



Monday Morning in North Georgia

April 16, 2007

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SHARING WEEKLY NEWS WITH NORTH GEORGIA METHODISTS

This Week's Calendar

Week of April 16 - 22

(click on item for information)

Monday 16th

- [Emerging Church New Starts: Where do you begin?](#)

Thursday 19th

- [APCM Alumni](#)
- [Wesley Community Centers Annual Meeting Dinner](#)

Saturday 21st

- [Everyday Incredible-A Lay Speaking Course for Youth](#)
- [Sexual Ethics Seminar](#)

- [Entire Calendar](#)

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In Preparation for Annual Conference

The 2007 North Georgia Annual Conference is June 11 to 15 at The Classic Center in Athens. Tim McDaniel, Associate Director of Conference Information, has once again designed a beautiful logo. When one reads the interpretative piece which accompanies the artwork, the depth of thought in the design is obvious. Year after year, Tim has been affirmed with recognitions for his creativity and received accolades through the United Methodist Association of Communicators.

This year's theme is "We Are Called to Walk Humbly With Our God". The Conference's logo and its narrative are seen with this article.

Ed Tomlinson

Interpretation

Humility is a concept that might be hard to grasp these days. At times, it can appear to be a foreign idea in our individualistic, winner-take-all world. Some might even argue that our culture reinforces the

Lectionary and Bible Readings

Daily Bible Reading

- Readings that will take you through the entire Bible in a Year.

Lectionary Scriptures

Sunday, April 22nd
Third Sunday of Easter

- Acts 9:1-6, (7-20)
- Psalm 30
- Revelation 5:11-14
- John 21:1-19

- Worship Planning Helps
- Preaching Helps
- 21st Century Africana

idea that those who practice humility are plagued with a deep-seated weakness or have a flaw in their human condition.

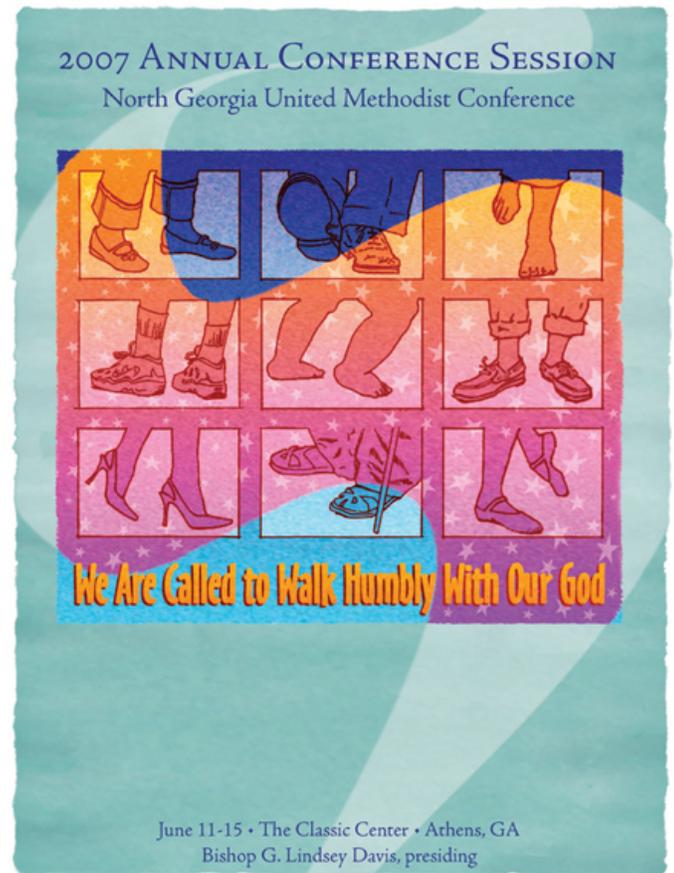
The idea of humility was probably just as hard to grasp during Old Testament times as it is today. So when Micah was inspired to pen his infamous passage about walking humbly with God, was he alluding to the fact that God requires us to be comfortably vulnerable and contentedly selfless? Well, yes.

To walk humbly with God simply means that on our life-journey we are grounded in the truth, knowing that God is God and that we are God's faithful followers. In other words, to walk humbly implies that our relationship with God is the centerpiece of our journey.

To walk humbly with God also means that we must journey respectfully, equally, and authentically with all of our sisters and brothers as well. Such a gracious attitude neither allows room for a private agenda nor a notion to be number one. Thus, when put into a daily practice, walking humbly with God means to put aside self-interests in order to serve God and our brothers and sisters wholeheartedly.

When we reorient ourselves to this reality, it deters us from making ourselves, our accomplishments, possessions or status the focus of our journey. Instead, it puts God and other people at the center. When looking at humility this way, we find that this isn't really considered weak or maladaptive, but rather a very powerful way to live.

The 2007 Annual Conference logo seeks to capture this idea of a humble journey with God and others. Look at the individual feet portrayed —some are young, some old — some are covered in beautiful shoes, some are covered in shabby sandals or no shoes at all — some are traveling to the right, some to the left, some down the center and some standing still. This is to symbolize that, as God's people, we all are different and unique — just as all of our life-journeys



are different and unique and take us in different directions.

Notice, too, how the individual squares aren't closed-off. They are open boxes indicating that, while on our life-journey, we must remain open to one another. Also notice the simple and transparent mist and stars that sweep through the squares. This represents God's grace and love that saturates us with love, hope, peace, understanding and forgiveness wherever we are on our individual life-journey. If you look closely, it almost looks like a well-traveled pathway.

During this Annual Conference Session, let's celebrate our humble walk with God and with one another. Let us affirm one another's journey and remember that if we truly follow Christ's example, then humility will be a way of life.

Wesley Community Centers' Annual Meeting

All North Georgia United Methodists are invited to attend [Wesley Community Centers](#) Annual Meeting Dinner April 19 from 7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at [Peachtree Road Church](#). The dinner will highlight the 25th anniversary of the Wesley Walk for Others. Keynote speakers will be Robert M. Franklin, Distinguished Presidential Professor of Social Ethics at Candler School of Theology; Jacqui Rose-Tucker, Rome-Carrollton District Superintendent; Bill Bolling, Founder and CEO Atlanta Community Food Bank; and Leah Ward Sears, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Georgia. Please RSVP by April 16 to 404.872.0086. Cost is \$35 per person or \$280 per table.

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