

LEADERSHIP UPDATE of the Southeast Region

Volume 7, Issue 2

February 2012

Pastors: Please distribute to your delegates, leaders & congregation

WHO SAYS REPORTING IS A DRAG?

It's Tuesday, January 31. The emails have been coming fast and furious, my phone has been ringing non-stop, and I had a hard time pulling all the mail out of my over-stuffed mailbox this afternoon. What was the occasion? Today is the SER deadline for all congregations to turn in their annual reports to me. And come in they did.

Today's 3 ¾ inch stack of reports (and growing) is piled on a special folding table I set up to sort and read your **Annual On Purpose Reports** and **Confidential Reports**. I had feelings of both anticipation and anxiety as I picked up the first report. I knew that what I held in my hands was more than statistics or paperwork – it was your lives, your ministries, and God's Presence in Your corner of the Kingdom. What would your evaluation of 2011 portray – playing it safe OR trying new ministries? teamwork OR isolation? advancement OR derailment? And what had you been hearing from God concerning 2012? How is your congregation willing to “rip the roof” in order to release your dreams, creativity and passion into your local neighborhoods and beyond? Here's just a sampling of what I've read today . . .

. . . “Our ‘Blankets of Blessing’ ministry has made over 750 blankets for deputies to give to abuse victims.”

. . . “We have 21 days of fasting and prayer which ends with an all night vigil”

. . . (One congregation goal) “Healthy, Biblical conflict management. 100% commitment to face-to-face, Matt. 18 resolution of conflicts. Avoiding gossip, criticism and triangulation.”

. . . “We can't make plans for the future with only those in mind who are currently attending. We need to keep looking forward towards those whom we hope to reach. We want to build on what we have, while expanding our ministry to all those living near our church.”

. . . “We've started something new called ‘Spanish Second Language & Culture Classes’ for us Gringos who want to expand our ability to reach out to the Spanish in our neighborhood.”

. . . (pastor's response concerning his appointment) “This is exactly where God wills us to be and my desire is to remain in His will. Besides, we are having a BLAST!!”

. . . “This past year we became more inward focused; that must stop. We need to stop worrying and complaining . . . We need to listen to God and not just ourselves.”

. . . “We are developing spiritual leaders within our youth group.”

. . . “We implemented ‘miraculous fishing’ this year – choose a strategic part of the city . . . bring in all our small groups to pass out New Testaments and pray with people door to door during the day, then hold an outdoor concert that night.”

. . . “We have become inwardly healthy by concentrating on and becoming more outwardly focused. You can't help but get personally healthy when you care about others.”

. . . “I feel strongly that God is starting to move in great ways among us. Everything is falling into place and the Holy Spirit is moving. This Is Our Year!”

Words cannot express my joy and excitement about this new year of ministry together.

Supt. Darrel Riley

GET IN THOSE ANNUAL REPORTS PRONTO!

Annual reporting IS NOT just a clerical formality .

Rather, it's a time to REFLECT, CELEBRATE & CONSECRATE.

If you need an electronic or hard copy of any of the 3 forms, contact Peggy:

- **SER Annual On Purpose Report** (evaluate 2011, pray & plan for 2012)
- **SER Confidential Reports** (upcoming pastoral appointment)
- **FM Annual Statistical Report** (FM report for next Yearbook)

SER grace deadline: Be a valentine, and get those reports sent in by Feb 14.

HAND in HAND with HAITI in 2012

Each church in the SER is challenged to DO SOMETHING, SOMETIME this year to partner with Haiti. If having a special SOUP or SALAD meal on **Super Bowl Sunday** (Feb. 5th) doesn't work for your congregation, then pick another time to emphasize Haiti needs and solutions. See the **HAND in HAND with HAITI** attachment for options at Lent, VBS, or another time: choose from water filters, solar ovens, food fund, child sponsorship, Structall building, well, or seedlings. GO FOR IT: Hialeah Ministerios Nueva Vision is reaching for the goal of a Structall ICCM school!

ON-LINE NEWS and OPPORTUNITIES

Don't settle for just using email – take advantage of resources & new ways of connecting.

