

LEADERSHIP UPDATE of the Southeast Region

Volume 8, Issue 2

February 2013

Pastors: Please distribute to your delegates, leaders & congregation

FEBRUARY 17th is a CALL TO ACTION

It's been a feature in entertainment and also a topic in our national news. Last week actor Daniel Day-Lewis received the Golden Globe award for his portrayal of America's most revered President, LINCOLN. It was also the 150th anniversary of the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation, the legislative granting of freedom to all slaves in America. Then this week, our nation witnessed the inauguration of Barack Obama on Martin Luther King Day. Crowds gathered from the Capitol Building to the Lincoln Memorial, witnessing history in the making.

What perfect timing for a national awareness on freedom and the dignity of all people, As followers of Jesus we know that February 17 - the first Sunday in Lent - focuses upon the greatest war of all against enslavement – the battle to free the human spirit from selfishness and sin. During Lent we remember that *“Jesus resolutely set His face toward Jerusalem,”* committing Himself to fulfill His Father's rescue mission, becoming the Ultimate Sacrifice, by laying down His life to break Satan's stranglehold on our lives. His death opened up an escape route by which we might find freedom from sin and regret, and begin a clean, new start in life as a son or daughter of God. That's a Story worth remembering. That's a Story worth sharing with co-workers, neighbors, and friends.



Sunday February 17 is also a call to action for every FM person to become an AGENT OF FREEDOM in the present-day war against human trafficking and forced servitude. The birth of our denomination occurred just over 150 years ago when a group of “radicals” (pastors who took a strong stand against slavery in America prior to the start of the Civil War) were shunned by the Methodist Episcopal Church because of their abolitionist views.

From the beginning, we have been a faith community committed to ministry to the poor and oppressed. Today, FM pastor and missionary Kevin Austin leads “SET FREE MINISTRIES,” a faith-based initiative combatting human trafficking. Download free video clips, bulletin inserts, sermon outlines: www.setfreemovement.org. Whether you have a 5 minute emphasis, or focus the entire service on this topic on Feb 17, make sure your congregation is contributing and participating in this contemporary anti-slavery movement.

Supt. Darrel Riley

*“Is this not the fast You have chosen: to loose the bonds of wickedness,
and undo the cords of the yoke, and to let the oppressed go free and break every yoke?
Is it not to share our food with the hungry and to provide the poor wanderer with shelter?
When we see the naked, to clothe them, and not to turn away from our own flesh?
Then our light will break forth like the dawn, and our healing will quickly appear,
Our righteousness will go before us; Your glory, O Lord, will be our rear guard.”*

Isaiah 58:6 - 8

LEARNING CURVE IN THE NEW YEAR!

☐ **FM 2012 ANNUAL REPORT:** Your church's Annual Report is to be filed online with the new FM Data Base – named the **FM CONNECT**. Don't be intimidated – just follow the great hard copy instructions which were sent to you by both Andrea Anibal and Peggy Riley. If you've **LOST YOUR LOGIN** or **PASSWORD**, contact Peggy immediately. Make sure you file this report by February 1. Ask for help if you have trouble – don't ignore or put-off this important task.

☐ **CONSISTENT AMOUNT WAVE PAYMENTS** began in January. Electronic invoices were mailed out at the beginning of the month; however, for some recipients the invoice went into their SPAM due to computer safeguards. Watch carefully for the February invoice from Judy Corman, Financial Secretary for WAVE Administration. If you have problems receiving the invoice, questions, or desire to change to whom the invoice is sent, contact Judy at judy@nerfmc.org or call 585-307-8531

☐ **AUTO DRAWS** by HR for all pastors enrolled in the **PENSION** began in January.

SUNDAY, FEB 10: BISHOPS VISION CAST

Sunday evening, Feb 10, our Bishops will continue with their second Vision Cast, utilizing a panel of practitioners who are implementing the first **3 (of 9) STRATEGIC PRIORITIES** which the Bishops introduced in their August Vision Cast.

