



Spartanburg District Lines

A publication of the Spartanburg District UMC
Rev. Paul W. Harmon, District Superintendent

July 2011

Spartanburg District UMC, 354 South Pine St. Spartanburg, SC 29302

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Changes in the Spartanburg District effective June 29, 2011

NEW PASTORS

Scott Alexander (Alex) Stevenson to serve Central UMC
Spouse - Melissa, children: Mary & Kaitlyn

Samuel S (Sam) Warwick to serve Reidville Road UMC
Spouse - Dawn, children: Sam, Will, Mary & Julia

Rufus Horace (Horace) White to serve the Spartanburg Parish
(Allen Chapel, Florence Chapel, & Pleasant View)
Spouse - Eunice

Annie P. (Annie)Shaver to serve Fairmont UMC
Spouse - James

MOVES WITHIN THE DISTRICT

Richard Lewis will serve Duncan/Startex/Loree change.

CHANGES IN CHARGE LINES

Ronald D. (Ron) Towery will serve the Foothills Charge
(Campobello, Liberty & Fingerville)
Liberty was previously in the Greenville District

F. Edward (Ed) Traxler, Jr. will serve the St. Luke/Beaumont charge.

RETIRES TO DISTRICT

Luther & Carolyn Rickenbaker are now retired in the district.

THOSE LEAVING THE DISTRICT

James Ellis Griffeth has retired to the Greenville District
Christopher Thompson to serve East Greenville Charge in the Greenville District

Robin Griffeth to serve Zion-Zoar charge in Oswego in the Hartsville District

OTHER CHANGES

Karen Jones was ordained Full Deacon at the 2011 Annual Conference.
Katie Brock was Commissioned Provisional Deacon at the 2011 Annual Conference.
Don Boshell (Blacksburg Charge); Ron Towery (Foothills Charge) &
Ed Traxler (St Luke/Beaumont) have been granted full time local pastor status.

IRS Increases Mileage Rate to 55.5 Cents per Mile

WASHINGTON – The Internal Revenue Service today announced an increase in the optional standard mileage rates for the final six months of 2011. Taxpayers may use the optional standard rates to calculate the deductible costs of operating an automobile for business and other purposes.

The rate will increase to 55.5 cents a mile for all business miles driven from July 1, 2011, through Dec. 31, 2011. This is an increase of 4.5 cents from the 51 cent rate in effect for the first six months of 2011, as set forth in Revenue Procedure 2010-51. In recognition of recent gasoline price increases, the IRS made this special adjustment for the final months of 2011. The IRS normally updates the mileage rates once a year in the fall for the next calendar year.

"This year's increased gas prices are having a major impact on individual Americans. The IRS is adjusting the standard mileage rates to better reflect the recent increase in gas prices," said IRS Commissioner Doug Shulman. "We are taking this step so the reimbursement rate will be fair to taxpayers."

While gasoline is a significant factor in the mileage figure, other items enter into the calculation of mileage rates, such as depreciation and insurance and other fixed and variable costs.

The optional business standard mileage rate is used to compute the deductible costs of operating an automobile for business use in lieu of tracking actual costs. This rate is also used as a benchmark by the federal government and many businesses to reimburse their employees for mileage.

The new six-month rate for computing deductible medical or moving expenses will also increase by 4.5 cents to 23.5 cents a mile, up from 19 cents for the first six months of 2011. The rate for providing services for charitable organizations is set by statute, not the IRS, and remains at 14 cents a mile.

The new rates are contained in [Announcement 2011-40](#) on the optional standard mileage rates.

Taxpayers always have the option of calculating the actual costs of using their vehicle rather than using the standard mileage rates.

Mileage Rate Changes:

Purpose	Rates 1/1 through 6/30/11	Rates 7/1 through 12/31/11
Business	51	55.5

Medical/Moving	19	23.5
Charitable	14	14

Grow an Extra Row

Society of St. Andrew Gleaning Network in the Upstate of SC encourages all congregations to invite their gardeners and farmers to grow an extra row of veggies this summer specifically for the purpose of gleaning. Let's follow the biblical precedent and grow a dedicated portion of our crops for the needy of our community.

For more information, bulletin announcement ideas and other gleaning opportunities please contact Rev. Ashley McCoy-Bruce at 864-640-7171 or upstatescglean@endhunger.org.

