

North West District SEPTEMBER 2017 News

DS's SEPTEMBER SCHEDULE

- 5 DCOM
Training
- 9 FSU Wesley
Celebration
- 12- Cabinet
13 Meeting
- 25 Bishop's
Conversation
Jacksonville
- 28 Charge
Conference
Tallahassee
- 30 Charge
Conference
Monticello

SEPTEMBER DATES TO REMEMBER

- 4 HOLIDAY
- 9 FSU Wesley
Celebration
- 9 John Riley @
Calvary
- 10 Bethlehem
UMC 127th
Anniversary
- 10 Missional
Vital Signs
Due
- 17 First Perry
100th
Anniversary

A MESSAGE FROM DURWOOD

Dear Friends,

It is hard to believe we are rolling into another fall season. Schools are back in session and the business of festivals and Charge Conferences are taking shape in our lives and




planning. I am thinking of you and your faith communities as we enter this season and begin the march towards Advent and Christmas. The demands on time, servants, planning, and implementing are all challenges so know you all are in my thoughts and prayers as daily you seek to live out the call of Christ to make Disciples of the world!

A while back I read this story about living THIS DAY as we navigate the challenges ahead. I hope you find some meaning in the thoughts and words.

Today, when I awoke, I suddenly realized that this is the best day of my life, ever! There were times when I wondered if I would make it to today; but I did! And because I did I'm going to celebrate!

Today, I'm going to celebrate what an unbelievable life I have had so far: the accomplishments, the many blessings, and, yes, even the hardships because they have served to make me stronger. I will go through this day with my head held high, and a happy heart. I will marvel at God's seemingly simple gifts: the morning dew, the sun, the clouds, the trees, the flowers, the birds. Today, none of these miraculous creations will escape my notice.

Today, I will share my excitement for life with



other people. I'll make someone smile. I'll go out of my way to perform an unexpected act of kindness for someone I don't even know. Today, I'll give a sincere compliment to someone who seems down. I'll tell a child how special he or she is, and I'll tell someone I love just how deeply I care for her and how much she means to me.

Today is the day I quit worrying about what I don't have and start being grateful for all the wonderful things God has already given me. I'll remember that to worry is just a waste of time because my faith in God and God's Divine Plan ensures that God is with me in ALL moments of life.

And tonight, before I go to bed, I'll go outside and raise my eyes to the heavens. I will stand in awe at the beauty of the stars and the moon, and I will praise God for these magnificent treasures. As the day ends and I lay my head down on my pillow, I will thank God for the best day of my life. And I will sleep the sleep of a contented child, excited with expectation because I know tomorrow is going to be the best day of my life, ever!

What a life we would live if day by day we lived that day. We are prone to want to see around the bend, peek around the corner and plan, plan and plan for what is next. We forget, from time to time, to simply live TODAY!!! This simple story I read a while ago reminds us to live today for God!

I love seeing as Superintendent of the North Best district,

Durwood

**DISASTER RELIEF ASSISTANCE
HOW CAN YOU HELP?**

Many of you have asked how you can help with the tragedy unfolding in Texas - and now the rain in Louisiana. Here is how we can all help. -- PLEASE HELP US SPREAD THE WORD --



Three ways to help:

1. Pray for those impacted. Pray also for UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief) and our United Methodist Churches who are in the impacted communities and all of the agencies and partners responding to those in need.
2. Give generously to UMCOR Disaster Response Advance #901670. ONE HUNDRED PERCENT of your donation will go to help those affected by Harvey.
3. Join with us to assemble flood buckets and hygiene kits and take them to one of the [designated collection sites](#). For the Tallahassee area, Tallahassee Heights UMC is a collection site.

On September 21st these items will be shipped to UMCOR Sager Brown Depot in Baldwin, LA. Working with their network of partners, UMCOR will then get these items to the areas where they are needed most.

Last year we sent 3,115 flood buckets to help with the flooding in Louisiana. This year, the need is even greater! Please help!

Timeline

Collection sites will be ready to receive your flood buckets and hygiene kits beginning the week of September 3rd. All buckets and kits must be delivered to these sites by Sunday, September 16.

Collection sites will be transporting your donations to the hub locations Sept 18-20, where they will be palletized, shrink wrapped and ready for transport on September 21st.

Please place hygiene kits in a shipping box and seal it.

Please follow the directions for contents for both flood buckets and hygiene kits as closely as possible. This is very important!

If you have questions, please email
floodbucketchallenge@flumc.org.

[Click here](#) for information on a CLEANING kit.
[Click here](#) for information on a HYGIENE kit
[Click here](#) to DONATE to UMCOR through your local church.

SALUTE THE TROOPS

"Salute to the Troops" with
Guest Speaker John Riley
(you may remember he
spoke at our Congregational
Vitality Day in May).



**Saturday, Sept. 9 - 7:00
PM**

Calvary UMC, Tallahassee
218 Ausley Road

Please bring items for care packages to be sent to the troops overseas (non-perishable snack items such as canned food, chips, popcorn or hard candy).

FSU WESLEY CELEBRATION with BISHOP CARTER

You are invited to the FSU Wesley Foundation's Building Celebration weekend with Bishop Carter. On Saturday, **September 9** the event begins at 3:00 with tailgating at the Wesley Foundation before the home opener football game at 7:00.



On Sunday, **September 10**, join us for breakfast starting at 9 AM followed by worship with Bishop Kenneth Carter at 11:00 AM.

