

The *South Georgia* Conference
Northwest District

Northwest District Office
The United Methodist Church
1022 B - Second Avenue
Columbus, Georgia 31901
Phone 706-561-4541
Edwin M.(Buddy) Cooper, Jr.
District Superintendent
R. Lawson Bryan, Bishop



Dooly Camp Meeting

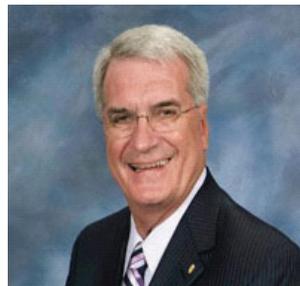
Sunday, September 24 - Thursday, September 28, 2017

Join us for Old Time Religion Camp Meeting 2017

in a historic tabernacle on Dooly Campground

Located at 21 Parsonage Road in Vienna, GA 31092

Preacher: Rev. Henry Bass, South Central District Superintendent



Rev. Henry C. Bass was born in Athens, AL, and grew up in a small country church in nearby Tanner, AL. Those formative years provided the foundation for Rev. Bass' faith enabling him to become a disciple for Jesus Christ. He is married to Jane Ellen Bryan, and they are the parents of four living children, ten grandchildren, and eight great-grandchildren.

Rev. Bass was employed by Monsanto Chemical Textile Company in Decatur, Alabama for thirteen years before answering God's call to go into ministry. After receiving that call, he received his B. A. degree in Religion and Philosophy from Birmingham Southern College in Birmingham, AL, and the Master of Divinity degree from Candler School of Theology at Emory University in Atlanta, GA. In 1978, he entered the ministry in the North Alabama Conference and served several appointments. In 1989, he transferred to the South Georgia Conference and has served churches in Doerun, Alamo, Alma, College Place (Brunswick), Blakely, Jesup, Vidalia, and Cairo. He has also served on numerous district and conference committees, as well as being involved in civic organizations in the areas where he has served. He began his appointment as a District Superintendent in June of 2010 and served as the Valdosta District DS until June of 2014, and is now serving as the South Central District Superintendent.

Rev. Bass has been involved in mission projects throughout his career having led work teams to Chile, South America, the Virgin Islands, and Costa Rica in addition to a number of projects in the United States. Rev. Bass enjoys traveling, playing golf, and the beach. He is very people oriented and never meets a stranger.



Annual Conference is a special time to celebrate the commissioning of provisional elders and the ordaining into the Order of Elder. Four persons were commissioned as provisional elders. Two persons were ordained into the Order of Elder. The Northwest District had two ministers commissioned as provisional elders, Jerry Akin, Pastor, Buena Vista UMC, far right, and John Grantham, Wynnton UMC Associate Pastor, first on left.

District Cares and Concerns

The family of **Dr. Buddy Cooper** appreciates your prayers and asks that you continue to lift them up as Buddy begins his Cardio Rehab today.

Our sympathy to Gail Grantham on the death of her sister, Glenda Poole Warner, on June 18, 2017, at Magnolia Manor in Columbus. Graveside service and interment were June 22, at Parkhill Cemetery in Columbus. Visitation was June 21, 5:00-7:00 p.m. at Striffler Hamby Mortuary on Macon Road. She and her husband, Reggie Warner, were members of St. Luke United Methodist Church in Columbus. Glenda worked at the South Georgia Conference Council on Ministries at Epworth By The Sea in the 1970s and 1980s.

•Grown Up Summer Camp with Andy Offutt Irwin Epworth By The Sea July 28–30, 2017

Numerous outdoor adventures: kayaking, horseback riding on the beach, fishing, bike tour, zip lining, paddle board.
Full service gym available. Join loggerhead turtle hatchling watch. Enjoy a sunset cruise on a working shrimp
Beginners to seasoned participants encouraged! Details: www.epworthbythesea.org or call 912-638-8968

2017-2018 Sexual Ethics Workshops

In the South Georgia Conference, any person serving under appointment by the bishop is required to attend a Sexual Ethics workshop every three years. For more information or to register, visit www.sgaumc.org/sexualethicsworkshops

