



# SOUTHEAST CIRCUIT RIDER edition

Southeast District, 101 N. Kingshighway, Suite 200, Cape Girardeau, MO 63701  
 [573] 334-8723 Fax: [573] 334-3807 E-mail: southeast@ecunet.org  
 Website: <http://www.sedistrictumc.org>

VOLUME 22 NUMBER 9 024015

APRIL 8, 2005

## Maximize the opportunity

One of the most fantastic ministries in place when I arrived in the Southeast District was the Hispanic ministry, *Jesus es el Camino*. We have witnessed the growth of this ministry during the past few years. The Spirit is alive and well.

We are currently in the midst of a campaign to raise funding for Hispanic ministry in the Southeast District. There is an emerging Hispanic population within our district. My prayer is that we find ways to maximize our opportunity!

A solid foundation is in place. *Jesus es el Camino* is our base worship and service ministry. It amazes me how much the people accomplish with such limited resources. Now is the time to cease our opportunity to solidify the current work and make plans to expand.

Our vision is to see Hispanic ministries develop throughout the district. We want to continue to strengthen the existing congregation and then use it as a base for sending others out to begin cell groups in many areas of the district. Some of these will continue to operate as small groups with trained lay leadership. Some of these new groups will eventually develop into strong congregations. There is really no limit to what God can do in this area.

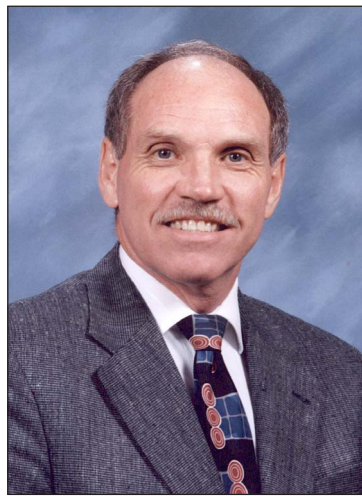
I invite you to read through the Book of Acts and the book of Second Corinthians. Get

acquainted with the "Jerusalem Church." You will get a picture of a group of Christians who are serving Christ and others in many ways. It is a group of believers who worship and reach out to non-Christian people. It is a church that is experiencing dynamic growth. You will also realize that it is a faithful fully functioning church that has limited resources.

When you read Paul's letter to the Corinthians you will notice he often refers to receiving an offering. This offering comes from the more affluent Christians in Asia Minor and will be delivered to the needy church in Jerusalem. In this way everyone shares in the ministry.

There is an application for the Hispanic Ministry in the Southeast District. *Jesus es el Camino* reaches people for Jesus Christ. They are baptizing new believers. They are teaching people how to live the Christian life. They help Hispanic people adapt to this new and wonderful culture. They teach English as a second language. The list of ministries and services goes on and on. These are also people who work very hard for little financial support. Furthermore, much of what is earned is often sent back to family members who remain in their native land.

This is where you and I come into the picture. In the context of Hispanic ministry, you and I are affluent. Our churches all have



resources that we may share with others who are alive in the Spirit, but lacking in temporal matters. "The World is IN our Parish" is our Southeast District campaign to secure firm funding for the present and foundations for our future in Hispanic ministry.

Someone will be in each of our churches to help tell the story and share our dream. Each church, church member, or group within the church will be invited to make a special, second mile commitment to Hispanic Ministry. I envision many individuals making special gifts to this ministry. I see our churches putting Hispanic Ministry in our missions budgets on an annual basis. I see all of us sharing together to further the work and build the kingdom.

It is not often we have such obvious opportunities to share in the work that the Holy Spirit is inspiring! I pray that you and your church claim the opportunity to share in this ministry.

Steve  
 Dr. Steve Breon, DS, Southeast District, Missouri Conference

## Host homes needed

Our Missouri office of Volunteers in Mission has announced that a VIM team of pastors from Piedras Negras, Mexico, will be coming to Cape Girardeau to assist our Southeast District Hispanic Ministries April 17-22.

Church members in the Cape Girardeau area are needed to provide hospitality to our visiting Mexican pastors.

Do you live in the vicinity of Cape Girardeau, and have the accommodations to host one or two of these pastors from Mexico for five nights? All that is needed is a bed and breakfast.

This will be a great opportunity to provide hospitality and at the

same time, support our Hispanic Ministry. What a wonderful experience it is to get acquainted with others of different cultures, and yet, the same Lord and Savior.

Also, most members in our United Methodist churches have such a limited knowledge of our Hispanic Ministry in Cape Girardeau, that this will be an educational and mission focused opportunity.

Please consider hosting a VIM pastor. If you are able to speak Spanish, all the better!

