

2011 Information for Conference Members and Visitors

Annual Conference Registration

The online process helps conference members register for annual conference, make reservations for meals, order the 2011 North Georgia Conference Journal, pay the \$30 Annual Conference registration fee and all meals requiring payment. No reservations or payment for meals will be accepted at annual conference.

Online registration: click on the orange registration button at this location: <http://www.ngumc.org/ac2011register>.

On-site Registration begins Monday, June 13, 1 - 6 p.m. and continues Tuesday, June 14, 8 a.m.

Lower Level of Foundry Building of Classic Center

Lay – Cypress Room; Clergy – High Shoals Room.

Pick up name badges and meal tickets at either Lay or Clergy registration sites listed above. Payment stations for cash, check or credit card are available in both registration areas on Monday, June 13, 1 – 6 p.m. and Tuesday, June 14, 8 a.m. – noon.

Annual Conference Web Site

Information on the 2011 annual conference session is available on the North Georgia web site: www.ngumc.org/ac2011. Daily audio and video streaming is available from 10:00 a.m. on June 14 through 5:15 p.m., or the close of conference, on June 17, 2011.

Blood Drive

The Red Cross blood drive is scheduled in the Firehall, 12:00 noon – 5:00 p.m., on Wednesday, June 15 and Thursday, June 16. Make your appointment at: www.redcrossblood.org and enter Sponsor Code: ngaconf, or call Athens Red Cross office, 706-546-0681, ext 229.

Cokesbury Book Store

The Cokesbury Book Store, located in the Foundry Building Empire Room 1, offers a selection of books and church supplies for sale.

2011 Conference Journals

The 2011 Conference Journal can be ordered on the conference website www.ngumc.org/journal or during annual conference in the Classic Center Foundry Building Lobby. Orders with payment can also be mailed to: North Georgia Conference, Attention: Journal, Box 102417, Norcross, GA 30368-2417. Cost: \$40 print version; \$20 digital CD version.

Concessions

Concessions located in the Lower Lobby of the 130 Foundry Building open at 7:30 a.m. Lunch can be purchased 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. in the 130 Foundry Building Courtyard and Lower Lobby.

Day Camp and Child Care Providers in Athens

Check the North Georgia Conference website www.ngumc.org for a list of Athens-area child care and day camp providers compiled by the Athens Convention and Visitors Bureau (ACVB). Neither ACVB nor the North Georgia Conference of the United Methodist Church evaluates, advocates, recommends, guarantees, or warrants any of the childcare providers as listed, and neither ACVB nor the North Georgia Conference (UMC) nor their agents shall be liable for any reasons, conditions, situations, or injuries relating to the actions of any such provider or agency. Parents and/or guardians are responsible for selecting caregivers appropriate to the needs of their child(ren) and are solely accountable for any conditions, situations, injuries, or accident resulting from contractual day care agreements during annual conference 2011.

Displays

Display tables are an extension of reports presented at the annual conference session. The displays interpret and celebrate the program ministries of the annual conference. Various conference boards, committees, commissions, councils, teams and related agency displays are located in the Foundry Building lobby, Empire 2 and Willow rooms.

Family Restrooms

The Classic Center family restrooms are located on the upper and lower floors of the Foundry Building. Baby changing stations are located in the men's and women's restrooms located near the Athena Ballroom and the Grand Hall. Baby changing stations are also located in the women's restrooms on each level of the theatre lobby and near the Olympia Room.

Gluten-free Communion Elements

Gluten-free communion elements are available for worship at designated serving stations as announced at the service.

Housing

Members make and confirm housing arrangements directly with hotels in the area. Information is on the North Georgia Conference website <http://www.ngumc.org/ac2011register> or call the Athens Convention/Visitors Bureau, 706-357-4410 or 800-653-0603.

Language Translation

Audio interpretation for Spanish and Korean is available in the Grand Hall. Please contact the appropriate person by Wednesday, June 8.

Spanish: Juan Quintanilla, 678-533-1388, jquintanilla@ngumc.org

Korean: Hyo Kim, 678-533-1448, hyohim07@gmail.com

Message and Information Center

The message and information center is located in the Classic Center at the top of the escalators. Messages are placed on a display board and emergency messages are displayed electronically in the Classic Center Grand Hall. The telephone number for the message center is **706-357-4513**.

2011 Mission Offering

Every 45 seconds, an innocent child in Africa dies of malaria. A loving daughter, a future doctor, a beloved grandson, a best friend—malaria takes more than 1 million lives each year. However, **malaria is preventable, treatable and beatable!** As United Methodists around the world, we are uniting in faith and in works to share the resources that help overcome this devastating disease. **Together, we will empower a continent.** *Imagine No Malaria* is an expression of our Christ-like compassion to heal the sick and help those in need (2 Corinthians 9: 6-7). The 2011 mission offering of our annual conference is dedicated to the *Imagine No Malaria* ministry. We ask you to consider and pray about how many young lives you can impact...lives that you, no doubt, will never know personally, but young lives that you will save. Please give generously.

Bring 2011 mission offerings to the Service of Remembrance at 2:00 p.m., Thursday, June 16.

Offering for Annual Conference Expense

The offering received during worship on Tuesday night, June 14, supports the cost of the 2011 session of the North Georgia Annual Conference.

