



PARISH LIFE NEWS

A New Program Team of the North Georgia Conference United Methodist Church

Vol. I

Issue 2

September, 2008

TEAM WISDOM

HERE I AM LORD

I share a passion with many of you for Church Renewal. For me, Church Renewal is a proactive term (not a reactive one.) Those of us blessed to serve in established Churches must always be open to ways God may be trying to lead us into our respective (and unique) mission fields. Church was never about us - our desires, our wants, or our needs - it was always about the **movement of Christ** out into the world. I look forward to traveling, praying, listening, and learning beside all of you along The Way. Here I am Lord.

MARK BURGESS

Vice Chairperson of Parish Life

UPCOMING!

OCTOBER:

PARISH LIFE

TEAM FORMATION

Please e-mail your best day and time for meetings by **SEPTEMBER 5th**

To: shari.rates@ngumc.net and we will determine the date, time and place based on the majority of responses.

MEET YOUR PARISH LIFE LEADERSHIP TEAM



MARK BURGESS
VICE CHAIR

MARK BURGESS:

Rev. Mark Burgess currently serves Christ through Christ's mission outpost at Hampton UMC (Griffin District). He and Shannon have been married for 26 years. They have been blessed with two children; Katie and Jacob. Katie is pursuing her masters degree in Epidemiology at the University of Alabama, Birmingham School of Public Health while Jacob is enjoying fourth grade at Hampton Elementary.

Mark is a second career pastor who responded to his Calling to ordained ministry in the United Methodist Church from a career in national and international manufacturing management many years ago. He graduated from Candler School of Theology in 2003.



CHRIS BARBIERI
CHAIR
COMMITTEE ON:
NATURAL CHURCH
DEVELOPMENT

CHRIS BARBIERI:

Chris is a "career changer" and left his career for seminary in 2002. Prior to that, he was a long-time Systems Analyst in the Information Technology field, spending most of his time with Wachovia and Georgia-Pacific. Chris focused on project management, problem solving and team building – skills that suit him well in ministry. Chris serves as the Associate Minister at Sandy Springs UMC, where he has been since 2005. He is responsible for Family Ministries, Evangelism, Missions, and Adult Education in addition to his normal pastoral responsibilities. He is a gifted teacher and enjoys the discipleship aspect of ministry – helping people see the relevance of Christian living and Scripture in their everyday lives.

Chris serves as District Statistician for the AROS District and is an enthusiastic coach for Natural Church Development. He has been a workshop leader for CEF and Sunday School & Beyond. Outside of the church, Chris serves on the Headwaters Advisory Board of Upper Chattahoochee Riverkeeper. He enjoys kayaking and is an active soccer player and referee.

SEPTEMBER 20th: ORIENTATION & TRAINING WITH BISHOP WATSON 9:30 a.m.-12 noon



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UPCOMING!

NORTH GEORGIA CONFERENCE QUADRENNIAL LEADERSHIP ORIENTATION

w/ Bishop Mike Watson

SATURDAY
SEPTEMBER 20, 2008
9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

MT. PISGAH UMC

New Sanctuary – North Campus
2850 Old Alabama Road
Alpharetta, GA 30022

RSVP: Mrs. Pam Higgins
phiggins@ngumc.org
678-533-1442

COMING IN OCTOBER:

PARISH LIFE TEAM FORMATION

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best day and time for
meetings by
SEPTEMBER 5th

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date, time and place
based on the majority of
responses.

Parish Life will have one annual
team meeting with all committee
members and chairpersons.

Subsequent quarterly meetings
will be set-up by the ministry area
chairpersons and their
commissions/committees.

*(Chairperson of Parish Life will
meet quarterly with the chairs of
the four ministry areas.)*

WHAT AN EXCITING TIME!

We are finally developing what will prove to be one of many vital areas in the life of the local church. Together we will join Advocacy, Nurture, Outreach and Witness as we seek to resource, equip and provide avenues for our local churches to witness to the world at large.

Thank you for your commitment to serve with the **Parish Life** team, and may God cover each and everyone of us as we enter into a new frontier!

Blessings always! Shari

PARISH LIFE LEADERSHIP

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

Chairperson:

Shari Rates

shari.rates@ngumc.net

Vice Chairperson:

Mark Burgess

mark.burgess@ngumc.net

Secretaries:

Irene Davis/Jeannine Singleton

miltonijr@bellsouth.net/jroysingleton@hotmail.com

Conference Staff:

Renita Thomas

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Cabinet/Staff:

Gerald Thurman

gerald.thurman@ngumc.net

CHAIRPERSONS OF MINISTRY AREAS & THEIR TEAMS:

COMMITTEE ON EXISTING CHURCH DEVELOPMENT & GRANTS:

Joe Watson

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William Boone/Tom Drake/Deborah Griffith/Britt McNeil/John Woods & Minnie
Robinson/Cabinet-Conference Rep.: James Cantrell/Renita Thomas

COMMISSION ON SMALL MEMBERSHIP CHURCH:

Carol Helton

carol.helton@ngumc.net

Doug Brown/Karen Lyons/Arutha Goss/Joseph Allen/Bill Floyd/James Garvin/
David Hinson/Steve Barnum/John Norman/Chris Branscomb/Steve Griggers/
David Tinsley/Cabinet-Conference Rep.: Mike Cavin/Renita Thomas

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL CHURCH DEVELOPMENT:

Chris Barbieri

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Charles Ritter/Mark Fallis/Chuck Savage/Max Vincent/Conference Rep.:

Renita Thomas

COMMITTEE ON CHURCH STAFF DEVELOPMENT:

TBA

John Carter/CeCe Nikolich/Marvin Jones/Conference Rep.: Phil Schroeder

DETAILED DIRECTORY FORTHCOMING BY E-MAIL.