

South District Office  
United Methodist Church  
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**NEWS AND CUES**  
**SOUTH DISTRICT**  
**FEBRUARY 2010 MARCH 2010**

**Website: [www.southinumc.org](http://www.southinumc.org)**

**Charles D. Wilfong**  
**District Superintendent**  
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*February 2010-March 2010*

Newsletter Deadline –March 10 – 8:00 a.m. EST



**Calendar for February:**

<b>2-4</b>	<b>Cabinet-CDW</b>
<b>11</b>	<b>Lay Speaker Committee Mtg., 6:00pm District Office</b>
<b>15</b>	<b>Year End Reports (Check Day) Deadline</b>
<b>17-19</b>	<b>Cabinet-CDW</b>

**Calendar for March:**

<b>2-4</b>	<b>Cabinet-CDW</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Retiree's Luncheon at Magdalena's-Corydon at Noon</b>
<b>16-18</b>	<b>Cabinet-CDW</b>

**Faster, Higher, Stronger**

Faster, higher, stronger. Those memorable words bring the Olympics to everyone's mind. The twenty-first Olympic Winter Games begin in Vancouver on February 12, 2010.

A few will be caught by surprise when the media coverage begins. Oh, it's time for the Olympics again? Some are just now becoming aware of the pending games. But the athletes who wish to compete have been preparing for a long time.

There are many stories of those who endured great sacrifice and hardship to be able to compete in the games. Adjustments in family life, employment, and locale are just a few of the things we learn about world-class athletes and their lives. We often hear things like, "I would do whatever it takes to be competitive . . . to win in my sport." We admire those for whom the sport is more important than their own comfort or preferences.

Do we attempt to faithfully follow our Lord, Jesus Christ, with this much resolve and determination? Do we live the life of Christian discipleship with the same do-whatever-it-takes attitude that Olympians boast? What adjustments are we willing to make to follow Jesus?

**Is following Jesus more important  
than my own comfort and preferences?**

The Rev. Doug Anderson trained Ministry Cluster Leaders all over Indiana in 2009. In the course of the training, he said, "The key to congregational development is the development of the spiritual life of the leaders in the church to the point where the mission of God is more important than their own comfort or preferences when it comes to decision making, program planning,

and new ministry initiatives."

In our congregations and clusters, when we are making decisions, planning programs, and deciding on new ministries, there is one thing which is more important than our comfort. When we are considering what to do in our congregations, there is one thing which is more important than our preferences. God's mission of making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world is more important than what we would prefer or what would be comfortable for us.

Laying aside our own desires is not just for Lent. It's how disciples of Jesus live each day. The way John the Baptist referred to Jesus reminds us, "He must increase, but I must decrease" (John 3:30 NRSV).

During the coming Olympic games, remember this odd instruction from the Word of God as Paul shared it with the Philippians from his jail cell, ". . . work out your own salvation with fear and trembling" (2:12b). We are supposed to exercise, or work out, our salvation--not work *for* our salvation. We are saved by grace—it's God's free gift. But when we live as saved people, when we implement our salvation, when we manifest our allegiance to Christ in word and deed, then we are exercising or "working out" our salvation.

Athletes exercise their skills. As you lay aside your comfort and personal preferences for your discipleship "workout," I pray that you will "do whatever it takes" to faithfully follow the Lord Jesus Christ.

Go in peace. Go with God. And be well.

Shalom,

*Charlie*

## Indiana Conference Center

The Indiana Conference of The United Methodist Church center is now open. The center is located in the Meridian Corporate Plaza 2 building and occupies one-third of the third floor. The building is on the north side of I-465 three blocks east of North Meridian and 103rd Streets on Pennsylvania Parkway. Most of the new conference center is sub-leased from an Indianapolis law firm that vacated the property July 1. During the past three months, construction workers added the bishop's office suite which is being leased from the building corporation.

The Indiana Conference Center will hold an open house of its new facilities in January. Address for the new Indiana Conference Center is: Indiana Conference of The United Methodist Church 301 Pennsylvania Parkway, Suite 380; Indianapolis, IN 46280; Phone 317-924-1321 and the web address is: [www.inumc.org](http://www.inumc.org).

