Greenwood District

SOUTH CAROLINA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
REV. DR. STEPHEN L. LOVE, DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT

We are looking forward to seeing you!!

2016 Annual Set-up Meeting
Thursday, August 18, 2016
6:30 p.m.
St. Mark UMC, Rivers St. Campus
1633 Rivers St.
Greenwood, SC 29649

Meal Reservation Forms have been mailed to all pastors. The deadline for reservations is Monday, August 15. Cost is $15 per person. (Make checks payable to Greenwood District Office and mail to PO Box 49968, Greenwood, SC 29649) Pastors who are new to the district and their spouses will be guests of the district.

Spouses, this is the time of your annual business meeting so we are looking forward to seeing you on the 18th.

Please remember that everyone under appointment is expected to attend this required clergy meeting. If extenuating circumstances prevent your attendance, you are to send an email to Rev. Love (gwdist@umcsc.org) explaining the reason for your absence and requesting to be excused. A make-up session will be held later in August.
Celebrations

August 2: Heather Evans (Mike)
August 15: Martha Alewine (Barrett)
August 16: Ken Carter
        Stephen Love
August 17: Karen Bowling (R.T.)
        Jimmy Counts
August 29: Jim Dennis
August 30: Paul Wood

August 7: Phil and Lori Thrailkill
August 22: Scott and Frances Nurse
August 23: Jerry and Becky Pickens
August 24: Tyler and Lauren Strange
August 29: R. T. and Karen Bowling

Bishop’s School of Ministry

This year’s School of Ministry is set for September 6-8 at the Sheraton in Myrtle Beach. Registration is now open and can be accessed on the Conference web page. You can also make your room reservations online. The theme this year is Making Space for God to Work. The keynote speakers are Mark Tidsworth and Jim Griffith. Full details are on the Conference web page.

Looking Ahead

Connectional Ministries, September 20.
District Committee on Ordained Ministry, September 20
Greenwood District UMW Annual Meeting, September 24
Lay Servant Ministry School, October 23 & 30
Bishop’s Power of Love Tour, November 12
District Ministry Team

The District Ministry Team will meet on **Monday, August 15, 6:30 p.m.**, at the District Office.

Members of the Committee include Rev. Barrett Alewine, Rev. R. T. Bowling, III, Rev. Sandra King, Rev. Jim Arant, Rev. Bobby Gilbert, Rev. Brian Rainwater, Rev. Tyler Strange, Mr. Michael Keltz, Ms. Cathy Trevino, and Mr. Tony Watson.

District Office Closed August 8-12

We will be closing the district office the week of August 8-12.

Rev. Love will be at the Cabinet Retreat for that week and Martha will be on vacation.

If you have an emergency, you may call Rev. Love’s cell phone, 864-871-7850.

We will respond to voicemail and to email when we re-open for regular business hours on Monday, August 15.

Online Teaching Event—Live from the National School of Congregational Development.

**August 20**
10:00 a.m.—3:30 p.m.

**Journey UMC**
115 Longreen Pkwy.
Columbia SC 29229

The Saturday session is designed to equip worship leaders with tools for the revitalization of corporate worship, particularly through creative and contextual corporate worship design; diverse worship design; techniques for introducing new congregational songs; and ways to build support and consensus around proposed changes.

Click here to register to participate in the session at Journey UMC.

Individual registration is also available if you cannot attend at Journey. Click here for individual registration.

The cost is $29 per participant.
Service of Installation for Rev. Stephen Love

On July 24, Rev. Dr. Stephen L. Love was installed as the 18th District Superintendent of the Greenwood District. The service was held at Main St. UMC in Greenwood. The Rev. R. T. Bowling, III, chair of the District Committee on the Superintendency, led the service.

Special guests included Rev. Love’s wife, Mamie, and their son, Stephen Love, Jr.; Mrs. Love’s mother, Mrs. Minnie Simpson; Rev. Sandra Stevens-Poirel, Charleston District Superintendent; and Rev. Paul Harmon, Spartanburg District Superintendent. Many of Rev. Love’s family and friends were also welcomed as special guests.

The Greenwood District extends special appreciation to the Rev. Phil Thrailkill, pastor of Main St. UMC, and Mrs. Martha Alewine, Greenwood District administrative assistant, for their help in planning the worship service. Special thanks to our presenters: Rev. Tyler Strange, Rev. Alice MacKeil, Rev. Sandra King, Rev. Thessa Smith, Mr. Tony Watson, Mr. Michael Keltz, Ms. Cathy Trevino. We also are grateful to the Main St. UMW and the St. Mark UMW for their assistance with the reception.
More photos are available on the Greenwood District web page: http://greenwood.umcsc.org/home/?p=1093
District Committee on Buildings and Location

This committee will have its organization meeting on Tuesday, August 30, 7:00 p.m., at the district office.

Members of this committee are Ms. Belva Few, Mr. Jim Kelly, Rev. Bill Quarles, Mr. Lewis Lee, Mr. Ted Long, Mr. David Tompkins, and Rev. David Surrett, chair.

A Prayer for this School Year

Our gracious and loving God,

We praise you and give thanks to you for your marvelous creation that you allow us to live in and enjoy. We praise you for our amazing bodies and minds; make us ever aware of all that surrounds us.

We pray that you will be with the students and teachers as this new school year begins. Give them strength for their journey this year; grace and peace as they share in learning together to gain knowledge and wisdom. Grant them patience for their work; love for their classmates and teachers; and eagerness and zeal for their learning.

Father God, make our classrooms and schools places of peace, integrity, understanding, acceptance, and safety for all who enter. We ask you to guide each person in how to be affirming and supportive of others regardless of any differences in looks or opinions. Help everyone to realize and internalize the value of each person encountered in these learning environments.

We ask all these things in the name of your Son, our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.