



Atlantic Central District



DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

February 2018

I want to resend apart of what I wrote about in the January Newsletter.

I'm excited about the March District Training and Congregational Vitality Group gatherings to learn more about how we can work together. The dates for each of these gatherings are:

East Volusia: (Scott Smith) - March 3; 10-2 pm; location TBD
North Brevard (Corky Calhoun) - March 3; 10-2 pm; location: The Open Door, Cocoa
South Brevard (Doug McClain) - March 3; 10-2 pm; location: Wesley UMC
Indian River/Ft. Pierce (Cliff Melvin) - March 3; 10-2 pm; location: Christ by the Sea
Martin/Northern Palm Beach/Port St. Lucie (Marta Burke) - March 3; 10-2 pm; location: First Hobe Sound
Rest of Palm Beach County (Dale Locke) - date, time and location TBD

Please share this with leaders in your local church.

In March we are going to have our District Training led by Vitality Share Groups across the District. We will have 6 regional gatherings so people can be together in a ministry zone. The theme will be **Strategic Partnerships**. My hope is every church will participate and bring all your leaders and others. My challenge is for every church to bring 20-30 people or more to this.

Why? Because it is good in regions to be in fellowship and see we are not alone and we do have strength in numbers. Second is to learn about various ways we can work together.

The fact that the river has moved means we must adapt or die. Adaptive work is hard and even causes resistance (again look at Acts) but it is also exciting.

My hope is in 2018 we will be willing to take big risks for the sake of the Kingdom and allow our preferences to take a back seat to God's mission to bring His Kingdom here on earth as it is in heaven.

Let me close with a few Biblical themes suggested in the book **Better Together**, that we will need to do this work:

Humble "Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in *Humility* consider each other better than yourselves" (Phil. 2:3, emphasis added)

Purposeful "Being like-minded...*being one in spirit and purpose*" (Phil 2:2, emphasis added)

Stronger "Two are better than one, because they have a *good return* for their work" (Eccles. 4:9, emphasis added)

Fruitful "This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples" (John 15:8) (p. 10-11)

Peace and love,
Gary

Year End Statistics

The deadline for submitting Year End Statistical Tables is February 9, 2018. Online reporting begins January 2, 2018.

If you need any assistance, please contact the District office at (772)299-0255.

February 22

Workers Compensation Payroll Audit is to be completed online annually. Report actual payroll for calendar year 2017. Must be completed between February 1 and February 22, 2018. In order to comply with State of Florida requirements related to workers' compensation coverage, we ask that you complete the [brief online payroll form](#). Please review your payroll records (941's etc.) for the calendar year 2017 and complete the form as accurately as possible. Please note that your responses will not affect your workers' compensation insurance costs for 2018 as this updated information is simply required to comply with State of Florida regulations.

February 28

Ensure **Lay Member to Annual Conference** name and contact information is correct in [church dashboard](#).

Dear Sisters and Brothers of the Florida Conference,

Many of our neighborhoods were devastated by Hurricane Irma's massive destruction in September. Over 2.6 million Florida households have applied for FEMA assistance, which is over one-third of Florida's 6.4 million households. Forty-eight counties were declared Federal disaster areas; 20,000 people are living in temporary housing; another 250,000 could qualify for housing, but either none is available or they are living with family, friends or in tents.

Irma impacted 254 United Methodist churches and parsonages, one-third of all our churches. Our conference's disaster recovery team is working to provide hope, relief and restoration to the families and children impacted by Irma, particularly the uninsured, underinsured, those with no resources, the elderly, working poor and single parents.

Please consider making a donation our efforts to help those who were impacted by Hurricane Irma. Both churches and individuals can make a difference. Donate any time by [clicking here](#).

Thank you for supporting our efforts to engage in the mission of God and to restore hope for the millions of Irma survivors in Florida.