If you are able to serve in this way, contact Southeast District VIM Coordinator, Dr. Clayton Smith, 573-334-2869, as soon as possible.



## Celebrate Recovery

### New Christian Based Recovery Step Study

Do you have hurts, hang-ups, or habits? Do you feel in bondage to them? If so, Celebrate Recovery is for you.

Celebrate Recovery is a Christian-based step study designed by John Baker from Saddleback Church. The purpose of this ministry is to fellowship and celebrate God's healing power in our lives through eight recovery principles. By working and applying these biblical principles, we begin to grow spiritually and become free from our addictive, compulsive, and dysfunctional behaviors. This freedom creates peace, serenity, joy and most importantly, a stronger personal relationship with God and others. As we progress through the

program, we discover our personal, loving, and forgiving Higher Power, Jesus Christ, the one and only true Higher Power.

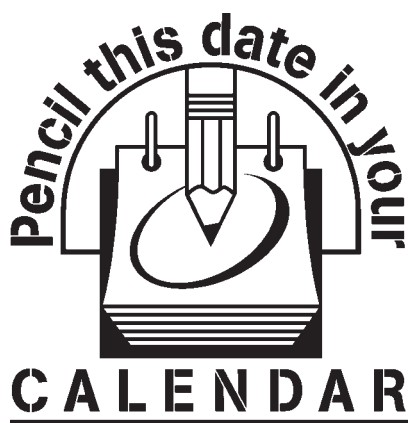
La Croix UMC in Cape Girardeau will begin this ministry May 19, 7:00 PM in the facility youth area.

Please contact Jana Jateff: 573-651-4103, or Jeff Crain: 573-379-4025



### Important upcoming dates in our district:

- April 15-16 ~ Clergy Spouse Retreat at Harper Chapel UMC in Osage Beach, MO
- April 17, 5:00 PM ~ SEMO Wesley House Annual Spring Celebration Dinner, held at La Croix UMC. Guest speaker: Mike "Fitz" Fitzpatrick, Youth director at La Croix UMC. Come enjoy a catered dinner with multimedia presentation, testimonials, and music provided by the Wesley House Student Praise Team! Cost \$8/per person. RSVP to SEMO Wesley House, 573-651-4550
- May 15, 3:30 PM ~ Ingathering for "The World is IN Our Parish" Hispanic Ministries Stewardship Campaign - Bishop Schnase guest preacher, at Sikeston: First UMC.





**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: April 22**

for the May 6 edition of the Southeast Circuit Rider.

If you have exciting events taking place in your church, share them with us! We are always looking for news and interesting stories to share with others in our district!

Send articles to:  
 101 N. Kingshighway, #200  
 Cape Girardeau, MO 63701  
 or to: [southeast@ecunet.org](mailto:southeast@ecunet.org)

## PAUMCS Scholarship awarded

Congratulations! to Delores Millis, the church secretary at Trinity UMC in Piedmont, received a full scholarship to attend Professional Association of United Methodist Church Secretaries Institute at Candler School of Theology in Atlanta, Georgia, July 17-22, 2005.

The Institute provides outstanding advanced professional training and enrichment for United Methodist Church Secretaries from across the denomination. A participant who completes the program and meets the requirements set forth by the General Council on Finance and Administration is eligible to apply for certification as a Professional United Methodist Church Secretary.

The five-day PAUMCS Institute is designed to stimulate professional growth and development of the individual. Participants are introduced to business concepts required for understanding the financial operations of the church as well as relationships with the pastor, church employees and members of the congregation. Studying such concepts with professors selected from a strong business school faculty and other experts encourages secretaries to become better informed and more effective church administrators.

The experience of learning with local church secretaries and networking with others in similar office settings provides a broader understanding of the connectional

United Methodist Church. Church secretaries learn the functions of district, conference, agency and Episcopal offices, while these various office personnel learn about the many responsibilities of a local church secretary. It is a place to see how all members of the church body are in ministry together.

Legislation was officially adopted by the 1988 General Conference as follows: "The General Council on Finance and Administration shall have the authority and responsibility to provide guidance and consultation for continuing education of church secretaries, including establishment of training and certification programs, and to provide assistance to the Professional Association of United Methodist Church Secretaries (*Book of Discipline*, 2004, Paragraph 807.19).

For more information on PAUMCS, or what it has to offer your church secretary, contact the Southeast District office.

The Southeast District PAUMCS will be hosting a welcome luncheon April 22, at Country Memories Tea Room in Patterson. All secretaries are invited to come learn more about this organization. For more information, contact the Southeast District office.



## Grant received by New Salem UMC

By Rev. Calvin Brown

On February 20, 2005, New Salem United Methodist Church was blessed with a visit from Harry Sharp of The Missouri United Methodist Foundation.

