



Dear North East District Family,

As we begin the month of May, Bishop Carter, my Cabinet colleagues, and I announced our full-time appointments yesterday. This has been a rewarding, but challenging appointment season. For various reasons, this season has been somewhat difficult, yet I can share with you that I am EXTREMELY happy with the new clergy coming into our North East family. These women and men are excellent pastors and will help lead our churches towards vitality.

Here are the changes we will be experiencing this coming July:

Leaving the North East:

- Don Hanna – Moving to First UMC of Okeechobee as senior pastor
- Jason Knott – Moving to First UMC of Dunedin as senior pastor
- Linda Mobley – Retiring
- Dennis Redstone – Retiring
- Bryan Simpson – Retiring
- Carl E. Tyson – Retiring

We wish Linda, Dennis, Bryan and Carl a joyous retirement. They have fought the good fight and are about to finish their race. Thank you, truly, for your years of leadership! We also wish Jason and Don well as they continue into a new chapter of ministry.

Coming into the North East:

- Glenda Brayman – St. James UMC, Palatka as senior pastor
- Haley Eccles – Murray Hill UMC, Jacksonville as senior pastor
- Kevin Griffin – CrossRoad Church UMC, Jacksonville – Kevin and Gee Sprague will serve as co-pastors for one year until Gee retires on June 30, 2018. At that time, Kevin will become senior pastor.
- Troy Ray – Lake Shore UMC, Jacksonville as senior pastor
- Brian Sanderson – Middleburg UMC, Middleburg as senior pastor
- Anna Scharbo – Mandarin UMC, Jacksonville - serving a one year appointment as pastor in residence through New Church Development

As you come across these gifted clergy, please join me in welcoming them into our family.

While the Cabinet has not announced part-time appointments, I can share with you the ones that we have made and that have been announced:

Part-Time Appointments:

- Ike Mathews – Inman Memorial UMC, Jacksonville
- Bill Sparks – Welaka UMC, Welaka
- Carl D. Tyson – Pleasant Grove UMC, Starke
- Dennis White – Florahome UMC, Florahome
- Karl Wiggins – Christ UMC, Hastings

We still have a couple more part-time appointments to make for the North East, but we're well on our way to completing those hopefully in the next two weeks.

If you'd like to read the other full-time appointments in the Conference announced as of May 1, 2017, please click this link:

<http://www.flumc.org/files/fileslibrary/appointment+book/full+time+appointment+list+5-1-2017.pdf>.

Please be in prayer for these clergy who are making transitions. Please also pray for the churches who will be saying good-bye to beloved clergy and hello to new leaders.

If you have any questions, please let me know. God bless you!

All God's love, Jay Therrell, Northeast Florida District Superintendent

LOCAL DISTRICT, CHURCH, AND COMMUNITY EVENTS:



5/04/2017	12-1 PM	The 2017 National Day of Prayer Event will be held Jacksonville City Hall. Prayer leaders will guide the group as they lift the Mayor, the City Council, The Jacksonville Sheriff's Office, The Fire and Rescue Department, the Marketplace, the Legal and Judicial System, and the Educational System before the Lord. This is event is hosted by Mission First Coast.
5/06/2017	7AM-2PM	Church Yard Sale at Alexander United Methodist Church
5/06/2017	TBA	Igniting Mens Conference – Florida Conference Mens Event & Oveida UMC
5/07/2017	3-5 PM	Pre-Annual Conference Orientation Meeting at Fleming Island UMC
5/08/2017	1:00 PM	Deadline to order tickets to the Jacksonville Jumbo Shrimp United Methodist Family Night below. For more information about tickets, visit our website at http://www.flumc.org/nedistrictunitedmethodistmen .
5/14/2017	3:00 PM	Mount Zion UMC Founders Day (151 st Anniversary). Theme: Thankful for the Past – Rejoicing in the Present – Preparing for the Future.
5/19/2017	7:05 PM	United Methodist Family Night at the Jacksonville Jumbo Shrimp, sponsored by the District United Methodist Men. District Superintendent, Rev. Jay Therrell, will be throwing out the first pitch.
5/20/2017	8AM-1PM	Worship & Media Ministry Workshop at New Life Community UMC
5/20/2017	11AM-3PM	Simpson Memorial UMC Low Country Boil. Call 904-355-9335 to reserve your tickets.
5/21/2017	3:00 PM	Mount Zion UMC Guest Speaker: Rev. Juana Jordan.
5/28/2017	10:00 AM	Simpson Memorial UMC 133 rd Anniversary. Guest speaker: Rev. Sharon Austin, Director of Connectional Ministries. Theme: Awesome is the Lord Most High. Ephesians 1:15-23.
6/8-10/17		Annual Conference 2017 at Buena Vista Palace Hotel, Orlando

See <http://www.flumc.org/may2017districtnewsletter> for future district events.