## Trip Opportunity

Bishop Michael Coyner will be leading a trip to the Oberammergau Passion Play in August of 2010. Performed once every ten years since 1635, when the Bavarian village of Oberammergau was spared from the Black Plague, this historic passion play will take place again in 2010, featuring over 1,500 cast members. Bishop Michael Coyner will lead a group from Indiana to attend this moving play. The trip also includes many sites in southern Germany and Austria, including Munich, Innsbruck, Salzburg, Italy and the Brenner Pass, as well as castles and churches. This is a nine-day European adventure departing August 3, 2010. John Eckert from the Morton Memorial UMC, is a tour host for this trip. If you are interested in going and need more information please call John at home at 812-590-2225 or on his cell at 812-786-7280.

## **DUE DATE EXTENDED**

### **Year End Reports (Check Day) Due February 15, 2010**

The online entry period for congregations will be from January 25th to February 15th, 2010. Instructions and a blank worksheet to use in gathering local church data plus instructions on entering the report online were sent by e-mail and US mail on January 15th. Thanks for your good ministry all year long!

## Opportunities and Items of Interest for Laity and Clergy

### **Subscribe to e-HUM (electronic Hoosier United Methodist).**

Use the Area Website to subscribe to e-HUM and receive free regular e-mails containing news of events, programs, missions, appointments, and more. Subscribers also receive Bishop Coyner's free weekly e-Pistle (weekly devotional writings). For assistance in subscribing, please contact district office.

**District Superintendent e-mail:** Charlie Wilfong's e-mail address is:  
[wilfong.charles@yahoo.com](mailto:wilfong.charles@yahoo.com)

**Administrative Assistant e-mail:** Lynda Alexander's e-mail address is:  
[naumcaa@gmail.com](mailto:naumcaa@gmail.com)

**Office Phone: 812-951-0388, toll free 800-919-8166 Fax Number 812-951-3380**

**District Website:** [www.southinumc.org](http://www.southinumc.org)

Current district information.

**New Conference Website:** [www.inumc.org](http://www.inumc.org)

- **Future dates for Clergy**

February 5-6	Dr. David Bell Regional Seminar on Stewardship
March 6	Bishop's Confirmation Rally
March 13	Cluster Leader Training Follow-up—Watch for details
June 10-13	Indiana Annual Conference in Muncie at Ball State
August 3, 2010	Bishop Michael Coyner to lead trip to Oberammergau Passion Play
July 13-17, 2011	National United Methodist Youth Event coming to Purdue

- Retirees' Luncheon to be held at Magdalena's in Corydon on March 3 @ Noon
- **Next News and Cues** will be for April/May 2010



## MINISTRY CLUSTER CALENDAR

**River Ridge-** Will meet February 8, 2010, 7PM at Pleasant Grove UMC and March 8, 2010, 7PM at Charlestown UMC Contact: Janet Werle , rwerle5113@aol.com

### **Greater JC-**

Contact: Jim Moon III , jmoon@sicumc.org

### **Team Jesus-**

Contact: Deb Reichenbach, djr5111@msn.com or Sherrie Bell, gladyryan@hotmail.com

### **LOGICS-** Will meet April 19, 2010, 7PM at Smith Campground

Contact: Oren Chumley, 812-968-3701 or Ted Chalk, tedchalk@yahoo.com

### **Cross Generations-**

Contact: Steve Ellis sellis@lumconline.com or Bob Campbell bobethcampbell@yahoo.com

**The Serving Seven-** Will meet February 15, 2010 and March 15, 2010, 7PM at New Salisbury UMC. Contact: Gary Davis, gldavis@epowerc.net

### **River Valley-**

Contact: Hazel Byerley, hazelbye@aol.com

### **United Together Ministry-**

Contact: Michael Collins, michealbricecollins@mac.com

### **NW Floyd County-**

Contact: Beverly Perry, revbev1053@aol.com

### **Imagine Opportunities United Council-**

Contact: Annie Savino, annie2354@sbcglobal.net or Billy Craddock, craddockg@bellsouth.net

### **CSW-**

Contact: Bill Mosley, bmosley@haascabinet.com

### **Solid Rock-**

Contact: Ted Senior, senior@hpcisp.com

**OLA—Orange/Lawrence County Cluster-** Will meet April 11, 2010, 2:00PM at Orleans UMC Contact: Pat Sinnott, orleansumc@verizon.net

### **Southern Orange County-**

Contact: Matt Henshaw, tkhinshaw@yahoo.com or Pam Cook, paoliumc@verizon.net

### **Washington County United-**

Contact: Charles Pelc, newhopeumc@hotmail.com

## **Dates for 2010 United Methodist Special Sundays**

Here is a listing and dates for the UM Special Sundays in 2010:

- [One Great Hour of Sharing:](#) March 14, 2010
- [Native American Ministries Sunday:](#) April 18, 2009
- [Peace with Justice Sunday:](#) May 30, 2010
- [World Communion Sunday:](#) October 3, 2010
- [United Methodist Student Day:](#) November 28, 2010

Each Sunday also requests a special offering and a cause requesting funding. The date for the new Indiana Conference Campus Ministries Sunday with offering has not yet been determined.



