



## South Central District



# September Newsletter

We anticipate a letter reflecting upon the tenth anniversary of September 11th to be sent from the United Methodist Church Council of Bishops. When received, we will send under separate cover.

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Enjoy this new area of our newsletter for up to the minute thoughts!

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### Goal Setting for Fruitful Ministry

September 18<sup>th</sup> - 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

First UMC, Plant City  
303 N. Evers Street  
Plant City, FL 33563

As pastors recall from last September's meeting with Bishop Whitaker and laity recall from last year's Charge Conference season, we have been asked to partner in a denominational initiative.,

This fall, each local church will be expected to submit a four-year set of goals, *one for each of the Five Practices of the Methodist Way*, at their 2011 Charge Conference.

In an effort to help local churches hone and refine the work already done on these goals, the South Central District will host a workshop on Sunday, September 18<sup>th</sup> from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm, at First United Methodist Church of Plant City, entitled "Goal Setting for Fruitful Ministry".

The workshop will begin with an overview of goal setting for local churches that will be led by Dr. Jeff Stiggins, Director of the Conference Office of Congregational Excellence. We are always grateful to receive his guidance in these critical conversations. Dr. Stiggins' presentation will be followed by a practical application of these goals as experienced by one pastor of a local congregation. We are pleased to welcome Dr. Joe MacLaren, Senior Pastor of University Carillon UMC in Oviedo, who will serve as our other presenter for the afternoon. The presentations will be followed by a 30 minute period of Q and A. The presentations of these two clergy leaders in our conference is certain to fuel renewed zeal for the task at hand!

If you or your church would benefit from some fresh insights into how this goal setting process can inspire creativity and passion for ministry, mark your calendars now and plan on attending.

Registration is open now, please [click here to register](#).

Rev. Dr. Sharon G. Austin  
District Superintendent

## JOYS AND PRAYERS

Prayers are requested for Rev. Dawn Anderson of Forrest Hills UMC in Tampa who was injured while vacationing. Notes of support can be emailed to [dawn.anderson@flumc.org](mailto:dawn.anderson@flumc.org)

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Prayers are requested for Donna Orlowski, Administrative Assistant at Thonotosassa UMC. She underwent open heart surgery on August 11th. Cards of encouragement can be sent to Donna via the church at P.O. Box 406 Thonotosassa, FL 33592.

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Prayers are requested for Mary Zink who is the Mother of Michelle Colan, a project manager at the Florida Conference. Mary underwent emergency heart surgery on August 15th. Notes of support can be emailed to [mcolan@flumc.org](mailto:mcolan@flumc.org)

\*\*\*\*\*

Prayers are requested for Suzanne Duncan, who was seriously burned in a grease fire on August 20th. Suzanne is the daughter of Rev. Montford Duncan, Executive Director of Conference New Church Development; and Martha Gay Duncan, Executive Director of Celebrate Jesus. Notes of support can be emailed to [mduncan@flumc.org](mailto:mduncan@flumc.org)

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Our prayers go out to all of the victims and families effected by hurricane Irene.

## DISTRICT HAPPENINGS

### Charge Conference Cluster Schedule Revised and Forms are Online!

The 2011 Charge Conference season is here! The Charge Conference Cluster schedule has been slightly adjusted. Please take a look at the new schedule! Charge conference forms will be available online at the conference website on 8/25. Thank You to the host churches and pastors.

For the updated Charge Conference Cluster schedule, please [click here](#)

For the South Central District Charge Conference forms, please [click here](#)

### South Central District Directory

The South Central Directory is now in print. Please [click here](#) to download a copy.

## South Central District Calendar

September 1: District AA Training for Church AA's  
September 5: Labor Day - Conference  
District Offices will be closed  
September 11: National Grandparents Day  
September 15: MVS report entry deadline  
September 15: Hispanic Heritage Month Starts  
September 18: National Cheeseburger Day  
September 18: Charge Conference Season begins



*News, Connections, Conversations*

October 1: Charge Conference Season Continues  
October 13: Columbus Day  
October 15: MVS report entry deadline  
October 15: Hispanic Heritage Month Ends  
October 17: Bosses Day  
October 18: National Cupcake Day  
October 31: Reports Due, check calendar of reports

### 2011 Conference Calendar of Reports Due

## District - United Methodist Women Happenings

A "Mission Sampler" is being held on September 17th. This is an opportunity to experience a "preview" of each of the new UMW Mission Studies. It will be held at Seminole Heights UMC 6111 N. Central Avenue in Tampa. For more information please contact President Elsie Olsen at [813-972-2844](tel:813-972-2844) or [elsieolsen@msn.com](mailto:elsieolsen@msn.com)

The South Central District UMW meeting will be held on October 8th at First United Methodist Church of Zephyrhills 38635 5th Avenue Zephyrhills, FL 33542. Registration begins at 9:30 a.m. and the meeting will start at 10:00 a.m. A catered lunch will be served. Along with the installation of new officers, the Key note speaker will be Rev. Valerie K. Hattery, Pastor of Mulberry UMC. Reservation forms are available by contacting Ethel Ewing at [863-646-4334](tel:863-646-4334) or via email at [ethelewing@msn.com](mailto:ethelewing@msn.com) Deadline for registration is September 23rd.

