

... What counts is whether we have been transformed into a new creation. May God's peace and mercy be upon all who live by this principle; they are the people of God. Galatians 6:15b-16 (NLT)



GREENSBORO DISTRICT The United Methodist Church

2012 DISTRICT LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

Sunday, February 12, 2012 / 2:30 - 5:00 pm / Christ UMC, 410 N. Holden Rd.

Inclement Weather Date: Sunday, February 19, 2012

Workshops and Conversation Opportunities:

- ◆ **"Last Thoughts for S/PPR Committees Before I Retire"**
Rev. Dr. Duke Ison, District Superintendent, Greensboro
This will be a summary of all the last 5-years of PPR training.
- ◆ **Reaching Closure: Practical Tips for Running a Meeting: Administrative Council & Committee Chairs**
Rev. Jill Alventosa-Brown, Pastor, St. Timothy's UMC, Greensboro
This workshop will provide committee leaders with the tools, techniques and best practices to use in their meetings which result in more efficient and effective use of the committee's limited time together and improve decision making.
- ◆ **Trustees**
Rev. David Snipes, President, CEO, United Methodist Foundation, WNC
This workshop will educate participants to supervise and maintain all property belonging to the congregation so that the ministries of the congregation can be effective.
- ◆ **What Is A Vital Congregation? And What Does That Have To Do With Me?**
Nominations and Leader Development Committee
Jennifer Davis, Director of Connectional Ministries, WNCC
The Mission of the United Methodist Church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. We have determined that in the Western North Carolina Conference we will focus on creating vital congregations with a missional focus in order to fulfill our mission. It sounds like a lofty goal and is, to some, a bit puzzling. The questions that are most often asked are "what is a vital congregation?" "How do we create one?" The purpose of this workshop is to define and discuss the practical steps necessary for creating and maintaining a vibrant, vital congregation engaged in ministry in communities all over our conference. Suggested readings in preparation: Bishop Schnases's "Five Practices of a Fruitful Congregation", "Missional Renaissance" by Reggie McNeal, and "Renovate or Die" by Bob Farr.
- ◆ **So Teach Me What I Need To Do: Understanding Local Church Finances**
Finance Committee
Rev. George Coates, Pastor, Laughlin Memorial UMC - Newlyn Street UMC, Greensboro
Many people are willing to take on positions in the church, but are unsure of what needs to be done to properly handle the responsibility. This workshop is designed to assist in understanding local church finances and address the day-to-day fundamentals of the Finance Committee and the various positions. We will discuss policy issues and operations and sample forms will be included in materials distributed.
- ◆ **Laity – Clergy Partnerships: Lay Leaders**
Rev. Otto Harris, Pastor, Union Memorial UMC, Greensboro
This workshop is a follow up to the December Laity Empowerment Workshop. In this workshop, we will continue to explore the shared responsibility of clergy and laity as we develop a 21st Century model of being the Church.
- ◆ **Communicating The Faith Through Symbolism**
Dr. Mary Love, Adjunct Professor of Christian Education, Hood Theological Seminary, Director of Church School Literature, AMEZ Publishing House, Author
This workshop will examine Christian symbols as silent communicators of the Gospel with the potential of nurturing faith when the code language is revealed.
- ◆ **District Missions and Project AGAPE**
Rev. Cecil Donahue, Pastor, Pleasant Union UMC, Greensboro, District Missions Coordinator

◆ **The Emotionally Healthy 'Methodist' Church**

Rev. Dr. Gary Kling, *Director, Chrysalis Counseling & Consultation Center, Greensboro*

So many of our churches suffer from fruit withering on the vine, unable to inspire or be inspiring and struggling to become effective messengers of Christ! What can we learn from the best-selling author, speaker, and pastor Peter Scazzero ("Emotionally Healthy Spirituality") and his experience at New Life Fellowship Church in order to grow a healthy, spiritually alive congregation? How can the principles of EHS apply to our Methodist churches? The workshop will highlight features of an emotionally healthy congregation from Scazzero's writing and teaching; teach effective ways that emotional health can shape ministry both within the membership and community of Methodist experiences; give practical applications for restoring the "center" of your fellowship in Christ; and provide relational tools for outreach in the community.