Our Hispanic Ministry is having a Garage Sale on Saturday, May 27th, from 7:00 AM to 1:00 PM. Please contact a member of the Hispanic Ministry or the church office if you have items they can sell, and plan to come support them by buying generously during the sale.

A word from Rev. Barry Andrews, Senior Pastor

This morning is another beautiful, cool morning here in our corner of paradise, Jacksonville. We've enjoyed the mildest winter that I remember, and a long series of cool mornings and mild days during the spring. In Florida, at least, we often don't have April showers, but we still have May flowers.

I wonder if our lack of cold weather will result in a bumper crop of bugs this summer, and we know that the dry weather is tough on the folks who live in the piney woods or near the Okefenokee, but sometimes it strikes me that this is sort of looking for the dark lining behind the silver clouds.

The disciplined days of Lent are behind us, with a sort of darkness as we counted the 40 days of sacrifice and service. Yet, it is in this annual check of our faith that we find a way forward for the coming year, and this foundation makes the celebration of our Easter faith that much more joyous and real. Some time back I knew grandparents who, overjoyed with their first long-awaited grandchild, showered the little fellow with whatever he wanted, whenever he wanted it. This went on for about 5 years, until, finally, their son, the boy's daddy, slowed them down, because the child did not know the fun of birthdays or holidays.

For us, then, the celebration of Easter and the resurrection is that much more real because we know the darkness of Good Friday. The promise of new life is that much more precious and important for those who feel the loss of death. These next 50 days we celebrate the light dawning, new life coming, and the promise of resurrection. Let's have open hearts to God's promise of new life, and see that the light of Christ shines in the lives of others. Christ is risen, risen indeed!



We welcome **Saine Rivas**, **Marbely Heredia**, and Marbely's sons **Samuel Rojas**, **Daniel Rojas**, and **Josue Rojas** who joined our church on April 2, 2017. Please also welcome **James Kamara** and **Alachie Smart** who joined our church on Easter Sunday, and Marbely's husband, **Fredy Rojas**, who joined on April 23, 2017. Saine Rivas is Pastor Rigo's wife and the mother of Jahaziel and Magdiel. The Rojas family is from Camaguey, Cuba, and James Kamara and Alachie Smart are from Sierra Leone so our family has become even more diverse. We are so glad they have joined our church!



In Memory Of

Robbie Moore Burroughs

Nov 4, 1925 – April 10, 2017

Photo courtesy of Greenlawn Funeral Home

Robbie Moore Burroughs passed away Monday morning, April 10, 2017. She was born November 05, 1925 in Commerce, Georgia. Her birth certificate and Social Security say November 4th; but she insisted her entire life that they were wrong. She is predeceased by her parents, Robert E. and Ivalee Moore; her husband of 48 years, Truett; and her sister, Joyce Catlett. She is survived by her son and daughter-in-law, Dennis and Suzanne Burroughs; two grandchildren, Amy Nunn and Alan Burroughs; and her great-grandson, Evan Kurn.

Robbie graduated from Commerce High School and attended Mercer University and the University of Georgia. She was a bookkeeper with Atlantic Bank for over 10 years; leaving there after putting her son through college to help Truett full time at a vending stand for the Florida Bureau of Blind Services. She was the epitome of the true southern lady. She was a tremendous cook and loved her family and her Georgia Bulldogs.

A graveside service was held at Greenlawn Cemetery, 4300 Beach Blvd, Jacksonville, FL 32207, 904-396-2522, on Monday, April 17 at 10:00 AM for family and her friends.



In Memory Of

Ruth Murray Stern

Nov 18, 1927 – April 16, 2017

Ruth Murray Stern- 89, died surrounded by her family April 16th, 2017. Mrs. Stern was born in Hackensack N.J 11/18/27, and was a Jacksonville resident since 1963.