## Minority Health Fare at Adullam Worship Center

Mounting research evidence has repeatedly shown racial and ethnic minorities are more likely to die of chronic disease at higher rates than their counterparts. Approximately 38% of the population in Florida is made up of minorities, compared to the US population of 34.9%. The Florida Department of Health reports 62.5% of the deaths in Florida are related to heart disease, stroke, cancer, diabetes and chronic respiratory disease, which can all be tied back to health behaviors.

The Florida Minority Health Promotion Network, Inc. is a nonprofit organization established to provide health education, outreach, referral services, and patient advocacy to the underserved, with the aim of improving healthcare disparities. It is partnering with Adullam Worship Center UMC to sponsor a community health fair.

The fair will be held on September 10, 2011 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the First Seffner United Methodist Church located at 1310 South Kingsway Road, Seffner, FL 33584.

The theme of the Health Fair is "Health Thyself: Mind, Body, and Spirit. The fair will serve three major goals:

1. Increase awareness of health issues impacting minority physical and mental health.
2. Provide preventive screenings and increase awareness of community health resources available.
3. Increase awareness on spiritual health and its role in mental and physical health for overall well being.

## Crosswinds Ministry - A Note from Jennifer Smith

As the Executive Director of the South Central District's Wesley Foundation, Crosswinds, I find that my life now revolves around semesters; Fall, Spring, and Summer bleed into one another with very little down time in between. Each semester demands my attention in the areas of providing for the spiritual and emotional needs of students, securing increased funding due to the needs of a growing ministry, and addressing the greatest demand of them all - knowing my student leaders rub shoulders with thousands of USF students who will spend eternity apart from God if Crosswinds doesn't find better ways to reach out to them.

To be honest, at times, these expectations of my position can become overwhelming. During the Summer semester, as I was preparing for the Fall, tired and worried I didn't have the strength for another school year, God affirmed His calling in me through an email from a student. To read more please [click here](#).

## Harvester UMC Announces UMM Golf Challenge



Harvester UMC is hosting a men's golf challenge on Saturday, 9/24/11 at 12:30 p.m. Proceeds will benefit the Mission and Outreach of Harvester UMC. The location will be THE GROVES GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB 7924 Melogold Circle, Land O' Lakes, FL 34637.

Players must be checked in by noon for the shotgun start. Cost is \$60 per person and includes greens fees, cart, food and prizes. For more information call [813-948-2311](tel:813-948-2311) or email [harvesterumc@verizon.net](mailto:harvesterumc@verizon.net)

## Sun City Center UMC Happenings:



The United Methodist Church of Sun City Center, 1210 Del Webb Blvd. West, will be hosting a Community Service of Remembrance and Recovery on the tenth anniversary of the events of 9-11 on Sunday, September 11<sup>th</sup> at 2PM in the church sanctuary. The event will feature local fire & rescue workers, law enforcement officers, various community groups and individuals who were personally impacted by tragedies of that day. For more information, please visit their website at [www.sccumc.com](http://www.sccumc.com)

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The United Methodist Church of Sun City Center, 1210 Del Webb Blvd. West, will be launching a second contemporary worship service starting in early October of this year. The new casual worship service called GPS: Recalculate Life will be on Saturday evenings from 6-7PM and will be designed specifically for those that haven't had church in their lives in some time... or ever. To learn more about the United Methodist Church of Sun City center, please visit our website at [www.sccumc.com](http://www.sccumc.com).

## New Horizon UMC Happenings:



New Horizon Church, a United Methodist Congregation, extends a special invitation to the churches in the South Central District to attend a September 11 Remembrance and Prayer Service on the eve of the 10th anniversary of this tragedy. Join us for a candlelight service as we honor those who lost their lives in the wake of September 11 and pray for peace throughout our country and world.