New Salem UMC had applied for a grant, needing finances to purchase chairs and tables for our young children's Sunday School classes. How happy we were when we found out that we had been awarded a grant!

Our children's Sunday School rooms will be upgraded, and a nursery will be made available. We are truly grateful to The Missouri United Methodist Foundation for helping us in this effort. Without their help, this might never have happened.

Our thanks, also, to Shirley Grebe and daughter, Penny Myers, the two New Salem UMC members who took it upon themselves to fill out the grant application.



(Pictured at right) The children of New Salem UMC gathered, with Betty Henry giving the Children's Sermon.

Grant presentation made to New Salem UMC. Pictured (Right to Left) Harry Sharp (MO United Methodist Foundation), Pastor Calvin Brown, Shirley Grebe, Penny Myers, and Steve Breon, District Superintendent



02.19.2005



02.19.2005

## New Winds Blowing!

Arguably, the poorest county in the state of Missouri, the people of Pemiscot County are taking their future into their own hands. From the City and County Governments to the Educational systems, to the Churches there are new efforts to revitalize the area. Nowhere is this more obvious than at the Delmo Village Wardrobe in Hayti, Missouri.

Operated for nearly 30 years by the Office of Creative Ministries of the Missouri Conference of the United Methodist Church, this operation, and it's director at that time, Irmgard Jones, were given special recognition by President Carter. When Mrs. Jones retired in October 2003, there was consideration given to closing the location. But a new wind was beginning to blow across the Bootheel as members of Hayti First Caruthersville Eastwood Memorial, and Hayti Saint Luke's United Methodist churches as well as concerned citizens joined together to revamp the operation. This effort has had startling results.

Pledging to insure that all people would be served to the best of their abilities, this group undertook a vast change in the operation. They pledged that clothing in the resale shop would be of the quality they would wear them-

selves; sorting and hanging thousands of items. To complete that part of the pledge, they set a new pricing program with adult clothing selling at fifty cents per item and children's clothing at twenty-five cents per item. Additionally, it was pledged that no person would be without proper attire during the winter, and a no-charge policy for coats and a blankets was established.

When funds permitted, a food pantry was established with the goal of providing additional foods to the needy, particularly the elderly on fixed incomes whose funds had run out nearing the end of the month. Today, this operation provides for forty to fifty families, but it is estimated, that with more funds, could easily provide for more than two hundred.

With all this activity, a new problem arose in September 2004. The operation, near closing a year earlier, had outgrown its current facility.

Undaunted, the people took on another pledge and are now working, within their area to raise funds to purchase property adjacent to the current building in order to erect a second building to better serve a community that is struggling, but nonetheless, working toward a new beginning.

It goes without saying that it is difficult to raise the nearly \$40,000 needed to complete this project from the people we serve, but the supporters of the Wardrobe are making a valiant effort to do just that. There is also potential assistance from a donor who commits a million or more dollars each year to help feed the people. With the possible matching funds of a "dollar for dollar" of monies we can collect, it is believed that the new building is attainable, and that even more people can be served with assistance of food and clothing.

As the last fully owned Home Mission of the Office of Creative Ministries, we, the Board of Directors, invite all the people of the United Methodist Churches in the Southeast District and Methodists across this great Missouri Conference to join in this effort. Let's tell the people of the Bootheel that they are not forgotten and show the world that we are, indeed, a part of the body of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.



For further information contact Rev. Dwight Chapman of Eastwood Memorial UMC at 573/333-2705, Rev. Sue Cabbage of Hayti UMC at 573/359-0241 or Mrs. Faye Rhodes at 573/359-0657.

## Centenary UMC begins Parent's Day Out program

By Sherilyn Borders,  
Director of Children's Ministries

This August, Centenary UMC in Cape Girardeau, will be offering a Parent's Day Out Program for stay-at-home parents, or parents who work part-time and are in need of child care. The program will be offered on Tuesday and Thursday from 9:00 AM - 2:30 PM. This program will serve children ages 2-4, and may be used for one or both days per week.

This is a great opportunity for parents to leave their children in a safe, loving, Christian environment while they get some errands done, take courses at the University, or whatever needs to be done for the day!

The mission of the Parent's Day Out Program is to reach out to parents of our church and the community by providing safe child care in a loving Christian

environment that encourages the social, physical, intellectual, emotional and spiritual growth of each child.

I hope that you and your child, your neighbor's child, or a friend's child, will take part in this stimulating program at Centenary, beginning August 2005!

There is limited space available, so call the church office today to sign up. (573) 334-2869. You will be mailed an enrollment form to return, along with a \$30 registration fee, to reserve your child's place in the program.



Let the little children  
come to me...

Luke 18:16