



Atlantic Central District

Michael C. Oliver, District Superintendent

April Calendar

4-6 – AA's in Lakeland for training
5-6 – District office closed
11-12 – Full Cabinet
13-14 – Appointive Cabinet
14 – RIM Group at District Office
22 – Good Friday – Office closed

May 1 – Announcement Sunday

District Joys and Concerns

Roughton family on loss of Father
Our Military
Luke Sims home from hospital
Haiti – Our Pastors & Churches
Japan

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March Reports Due by 31st (ctrl and click on name of report)

Child/Youth Protection Policy adoption – Review & renew annually. Mail a signed copy of the Annual Review & Renewal Signature page of the Child/Youth Protection Policy to the district office by March 31st. (Should the policy undergo major revisions, mail a complete copy to the district office).

NOTE: The Child/Youth Protection Policy Template was revised in December 2009. Changes include the addition of information related to online safety, clergy confidentiality, and reporting requirements as well as other revisions. We recommend you review the entire policy template.

Fiscal Responsibility and Management Policy: Financial Controls, Policies, and Procedures - Review & renew annually. Once in compliance, mail a signed copy of the one page Annual Review and Renewal Document to the district office by March 31st.

Sexual Harassment Policy adoption– Review & renew annually. Mail a signed copy of the Annual Review/ Endorsement Renewal to the District Office by March 31st. (Should the policy undergo major revisions, mail a complete and signed copy to the district office).

Disaster Recovery Quick Resource Survey - Survey available via the Church Login on the Conference website. (You will need your Church's user name and password to access Disaster Survey. Contact your District Office if you need assistance.)

Annual Report of the Parsonage

Checklist – Review & renew annually. Mail a signed copy of the Annual Parsonage Review to the District Office by March 31st.

(Not online as of 3/24)

Annual Finance Report - New online report available on Florida Conference website via your church login in 2011. Finance Chairs will

be notified of the new form from their District Office in March.

Annual Trustee Report - New online report available on Florida Conference website via your church login in 2011. Trustee Chairs will be notified of the new form from their District Office in March.

If you have not completed an **I-9**, verified it, and sent to the District office, please make sure you get that accomplished soon!

(We will be following up with you.)

The United Methodist Committee on Relief offers a church bulletin insert ([click here](#)) asking United Methodists and friends to pray for the people of Japan and support the Pacific emergency through giving.

Lilly Endowment Announces 2011 National Clergy Renewal Program

Lilly Endowment seeks to strengthen Christian congregations by providing an opportunity for pastors to step away briefly from the persistent obligations of daily parish life and to engage in a period of renewal and reflection. Renewal periods are not vacations, but times for intentional exploration and reflection, for drinking again from God's life-giving waters, for regaining enthusiasm and creativity for ministry. In the 2011 National Clergy Renewal Program, the Endowment anticipates awarding as many as 150 grants of up to \$50,000 each directly to Christian congregations for the support of a renewal program for their pastor. Up to \$15,000 of the grant may be used for congregational expenses associated with the renewal program. **Deadline for submission of proposals is May 12, 2011.** Notification of grant awards will be made in September 2011. <http://www.clergyrenewal.org/>

United Methodist Volunteers in Mission Team Leader Training

UMVIM Team Leader Training prepares volunteers to lead short-term mission teams to projects in the United States and around the world. You will learn about recruiting the team, picking the location, getting support, staying safe, planning the work, preparing the team spiritually, and more. Not sure if you're ready to lead a team? Come and learn what it takes – you'll be well informed and a better team member! Cost is \$25 per person. Participants receive a Team Leader Manual and lunch is included. Please register online at: www.flumc.org/UMVIM. For more information or to learn more about hosting a training, contact Pam Garrison (800) 282-8011 x 148 or pgarrison@flumc.org.

2011 Training Schedule

Wesley Hispanic UMC – Coral Gables

May 7, 2011 9:00 – 4:00

New Covenant UMC – The Villages

Sept. 10, 2011 9:00 – 4:00

Summer Church Music Workshop to be held at Florida Southern from July 17th to 22nd, 2011.

