office

BY MIRIAM HAGAN\*

This Fall a variety of items have come across my desk which I feel the need to share with you as we start 2007. I share the first item because, even though churches are tax-

exempt organizations, our churches are *not* exempt from rules relating to documentation of charitable donations.

### CHARITABLE DONATIONS

Recently Congress passed the Pension Protection Act of 2006, which includes items not related at all to pensions. At least one change will affect persons who deduct charitable donations on their tax returns and thus may affect our local churches.

For the tax year beginning after Aug. 17, 2006, which for most of us is January 1, 2007, a taxpayer *cannot* deduct *any contribution* of cash, check or other monetary gift unless he/she can substantiate the contribution by either a bank record (such as a cancelled check) or a written communication from the donee charity showing the name of the charity, the date of the contribution, and the amount of the contribution. In the past persons were allowed to maintain a list of cash donations of less than \$250 with "other reliable written records" if a cancelled check or other receipt was not available. This type of documentation will no longer be acceptable.

How does this affect our churches and our members? After I first read of this law change I realized how often I actually take a \$1, \$5, or \$10 dollar bill out of my wallet – for the Sunday School offering, communion offering, cash donations in mission

jars at Wednesday night suppers, offerings at my UMW circle meeting, offerings when I attend services of worship in other congregations, or the offering at conference or district meetings. In past years, I have kept a list of these donations and deducted them on my tax return. As I read this new law, I see that in the future I must have a cancelled check or a receipt from the organization. Either I must start writing checks or use an offering envelope every time I want to give a "cash" donation and hope the church will take the time to record all of these cash donations on my contribution record. This may mean more work for the financial secretary or treasurer and the volunteers who make sure that offering envelopes are readily available.

This same Act made changes to the rules for charitable deductions for contributions of food inventory to churches or organizations that accept donations from business entities.

Another change amends the Tax Code to deny a charitable contribution deduction for a contribution of clothing or household items unless the clothing or household items are in "good used condition or better". This may affect churches or church organizations that have garage or yard sales.

One other change was to allow for tax-free distributions from IRA's to a tax-exempt church or charity through 2007. As you can see there are several changes, so it may be wise to research this Act to see if it affects your church.

### MRA

Health Flex participants who elected to have a Medical Reimbursement Account (MRA) have until April 30, 2007, to file their claims for reimbursement. New this year is a change which allows persons who have not spent all of the

money they set aside in the MRA to incur medical related expenses between January 1 and March 15, 2007, and still claim those against the funds they put into their 2006 MRA. These dates only apply to persons who are participating in a Health Flex MRA.

### FINANCIAL PLANNING

The General Board of Pensions offers participants an opportunity to obtain professional, objective financial planning advice through Ernst and Young LLP, a global financial services firm. Their financial planners have been trained specifically on issues of interest to participants in United Methodist Retirement plans.

January 1 through March 31 of each year is the open enrollment period when the cost to participants is only \$99 for three hours of personal consultation time. After March 31<sup>st</sup>, the fee is \$149 for the balance of the year. The consultants can discuss a wide range of financial issues besides retirement planning, such as budgeting and cash flow, life insurance, debt management, planning for the cost of your children's education, mortgage planning, etc. If you have questions, call Bob Shell in our office at 800-535-4224.

### WITH THANKS

Our staff is grateful each year for the members of our churches who faithfully support financially their local churches, conference agencies and mission projects around the state and the world. We are grateful that, because of your faithfulness, we have the opportunity to receive and disburse funds either through the budget or to agencies or mission projects.

All of us -- Bob, Beth, Betty, Eleanor, Laura, Libby and I -- appreciate the opportunity to work with you not only at the end of the year but throughout the year.

\*MIRIAM HAGAN is the Director of Administrative Services for the South Ga. Conference.

## Confirmation Retreat Registration Has Begun

It's that time again! Once again, the Connectional Ministries Office, Epworth By The Sea, and the St. Marys Foundation are partnering up to bring two confirmation retreats to South Georgia. The first retreat is scheduled for March 2-4, 2007, with the second one following on March 16-18, 2007. Both retreats will be held at Epworth By The Sea.

Confirmation is an exciting time in the life of our young people. These retreats are intended to help show these youth the right path in their search to know more about our Savior, Jesus Christ, and our United Methodist heritage.

Confirmands will enjoy learning about our United Methodist heritage in a high-energy, exciting atmosphere. Participants will also be exposed to some of the diverse leadership that makes up the South Georgia Conference: youth directors, District Superintendents, children's coordinators, local pastors, lay people, college students, and the Bishop – live via satellite!

“Join the Journey” will include

large group gatherings throughout the weekend based on the church seasons of Advent, Lent, Easter, and Pentecost. Breakout groups on Saturday will deal with topics such as Grace, United Methodist History, Back to the Future – a look at our Methodist heritage, and United Methodist lingo. Confirmands will also be able to choose which “Holy Club” to attend on Sunday. Holy Club topics include: An Invitation to Chat (prayer), Feast on the Word (Bible study), Come to the Table (Holy Communion), and Devotion Motion (devotion and meditation). The event will support *Claim the Name* resources from Cokesbury and is meant to be complimentary to your church's already established confirmation class.

Confirmands will also be able to support the Bishop's Initiative on

Children & Poverty through a penny offering, so bring your pennies to fill up the treasure chests!

The retreat is open to grades 6 and above only. Epworth By The Sea will provide housing and meals free of charge, while a \$30 registration fee per participant (including adults) will cover programming fees. Space is limited to the first 500 applicants for the first retreat and the first 180 applicants for the second retreat, so registration will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis.

To reserve spaces, full registration forms and money must be turned into the Connectional Ministries office. Please send all registrations and money for each church group together. Online registration is available on the conference website, <http://www.sgaumc.org>. Neither faxed registrations nor reservations over the phone will be accepted.

