

LEADERSHIP UPDATE of the Southeast Region

Volume 7, Issue 6

July 2012

Pastors: Please distribute to your delegates, ministry leaders & congregation

“ARE YOU ENTHUSIASTIC?”

I've noticed over the years that whether I am leading a board meeting, building a partnership with a civic organization, or preaching in Sunday worship, that merely sharing facts or information is not enough. Sincerity . . . passion . . . creativity are needed to capture the attention and imaginations of the persons with whom I am sharing. I'm not talking about “hype” here – trying to manipulate others' emotions to get a desired result. No, I'm talking about something much deeper. I'm talking about understanding ENTHUSIASM. Do you know the meaning of this word? In the Greek, *entheos* means *in God*, or *God-inspired*. Webster defines ENTHUSIASM as “*special revelations of the Holy Spirit; something inspiring zeal & fervor.*” I believe that when we, as believers, live ENTHUSIASTICALLY - in the flow of the Spirit - that others are touched at a profoundly deep level, and something new and redeeming can be birthed.

This spring at Annual Conferences, I distributed the book FORGOTTEN GOD to all pastors, and challenged them to not only read the book, but to also begin exploring with their leaders their understanding of the Holy Spirit. The **Red Alert** implementation task assigned to every church leadership team was two-fold: First, identify one or two specific ways that your congregation has not yet “grown up” and been transformed by the Spirit, and start addressing those areas head-on. Secondly, seek the Spirit's guidance and empowerment to boldly invade your local community in one or more creative ways to meet a need and create pathways to wholeness for broken people and broken situations.

We heard stories at Annual Conference and SAC Regional Training Events of Spirit-inspired adventures to bring the Kingdom of God to others. Edifying Lives congregation in Boca Raton has bought a house and “moved into the neighborhood” to minister to the local community. Ocala Bread of Life is exploring a partnership with an international food relief organization to feed families in the projects near them. Young couple Ryan & Ester (Grullon) Ramirez are serving as missionaries to urban apartment dwellers through the Apartment Life* ministry, offering friendship & faith to their neighbors.

So I ask you – are you ENTHUSIASTIC? Can't wait to hear your story of what has been happening IN you and THROUGH you as you allow the Spirit to freely move.

Supt. Darrel Riley

APARTMENT LIFE CARE TEAMS*

Did you know 50% of people in major cities live in apartments, 95% don't attend a church, and 50% do not have any friends in their community? Apartment dwellers are a huge mission field stateside. The evangelical urban ministry known as Apartment Life places a Care Team (a Christian team of 2 – a family, married couple or 2 single adults), in an apartment rent free, and asks them to spend 15 hours weekly interacting with their neighbors – building relationships and sharing the Gospel. The Care Team also organizes a monthly get-together for apartment residents to facilitate neighbors getting to know them and one another. For more info contact info@apartmentlife.org. Apply online at www.careteam.org. Ryan & Ester (Grullon) Ramirez serve as a Care Team in Orlando, They would be happy to share their experience with you (LangeL704@gmail.com)

INWARDLY HEALTHY & OUTWARDLY FOCUSED: OPPORTUNITIES TO GREATER EFFECTIVENESS

CHILD SAFETY & WORKER TRAINING REMINDER

The recent tragedy at Penn State involving Jerry Sandusky reminds us that young people are sexually vulnerable, and that guidelines for working with children and teens in any setting are needed. Two guides are included with this month's newsletter. Each and every congregation is to read and follow the provided information. Implementing these policies is a simple way to keep young people safe, parents assured, and workers above reproach. (The documents are also posted at: www.seregionfmc.org, under the RESOURCES tab.)

SUMMER & KIDS: A GREAT TIME FOR LOCAL OUTREACH & MISSIONS

Many congregations will provide special events for children this summer – a Vacation Bible School program, Day Camp, an alternative Sunday School ministry, etc. During July and August, make sure to provide children with the opportunity to SERVE as well as BE SERVED. The best memory your child might have of summer could well be when they “made a difference” in someone else's life.