The Florida Chapter of the Fellowship of United Methodists in Music and Worship Arts will hold its 55th Annual Church Music Workshop from Sunday afternoon, July 17th through Friday noontime, July 22nd, 2011, at Florida Southern College in Lakeland. Anyone involved in church music or worship planning, are invited to join us. Our theme is "The Best Table – Do This in Remembrance of Me" based on Rev. Jan Richardson's graphic of the same name. We are asking all pastors in the conference to forward this information to the music and worship leaders in their church and encourage them to take this opportunity to connect with other church musicians and worship leaders in the conference and be renewed. For more information and for registration information, please visit our website at: www.floridafellowship.org or contact Joan FitzGerald, Workshop Chairperson, at joan.fitzgerald@verizon.net.

This has been approved as alternate credit (3.5 CEUs) for recertification of Lay Servant Ministries by Gwen Dube, Conference Director for Lay Servant Ministries.

The Hannah Project

The Center for Clergy Excellence is launching a new initiative to recognize churches that are creating a culture of call. The Hannah Project celebrates local churches that, like Hannah (the mother of the prophet Samuel), dedicate and send people into God's service. Specifically, we hope that every local church would create a culture of calling that lifts up licensed and ordained ministry in such a way that our children, youth, and adults hear and respond to God's call. Therefore, each congregation is challenged to participate in this program. Some of the standards may be things you are already doing; others may be new opportunities for you. Churches that meet all six of the standards will be recognized at Annual Conference.

[Click here](#) for more information and [click here](#) for the form to submit for churches to be recognized at Annual Conference.

FOUNDATION OFFERS ...

two scholarships that are intended exclusively for the use of United Methodist students who wish to further their education beyond high school. The **Sinclair Scholarship** is specifically for *incoming freshmen* with strong academic skills and a record of service to church and community. The **Alice W. Lockmiller Scholarship** is available to United Methodists who are full-time students attending a junior college, senior college, university, seminary or other institution for educational or occupational training beyond the high school level. Applicants do not have to be incoming freshmen. Please see the attached poster [here](#) for further information.

Also...

The Foundation will host its second annual "**Clergy Guide to Personal and Church Finance**" May 4-6 at the Hawthorn Suites Hotel, 7450 Augusta National Drive, Orlando. The intensive three-day workshop will focus on the major financial challenges facing clergy as they manage their own budgets and that of a church.

The workshop lays out a foundation for personal and church finance, including how to develop a theology of money. Topics covered include fundamentals of finance and financial planning, church finance, stewardship and the cultural challenges facing clergy and the church. Workshop leaders include Foundation and Conference staff and lay business professionals with wide-ranging expertise on financial matters. Continuing Education credits are offered.

Because many personal financial decisions are family matters, clergy are encouraged to bring spouses to the seminar. Cost is \$195 for couples and \$125 for singles. Tuition covers overnight accommodations, workshop sessions and materials and most meals. Under special circumstances, scholarships are available.

Online registration is available at the Foundation website, www.fumf.org. Registration deadline is Monday, April 18. For more information, contact the Foundation, toll free, at (866) 363-9673.

Florida Advocacy Days @ Children's Week

To get more info and
register click on:



“SHOW UP TO SPEAK OUT”

**APRIL 3-5, 2011 (Sunday—Tuesday)
In Tallahassee, FL**

This past weekend at the **United Methodist Children's Home Day on Campus** was quite eye-opening for me. What hospitality we received as we unloaded our church bus – many people saying thank you for coming and showing an interest in the Children's Home. There is nothing small about each cottage – each one housing 8-10 children and their “house parents”. What smiles on each face, as you came in to visit. Each child was anxious to show off their room and some shared their story. It was difficult for me not to hug each one.... Of course, with a large complex come the possibilities for so many children. It was a humbling day..a day you say “Thank You Jesus” for this wonderful place that United Methodists have provided. If you have never gone to experience this place where children are loved and cared for, I suggest you make the trip next year...I will be going again. **Congratulations to Oceanview United Methodist Church of Juno Beach for being awarded the Volunteer Group of 2010!**

Reclaim Main Gathering - April 8-10, 2011 First UMC Coral Gables

Three days of workshops, worship, and fellowship for young adults.

Reclaim Gatherings exists to communicate, embody and champion the message that there is a place for young adults in today's Church. We will gather for what we are calling the Reclaim Main Gathering at First UMC of Coral Gables April 8-10, 2011.

