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Dear hearts,

“Oh, what a tangled web we weave”, wrote Sir Walter Scott. Since he died in 1832, he was probably not referring to our new communication web site. But we have had a fair share of communication tangles with the new conference address system, so I am reminding you one more time to make sure you are receiving all the communications coming from the Conference and District.

You have several choices in this regard: You can switch to the new address exclusively. You can also keep your current address and build a link to it from the Conference. The explanation was not authored by me, as those of you acquainted with my computer skills undoubtedly know already, but is the best word we have on the subject.

Two files will be attached to this newsletter: “The Quick Start Guide” and “Changing Your Password” which will provide you with step by step instruction. Additionally, you may call the IT Help Desk between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday toll free at 800-282-8011 and ask for Ext. 187 or 120. The IT Help Desk will not be available on days designated as conference holidays or weekends.

The IT Help Desk is also accessible by emailing ithelpdesk@flumc.org.
Use in good health.

Grace and Peace,

Rick

Calendar

September

- 20** Celebrate Jesus Workshop 9am-2pm
Asbury UMC
- 24** Grant Writing Workshop -District Office 10a-2p
Contact: Pam Hall at 396-0073
- 25** New Church Development Meeting 10am
District Office

October

- 1** Charge Conference Forms Due
- 1** Community Outreach Board Retreat 10am-3pm
Marywood Retreat Center
Contact: Pam Hall at 396-0073
- 4 & 11** Lay Speaking Class
First UMC, Starke
- 4** Radical Hospitality Event
Triinity UMC, Tallahassee
- 7** Mentor Training
Peace UMC - Orlando, FL
- 14** Bishop's Convocation
First UMC, Lakeland, FL
- 24** Radical Hospitality Event
Harvest UMC, Bradenton, FL
- 25** Radical Hospitality Event
First Lakeland UMC, Lakeland, FL

**For more information refer to your Calendar of Reports due.
Found at www.flumc.org under the Calendar Tab.**



Charge Conference Schedule 2008

Cluster 1

Held at Memorial UMC on Sunday, October 12 at 2:30pm
First Jax, Franklinton, Memorial, Mt. Moriah, Riverside Park, Southside, Trinity

Cluster 2

Held at Garden City UMC on Sunday, October 12 at 7pm
Ebenezer, First-Callahan, Garden City, Highlands, New Life, Wesley Fellowship, Yulee

Cluster 3

Held at Glynlea Grace UMC on Sunday, October 26 at 7pm
Faith, Glynlea Grace, Spring Glen, Swaim

Cluster 4

Held at Grace UMC, Lawtey on Sunday, November 2 at 7pm
Baldwin/Bryceville, First-Macclenny, First-Starke, Grace-Lawtey, Pleasant Grove

Cluster 5

Held at Avondale UMC on Sunday, November 9 at 2:30pm
Asbury-Orange Park, Avondale, First-Green Cove Springs, Fleming Island, Orange Park, Ortega, Middleburg

Cluster 6

Held at Lakewood UMC on Sunday, November 9 at 7pm
Beach, Christ-Neptune Beach, CrossRoad, Isle of Faith, Lakewood, Mandarin

Cluster 7

Held at Good Shepherd UMC on Sunday, October 19 at 7pm
Christ-St. Augustine, Dinsmore, Good Shepherd, Harmony, Oak Leaf, Ponte Vedra, River of Life

Cluster 8

Held at Oak Crest UMC on Sunday, November 23 at 2:30pm
Asbury-Jax, Calvary. Lake Shore, Murray Hill, Oak Crest, Wesconnett, Woodstock Park

Cluster 9

Held at Ft. Caroline UMC on Sunday, October 26 at 2:30pm
Alexander Memorial, Arlington, Ft. Caroline, Mt. Zion, St. Joseph, St. Paul

Cluster 10

Held at Trinity UMC, Jacksonville on Sunday, October 19 at 2:30pm
Bowden, Inman Memorial, Simpson Memorial, Trinity

Cluster 11

Held at Shores UMC, St. Augustine on Sunday, October 5 at 2:30pm
First-St. Augustine, Grace-St. Augustine, Shores, Trinity-St. Augustine

Cluster 12

Held at Keystone UMC on Sunday, November 2 at 2:30pm
First-Lake Butler, Florahome, Greater Bell. Keystone, Worthington Springs

Cluster 13

Held at St. James UMC on Sunday, November 16 at 7pm
Christ-Riverdale, Emmanuel, First-Interlachen, St. James, St. Stephens, Trinity

Cluster 14

Held at Howe Memorial UMC on Sunday, November 16 at 2:30pm.
Welaka, Georgetown, Howe Memorial, Community

Reminders

Charge Conference Forms

Remember all Charge Conference Forms are to be completed, signed and in the District Office no later than October 1st, regardless of when your Charge Conference will be held. Do not forget that your Annual Audit is also due with your forms.