A few local options to get you thinking:

- Summer yard or garage clean-up of a local senior citizen, followed by a stop for ice cream or a pool party.
- Go as a group to a local senior center or nursing home, and host a patriotic or other themed party
- Donate games & DVDs, and decorate doors of a local Ronald McDonald House

A few global ideas:

- Over a 4 week period, have weekly object lessons using water & discuss the problem of clean water in Haiti. Set a goal of raising funds for water filters (\$50 each). Have a concluding water carnival day to celebrate reaching your goal.
- Have a Bible Reading Marathon for Missions. Children sign up sponsors who will donate \$ for each chapter of the Bible they read over a set period of time. (Suggest key chapters of OT, book of Mark, etc.). Money raised can go to a FMWM project.

ICCM CHURCH ACTION KITS

International Childcare Ministries mailed each congregation a CHURCH ACTION KIT in May – remember that white mailing packet? Pastor or Missions Champion: if you haven't opened it yet – do so now and preview the DVD, then use the 8 short clips during the coming school year in worship services, small groups, youth & children's ministries. ICCM is child sponsorship, but it is also so much more – join the fight against human trafficking, provide youth hostels & daycares for the homeless, feeding programs for the hungry, etc.

ORDER YOUR 2012 YEARBOOK by AUGUST 10

2012 FM Yearbook order forms were not available in time for SER Annual Conferences. Orders should now be placed directly with the Wesleyan Publishing House, 1-800-493-7539, Monday – Friday, 8am – 4:30 ET. Hard copy format is \$13.99 (available in spiral bound or perfect bound = glued), CD format for \$9.50; shipping & handling extra. The Yearbook provides updated information on all aspects of FMC ministry as well as individual society and pastoral contact information.

EVERY PERSON A PASSIONATE PRAY-ER

“Each of us is a part of the one body of Christ If one part suffers, all parts suffer with it, and if one part is honored, all the parts are glad.” 1 Cor. 12:13, 26

JULY 2012	SOUTH ATLANTIC CONFERENCE	AL-GA or GCC CONFERENCE
July 1 – 7 ALSO: SAC Youth Camp July 6 - 9	St. Pete: Cornerstone July 1 is the last Sunday for Pastors Rex & LaWanda Bullock Pray for future pastor, staff & congregation	Deville LA: Martha’s Chapel New pastoral appointment begins July 1 Pastor Dan Goddard (Beth) judahsgate@gmail.com
July 8 - 14	Ocala: Bread of Life Pastor Tommy Dennis (Stefany) Pastortommy2011@hotmail.com	Pleasant Grove AL: Faith FMC Pastor Joe Shuffett leads 4 youth on missions trip to Bulgaria July 12 – 26 www.faith2bulgaria.blogspot.com
July 15 - 21	Orange City: Living Water Pastor Nelson Hom (Trudy) n.hom84@yahoo.com	Columbus GA: Christ Community Sr Pastor Keith Cowart on summer sabbatical Pray for staff & congregation in his absence
July 22 - 28	Orlando Fellowship Pastor Daryl Smith (Carolyn) daryl.smith@asburyseminary.edu	Columbus GA: Christ Community CMC Nick Cash & wife Dianna are on Mercy Ship ministry in West Africa nickcashra@yahoo.com
July 29 – Aug 4	West Palm Beach: Hope Fellowship New pastoral appointment begins Aug. 1: Pastor Jason Leadingham jaleadingham@gmail.com	Jonesville LA: Oak Grove New pastoral appointment begins Aug 1: Pastor Denis Ward (Christine) dnswa2@hotmail.com

GULF COAST CONFERENCE NEWS:

FAMILY CAMP REPORT:

This year was truly the BEST Family Camp ever. There was a record attendance of resident campers and a high spiritual responsiveness in daytime and evening services. Thank you for your faithful prayers and preparations leading up to the week of camp, and to all those who led ministries with children, teens, adults, worship, food, etc. May all new insights and decisions made at camp, be lived out faithfully now in daily life, with the Spirit’s help.