All students, alumni, family and friends are invited to come. For more information, email christina@fsuwesley.com or visit <https://www.fsuwesley.com/new-building-celebration-.html>

BETHLEHEM UMC CELEBRATES 127TH ANNIVERSARY

Bethlehem United Methodist Church in Ft. White will celebrate it's 127th Church anniversary on Sunday, **September 10th 2017.**

The morning speaker at 11 am will be Dr. Kevin McBride, followed by dinner.

The afternoon speaker will be Rev. John Banks. Please come and share in our celebration.



Clarence De Sue, Jr., Pastor

A CONVERSATION WITH BISHOP CARTER

Join Bishop Ken Carter at one of three important fall regional gatherings. These events are open to all and there will be opportunities to submit questions for Bishop Carter prior to the event. Each event will begin at 6:30 PM and a reception will follow.



SAVE THE DATE

-Sunday, September 24 - Hyde Park UMC - Tampa

-Monday, September 25 - Mandarin UMC - Jacksonville (Durwood will attend this one)

-Tuesday, September 26 - Community of Hope UMC - Loxahatchee

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

DISTRICT CHARGE CONFERENCES

Our Charge Conferences
begin THIS MONTH!



A few reminders:

- Paperwork should be in the District office one week prior to date of Conference.
- Forms can be found at <http://www.flumc.org/chargeconferenceinstructions>

Here is the schedule of conferences.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 28

Host Church: John Wesley UMC - 7:00 PM
Calvary, Talla; Deer Lake, Bethel, Talla; John Wesley, Tallah Heights

SATURDAY, SEPT. 30

Host Church: First UMC, Monticello - 9:30 AM
First Monticello; Chaires; Wacissa/Sardis,
Waukeenah/Mt. Lebanon; Miccosukee

SATURDAY, OCT. 7

Host Church: Killearn UMC - 9:30 AM
Gray Memorial; Pisgah; Good Samaritan, Saint Paul's; Killearn, New Life, Lake Jackson

TUESDAY, OCT. 10

Host Church: Centenary UMC, Quincy - 7:00 PM
Salem; Centenary; Sycamore, First Chattahoochee; Glenn Julia/Greensboro, Bristol; Grace, Old Mt. Pleasant

THURSDAY, OCT. 12

Host Church: Sopchoppy UMC - 7:00 PM
Crawfordville; Wakulla; Woodville,
Sopchoppy/Ochlockonee Bay;
Carrabelle/Eastpoint; St. George; Apalachicola

SATURDAY, OCT. 14

Host Church: First UMC Chiefland - 9:30 AM
Cedar Key, Ellzey, Cross City/Steinhatchee, First Chiefland, Old Town, Pickens Temple

SUNDAY, OCT. 15

Host Church: First UMC Lake City - 4:00 PM
Bethel LC, First LC, Pleasant Grove, New Mt.
Zion, Siloam, Wesley Memorial, First Live Oak

SUNDAY, OCT. 29

Host Church: First UMC High Springs - 3:00 PM
First High Springs, McCall's Chapel, Mt. Carmel,
Trenton, Bethlehem, Ft. White, Tustenuggee,
Branford

SUNDAY, OCT. 29

Host Church: First UMC Alachua - 6:00 PM
First Alachua, Mt. Nebo, Spring Hill, Worthington
Spr.

THURSDAY, NOV. 2

Host Church: White Springs UMC - 7:00 PM
White Springs, Jennings, Jasper, Wellborn, New
Hope/Trinity LC

MONDAY, NOV. 6

Trinity Tallahassee - 7:00 PM (Had to be
rescheduled from original date)

TUESDAY, NOV. 7

Host Church: First UMC Madison - 7:00 PM
First Madison, Cherry Lake/Greenville, Lee,
Hanson/Rocky Springs, Pinetta/Hickory Grove
Pine Grove, New Harmony

THURSDAY, NOV. 9

Forest Hills UMC, Quincy - 7:00 PM

SUNDAY, NOV. 12

Host Church: First UMC Perry - 5:00 PM
First Perry, Shady Grove Circuit, Mayo

If you have any questions, please call us at
850/386-2154.

LAY SERVANT TRAINING

October 13-14, 2017
Tallahassee Heights UMC



- **Basic Class** with Gary Eggebraaten
- **Advanced Class**
"Spiritual Gifts" with Chandra Snell
- **Advanced Class**
"Healthy God's Way" with Dee Allen & Debbie Eggebraaten

Training is Friday, Oct. 13, 6:00-9:00 PM
Saturday, Oct. 14, 8:30 AM - 400 PM

Registration is \$35 per person which will include lunch and snacks.

Click [here to register](#) or call the District office at 850/386-2154.

MISSIONAL VITAL SIGNS (MVS) (A SNAPSHOT OF YOUR CONGREGATION)

Just a reminder to send in your monthly Mission Vital Signs Data Gathering Report by the 10th of each month. You can access this report, at the bottom of The Conference website (flumc.org) in the slender white boxes titled "Forms" and click on **Missional Vital Signs**. If you have any questions, please call Vicki McLuckie at (850) 386-2154.



PLAN NOW!
**EASTER PILGRIMAGE TO ITALY WITH
BISHOP CARTER SLATED FOR APRIL
2018**

Led by Bishop Carter, travelers will visit Venice, Assisi, Siena, Florence and Rome while studying the Gospel of Mark and the legacy of Peter during April 3-12, 2018.



From Bishop Carter: *"We will learn more about the gospel of Mark in Venice and the legacy of Peter; we will read the dialogues of Catherine of Siena and the meditations of Dante; and we will reflect on the renewing vision given to Francis of Assisi," and more.*

For more information, a brochure with a detailed itinerary and online registration, [click here](#).