- Thursday, **September 21, 2017**-Tifton UMC 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
- Saturday, **January 20, 2018**, Camilla First UMC 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
- Thursday, **February 15, 2018**, Epworth By The Sea, Nalls Building 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, **April 10 2018**, Vineville UMC, Macon 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Northwest District Ministers due for Sexual Ethics Workshop b Annual Conference 2018 are:

Jeremy Alexander, Gayle Alston, Tony Caldwell, Earnestine Campbell, David Carter, Paul Coats, Buddy Cooper, Jr., Tony Crosby, Ciondy Garrard, Shane Green, John Homer, Lance Kindred, Dennis Lanning, Jimmy McIlrath, Gary Page, J. Brooks Partain, Noel Perez, Emery Ramsey, Mark Sasser, Dennis, Stalvey,, Scott Tucker, John Allen Walker, David Warlick, Michael Webb, Roy White, and Reginald Williams.

Epworth By The Sea "Special Summer Offering" Request

Epworth-time is a blessing to people of all ages.

Your gifts will be applied as most needed for the improvement, operations, and related programs or to build up the endowment funds that support the operation of Epworth By The Sea. Any specific donor restrictions will be fully honored. You will receive no goods or services in exchange for your donation.

Make Checks payable to: Epworth By The Sea - Memo: Summer Offering. Mail to:

Epworth By The Sea

P. O. Box 20407 St. Simons Island, GA 31533



PATHWAYS

Saturday, August 26

Trinity UMC, Warner Robins, GA

Vibrant, relevant, practical teaching and training will help equip you to become healthier and to fulfill the mission of making disciples of Jesus Christ. For more information and to register, visit www.sgaumc.org/pathways.

L.R.E. Training Weekends

Loving, Relating and Encouraging

Proactive Ministries

Jim Hollis

Round #2 of District Training Experiences on: Missional Outreach - L.R.E. (Loving Relating and Encouraging others both in and beyond our congregations).

Host Churches, Host Pastors & Dates of Training - Round #2:

1. Vienna UMC - Pastor Daryl Brown/August 11-12 (Friday and Saturday)
2. Upatoi UMC - Pastor Sam Vernon/August 18-19 (Friday and Saturday)
3. Americus FUMC - Pastor Jerry Roe/August 25-26 (Friday and Saturday)

Times for Round #2 - Missional Outreach - L.R.E.

Friday:

5:30 p.m. - Prayer in Sanctuary (Everyone invited)

6:00 - 7:00 p.m. - Dinner for everyone

7:00 - 7:40 p.m. - Discussions around the tables

7:50-9:00 p.m. - Worship Celebration Service

Saturday:

8:00 - 8:45 a.m. - Breakfast for everyone

9:00 - 12:30 p.m. - Teaching Session (Missional Outreach Ministry)

12:30 - 1:00 p.m. - Lunch for everyone

1:00 - 1:30 p.m. - Organizing Outreach Teams

1:30 - 1:40 p.m. - Break and coordinate cars

1:45 - 2:45 p.m. - Missional Outreach around Host Church area

2:45 - 3:00 p.m. - Teams prepare to share about their visits

3:00 - 3:45 p.m. - Sharing and Prayer Time with all Teams

3:45 - 4:30 - What's next for us back home? Next Steps . .

2017 Northwest District Conference Schedule

<u>Cluster</u>	<u>Conference Location</u>	<u>Conference Date</u>	<u>Conference Time</u>
1	St. Peter	October 8	4:00 p.m.
2	Marshallville	October 15	4:00 p.m.
3	Buena Vista	October 22	4:00 p.m.
4	Vienna	September 10	4:00 p.m.
5	Dawson	December 3	4:00 p.m.
6	Cuthbert	November 19	4:00 p.m.
7	Wynnton	November 12	4:00 p.m.
8	South Columbus	November 5	4:00 p.m.

If your church needs a separate charge conference it will be scheduled for the week of your Cluster Conference.

