



# Southeast District

of the Texas Annual Conference  
of the United Methodist Church

JULY 2015

## REMINDERS:

- Our new DS, Alicia, wants to meet you! Please let the district office know of scheduled church events, such as: VBS, church anniversaries, or active small group events.
- Got news? Send it to [ebunch@txcumc.org](mailto:ebunch@txcumc.org).
- Visit our website: [southeastdistrict.org](http://southeastdistrict.org).

## CALENDAR:

- July 13-17**—District Camp at Lakeview  
**July 29**—District Office Open House, 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.  
**July 30-31**—Candidacy Summit, Office Closed  
**Aug 15**—Clergy Family Picnic  
**Sept 21**—Bishop's Visit

## CONTACTS:

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**Conference Office:**  
713.521.9383  
[www.txcumc.org](http://www.txcumc.org)



## New Adventures

My hometown is Galveston, where my parents still live. I spent every summer in Bolivar at my best friend's beach house where we designed new sandcastles, played the in surf, and held fierce miniature golf competitions at the Wicky Wicky Putt Putt. It was our summer playground. Getting to Bolivar took some effort. We had to purchase all the food and supplies in Galveston; check and double check that we had swimsuits, and take a ferry ride. In the beginning I feared the ferry ride. What if we tipped? What if we ran into a ship?

There are always questions and concerns in each new adventure. Soon it became second nature. We learned not to feed the seagulls at the front of the boat, or for that matter, at the back of the boat. There were certain boats we liked more than others, but all the ferries took us to across the bay. The best place to feel the cool breeze and maybe even get splash to cool you off, was at the very front of the boat. Everyone wanted a spot at the front, so you had to be quick to get a place.

When I moved from Tyler a few weeks ago, I stayed with my parents in Galveston and took the ferry across. I felt like a kid again, standing at the front of the boat with the cool breeze on my face, looking out to a Bolivar; a new adventure in life for me. I find it ironic that once again God used the ferry as a vehicle to begin something wonderful in my life. It wasn't without its dangers (a seagull relieved itself on me) but it was worth the ride to arrive in a place filled with possibility.

The same was true for the people of God as they walked through the desert to the Promised Land; for the disciples who heard Jesus call them to "Come and follow me," and for the Church following Pentecost. God's grace is the vehicle by which we ride into a joy filled life. The Church is the vehicle God chooses to use to bring people safely to a new adventure, filled with possibilities and wonder.

Does your church see themselves as a vehicle of grace? Are you carrying people to Christ? How are you ferrying your community to the Kingdom of God?

This is my prayer for you as we begin this journey together!

*Alicia*

## District Office Open House

Wednesday, July 29

9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

701 Calder, inside Beaumont FUMC

*Laity, Youth, & Clergy are invited to come and meet Alicia!*

# Got College Students?



Does your church have any students attending college within the Texas Conference?

Does your church have any students attending one of the following colleges within the Texas Conference? Before you send your college student back to school in the fall please gather their contact information (cell number, most likely, and college address), what college or university they will be attending, and send it to Rev. Carmen Rickel, [crrickel@hotmail.com](mailto:crrickel@hotmail.com), 936-598-7388. Carmen will then make sure the information gets to the correct campus ministry within our Annual Conference. This will help our Campus Ministers to keep in contact with your students while they are away.

The Texas Annual Conference has Campus Ministries on the following campuses:

<i>Texas Southern University</i>	<i>University of Houston</i>	<i>Prairie View ATM University</i>
<i>Texas ATM University</i>	<i>Lamar University</i>	<i>Sam Houston State University</i>
<i>Stephen F. Austin University</i>	<i>Kilgore College</i>	<i>Tyler Jr. College</i>
<i>University of Texas at Tyler</i>	<i>Wiley College</i>	

## You're Invited!

The District Clergy Spouses Group invites ALL CLERGY & SPOUSES to a Fish Fry fellowship event on Friday, July 24, at 5:00 p.m. Join us at Brant & Donna Graham's house, 5161 Greenwich, Sabine Pass. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share. In order to make sure we have enough fish, please RSVP to Erin Bunch, 409.550.1246 or [ebunch@gt.rr.com](mailto:ebunch@gt.rr.com), by Monday, July 20, if possible.

## Summer Church Camp, July 13-17

**Camp is here!** For more information, contact Rev. Mark Bunch (409) 781-0357, or [mbunch@stpaulfamily.com](mailto:mbunch@stpaulfamily.com).

### Counselor Information

Camp Counselors need to have a background check completed by the local church within the last year and completed online Safe Sanctuary or Safe Camps training within the last two years.

### Send Mail to Your Campers!

*Camper Name*  
Grade Camper will enter in the Fall  
Southeast District Camp  
Lakeview Methodist Conference Center  
400 Private Road 6036  
Palestine, TX 75801

**In case of emergency**, contact the camp by calling (903) 538-2711.



## Mid-Year Apportionment Update—50% Goal

### **100% Paid District & Conference Apportionments**

Magnolia Springs UMC  
Port Arthur, Barnes Memorial UMC  
Port Bolivar UMC  
Wallisville, Middleton Memorial UMC

### **100% Paid District Only**

Anahuac, St. Paul UMC  
Batson UMC  
Beaumont, Forest Park UMC

Beaumont, St. Paul UMC  
Buna, First UMC  
China UMC  
Devers UMC  
High Island, St. Matthew UMC  
Kirbyville UMC  
Kountze, First UMC  
Liberty, First UMC  
Liberty, South Liberty UMC  
Lumberton, Woodcrest UMC  
Mauriceville UMC  
Nederland, Wesley UMC  
Orange, Wesley UMC  
Port Neches, First UMC  
Sabine Pass UMC

Beaumont, Forest Park UMC  
Beaumont, St. Luke UMC  
Beaumont, St. Paul UMC  
Beaumont, Trinity UMC  
Bridge City, St. Paul UMC  
Buna, First UMC  
China UMC  
Crystal Beach, Bay Vue UMC  
Daisetta UMC  
Devers UMC  
Hardin UMC  
Liberty, South Liberty UMC  
Nederland, First UMC  
Orange, Faith UMC  
Orange, Salem UMC  
Orange, Wesley UMC  
Sour Lake UMC  
Warren UMC

### **At or Above 50% Conference**

Anahuac, St. Paul UMC  
Beaumont, First UMC

## Flood Recovery Funds

There are two flood recovery funds available

- TX Floods for those impacted in TAC (acct. #527)
- US Spring Storms across the US (adv. #901670)

Mail Contributions to: *Elijah A. Stansell, Jr.-Treasurer*