For questions or to have a brochure mailed to you, please contact Adam Ricker at the Connectional Ministries Office at 888-266-7642 or [adam@sgaumc.com](mailto:adam@sgaumc.com).

## Summer Camp Counselors Needed

Do you know a college student who would benefit from a summer in ministry to God's youth and children? The opportunity is here!

The South Georgia Conference Leadership Team is made up of college students desiring a summer in full-time camping ministry, located at Epworth By The Sea. The days are hot, the hours are long, but the benefits of sharing God's love and spreading His Word to hundreds of youth and children far outweigh the harder elements.

As a camp counselor, you will be able to minister to hundreds of youth and children throughout the summer while making Christian friendships with other staff that last a lifetime.

As a paid position, staff members on the Leadership Team will commit to nine weeks of service that will include serving at Annual Conference in Savannah, mid-high camps, elementary camps, as well as traveling to local churches.

The summer will run from **May 26 – July 28**. Begin praying now to see if this opportunity is for you or someone you know. Applications are available online and interviews will be completed by February.

For more detailed information, please call Adam Ricker at the Connectional Ministries Office toll free at (888) 266-7642, or check out our website: <http://www.sgaumc.org/camping>.

### 2007 Summer Camp Dates

#### MID HIGH CAMPS

**Mid-High Mania 1: June 11-15**

**Mid-High Mania 2: June 18-22**

Epworth By The Sea

For those entering 6th-9th grades

Counselors provided

#### ELEMENTARY CAMPS

**Elem. Camp 1: June 25-29**

**Elem. Camp 2: July 9-13**

**Elem. Camp 3: July 16-20**

Epworth By The Sea

For those entering 4th-6th grades

Counselors provided

## Social Holiness

**"The Gospel of Christ knows no religion but social, no holiness but social holiness...You cannot be holy except as you are engaged in making the world a better place. You do not become holy by keeping yourself pure and clean from the world but by plunging into ministry on behalf of the world's hurting ones." --John Wesley**

BY REV. BILL BAGWELL\*

These powerful words from the writings of Wesley have helped to guide the ministry and mission of Methodists for over 250 years.

At a recent meeting of our conference's Advocacy Team, representatives from across South Georgia gathered to discuss ways in which we could motivate and strengthen local church involvement in social action and advocacy ministries. Several decisions were made that will help guide our work in the coming years.

First, it is our aim to encourage local churches to study the Social Principles of the United Methodist Church. Toward this end, the Advocacy Team is offering up to 15 Social Principle booklets free of charge to any church that will pledge to host a Social Principles study group in 2007. An application is available for these free booklets by contacting me at [pastor@trinity-methodist.org](mailto:pastor@trinity-methodist.org).

Second, over the next six years – in two year intervals, we plan to educate and enable local churches to become involved in the six areas of emphasis listed in the Social Principles.

In 2007 and 2008 our focus will be on **Social Community** and **World Community**. In regard to Social Community: "We support the basic rights of all persons to equal access to housing, education, communication, employment, medical care, legal redress for grievances, and physical protection" (§162, *Book of Discipline*).

In regard to World Community: "We pledge ourselves to seek the meaning of the gospel in all issues that divide people and threaten the growth of world community" (§165, *Book of Discipline*).

For more information and a list of links on either of these, we encourage you to visit the website of the General Board of Church and Society, <http://www.umc-gbcs.org>.

Third, a primary goal of the Advocacy Team is to encourage loving dialogue which affirms the Christian faith of others even when there is diversity of thought or division of opinion. Local churches are called upon to model this within their congregation and in their community.

Finally, we would like to celebrate with those churches in the South Georgia Conference that are committing themselves to advocacy ministries. Applications and further information about the following awards are available from Denise Walton ([denise@sgaumc.com](mailto:denise@sgaumc.com)) at the Conference Connectional Ministries Office:

The Social Community Award  
The World Community Award  
The Bishop L. Scott Allen Award

\*BILL BAGWELL is the senior pastor at Trinity United Methodist Church in Warner Robins, Ga. and serves as the chair of the Conference Advocacy Team.

## One Great Hour of Sharing – March 18

You and your congregation can join United Methodists worldwide by making a special offering through One Great Hour of Sharing to support humanitarian aid through UMCOR – United Methodist Committee on Relief. You can be assured that when catastrophes cause suffering, your church, impelled by Jesus' love and compassion, will be in the lead to ease the pain.

Gifts to this offering underwrite UMCOR's "costs of doing business." That helps UMCOR keep their promise that 100 percent of every other gift you make to a specific UMCOR project can be spent on that project—not on home office costs.

UMCOR is a good steward of God's gifts. Offering gifts over and above those used to cover administrative costs are channeled where they're most

needed. UMCOR's specialized ministries—responding in disaster, fighting hunger, alleviating poverty, providing relief supplies around the world, and offering hospitality to immigrants and refugees—all assist the most vulnerable people whose need is greatest.

Visit <http://www.umcor.org> or call 888-346-3862 to order your resources today.

Cabinet Information forms will be available January 22, 2007, to fill out online at [www.sgaumc.org](http://www.sgaumc.org).

## Safe Sanctuaries Training Available

The Office of Connectional Ministries will offer training for congregational leaders that is intended to help prevent the abuse of children, youth and vulnerable adults while they are involved in the ministries of the church.

Three identical training sessions will be provided in the coming months. The first will be held on Saturday, January 27, 2007 at the Richmond Hill United Methodist Church. The training will begin at 10 A.M. and conclude at 3 P.M.

The other two dates are Saturday, February 24, 2007, at Valdosta First United Methodist Church and Saturday, April 28, 2007, at Pierce Chapel United Methodist Church in Columbus.

