



Northeast District Office
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David Graves – Resident Bishop

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November 2021

Thank You, Thank You, Thank you

Rev. Stephen B. Grantham
District Superintendent, Northeast District

In November we celebrate the end of WWI with Veterans Day, November 11, at 11 AM (11:11:11) and honor the memories of all who have served our country in times of war. That war cost us 110,000 soldiers dead from combat injuries. At the end of the month, we celebrate Thanksgiving and remember the many blessings of God that inform our lives. Life has taught me to give thanks every day and to know, regardless of circumstances, that His providential care is there for me. It has also taught me that whatever happens, to give thanks because in all things God is working.

My prayer for all of you is you get the opportunity to spend Thanksgiving with members of your family. Life is short and those relationships are sacred. We need to offer one another tangible evidence of our care and concern. We need to spend time with one another. We need to reinforce the bonds that support us and keep alive within us the concern of those who love us the most.

In the last three years, I have lost four members of my family and it has reminded me, in painful ways, how precious these relationships are. Spend time with your family and do not take them for granted.

*Count your many blessings,
name them one by one.*

*Count your many blessings,
See what God has done.*





**The Northeast District
The South Georgia Annual Conference
The United Methodist Church**

Dear Pastors and Lay Leadership of the Northeast District,

Grace and peace to you all in the name of Jesus our Lord.

Bishop David Graves will be with us November 15 and 16. These meetings are designed for him to be able to get to know us and us to get to know him. We are having three meetings:

*Nov. 15 from 6 PM to 7 PM at *Pittman Park UMC*. This meeting is for local pastors, part time pastors and key lay people from your churches.

*Nov. 16 from 10 AM to Noon at *Pittman Park UMC*. This meeting is for full time pastors and local pastors who may not be able to come at night.

*Nov. 16 from 6 PM to 7 PM at *Pittman Park UMC*. This meeting is for part time pastors and key lay people from your churches.

What we need Pastors to do is to recruit lay people from your churches and give us a count by Wednesday morning, *November 10* of how many will be present. We need firm numbers. Those coming on November 16 from 10 AM to Noon will be served boxed lunches if they remain for lunch and we need reservations. There will be no meals served at the evening meetings on the 15th and 16th. Please call the District office to give us your reservations. If you are a Lay District Officer, we need you to come and let us know you will be here.

Rev. Stephen B. Grantham,
Northeast District Superintendent,
The South Georgia Annual Conference

Let justice roll down like waters

To the South Georgia Conference,

As jury selection and the trial for those accused of killing Ahmaud Arbery begins today, it brings up different emotions and feelings in all of us. The video and story surrounding Ahmaud's murder captured the nation's attention. During the trial, the nation and the world will be tuning in. Brunswick, Georgia will be the stage as the trial progresses and an eventual verdict is reached. So many lives have been affected. More will be as the trial unfolds, concludes, and a verdict is reached.

As your Bishop, I would like to call all of us - the body of Christ - to a deep place of prayer. The scripture the Holy Spirit keeps moving me to pray comes from the prophet Amos. The vision that came to Amos, used by many leaders past and present, would be fulfilled, "But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream." (Amos 5:24 NRSV)

Everyone wants justice. Yet we are reminded in times like these that we live in an unjust world. As followers of Jesus, we are reminded that mercy, grace, forgiveness, and love must abound amid the injustices of this world. However, we must strive to eliminate the injustices that continue to happen to people, especially people of color.

During my time with you as your Bishop, I want to lead in a way that continues the work of the South Georgia Conference as we strive to do our part to change systems of injustice and help see the vision of the prophet Amos fulfilled. You will hear more details soon, but our next step in this process is forming a Coalition for Disrupting and Dismantling Racism.

In the meantime, I call upon all of us to pray, reflecting on the words of the prophet Amos, "But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream."

It is an honor to serve with you.