### **New Appointment:**

Please welcome Rev. Steve and Barb Seitz to the district as a new appointment to Wesley Chapel (FC) effective January 1, 2010.

### **Congratulations:**



Rev. Michael Collins, pastor at Heidelberg UMC, was united in marriage to Stephanie Barclay on January 16, 2010 at the First Presbyterian Church in Kankakee, IL

## **DISTRICT TITHING**

All receipts for the conference tithes and for the South District 1.5% asking for the calendar year 2010 should be mailed to the following address:

**SOUTH DISTRICT UMC  
PO BOX 738  
FLOYDS KNOBS, IN 47119**

## Remember in your prayers:

Lewis Family—with the loss of Constance Taylor, mother of Joyce Lewis. Joyce is the wife of Rev. Jim Lewis, pastor at Ohio Falls.

Calvin Pierson, Wilma Pierson's husband, recovering.

Smith Family—with the loss of Jane Smith, wife of Rev. Don Smith, retired pastor.

Southeast District Office (former Columbus District)-destroyed by fire on Christmas Eve.

Lori Russell, wife of Rev. Ron Russell serving Pekin UMC, recovering.

Wilma Bone, pastor at Henryville UMC, recovering.

Deborah Reichenbach, pastor at Marengo UMC, recovering.

Diane McCracken, pastor at Salem UMC, recovering.

Rev. Alvin Maddox, retired pastor.

Rev. Jill Lowry, pastor at Atkins Chapel, whose grandmother, Mary Hrbacek, passed away in December.

Darren Bensing, District Webmaster, whose grandfather, Charles "Boots" Arbun, passed away in December.

Rev. Dick and Marie Johnson, retired pastor and spouse, recovering.

Blevins Family—with the loss of Elva J. Blevins, mother of Rev. Nancy Blevins. Nancy is pastor at Kokomo Main Street UMC.

Keilman Family—with the loss of Jean W. Keilman, Gayle's mother who passed away in December. Gayle is the wife of Rev. Ted Chalk, pastor at New Middletown UMC.

Elliott & Morgan Families—with the loss of retired pastor Rev. Ivan D. Morgan in October.

Sonny Sampson—lay leader at Lighthouse and father of Myra Walton, recovering. Myra is the wife of Jason Walton, pastor at Crawford Consolidated.

Rev. Jim Lewis, pastor at Ohio Falls, recovering.

People of Haiti and mission workers.



## District Newsletter:

**Due to rising postage and production costs, we will begin transitioning to an electronic newsletter. Currently you may go to the district website at [www.southinum.org](http://www.southinum.org) and subscribe for email notification of when the newsletter is posted to the website. When you receive the email, you may then go to the website and download the newsletter. Should you not have Adobe reader, there is a link on the website to download the latest version at no cost.**

## Welcome New District Staff

We enthusiastically welcome two new members to the South District Staff. As of January 1, 2010, Lynda Alexander serves as District Assistant and The Rev. Bob Ostermeier serves as the Associate District Superintendent. Please take the opportunity to welcome them.

## We Are the South District

The **South District** of the Indiana Conference of the United Methodist Church is made up of: **13,007 United Methodist members** distributed over **nine Counties**: Clark, Crawford, Floyd, Harrison, Lawrence, Monroe, Orange, Scott, Washington; in **117 individual congregations** which are organized into **97 charges** with an **average worship attendance of 7,471** per Sunday served by **95 pastors**.