Disaster Recovery in the Florida Conference is actively recruiting for Construction Coordinators, Case Managers, Volunteer Coordinators and Volunteer Family Advocates for:

- Naples area
- Tampa Bay Area (Pinellas and Hillsborough Counties)
- North East Florida (Jacksonville and west)
- Sebring/LakePlacid/Moore Haven
- Marathon and lower Keys

Please send resumes with cover letter and minimum salary requirements to mmollica@flumc.org

Please save the date for this year's **Missio Ecclesia** event.

We had such an incredible gathering in the spring of 2016 at Grace Church with Deb and Alan Hirsch. This time we will gather on February 22 and 23, 2018, at First UMC in Lakeland. Dr. Martyn Atkins, a renowned church leader in England and a key movement collaborator in the work of Fresh Expressions, will join us as we explore what it means to be a church on mission.

[Click Here to Register](#)



Missio Ecclesia Church on Mission



February 22nd & 23rd, 2018

Missio Ecclesia (Church on Mission) began in 2016 as a way for church leaders to learn together, hear from speakers on the forefront of new ways for the church to be relevant, new ways to be who we are called to be and continue to make new disciples in this challenging Post-Christendom era. Attend together - as a church leadership team, covenant group, small group, with friends, or another group you feel could benefit from this event. Register early to save.

AGENDA

Feb 22	2:00pm	Check-in
	2:30pm	Worship & Session 1 (Bishop Carter)
	5:00pm	Dinner (on your own)
	7:00pm	Session 2 (Martyn Atkins)
	8:30pm	Reception in lobby
Feb 23	8:30am	Worship & Session 3 (Martyn Atkins)
	10:15am	Snack Break
	10:45am	Session 4 (Innovation/panel)
	Noon	Lunch provided
	1:00pm	Session 5 (Bishop Carter and roundtable discussions)
	3:00pm	Deploy

Register: <https://florida-reg.brtapp.com/2018MissioEcclesia>



Gathering
with people



Talking
with others



Listening
to each other

Panel Discussion

The Missional Church and Innovation in a Changing Ecosystem

A panel of clergy and laity who are practitioners of bringing new ways to reach new people - while in a traditional church



Easter Pilgrimage to Italy with Bishop Carter slated for April 2018

**Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,
I am excited about our spiritual journey to
Italy in 2018. As we visit the stunning cities
of Venice, Assisi, Siena, Florence and Rome,**

we will be immersed in the rich traditions of the Christian faith. We will learn more about the gospel of Mark in Venice and the legacy of Peter; we will read the dialogues of Catherine of Sienna and the meditations of Dante, and we will reflect on the renewing vision given to Francis of Assisi. In Rome, as we visit the Sistine Chapel, we will consider the legacies of the most recent Popes, especially John XXIII, Pope John Paul II and Pope Francis. And in each setting, we will be inspired by the world's great art and architecture. I hope you will join friends from across Florida on this Easter pilgrimage.

The Peace of the Lord,
Bishop Kenneth H. Carter, Jr.

View more information [online](#) or in this [downloadable brochure](#).
[Click here](#) for online registration.



ARE THERE YOUNG ADULTS IN YOUR CHURCH WHO WANT TO EXPLORE PASTORAL MINISTRY?

If so, please give them the attached application for the 2018 Summer Pastoral Ministry Internship Program and encourage them to apply!

DO YOU SERVE A CHURCH COMMITTED TO SHAPING THE NEXT GENERATION OF PASTORAL LEADERS?

If so, please sponsor a Summer Pastoral Intern for 2018!

Here are the quick facts for hosting an Intern. Attached is a more detailed program

description.

Internship Dates: Monday, May 28, 2018 through Friday, August 3, 2018

Intern Training Day: Friday, May 25, 2018 (Students and Supervising Pastors)

Intern Reflection Day: Monday, August 6, 2018 (Students Only)

Hours: 30 hours/week as scheduled with Supervising Pastor

Housing: Provided in congregant's home, if needed

Stipend: \$3,500 (\$1,500 by host site; \$1,500 by Office of Clergy Excellence, plus an additional \$500 from the Office of Clergy Excellence IF the Intern attends both the Orientation and Reflection Days)

If interested, please email or mail an Intern Job Description for your church. Please feel free to contact the Office of Clergy Excellence if you have any questions about the program.