Parking and Transportation

Parking:

1. Complimentary parking for delegates will be available in parking spaces at the Classic Center, Court House parking deck and the UGA parking deck.
2. Only delegates with state handicap parking permits will be allowed on the bridge leading to the Classic Center parking deck.
3. Parking permits must be displayed so they can be seen in all parking spaces for free parking. The UGA parking deck will accept either a parking permit or a nametag.
4. The upper deck at the Classic Center will be reserved on Thursday, June 16 for retirees. The bridge entrance will be closed to through-traffic until noon on Thursday only.
5. Level one of the Classic Center parking deck will be used for non-conference parking all week during the conference.
6. The bridge to the parking deck will be closed each evening after conference is adjourned beginning Monday night through Thursday night during the conference.
7. Parking at the Classic Center is during the hours of the event. No overnight parking is allowed. Your vehicle may be towed if left overnight.
8. We will have spaces reserved for persons with handicaps during registration on the flat lot behind the 130 Foundry Street building.
9. The spaces in front of the theatre will be reserved for church vans and emergency vehicles.

Transportation:

1. Church vans will be used to transport delegates to and from the UGA parking deck and the Classic Center as needed from 9 a.m. until 6 p.m. They will load and unload in front of the theatre and the lower level of the UGA parking deck on North Thomas Street.
2. Anyone in need of transportation during the conference may go by the message center or call 706-357-4513
3. Foundry Street will be closed all week and a police officer will be on duty all day starting Tuesday until the conference ends on Friday.

Prayer Room

The Conference Prayer Room, located in Athena A, is open 7 a.m. – 9 p.m. beginning Tuesday, June 14, 2011. A labyrinth will also be available daily in the Conference Prayer Room for personal prayer and meditation following morning Holy Communion. The labyrinth is a path of prayer, a walking meditation, and a ‘watering hole for the spirit’ that has been used in the Christian church since the 4th Century. The labyrinth is provided by Harmony Grove UMC in Lilburn.

Prayer Walk

During the lunch break on Wednesday, June 15, and Thursday, June 16, walk around downtown Athens or utilize the indoor track at Athens First UMC. Walk for your own health and to pray for the community. Walk at your leisure.

Quest Diagnostics Blueprint for Wellness for Clergy

June 14-16 6:30 a.m.-10 a.m. Athens Classic Center, Parthenon 2

This comprehensive and confidential screening is part of your HealthFlex wellness benefits that assesses your risk for heart disease, diabetes and other common health issues. All participants and spouses covered by any HealthFlex plan are eligible to take the screening at no out-of-pocket cost. Participants enrolled in Virgin HealthMiles will earn \$100 HealthCash.

Please note, you must preregister at least three weeks in advance to enjoy the convenience of the on-site screening at the Athens Classic Center. Register by calling 1-866-908-9440. Identify your employer or group as “The United Methodist Church” or “HealthFlex.” You may also register online by visiting www.gbophb.org and log into HealthFlex/WebMD. Select “Quest Diagnostics” under HealthFlex.

Registration Fee

Standing Rule E.7. states a \$30.00 registration fee shall be assessed for each lay and active clergy delegate to the North Georgia Annual Conference. Retired clergy and youth members are exempt from the assessment. Members may pay the registration fee online at <http://www.ngumc.org/ac2011register> or onsite at lay and clergy registration in the Foundry Building.

Request for Video Duplication

Duplicated DVDs are not available for the 2011 Annual Conference Session. Please log on to www.ngumc.org/2011ACVIDEO for viewable and downloadable segments and celebrations of the 2011 annual conference.

Run/Walk – 5th Annual North Georgia Conference 5K Run/Walk

Join us early on Wednesday morning, June 15, at 6:30 a.m. The race route starts on Washington Street, a block from the Classic Center and runs through downtown and down the Oconee River Greenway, finishing behind the Classic Center. Proceeds benefit the North Georgia Housing and Homeless Council. You may also register for the 5K, either as a participant or a phantom runner, when you register for Annual Conference. The race registration form is at www.nghhc.org/5K. If you register online through active.com, you will have to pay a \$3.00 processing fee. Registration is \$20. This year there will be no race day registration. You can pick up your shirt and number at the Housing and Homeless Council display on Tuesday, June 14. For more information, please contact Virginia Tinsley, 678-533-1370 or director@nghhc.org.

Safety

Please be aware that Athens is an urban city. Use caution after dark, do not walk alone or leave valuables visible in parked/locked cars.

Special Needs and Medical Care

Direct special needs requests to the Message Center located in the Classic Center at the top of the escalators.

First aid and medical care is located in the lower level escalator lobby during sessions held in the Grand Hall. First aid is located in the Theater lobby main level for the evening service on Wednesday. Contact the Message and Information Center for directions or assistance.

2011 Annual Conference Session Survey

The North Georgia Annual Conference Planning Committee would like to hear your feedback concerning your experience of the 2011 Annual Conference Session. Please take a few minutes to fill out a brief survey found at www.ngumc.org/session-survey.

Tote Bags - Handbook Supplemental Reports

Supplemental reports are provided in a packet of materials at registration. The conference appreciates The United Methodist Children's Home for providing the tote bags and all the volunteers for collating the materials into packets.

Wireless Internet Access

Unsupported wireless internet service is available throughout the Classic Center except in the Grand Hall.