



Southeast District

of the Texas Annual Conference
of the United Methodist Church

APRIL 2016

REMINDERS:

- Please add the Southeast District office to your church newsletter mailing list, either by mail or email. Contact information is below.
- Visit our website: southeastdistrict.org.

CALENDAR:

April 24—District Conference & TAC Pre-Conference Meeting, 4:00 p.m., Beaumont, Trinity UMC

May 2-4—District Clergy Retreat, Beaumont

May 10-20—General Conference, Portland, OR

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Prayer, Fasting, & Confession

The Yellow Pages used to be the way a visitor found our churches. Visitors moved into town and they looked up the local United Methodist Church. Today people look for your website and your Facebook page. These are now the steeple to your church, the yellow book advertisement, and the visitor center for new comers.

There is something else you need to consider. As your District Superintendent, I look up your webpage to see what is happening. During Holy Week I looked on many of your websites and Facebook pages. Do you know what I discovered? Many of our churches don't have either a Facebook page or website. Of the churches with websites and Facebook pages, only a handful had up-to-date information. I checked times of Holy Week activities, only to discover information from 2014!!!

If you want to welcome new people to your church, then keep an up-to-date online presence. God wants to reach people through the United Methodist Church, but our websites and Facebook pages are becoming stumbling blocks. People will skip our UMCs and move on to the church they can find on the web. Do yourselves a favor—send a volunteer to take a course at the library or the local community college. The Kingdom of God can't afford for our congregations to be out of touch with the current means of communication. If someone in your church complains, ask them if they want the church to still be alive in 10 years?

Paul says in I Corinthians 9:19-23, "Though I am free and belong to no one, I have made myself a slave to everyone, to win as many as possible. To the Jews I became like a Jew, to win the Jews. To those under the law I became like one under the law (though I myself am not under the law), so as to win those under the law. To those not having the law I became like one not having the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law), so as to win those not having the law. To the weak I became weak, to win the weak. I have become all things to all people so that by all possible means I might save some. I do all this for the sake of the gospel, that I may share in its blessings." (NIV)

Alicia

The job description for the **Director of Campus Ministry** at Lamar's Wesley Student Center is posted at www.southeastdistrict.org/jobs.html.

2016 Annual Conference

Annual Conference 2016 • May 29-June 1, 2016

The conference will be held again at the Hilton Americas-Houston.

Hotel Reservations Now Open

Hilton Americas-Houston • 1600 Lamar St • Houston 77010 • 713-739-8000

Make sure you mention that you are with the *Texas Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church* or use the website below to get the conference rate.

<https://resweb.passkey.com/go/UnitedMethodist2016>

Conference Registration Now Open

If you are a delegate or clergy, please contact the district office to get the conference registration link if you have not yet received it. The **registration deadline** is May 9.



Celebration!

The debt owed on the Impact property has been paid in full!

Clergy and Lay Delegates are encouraged to come to the District Conference on April 24 to vote on a new, reduced budget effective July 2016.

District Conference and Pre-Conference Meeting

Date: Sunday, April 24

Where: Beaumont, Trinity UMC; 3430 Harrison Ave.; Beaumont, 77706

4:00 p.m. District Conference—*A revised 2016 Budget will be presented.*

5:00 p.m. Pre-Conference Meeting—*Rev. B.T. Williamson will provide instructions for Annual Conference and present resolutions that have been submitted for a vote at Annual Conference.*

All clergy and Annual Conference lay delegates should attend and vote at both meetings.

Spouses' Luncheon

Catch up with old friends and make some new ones. Our speaker is Rev. Virginia Wall. Her program is "Stepping out in Style—Walking in the Spirit." The luncheon begins at 11:30 a.m. in Ballroom F; doors open at 11:00 a.m. Cost: \$25.00.

Register online: www.heartspringmethodist.org, click on Other Ministries and Clergy spouses. You may also send a check directly to Rebecca Prather at 609 Brunswick Dr; League City TX 77573. Make check out to Heartspring Methodist Foundation. Contact Rebecca Prather for financial help, if needed. We hope to see you there!

UMW Luncheon

Monday, May 30
11:30 am–1:00 pm
Hilton Americas

"Let Your Light So Shine"

Rev. Jacqueline King
Guest Speaker

For tickets – Contact:
Paulette Moore-Hall
281-955-8489
paula41@earthlink.net

\$25.00 per person
Proceeds Benefit Missions

Deadlines:

April 30-Bishop's Gala
and many other
meals
May 1-Childcare
May 9-Conference
Registration

2016 Annual Conference

WE ARE GOING BACK TO THE BORDER WITH SCHOOL SUPPLIES!!!

This year's **Center for Mission Excellence** Mission Project is to raise funds for school supplies to distribute on both sides of the Texas/Mexico border. We all know that education is the way to improve the future for so many disadvantaged children who attend school in the poorest communities. Church members and classes can purchase a backpack filled with supplies for a \$25 donation or a teacher's box for \$100. Any donation will be appreciated - \$5, \$10, \$15 or more. Please support this worthy project.



Bring donations to the 4th floor outside the Grand Ballroom. Make out a check to Texas Annual Conference and note "School Supplies."