Cluster 1

Hamilton
Cataula
Bigham's Chapel
Ellerslie
Waverly Hall
Epworth
Pierce Chapel (Howard
White,
St. Mark Elder)
St. Peter
St. Paul
Striplin Terrace
The Ridge

Cluster 2

Wesley Chapel
Powersville
Ideal
Oglethorpe
Pine Level
Montezuma
Bethel
Walker's Chapel
Byron
Roberta
Dixon
Fort Valley (Doug Mays,
Elder)
Marshallville

Cluster 3

Bethel
Brantley
Tazewell
Union
Buena Vista (Jerry Akin,
Elder)
Butler
Charing
Howard
Mauk
Wesley
Union
Reynolds
Crowell

Cluster 4

Byromville
Drayton
Unadilla
Pinehurst
Vienna (Daryl Brown,
Elder)
Shiloh
Andrew Chapel
County Line
Leslie
DeSota
Ellaville
Corinth
Concord
Hopewell

Cluster 5

Americus First (Jerry Roe,
Elder)
Andersonville
Bronwood
Smithville
Concord
Dawson
Graves
Lee Street
Morningside
Parrott
Plains
Preston
Salem (Americus)
Sasser

Devoted Dozen

Mt. Olive
Cuthbert (Susan Beverly,
Elder)
Georgetown
Sharon
Union
Lumpkin
Sardis
Wesley Chapel
Richland
Shellman
Stephen's Chapel

Fall Line Cluster

Upatoi (Sam Vernon,
Elder)
Box Springs
Talbotton
Collinsworth
Corinth
Olive Branch
Evan's Chapel
Matthew's Chapel
Midland
Wynnton

Cluster 8

Cusseta
Marvin
Asbury
Living Grace
M. L. Harris
Midway
Rose Hill
South Columbus (Reggie
St. Luke Williams,
Elder)
St. Mary's Road
East Highland

The Eight Coordinating Elders

Cluster 1	Rev. Howard White	5122 Pierce Chapel Road Midland 31820 HWhite 8723@aol.com	706-327-9807
Cluster 2	Rev. Doug Mays	P O Box 1258 Fort Valley 31030 pastorfvumc@gmail.com	478-825-2762
Cluster 3	Rev. Jerry Akin	P O Box 449 Buena Vista 31803 jerryakin@icloud.com	229-373-0491
Cluster 4	Rev. Daryl Brown	313 Church Street Vienna 31092 revdwbrown@gmail.com	229-268-4207
Cluster 5	Rev. Jerry Roe	200 S. Lee Street Americus 31709 pastorjerry@FUMCAmericus.com	229-924-3169
Cluster 6	Rev. Susan Beverly	P O Box 449 Cuthbert 39840 smbbev@aol.com	229-732-2582
Cluster 7	Rev. Sam Vernon	137230 Road Upatoi 431829 samvernon19@gmail.com	706-561-0433
Cluster 8	Rev. Reggie Williams	1213 Benning Drive Columbus 31903 pastorreggie04@gmail.com	706-689-5094



Growing Generosity

SOWING SEEDS OF FAITH FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

GUMF Launches Growing Generosity

Is your church looking to grow a culture of generosity? Check out the Georgia United Methodist Foundation's new monthly eNewsletter, Growing Generosity at: <http://www.gumf.org/growing-generosity-july-2017>. Please feel free to use these "tips" in your church newsletter or bulletin, on your website, or in other communications. Sign up today at <http://www.gumf.org/stay-connected/to> have it delivered directly to your inbox. For more information please contact GUMF at 770-449-6726,

Mark your calendars . . .

GA-PAUMCS Annual Conference "A Journey to Higher Learning"
LaGrange First UMC, 401 Broad Street
Thursday – Sunday, September 21 – 24, 2017

We have an exciting workshop planned (learning, laughing, & playing), and hope you will be able to attend. There is information about the conference in the newsletter and the brochure will give you the complete schedule for the conference, <http://ga-paumcs.org/>. If you can attend, please print out the Registration Form, complete it and return with your Registration Fee. Or you may register on-line at www.ga-paumcs.org. If you have any questions for online registration, please contact Lesley Baskette, lesley@umcommission.org.