FM HISTORY & POLITY TAUGHT via MEGA MEETING:

We're all trying new things! Supt Darrel offered his first course in a virtual classroom last week with seven students from across FL and GA. Everyone was able to stay at home, but participate over their computer screens, with the ability to interact and see each other through their "virtual suites." The class went extremely well, despite a thunder-storm that interfered with the connection for 2 students one afternoon. But they didn't miss out –one listened over a phone land line, and the other listened over a cell phone. Plans are being explored to offer other CMC courses by this method this summer.

FREEDOM SUNDAY: REGISTER & BE RESOURCED

Human trafficking is more prevalent today than at any time in human history. Set aside the first Sunday in Lent, **Feb. 26th**, to join with other faith communities from over 60 countries to raise awareness, pray and become part of the solution. Register and then download ideas for your Feb 26th worship service (from a single prayer to a guide for a complete worship service) and also gain access to other free abolitionist resources for use throughout the year. Also download the new "*Fast for Freedom*" devotional. It's all available at www.FreedomSunday.org

groundSWELL: The CHURCH OF TOMORROW SPEAKS TODAY

Leadership Network has gathered some of the brightest young minds in today's church . . . who will become tomorrow's leaders in 2020 and beyond. They're all between the ages of 13 – 19 and they have specific thoughts on what the church will need to look like to reach their generation. Join this FREE online conference which will take place **Thursday, March 1, 1:00 – 4:00 Eastern**. Register <http://groundswell.tv>

“BEST PRACTICES” TRAINING EVENT on MARCH 6 - 7

Each spring the FMC offers a national training event to inspire and equip both pastors & lay leaders to be more effective in ministry. This year’s theme is *“Best Practices to Turn Around Plateaued or Declining Churches.”* Six FM pastors from across the nation will share their insights in how they are doing it, to encourage you to do it also. This year’s event will take place at **Cornerstone in St. Pete on March 6 – 7**. For schedule and registration information, contact bethk@fmcna.org (or call 1-800-342-5531). Scholarship help with the fee may be available; contact Supt Darrel. Limited overnight lodging is being provided by Cornerstone upon request.

PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER

Yesterday is gone. Tomorrow has not yet come. We only have today. Let us begin. Mother Teresa

JANUARY 2012	SOUTH ATLANTIC CONFERENCE	AL-GA or GCC CONFERENCE
Jan 29 – Feb 4	Hialeah: Ministerios Nueva Vision Pastor Belarmino Martinez (Dorcas) b.martinez@nuevavision12.com	Macon First Pastor Eric Newman (Nancy) enewman@docoschools.org
Feb 5 - 11	Hilliard: Wesley’s Chapel Pastor Justin Laurendine (Melissa) melissa.laurendine@yahoo.com	Macon: Trinity Life CPP Pastor Kenny Johnston (Julie) Kennyjohnston3@aol.com
Feb 12 - 18	Holiday FMC Pastor Leland Crist (Paula) Lee.crist@verizon.net	Newnan GA: Browns Mill CPP Pastor Tim Coleman (Nicole) timcoleman@brownsmillchurch.com
Feb 19 - 25	Immokalee Haitian Pastor Emmanuel Eugene (Alette) Jc2be888@hotmail.com	Pleasant Grove GA: Faith Pastor Joe Shuffett (Wendy) joeshuffett@bellsouth.net
Feb 26 – March 3	Kissimmee: Good Shepherd Pastor Donald Kaufmann (Nanette) Dkaufmannquizr1@yahoo.com	Deville: Martha’s Chapel Pastor Monty Bower (Jo) mlbower@suddenlink.net

CONNECT with our SOUTHEAST REGION MISSIONARIES:

Connect with our SER missionaries via recent newsletters, blogs and support information available on-line at www.fmcusa.org; scroll to the bottom of the home page and click on **FM World Missions**. From the FMWM home page, click on the **Missionaries** tab at the top, and missionaries will appear in alphabetical order. You can also contact via emails:

<p>Josh & Susy Fajardo (Spain) Mike & Maria Long (Greece) Jack Munos (Haiti) Rick & Cookie Ireland (Haiti)</p>	<p>JFajardoM@aol.com Longmm@the.forthnet.gr haiti4christjak@yahoo.com rick.ireland@yahoo.com</p>
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INDIVIDUAL CONFERENCE NEWS AL-GA MISSION CONFERENCE:

Sun – Mon, Feb 12 – 13: Supt. Darrel will be on-site for the following meetings:
 Sun, Feb 12: 5:00pm EST, mtg of the **Executive Team** at the Comfort Suites in Oxford AL
 Mon, Feb 13: 10:30am EST – lunch; Training time & fellowship for **all Alabama & Georgia pastors** at the Comfort Suites: 125 Davis Loop Rd., Oxford AL 36203.