Mrs. Stern was a founding member of Christ Community Church and a member of several Methodist churches (including Hendricks and Faith), and a District Officer for United Methodist Women. She was a devoted volunteer at Taylor Care Center, Taylor Manor and UCOM. She was a 20-year Duval County Election Inspector.

She is preceded by her mother and father, Georgianna and Peter Murray; two brothers, John and Peter Murray; and son-in-law Jerry Stringfellow. Survivors include her husband of 71 years, Clifford H. Stern Sr.; three children: Cliff Stern Jr. (Paula), Robert Stern (Gail), Cheryl Spencer (Mike); Sisters: Grace Murray, Jeannie Krupocin (Anthony); 8 grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren; 6 great-great-grandchildren; and many extended family members.

Viewing was on April 19, 2017 from 5-7, and her Funeral Service was held on April 20th, 2017 at 10:00 AM, both at Arlington Park Funeral Home on Lone Star Road.

As an expression of sympathy, donations may be mailed to:
 The Alzheimer's Foundation of America
 322 Eighth Ave., 7th floor
 New York, NY 10001.

Happy Mother's Day to all of the ladies in our church, whether you are a mother biologically, by adoption, or in spirit! Let us remember all of our mothers --- in memory of those who have gone before us, in honor of those with us, and in anticipation of those to come! Thank you!!!!

M is for the many prayers she prayed for me

O is for others she witnessed to

T is for the tithe she taught me to give

H is for her hunger for The Word

E means every Sunday spent in worship

R means righteous service for the Lord

Put them all together they spell mother,
A word that means God's angels to me.



All of our mothers (and everyone who ever had a mother) are invited to our Mother's Day Luncheon on Saturday, May 13th, at 12:00 Noon in Wesley Hall. The luncheon is being hosted by Faith's United Methodist Women and United Methodist Youth Fellowship. We hope you will join us. World Relief will be providing the program. Donations will be accepted, with proceeds going to World Relief.

The celebration of Mother's Day can be traced back to ancient Greece, but the mother of Mother's Day in the United States was Ann Marie Reeves Jarvis, a Methodist from West Virginia. Her daughter, Anna, heard her mother express hope that a memorial would be established for all mothers, living and dead. After Ann's death on May 9, 1905, Anna began an intense campaign to fulfill the wish of her mother.

On May 10, 1908, the third anniversary of Ann's death, a program was held at Andrews Methodist Episcopal Church in Grafton and in Philadelphia, launching the observance of a general memorial day for all mothers. Subsequently, the church observed Mother's Day on the second Sunday of May each year.

For the first official Mother's Day service in 1908, Anna sent 500 white carnations to the church to be given to the participating mothers. During the next several years, she sent more than 10,000 carnations -- red for the living and white for the deceased -- became symbols of the purity, strength and endurance of motherhood.

In 1914, the U.S. House and Senate approved a resolution proclaiming the second Sunday of May as Mother's Day and President Woodrow Wilson endorsed it.

Today, countries around the world celebrate Mother's Day. Some -- including Finland, Italy, Turkey, Australia and Belgium -- have joined the United States in observing it on the second Sunday in May.





Update from Cuba:

Our sister church - Martin Perez- thanks everyone for the monies and medicines we sent earlier this year. They were able to purchase a keyboard and microphone for use during their worship services. They wrote:

"The congregation is very happy with this and it sends greetings for all. You and your family, the Pastor Barry, and the Church mates in Jacksonville they will always be in our prayers to God. Greetings for all, your Cuban family."

Please remember them in your prayers.

Thank You
FOR
GIVING
GENEROUSLY

Your generous Easter Offering has been split between the Children's Home and our Youth Fund. Your gifts will help offset camp fees and general expenses they incur. Thank you very much!

Heritage Sunday is a day for United Methodist congregations to reflect on our heritage, to celebrate where the church has been, how it understands itself as it shapes us today and the meaning of Christian conferencing. Heritage Sunday is to be observed on April 23 (the date in 1968 of the church union that created The United Methodist Church) or the Sunday following that date (this year it was delayed until May 21, 2017 because of the late Easter season). This Sunday is designated by the General Conference as a day for the church to remember the pastor by committing itself to the continuing call of God.