Saturday, September 10, 2011  
5:15pm - New Horizon Davenport Campus Sanctuary  
3 North Suwannee Ave - Davenport, FL 33837

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The Paradym Foundation's FREE Coupon Classes are designed to educate people on the tremendous savings we all have right at our fingertips. Their goal is to help you cut your grocery bill in half or less and to support local food banks in your own congregation or local area. All it takes to accomplish is a little bit of knowledge that these classes will provide. The classes are FREE to anyone who wishes to attend! For more information or to RSVP, please contact Rev. Sarah Miller at [sarah.miller@flumc.org](mailto:sarah.miller@flumc.org) or [863.701.4995](tel:863.701.4995).

## Being the Church and Doing Church the Wesleyan Way

By God's GRACE each local church, as well as the church universal, is empowered to be the continuing expression of Christ's work in the world today.

Saturday October 8, 8:30 - noon  
(Session starts at 9 am)  
First United Methodist Church  
230 N 5<sup>th</sup> St. - Lake Wales, FL

World renowned speaker, the Rev. Dr. Steve Harper, Professor of Spiritual Formation and Wesley Studies, will lead us in an exploration of Ephesians as a guide to effective living as Christians in the world today. For more information or to R.S.V.P., please email [office.fumclw@verizon.net](mailto:office.fumclw@verizon.net). Deadline is October 4th.

Sponsored by the South Polk United Methodist Cluster

## Cuba Mission Trip

A Methodists United in Prayer caravan will travel on a mission trip to Cuba on October 7 to visit 5 different sister churches in 2 different Cuba districts.

Eleven church members, including 3 pastors (First/Lutz, St James and Forest Hills UMC) will be going on this caravan (two for the first time) to meet their Cuban brothers and sisters. They will be taking food, medicines and other needs. Most important they will be taking your prayers and blessings.

If you wish to know more about the Cuba ministry go to [www.methodistsunitedinprayer.org](http://www.methodistsunitedinprayer.org) or contact Renee Kincaid [\(813\) 885-5674](tel:813.885-5674) [rkinc@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:rkinc@tampabay.rr.com). For information on Lakeland churches please contact Larry Rankin [\(863\) 670-3060](tel:863.670-3060) [Lrankin@flumc.org](mailto:Lrankin@flumc.org)

# MINISTRY RESOURCES

## What Every Child Should Experience:

A Guide for Leaders and Teachers in United Methodist Congregations is a new resource from GBOD available as a free downloadable PDF. To download [click here](#)

What Every Child Should Experience: A Guide for Leaders and Teachers in United Methodist Congregations is a guide for leaders and teachers of children in the area of faith formation. The resource contains a comprehensive guide to scripture significant for children as they develop cognitively and theologically. It also contains a chart of what children need and understand developmentally around the beliefs and concepts of God, Worship, the Bible, Home and Family, Everyday Life, Community, and Wesleyan Heritage.

# TRAINING AND EVENTS

## 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.

For more information and training dates [click here.](#)

## Exploration 2011 - Registration Now Available



**EXPLORATION 2011**, an event for young adults ages 18-26 who are exploring God's call to ordained ministry in The United Methodist Church, will take place **Nov. 11-13 in St. Louis, MO**. Sponsored by the UMC's General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, the event provides a chance to learn more about the call to ordained ministry through worship, prayer, workshops, networking, and small groups. To find out more [click here](#).

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

## Working and Worshipping Together workshop



Do you have lay and clergy leaders in your District that are engaging in ministry with the poor, yearn to do so but don't know how or are looking to take another step to in developing authentic relationships and partnerships and welcome their neighbors into a worshipping community? If so perhaps they would be interested in **Working and Worshipping Together: Next Steps in Engaging in Ministry With the Poor** at the UM Church for All People in Columbus, OH, Oct. 29-Nov. 1, 2011, which will include presentations, workshops and a ministry practicum. For more information or to register, [click here](#) or -

614-445-7342

## Online Training available from United Methodist Communications

Web Ministry 100: "What is Web Ministry?" provides foundational information and theological basis for creating and maintaining Web ministry.

Moodle 100: Basic Training: This instructor-led, online course prepares you to develop online courses or Bible studies using the open source management system, Module.

There is so much more. For further information [click here](#)

## 2011 UMC Black Clergywomen's Annual Meeting



You're invited to attend the 2011 UMC Black Clergywomen's Annual Meeting in Nashville, TN Sept 5<sup>th</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup> , 2011 - we kick off at 1pm and end 12pm on 7<sup>th</sup>. It promises to be a blessed event. Powerful preachers, relevant workshops, great food and fellowships with your black clergywomen sisters...