Two-hundred and sixty-five leaders gathered in Macon last September for this same training event.

“We had a tremendous response as leaders from 56 congregations eagerly sought to understand the potentials and signs of abuse within the church and then learn about

policies and procedures they can institute to prevent anyone from being hurt,” said Dr. Brad Brady, Director of Connectional Ministries.

“We are delighted to offer this training at various sites around the Annual Conference so as many people as possible can benefit.”

This workshop is designed for pastors who are seeking to establish a prevention plan; lay persons responsible for nurseries and day care center; staff and volunteers working with children and youth ministries; volunteers in scouting, Vacation Bible School, church camps, and ministries sponsored by several churches; and local church trustees responsible for

risk management.

The Reverend Joy Melton’s books, *Safe Sanctuaries for Children* and *Safe Sanctuaries for Youth* are the primary references and resources for the workshop. These books will be available for sale at the workshop.

Cost of the event is \$5 per person. Pre-registration is important so lunch arrangements can be coordinated with the outside caterer. To register and pay online, go to <http://www.sgaumc.org> or register by contacting the Office of Connectional Ministries at 888-266-7642. Registration deadline is the Tuesday prior to each event.

Contact Adam Ricker for more information ([adam@sgaumc.com](mailto:adam@sgaumc.com)).

### TRAINING DATES

**Saturday, January 27**  
Richmond Hill UMC  
Richmond Hill

**Saturday, February 24**  
Valdosta First UMC  
Valdosta

**Saturday, April 28**  
Pierce Chapel UMC  
Columbus

## Membership Decline Cuts U.S. Delegates to 2008 General Conference

L. Fitzgerald Reist, II, Secretary of the General Conference, recently announced each Annual Conference's delegation count for the 2008 General Conference session. The General Conference will be held in Fort Worth, Texas on April 23 through May 2, 2008.

“South Georgia will elect six laity and six clergy to serve on the General Conference delegation,” reported Brad Brady, South Georgia Annual Conference Secretary. “This is a reduction of one lay person and one clergy person compared to previous General Conferences. Many Annual Conferences within the

borders of the United States were reduced in delegate count because of the tremendous membership growth in some of the Central Conferences, particularly central and western Africa.”

Representation to The United Methodist Church's highest legislative body is determined by a formula based on church membership.

Like other Conferences, the delegation to the Jurisdictional Conference is double the number allocated for the General Conference. Therefore, South Georgia will elect 6 additional laity and 6 additional

clergy for the Jurisdictional Conference held at Lake Junaluska in July 2008. The Annual Conference will also determine a number of reserve delegates to elect to complete the delegation membership.

The election for General Conference delegations will occur at the June 2007 Annual Conference session in Savannah. Persons interested in serving on the South Georgia delegation should see page 13 for the elections process. More information can be found in the coming months at <http://www.sgaumc.org>.

## Jackson, Laycock to offer leadership at 2007 Winter Camp Meeting

The Winter Camp Meeting Board of Managers anticipates a wonderful 2007 Winter Camp Meeting beginning on Sunday, February 4, 2007, at Epworth By The Sea. The event will conclude on Wednesday, February 7, at noon.

Reverend Jim Jackson, currently serving Chaplewood UMC in Houston, Texas, will be the preacher for all services. Jim is a native of South Georgia and served St. Mark UMC in Columbus prior to his journey to Texas. Jim will preach Sunday evening through Wednesday

noon.

Dr. Evelyn Laycock, well known Bible Study teacher and author, will be the Bible Study leader this year. Evelyn is a wonderful teacher who passionately shares the scriptures in ways that connects people with God. Evelyn will teach Monday through Wednesday mornings.

The song leader for the 2007 camp meeting will be Reverend Thad Haygood, pastor at Cuthbert UMC. Thad will lead the congregational singing, coordinate special music, and offer several solos during the

week.

The Reverend Alan Fennell, Associate Pastor of Vineville UMC, serves as the chair of the Winter Camp Meeting Board.

Visit the conference website, <http://www.sgaumc.org> for a Winter Camp Meeting brochure containing detailed information. Lodging reservations may be made online with Epworth By The Sea, <http://www.epworthbythesea.org>.

For more information, please contact the Office of Connectional Ministries, 888-266-7642.

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## Wight-Knight Appointed as Pastoral Counselor

Bishop Mike Watson announces the appointment of the Reverend Deborah Wight-Knight as the Conference Pastoral Counselor for the South Georgia Conference effective January 1, 2007.

“We are extremely fortunate to have someone with the gifts, graces, training and experiences of Deborah Wight-Knight within our conference to become the next Conference Pastoral Counselor,” said Bishop Watson.

“Deborah is passionate about the emotional and spiritual well-being of our clergy, clergy families, staff and congregations. She will follow in the fine tradition of her predecessors of offering compassionate care to those in crisis and insightful guidance to those who offer pastoral leadership.”

Wight-Knight is a pastoral counselor, licensed marriage and family therapist, fellow in the American Association of Pastoral Counselors, and an ordained elder in the South Georgia Annual

Conference. Wight-Knight is the Director of the Williams Center for Pastoral Counseling located at First United Methodist Church in Warner Robins.

Wight-Knight succeeds Dr. Edwin Chase who served as Conference Pastoral Counselor since 1993. “We are all indebted for Edwin Chase's splendid service to this Annual Conference,” said Wight-Knight.

“It is an honor to have this

opportunity to fulfill my calling through this position. My own experiences and struggles as a pastor have formed and shaped a deeper awareness concerning the challenges that confront my colleagues and their families. This is a daunting task, but I am enthusiastic and eager to serve the South Georgia Annual Conference in this capacity,” concluded Wight-Knight.