## Clark County UMM Lenten Breakfasts

- Saturday, February 20th at 8:00am, St. James UMC, 3715 Utica-Sellersburg Rd, Jeff  
Speaker: Rev. Dr. Jean V. Wilson, Pastor, Wesley UMC
- Saturday, February 27th at 8:00am, Sellersburg UMC, 226 N. New Albany St. Sellersburg  
Speaker: TBA
- Saturday, March 6th at 8:00am, Cook Memorial UMC, 1025 Allison Lane, Jeff  
Speaker: Richard Johnson, Exec. Dir., Christian Formation Ministries
- Saturday, March 13th at 8:00am, Ohio Falls UMC, 917 S. Virginia Ave., Clarksville  
Jamies Barnes & Brooks Ritter, Sojourn Church
- Saturday, March 20th at 8:00am, Wall Street UMC, 240 Wall St, Jeff  
Speaker: John Eckert, Morton Memorial UMC

## REGIONAL SEMINARS ON STEWARDSHIP

### Two-Day Workshops with David Bell

Here is the schedule for the upcoming “**Extravagant Generosity Workshops**” with Dr. David Bell presented by Rejuvenate. These workshops are for pastors, their spouses and laity teams. Dates are Fridays (8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.) and Saturdays (8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.) Clergy may attend any of the seminar locations. The dates are listed below:

<b>February 5-6 2010</b>	<b>Southeast and South (former New Albany) Districts at Scottsburg UMC, 615 S. Honeyrun Parkway</b>
March 5-6* 2010	Northern Tier of the Conference, New Life UMC at Peru
March 12-13, 2010	Central Tier of the Conference, Zionville UMC
May 14-15*, 2010	Southern Tier of the Conference at St. Paul UMC in Bloomington

\***March 5, May 14 are for Local Pastors only** who are unable to attend a day-long seminar on a Friday.

**Registration is required.** To register online, go to [www.inumc.org](http://www.inumc.org) and click on “Rejuvenate” on the left side.

### SOUTH DISTRICT STUDENT MINISTRIES WINTER BLAST

February 12-14, 2010

Who: 6th-12th Grade Students

Where: Faithpoint UMC, Floyds Knobs

For more information, please contact Pastor Jim Moon at 812-989-1777.

### Prayer Quote



“To pray is to change. This is a great grace. How good of God to provide a path whereby our lives can be taken over by love and joy and peace and patience and kindness and goodness and faithfulness and gentleness and self-control. The movement inward comes first because without interior transformation the movement up into God’s glory would overwhelm us and the movement out into ministry would destroy us.” - Prayer, Richard Foster, p.6, cited in *When You Pray* by Rueben P. Job, 18.

## Thank You Notes

Dear New Albany District Family,

*I would like to thank the district for the beautiful floral arrangement sent to me after my surgery. A Christmas center piece. It is beautiful. Thank Charlie and everyone for their prayers during this time. Wilma Bone*

Dear New Albany District Family,

*I want to thank you for honoring our family in the loss of my mother, Jean Keilman. The cards and visits were very comforting and appreciated. I placed the lovely poinsettia in a special place for our family Christmas dinner as a reminder of loved ones that were not able to be there and as a reminder of the love and support of our Christian family. Ted & Gayle Chalk*

To the New Albany District & Pastors,

*Thank you for the prayers and the beautiful flowers as I recovered from Surgery. We truly serve an awesome Lord who always knows the Plan. Thank you again for touching Ron and me in this very special way. Ron & Lori Russell*

Dear New Albany District,

*I am writing this with a heavy heart, because I am saying goodbye to a job I have enjoyed with the New Albany District for the past 4 1/2 years. In this time, I have made friends with so many district and church leaders along with the pastors and spouses. It was always a pleasure to be able to serve you. Thank you for the beautiful roses and the Kohl’s gift card, but most of all thank you for your kindness and prayers. May God bless and keep you, and hopefully our paths will cross again one day. Love, Lynette Klinstiver*

New Albany District UMC

*Thank you for the flowers—Mother loved plants. We see them and remember her green thumb. I’m sure there is a spot in God’s heaven for as lovely a flower as Mother was. God loved her too! We loved her so much. She loved her God also and lived to be a Christian. Joyce & Jim Lewis*

Dear New Albany District Family,

*Thank you to the district clergy for your generous Christmas gift. We will enjoy the gift certificate and the opportunity to visit Derby Dinner Playhouse. Also, we are grateful for all of the cards, gifts, and remembrances we received during the Advent/Christmas Season. God bless you all in the coming year. Shalom, Charlie, Donna & Jessi Wilfong*

Dear South District Clergy,

*Thank you so much for the generous gift card that I received at the District Clergy Dinner. It was very kind of you to remember me at Christmas. May our Father God bless your ministry and daily walk this coming year. Janet Werle*