***P**rofessional **A**dministrators of the **U**nited **M**ethodist **C**onnectional **S**tructure



Epworth UMC youth minister Adam McNeil, Audrey, and Epworth UMC pastor Rev. Crosby stand in front of Audrey's new 2013 Ford Focus

The congregation came to know and love Audrey and her family when they met and welcomed them more than a year ago. The parents became involved in a Sunday school class and Audrey is active in the youth group. Audrey, now 17 and a standout rising senior at Columbus High School, has a job at Burger King and needs a car to get back and forth to school, work, and church. She was also the only family member able to drive, and provided transportation for errands, to doctor's appointments, and everything else.

The church has loved and supported the family, especially the children, through an incredibly rough season in their lives, Rev. Crosby said. When church members learned that the transmission in 16-year-old Audrey's* 2002 Jeep Liberty had blown and her family couldn't afford to have it fixed they jumped in and offered to pay for the repairs. When it was determined that the repairs would cost more than the vehicle was worth, \$2,500 was given toward the purchase of a new car.

Word of her need quickly spread through the congregation and more money poured in. Checks for \$50, \$100, \$350 and more arrived on Rev. Tony Crosby's desk, and he was amazed at the outpouring of support and love. "It wasn't just four or five people who did this," he said. "This was a lot of people that together made this happen." Enough was raised to buy a decent used car, and a few folks volunteered to begin the search. After exhaustive online searching and a trip to Atlanta they decided that a few thousand dollars more were needed to get the kind of car they wanted Audrey to have. Several more donors gave generously, and when all the money was counted it totaled \$9,550.

On Wednesday, June 14, Audrey, Rev. Crosby, and youth minister Adam McNeil visited Rivertown Toyota Used Car and handed Audrey the keys to a sporty, red, 2013 Ford Focus with 30,000 miles. The reliable and new-to-her car will help Audrey safely get back and forth to school and, in the near future, college.

**Audrey's last name has been omitted for anonymity.*

Pastor's School

Monday, Georgia July 17, 2017 to Thursday, July 20, 2017

Epworth By The Sea

Georgia Pastor's School provides inspiration, education, fellowship, fun and relaxation for North and South Georgia clergy and their families. The school is supported by the tuition of attendees, an endowment established by the board of managers, an annual gift from the North Georgia Conference, and the generous contributions of our sponsors who provide refreshments during breaks and fellowship times.

Early Response Team (ERT) Basic Certification and Care Team Training

Two simultaneous UMCOR sponsored training events

Saturday, July 8 at Trinity on the Hill UMC in Augusta from 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m.

Class 1: Early Response Team Basic Certification Class. Contact Eric Long TimothyLong82@gmail.com

Class 2: Disaster Emotional and Spiritual Care Team Training. Contact Rev. Chip Wilson

chip.wilson@ngumc.net or 706-836-4500

It is about people lives being changed!

We have a goal to increase our average weekly worship by 10%
by January 2018.

That is what we call a WIG (Wildly Important Goal)!

It means we would go from 49,424 people in January 2016
to 54,366 people in worship in January 2018.

Here is how that breaks down by Districts:

Coastal District average worship attendance goes up by **1,167 people.**

North Central District grows by **1,094 people.**

Northeast District grows by **639 people.**

Northwest District grows by **733 people.**

South Central District grows by **655 people.**

Southwest District grows by **655 people.**

That is 4,943 people whose lives will be changed!

My hope is that this goal will inspire us and not discourage us. That it will motivate us to try new things and discover new ways to share the Good News with people that really need some good news.

Let's continue to find ways to keep this goal before us and constantly look for practical action steps that we can take toward making it a reality. This is a game changer!

In the days ahead we will be rolling out more tangible opportunities offered by Congregational Development. Please keep us in mind as you discover opportunities in your district. WE WANT TO HELP!

The Northwest District Office will close June 29, at 2:00 p. m. for the July 4th Holiday and reopen July 10 at 9:00 a.m.