Remember, our mission to live out the Great Commandments and Great Commission can be easily remembered in six words:

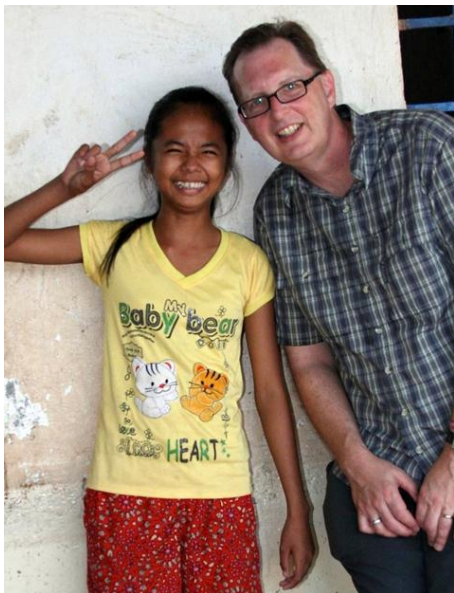
LOVE GOD

LOVE PEOPLE

DISCIPLE OTHERS



The Vision Cast will air Sunday evening at 6:00pm Eastern time. Go to www.fmcusa.org/live.



FEB 17 is FREEDOM SUNDAY

While a FM missionary in Thailand, Kevin Austin first became sensitized to the reality of human trafficking. But forced servitude and sex trade trafficking do not just happen "someplace else." Major cities such as Tampa and Miami are key hubs for this global industry which generates more money than drug trafficking.

Today Kevin leads Set Free – the faith based movement to combat this global industry against the poor and vulnerable. For the fourth year, FM churches are urged to participate in FREEDOM SUNDAY on Feb. 17, the first Sunday of Lent. As a people birthed out of a conviction that "no one should be for sale," make sure your church is educating and involving your congregation in the fight for freedom for all people. Go to www.setfreemovement.org.

EVERY PERSON A PASSIONATE PRAY-ER

I was called to freedom, but may I not use my freedom to indulge the flesh; but through love let me serve others. For the whole law is summed up in these words: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'"

Galatians 5:13 - 15

FEB 2013	SOUTH ATLANTIC CONFERENCE	AL-GA or GCC CONFERENCE
Feb 3 - 9	Dade City Pastor Nick Clark (Zoanne) nickclark1958@gmail.com	Deville: Martha's Chapel Pastor Dan Goddard (Beth) pastor@marthaschapelfmc.com
Feb 10 - 16	Florida City: South Dade Haitian Pastor David Dor (Myrlande) 9281 Martinique Dr Miami FL 33189	Deville: New Hope Pastor Stanley Paulk (Jackie) spaulk51@yahoo.com
Feb 17 - 23	Ft Lauderdale Haitian Pastor Jean Claude Novius (Josette) christienovius@yahoo.com	Jonesville: Oak Grove Pastor Denis Ward (Christine) dnswa2@hotmail.com
Feb 24 – March 2	Hialeah: Ministerios Nueva Vision Pastor Belarminio Martinez (Dorcas) b.martinez@nuevavision12.com	Monterey: Acme Pastors Wade & Cindy Robinson chapelchick37@gmail.com

THE BIBLE Mini Series premieres on THE HISTORY CHANNEL in MARCH:

For 5 Sunday evenings, March 3 – Easter evening, in two hour segments the Bible will come alive for everyone with a TV, computer or hand-held device. Spread the word. Watch it with your neighbors or family; form a small group to discuss it. www.outreach.com has a kit to maximize the event.



