



May 2017

Dear North East District Family,

As we begin the month of May, Bishop Carter, my Cabinet colleagues, and I announced our full-time appointments yesterday. This has been a rewarding, but challenging appointment season. For various reasons, this season has been somewhat difficult, yet I can share with you that I am EXTREMELY happy with the new clergy coming into our North East family. These women and men are excellent pastors and will help lead our churches towards vitality.

Here are the changes we will be experiencing this coming July:

Leaving the North East:

- Don Hanna – Moving to First UMC of Okeechobee as senior pastor
- Jason Knott – Moving to First UMC of Dunedin as senior pastor
- Linda Mobley – Retiring
- Dennis Redstone – Retiring
- Bryan Simpson – Retiring
- Carl E. Tyson – Retiring

We wish Linda, Dennis, Bryan and Carl a joyous retirement. They have fought the good fight and are about to finish their race. Thank you, truly, for your years of leadership! We also wish Jason and Don well as they continue into a new chapter of ministry.

Coming into the North East:

- Glenda Brayman – St. James UMC, Palatka as senior pastor
- Haley Eccles – Murray Hill UMC, Jacksonville as senior pastor
- Kevin Griffin – CrossRoad Church UMC, Jacksonville – Kevin and Gee Sprague will serve as co-pastors for one year until Gee retires on June 30, 2018. At that time, Kevin will become the senior pastor.
- Troy Ray – Lake Shore UMC, Jacksonville as senior pastor
- Brian Sanderson – Middleburg UMC, Middleburg as senior pastor
- Anna Scharbo – Mandarin UMC, Jacksonville - serving a one year appointment as pastor in residence through New Church Development

As you come across these gifted clergy, please join me in welcoming them into our family.

While the Cabinet has not announced part-time appointments, I can share with you the ones that we have made and that have been announced:

Part-Time Appointments:

- Ike Mathews – Inman Memorial UMC, Jacksonville
- Bill Sparks – Welaka UMC, Welaka
- Carl D. Tyson – Pleasant Grove UMC, Starke
- Dennis White – Florahome UMC, Florahome
- Karl Wiggins – Christ UMC, Hastings

We still have a couple more part-time appointments to make for the North East, but we're well on our way to completing those hopefully in the next two weeks.

If you'd like to read the other full-time appointments in the Conference announced as of May 1, 2017, please click this link: <http://www.flumc.org/files/fileslibrary/appointment+book/full+time+appointment+list+5-1-2017.pdf>.

Please be in prayer for these clergy who are making transitions. Please also pray for the churches who will be saying good-bye to beloved clergy and hello to new leaders.

If you have any questions, please let me know. God bless you!

All God's love,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jay".

Jay