Laity Convocation

The SC Conference Laity Convocation "Dream to Change the World" will be held July 29, 30 and 31 at Lake Junaluska. Dr. Mike Slaughter will be worship leader for the event. Please see the Conference Website at www.umcsc.org for more info and the registration form.

SC Conference Youth Event

"Immerse," the SC Conference Youth Event will be held July 28-31 at Lake Junaluska. For more information, please go to the Conference Website at www.umcsc.org.

Lay Speakers to Gather at Columbia College, July 14-16, 2011

The Southeastern Jurisdiction Association of Directors of Lay Speaking Ministries will convene July 14-16, 2011 at Columbia College in Columbia, SC for a weekend of training, fellowship, networking, and spirited worship. All lay speakers are invited. We will also offer the Basic course for beginning lay speakers. Complete information can also be found at www.sejlayspeakingministries.org.

Please complete and mail the printable form as soon as possible to ensure your place at this special event.

We look forward to seeing all of you in Columbia.

Michael Cheatham, President SEJ Association of Directors of Lay Speaking Ministries

SC Conference Director of Lay Speaking Ministries

UMW School of Christian Mission, Spartanburg Methodist College July 20 – 24

Yah Yah Fun Day Wednesday, August 10, 2011 at St. James UMC

Program includes The Baillie Players, Sparkle City Red Hatters and the Shepherd Center Line Dancers, Senior Awards, Song Fest. Lunch catered by Mutt's Barbecue
Cost is \$10.00 registration limited to the first 300 persons, no registrations taken at the door.

Hospice of Rutherford County to present A Two-day Conference

Tuesday, September 29th and Wednesday, 30th, 2011 9 am to 4 pm

Day One:

Spirituality Unplugged: Assessing and Empowering the Client's Spirituality

Day Two:

Children, Adolescents, and Grief

Speaker: Kenneth J. Doka, Ph.D.

Please see brochure with registration information on our web site

Lay Leaders & Clergy Gathering August 14, 3:30 – 5:00 pm at Central UMC

Please remember Special Offerings during the remaining year

August

- 7 – Aldersgate Special Needs
- 21 – Call to Ministry Sunday

September

- 11 – Work Day Offering for Epworth Children's Home
- 18 – Youth Service Fund Sunday

October

- 2 – World Communion Sunday
- 9 – Children's Sabbath
- 16 – Laity Sunday

November

- 6 – Advance Special Ministries Sunday
- 13 – Organ & Tissue Donor Sunday
- 20 – Bible Sunday
- 27 – United Methodist Student Day

Other events

October 14 – 21, 2011 Colors of New England Vacation sponsored by St James UMC
For more information contact Linda Burch 864-404-4240 or Ira Snead 864-576-1585
Final payment due 8/15/2011 – first come first serve

October 21-13, 2011 Choir Music Weekend at Lake Junaluska

Delegates Elected

Members of the 2011 Annual Conference elected nine clergy and nine laity as delegates to the 2012 General Conference. Elected from our district are Mrs. Liz Patterson of Central UMC & Rev Kathy James, Congregational specialist for Spartanburg & Rock Hill districts.

An additional nine lay & nine clergy were elected to join the General Conference delegates at the 2012 Jurisdictional Conference. None elected were from the Spartanburg District.

Delegates unanimously elected Rev. Tim McClendon as the 2012 S. C. Episcopal nominee from SC.

The Upstate Take Heart Conference

Save the Date!

Are you in need of hope? Or do you have a heart for ministering to women in need?

Don't miss the Upstate Take Heart Conference!

Highlights:

© Speaker Carol Kent, an inspirational, dynamic speaker who has modeled living faithfully through times of trouble. She is the bestselling author of *When I Lay My Isaac Down*, *A New Kind of Normal*, and *Between a Rock and a Grace Place*. (For more information about Carol, go to www.CarolKent.org.)

© Breakout workshops on subjects such as divorce recovery, marriage support, unemployment, parenting special-needs children, coping with illness/care giving, grief recovery, abortion recovery, financial planning, addiction, supporting families of prisoners, and others.

© Resource materials, including a devotional booklet and a list of follow-up Bible studies and support groups offered through partner churches and ministries.

This conference will be held on Friday, September 30 and Saturday, October 1, at Buncombe St. United Methodist Church, Greenville, SC. Save the date! More details to come!

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