GULF COAST CONFERENCE NEWS:

- Feb 1 – 3:** Supt Riley is onsite for weekend meetings & services:
- Fri Feb 1: **BOA:** Final Preparation for 2013 Annual Conference, 6pm at Edgewood FMC
Family Camp 2013 Planning Mtg at 7pm also at Edgewood FMC
 - Sat, Feb 2: **Pastors Mtg:** ch. 8 – 10 of *The Solo Pastor* & turn in Reports @ Edgewood
 - Sun, Feb 3: Supt Riley will preach Sunday AM at Provencal FMC.
- March 31** **EASTER SUNDAY**
- Fri-Sat, Apr 19 – 20:** **ANNUAL CONFERENCE** wkend with Bishop Roller & Supt Riley @ Edgewood
- May 5 or 19:** **FAMILY CAMP Emphasis Sunday** (Promotion of Camp & special offering)
- June 10 – 14:** **FAMILY CAMP** at Church of God Campground in Pollock, LA

ALABAMA – GEORGIA CONFERENCE NEWS:

Congrats to the following individuals who recently took FM History & Polity with Supt Riley:

- Dewayne Creswell, Brent & Cailey Dumler, Jae Lesley, Hollie Wells, and Kelli Wommack

Sun & Mon, Feb 10 – 11: Supt Darrel will be on-site for the following meetings:

- Sunday, Feb 10: PM: **AL-GA Exec Team Video Conference Mtg.**, 5:00pm Eastern Time
- Monday, Feb 11: AM: **AL & GA Pastors Training & Fellowship Mtg:** 10:00am Eastern Time
GA Pastors gather at Columbus: Christ Community Church
AL Pastors meet at Pleasant Grove: Faith and video connect with the GA pastors

Sat, March 23 ANNUAL CONFERENCE at Columbus: Christ Com Ch with Bishop Roller & Supt Riley

SOUTH ATLANTIC CONFERENCE NEWS:

PASTORAL FAMILY NEWS:

- **Holiday FMC** (led by **Pastor Leland Crist** & wife Paula) are settling in to their campus at 5330 Whipoorwill Dr Holiday FL 34690.
- **Next Level Church** closed on the Holiday campus at Darlington Rd. on Jan 22. This congregation is now a FM Affiliate, moving toward full membership in the FMC. They are currently renovating the sanctuary in preparation for a Feb. 10th move from their current location at Tarpon Springs HS. Welcome Pastor Christian Farris, wife Tammy & family - christian.farris@livenextlevel.com
- **Alex Silva**, delegate at **Boca Raton: Edifying Lives Ministry**, continues work to provide computers to Haiti for the seminary in Port au Prince & Providence University. If you upgrade to an I-Pad, etc., please **donate your former laptop** for ministry: AlexBSilva@gmail.com
- **Cars for SAC Clergy** are needed. If you have a used car to donate, contact Supt Darrel.
- Pastoral couples **Dan & Linda Hummer** and **Rich & Vunita Iske** are available to facilitate **THE ART OF MARRIAGE** weekends for churches in the conference. With Valentine's Day around the corner, this spring might be the perfect time to strengthen marriages in your congregation. Contact Dan Hummer at dhummer@knology.net for more information.

SAC DATES:

Sat, Feb 23: SAC Cabinet Mtg at Lakeland Park, Maxwell Commons
Prayer & Prep for April Annual Conference, for all Regional & Conference Leaders
9:30 Coffee & Fellowship; 10am – 3pm Meeting & lunch

March 31 EASTER

Fri-Sat, April 5-6 SAC Ladies Retreat at Bradenton Christian Retreat Center

Fri-Sat, Apr 26 – 27: SOUTH ATLANTIC ANNUAL CONFERENCE at Lakeland: Light & Life FMC
This is our biggest gathering of the year: Celebration & worship! Inspiring messages! Workshops!

Mid May – Mid Aug: Supt. Darrel will be on sabbatical; contact your Regional Director for help

June **AM: Summer Regional Training Events** will take place
AFT: Regional Leadership Teams will meet right after lunch

Fri-Sat, Aug 23 – 24: Overnight Cabinet Retreat at Lakeland (Regional & Conf leaders)

September **AM: Fall Regional Training Events** will take place
AFT: Regional Leadership Teams will meet right after lunch