

Monday Morning in North Georgia

Official Newsletter of the North Georgia Conference UMC



KEEPING *You* INFORMED



Beloved Bishop Dies

Following a massive stroke on Tuesday, January 7, Bishop Joel McDavid passed away Wednesday morning. From 1980-1984, he served as Bishop of the Atlanta Area (which was comprised of the North and South Georgia Conferences). He had been the episcopal leader in Florida for the previous eight years.

He was a warm, personable individual who was loved by laity and clergy alike. Always a gracious gentleman, he handled difficult and sometimes tension-filled situations with seeming ease and appropriate caring. He could be firm and make tough decisions but never lose his pleasant demeanor.

By his encouragement, a giant step in development was accomplished at the Simpsonwood Conference and Retreat Center. A capital funds crusade beginning in 1982 raised monies and pledges to construct the Rollins Center (including meeting rooms and food service) and two lodges. Bishop McDavid appointed Simpsonwood's first Executive Director, Jack Bozeman, in 1984. In appreciation of his leadership, one of the new lodges was named the McDavid Lodge. After his retirement, Bishop McDavid continued as an active board member.

For eight years, he was bishop in residence at Candler School of Theology. Numerous students benefited from his instruction and wisdom. A lasting gift is the assistance he gave Candler in producing scholarships and financial aid.

Following his years in Atlanta, he returned to Dauphin Way Church in Mobile to be the bishop in residence. He had been Senior Pastor there when elected to the episcopacy in 1972.

Few are those persons who possess the warmth, the affability, the insight, the leadership, and the courage of a Joel McDavid. All of us who worked with him knew that any conversation was as friend with friend. Thanks go to God for sending him our way!

Ed Tomlinson



Superintendent Spotlight: Rev. Martha Forrest

Martha Forrest has served the Atlanta-College Park District for five years. She oversees fifty-four churches – many of which are among the largest in North Georgia.

Martha is originally from North Carolina where she grew up in United Methodist parsonages. She earned a degree in English at Duke University. Later, she went to Emory's Candler School of Theology. She knew she wanted to become a pastor during her undergraduate years. Before coming to the Atlanta College Park District, Martha was pastor at Haygood Church for five years and at Cedar Grove for over 13 years.

As a superintendent, Martha's main interest is on cross-racial issues. She sees church as family and enjoys ministering to others. One of her greatest challenges is in managing the language barrier among the different church communities. Martha truly "loves what she does," and believes the urban problems pose opportunities for her ministry. They encourage her to assess the needs of others and combat the issues with positive long-term answers.

Martha follows the motto "persistence counts." It reflects in her district's outreach projects and programs. One of the most newest efforts in College Park has been the integration of two churches, one primarily black and the other white, into one united church family. She believes her greatest reward is when her district

- ◆ **January 13**
Athens District Clergy Meeting - Winterville UMC - 6:00 PM
- ◆ **January 13**
Rome Carrollton District Clergy Meeting - Hope UMC, Dallas, GA - 9:00 AM
- ◆ **January 14**
Atlanta Roswell District Training Event - Mt. Carmel UMC - 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM
- ◆ **January 17**
CF&A Audit Committee Meeting - United Methodist Center, The Davis Conference Room - 10:00 AM
- ◆ **January 18**
Athens-Elberton District Clergy Workshop on Depression - Tuckston UMC - 9:00 AM - 12:00 NOON

◆ [Click Here](#) for Complete Conference Calendar and Detailed info about Upcoming Events.

Retired Spouses and Clergy Birthdays

- ◆ **January 13**
Ken Fuller
- ◆ **January 14**
Lillian Gray O'Bryant
- ◆ **January 15**
Diane Busby
Maxine Hamm
Winnie Hoover
Jackie Smith
- ◆ **January 17**
Inez Fears
- ◆ **January 19**
Dean Kring
Betty Jane McNeil
- ◆ **January 20**
Thomas E. Fowler
Ed Nelson
- ◆ **January 21**
Betty Sue Cauthen

matches either two different church communities or a church and a pastor together to create a unified community.

A recent outreach program is the utilization of local churches as safe houses where children in DFCS and young adult prostitutes can visit their parents more often and in a controlled environment. Martha believes that these outreach emphases "help us not lose sight of the human aspect of the ministry." Her district has supported the growth and change in the community by spearheading several new positive programs and projects for youth as well as their families.

Martha's involvement with the community is extremely important to her. She is a board member for Simpsonwood Conference and Retreat Center, Wesley Woods, the North Georgia United Methodist Foundation, and the past chair of the Council on Finance and Administration. She also feels honored that she was the nominee from North Georgia for election to the episcopacy at the past two Southeastern Jurisdictional Conferences.

Martha and her husband, Bob, have lived in the Atlanta area for 30 years. Married for over 41 years, they have three children and 3 grandchildren. Her mother and father (a retired United Methodist pastor) are both in their late 80's and reside in North Carolina.

<p>Contact Us click here to e-mail Ed Tomlinson, Editor click here to e-mail Mark Nugent, Assoc</p> <p>Click here for Job Opportunities found on the North Georgia Conference Web Page.</p>	<p>Lectionary Scriptures, NKJV Sunday, January 19, 2003 2nd Sunday After Epiphany - Green Psalm 139: 1-6, 13-18 (UMH 854) 1 Samuel 3: 1-10 (11-20) 1 Corinthians 6: 12-20 John 1: 43-51</p>
<p>Click here to get the PRINT EDITION of this week's issue. Adobe Acrobat File 105k Archived Articles DS Spotlight Archives</p> <p>Click here to get the Classified Section of the current Wesleyan Christian Advocate.</p>	<p>Daily Bible Readings The following readings will take you through the entire Bible in a Year. We have updated this link to provide you with even more information about your daily Scripture Readings. Click here</p>

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