In Christ,

David Graves



Important Dates to Remember

November 1 st	All Saints Day
November 2 nd	Statesboro Cluster @ PPUMC Parlor @ 10:00 am
November 4 th	Pointer Cluster via ZOOM @ 10:00 am
November 5 th	Between Two Rivers Cluster @ Sylvania 1st
November 7 th	All Saints Sunday
November 7 th	Daylight Savings Time Ends
November 3 – 18	Healthflex Open Enrollment
November 11 th	Veteran's Day
November 15 th & 16 th	Bishop Graves will meet with the Northeast District
November 23 rd -26 th	District Office Closed for Thanksgiving
December 9 th	DCOM @ Pittman Park
December 11 th	District Christmas Party @ Pittman Park



1st Sharon Moon
4th Jose' Velasquez
7th Isaac Salgado
21st Kitty Newton
24th Donna Baxter
25th Carter Berkeley
26th Mike Lyons
27th Clay Loadman

1st Carroll & Carolyn Gay
7th Steve & Wendy Sirmons
13th Brian & Joni Durden
14th Jesse & Brenda France



Charge Conference Forms

The 2021 Charge Conference Forms are now live and may be found at www.sgaumc.org/onlineforms. In addition, the Extension Ministry dashboard is updated and ready as well at www.sgaumc.org/emdashboard.

Section 1 requires the use of the church dashboard (Clergy Compensation Form for clergy serving a local church or extension ministry and the Local Church Leadership List). Please contact the district office if you need help with your username and password.

Sections 2-4 contain fillable .pdf or Word documents, and Section 5 contains links provided by agencies/ministries of our Conference.

If you have never completed charge conference forms or need a refresher, Dr. Derek McAleer has provided a [Charge Conference Overview Webinar](#) to assist you.

There are several reminders and updates to note:

Lay Leadership List

As a reminder, the district and conference offices communicate with those persons holding various leadership positions of the local church throughout the year. This includes delegates to the Annual Conference session. It is vitally important that each required leadership position includes name AND email address.

Clergy Compensation Form

For clergy serving a local church the Compensation Form is accessed through the Church dashboard. For clergy serving in an extension ministry position the Compensation Form is accessed through the Extension Ministry dashboard.

This year, the Compensation Form will be only one section. *No need to go back later and do a second part anymore!* Clergy will **not** be reporting their health insurance elections on the compensation form. Clergy will go ahead and complete their Compensation Form - including their pension elections - online and turn it in through the Charge Conference. After Open Enrollment has concluded, clergy will print out their health insurance/benefits elections confirmation form and give a copy to his or her Treasurer so that the Treasurer will know what to withhold from their paycheck beginning Jan 1.

PLEASE NOTE: No one from the District or Conference offices will communicate your health elections to your local church treasurer. This is the responsibility of the clergy person.

2021 Charge Conference Form Timeline

August 2	Charge Conference Forms Open Online (including compensation)
November 3-18	Health Flex Open Enrollment
November 19	Completed Equitable Compensation applications due to District Offices
December 3	Clergy Compensation Forms Close Online

Charge Conference and Consultation Schedules

Fruitful Charge Conference –November 1st

6:00 pm	Harmony
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Pointer Clergy Consultations– Waynesboro November 2nd

9:00 am	Randy Carnley	12:00 pm	
10:00 am	Charles Way	1:00 pm	Sonny Moon
11:00 am	Jose Velasquez	2:00 pm	Jerry Sharpe

Fruitful Charge Conference –November 2nd

6:00 pm	Bellville
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Fruitful Charge Conference –November 3rd

6:00 pm	Glennville
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Pointer Clergy Consultations– Waynesboro November 3rd

9:00 am	Isaac Salgado	11:00 am	John Drake
10:00 am	Rene' Enlund	1:00 pm	John Powell
3:00 pm	Brenda Johnson	District Office	

Fruitful Charge Conference –November 4th

6:00 pm	Sikes Chapel
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Crossroads Consultations– Swainsboro November 5th

9:00 am	Chris Archambeault	12:00 pm	
10:00 am	Tom Tidwell	1:00 pm	Tommy Veal
11:00 am	Lee Pettis	2:00 pm	David Unkles

