



# Monday Morning in North Georgia

March 19, 2007

[www.ngumc.org](http://www.ngumc.org)

SHARING WEEKLY NEWS WITH NORTH GEORGIA METHODISTS  
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## This Week's Calendar

**Week of March 19 - 25**

(click on item for  
information)

### Thursday 22nd

- Clergy Days Apart

### Friday 23rd

- Conference Clergy Spouse Retreat
- Simpsonwood Task Force

- SLR-Spiritual Life Retreat

### Saturday 24th

- Disability & Decision: Healthcare for Georgia's Disabled

### Sunday 25th

- Lay Revival
- Northwest District Lay Rally

- Entire Calendar

## Article Archives

- Monday Morning in North Georgia
- Event Spotlight Articles
- Weekly Conference Update

## Links of Interest

- Sign Up to receive the Monday Morning Newsletter, & other North Georgia e-mails.
- Manage e-mail

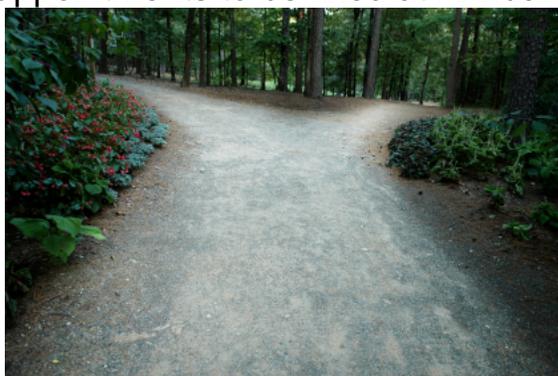
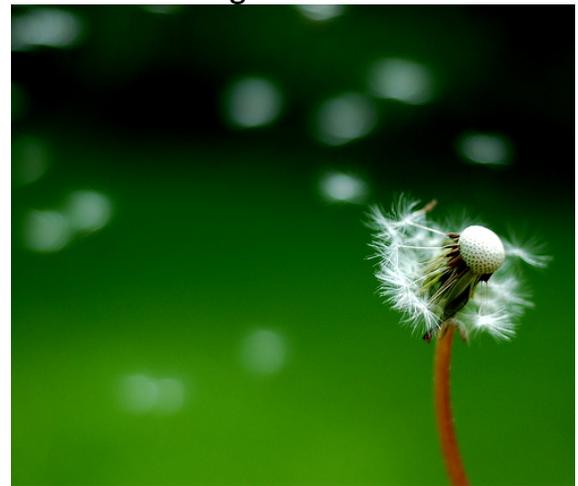
## The Winds Are Blowing

It's March! We're sure! Brisk winds and flying debris remind us. Garbage cans are chased. The leaves we failed to get around to last Fall have been relocated. Trees which have relentlessly held to their brown foliage are now bare. Newspapers tossed without the covering of plastic bags blob the landscape. Hats, umbrellas, and hairdos (a personal concern) are all at risk.

Yes, wind may be destructive and the cause of much human suffering. Likewise, its breezes have the potential of cleansing. Power is produced with its proper harnessing. We enjoy warmth or cooling when the timing is right. It moves us forward or blows us off course. Beautiful music or howling discordance is possible.

We refer to the "winds of the Spirit" and affirm the presence of God at work in our world and shaping our lives. In Greek, "wind" and "spirit" come from the same word: "pneuma". Through the Spirit, we are gathered into one body, lifted above ourselves, and freed to let God be our guide.

This Monday morning begins a week where the "winds of the Spirit" are much desired. The Cabinet will meet to take a "first look" at the appointments to be fixed at Annual Conference in June. The missional needs of local churches will be reviewed. The gifts and graces of the clergy will be taken into account. Indeed, the Cabinet yearns for the indwelling of the Spirit to enable its members to be "lifted" beyond themselves. Next Saturday (March 24), a Called



preferences

- Retired clergy and spouse birthday listing
- E-mail Ed Tomlinson
- Employment Openings

**Lectionary and Bible Readings**

**Daily Bible Reading**

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

**Lectionary Scriptures**

Sunday, March 25th  
Fifth Sunday in Lent

- Isaiah 43:16-21
- Psalm 126
- Philippians 3:4b-14
- John 12:1-8
  
- Worship Planning Helps
- Preaching Helps
- 21st Century Africana

Session of Annual Conference will act on the Task Force's recommendations concerning Simpsonwood. My prayer is that the "winds of the Spirit" will enlighten and unify the delegates to make extraordinarily wise decisions.

The invitation of the hymn writer names our plea individually and collectively—namely, "Spirit of the living God fall afresh on me."

Ed Tomlinson

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**Disability and Decision: Healthcare for Georgia's Disabled**

The Advocacy Team of the North Georgia Conference is sponsoring "Disability and Decision: Healthcare for Georgia's Disabled," a half-day workshop on the subject of healthcare for those with disabilities. Topics will include concerns involving physical and developmental disabilities, as well as an analysis of our state budget policy as it regards healthcare in Georgia. Presenters include Mark Crenshaw of the Bobby Dodd Institute for Interfaith Disabilities Network, Dr. Patricia Nobbie of the Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities, and Alan Essig and Peter Armstrong of the Georgia Budget and Policy Institute. The workshop will be held at [Athens First Church](#), 327 North Lumpkin, from 9 a.m. till noon on Saturday, March 24. Come learn what you can do to create positive change in the lives of those with disabilities. For more information, contact Nancy Johnson at 404-240-8207 or [nancyj@prumc.org](mailto:nancyj@prumc.org).

**Special Called Session of Annual Conference**

The Special Called Session of The North Georgia Conference will be held this Saturday, March 24, 2007, at 10:00 a.m. The session will be held at [Norcross First United Methodist Church](#), 2500 Beaver Ruin Road. Information is available by going to [www.ngumc.org](http://www.ngumc.org) and clicking on '2007 Called Annual Conference Session'. Delegates to the 2006 Annual Conference session last June will be the voting delegates for this called conference. New delegates elected at charge conferences this past fall will not vote until our regular conference in June.

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