



Southeast District

of the Texas Annual Conference
of the United Methodist Church

OCTOBER 2014

REMINDERS:

- Approved Annual Charge Conference reports and actions are due to the district office by October 30, 4:00 pm.
- Check out our website: southeastdistrict.org. It is now being updated weekly with current information!
- Got news? Send it to ebunch@txcumc.org.

CALENDAR:

- Oct 28**—Bishop's Visit
Clergy-4:00 pm,
Laity-7:00 pm
- Oct 30**—Charge Conference reports due to District Office
- Nov 16**—Connectional Charge Conference and Leadership Training-3:00 pm

CONTACTS:

PO Box 4004
701 Calder
Beaumont, Texas 77704
409.833.9510
Fax: 409.833.9511
www.southeastdistrict.org

Dr. Richard L. "Dick" White
District Superintendent
rwhite@txcumc.org

Timolin Colbert
Administrative Assistant
tcolbert@txcumc.org

Donna Moody
Administrative Assistant
dmoody@txcumc.org

Erin Bunch
Office Assistant
ebunch@txcumc.org

Conference Office:
713.521.9383
www.txcumc.org



Bishop's Annual Visit

Bishop Janice R. Huie will visit the SE District on **Tuesday, October 28**. Clergy will meet at 4:00 p.m. and Laity will meet at 7:00 p.m. at Beaumont, Wesley UMC, in the Dining Hall.

This year's theme will be "Leadership Values that will Transform Your Church." She will be talking about four leadership qualities: courageous leading, faith talking, compassion sharing, and bridge building.

Bishop Huie established the annual district visits shortly after arriving in the Texas Annual Conference. "At the end of the day, explains B.T. Williamson, Assistant to the Bishop, "these visits are held to empower the local congregation, so we always encourage attendees to share their experiences with their individual churches. We also encourage the local congregations to extend a special invitation to young leaders and members to attend this interactive forum."

Connectional Charge Conference

The clergy and laity are encouraged to attend an afternoon of fellowship, worship, celebration, and learning. The Southeast District Connectional Charge/Church Conference (CCC) and Lay Leadership Training will be held **November 16, 3:00–6:00 p.m.** at Beaumont, Wesley UMC, in the Family Life Center (Gym).

The Annual Charge Conference business will be affirmed by consent and received by the District Superintendent. The required reports and actions for the Annual Charge Conference must be approved by your Church Council and submitted *prior to* the Connectional Charge Conference meeting.

Eric Hoffer, in his book Reflections on the Human Condition, wrote, "In a time of drastic change it is the *learners* who inherit the future. The *learned* usually find themselves equipped to live in a

world that no longer exists." Responding to the fast pace of change in culture gives the church exciting new possibilities for innovative mission and ministry.

The Reverend John Thornburg, Senior Area Consultant for the Texas Methodist Foundation, is our keynote speaker and facilitator for the lay leadership training. He will teach on "Adaptive Change and the Missional Church." All church leaders and interested laity are invited to attend. Pastoral leadership and vision will make this event a "must attend" event for the laity. Please make sure 5 to 10 persons attend the CCC from your church.



The district welcomes Rev. John Thornburg of Dallas on November 16. Read more about Rev. Thornburg on Page 2.

Conference Apportionments—Where is the SED?

As of the first nine months (75%) of the year, the SED is a little behind our target pace having only paid 65% of its Conference Apportionments. This is below last year's pace of 68%. At this time, just over half of district, 29 churches, are below the 75% target point. Likewise, 5 churches are at the 75% target, and 21 churches are above the 75%. 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 **Wallisville Middleton Memorial UMC, Batson UMC, High Island St. Matthew UMC, 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!

Learn from
Rev. Thornburg
at the **Connec-**
tional Charge
Conference,
November 16.

Attention Clergy Spouses!

Mark your calendar for Tuesday, November 18, at 6:30 pm. The SE District Clergy Spouses will be gathering for a time of fellowship at Olive Garden in Beaumont. For more information, contact Erin Bunch, 409.550.1246 or ebunch@gt.rr.com.

CCC Speaker—Worship Leader in Changing World

John Thornburg is a fourth generation United Methodist pastor, song enlivener, poet and professional encourager. After 22 years in parish ministry in North Texas, John started an itinerant ministry of song leading and worship consultation called A Ministry of Congregational Singing. He has led singing in local churches from Boston to Berkeley, at youth gatherings and retirement centers, and at both regional and national conventions. He also worked alongside a group of United Methodists from Cameroon, West Africa, in the creation of Methodism's first hymnal and worship book for that nation.

In March of 2013, he became Senior Area Consultant for the Texas Methodist Foundation, and is now the full time encourager he's always felt called to be. He travels the North Texas area consulting with churches about finding their distinctive calling.

John's hymn texts appear in 20 different hymnals and collections of Christian worship songs. He is co-founder of a community of creativity in Dallas called HOLY CITY, devoted to writing worship songs and planning worship events for those who are distrustful of the institutional church.

He and his wife, Beth, a law professor at Southern Methodist University, live in Dallas.

Important District Events—Make Plans Now

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

October 28—Bishop's Visit, Beaumont Wesley UMC, Dining Hall
Clergy-4:00 pm
Laity-7:00 pm

All are invited to attend!

November 16—Connectional Charge Conference and Leadership Training, 3:00 pm, Beaumont Wesley UMC, Family Life Center

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

2015 Camp Dates

**July 13-17,
2015**

Reserve it on your personal and church calendar now.

New **DISTRICT
YOUTH**
COORDINATOR:
Rev. Ben Burnside
409-832-0295

District Youth—Coming Event

- ◆ **KD4C {Kneel Down 4 Christ}**--Thursday, October 23--This is a National Prayer Event, <http://warriorarise.com>

Follow district youth on Facebook:

Southeast District Youth of the Texas Annual Conference