

Greenville District News

DECEMBER 2010

From the District Superintendent

December

- 2-4 Multi-Cultural Event, Lake Junaluska
- 3 Clergy/Spouse Christmas Fellowship, Advent UMC, 6:30pm
- 17 Dist Co on Ordained Ministry, District Office, 9am
- 18 Cabinet Meeting, Columbia
- 23-Jan. 2, 2011
Dist Office CLOSED

January

- 3 Dist Clergy Meeting, St. Mark UMC, 911 St. Mark Rd., Taylors, 9:30am
- 23 Meeting of Lay Members to Annual Conference, Buncombe Street UMC, 2pm
Church Leadership Orientation, Buncombe Street UMC, 3-5pm

Dee and I are most appreciative of those who came to the *Drop In at the District Parsonage* on November 21. The comments about the recent renovation were very positive. We were truly encouraged by the support which we received. Many persons contributed to the success of this event and we express thanks to each and everyone. Please be assured that we are enjoying the "new" house.

The season of Advent is upon us. It appears that the year went by extremely fast. Our preparation now focuses upon preparing for the celebration of the birth of our Savior. Churches will offer many opportunities for fellowship and worship during the next four weeks. My prayer is that we will use this time to reflect upon our walk with Christ.

Clergy and spouses will gather for our annual Christmas Fellowship at Advent UMC on December 3 at 6:30pm. We thank Advent for hosting us and providing the

program. I look forward to greeting each clergy and spouse.

Please be reminded that evaluation forms of persons under appointment to local churches are due in the District Office by December 1. Advisory forms will be mailed immediately after Christmas and are to be returned by February 1, 2011.

As of November 22 only 60.55% of Conference Apportionments have been paid. Our District has paid 65.22% and is currently listed third out of the twelve



districts. Thanks for what you have done. Please continue to keep this matter before your congregation.

These funds support the ministry of the denomination at home as well as abroad.

Ministers are reminded that our January meeting is scheduled for December 3 at 9:30am at St. Mark UMC, 911 St. Mark Road, Taylors, SC. Doug Neal and Michael Plyler will meet with us to discuss clergy taxes.

Please encourage your lay members to Annual Conference to meet on Sunday, January 23, in order that we might nominate persons for possible election to the General and Jurisdictional Conferences of 2012. This meeting is scheduled for 2pm. At 3pm we will begin the Church Leadership Orientation. Both of these are scheduled at Buncombe Street UMC. We trust that all church officers will be in attendance.

Dee and I wish for each of you an enjoyable Holiday Season. We pray God's continuing blessings upon you.

Charles L. Johnson

Important Reminder

January 14, 2011 is the deadline to pay apportionments and receive credit for the year 2010.



New District Council on Connectional Ministries—IT'S A NEW DAY!

As you know, the 2010 Annual Conference voted for each District to restructure the way it sought to do ministry. We went from District Council with elected members to a District Council on Connectional Ministries with four main ministry teams filled with people who have a passion in those areas. Those areas are: Discipleship, Advocacy, Outreach, and Lay Leadership.

God has blessed us with a great team and the hope is to listen to and hear the needs of the local churches in the Greenville District and seek to be more creative about how to meet those needs. We had a training session November 18. I want to tell you that it was an energized time with great heart and spirit. We begin officially in January, and value your prayers, input and participation.

Cathy Joens

A Note of Thanks from Cathy Joens, Congregational Specialist

I want to thank all the pastors and lay members who have allowed me to serve you this year in the Greenville District. It has been a great year and I am



constantly amazed at and thankful for the deep desire you have to do ministry despite the fears and difficulties. We are growing in our work together and my prayer is that we will continue to seek God's purpose for our ministries; for in him all things are possible.

Have a wonderfully meaningful Christmas.

Peace,
Cathy Joens
Congregational Specialist

Email: cljoens@umcsc.org
Phone: 864-940-1893

Save the Date

On Saturday, February 5, 2011 from 9am-12 noon there will be a VBS Workshop at Mauldin UMC.



"Understanding Men's Ministry"

A New Lay Speaking Ministry Course

February 25-27, 2011

The Greenville District United Methodist Men are proud to host a new Lay Speaking Course focused on men's ministry. Lay Speakers will receive credit for an advanced course upon completion, but you do not have to be a Lay Speaker to attend. The course will be conducted by GD's Bill Smith, past president SCC UMMen and vice president of SEJ UMM Conference Presidents.

Location: Aldersgate United Methodist Church, Fellowship Hall, 7 Shannon Dr., Greenville, SC 29615.