May is **Christian Home Month**. For great ideas on ways to worship and things to do with your family, see http://www.umc.org/what-we-believe/tips-for-better-family-time-during-christian-home-month?utm_source=email-JM146&utm_medium=button&utm_term=&utm_content=newsletter&utm_campaign=UMN-M0117&mkt_tok=eyJpIjoiWkRnNU9HSTFNMIV4TUdJMCIsInQiOiJycVhTckVHUkxBKzNZeE5MbExxOThaamxQaVdLQnNzMnZITEZhYitob2dwc0taNTRvVzVRaVhBb2U1RWs1cCt5UHFmaEx6KzRvQTBiM3pSWFVtZVE0YVwvMk9XWkZuMStDS2ZiMFwvVU91NDFpaU1ibHozT3padlB1b2pPcU1mUU4xl n0%3D.

Hilarious Christian Jokes

Someone recently suggested that we have some jokes in the newsletter. I will not reveal the name of this person so you won't blame them for the jokes below. Here goes...

In the beginning, God created the earth and rested.
Then God created Man and rested.
Then God created Woman.
Since then, neither God nor Man has rested.

As the storm raged, the captain realized his ship was sinking fast. He called out, "Anyone here know how to pray?" One man stepped forward. "Aye, Captain, I know how to pray." "Good," said the captain, "you pray while the rest of us put on our life jackets - we're one short."

Father O'Malley answers the phone. "Hello, is this Father O'Malley?"
"It is"
"This is the IRS. Can you help us?"
"I can"
"Do you know a Ted Houlihan?"
"I do"
"Is he a member of your congregation?"
"He is"
"Did he donate \$10,000 to the church?"
"He will".

Little Johnny's new baby brother was screaming up a storm.
Johnny asked his mom, "Where'd he come from?"
"He came from heaven, Johnny."
Johnny responded: "Wow! I can see why they threw him out!"

Q: Why do they say 'Amen' at the end of a prayer instead of 'Awomen'?
A: The same reason they sing Hymns instead of Hers!

A teacher asked the children in her Sunday School class, "If I sold my house and my car, had a big garage sale and gave all my money to the church, would I get into heaven?"

"NO!" the children all answered.

"If I cleaned the church every day, mowed the yard, and kept everything neat and tidy, would I get into heaven?"

Again, the answer was "NO!"

"Well," she continued, "then how can I get to heaven?"

In the back of the room, a five-year-old boy shouted out, "You gotta be dead!"

Read more at <http://www.beliefnet.com/ilovejesus/features/hilarious-christian-jokes.aspx?p=13#LhFF9sHJhHhHqHqC.99>



**Women of the Bible
Search-A-Word**

- Abigail
- Ashtoreth
- Athaliah
- Bathsheba
- Concubine
- Deborah
- Dinah
- Elizabeth
- Esther
- Hadassah
- Handmaid
- Issue of Blood
- Jael
- Jezebel
- Judith
- Leah
- Lois
- Lydia
- Martha
- Mary of Nazareth
- Miriam
- Naomi
- Orpah
- Peninnah
- Priscilla
- Prostitute
- Queen Vashti
- Rebecca
- Rebekah
- Ruth
- Samaritan Women
- Sapphira
- Sarai
- Shulamite Woman

All the names listed to the left can be found in the puzzle below – left, right, up, down or diagonally. Find each name in the puzzle and circle it below. The leftover letters in the correct order to form a mystery answer.

L	H	A	K	E	B	E	R	E	S	T	H	E	R	I
I	A	R	A	S	H	T	E	B	A	Z	I	L	E	S
A	N	A	M	O	W	E	T	I	M	A	L	U	H	S
G	N	E	A	R	I	H	P	P	A	S	M	A	A	U
I	I	Y	T	A	D	E	B	O	R	A	H	A	S	E
B	N	T	J	U	D	I	T	H	I	M	T	H	S	O
A	E	M	H	H	T	E	R	O	T	H	S	A	A	F
T	P	R	I	S	C	I	L	L	A	T	I	N	D	B
H	A	H	T	R	A	M	T	L	N	U	O	D	A	L
S	N	A	O	M	I	V	I	S	W	R	L	M	H	O
H	T	E	R	A	Z	A	N	F	O	Y	R	A	M	O
E	D	I	N	A	H	A	M	E	M	R	E	I	G	D
B	C	O	N	C	U	B	I	N	E	L	P	D	D	E
A	C	C	E	B	E	R	L	E	N	U	J	A	E	L
A	I	D	Y	L	E	B	E	Z	E	J	Q	N	H	R