

North East News

February 2006

North East District
Florida Conference
Newsletter

Dearhearts,

It is the season for consultations. In preparation for the appointment making sessions of the cabinet, I am consulting with pastors and will shortly start meeting with Staff Parish Relations Committees as well. The cabinet will start meeting in March in order to be ready to announce appointments by May.

United Methodist
Church

It might be of interest to know that I have a consultation with the Bishop each year and discuss many of the same kinds of things with him that pastors in the District discuss with me. For example, I provide an overview of the District just as local churches profile their activities. One item is a summary of our stewardship and I thought you might appreciate seeing a few numbers from it.

Under the heading of dollars apportioned paid out, we improved over last year:

2004	\$2,337,470 apportioned	\$1,824,815 paid out	77.73%
2005	\$2,357,092 apportioned	\$2,003,232 paid out	84.99%

Office:
1415 LaSalle St.
Jacksonville, FL
32207-3113

This means that, as a whole, our 77 churches (not including our 5 missions) did better in the year just past than in the year before. Of these, 49 paid 100%, including 13 that had not done so in 2004. At the same time, 9 more increased their percentage of giving. The remaining 19 churches did not do as well.

Phone:
(904) 396-3026

Not only is the improvement appreciated, but the effort is too. While the churches that maintained or reached 100% obviously deserve credit, the ones that did their best but fell short should know their efforts are recognized too.

Fax:
(904) 396-6294

What remains is to work and pray, so that when the consulting season rolls around next year, we will show continued improvement.

Grace and peace,

Email:
distoff@bellsouth.net

Richard W. Neal, Superintendent
The North East District

Calendar

February

- 8 Clergy Consultations, Ortega UMC
- 9 Clergy Consultations, District Office
- 10 Year End Statistical Report Due
- 10 Congregational Category Assessment Due
- 10 Annual Workers Compensation Salary Survey Due
- 13 Clergy Consultations, First UMC, St. Augustine
- 14 Clergy Consultations, District Office
- 20 President's Day, District Office Closed
- 28 Shrove Tuesday Pancake Breakfast and Supper, Location TBA

March

- 18 N.E. District Open House at Children's Home
- 31 Child/Youth Protection Policy Due
- 31 Fiscal Responsibility & Management Policy Due
- 31 Sexual Harassment Policy Due
- 32 Annual Report to the District Housing Committee Due

April

- 9 Palm Sunday
- 14 Good Friday
- 16 Easter Sunday

Happy Valentine's Day!



Happy Birthday!!!

Gerald Sweat	02/03
LeeAnn Inman	02/04
Joe Jursa	02/04
David Brazelton	02/18

Announcements & Advertisements

Riverside Park UMC is seeking a youth director. Energetic candidate needed! Prepare & conduct weekly youth programs, recreation & devotions; coordinate and lead special programs and mission trips; provide positive Christian role model. For more information, contact Reverend Wayne E. Williams at 355-5491 or Drwaynewilliams@aol.com. Riverside Park United Methodist Church, 819 Park Street, Jacksonville, FL 32204.

Older Adult Ministries

The Older Adult Ministries Task Team of the Florida Conference has prepared a resource for use in developing or strengthening older adult ministries in local churches. It includes creating awareness of the issues that older adults of all ages face, and it equips churches for ministry by, with, and for older adults in the challenging years ahead. Facilitators have been trained in the use of this resource, and more will be trained. If you would like to have a trained OAM facilitator equip clergy and laity in your church, please contact Sara Kelly (Bdd1032@aol.com / 407 814-1703). Please note that while this training is free, your church should plan to reimburse mileage and overnight expenses, if necessary.



HCA offers new round of HCA 101: Growing a Healthy Church classes

The Florida Conference Healthy Church Academy (HCA) is again offering its HCA 101: Growing a Healthy Church classes **Feb. 3-4** and **March 3-4** at Asbury Theological Seminary in Orlando.

Both sessions must be taken to complete the course, which provides 32 contact hours and is worth three continuing education units.

Growing a Healthy Church is the only required HCA session. It is designed for clergy and laity who would like to recognize and grow a healthy church. It provides the theological and Biblical foundation for being the church, a practical understanding of a healthy church, and tools to develop or reclaim a vision and mission as a church and communicate and integrate healthy church strategies into the life of a church and its community.

The cost is \$240, which includes learning materials, daily lunch and two refreshments. Scholarships are also available so that no one will be turned away due to a lack of resources.

The course will also be offered Sept. 8-9 and Sept. 15-16 at the Life Enrichment Center in Leesburg.

Asbury seminarians may take HCA 101 as an independent study, as well as any other HCA course, for up to nine hours of independent study credit. Students may register with the Asbury admissions office.

HCA is the creation of the Florida Conference offices of New Church Development, Congregational Transformation and Connectional Ministries. All courses are for laity and clergy. Congregational teams are especially welcome.

HCA courses are linked to a church's life cycle and Natural Church Development minimum factor and support the various leadership roles in the church. Courses are provided at churches throughout the conference and the Life Enrichment Center in Leesburg. All are designed to help new congregations form and existing ones transform.

Churches are encouraged to invite HCA coordinators to work with them and design classes and workshops that fulfill the congregation's transformational, disciple making and outreach needs. Churches are also encouraged to suggest a course idea to be offered in 2006 that will address learning needs.

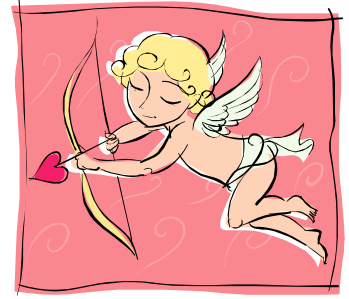
Lodging, registration and additional HCA course information is available at <http://www.flumc.org/hca>.

Please direct all inquiries to the Rev. Dr. Larry Rankin, HCA dean, at 800-282-8011, extension 131, or lrankin@dlumc.org.

NORTH EAST DISTRICT METHODIST MEN

&

The DEVELOPMENTAL LEARNING CENTER



6th Annual Benefit

GOLF TOURNAMENT

FOR DISABLED CHILDREN

THE COURSE AT WINDSOR PARK

Sunday APR 23, 2006, SHOTGUN START 1:30PM

DONATIONS (may be tax deductible)

EARLY BIRD SPECIAL

FOURSOME \$280.00 BY 25MAR 06

(AFTER 25 MAR FOURSOME \$300.00 or \$75.00 individual)

Includes: Diner, 18 Holes of Golf (green fee & cart)

And

Great Door Prizes

Prizes for:

Closest to Pin/Longest drive

1st, 2nd, & 3rd Place Teams

MAKE CHECKS OUT TO: NORTH EAST DISTRICT METHODIST MEN

MAIL CHECK AND RESERVATIONS : C/O Spring Glen UMC, 6007 Beach Blvd, Jacksonville FL, 32216-2789 Attention DLC Golf

FOR DETAILS CALL

Harley Privette
H 737-3195

Jim Clark
H 421-5380

Amy Buggle
w 387-0370

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