Schedule: (Space is limited to 30 attendees so sign up early.)

- Friday 6:30pm–9pm
- Saturday 8:30am–4pm (lunch provided)
- Sunday 1:30pm–4pm

Cost: \$40 per person, includes materials, refreshments, lunch on Saturday.

RSVP: Greenville District UMC Office at 864-233-3611, 213 College St., Greenville, SC 29601.



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Living Prayer Center
www.upperroom.org**



Hispanic Ministry Update

From the desk of Rev. Enrique R. Gordon

Because of your generosity we were able to assist ten families during the Thanksgiving season with food baskets. Special thanks to Rev. Matthew Yon and his congregation, as well as Rev. Peggy Garland and her congregation for their support in providing the non-perishable items for the baskets.

On Saturday, November 27, we began the season of Advent by decorating the church. On Sunday we had service followed by a special meal. We want to thank the members of Esperanza who came out and rendered their services as we decorated the Christmas tree and hung the wreaths on the doors. Thanks to Rev. Rance Sprayberry and his congregation for the beautiful Christmas tree they donated to the church that now stands in our sanctuary. As always, you are all invited to come and celebrate the Joy of the Lord with us every Sunday afternoon at 5pm.

Iglesia Metodista Unida Esperanza continues to reach out to the Hispanic community in Berea by conducting, every Tuesday and Thursday from 6 to 8pm, English as a Second Language classes. We are still looking for volunteers to help with childcare; if you are interested in assisting in this much-needed ministry to our Hispanic/Latino brothers and sisters please give Rev. Gordon a call at 561-7337.



The food pantry is still a valuable aid to the Hispanic community by serving the needs of many family members every month.

The food bank is open every Saturday from 10am to 1pm. Thanks to all our brothers and sisters who continue to support the food ministry with non-perishable items and monetary donations. It's because of you we are able to provide such a valuable ministry to our Hispanic/Latino communities of faith.

Yours in Christ,
Rev. Gordon

Note from the District Lay Leader

With the holidays upon us, many people will be offering hospitality in their churches and homes. A simple definition for hospitality is "kindness in welcoming strangers or guests." Surely this is what our churches do year round, but we do seem to expand it a bit during the holiday season.

Hospitality is more than being nice to people. It is a profound expression of love. We need to look no further than the life of Jesus Christ to see the ideal role model

for offering hospitality to others. Jesus was the perfect example of hospitality because of the eyes through which he saw others. Jesus saw everyone through the lens of love and mercy. His ability to use a "hospitable disposition" with his treatment of women, children, the poor, the wealthy, the tax collectors, the Romans, the Jews and others showed his love for all people. There was no judgment or any scripted expectation. There was only the welcoming invitation to join him, whether around the table for a meal, or to simply sit and talk with him. He looked at being hospitable to others not to gain something, rather simply for the sake of offering love to those less fortunate.

What would happen if our churches would strive for a "hospitable disposition" each and every week? Do the UM churches in the Greenville District open their hearts and hands to the possibilities found in people from all walks of life? I pray our answer to both of these questions is a resounding "**yes**"—we offer this each and every day!

I wish you all a most holy and joyful Christmas season!

I am honored to walk this journey with you!

Barbara Ware
Greenville District Lay
Leader

"Hospitality is more than being nice to people. It is a profound expression of love."



Lay Leadership Orientation
Buncombe Street United Methodist Church
January 23, 2011, 3-5pm

If you are a new officer, if you are a lay member or pastor that wants to be refreshed, if there are areas that you have questions about or if you want to become a stronger leader, then you will want to register for this event: **Lay Leadership Orientation**.

We are offering 18 classes this year, five of which are new in scope.

Classes	Leaders
Staff-Parish	Dr. Charles Johnson
Finance	Steve Deurk, Lay member
Lay Leader	Barbara Ware, Dist/Conf. Assoc. Lay Leader
Church Council	Dr. Michael Wolfe, Pastor
Trustees	Rev. George Scott, Pastor
Stewardship	Dr. Robin Dease, Pastor
Outreach/Mission	Dr. Lloyd White, Pastor
Worship	Rev. Peggy Garland, Pastor
Christian Education/Small Church	Rev. Deana Gentry, Minister of Children
Christian Education/Med-Lg. Church	Rev. Pat Gannaway, Minister of Spiritual Formation
Youth	John Fahrney, Minister of Youth
Nurture	Rev. Alice MacKeil, Minister of Christian Ed.
<i>(new)</i> N.O.W. Model	Rev. Cathy Joens, Congregational Specialist
Prayer	Clayton Easter, Lay Member, Prayer Coord.
<i>(new)</i> Hispanic Ministry	Rev. Jerry Hill, Minister of Outreach
<i>(new)</i> Effective Leadership	Toni Norris, Lay Member, Life/Leadership Coach
<i>(new)</i> Best Practices in Small Membership Church	Dr. Bob Stillwell, Retired DS and Pastor
<i>(new)</i> Advocacy	Rev. Susan Culler, Pastor

Pastors: Brochures were sent out electronically November 28 and will go out again January 4. Look for it in your email.

