

News From the Griffin District

A monthly publication of
The Griffin District of The United Methodist Church

Rev. Richard Winn
District Superintendent

January 2020

New Year's Resolution

Happy New Year Griffin District! I pray that all of you had a great Christmas season and that you were surrounded by family, friends, and good food. I sure was, and it was a blessing to say the least.

A new year is upon us. Can you believe it is the year 2020? Time has flown by. This time of year gives us an opportunity for reflection. 2019 is now behind us and 2020 is before us. As I reflect, I praise God for all of the professions of faith, baptisms, confirmations, and new memberships that took place last year. There are a whole lot of changed lives because of what God is doing amongst us. Thanks be to God.

What will the future hold for us? I do not know, none of us do! However, I do know that God has been faithful to us all in the past. Therefore, we know that God will continue to be faithful to us in the future. There is still good work to be done. Our job is not yet complete! God is calling us to faithfully continue our mission of "making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world." As Paul the Apostle wrote to the church of Philippi, "I'm sure about this: the one who started a good work in you will stay with you to complete the job by the day of Christ Jesus" (Philippians 1:6 CEB).

My New Year's Resolution is for God to continue this good work in me, in the leaders, and in the congregations that I am blessed to lead. What could be greater than this resolve? I can think of no greater thing. May we make a firm decision to stay focused on the mission before us because God is not done with us yet. God is doing a good work in all of us, and there is still good work for us all to continue to do.

Richard

Happy New Year from the District Office!

End of Year Report Workshop

Tuesday, January 14 at 7:00pm

District Office

430 W. Poplar St, Griffin

Any clergy and laity working on End of Year Reports are encouraged to attend.

Blank copies of report forms can be printed now so that churches can begin gathering required information.

**ALL INFORMATION MUST BE SUBMITTED THROUGH DATA SERVICES BETWEEN
JANUARY 10-31.**

If you need assistance, you may reach out to Rev. Keith Harris, District Statistician, or Statistician Team Members Rev. Skip Mitchell, Rev. Valerie Loner or Rev. DeeDee Lawson.

Training Opportunity for those working with youth and children

Two Workshops are being offered on **Thursday, January 30 at Griffin First UMC**. Rev. Debby Fox will lead a workshop on Best Practices for Children's Ministry and Rev. Sam Halverson will lead a workshop for Best Practices for Youth Ministry. Any clergy and laity in the district are invited to attend at no cost. Dinner will be served at 6:00 pm and the workshops will begin at 6:30 (choose 1). Please RSVP to the District Office so we can have a count for dinner. Reply to Denise at grfn@ngumc.net or 770-227-1074, by January 23.

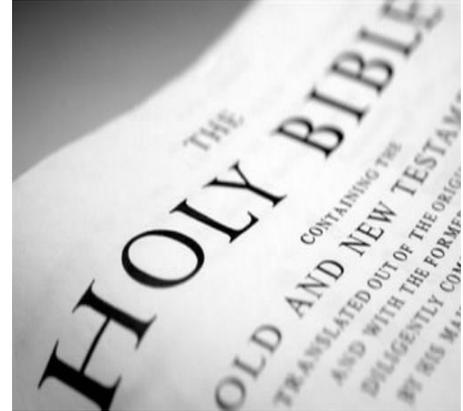
The United Methodist Church offers numerous **loans and scholarships** for UM college students, especially those students attending United Methodist-related schools. One of the most common programs is Dollars for Scholars, offering \$3K a year plus a \$1K grant from the Georgia United Methodist Foundation. Students considering a United Methodist institution should complete the simple application prior to making a final college choice. For persons applying for loans for fall of 2020, applications open January 3. Visit www.GBHEM.org for more information.



Join Bishop Sue in Bible Reading in 2020

Bishop Sue Hauptert-Johnson invites all North Georgia United Methodists to read the Gospel of Luke and the Book of Acts in 2020, beginning with Luke 1 on January 1, 2020. Subscribe to receive a weekly reading prompt and reflection each Wednesday by choosing "Reading the Gospel of Luke" at www.ngumc.org/subscribe.

- [Subscribe](#)
- [Print the Schedule \(PDF\)](#)



Read the entire article from the Bishop: <https://www.ngumc.org/newsdetail/north-georgia-united-methodists-invited-to-read-luke-and-acts-in-2020-13133640>



Lay Servant Classes

March 7 & 14, 2020

The following Lay Servant Classes will be offered in March. Be on the lookout for additional information, including location, specific times, and registration information.

UM Heritage – Rev. Richard Winn

Prayer – Ms. Elaine Childs

Spiritual Gifts – Rev. DeeDee Lawson

Aging and Ministry in the 21st Century – Ms. Baraba Donaldson

Basic – Mr. Jay Wansley

Check the District Website for updated information.

Dates for 2020 North Georgia Annual Conference

Thursday, June 18 – Saturday, June 20

**North & South Georgia Joint Clergy Spouses Retreat
March 13-15, 2020, Epworth By the Sea**

*“We Live by Faith, Not by Sight”
2 Corinthians 5:7*

For more information, contact the District Office for a brochure, or visit the Happenings page of the District website, to download a copy.

Save the Date:

Local Pastor Summit

Saturday, March 14, 2020

10am, - 2pm

Warren Temple UMC, LaGrange

More Details Coming Soon!



Happy Birthday to the following ministers in the Griffin District who are celebrating birthdays in January:

8 - Rick Maeser

10 - William Collier

22 - Judson Barnes

22 - Wade Corley

29 - Skip Mitchell

**ALL CHURCHES ARE REMINDED TO SUBMIT END OF YEAR REPORTS THROUGH
DATA SERVICES BETWEEN JANUARY 10-31, 2020!**