PASTORAL UPDATES:

At the March Annual Conference, there were some “under the superintendent” appointments, but you prayed, and God orchestrated events which resulted in two new pastors who will arrive this summer to lead congregations into their next phase of ministry:

- Pastor **Dan Goddard** (wife Beth, and children Rachel, Christopher, Jonathan & Andrew) is an elder transferring from the Oregon Conference. His first Sunday in the pulpit will be July 8 at Martha’s Chapel in Deville.
- Recently retired **Denis Ward** (wife Christine) will be moving from Bowling Green KY to Oak Grove in Jonesville. His first Sunday in the pulpit will be August 5

Continue support to the families of **James Jolly** and **Nathan Clark** following their passing.

PASTORAL UPDATES:

- Congratulations to **Rose Thompson** who recently received a Doctorate of Biblical Studies from Louisiana Baptist University and Seminary.
- **RED ALERT:** Continue praying and planning for the coming school year, focusing on personal & congregational discipleship, and the empowerment of the Spirit.
- **Aug 4:** Pastors will meet with DL Sam Tinsley and discuss **Solo Ministry**, ch 1 – 3

ALABAMA – GEORGIA MISSION CONFERENCE:

YOUTH SERVE GLOBALLY

- **Andrew Cowart**, recently returned from a Bulgaria visit with the Mellingers & Galloways.
- **Pastor Joe Shuffett (Faith FMC in Pleasant Grove AL)** will be taking four teens from the church (including daughters Hannah & Meghan) abroad July 12 – 26, to minister through Love Bulgaria. May they be blessed even as they are a blessing to others.

RESERVE FRIDAY SEPT 28

Bishop Roller will join with AL-GA pastors on this day at Christ Community Church to pray, dream and strategize with us for expanded ministry to those inside & outside our churches.

SOUTH ATLANTIC CONFERENCE:

PASTORAL UPDATES:

- **Pastor Jon & Bev Howery** have taken an appointment to be church planters in Indiana, as part of the Wabash Conference. The Howerys are returning to familiar surroundings and family, as former Hoosiers. Their last Sunday at Hope Fellowship will be July 8.
- **Pastor Jason Leadingham**, presently on staff at Cornerstone, will become the pastor of West Palm Beach: Hope Fellowship. His first Sunday will be August 5.
- **Elder Ken Henry** was a bone marrow donor this past week; pray for the recipient.
- **Pastor Tommy Dennis** of Ocala: Bread of Life just completed a Master's degree in Pastoral Ministry from Liberty University – congratulations!

SAC YOUTH CAMP

Fri – Mon, July 6 – 9, middle and high school teens from around FL will gather for an awesome four days at Camp Geneva in Fruitland Park, FL. This year's theme is ***Bridging the Gap***. Pray now and throughout camp for Director Jason Leadingham & all counselors.

CONFERENCE CABINET RETREAT

Fri – Sat, Aug 3 – 4, all district MEG Bd personnel, conference BOA and MEG/MAC members will gather for an overnight retreat at Lakeland Park. This is a time for evaluation, prayer, creativity, direction & unity as SAC leaders. Pray for spiritual discernment.

REMINDER to MENTORS of CMCs:

Thurs, Aug 16, Asbury Seminary Orlando will provide a day of Mentor Training, 9am – 3pm; register at lisa.perez@asburyseminary.edu or call 407-482-7567. Mentors, make sure to meet with your CMC this summer. Whether your CMC is Yr 1, 2, or 3, there are provided books or articles to be read and discussed in preparation for each session.

RIP FEST 4

Saturday, Sept 22, St Pete: Cornerstone will once again host our fall all-conference rally of inspiration, worship & workshops. National speaker & prolific writer Stan Toler joins us this year. Coffee Bar & Continental Breakfast from 9:00 – 10:00am; General Sessions, lunch & workshops from 10:00am – 3:30pm. Reserve the date & start promoting this opportunity.

SCRIPTURES AT SEA II: November 12 - 17

Pastor Leland and Paula Crist are hosting a cruise for SAC couples, complete with sunrise & sunset devotions together. The five day Carnival Caribbean cruise will stop at Grand Cayman & Cozumel. \$299/person + taxes & fees, dbl occu. Contact Paula: 765-667-5537.