Our goal is ministry for, to and with young adults...twenty-thirty somethings, single and married...full time ministers, young professionals, missionaries, post-graduates and more. We desire to cultivate a community of leaders and laborers who share a collaborative vision of who the Church can be in our day. Reclaim gatherings are open to young adults from all walks of life, perspectives and denominations. We invite you to join the conversation as we embrace our individual and collective callings...to the glory of God. Visit the following website for more information. You may also register at the address below: <http://www.reclaimgathering.com/>
Follow on Facebook, too. <http://www.facebook.com/#!/reclaimgathering>



District Coordinators – Shirley Dunlap – 321-984-2167 – shirley.dunlap@att.net
Marj Green 321-543-1419 – humbird46@cfl.rr.com

A Ministry of the Florida Conference - United Methodist Church and the Cuban Methodist Church

In February we had two people from Christ by the Sea travel to Cuba to attend the Las Tunas District Conference, the district their sister church in located in. They, of course, came back very blessed, full of wonderful memories and very humble. One of the travelers was their pastor, Cliff Melvin, whom I'm sure would love to share his experiences with you.

We will have a District Meeting of the A/C MUIP on Saturday, April 30th at 1 p.m. at Wesley UMC in West Melbourne. For directions or information contact Shirley Dunlap. This would be a great way for a church that is not in a relationship with a sister church to come and gather information and talk to individuals who have traveled to Cuba and have been involved with this ministry for some time.

We are always looking for churches who would be interested in joining in this wonderful ministry. Please contact Shirley or Marj for more information or to have a presentation at your church.

Please keep this wonderful ministry in prayer as well as all the loving, caring people we have met in our many trips to Cuba.

There are several Global Mission opportunities coming up this summer, sponsored by the Florida Conference, for which are still recruiting volunteers throughout the conference.

CUBA, YOUNG ADULT TEAM

Date: July 15-24

Destination: Camp Canaan, Cuba

Purpose: Participating at the 2011 Young Adult national retreat and building relationships.

Team leader: Kelsey Linduff, kelseyinduff@gmail.com

COSTA RICA, UMVIM

Date: July 29- Aug 5

Destination: San Jose, Costa Rica

Purpose: Construction of the orphanage, evangelism and Spanish immersion.

Team leader: Icel Rodriguez, irodriguez@flumc.org

CUBA, UMVIM

Date: Aug 14-25

Destination: Camp Canaan, Cuba

Purpose: Construction at Camp Canaan while participating at the Pastoral Families retreat.

Team leader: Robert Pinera, RPinera@aol.com

The Office of Camps and Retreat Ministries are seeking 40 outstanding young adults for a powerful summer experience of service and spiritual renewal...and we need your help.

The Florida Conference Summer Mission Intern Program is in its fourth summer in 2011 and will place 40 college students/young adults (ages 19-28) in United Methodist summer outreach day camp settings in 12 communities throughout Florida. The ten week experience involves hands on work with children in local neighborhoods, vocational and spiritual guidance, training, and a support community. Each intern receives a \$2000 stipend, the cost shared 50-50 with the placement agency and the conference.

This program has grown from 4 in 2008 to 13 in 2009 to 26 last year. We are seeking 40 this summer to meet the growing need in our churches and agencies to help serve the needs of the children and families of our communities and to make disciples for the transformation of the world. Please help us spread the word through your bulletins, announcements and, most especially, through personal recruitment of young people you know who would benefit from such an experience.

To receive a one-page flier about the program and a one-page application contact the Office of Camps and Retreat Ministries. The deadline is April 15th. If you have questions, please let me know. Your church's apportionment dollars help make it possible (we thank you!).

Rev. David L. Berkey, Executive Director

"FREE" SUMMER CAMP SCHOLARSHIPS OFFERED TO CHURCHES
(WHO HAVE NOT SENT CAMPERS IN OVER TWO YEARS)

The Florida Conference Board of Camps and Retreat Ministries is excited to invite you to send children, youth or even grandparents to camp this summer on us! We greatly appreciate your church's connectional ministry giving, and this is one way to receive it back in ways that will bless the children and youth in your neighborhood and/or congregation for years to come. The first 100 requests we receive from the pastors of churches in the Florida Conference who have not sent a child or youth to summer camp in the past two years will receive \$400 to send one or more campers this coming summer. (This is \$400 per church.) If you are receiving this e-mail or letter, you are one of these pastors.

