



# Southeast District

of the Texas Annual Conference  
of the United Methodist Church

JULY 2014

## REMINDERS:

- If you have students attending college this fall, please send their contact information to Rev. Carmen Rickel at [crickel@hotmail.com](mailto:crickel@hotmail.com).
- Hurricane Season is here. Find out how your church can help UMCOR stock up on flood buckets at [www.umcor.org/UMCOR/Relief-Supplies](http://www.umcor.org/UMCOR/Relief-Supplies)

## CALENDAR

- July 24-26**—Candidacy Summit, Office Closed
- Aug 22**—Clergy Family Picnic, 6:00 pm
- Sept 7**—District Conference, 3:00 pm
- Oct 10**—Bishop's Visit  
Clergy-3:00 pm,  
Laity-7:00 pm

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## Notes from the District Superintendent

Who is my neighbor? This is an important question confronting the church today. As Con-

gress and political pundits argue about who is "right" when it comes to immigration, a humanitarian crisis is unfolding right before us on our border with Mexico.

Tens of thousands of children have become refugees because of poverty, violence, and unimaginable abuse in their home country. Like refugees of

war, these young ones only are looking for a home where they can live without fear and with the hope of reaching adulthood.

The Scriptures give a clear mandate that we are to come to the aid of the vulnerable. When we do so, we prove ourselves to be neighbors and discover that the one we helped was really Jesus.

Grace and Peace,

*Dick*

## Helping Our Neighbors

The Southeast District is joining the Texas Annual Conference's call to action by receiving monetary donations in response to the humanitarian crisis on the US/Mexico border.

Local churches are encouraged to collect a monetary offering for the UMCOR advance #901670 marked "Immigration Crisis" and send it through the TAC Treasurer.

Tens of thousands of refugee minors have made the crossing without adult accompaniment. Many have been tem-



porarily detained by the US government, identified, and temporarily re-

leased to travel to an identified relative who may be cities away. However, they are without basic necessities such as clothing, bedding for overnight lodging, first-aid emergency medical supplies for incidents along the way, shoes, food, and water.

# Welcome New Appointments

## District Clergy Family Picnic

The Clergy Family Picnic will be Friday, August 22, at 6:00 pm, at the UM Temple in Port Arthur. Returning families are asked to bring a side dish or dessert. Families that moved this summer do not need to bring anything.

## Attention Clergy Spouses!

Mark your calendar for Friday, July 25, at 6:30 pm. The SE District Clergy Spouses will be gathering for a time of fellowship at Neches River Wheelhouse. For more information, contact Erin Bunch, 409.550.1246 or [ebunch@gt.rr.com](mailto:ebunch@gt.rr.com).

You can help your YOUTH be INVOLVED and continue the camp experience!



This month we said goodbye to **Rev. Beverly Tune**, and we welcomed the following pastors.

**Chung-Soo Park**  
Beaumont,  
First Korean UMC  
Spouse: Yui-Soon



**Marty Boddie**  
(within district)  
Groves UMC  
Spouse: Nicole

## Conference Apportionments—Where is the SED?

As of the first six months (50%) of the year, the SED is a little behind our target pace having only paid 44% of its Conference Apportionments. At this time, just over half of district, 30 churches, are below the 50% target point. Likewise, 11 churches are at the 50% target, and 9 churches are above the 50%. If your church is behind, challenge yourself to catch up to a pace that will help you payout on time.

A huge round of applause to **Anahuac, St. Paul UMC, Beaumont, Forest Park UMC, Port Arthur Barnes Memorial UMC, Boliver UMC, and Magnolia Springs UMC** who have paid **100% of their apportionments** for 2014!

## What is the DLT?

The District Leadership Team (DLT) is the administrative and planning body of the District Conference. It consists of five Laity and five Clergy plus the District Superintendent. The District Lay Leader and the District representative to the Core Leadership Team (CLT) are part of the ten member team by virtue of their office.

The DLT is the strategic planning team who is charged with equipping congregations to make dis-

ciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. The DLT also prepares budgets, nominations, and coordinates the business of the District Conference.

### Innovative Leadership

With the Texas Annual Conference's emphasis on equipping lay and clergy leaders, the DLT is planning an innovative leadership event in conjunction with our Connectional Charge Conferences.

### Vibrant Churches

The team is also working closely with the Center on Congregational Excellence to implement the Vibrant Church Initiative for medium-sized congregations; and, are addressing the need of strengthening the Vibrancy of the small church in a new process of H.O.P.E (Honest, Open, Potential, Evaluation). A pilot team is being organized for the Spring of 2015.

## District Youth—Mark Your Calendar

- ◆ **District Water Wars**--Sunday, August 24, 3:00-6:00 p.m., at Nederland, Wesley UMC {Details in the making.}
- ◆ **KD4C {Kneel Down 4 Christ}**--Thursday, October 23--This is a National Prayer Event, <http://warriorarise.com>

### 2015 Camp Dates

**July 13-17, 2015**

Reserve it on your personal and church calendar now.