

News From the Griffin District

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

Rev. Richard Winn
District Superintendent

November 2019

What Are You Thankful For?

The event was rapidly approaching. The long lines at the supermarket seemed endless. The cars in the parking lot took on a carnival look. The groceries were finally in the trunk of the car and now the work was to begin.

The cold winds had already produced condensation on the windows. The warmth inside coupled with the outside cold gave way to an inside window sweat.

The smells from the kitchen were many. The chorus produced by the boiling pots was second to none. Peas, collards, potatoes, and broccoli were all in the orchestra.

Heat from the oven played its role also. Corn bread, cakes, macaroni, and casseroles took their turn. One after another, they were in and out.

It was now time to cook the turkey. He was the last to go into the oven. Mother would poke him to determine his readiness.

The food was ready. The table was dressed with fine linen, stemware, silver, and special china.

We sat down. The entire family was encouraged to say a Bible verse prior to digging in. We held hands, Dad prayed and now it was on.

Afterwards we were asked why we were thankful. The list included God, family, education, good health, good jobs, good food, a good church and a warm house.

What are you thankful for?

Happy Thanksgiving!

Richard

Griffin District Charge Conference

Sunday, November 3 at 3:00, Wesley Chapel UMC, McDonough

All clergy and laity of the district are encouraged to attend.

There will be recognitions of Lay Servants, Confirmands, Persons Baptized in 2019, and Candidates for Ministry

DS Rev. Richard Winn, preaching

Rehearsal for the District Choir at 1:30 (black/white attire)

The North GA Conference *Photo Booth* will be available, so come early!

If Charge Conference paperwork has been submitted to the District Office, there is no need to bring any paperwork to the Conference!

If you are unable to join us in person at the Charge Conference please click the link below to watch it LIVE through our Boxcast Livestream. This same link will allow you to watch the conference again at a later date as well. <https://boxcast.tv/view/griffin-district-change-conference-2019-livestream-926760>

Move Input Forms are due from every appointed pastor and SPR Committee by November 19.

Forms are available on the District Website.

Be sure that your SPR Committee is scheduled to meet to discuss and complete these forms and that all required signatures are obtained before they are submitted to the District Office.

Upcoming District Committee Meetings:

District Finance Committee – November 12, 10am at the District Office

District Committee on Ordained Ministry

December 3, 6pm at McDonough First

March 31, meeting with all Local Pastors, TBA

April 28, meeting with all new and continuing candidates, TBA

District UMW News

Griffin District United Methodist Women's Meeting set Nov. 9 at Christ UMC

All United Methodist Women in the Griffin District -- and any other interested individuals - are encouraged to attend the Annual Meeting of Griffin District United Methodist Women Saturday, Nov. 9 at Christ UMC in Forsyth.

The day will begin with breakfast from 8-9 am, followed by the annual meeting/worship service from 9:15-10:45 and leadership development training for all local church UMW officers at 11. We will dismiss by noon.

The focus of the annual meeting will be "The School to Prison Pipeline," which is an emphasis of the North Georgia Conference United Methodist Women and the national UMW organization. "School to Prison Pipeline" refers to the fact that children and youth of color are more frequently expelled from school than their white counterparts and often end up on the street or in a Juvenile Detention Facility.

The speaker will be Pamela Perkins Carn, a United Methodist who has been working on this issue for some time. She is one of the original conveners of the End Mass Incarceration Georgia Network and former director of the Children's Interfaith Network. The EMI Georgia Network is a group of faith communities, organizations and individuals working to bring about positive change in the areas of juvenile and criminal justice.



The Rev. Richard Winn, Griffin District Superintendent, and Alice Smith, Griffin District UMW president, process in with other DS's and district presidents during the North GA Conference UMW Annual Meeting Oct. 5 at Dunwoody UMC.

All Full Time Elders in the District are reminded that the DS will be conducting clergy evaluations on November 4, 5, & 6 at the District Office. The schedule was emailed out to all clergy involved, as well as the evaluation forms. If you have not submitted your form, please bring it with you to your meeting with the DS.