Currently, the Conference Pastoral Counselor is a half-time position. In this role, Wight-Knight will offer counseling to clergy, clergy families, and church staff members. She will teach pastoral counseling and self-care skills to new and seasoned clergy all across the Annual Conference. She will be available to help congregational leaders debrief and heal following traumatic events.

Wight-Knight's office will be located at 205 N. Davis Drive Warner Robins, GA 31093. She may be contacted at her office (478) 929-1032.

## LAOS: *The laity event you won't want to miss*

### CONT'D FROM PAGE 1

offering helpful insights for laity and clergy who are seeking to grow the leaders in their congregation. Derek was recently appointed to the Methodist Children's Home as the Vice President for Church Relations.

"We will be blessed by Derek McAleer's inspirational messages and dynamic witness for Christ," said Dr. Brad Brady, Director of Connectional Ministries. "Derek knows full well what it means to be called, equipped, and empowered for service and leadership in the Church—all for the glory of God."

Ms. Angie Carr, Director of Music Ministries at Tifton First United Methodist Church, will be providing the music leadership for this event.

"We are so fortunate to have Angie offering worship leadership

this year," said Brady. "Angie is tremendously gifted and we are delighted that she will be sharing her gifts with us."

Helpful workshops will be offered on Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning that will enrich a variety of leadership positions. Participants will choose two of the following workshops: how to conduct meetings that matter, how to develop a partnership in ministry between laity and clergy, how to focus your church on God's mission to make disciples, how to discern the spiritual gifts of your members, how to serve as a Lay Leader or as a member of the Staff Parish Relations Committee, how to recruit and retain volunteer leaders, how to explain where the money goes for our shared ministry in United Methodism, and how to access high quality curriculum resources from the Methodist

Publishing House.

Registration information is available on the conference website, <http://www.sgaumc.org>. All registration forms are to be sent directly to Epworth By The Sea.

Childcare will be provided during this event, but advanced planning is required. Please contact Diane Giles at the Office of Connectional Ministries, 888-266-7642, to register your child(ren).

"You will not want to miss out on this exciting event intended to call forth, equip and empower the laity of the South Georgia Annual Conference to offer spiritual leadership grounded in the mission of making disciples of Jesus Christ," said Blackwood.

LAOS is co-sponsored by the Board of Laity and the Office of Connectional Ministries.

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## Appointment Making Process Day of Prayer set for February 21

Wednesday, February 21, has been set aside as the fifth-annual Day of Prayer for the Appointment Making Process.

One of the most significant responsibilities of the Appointive Cabinet is the annual making of pastoral appointments. The Bishop and District Superintendents spend countless hours in conversations with local church committees and clergy. Each participant in this extensive process seeks to discern God's will through Christian conversation and much prayer.

Bishop Watson invites every lay person and every pastor to hold the Cabinet in their prayers throughout the whole process, specifically during the Day of Prayer on February 21. It is his hope that persons all across South Georgia will intentionally focus their intercessions on this important matter.

## UMVIM Sunday is February 25

The General Conference has approved a Special Sunday for UMVIM – United Methodist Volunteers in Mission, recognizing that this wonderful organization is responsible for annual "hands-on" missions to the U.S. and to the world. Last year alone, the South Georgia Conference UMVIM sent out over 60 work teams as well as supplied those teams with grants for construction and for first-time team leaders. The Annual Conference provides for the administrative costs for UMVIM but the main support comes from churches and individuals. This means every cent goes to missions. You are encouraged to take up a special offering on Sunday, February 25 to help support the work of UMVIM. For more information, please contact Charles Cravey, UMVIM Coordinator, at 912-564-2722 or [DrRev@alltel.net](mailto:DrRev@alltel.net). The Conference Advance Special number is SGA-UMVIM - #651.

## Older Adult Retreat

Sponsored By: Connectional Ministries

Mark your calendars now for an experience to remember! The 2007 Older Adult Retreat is sure to be a highlight with more activities and great speakers. The retreat will begin on Monday, **April 16**, at 1pm and will conclude Wednesday, **April 18**, at 5pm. This year's event will continue to offer all of the activities that our participants have come to love. An additional night's stay may be added to your retreat package for those who cannot get enough of beautiful St. Simons Island. For more information, please contact Adam Ricker at the Connectional Ministries Office, 888-266-7642 or [adam@sgaumc.com](mailto:adam@sgaumc.com).

## Spouses' Retreat

Sponsored By: Conference Clergy Spouses

The South Georgia Conference Ministers' Spouses' Retreat is set for **March 16-18, 2007**, at Epworth By The Sea. The theme will be "Celebrate Life - Fifty More!" This is the 50th anniversary of the retreat and there will be a celebration and remembrance of the past 50 years. Spouses will be looking forward to the next 50 years as they focus on their spiritual and physical health with retreat speakers, Dr. Joe and Rev. Carol Morgan from Statesboro, GA. Mark your calendar and stay tuned for more details.

## Day of Prayer for Moral Leadership

Sponsored By: GA Council on Moral and Civic Concerns

The Annual Georgia Day of Prayer for Moral Leadership is Sunday, **January 7, 2007**. This Day of Prayer is a simultaneous, locally initiated day for local churches to pray for their Georgia legislators on the day before the annual General Assembly session begins. No format is required, no restrictions imposed. Local churches may choose how, whom, and when they pray on that day.

## Special Sundays

**Human Relations Sunday**

January 14, 2007

**Andrew College Sunday**

February 18, 2007

**UMVIM Sunday**

February 25, 2007

**One Great Hour of Sharing**

March 18, 2007

## SEJ Clergywomen's Convocation

Clergywomen from all over the Southeastern Jurisdiction will gather **April 23-26, 2007**, at Epworth By The Sea for the SEJ Clergywomen's Convocation. The theme for this event is "Someone's Calling My Name." The convocation is intended to inspire women in ministry through worship; to equip women in ministry for service; and to develop an on-going jurisdictional network of support. Worship and plenary leaders include Bishop Minerva Carcano, Bishop Charlene Kammerer, Bishop Linda Lee, Bishop Mary Virginia Taylor and Bishop Hope Morgan Ward. Visit <http://www.sejclergywomen.com> for more information.