Pointer Charge Conference –November 7th

8:30 am	Union Grove/Midville (refreshments)
11:00 am	Waynesboro 1 st

Charge Conference and Consultation Schedules

Fruitful Charge Conference –November 7th

6:00 pm	Claxton 1 st
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Pointer Charge Conference –November 8th

6:00 pm	Sardis/Ellis Chapel (refreshments)
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Pointer Charge Conference –November 9th

6:00 pm	Millen
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Pointer Charge Conference –November 10th

6:00 pm	Fair Haven/Habersham (refreshments)
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Pointer Charge Conference –November 11th

6:00 pm	Green's Cut/Friendship (Refreshments)
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Crossroads Consultations– Swainsboro November 12th

9:00 am	Chris Holt	12:00 pm	
10:00 am	Mark Miller	1:00 pm	Kevin Palmore
11:00 am	Bryan Price	2:00 pm	Mark Hardin

Pointer Charge Conference –November 14th

9:00 am	Oak Grove/Nannie Williams
11:00 am	Asbury/Haven Munnerlyn
2:00 pm	Bethany/Bethesda
5:00 pm	Bethel Brick

Crossroads Charge Conference– Swainsboro November 17th

6:00 pm	Adrian/Poplar Springs/Keas
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Crossroads Charge Conference– Swainsboro November 18th

6:00 pm	Cobbtown/Ebenezer
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Charge Conference and Consultation Schedules

Crossroads Charge Conference–November 21st

9:00 am	Calvary
11:00 am	Swainsboro 1 st
2:00 pm	Twin City
4:00 pm	Portal/Oak Park/Payne’s Chapel

Crossroads Charge Conference–November 22nd

6:00 pm	Chris Holt
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Crossroads Charge Conference–November 23rd

6:00 pm	Garfield/New Beulah
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Crossroads Charge Conference–November 28th

2:00 pm	Lothair
5:00 pm	Soperton/Landsburg/Glenwood

Be sure your insurance provides a bond for the treasurer

It is important that all churches have employee dishonesty coverage and perhaps a fidelity bond on those who handle their funds (usually the treasurer and financial secretary). Employee dishonesty coverage usually reimburses the church if theft is discovered. A bond would reimburse any clients or vendors who were defrauded. Trustees should check with their insurance carrier to be sure they have this coverage.

While you are reviewing and amending your insurance policies, you are strongly encouraged to check on your sexual misconduct and employee practices liability coverage, no matter how small your church is. There have been several instances in South Georgia where this coverage proved vital or where churches wished it had been acquired prior to an incident.

