



Southeast District

of the Texas Annual Conference
of the United Methodist Church

JANUARY 2015

REMINDERS:

- District Clergy Retreat Registration due by January 28.
- Visit our website: southeastdistrict.org. It is now being updated weekly with current information!
- Got news? Send it to ebunch@txcumc.org.

CALENDAR:

- Feb 2-4**—District Clergy Retreat, Holy Family Retreat Center
- Feb. 28-Mar 1**—Lay Servant Training, Bridge City, St. Paul UMC
- Apr 13-15**—Elder's Retreat, Lakeview

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Notes from the District Superintendent

Dear Friends,

Thank you for the generous outpouring of love shown by your Christmas gift to Timolin, Erin, Donna, and myself. It was kind of you to remember us during the holiday season. We are blessed to be in ministry with

you throughout the year and appreciate this expression of friendship. May God bless you and your family in this New Year.

Grace and Peace,

Dick

2015 District Clergy Retreat

February 2-4, 2015

11:00 am, Monday - 1:00 pm, Wednesday

Holy Family Retreat Center

9920 N. Major Dr; Beaumont TX

Fees are: \$175 (2 nights, 7 meals) for a private room

\$125 (2 nights, 7 meals) for a shared room

If you will be commuting to and from the retreat center, your fee is the same as the shared room cost.

Please send your check payable to the Southeast District (put Pastors' Retreat on memo line) **by Wednesday, January 28, 2015.**

The speaker for the retreat will be Reverend John Thornburg, Senior Area Consultant for the Texas Methodist Foundation. Rev. Thornburg spoke to our district at the Connectional Charge Conference in November.

The book ***Doing The Math of Mission: Fruits, Faithfulness, and Metrics***, by Gil Rendle, will be the foundation for the retreat sessions. Pastors can pick up their books at the District Office (Monday – Thursday), if desired, or the books will be available at the retreat. The cost of the book is \$17.00.

Items to Bring:

- Personal items for overnight stay; linens are provided
- Retreat items such as your Bible, a journal, a pen, and your book
- A snack to share with others—Items you might consider: water, sodas, fruit, nuts, trail mix, granola bars, snack crackers, cookies, chocolate candy.
- Games such as dominoes, cards, dice, and others to enjoy during evening game and fellowship time.



Rev. John Thornburg of Dallas will speak at the District Clergy Retreat.

**Annual
Conference**
May 24-27, 2015
Hilton Americas
Houston
713-739-8000

**Registration for the
Hotel is now open.**

The conference will be held again at the Hilton Americas-Houston. Make sure you tell them you are with the *Texas Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church* to get the conference rate of \$125.



2014 Review in Numbers

The Report Day numbers are in! Here is where we stand as a district compared to 2013. We can celebrate the areas where we have grown and strive to change where we have not.

Description	Southeast District			Conference
	2013	2014	% Change	% Change
District Apportionments Paid	97%	94%	-3%	n/a
Conference Apportionments Paid	93%	95%	+1%	+1%
Average Worship Attendance	5,363	5,062	-5%	-1%
Average Sunday School Attendance	2,169	2,030	-6%	-2%
Total Professing Members	15,846	15,498	-2%	0%
Confessions of Faith	252	187	-25%	-6%
Baptisms	188	169	-10%	+38%
Children/Youth in Small Group Ministry	2,324	2,424	+4%	+1%
Adults in Small Group Ministry	3,810	3,637	-5%	0%
Number of ongoing small groups	207	231	+11%	+3%

Lay Servant Training Event 2015

Lay Servant Ministry is about developing leaders and improving leadership skills for use in the local church.

Saturday, February 28 • 9:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.

Registration begins at 8:30 a.m.

Sunday, March 1 • 2:00—5:00 p.m.

You must attend BOTH days to receive credit for the course.

St. Paul UMC • 1155 W. Roundbunch Rd. • Bridge City, TX

COST \$30 (includes books and lunch)

All Laity are Encouraged to Attend!

**More Information and Registration Form at
www.southeastdistrict.org/Lay-Servant**

Prayer Concerns

- Rev. Lindsey Smith, Jr. (Liberty South) in the passing of his father Lindsey Smith, Sr.
- Jean O'Donnell in the passing of her husband Rev. J.D. O'Donnell (retired)
- Jill Krone (wife of Rev. Kelly Krone, Anahuac First Circuit) - healing
- Susan Liedy (wife of Rev. Michael Liedy Sr., Beaumont St. Luke) – undergoing treatment for cancer
- Bill Servis (retired) – healing
- Rev. Byron Jarrett (retired) - healing
- Rev. Sharon Sabom (Mauriceville/Deweyville Circuit) in the passing of her mother-in-law, Katherine “Connie” Sabom
- Congratulations to Rev. Ruby Nelson (Beaumont, St. Paul) in her semi-retirement.

