



Southeast District

of the Texas Annual Conference
of the United Methodist Church

AUGUST 2014

REMINDERS:

- If you have students attending college this fall, please send their contact information to Rev. Carmen Rickel at 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

CALENDAR:

- Aug 22**—Clergy Family Picnic, 6:00 pm
Sept 7—District Conference, 3:00 pm
Sept 15-17—Clergy Gathering, Lakeview
Oct 10—Bishop's Visit Clergy-3:00 pm, Laity-7:00 pm

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Notes from the District Superintendent

"Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus."
Philippians 2:5

Mark was a sensitive ten year old boy. He preferred being inside reading rather than playing outside in the heat. He felt out of place in his West Texas town where cowboys, rodeos, hunting, and fishing were considered to be rites of passage. The idea of killing an animal for sport was nauseating to him. One day while riding the back roads with his grandpa they came to a cemetery. Perched on one of the gravestones was a quail, whistling its high-pitched song.

His grandpa stopped the truck and said to him, "Let's see how good a shot you are." Reaching behind the seat for his .22 rifle, his grandpa put the gun into Mark's hands. He then instructed him how to aim and squeeze the trigger. Mark was in an irresolvable dilemma. He loved his grandpa and didn't want to

disappoint him, but he also was sickened by the idea of killing an animal.

Mark said, "I was scared as I took the rifle, stuck it out the truck window, and took aim. I remember praying, 'Lord, let me miss. Lord, let me miss.' I closed my eyes and pulled the trigger. When I opened my eyes, feathers were flying everywhere." He went on to say, "I learned that you can't pray for one outcome while working directly against that same outcome. Our actions and our prayers must come into alignment."

When we pray the Lord's Prayer we are asking to become aligned with the kingdom of God by participating in the will of God. To pray, "The kingdom come, thy will be done" is to align our actions with our intentions. It is to live a life of integrity, not being of two minds, but one—namely, the mind of Christ.

Grace and Peace,

Dick

District Clergy Family Picnic

Friday, August 22, 2014 • 6:00 p.m.

UM Temple

4102 Hwy 73, Port Arthur • 409-962-5762

Barbeque & Drinks Provided

Bring a side dish or dessert to complete the menu

Incoming clergy families will be our guests.

Childcare available, but **only if requested**. Contact the host church, 409-962-5762, if you need childcare, and let them know how many to expect and ages.

RSVP to the District Office by August 14—dmoody@txcumc.org

Welcome September Appointments



This month we will say goodbye to **Rev. Jesse Brannen**, and we will welcome the following pastors, effective September 1.

Rev. Jeff Hastings
Port Arthur,
UM Temple
Spouse: Jeanette

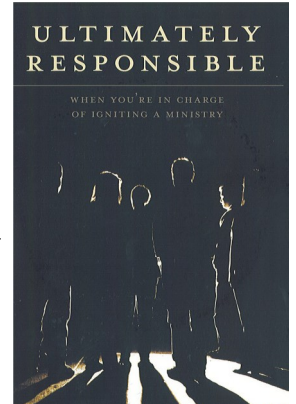
Rev. Tom Stephenson
High Island-St. Matthew UMC,
Bay Vue, & Port Bolivar UMCs
Spouse: Wendy



**Clergy—
Do you have a
copy of
*Ultimately
Responsible?***

Clergy Covenant Groups

All appointed clergy will be asked to sign up for a covenant group during the district picnic. Covenant groups meet throughout the year to strengthen and support the district clergy. The groups will begin by reading and discussing *Ultimately Responsible* by Sue Nilson Kibbey. If you are clergy and did not get a copy of the book at the Registration Table at Annual Conference, please pick up a copy from the District Office.



Attention Clergy Spouses!

Mark your calendar for Sunday, September 21, at 5:00 pm. The SE District Clergy Spouses will be gathering for a time of fellowship at Novrozsky's in Lumberton. For more information, contact Erin Bunch, 409.550.1246 or ebunch@gt.rr.com.

Important District Events—Make Plans Now

Make plans now to attend these important district events this fall.

August 28—Clergy Coffee & Charge Conference Training, 10:00-11:30 am, Beaumont Wesley UMC, Youth Center

September 4—Church Staff Charge Conference Training, 10:00-11:30 am, Beaumont Wesley UMC, Youth Center

September 7—District Conference, 3:00 pm, Beaumont Wesley UMC, Praise Center

October 10—Bishop's Visit, Beaumont Wesley UMC, Dining Hall
Clergy-3:00 pm

Laity-7:00 pm

All are invited to attend!

November 16—Connectional Charge Conference and Leadership Training, 2:30 pm, Beaumont Wesley UMC, Family Life Center

November 18—Report Day Training, 10:00-11:30 am, Beaumont Wesley UMC, Youth Center

District Youth—Coming Events



- ◆ **District Water Wars**--Sunday, August 24, 3:00-6:00 p.m., at Nederland, Wesley UMC Join us for inflatable water slides, water guns, food, and more! Wear clothes that can get wet and dirty. No white shirts please. Guys please wear a shirt. Bring a towel and a change of clothes for the ride home.
- ◆ **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.