## Sexual Ethics Workshop

Sponsored By: The Commission on Pastoral Counseling Services

**February 15, 2007**

Epworth By The Sea  
10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

**May 3, 2007**

The Methodist Home for Children & Youth  
Macon Campus  
9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

**September 6, 2007**

Tifton First UMC  
9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

## UMW Young Women's Retreat

Sponsored By: United Methodist Women

**February 3-4, 2007**

Georgia Baptist Convention Center  
Norman Park, GA

Theme: "Seeking Peace"

Spiritual Leader: Kim Jenkins

Musicians: Mary Crowson & Laneah Maddox

**UMW Spiritual Growth Retreat: March 30-April 1 at Epworth By The Sea**  
**UMM Spring Retreat: April 20-22 at Epworth By The Sea**

# 2007 South Georgia Annual Conference Session

June 3-7, 2007

Johnny Mercer Theater

Savannah Civic Center

Hosted by the Savannah District

## Hotel Accommodations

The following hotels have blocked rooms for the South Georgia United Methodist Annual Conference and have given us a special rate. You must specify that you are with the United Methodist South Georgia Annual Conference to receive these discounted rates. Please check cancellation and early departure fees with hotel. These rates are only good through May 3, 2007.

### HISTORIC DISTRICT

**Courtyard Marriot** / 415 West Liberty Street  
Hotel Rate: \$109.00; Parking Rate: \$10.00  
Beds Available: King, 2 Queens; Continental Breakfast: No  
Fitness Center : Yes; Pool: Yes;  
Tours Available: Yes; Internet Access: Yes  
Hotel Website: <http://www.marriot.com/SAVDT>  
Phone Number: 800-321-2211

**Doubletree Hotel** / 411 West Bay Street  
Hotel Rate: \$115.00; Parking Rate: \$8.00  
Beds Available: King, 2 Queens; Continental Breakfast: No  
Fitness Center : Yes; Pool: Yes  
Tours Available: Yes; Internet Access: Yes  
Hotel Website: <http://www.historicsavannah.doubletree.com>  
Phone Number: 912-790-7000 or 800-222-TREE

**Garden Hotel** / 321 West Bay Street  
Hotel Rate: \$115.00; Parking Rate: \$8.00  
Beds Available: King, 2 Queens; Continental Breakfast: No  
Fitness Center : Yes; Pool: Yes  
Tours Available: No; Internet Access: Yes  
Hotel Website: <http://www.gardenhotelsavannah.com>  
Phone Number: 912-721-5000 or 877-245-8854

**Hilton Savannah DeSoto** / 15 East Liberty Street  
Hotel Rate: \$119-139; Parking Rate: \$10.00  
Beds Available: Single-Quad; Continental Breakfast: No  
Fitness Center : Yes; Pool: Yes  
Tours Available: Yes; Internet Access: Yes  
Hotel Website: <http://www.desotohilton.com>  
Phone Number: 800-426-8483

**Inn at Ellis Square** / 201 West Bay Street  
Hotel Rate: \$109-134; Parking Rate: \$8.00  
Beds Available: 2 Doubles, Suite; Continental Breakfast: Yes  
Fitness Center: Yes; Pool: Yes  
Tours Available: Yes; Internet Access: Yes  
Hotel Website: <http://www.innatellissquare.com>  
Phone Number: 877-542-7666

**Hampton Inn & Suites** / 201 MKL Jr. Blvd.  
Hotel Rate: \$129; Parking Rate: \$8.00  
Beds Available: King, 2 Queens; Continental Breakfast: Yes  
Fitness Center : Yes; Pool: Yes  
Tours Available: Yes; Internet Access: Yes  
Hotel Website: <http://www.savannahhistoricsuites.hamptoninn.com>  
Phone Number: 912-721-1600

### MIDTOWN

**Hampton Inn-Midtown** / 201 Stephenson Ave.  
Hotel Rate: \$65.00; Parking Rate: Free  
Beds Available: King, Queen, 2 Queens;  
Continental Breakfast: Yes  
Fitness Center : Yes; Pool: Yes  
Tours Available: No; Internet Access: Yes  
Hotel Website: <http://www.hamptoninn.com>  
Phone Number: 912-355-4100 or 800-426-7866

**Holiday Inn-Midtown** / 7100 Abercorn Street  
Hotel Rate: \$95.95; Parking Rate: Free  
Beds Available: King, 2 Doubles  
Continental Breakfast: No  
Fitness Center : Yes; Pool: yes  
Tours Available: No; Internet Access: Yes  
Hotel Website: <http://www.holiday-inn.com>  
Phone Number: 912-352-7100

**La Quinta Inn** / 6805 Abercorn Street  
Hotel Rate: \$54.00; Parking Rate: Free  
Beds Available: King, 2 Doubles  
Continental Breakfast: Yes  
Fitness Center: No; Pool: Yes  
Tours Available: Yes; Internet Access: Yes  
Hotel Website: <http://www.lq.com>  
Phone Number: 912-355-3004

**Comfort Inn and Suites** / 211 Stephenson Ave.  
(Please note: Comfort Inn will NOT accept cancellations after 5/08. Also, guests must stay 3 nights to receive the Conference rate.)  
Hotel Rate: \$69.95-\$89.95; Parking Rate: Free  
Beds Available: 2 Doubles, King, Suites  
Continental Breakfast: Yes  
Fitness Center: Yes; Pool: Yes  
Tours Available: No; Internet Access: Yes  
Phone Number: 912-352-9884

**Fairfield Inn** / 2 Lee Blvd.  
Hotel Rate: \$84-95; Parking Rate: Free  
Beds Available: King, 2 Doubles  
Continental Breakfast: Yes  
Fitness Center: Yes; Pool: Yes  
Tours Available: No; Internet Access: Yes  
Hotel Website: <http://marriott.com/fairfieldinn>  
Phone Number: 912-355-7100 or 800-228-2800

## Plans underway for 2007 Annual Conference

Plans are well underway for the 2007 Annual Conference session, which will be held June 3-7, 2007, in Savannah, Georgia.