Charge Conference Forms are online at www.flumc.org there is an icon on the right hand side of the page that says Charge Conference Forms like the one displayed here. Please note the Employee Conduct Policy is now included in your Charge Conference forms and does not need to be mailed separately.

Insurance



It's that exciting time of year again. Time to update your Property & Casualty Insurance Survey. The conference is using the Connect database. All the information you entered in last year's survey, remains the same, therefore you need to just go in and review the data and make any necessary changes. The survey is online at www.flumc.org click on the Ministry Protection, then you will see the icon shown above. The deadline is 9/8/08.



Radical Hospitality events scheduled for October and November 2008

Join us as we explore, "Radical Hospitality," the next practice in "Living the United Methodist Way." The Florida Conference is sponsoring five, one-day events that are designed to help teams from congregations think through what it would mean for their congregation to be radically hospitable to the people of their community and to the next generation. In addition to the three plenary sessions at the event, each participant will be able to choose from two practical breakout groups. The cost for one to five people is a flat \$125. For each additional person beyond the first five, is only \$20 per person. Lunch and snacks are provided at an extra \$15 per person. The dates and locations are:

- October 4 — Trinity UMC, Tallahassee
- October 24 — Harvest UMC, Bradenton
- October 25 — First Lakeland UMC, Lakeland
- November 1 — UMC of Palm Beaches, West Palm Beach
- November 15 — First Ormond Beach UMC, Ormond Beach

To register go to www.flumc.org and click on the "Radical Hospitality" icon shown at the right hand side of the page like the one displayed above.

Bishop's Convocation

Bishop Timothy W. Whitaker has announced that all of the clergy members of the Florida Conference are asked to attend a Convocation of the Clergy on Tuesday, October 14, 2008 at the First United Methodist Church in Lakeland from 11:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.

The purpose of the Convocation will be to present to the clergy the agenda for the Florida Conference, including goals and expectations of all congregations and clergy, for the new quadrennium of 2009-2012. All pastors should plan to attend this required meeting.

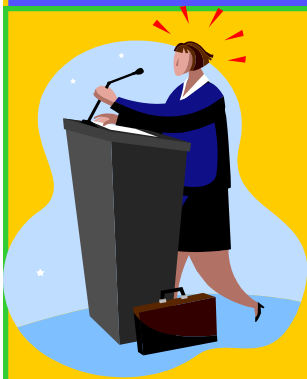
Lunch will be provided, and therefore a headcount is needed to plan for adequate food. Please contact the District office to let us know you plan to attend.

2008 Peacemaker Conference

The 2008 Peacemaker Conference will be September 25-27, 2008 at the Caribe Royale in Orlando, Florida. The conference will focus on how Jesus strengthens and works through his Church in times of conflict. There is 50% off Conference registration price for Florida residents. Just put in the discount code "2008FL" when you register at www.peacemakerconference.net

WORSHIP LEADER NEEDED: Garden City UMC needs someone to lead their praise band and help eager guitarists. This is a great opportunity to develop a ministry and do something exciting for the Kingdom! Please call Alan Patz at 422-6085.

Lay Speaking Classes



LAY SPEAKING CLASSES OFFERED. October 4 & 11, 2008 is the date for our next training at First UMC in Starke from 9am-3pm. The Basic course will be offered as well as two advanced classes:

Lay Speakers Are Servant Leaders, taught by Joan Bryant, CLS. This course will help develop an understanding of servant leadership and the types of power that occur between leaders and followers; To acquire the tools and skills necessary for servant leadership and to increase capacity to deal with differences and conflicts that occur when people collaborate.

Lay Speakers Lead Bible Study is designed to help speakers become versed in how to teach and lead a Bible Study.

The District Office will have registration forms, or call Gwen Dubé, (904) 751-4912. ggdube@comcast.net

Free Chairs!!



Lakewood UMC has about 150 metal folding chairs in good condition that they would like to generously donate to anyone that has a need. You can call 733-8477 for further information.

The Florida Conference is sponsoring "Dare to Care" for youths grades 6 through 12 October 3-5, 2008 in Orlando, FL, The cost is \$110 per person, scholarships are available. For further information contact Kelly Minter at 407-694-2167 or email kellyminter@flumc.org. Register at website: www.umyouthworkers.org