

## South West District Charge/Church Conferences 2008

This year we will conduct our Conference in the following manner:

- I will again conduct approximately 1/3 of the Conferences as I did last year. Those churches involved will be contacted by the District Office to set up the date and time. It is the responsibility of every other pastor to contact an Elder and arrange for them to conduct their Conference. As soon as you have contacted an Elder and set a date for your Conference, please inform the District Office with that information ([flumc-sw@flumc.org](mailto:flumc-sw@flumc.org) or 866-373-6511).
- If you anticipate any conflicts or issues beyond the bounds of a normal yearly Conference, please contact me.
- The deadline for holding all Conferences is **Sunday, November 16**. All files are to be delivered to the District Office by Wednesday, November 19. The appointed church pastor is responsible for making sure that all required forms are included in the file, filled out appropriately and signed and that the file is delivered by this deadline. If you have any questions about the forms do not hesitate to contact the District Office.
- Please have your completed **2009 Appointed Pastor's Compensation and Benefits (RUAH Data entry) and your completed Preparation Checklist** faxed to the District Office (941-371-6997) **one week prior to your Church Conference.**
- The Church Council must approve the Pastor's 2009 Salary **before** your Conference. Please obtain all required signatures at this meeting. This meeting should be held at least one week **prior** to the Charge/Church Conference.
- Although you may hold a Charge Conference, it is my preference that you hold a Church Conference. At a Church Conference any member of the congregation can vote. Your Conference must be announced from the pulpit and in the bulletin for two weeks before it is held.
- A Conference can be held whenever it is convenient to your church's schedule as long as it allows time for all forms to be delivered to the District Office by the final due date of November 19th. Some congregations may elect to have a "no-frills" conference immediately after a Sunday worship service. Others may have their conference in the evening during the week, perhaps connected to a meal and a time for celebrating the congregation's accomplishments and next year's ministry goals. Creative planning will help your conference both satisfy the needs of the Discipline and be a worthy investment in our members' time.
- Charge Conference forms and information will be available online for downloading around August 25<sup>th</sup>. The Conference website is [www.flumc2.org](http://www.flumc2.org). Read the instructions carefully.
- Please fill out and use the Agenda found below so that participants have in writing essential information. Involve different leaders in the business section of your Conference. For example, in addition to the pastor giving the Pastor's Report and presenting the Lay Leadership Report, the Clergy Compensation can be presented by the SPRC Chairperson, Connectional Giving can be presented by the Finance Chairperson and Ministry recommendations can be presented by the Lay Leader.
- A verbal report entitled "How Is Our Church Living the Five Practices of the Methodist Way" should be presented by the Lay Leader, Church Council Chairperson or another active lay person of your choosing. This report is basically a response to the progress, goals and strategies in the areas of Worship, Evangelism and Salty Service outlined in last year's report along with the 5 Methodist Way goals set for 2009.
- All those attending your conference should be given copies (or have it projected on the screen) of:
  1. A completed "South West District 2008 Church Conference Agenda" (include a copy in the Conference file for the District Office).
  2. A list of names and year of first reading to be read for removal from church membership (if any) and
  3. A report of the Lay Leadership (Nominations) Committee.

*May God bless your gathering as a part of the growing Kingdom of God.*

*Alan*

# SOUTH WEST DISTRICT 2008 CHURCH CONFERENCE AGENDA

Church: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Presiding Elder: \_\_\_\_\_

Pastor(s): \_\_\_\_\_

**I. Call to Order and Opening Prayer/Devotion** Presiding Elder

**II. Recording Secretary Approved at Church Conference** \_\_\_\_\_

**III. Pass the Attendance Sheet (Please use the Conference Wide Form)**

**IV. State of the Church**

A. Pastor's Verbal Report:

"Where I See God at Work In and Through Our Church: Our Challenges and Opportunities." *(No more than 10 minutes; please include a written copy in the file.)*

B. Membership (Figures taken from Official "Report of Pastor")

1. Average Worship Attendance:

January – September 2006 \_\_\_\_\_

January – September 2007 \_\_\_\_\_

2. Members to be removed by Charge Conference Action (List the names of those who have been presented to be removed and the number of years those names have been presented to the Charge/Church Conference)

**V. "How is Our Church Living the Five Practices of the Methodist Way".** (Presented by the Church Council Chair, Lay Leader, or other designated Lay Person). This report should include the ideas, goals and strategies your church is working on in following the Five Practices of the Methodist Way.

A. Report on last year's goals and strategies on Worship, Evangelism and Salty Service.

METHODIST WAY	Goals	Strategies
Passionate Worship		
Radical Hospitality		
Salty Service		

B. Goals and Strategies for 2009:

METHODIST WAY	Goals	Strategies
Passionate Worship		
Radical Hospitality		
Intentional Discipleship		
Salty Service		
Extravagant Generosity		

**VI. The Finances of the Church**

2009 Clergy Compensation

A. 2009 Clergy Compensation

(Taken from "2009 Appointed Pastor's Compensation and Benefits")

Presented by \_\_\_\_\_

Pastor 1 \_\_\_\_\_

Salary 2008 \$ \_\_\_\_\_ 2009 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Accountable Reimbursement 2008 \$ \_\_\_\_\_ 2009 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Check one: \_\_\_ Parsonage or \_\_\_ Housing Allowance \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Pastor 2 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Salary 2008 \$ \_\_\_\_\_ 2009 \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Accountable Reimbursement 2008 \$ \_\_\_\_\_ 2009 \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Check one: \_\_\_ Parsonage or \_\_\_ Housing Allowance \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**B. Connectional Giving**

Presented by: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Total Amount apportioned for 2008 \$ \_\_\_\_\_
2. Total Amount given (year to date) as of last month \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 (If less than 50% of the total 2008 apportionments have been paid, how will this shortfall be addressed in the final months of the year?)
3. Total Amount apportioned for 2009 \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Will 100% of the 2009 Apportionment be included in the 2009 budget?  
 Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

**VII. Additional Business as Needed** (Be sure to inform the DS at least 3 weeks prior to your scheduled Charge/Church Conference for any items that need to be added.)

**VIII. The Ministers of the Church**

Senior Pastor

- A. Election of Lay Leadership for 2009
- B. Ministry Recommendations
  1. Candidates for Ordained Ministry:

NEW	CONTINUATION

2. Lay Speakers:

CERTIFICATION (NEW)	CONTINUATION

**IX. Closing Comments, Prayer & Benediction**

Presiding Elder

**PRESIDING ELDERS - PLEASE NOTE:**

- ✓ Verify all forms are signed and in file. Pastor will mail completed, signed file to the District Office.