Meeting under the theme, "By All Means," all sessions and worship services will take place again this year in the Johnny Mercer Theater at the Savannah Civic Center.

Electing the delegation for the 2008 General and Jurisdictional Conferences will be the primary item of business throughout the conference session.

The conference will begin on Sunday evening with the clergy and laity sessions at 7:00 p.m. The clergy will meet at Trinity UMC and the laity will meet at the Savannah Civic Center.

The conference will gather for opening worship on Monday, June 4, at 8:30 a.m. Bishop Mike Watson, South Georgia Area Episcopal leader, will be the preacher for this opening worship service. The first

plenary business session will follow at 9:45 a.m.

Clergy received in to Probationary Membership will be commissioned and the retiring clergy will be recognized in a worship service scheduled for Monday at 2:00 p.m.

Bishop Lindsey Davis, North Georgia Area Episcopal leader, will be the preacher at the ordination service, which will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Monday evening at the Savannah Civic Center.

The Memorial Service will be held on Tuesday at 2:00 p.m. with the Reverend Don Kea preaching. Tuesday evening is currently scheduled to be set-aside for fellowship and rest.

A Day of Service in the Savannah community will be held on Wednesday, June 6, starting at 9:15 a.m. following a morning Bible Study and the taking of a ballot.

The Mitchell County Boys' Choir

will present a concert on Wednesday evening at 7:30 p.m. This choir was formed following our conference's exposure to the Tallahassee Boys' Choir during the Annual Conference session in Albany. After much prayer, the Reverend Keith Goodlett and others from the Mitchell County area visited Earle Lee, the director of the Tallahassee Boys' Choir and persuaded him to help start this choir. This will be a marvelous time to celebrate what God is doing through this dynamic ministry.

The goal is to adjourn conference on Thursday by 1:00 p.m. with the setting of the appointments and the sending forth service.

More details will be available following the finalization of the agenda by the Annual Conference Session Program Committee on February 20. Watch the conference website, <http://www.sgaumc.org>, for the latest news.

## Important Deadlines

**January 15, 2007** Agenda requests are due to Dr. Brad Brady, Conference Secretary, at [brad@sgaumc.com](mailto:brad@sgaumc.com).

**March 5, 2007** Final drafts of reports for the Book of Recommendations and Reports are due to the Office of Connectional Ministries, attention: Cathy Crawford. It would be helpful if both the printed copy of the report and a disk in WordPerfect or MSWord are provided. Mailing address: PO Box 20408, St. Simons Island, GA 31522 or e-mail: [cathy@sgaumc.com](mailto:cathy@sgaumc.com). You may want to call and confirm the receipt of your e-mail report. Please proof-read your report for accuracy!

**March 5, 2007** Resolutions are due. All resolutions to be presented at the 2007 Annual Conference session should be sent to Dr. Hugh Davis, PO Box 26, Thomasville, GA 31792; and a copy to Dr. Brad Brady, PO Box 20408, St. Simons Island, GA 31522.

**April 2, 2007** Program brochure information is due to the Reverend Karen Kilhefner, 429 Abercorn Street, Savannah, GA 31401 or email at [karen@wesleymonumental.org](mailto:karen@wesleymonumental.org).

**May 3, 2007** The Book of Recommendations and Reports will be mailed to all Lay and Clergy members of the 2007 Annual Conference.

## Pre-conference Orientation Meetings

Each District will conduct a pre-conference orientation meeting to introduce important recommendations that will be acted on at the Annual Conference session. The following dates have been established for these meetings. Locations and times will be announced as time approaches.

|             |          |        |
|-------------|----------|--------|
| Americus    | Sunday   | May 20 |
| Columbus    | Tuesday  | May 1  |
| Dublin      | Thursday | May 17 |
| Macon       | Monday   | May 7  |
| Savannah    | Monday   | May 14 |
| Statesboro  | Tuesday  | May 22 |
| Thomasville | Monday   | May 21 |
| Valdosta    | Thursday | May 10 |
| Waycross    | Tuesday  | May 8  |

## 2007 Annual Conference Information

**DAY OF SERVICE:** Following the success of last year's Day of Service, even more opportunities will be offered in 2007. On Wednesday, June 6, each delegate will have the opportunity to participate in ministry in the Savannah community. Specific projects will be available for all ages and abilities. More information will be provided in the May pre-conference mailing.

**CONSENT CALENDAR:** We will continue the use of the Consent Calendar for "information only" reports. Reports without financial or policy implications will be placed on the consent calendar.

**AWARDS:** No awards will be personally presented. All groups who present awards will be asked to share their award recipients in the following manner:

1) Submit information about your award and the name the recipient(s) in a report for the Book of Recommendations. This information is due by March 5, 2007. Please submit information to Cathy Crawford ([cathy@sgaumc.com](mailto:cathy@sgaumc.com)).

2) Submit any pictures of recipient(s) to Kelly Roberson ([kelly@sgaumc.com](mailto:kelly@sgaumc.com)) by Monday, May 19, 2007, for inclusion in a media presentation that will be shown at Annual Conference.