◆ **Centering Prayer** www.cpcharlotte.org

Burt Melton, *Founding Director of Charlotte Chapter of Contemplative Outreach*

Centering Prayer is a method of silent prayer that prepares us to receive the gift of contemplative prayer, prayer in which we experience God's presence within us. This method of prayer is both a relationship with God and a discipline to foster that relationship. Centering Prayer is not meant to replace other kinds of prayer. Rather, it adds depth of meaning to all prayer and facilitates the movement from more active modes of prayer – verbal, mental or affective prayer – into a receptive prayer of resting in God. Centering Prayer emphasizes prayer as a personal relationship with God and as a movement beyond conversation with Christ to communion with Him. You will have an opportunity to experience it. There will also be time for questions.

◆ **Servant Leadership: A Path And A Practice** www.servantleadergreensboro.com

Dr. Ruth Anderson, *Director of Servant Leadership School of Greensboro, Author*

This session will offer the basic content of servant leadership, as we in The Servant Leadership School of Greensboro teach it, and will invite participants into understanding how we use the spiritual practices of Communion: Prayer and the Practice of Presence; Compassion: Awakening the Intelligence of the Heart; and Co-Creation: Alignment with Divine Power and Purpose. The workshop will provide materials and experiences for participants to incorporate into their daily lives.

◆ **Digital Connectionalism: Social Media and the Church**

Skyler Nimmons, *Communications Specialist, WNCC*

What is social media and how does it relate to our ministries? Come take a look at the history of social media and why the church should engage in the digital age. Questions and dialogues are welcome.

◆ **The Upside of Change: Making It and Taking It: Clergy**

Rev. Peter Hazelrigg, *Senior Partner, Pilgrimage Professional Development Group, Presbyterian Pastor, BCC*

Change is a constant, but how well we lead it and receive it determines the impact. We will explore practical ways to navigate resistance to change in others and in you so that positive, useful, change can be experienced.

◆ **Seek the Chaos: A Reading Strategy for Hearing God Speak through the Biblical Texts**

Dr. Bradley Trick, *Assistant Professor, New Testament, Hood Theological Seminary*

In the beginning of Genesis, it is the chaotic and unformed nature of the creation that provides God with the opportunity to speak and bring forth light and structure. Similarly, it is when we approach the biblical texts with questions or confusion that we are most likely to hear God speak in a way that brings light, understanding, and the accompanying spark of life. This workshop encourages participants to "seek the chaos" when reading the biblical texts. We will explain, justify, and show the fruits of this approach by looking particularly at Jesus' use of parables in Matt 13. Familiarity with the passage (and with Isa 6:1-9:7) is encouraged but not required.

◆ **Missional Households: Creating a Legacy of Faith in Youth & Families**

Krista Petty, *Development Administrator of Carolina Cross Connection* www.carolinacrossconnection.org

"Tell me and I will forget. Show me and I may remember. Involve me and I will understand." - Chinese Proverb.

Serving the community is certainly a good thing, but did you know that children and students serving along side adults is also one the STICKEST factors to their future faith journeys? Intergenerational serving offers more than warm fuzzies--it positively impacts an entire generation of new servant leaders. **Simply put, serving together provides a stronger FAITH foundation for teens.** This interactive workshop explores ministries across the U.S. that are making an impact on their own church families and the communities they serve.

◆ **Building a Future, Fueling a Passion: Being the Hands and Feet of Christ Through Building Teams**

David Millsaps, *Vice Chair, Conference Building Team Committee*

How might a 40 year old ministry make a difference? Looking for a new and energetic commitment to the Journey? Want to fill a gap between national and international needs? How can a Building Team experience impact your congregation and foster growth within your congregation? This workshop will address these questions and more!