2021 Dates for Lay Ministries (LSM and CLM)

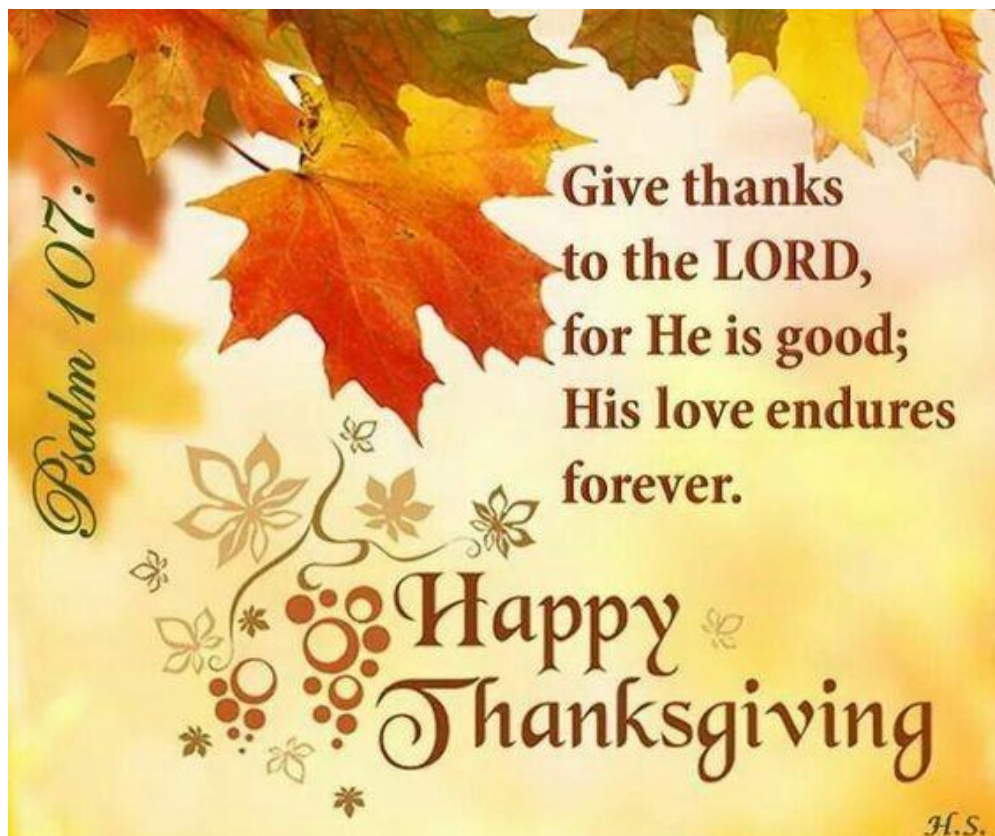
The 2021 dates for Lay Ministries - [Lay Servant Training](#) and [Certified Lay Ministry](#) - have been posted on the [conference website](#). The time is right for churches to take advantage of these leadership development opportunities.

More than ever, we need well trained leaders in our local churches. For more information, contact Anne Bosarge, Associate Director, Office of Congregational Development, at anne@thechapelministries.com or 912-262-1331.

GOLDEN CROSS FUND

The Golden Cross Fund is a ministry that reaches out in love to the laity in our Annual Conference who are experiencing financial difficulty due to excessive medical expenses. Through Golden Cross, United Methodists care for members of our local churches in time of emotional stress and financial need. If you or someone you know is struggling with medical bills, please refer them to the Gold Cross Fund.

For more info, go to <https://www.sgaumc.org/golden-cross-fund>.



Pastors Due for Sexual Ethics Workshop Before Annual Conference 2022

David Boggs	Steve Brown	Faye Burgamy
David Donnan	Rene' Enlund	Tammy Fincher
Carroll Gay	Chris Holt	Clay Loadman
Perry Medley	Ros Parker	Steve Posey
Jerry Sharpe	Steve Sirmons	Jeane Sturdivant
Ricky Varnell	Tommy Veal	

Everyone on the lists will get emails from the Conference in August with the pre-video dates and the dates and locations for the 2.5-hour discussions. This information is scheduled for February, and April.

For more information contact Kate Tyler at cpcassistant@sgaumc.com or <https://www.sgaumc.org/sexualethicsworkshops>.

Georgia United Methodist Foundation Newsletter

Check out the latest news at www.gumf.org.

Sign up at www.gumf.org/stay-connected to have the latest news delivered right to your inbox.

To learn more about GUMF's faith-based financial solutions for investing, lending, training, and planned giving, please contact 770-449-6726 or 478-256-7130 (South Georgia) or info@gumf.org.



Epworth By The Sea

Encounter Youth Retreat Moved to Jekyll Island November 19-21

[Encounter](#), the annual youth retreat sponsored by South Georgia's Connectional Ministries, is set for November 19-21 at Camp Jekyll 4-H Center on Jekyll Island. Designed for 6th - 12th grade students, [Encounter](#) will offer passionate worship, relevant Bible study, and a hope-filled time away in community with other teens.

[Online registration](#) is available through November 10. Churches will register as a group. The cost for this event is \$150 per person which includes programming, insurance, food, lodging, and a t-shirt.

Adult chaperones with Safe Sanctuary certification must be provided by each church group. For more information, contact Event Coordinator Suzanne Akins at suzanne@sgaumc.com or (912) 638-8626 ext. 107.