Here's how it works:

1 – You or someone on your staff nominates a worthy camper or campers for this summer from your congregation or neighborhood to send to one of our events listed below. *Note: It is recommended that sending more than one camper helps with the "first-time" experience, to have a friend to share it with.*

2 – You then help them fill out a registration form which can be found at www.flumcamps.org for the correct location – Warren Willis Camp, the Life Enrichment Center or Riverside Retreat. Send the registration form in via internet or mail with a note that you are requesting the "Free Scholarship Offer".

3 – Once we receive the application with the deposit, we will send to the church \$400 to apply to the remaining balance on the camper or campers' registration. The money will be sent to the church; you or your staff should make sure that it goes to help the camper or campers complete the payment of fees for this summer.

4 – The camper or campers enjoy the summer experience that changes lives! They return to church and share their story, encouraging more children or youth to attend camp next year!

This summer's events are listed below for your reference. For further information on our summer camp programs you can visit the web site www.flumcamps.org.

June 13-24 – Children, Middle School and High School Camps at Warren Willis -- \$380.00

- June 19-24 --“Circles of Peace” Camp for Middle School Youth at Riverside Retreat -- \$340.00
- June 20-25 – Children, Middle School and High School Camps at Warren Willis - \$380.00
- June 27-30 – Grandparents & Me Camp at the Life Enrichment Center -- \$125/Adult, \$100/Child
- June 27-July 2 – Children, Middle School and High School Camps at Warren Willis -- \$380.00
- July 4-9 – Children, Middle School and High School Camps at Warren Willis -- \$380.00
- July 10-16 – Children’s Overnight Camp Week at Riverside Retreat -- \$340.00
- July 11-16 – Camp Pioneer (for Mentally Challenged Youth and Adults) at the LEC -- \$380.00
- July 11-16 – Children, Middle School and High School Camps at Warren Willis -- \$380.00
- July 17-23 – Junior High Overnight Camp at Riverside Retreat -- \$340.00
- July 18-21 – Grandparents and Me Camp at the Life Enrichment Center -- \$125/Adult, \$100/Child
- July 18-23 – Children, Middle School and High School Camps at Warren Willis -- \$380.00
- July 24-30 – Senior High Overnight Camp at Riverside Retreat -- \$340.00
- July 25-30 – Children, Middle School and High School Camps at Warren Willis -- \$380.00
- August 1-6 – Children, Middle School and High School Camps at Warren Willis -- \$380.00

As the Board of Camps and Retreat Ministries, we are hoping that by sending one or more campers this summer your participation in this vital, life-changing experience will enhance the ministry of your congregation in the making of disciples for the transformation of the world.

If you have any questions about this, please contact the Rev. David Berkey, Executive Director, Florida United Methodist Camps and Retreat Ministries at dberkey@flumc.org or 352-408-9060.

Volunteer Nurses Needed: Each week during the summer at the Warren Willis UM Camp in Fruitland Park, FL we utilize two nurses to serve in ministry to the Campers, Summer Staff, and Adult Volunteers that will be in attendance during our Summer Camping program. Nurses can serve for 1 week up to 10 weeks as a paid position or as a volunteer. We are looking for currently licensed (in Florida) RNs or LPNs. For more information please visit the Warren Willis Camp web site at www.warrenwilliscamp.org (look under Attend, and then click on Camp Nurses) or contact Heather Pancoast at heather.pancoast@warrenwilliscamp.org or by calling 352-787-4345 (ext. 4151).

Couples Spiritual Retreats Offered

An opportunity for couples to spend time with each other and with the Lord awaits at the 2011 Couples Spiritual Retreats, April 29-May 1 and May 20-22. Sponsored by the Florida Conference United Methodist Men, each weekend retreat centers on the theme “As for Me and My House.” Held in Fruitland Park at the beautiful Life Enrichment Center, the retreats include praise time, plenary sessions and breakout sessions, offering time to take your discipleship deeper. Registration and program information are available in the [brochure](#), which you can print and share with your church. Costs vary depending on length of stay, where you stay, and how many meals you need while on-site. Additional information and registrations forms may be downloaded at www.ummflconf.org or by contacting the United Methodist Men toll free at 877-815-3692.