Guest Preachers include - Rev Dr. Katie Cannon, Rev Dr. Gina Stewart, Rev Dr Renita J Weems, Rev Telley Gadson , Bishop Violet Fisher and Bishop Linda Lee. Please Register

today at the website by [clicking here](#).

## Florida Conference Black Clergy Event



The Office of the Black Clergy Church Of the Florida United Methodist Conference is inviting ALL Black Clergy, Elders, Local Pastors, Associate Members, and Retired Clergy to a day of conferencing and conversation on October 3rd.

Please [click here](#) for more information and registration.

## African American Woman's Leadership Conference



September 15-17 2011 Lake Junaluska Assembly, North Carolina

This conference provides African-American women clergy and laity an opportunity to strengthen their leadership skills for ministry and to promote and practice self-care specifically as it relates to living as African-American Christian women.

[For more information and registration please click here.](#)

## The Academy of the Youth Ministry Institute



[Click here for more information](#)

# OTHER IMPORTANT NEWS

Paraphrase of Instruction/Alert reminder from Our Conference IT Department

Do Not Respond to E-Mails that Ask for Your User Name and Password

You may recall that our email system was compromised by a social engineering attack last month. A clergy member clicked on a link inside of an email requesting their user name and password. The individual submitted the information, and this allowed spammers to compromise our system and send massive amounts of email through our email system causing us to receive a derogatory 'spammer' listing. This occurred four times in a week!

This is a sample of the phishing emails on which clergy are clicking, then giving the spammer their user name and password:

Sent: Wed 6/15/2011 7:32 AM

Subject: Your Mailbox Has Exceeded It Storage Limit

Your Mailbox Has Exceeded It Storage Limit As Set By Your Administrator,  
And You Will Not Be Able To Receive New Mails Until You Re-Validate It.

To Re-Validate - please **CLICK HERE**

<<http://www.formbuddy.com/cgi-bin/formdisp.pl?u=upgradeteam91&f=upgrade>>

: System Administrator.

Do not ever respond to an email requesting your user name and password. According to our IT provider, when we give that information to spammers,

1. They are authenticated to our server to send as much spam as they like with no consequences.
2. We have to delete tens of thousands of emails stuck in the mail server queue that slow down the system.
3. Flumc.org and our ip address are designated as spammers, which means that legitimate emails get bounced back.
4. It takes approximately 10 - 20 hours of IT time to resolve the problem so all mail goes through with no issues.
5. In our extreme situation last month when we had four clergy give out their user names and passwords, we had to reset all 1800+ clergy passwords.

## Considering a Call to Ministry?

Do you have someone in your congregation that is considering the call to liscensed/ordained ministry? The Center for Clergy Excellence has created a new website specifically for those who have heard the call.

To visit this website please go to [www.mycallfl.org](http://www.mycallfl.org)

## Tax Refund Opportunity for Local Churches

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

If you can answer yes to all of these questions, you may qualify for a refundable tax credit for a percentage of the cost of the employer's share of the health insurance premiums.

[For more information please click here](#)

## United Methodist Inter Agency Task Force on Immigration

Local churches are being invited to find a Sunday between September 16th and October 9th



when in worship they would lift up the stories of young immigrants brought to the U.S. as Children. For the entire message and further information please [click here](#).

## 5 New Ideas from GBOD to Equip World-Changing Disciples

5 ways you can better equip world-changing disciples. Learn how to improve your young adult ministry, learn what it means to be a Christian in the 21st century and more! [Click here](#) for more information.

## First UMC Riverview Works to Save Energy

Pastor Merritt Waters and his congregation have found a way to dramatically cut their energy costs. They have worked with an organization to seal their duct work and provide insulation to buildings on their campus and all the work and materia was FREE! The company they worked with is affiliated with TECO and it is all part of a rebate program. Want more information on how it works, contact Pastor Merritt at First UMC Riverview at [813-677-5995](tel:813-677-5995) or you may contact Carlos at AEA (Alternative Energy Applicaitons) directly [ccarreno@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:ccarreno@tampabay.rr.com).

# CLASSIFIDES

## Looking for Work

Mr. Dennis Tantuico is looking for an administrative position - [click here](#) to view his resume

## Director of Children's Ministries Needed

Harvester UMC located in Land O' Lakes is seeking to fill a part-time staff position for Director of Children's Ministries. If you are interested please email [harvesterumc@verizon.net](mailto:harvesterumc@verizon.net) for more information.

## Youth Director Needed

First United Methodist Church, in St. Petersburg, Florida, seeks a [Youth Director](#) for full time staff position, working and guiding their youth, grades 6-12. If you are interested please email [padams@fumcsp.org](mailto:padams@fumcsp.org) for more details.