Lay Members: Please ask your pastors for the brochure.



How to Submit Articles:

You may post articles for the Greenville District UMC Newsletter using our online form: Go to www.greenvilleumc.org, click on Resources, then Forms, then Communication Request.

Or email your article to gvdist@umcsc.org. Please type articles in an MS Word document. No special formatting necessary.

Deadline for January issue: December 23, 2010

Happenings at Our Churches

Order of St. Luke the Physician

A chapter of the Order of St. Luke the Physician (OSL), a ministry of healing and prayer, was chartered at Mauldin UMC this spring. OSL is an interdenominational order that is devoted to work within the church in the understanding of healing of physical, mental, spiritual and emotional distress. We offer Bible studies, training events, and monthly prayer and healing services. Rev. Gareth Scott leads the Prayer and Healing Services on the third Monday of each month at Mauldin UMC. Mrs. Sue Kanipe is the convener for this ministry and you may contact her at her cell phone, 864-360-9686, if you have questions or are interested in this ministry.

Local Missionaries

The Dunlap family—Stephen, Jean, Jordan and Davis, members of Mauldin United Methodist Church—have been commissioned by The

Mission Society as missionaries. They will be going to serve in the country of Jordan. Their focus will be on making relationships with people so that they can share Christ's love and show and demonstrate what it means to be a follower of Jesus. The Dunlaps are in the process of raising the funds they need before they can depart for Jordan. If you would like to learn more about their mission, have them speak at a church group, or would like to provide support to their family, please contact Jean or Stephen at 864-458-9412, or email them at jsdunlap@hotmail.com.

Local Scout Receives Heroism Award

Congratulations to Life Scout Shelby Bowden, a member of Troop 9, chartered to Buncombe Street UMC upon receiving this award. Shelby's quick action saved a friend whose life was threatened when their boat overturned during a recent outing.

A Note of Appreciation

Dear Pastors, District Family & Conference Connections,

Please accept my sincere appreciation for all the many cards, emails, and phone calls expressing concern and support following my dad's illness and recent death. It has been a real blessing to know so many folks care and are praying for me and my family during this difficult time.

Thank you,

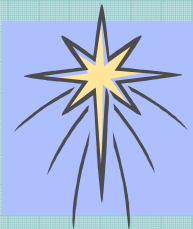
Rhonda K. Gilliam

St. Mark United Methodist Church, Taylors will present

100 Voices of Christmas

"Celebrating the Light"

Sunday, December 19, 5pm



A production consisting of 100 people from the church and community.

This will be an evening of music, dance and drama under the direction of Dwight Woods, Ruby Lewers and Brenda Benson.

911 St. Mark Rd., Taylors, SC 29687 864-848-7141

Greenville District Office

United Methodist Church
213 College St.
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Our Caring Fellowship

Family Concerns:

Continue to remember: Edward Cantrell (father-in-law of Andria), Betty Clark (widow of Dan), James Cole (brother of Joe Cole), Clara Dease (mother of Robin), Thomasina Fisher (widow of T.H.), Mary Fortier (Bob), Dolly Garland (mother of Peggy Garland), Luke Gilliam (son of Rhonda), Norma Gordon (mother of Enrique Gordon), Rose Hay (mother of Anne [Sam] Marcengill), Carol Kennedy (sister of Joe Cole), Judy Kleckley (mother of Rhonda), Priscilla Pearce, Ruth Schmidt (mother of Alice MacKeil), Carroll & Betty Taylor (parents of David Taylor), Emme Wolfe (niece of Michael Wolfe)

and Tom Wyatt (son-in-law of Linda McNatt), *in prayer.*

The following person was in the hospital during the past month:

Corrie Lancaster (mother-in-law of David Brown)

Sympathy to:

Martha Marlowe & family at the death of her spouse, Reuben, on November 12 in Atlanta.

Fred & Beth Treaster at the death of his brother, Dennis, on November 13 in Burnham, PA.

Sam & Anne Marcengill at the death of his mother, Adell Marcengill, on November 27 in Greenwood.

