

Pre-Conference Workshops



CHERISHING THE CREATION

"Next Generation Ministry" The Rev. Vance Rains

Who is the next generation? Why do so few of them go to church? What do they need from the church? These are the basis for a workshop focusing on young adult ministry. Rains is executive director of the Higher Education and Campus Ministry for the Florida Conference, and pastor of the Florida State University Wesley Foundation.

"Who is Your Neighbor?" The Rev. Dr. Mont Duncan

Churches can discover the makeup of people in their ministry area, and which generations, lifestyles and needs are prevalent. MissionInsight indicates what unchurched people in your area look for in a church, and what ministries will draw them. Even if you've taken this course before, new items have just been added. Duncan serves as the Executive Director of New Church Development for the Florida Conference.

"Implementing the Missional Vital Signs" Janet Kelley

At the pastor's gathering in October, the Missional Vital Signs Web site was unveiled and monthly reporting announced for all congregations by July 1. What are the missional vital signs and why are they so important? How might they be helpful to congregational leaders concerned that their ministry is both faithful and fruitful? This workshop will be address both the "why" and the "how" behind Missional Vital Signs, so that they become more of a "get to" tool, rather than a "have to" in assisting them in developing effective ministry. Kelley is the District Lay Leader and Administrative Assistant for the East Central District.

"Building the Discipleship Pathway" Dr. Phil Maynard

The consensus across the nation, in every denomination and beyond, is the need for intentional discipling processes. Indeed, Bishop Whitaker has challenged every congregation to develop a deliberate plan for helping persons become mature followers of Jesus Christ. This introductory workshop begins the conversation about key considerations in building a system for discipling. Come discover the possibilities for your congregation. Maynard is a Director of Congregational Transformation.

Wednesday, June 10

This year, a series of pre-conference workshops will be offered on a variety of topics to help local churches in their ministry of making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. ALL WORKSHOPS WILL BE HELD AT THE WENDELL HOLMES BUILDING UNLESS NOTED. The workshops will start at 2:30 p.m. and last for 90 minutes. They will be repeated (except as noted) at 4:30 p.m.

"Do You See What I See?" The Rev. Harold Lewis

Does your church have a vision? Do the members know and understand it? Do you have a strategy to manifest the vision? People cannot and will not focus on and follow fog. This workshop will be about constructing, casting and communicating a viable vision for your church. Lewis is the new Director of Black Congregational Development for the Florida Conference. (4:30 p.m. only)

"Reporting Missional Vital Signs" Don Youngs

Starting July 1, every church in the Florida Conference will be asked to submit information on the five elements that comprise The Methodist Way: Passionate Worship, Radical Hospitality, Intentional Discipling, Salty Service and Extravagant Generosity. This workshop will show you how to submit a report. Youngs directs video and Web production for the Florida Conference.

"Safe Sanctuaries" Melinda Trotti

A review of the Florida Conference's new Child and Youth Protection Policy will be provided with comparisons between the old and the new policies. There will also be an introduction to the revised Safe Sanctuaries: Reducing the Risk of Abuse in the Church for Children and Youth and how churches can become safe sanctuaries for the children and youth who attend any programs at their church. Trotti is Associate Director for Justice and Spiritual Formation. (2:30 p.m. only)

"Closing Our Congregation's Back Door" Rev. Jeff Stiggins & Kristy McAdams

Many congregations are pretty good at attracting new persons to visit and even get involved with them for a while. But then they seem to drift away. Drawing on research by The Gallup Organization into what helps people emotionally connect with their congregation, this workshop will introduce participants to the concept of "engagement" and several practical ways to cultivate it. Co-leader Kristy McAdams is a Faith Field Advisor trained by the Gallup Organization to work with churches to increase member engagement. Stiggins is Executive Director of Congregational Transformation for the Florida Conference.

To help us plan for all who are attending, we recommend advance registration online at

WWW.FLUMC.ORG/AC09

"Green Film Festival: Cherishing Creation as Christians in Florida"

Held at School of Nursing building (across street)

FREE Admission! – Panel discussions after each film.

Films on Using Energy for Sustainability 2:30 - 4 p.m. and 7 - 8:30 p.m.

"Kilowatt Ours: A Plan to Re-Energize America," "Going Green," "Interfaith Power and Light"

Films on Consumption, Lifestyle and the Environment 4:30 - 6 p.m. and 8:30 - 10 p.m.

"The True Cost of Food," "People's Grocery," "Trashed"

Films on the Environment, Justice and Faith (time permitting at the end of each session)

"Eco-Justice," "Sacred Celebration"