3) Plan to present your award directly to the recipient in their own local church or at your organization's banquet. The Outreach Team will continue to host a banquet in May to recognize those individuals or groups receiving awards related to missions.

**VIDEO/MEDIA PRESENTATIONS:** Any media presentation (video, DVD, PowerPoint, etc.) intended to be shown at the Annual Conference session must be submitted to Kelly Roberson ([kelly@sgaumc.com](mailto:kelly@sgaumc.com)) no later than May 19. Any last minute presentations should be given to Kelly, who will present them to our AV provider.

**BANQUETS & DISPLAYS:** Contact Rev. Karen Kilhefner at 912-232-0191 or [karen@wesleymonumental.org](mailto:karen@wesleymonumental.org) to make arrangements for banquets or displays. Groups seeking to distribute information should reserve display space as early as possible. The conference policy for permissible displays is that a group must have a direct relation to the Annual Conference through the conference structure or be an approved conference advance special. Also, those with Wednesday lunches may want to be creative in their thinking due to the Day of Service.

**LOCAL CONTACT:** The Reverend Karen Kilhefner is the chair of the Local Arrangements Committee for the 2007 conference. You may contact Karen at 912-232-0191 or [karen@wesleymonumental.org](mailto:karen@wesleymonumental.org). You should contact Karen for any of the following reasons: 1) event information for the conference brochure; 2) coordination of business items

to be included in the conference packet; or 3) any other questions or needs concerning local arrangements.

**CHILDCARE INFORMATION:** Childcare will be available for children ages newborn-5th grade throughout Annual Conference. **Pre-registration is very important.** A registration form can be downloaded at <http://www.sgaumc.org/ac2007/childcare.cfm>. Forms must be turned in before **MAY 1, 2007**. For questions, contact Melissa Traver at 912-691-1500 or [traver\\_m@bellsouth.net](mailto:traver_m@bellsouth.net). Please read the following information carefully.

### **DROP-IN Childcare for young children (Newborn-4 years old)**

Drop-in childcare will be available at Trinity UMC for young children during all conference sessions beginning at **6:30 p.m.** on Sunday and then **8:00 a.m.** each day until 1 hour after the closing session. Trinity is within walking distance of the Civic Center. Parents must provide meals for their children or pick them up for meals. No meals will be provided. **Children must bring lunch with them on Thursday.**

### **ALL DAY Care for older children (5 years – 5th grade)**

All day care is available for older children Monday – Thursday, 8:00 a.m.– 6:00 p.m. at Isle of Hope UMC. Isle of Hope's bus will pick up children at Trinity UMC at 8:30 a.m. and return to Trinity UMC at 5:00 p.m. Lunch is provided. The cost for this childcare is \$10 per child, \$20 maximum per family for all four days. You will receive additional information including waiver forms for activities such as swimming and service projects. Isle of Hope UMC is located approximately 30 minutes from the Civic Center. **Please note: we will be unable to accommodate children 5 years and up who are not pre-registered.**

**PARKING:** Passes will be distributed at registration for free parking in designated downtown sites. Specific information will be included in the May pre-conference mailing. A free CAT (Chatham Area Transit) shuttle is available in the downtown area from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

**SEATING:** We will be meeting in the Johnny Mercer Theater. No tables will be available for conference members' use. The Bar of the Conference will be the floor of the Theater.

**PACKET INSERTS:** Only business related information will be placed in the conference packets. All groups wanting to distribute promotional materials should arrange to have a display space. Promotional items will not be allowed to be distributed on the floor.

## Delegation Elections Process Defined

The South Georgia Conference will elect its delegation to the 2008 General and Jurisdictional Conferences during the 2007 Annual Conference Session in Savannah June 3-7.

The General Conference is the global gathering of the United Methodist Church where mission and ministry priorities are established and *The Book of Discipline* is reviewed for possible revisions. The General Conference is the policy setting body of United Methodism. The 2008 General Conference will be held April 23-May 2, in Fort Worth, Texas.

The Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference meets July 2008 at Lake Junaluska to coordinate the connected ministry and mission of this region and to elect and assign Bishops for leadership in the Church.

The 2005 session of the South Georgia Annual Conference established a policy on elections in an effort to “create a level playing field and be fair with all potential candidates.” The complete policy can be found in the Conference Journal or the Conference website

<http://www.sgaumc.org/policies/>.

The 2006 conference session concurred with the following time line for the distribution of the informational letter and the use of the website for persons interested in declaring their interest in being elected.

**February 1, 2007:** An informational letter will be mailed by the Conference Secretary to all clergy, lay members to annual conference and local church lay leaders. The letter will outline the elections process, inform interested laity and clergy of how they may declare their interest in serving on the delegation through the conference website, and encourage diversity in the delegation membership.

**February 15, 2007:** The conference website will be open for receiving information from those interested in serving on the delegation. The policy

calls for the site to include a provision for personal contact information, appointments served, and leadership positions held in the conference and district by clergy. Interested laity will be provided a space to put personal contact information, local church membership, occupation, and whether they are a youth, young adult or adult. All persons interested in serving may submit their picture for the website and a statement up to 100 words concerning their interest, issues and qualifications to be considered as a potential delegate.

The website will remain open through the Annual Conference session for persons interested in declaring their desire to serve as a delegate and for persons interested in reviewing the profiles of potential delegates. Laity interested in serving will have a deadline of March 31, 2007, to submit their information for inclusion in a printed booklet that will be mailed out with the Book of Recommendations and Reports in early May.

The elections policy is clear in stating, “This website information is intended to be sufficient and to preclude candidates or supporters from sending other forms of campaign materials printed and/or electronic such as brochures, flyers, e-mails, faxes, letters of encouragement, etc.”

