

# BAYPINES DISTRICT NETWORK

ALABAMA-WEST FLORIDA CONFERENCE

MARCH 2008

251-580-2021

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## Annual Conference to Focus on Leader Development



Written: 2/19/2008

(Montgomery, Ala.) - [Bishop Larry M. Goodpaster](#) announced this week that the 2008 session of the Alabama - West Florida Annual Conference (meeting June 1-4) will focus on leader development and the building of skills to cultivate dynamic, thriving congregations. Two key components of the four day gathering will be sessions devoted to both teaching and learning. The conference theme of *Amazing Love - Great Grace* will be lived out in teaching sessions designed to help participants experience the theme and apply it to their daily lives.

In response to past Annual Conference evaluations and requests from many lay and clergy members of the conference, the schedule this year brings the return of a Bible Study time to begin each morning. [Dr. Lacey Warner](#), Associate Dean for Academic Formation at Duke Divinity School, will teach each morning at 8 a.m. Her areas of expertise are evangelism and Wesleyan theology. She will lead the gathering on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday mornings in "The Biblical and Wesleyan Foundations for Evangelism"

On Tuesday, [Rev. Adam Hamilton](#), Senior Pastor at The United Methodist Church of the Resurrection near Kansas City, will be teaching on leadership and church development. The bulk of the day on Tuesday is reserved for three presentations by Rev. Hamilton, whose books include *Leading Beyond the Walls* and *Unleashing the Word*. He has led Church of the Resurrection since its founding to become one of the truly dynamic congregations in the United Methodist connection.

"I am truly excited to bring these two dynamic persons to the Alabama - West Florida Conference," said Goodpaster. "During our time together, we will grow in our understanding and in our leadership for building *thriving* Acts 2 churches across our conference. The focus on teaching and learning will make this a very different Annual Conference. Obviously, we will tend to the necessary business of the conference, but we will also provide a quality learning environment for lay and clergy members.

"I believe this will enhance our skills and solidify our foundation for growing healthy churches, for reaching new people in the name of Jesus, and for becoming faithful, fruitful leaders."



**LAY SPEAKING  
WORKSHOP  
BLUE LAKE**

**“One in Spirit, All in Ministry:  
In the Spirit of Discipleship”  
April 4– 6, 2008**

Register by March 21, 2008

Take advantage of this special opportunity, in a retreat environment, to learn about this meaningful United Methodist Lay Ministry. Develop skills that meet qualifications for certification as a Certified Lay Speaker and a Local Church Lay Speaker and receive the blessing that comes when you are about God’s work.

This training is for local church lay speakers, certified lay speakers and those interested in becoming lay speakers. Both the basic and advanced course of study will be offered with each being 10 hours of instructions. In addition, the basic course will be offered in Spanish. Instructors include Bishop Goodpaster, Curtis Henderson, Peggy Duck, Gloria Wilson, Rev. Alan McBride, Rev. Phil Craddock, the lay speaking training team from FUMC, Samson, AL and Rev. German and Leticia Gomez, and others. There will also be a training session for teens interested in serving as lay speakers.

Scholarship help may be available through the district. Contact Peggy Duck, District Lay Speaking Coordinator at (251) 964-5344 or [duckhouse@gulftel.com](mailto:duckhouse@gulftel.com) or the district office (251) 580-2021 for more information.

**IRS ANNOUNCES 2008 STANDARD MILEAGE RATES**

Beginning January 1, 2008, the standard mileage rates for the use of a car (including vans and pickup trucks) will be: 50.5 cents per mile for business miles driven; 19 cents per mile driven for medical or moving purposes; and 14 cents per mile driven in service to a charitable organization.

The standard mileage rates are based on an annual study of the fixed and variable costs of operating an automobile.



**Background Checks Available  
Through PACT**

Did you know an average of 30% of potential employees and volunteers misrepresent information about their past? United Methodist Property and Casualty Trust (PACT), in partnership with Track-1 Technology and the Gallagher Religious Practice Group, is pleased to announce comprehensive background checks at a significantly reduced rate for The United Methodist community. Background checks cost between \$9 and \$14.50 per person. The Alabama - West Florida Annual Conference values the importance of a background check program and therefore has paid the setup fee for your church. To get started today contact Rev. Leigh Meekins, at 888-873-3127 or [leigh@awfumc.org](mailto:leigh@awfumc.org).

**Safe Sanctuaries Policy Adopted at  
2008 Annual Conference**

The newly revised and adopted Conference Safe Sanctuaries Policy is now online at [www.awfumc.org/children](http://www.awfumc.org/children). These policies are for Conference Boards and Agencies and their local churches to model their own policy after. For more information contact Rev. Leigh Meekins at Conference Coordinator for Ministries with Children, at 888-873-3127 or [leigh@awfumc.org](mailto:leigh@awfumc.org).



**HELP FOR NEW CHURCH LEADERS!!!**

Are you in a new leadership position at your Church? Do you have questions? Checkout Guidelines! Whether you’re an emerging leader or an experienced one, the easy-to-read, easy-to-follow content of the Guidelines provide you with the practical help you need to succeed in your ministry.

The 26 Guidelines titles cover such church leadership areas as Church Council, Pastor, and Lay Leader/Lay Member; the administrative areas of Finance and Trustees; and ministry areas focused on nurture, outreach, and witness including Worship, Evangelism, age-level ministries and more. Your AWF Conference [Media Resource Center](#) has sets available for rental or you may purchase a set from Cokesbury.