Saturday, May 5: **ANNUAL CONFERENCE** with Bishop David Roller

- Pastors & Delegates – each bring a car filled with your present & future leaders
- Inspirational music, challenging messages, ministry updates, ordination service, etc.

GULF COAST CONFERENCE:

Thurs – Sun, Feb 2 – 5: MEETINGS WITH SUPT RILEY:

Supt. Darrel has **scheduled individual meetings with each pastor** to review their *Annual On Purpose and Confidential Reports*. The following meetings will also take place at Edgewood:

- Thu, Feb 2: Mtg at Deville: New Hope, evening
- Fri, Feb 3: BOA Mtg at 6:00pm; Family Camp Mtg at 7:00pm
- Sat, Feb 4: MEG / MAC Mtg and Candidate Interviews at 3:00pm
- Sun, Feb 5: Supt Darrel will be at Edgewood FMC Sunday morning & afternoon

March 30 – 31: ANNUAL CONFERENCE at Edgewood FMC in Pineville

Annual Conference will be a huge weekend: Ordination Service Friday night; Saturday events: inspirational music, messages by Bishop Roller & Supt Riley, workshop electives, luncheon. The conference has set a goal of 100 in attendance. Start promoting this great gathering NOW!

May 6 & 20: FAMILY CAMP Emphasis Sunday options

June 11 - 15: FAMILY CAMP Week at Church of God Campground in Pollock LA

SOUTH ATLANTIC CONFERENCE NEWS:

- Congratulations to **Boca Raton: Edifying Lives Ministry!** Pastor Roberto Silva and congregation are finishing up renovations on a **ministry house** they recently purchased. As they hold worship services on Sunday evenings in another church, they have had no administrative or meeting space of their own. Now they have a center for Bible studies, youth meetings and outreach. Pray for energy to complete reno, and wise use of space.
- **Lake Palms Community Church** (Pastor David Vos) is hosting a **Small Group Leaders Workshop** from 2:00 – 6:00pm on **Sunday, Feb 12** (380 Fulton Dr. SE, Large FL 33771). Dr. Daryl & Carolyn Smith will lead the training. Learn how to launch, or strengthen, your small groups. This is a FREE event, but please register with Pastor Hummer (727-399-8801).
- **Announcing a new Young Adult Ministry:** Tampa Celebration & Tampa Spanish have joined forces to build a community of Young Adults (post high school) across the FMC in FL. Twenty four Young Adults (ages 18 – up) attended the January kick-off. Next gathering for worship & fellowship will be Feb. 19 at Celebration FMC in Tampa at 7:00pm. Announce this gathering in your church; young adults are encouraged to bring their friends with them. Goal of *By the Book Life Group*: to disciple Young Adults in their walk with the Lord and their relationships with one another. For info, contact Evette at evette_gonz@yahoo.com

Sat, Feb 11: 9:30am – lunch **SAC Cabinet meeting** at Lakeland Park

Sat, Feb 11: afternoon: **SAC MEG Bd interviews potential Elders** at Lakeland Park

Fri – Sun, Feb 17 – 19: Missions Conference at Lakeland Light & Life FMC with Latin America Area Director Delia Nuesch-Olver

Sat, March 24: Additional **Elder's Interviews by SAC MEG Bd.** at Riley home in Orlando

Thu – Sat, March 29 – 31: Ladies Retreat at Clarion Hotel & Conf. Center in Tampa
Yvonne Roller will be the featured speaker

Fri – Sat, April 27 – 28: Annual Conference at Lakeland: Light & Life FMC

It's our biggest gathering of the year - worship, celebration, inspiration, training!