*The Book of Discipline* outlines the prerequisites for being elected to the delegation:

**CLERGY** The Constitution states that only full conference member elders and full conference member deacons may be elected to the delegation and only these persons may vote for the clergy members of the delegation (§33, Article IV). Full Elders or Deacons on leave of absence may vote but may not be elected as delegates (§352). Full Elders or Deacons on sabbatical, family, paternity/maternity, or disability leave may vote and be elected (*See Judicial Council Decision*

#473). Clergy on honorable location are no longer members of the annual conference (§357.2) and therefore cannot vote or be elected as clergy delegates. Retired Full Elders or Deacons can vote and be elected as clergy delegates (*See Judicial Council Decision #531*). Full Elders or Deacons under suspension from pastoral duties may vote but may not be elected as a delegate (*See Judicial Council Decision #534*). Persons who are to be received into full membership and ordained Elder or Deacon in full connection at the 2007 session of the annual conference may vote or be elected after they have been both received and ordained (on Tuesday morning).

**LAITY** The Constitution states (§36) that to be eligible for election as a lay member of General or Jurisdictional Conference, the member must: 1) be a professing member of the UMC for at least the past two years, 2) be an active participant of the UMC for at least the past four years, and 3) be a professing member of a church within the bounds of the South Georgia Annual Conference. The following laity may vote during the balloting for the Lay Delegates to General and Jurisdictional Conference: Lay Member elected by their charge (one per appointed clergy), the conference lay leader, the conference president of United Methodist Men, the conference president of United Methodist Women, Lay delegates to the 2004 General and Jurisdictional Conferences, Diaconal Ministers, Lay Staff in the Conference Connectional Ministries Office, Lay Chairpersons of Conference Committees, District Lay Officers, and District At-Large Lay Members.

Persons with additional questions may contact Brad Brady, Conference Secretary, at [brad@sgaumc.com](mailto:brad@sgaumc.com).

## Conference Coordinated Calendar 2007

### January

5-7 UMW Executive Committee, EBTS\*  
 7 Day of Prayer for Moral Leadership  
 8-9 Cabinet Spiritual Life Retreat  
 9-12 SEJ DS-DCM Consultation, EBTS\*  
 15 Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday  
 18 Leadership Forum, Macon  
 19-21 LAOS, EBTS\*  
 19 Extended Cabinet Meeting  
 27 Safe Sanctuaries Training, Richmond Hill  
 28 CFA\*\* Budget Committee  
 29 CFA\*\* Meeting

### February

1-2 Residency in Ministry Retreat, EBTS\*  
 3-4 UMW Young Woman's Retreat, Norman Park  
 4-7 Winter Camp Meeting, EBTS\*  
 15 Leadership Forum, Macon  
 9-16 Local Pastors Licensing School  
 12 Appointive Cabinet Meeting  
 13 Extended Cabinet Meeting  
 20 AC Program Committee Meeting, Macon  
 21 Ash Wednesday  
 22-23 Appointive Cabinet Meeting  
 24 Safe Sanctuaries Training, Valdosta  
 24 School of Mission Planning Team Meeting, Dublin

### March

2-4 Confirmation Retreat 1, EBTS\*

3 UMW Program Committee Meeting, Cordele  
 4-7 Board of Ordained Ministry Meeting, Macon  
 5 Book of Recommendations Reports due  
 5 Resolutions to Annual Conference due  
 11 UMW Day in Local Churches  
 11 CFA\*\* Budget Committee  
 12 CFA\*\* Meeting  
 16-18 Confirmation Retreat 2, EBTS\*  
 16-18 Spouses' Retreat, EBTS\*  
 21 Extended Cabinet Meeting  
 22 Appointive Cabinet Meeting

### April

1 Palm Sunday  
 6 Good Friday, Offices Closed  
 8 Easter  
 9-13 Appointment Making Week  
 16-18 Older Adult Retreat, EBTS\*  
 20-22 UMM Retreat, EBTS\*  
 23 EBTS\* Trustees Meeting  
 23-27 SEJ Women in Ministry Convocation, EBTS\*  
 25-26 Appointive Cabinet Review Session  
 27 Nominations Committee Meeting  
 28 Safe Sanctuaries Training, Columbus

### May

4-5 UMW Executive Committee Meeting, Columbus  
 10 Board of Ordained Ministry Meeting  
 13 Mother's Day  
 15-17 Moving Clergy Workshops  
 23-24 Cabinet Spiritual Growth Retreat  
 28 Memorial Day Holiday

### June

2 Extended Cabinet Meeting, Savannah  
 3-7 Annual Conference, Savannah  
 11-15 Mid High 1 Camp, EBTS\*  
 12 Moving Day  
 17 Father's Day  
 18-22 Mid High 2 Camp, EBTS\*  
 25-29 Elementary 1 Camp, EBTS\*

### July

4 4<sup>th</sup> of July Holiday  
 7-13 SEJ Ministers' Conference, Lake Junaluska  
 9-13 Elementary 2 Camp, EBTS\*  
 11-15 SPLAT – Youth 2007, NC  
 16-20 Elementary 3 Camp, EBTS\*  
 19-22 School of Mission, EBTS\*  
 21-27 Road Rules  
 23-26 Pastors' School, EBTS\*

\* Epworth By The Sea

\*\* Council on Finance and Administration

**Online Communicator**  
**Office of Connectional Ministries**  
**P.O. Box 20408, St. Simons Island, GA 31522**  
**(912) 638-8626 - (888) 266-7642 - Fax (912) 638-5258**  
 South Georgia Conference website: <http://www.sgaumc.org>  
 E-Mail Address: [connectionalministries@sgaumc.com](mailto:connectionalministries@sgaumc.com)

The Online Communicator is published quarterly (Winter, Spring, Summer, Fall) as an Adobe .pdf document and is available on the conference website, <http://www.sgaumc.org>.

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