More information can also be found on the [Encounter website](#). [Register](#)



St. Simons Island Storytelling Festival

February 18 – 20, 2022

Live and IN PERSON!!!

Relive past times and celebrate the best of humanity in the joy-filled space of story. You will laugh, you will cry, and you will discover how very alive you can feel!

[read more](#)

Visit their [website](#) for more information and registration.

Disaster Response updates

We have been overwhelmed with the generosity of South Georgia United Methodists who have put together flood buckets, hygiene kits, cleaning kits, and school kits. Right now, we are at capacity in our storage facilities as are the depot warehouses where we normally deliver our supplies. At this time, we are not able to receive any buckets or kits. We will communicate as soon as we are ready to receive more.

In the meantime, we encourage you to [give to UMCOR through their "Materials Resources" fund](#). We are better together. Great is God's faithfulness!

Online Basic ERT Recertification

If your early response team (ERT) credentials have expired and you have not been able to renew because of COVID, UMCOR has waived all credentials from November 2019 through December 2021. In order to move forward in the credentialing process, UMCOR has now deployed an online recertification course to help you update your ERT credentials. Luis Morales, disaster response coordinator, will be hosting two, four-hour online classes. You only have to attend one of them to renew for another three years. They will be Saturday November 13 and December 11. [More information](#)

VETERANS DAY



HONORING ALL WHO SERVED

Statesboro First UMC pastor, children's minister dance to raise money for local domestic violence shelter



Dr. Scott Hagan is a pro at dancing through tough theological issues, but on Nov. 18th and Nov. 21st he is going to put his actual dance moves to the test as he struts his stuff on stage in front of hundreds of Statesboro friends and family.

Dr. Hagan, senior pastor of Statesboro First United Methodist Church, and his dance partner, Eastyn Durrence, a Georgia Southern University student and former competitive dancer, are one of 10 teams in this year's [Dancing with the Statesboro Stars](#) competition. [Read more](#)





Christmas Party

The Northeast District Christmas Party will be held on Saturday, December 11th at Pittman Park UMC Fellowship Hall from 11:30 am – 1:30 pm. This year we have a special guest performer. Andy Offutt Irwin, storyteller, humorist, and musician will be here to share a light and funny Christmas themed show of stories and song. A delicious lunch will be provided. Childcare will be provided for children five and under.

Please RSVP by Monday, November 29th at 912-871-3306 or northeastdistrict@sgaumc.com.



Daylight Savings Time

Daylight Savings Time ends on Sunday, November 7th. Do not forget to change your clocks back one hour. Also, remember to change the batteries in your Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Alarms.



Can you believe that it is already September? Christmas will be here before we know it! So, it is time to get a head start thinking about our Christmas gifts for our Magnolia Manor residents.

The Christmas season is a time of cheer and joyous celebration, for most of us. We want all of our residents to feel this same cheer. Unfortunately, some residents may not receive a gift this season. We want to make it possible for all of our residents to have a Christmas present to open!

Please find it in your heart to make a generous donation to help provide each resident with a Christmas gift. With your support, we can achieve our goal to give over 1,000 residents across our nine campuses a gift by raising \$10,000!

Here are some simple but meaningful ways to help:

1) Make a donation!

- o [Click Here](#) to make an online donation now.
- o Mail a check designated to *Resident Christmas Gifts* to:
Magnolia Manor Development Office
Attn: Resident Christmas Gifts
2001 South Lee Street
Americus, GA 31709

2) Share the love!

- Ask your friends and family to make a donation to help our residents
- Like our Magnolia Manor Facebook page and share our Resident Christmas gift posts with your friends!
- Set up a love offering at your church for Magnolia Manor Resident Gifts and mail your donation to the address above.

“I showed you in all things that you should work as I did and help the weak. I taught you to remember the words of Jesus. He said, ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’” -Acts 20:35

Sincerely,

Chealsea Cromer (229) 931-5934 or ccromer@magnoliamanor.com

Kendall Stephens (229) 931-5928 or kstephens@magnoliamanor.com