You are invited to a

Gala honoring Bishop Janice Riggle Huie

Monday, May 30, 2016

6:00 p.m. Check in & Seating
7:00 p.m. Dinner Program

Ballroom of the Americas
Hilton Americas
1600 Lamar St, Houston

Tickets will not be sold after April 30. Tickets are available for purchase online for \$30 per person. For the ticket purchase link, visit www.southeastdistrict.com/annual-conference.html.



Help Honor Bishop Huie

Dear Pastors and Lay Leaders,

Bishop Janice Riggle Huie is retiring this year. For the last twelve years she has cast the vision for the Texas Annual Conference and lead us faithfully into a new future. At Annual Conference we will honor her with a celebration dinner. I want to invite every church in the Southeast District to contribute to her retirement celebration. How might your church say thank you? Could you contribute \$50, \$100, \$1000, or even \$5000? No amount is too small or too large. Let's pull together to represent our district well and contribute to her retirement celebration. Thank you for your generosity. May God bless you!

Sincerely, *Alicia Coltzer*
District Superintendent

Annual Conference MEALS

Monday, May 30

- Small Membership Church Breakfast
- Restorative Justice Breakfast
- UM Breakfast
- Hispanic Ministry Luncheon
- Clergy Spouses Luncheon
- Christian Educator's Fellowship Luncheon
- UM Women Luncheon
- Gala Celebration Dinner

Tuesday, May 31

- Awards Breakfast
- Church & Society/Religion & Race Breakfast
- Laity Breakfast
- Celebration Women Luncheon
- Black Methodists for Church Renewal Luncheon
- Retirees Luncheon

Wednesday, June 1

- Deacons' Breakfast

For ticket information, visit <http://www.txcumc.org/2016tac>.

Annual Conference CHILDCARE

Children at Conference will enjoy many opportunities to have fun and learn through conference childcare. Register at <https://form.jotform.com/KiddieCorp/tackids>. Registration Deadline is May 1. \$50 fee after this date.

If you would like to contribute to this gift, send it to the SE District Office, PO Box 4004, Beaumont, TX 77704, and mark it for Bishop Huie's gift. The Committee on the Episcopacy will present this gift to Bishop Huie to thank her for her service as our Episcopal leader and her active service in ordained ministry for more than forty years.

Please note that gifts earmarked for specific individuals are not tax deductible.

Important District Events—Make Plans Now

Make plans now to attend these important district and conference events.

April 24—District Conference & Pre-Conference Meeting, 4:00 p.m., Beaumont, Trinity UMC

April 30—Relocation Event, Conroe FUMC

May 2-4—District Clergy Retreat, Beaumont

May 7—Relocation Event, Longview, Greggton UMC

May 10-20—General Conference, Portland, OR

May 29-June 1—Texas Annual Conference, Houston—Hilton Americas

June 12-18—Local Pastors School, Lakeview

July 13-16—Jurisdictional Conference, Wichita, KA

August 4-6—Candidacy Summit, Camp Allen (*June 1 Deadline*)

Clergy Spouses

Join us **Sunday, April 17, at 5:00 pm.** The SE District Clergy Spouses will be gathering for a time of fellowship at **Novorskys** (441 S Main; Lumberton). For more information, contact Erin Bunch, 409.550.1246 or ebunch@gt.rr.com.

Church Camp

July 4-8, 2016

Deadline: June 3



Prayers

- Deweyville UMC, Kirbyville UMC Parsonage & Surrounding Communities (flooding)
- Rev. Wayne Flowers (Nederland, First)
- Rev. Mark Bunch's mother (Bridge City, St. Paul)
- Rev. Byron Jarratt (retired)
- Rev. Sharon Sabom's mother (Mauriceville/Deweyville)
- Rev. Anita Green (Silsbee)
- W.C. Hall (Retired)
- Rev. Bob and Lola Fosburgh (South Liberty UMC)

Itineracy & Relocation Events

You Say Goodbye...I Say Hello... Presented by The Center for Clergy Excellence of The Texas Annual Conference. **All relocating clergypersons and SPRC chairpersons** (or other SPRC representative) are **required to attend**. The event is designed to help clergy and congregations work together to reduce the stress of relocation and facilitate healthy, graceful transitions.

Two Options to Attend:

- Saturday, April 30, 9:00-11:30 a.m. at FUMC, Conroe
- Saturday, May 7, 9:00-11:30 a.m. at Greggton UMC, Longview

Cost: \$5 per person. Breakfast Snacks will be provided

Topics of Discussion:

- Saying Goodbye...Leaving Well, Moving Out, Expenses, Parsonage
- Saying Hello...Moving In, Transition Emotions, Starting Well

Questions? Contact Ivana Wilson at 713-521-9383 or iwilson@txcumc.org

Candidacy Summit 2016

Are you interested in exploring a call to ministry? Now is the time to talk to your pastor! Following your pastor's recommendation, the district superintendent will meet with you and approve you to attend the Candidacy Summit this summer on August 4-6. The deadline to register for the Candidacy Summit is June 1.



SE District Clergy Retreat

Check in – **Monday, May 2**, at 11:00 a.m.

Departure – **Wednesday, May 4**, at 12 Noon

Location: Holy Family Retreat Center

9920 North Major Drive, Beaumont 77713

\$130 shared room / \$180 private room
Reservation forms will be emailed soon.

Our guest speaker will be Lacey Warner, Associate Professor of the Practice of Evangelism and Methodist Studies of Duke Divinity School.