Holly Finley at hfinley@flumc.org

Rev. Sara McKinley at sara.mckinley@flumc.org

Office of Clergy Excellence

450 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave.

Lakeland, FL 33815

863-688-5563 x134

Thank you!

Love In Christ,

Sara

[SummerInternProgramDescription2018](#)

[SummerInternshipAPP2018](#)

Dist: All active clergy and churches

Don't Forget Upcoming Webinar!

"Beyond the Worship Wars: Why Older Adults Worship Differently"

For more information, check out this webinar & all other Older Adult Webinar's at our [Upcoming Webinar Page](#)

Live on Friday, February 02, 2018 at 10:00am CST

* This webinar will also be recorded and archived for later viewing later

Dear Partners and Colleagues in Ministry,

We're back! Older Adult and Baby Boomer Ministry Webinars return. After postponing all remaining 2017 webinars last September, then spending time analyzing how to best improve our performance, we are re-launching our Older Adult Ministry Webinars, now as Older Adult Webinars 2.0 better known as the Beyond Series.

During our hiatus, we heard from experts on formats, platforms, and scheduling, surveyed our past participants, looked at other high-volume webinar producers, all with an eye to continue to stand out as outstanding resource for your ministry.

Some things will remain the same—e.g. our webinars will still be free of charge, archived and posted online (so they can be viewed at your convenience or shown in your local church), and with one exception (April 13 instead of April 6) will continue to take place the First Friday of even months at 10:00 am Central/11:00 am Eastern time, and finally will last about an hour. You still will need to register for each webinar.

Some things will be different. All 2018 Webinars are branded with the Beyond label in their titles. They are designed to help you explore new, cutting edge, areas of second half of life ministry (50 members-both boomers and builders) and to move beyond where you are currently in your skillset as a church leader.

The very first webinar of the 2018 series is therefore entitled Beyond the Worship Wars: Why Older Adults Worship Differently. It is a look at the historical development of Contemporary Worship, and how this has forever changed both Builder and Boomer Generations expectations of worship, and how we can effectively engage with them through worship.

I hope you will join us live or at your convenience; here is the link to register for this first webinar. <https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/resources/beyond-the-worship-wars-why-older-adults-worship-differently>. Check out the other 2018 Offerings as well which are listed below.

Prayerfully,
Will

Upcoming other Plus 50 webinars

April 13, 2018 - Beyond Retirement: How Retirees Make the Best Evangelists

June 1, 2018 - Beyond Dinners: Drive-Ins, and Dives: What Older-Adult Ministry Will Look Like in the 21st Century

August 3, 2018 - Beyond Legacy: Where the Third Act Meets the Life to Come

October 5, 2018 - Beyond Dementia Care: What Church Leaders Need to Know

December 7, 2018 - Beyond Grandparenting: How Grandparenting Supports Inter-Generational Ministry

OLDER
ADULT
MINISTRY



For further information and resources for you ministry, including dates for upcoming webinars:

Office on Aging & Older Adult Ministries

And be sure to check out our Facebook pages:

[Growing Up Boomers](#)
[God Loves Older People](#)

Calendar 2018

February

9th - Year End Statistics Due
12th - dCOM - First UMC, Vero Beach 9:30 a.m.
19th - District Office Closed for Presidents' Day Holiday
22nd - Workers Compensation Payroll Audit
22-23 - Missio Ecclesia Event

Gary

Gary A. Spencer
District Superintendent
Atlantic Central District
Office Phone: 772-299-0255 Fax: 772-299-0258
ds-ac@flumc.org
<http://www.acdistrictumc.org>

Patti

Patti Moxley
Administrative Assistant
Atlantic Central District
Office Phone: 772-299-0255 Fax: 772-299-0258
flumc-ac@flumc.org
<http://www.acdistrictumc.org>