

"Ahoy, Mates! ...our fleet is on the prowl , sailing the seas between Crystal River and Braden River, in search of men, ships , and harbors engaging Christian men in the ministries of the Church and its missions."



## *FROM THE FOUR WINDS*



The Newsletter of the Gulf Central District United Methodist Men 1st Quarter 2015

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### "Firing up a church's men's ministry"

"He who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire."

Matthew 3: 11

On **Monday, February 2**, at First UMC in Spring Hill, and on **Tuesday, Feb 19** , at Allendale UMC in St Petersburg, the Gulf Central District UMM will be hosting a session on "Firing up a church's men's ministry" as part of the District Leadership Training put on by Rev. John Powers and Maggie Corrigan. The Churches in our district and UMM groups are urged to send representatives and leaders engaged in the affairs and ministries of men to this training event.



Both evenings will involve a panel of representatives from churches within the District having a variety of men's ministries that are effective at firing up the men of all ages in some form or another. They will be presenting the following

- (1) How men can be fired up to serve the local church
- (2) How men can be fired up to serve outside the local church
- (3) How to recruit un-churched men

The panel will be encouraging others in attendance to share the big and the small things that work for them in motivating men to serve within the church, to serve beyond the walls of the church, and to recruit un-churched men.

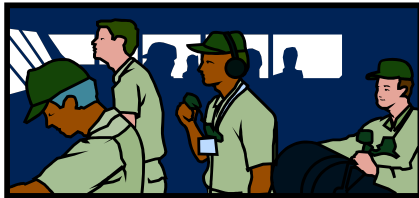
After all, we are nothing unless we are taking the gospel of Jesus Christ to the men and bearing fruit on the vine of Christ.

In addition – District UMM president will be briefing those in attendance on matters discussed at a UMM Strategic Thinking Retreat involving the General Commission of the UMM, the Florida Conference UMM Board and the Florida Conference Committee being held January 24.

In the works is a re-organization of the United Methodist Men in the Florida Conference that will affect every men's fellowships within our Districts.

What is working for your church? You can call or email Chet Klinger with your ideas and thoughts. Your ideas and thoughts will help us prepare for the February events. We need to hear from you on or before January 6.

Come and join us at our **January 6** meeting (in person or via Skype) or at the UMM session of the Gulf Central District Leadership training. Help us chart the seas ahead of us. Help us find new treasures for the Lord's kingdom. Help us look to the heavens and see the signs the Lord is sending us – to prepare for the Way of the Lord. Help us help each other negotiate the waves and the winds in our journey with Jesus Christ.



**Meet with the GULF CENTRAL DISTRICT UMMEN** - We need men from your church to join us at our **January 6** meeting at **7 pm** at the upstairs conference room at **St Paul UMC on 1498 Rosary Rd, Largo, FL** Write Chet Klinger at [cklinger1@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:cklinger1@tampabay.rr.com) or call 727-512-2498 to RSVP.

Do you have Skype and a camera on your computer? We can bring you into our meeting from your desktop computer at home or on your tablet or laptop or phone from anywhere you can connect to WIFI. RSVP Chet.

**Friday, Saturday, January 16 – 17 , 2015 - Mission Impact – at Bethune-Cookman University Daytona Beach – adults, older and younger, and students gather for a weekend of worship, training, and learning how to practice missions in every day life. Bring your Sunday Schools, men's groups, and other groups to this two day event. Go to [www.missionimpactflorida.org](http://www.missionimpactflorida.org) for details.**

**March 6-7-8, 2015 – Springtime by the Lake – A Spiritual Enrichment time for married couples, singles, men, women, young and old – with great speakers and music – sponsored by the Florida Conference UMM in co-operation with the Life Enrichment Center - speakers: Dr. Riley Short, John Riley, Rev Debbie Nelson, Rev. Harold Lewis. Go to <http://www.ummflconf.org/>**

**We wish to thank the following who contributed to the success of our UMM for 2014.**

Lou Amandola, Past President of the Gulf Central District UMM

Bill Elliott, Past Treasurer

Ian Lennox, Secretary

Bob Readell, Chaplain and Vice-President

George Francey, Treasurer

Chet Klinger, President

Advisers - Herb James, Ray Loudon, Greg Lepper, Earl Million, David Peay

Maggie Corrigan, Business Administrator, Gulf Central District UMC

Rachel Shockey, Administrative Assistant, St Paul UMC

Alisa Rushing, Business Administrator, Anona UMC

Rev. John Powers, District Superintendent

The UMM and churches within the Gulf Central District who encouraged and sent men to the 2014 Fall Men's Spiritual Retreats at the Life Enrichment Center near Leesburg.

## **MEN'S MINISTRIES TRAINING RESOURCES**

**LEAD LIKE JESUS** – *From Jim Boesch, United Methodist Men's Specialist* - It takes only two Saturdays to complete this class. To learn more about this course for your church, contact Jim Boesch at 407-721-0416 or e-mail Jim at [jimboesch68@gmail.com](mailto:jimboesch68@gmail.com) Class materials costs start at \$25 per registrant.

If your organization is willing to partner with the District UMM and/or a have dozen or so churches in your area, please contact us at the Gulf Central District.

**RIGHT NOW MEDIA** - Check this out - <http://www.rightnowmedia.org/> Bible studies galore; free demo. Monthly subscription rates based upon size of church.

**Man Alive** -- Man in the Mirror's Man Alive and Hanging Out with Jesus on-line classes. If anyone wants to learn more about these Discipleship training programs, contact Ray Louden of Parrish UMC at 941-729-0614 or e-mail Ray at [relouden@yahoo.com](mailto:relouden@yahoo.com)

**Seedbed's 7-minute Seminary** - A great way to start off your meetings or gatherings with - Try the free on-line 7-Minute Seminary Click on <http://seedbed.com/seven-minute-seminary/>

### **WHAT CAN YOU SAY ABOUT THE MEN OF YOUR CHURCH?**

*Does your church have men singing in the choir? Does your church have men gathering for coffee or a meal on a regular basis? Are your men working on a mission project to raise money to support a mission of the church? Do you have men attending some form of leadership or discipleship training or Bible study? If yes, why hide what the men of your church are doing to "feed Christ's sheep." Tell us about it.*

#### **BOARD OFFICERS, MEMBERS AND ADVISERS**

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David Peay – Faith UMC – Hudson [davidcp2@aol.com](mailto:davidcp2@aol.com)

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Scouting Coordinator: Mark Dodge 727-784-1345 [dodgmk@aol.com](mailto:dodgmk@aol.com)