## OLDER ADULT ASSEMBLY 2008

“Join Us On A Land Cruise”  
Thursday, April 24 - Saturday, April 26  
Oakwood Lodge  
Blue Lake United Methodist Assembly  
Cruise Directors:

**Terri Francis and Marti Patterson**  
Sponsored by Alabama West Florida  
Conference

Call Lisa Smith, Registrar, Blue Lake  
at 334-222-5407

Questions about event contact:  
Marti Patterson at 850-678-4411 ext 127  
MPatterson@fumcniceville.org

or

Terri Francis at 334-793-3555 ext 221  
[terri@fumcdothan.org](mailto:terri@fumcdothan.org)

- Cost: • \$105/per person double occupancy  
• \$125/single occupancy  
• \$ 60/per person commuter rate  
– includes all meals.  
• Add \$10/per person after March 24th



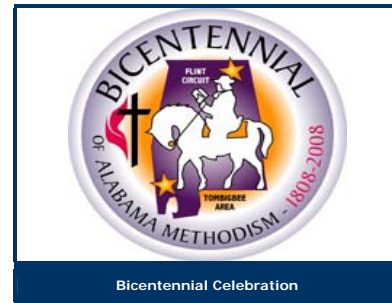
### Updated Media Resource Catalog Now Available

Would you like to try a new Bible study at your church? Check out the resources available through your [AWF Conference Media Resource Center](#) by requesting a free catalog. To request a catalog contact the conference office at 334.356.8014 or [traci@awfumc.org](mailto:traci@awfumc.org) or print a catalog by clicking [here](#) . You may browse the online listings at [www.awfumc.org/mediasourcecenter](http://www.awfumc.org/mediasourcecenter)

March 2008						
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30	31					

### A FREE 2008 Methodist Calendar

is available from the General Board of Discipleship as a pdf download. This calendar shows holidays and Christian special days – excellent for worship planning.  
[www.gbod.org/worship/2008cwrplanningcal.pdf](http://www.gbod.org/worship/2008cwrplanningcal.pdf)



*Methodism Entered Alabama in 1808*

There will be a  
**JOINT CELEBRATION  
OF THIS EVENT WITH  
THE NORTH ALABAMA CONFERENCE**  
March 29, 2008 – 10am-3pm  
Saint James UMC in Montgomery, Alabama  
Dr. Larry Brasher – The Holiness Movement  
Dr. Wilson Fallin – African American Methodists  
Kathryn Tucker Windham – Stories  
  
Singing-Dinner on the Grounds-Souvenirs  
For more information contact the  
Archives Center:  
334-833-4413 or [archives@huntingdon.edu](mailto:archives@huntingdon.edu)

### 2008 AWF Job Fair to Be Held

The Alabama-West Florida Conference of the United Methodist Church is offering a Job Fair on March 1, 2008 for those interested in church and ministry related vocations, including Youth and Children’s Ministers, Directors of Christian Education, Music Ministers and musicians, support staff, Campus Ministers, etc. Representatives of churches among the 738 congregations of the Alabama-West Florida Conference will be on hand at Saint James UMC, Montgomery to meet potential candidates. Questions? Contact Leigh Meekins at [leigh@awfumc.org](mailto:leigh@awfumc.org) or 334-356-8014 or toll-free 1-888-873.3127.



Mark your calendars  
for the  
Annual Dumas Wesley  
Walk for Families  
March 15, 2008



**ALABAMA-WEST FLORIDA CONFERENCE  
BOARD OF GLOBAL MINISTRIES  
DIVISION OF HEALTH & RELIEF**  
Presents  
**EMPOWERING MINISTRIES OF HEALTH**

Saturday, April 19, 2008  
8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Cokesbury United Methodist Church  
Pensacola, Florida

**SPEAKERS INCLUDE**  
**Patricia Maygar, RN, MPH**  
(Executive Secretary Health & Welfare)  
**Rev. Luanne Wages-Smith**  
(Board of Pension and Health Benefits  
Wellness Forum)

Contact:  
Guthrie Childs, RN  
251-342-0781  
email: [gchilds@zebra.net](mailto:gchilds@zebra.net)

Julie Terrell, RN  
850-478-9489  
email: [cdt230@aol.com](mailto:cdt230@aol.com)

“ALL CLERGY, ALL LAITY WELCOME”

### ***Take Five for Freedom***

A Men's Conference with Brad McClain

Friday, March 14 7:00 PM-9:00 PM  
Saturday, March 15 8:00 AM-12:00 PM  
Dauphin Way UMC

Join Brad McClain for this spiritual conference that uses teaching, media, sharing, testimonies, and prayer as a catalyst for spiritual breakthrough. The registration cost is \$15, which includes a spiritual inventory workbook, 35 days of follow-up, and breakfast on Saturday. Call 471-1511 to register.

Rev. Brad McClain serves as Associate Pastor of Dauphin Way UMC and leads “Thank God It’s Sunday,” a service designed to reach unchurched, pre-Christian people. He brings a message of hope to those who are struggling with all sorts of spiritual strongholds, and especially men who have become victims of spiritual identify theft. For more information, email [@bradmclain.net](mailto:bradmclain.net).

### ***Churches Get Your Teams Ready***

***The ASA Benefit Men's Slow Pitch Softball Tournament will take place May 31<sup>st</sup> at the Sports Complex in Daphne. For more information, call Tony Caminiti at 251-928-8585.***



The  
Baypines District  
Network

The United Methodist Church  
Baypines District Office

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*amazing love*  
great grace

*Annual Conference June 1-4, 2008  
Frazer Memorial,  
Montgomery, AL*