

Week of August 26th - September 1st, 2002

Vol. II, Issue 34

Monday Morning in North Georgia

Official Newsletter of the North Georgia Conference UMC



KEEPING *You* INFORMED

Counted On or Counted?

SunTrust Banks have recently been doing an ad campaign which touts the availability of their branches. One set of billboards indicates that there are more SunTrust Banks than Waffle Houses. Truly, it seems that Waffle Houses are around every corner and would be a good measure of visibility and quick access. Yet, SunTrust says their banks are more numerous. But, let me tell you an interesting fact – namely, there are more United Methodist Churches in North Georgia than SunTrust Banks and Waffle Houses together! With almost a thousand churches, you could throw in a few additional banks for good measure.

Did you know that in some North Georgia counties the percentage of United Methodists is larger than any other protestant denomination? Our Annual Conference's growth has been the largest in the entire denomination over the past twenty years. Yes, we have grown faster in the last couple of years than the population.

There are more large churches in North Georgia than any other Conference and most continue to grow. To be sure, some of our churches are so barren and inactive that it would take about forty of them to equal the activity around a normal Waffle House.

With the power of our numbers, our growth, and our presence, what a difference we can make in our state and in our own communities! As we demonstrate that "Our Hearts, Our Minds, and Our Doors Are Always Open," small, medium, and large churches will all make a vital witness to those persons who search for hope and purpose for their lives. Can our churches not be the place where people find help in dealing with today's critical social and ethical issues? Do we not have the possibility of improving the circumstances (even the root causes) of people living in poverty? Have we not the ability to champion the cause of the physically and mentally challenged, the abused, the alienated, the neglected? Coupling our best efforts with God's unlimited power and grace what potential we have!

Ed Tomlinson



Calendar Highlights

- ▶ **August 26**
Augusta District Set-Up Meet - Wesley UMC, Evans, GA - 9 AM
 - ▶ **August 26**
Griffin District Set-up Meeting
Griffin First UMC - 6:00 PM
Dinner - 7:00 PM meeting
 - ▶ **August 27**
Atlanta-College Park District up Meeting - Peachtree Roac UMC - 9:30 AM
 - ▶ **August 29**
Rome Carrollton District Demographic Study Committ Mtg - Midway UMC, Douglasville, GA - 6:00 PM
- ▶ [Click Here](#) for Complete Conference Calendar and Detailed info about Upcoming Events.

Retired Spouses and Clergy Birthdays

- ▶ **August 26**
Mabel Gray
Sally Askew
Marian Wilder
Betty Lindsey
- ▶ **August 27**
Catherine Turpen
Albert Askew
Ted G. Langford
Ed Galloway
- ▶ **August 29**
Anna Lee Barfield
Virginia McEachern
Lamar Cherry
John Kay
- ▶ **August 30**
Patty Turner
Rudy R. Baker, Jr.
John H. Ozley, Sr.
Bob Gillespie
- ▶ **August 31**
Peggy Grubb
Liz Edwards
Grady T. Wigley
- ▶ **September 2**
George R. Holden
- ▶ **September 3**
Phronia Jenkins
Alton H. McEachern

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](#)

Lectionary Scriptures, NKJV Sunday, September 1, 2002

15th Sunday after Pentecost -- Green
Psalm 105: 1-6, 23-26, 45c (UMH 828)
[Exodus 3: 1-15](#)
[Romans 12: 9-21](#)
[Matthew 16: 21-28](#)

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