UMCOR EARLY RESPONSE TEAM TRAINING AT GRIFFIN FIRST UMC

(Basic Class) November 23rd 2019

GFUMC will be hosting an UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief) Basic ERT Member Training event on Saturday, November 23, 2019, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The training will be lead by Rev. Andrew Covington and representatives from UMCOR.

In this training, participants will learn the basics of disaster response, including how to stabilize and secure homes safely, and how to work effectively with survivors and others on the response team. This class is required for the basic ERT UMCOR identification badge

The cost of the training is \$20.00, this includes ERT Manual, Badge, Lunch, and All Training Materials. (Optional \$10 to \$15 extra for an Official ERT Team member T-shirt)

Preregistration is required and space is limited to the first 20 registrants.

What is an Early Response Team (ERT)?

While ERTs are not first responders, they fill a specific need in the early days after a disaster to clean damaged homes, remove debris, place tarps on homes, and otherwise prevent further damage, while providing a caring Christian presence.

To register contact Andrew ASAP at andrew. covington@griffin-fumc.org

Healthflex Participants, It's Annual Election Time

Clergy and Laity that participate in the conference health insurance should take note that the Annual Election period is now through November 14. You must log onto the Wespath site and make your elections for 2020. Please refer to insurance rates posted on the Conference website rather than what is shown on the Wespath site.



Action Ministries has joined Atlanta Magazine's GIVE Challenge, a friendly online fundraising competition between charitable organizations and their supporters with a grand prize of \$40,000 to continue the work of the winning organization—and we are just **two weeks** away from the finish line!

We Need Your Help! 🤝

Click the button below and help #EndHungerPeriod for 10,000 kids in Georgia today!

[Give Help Now](#)

Participants who reach their fundraising goal will be invited to attend Action Ministries' Pack-a-Palooza at Atlanta Brewery on [#GivingTuesday](#), December 3 at 6:00pm.



North Georgia Delegation Schedules Two Listening Sessions



The North Georgia delegation to General and Jurisdictional Conference has scheduled two listening sessions to hear from North Georgia United Methodists. The first session is set for Saturday, November 16, at Marietta First UMC. The second will be Saturday, February 1, at Griffin First UMC.

[Registration is now open](#) for the first session.

Clergy and laity of the North Georgia Conference are invited to address the delegation on topics related to the 2020 General Conference. Maximum length of presentations will be communicated to registrants prior to the session.

Information and Speaker Registration: Listening Session 1

Marietta First UMC
Saturday, November 16
1 to 2:30 pm
[REGISTER](#)

Send some high school youth to visit college campuses on the next Campus Crawl

How do you help your high school students focus on continuing their faith journey after they take off from youth group and head toward college? Wouldn't it be great to help them recognize the benefits of being a part of a Wesley Foundation or campus ministry?

[Campus Crawl](#) is a bus tour designed to introduce 9th through 12th grade students to United Methodist campus ministries featuring our Georgia United Methodist Colleges and Universities. In one weekend high school students will meet representatives from our United Methodist Colleges and Universities in Georgia as well as meet several Wesley Foundations on public university campuses.

This year we're visiting the following campuses and ministries: KSU, Reinhardt, Georgia Tech, Clark Atlanta, LaGrange, West Georgia, and Emory.

The weekend is Feb. 28 thru March 1 and the cost is only \$95 per person. (Your youth couldn't plan a weekend visit of ONE campus for that price.) Youth who participate need not have adults from their congregation, though we would love to have one per seven participate. Feel free to recommend this retreat to individuals. The retreat could fill up early, so register now.

Clergy CEU Opportunity:

CLERGYEDUCATION® Continuing Education for Clergy	CLERGYEDUCATION® Continuing Education for Clergy	CLERGYEDUCATION® Continuing Education for Clergy
<p>Kevin Slimp: Developing Effective Communication to Grow Your Church Participants will receive a certificate for 1-hour CEU credit.</p> <p>For twenty-five years, Kevin Slimp has been a household name in the world of corporate and United Methodist communications. Having keynoteed thousands of conventions and events internationally, Kevin understands the worlds of both corporate and church communications.</p> <p>As a former annual conference director of communications and current publisher of Market Square Books, Kevin will share tools often overlooked by local churches in reaching out to both the members and the unchurched of their communities.</p> <p>He will discuss what attracts and what turns away potential visitors. Kevin will lead you to take a look at your printed communications tools, your website and more.</p> <p>Near the conclusion of this 60-minute session, participants will be invited to ask questions and share ideas that have worked in their local churches.</p> <p>Register for this 60-minute class at clergyeducation.com</p>  <p>October 8, 2019 3 pm Eastern / 2 pm Central / Noon Pacific</p>	<p>Wil Cantrell: Answering Your Call as the Associate Pastor Participants will receive a certificate for 1-hour CEU credit.</p> <p>Wondering how to fulfill your ministry calling when you're not in charge? Join us to discuss unique opportunities and challenges faced by associate pastors.</p> <p>Wil Cantrell serves as the Associate Pastor of Concord United Methodist Church in Farragut, TN. Wil's driving passion is to help people live an authentic life while experiencing a real growing faith in Jesus Christ.</p> <p>Wil is author of bestselling book, <i>Unafraid and Unshamed: The Future of United Methodism</i>.</p> <p>Register for this 60-minute class at clergyeducation.com</p>  <p>October 21, 2019 11 am Eastern / 10 am Central / 8 am Pacific</p>	<p>Quincy Brown: Engaging Your Community: Answering the Questions Your Community Is Asking Participants will receive a certificate for 1-hour CEU credit.</p> <p>The church's mission is to make disciples and teach them to obey everything Jesus taught. For most churches, however, the struggle isn't the definition of a disciple. Instead, the challenge is how the church structures itself to help people embody the promise of life change for community impact that transforms the world.</p> <p>Dr. Quincy Brown knows something about engaging your church community. In his upcoming book, <i>The Discipleship Path Workbook: Discerning, Dreaming and Developing Practices for Life Change</i>, Brown takes readers through an in-depth study of how to get your church fully engaged.</p> <p>Register for this 60-minute class at clergyeducation.com</p>  <p>November 5, 2019 2 pm Eastern / 1 pm Central / 11 am Pacific</p>

The first week of online classes was recently held with Phil Maynard, Glenna Manning, Wil Cantrell, Phil Schroeder and Kay Kotan. Attendees were enthusiastic and the reviews have been great. We continue with additional classes led by Quincy Brown, Wil Cantrell, Kay Kotan, Phil Schroeder, Glenna Manning and Bishop Kenneth Carder. This information is meant to familiarize you with clergyeducation.com. Information concerning classes and instructors can be found at: clergyeducation.com.

Upcoming Classes at ClergyEducation.com :

Nov 5 at 2:00pm Eastern/1:00pm Central: Quincy Brown: ***Engaging Your Community: Answering the Questions Your Community is Asking***

Nov 7 at 3:00pm Eastern/2:00pm Central: ***Glenna Manning and Wil Cantrell: Preaching and Teaching the Christmas Story***

Nov 11 at 3:00pm Eastern/2:00pm Central: ***Bishop Kenneth Carder: Being an Effective Pastor in the 21st Century***

Nov 12 at 1:00pm Eastern/Noon Central: ***Bishop Kenneth Carder: Being an Effective Pastor in the 21st Century***

Nov 12 at 3:00pm Eastern/2:00pm Central: ***Phil Schroeder & Kay Kotan: Launching Leaders: Developing Leaders in the Local Church***

Online classes are live, and attendees will participate in question/answer session during the final portion of each class, allowing them to ask questions of the instructors. The fee for each one-hour classes is \$25. UM clergy will receive a 20 percent discount in October and November when using the following discount code: `clergy20` Upon registration and class attendance, participants will receive a certificate designating their attendance, with applicable information, which can be turned in to district or conference officials. More information concerning Market Square Books can be found at marketsquarebooks.com. At Market Square, you will find books by United Methodist authors, including several best-selling titles over the past three years.



Happy Birthday to the following ministers celebrating birthdays in November:

- 1 - John Roberts
- 2 - Dave Fisher
- 10 - Claire Yoder
- 11 - Ken Huff

- 12 - John Williams
- 19 - Gary Boggs
- 20 - Willie Greene
- 24 - Belinda McCastle