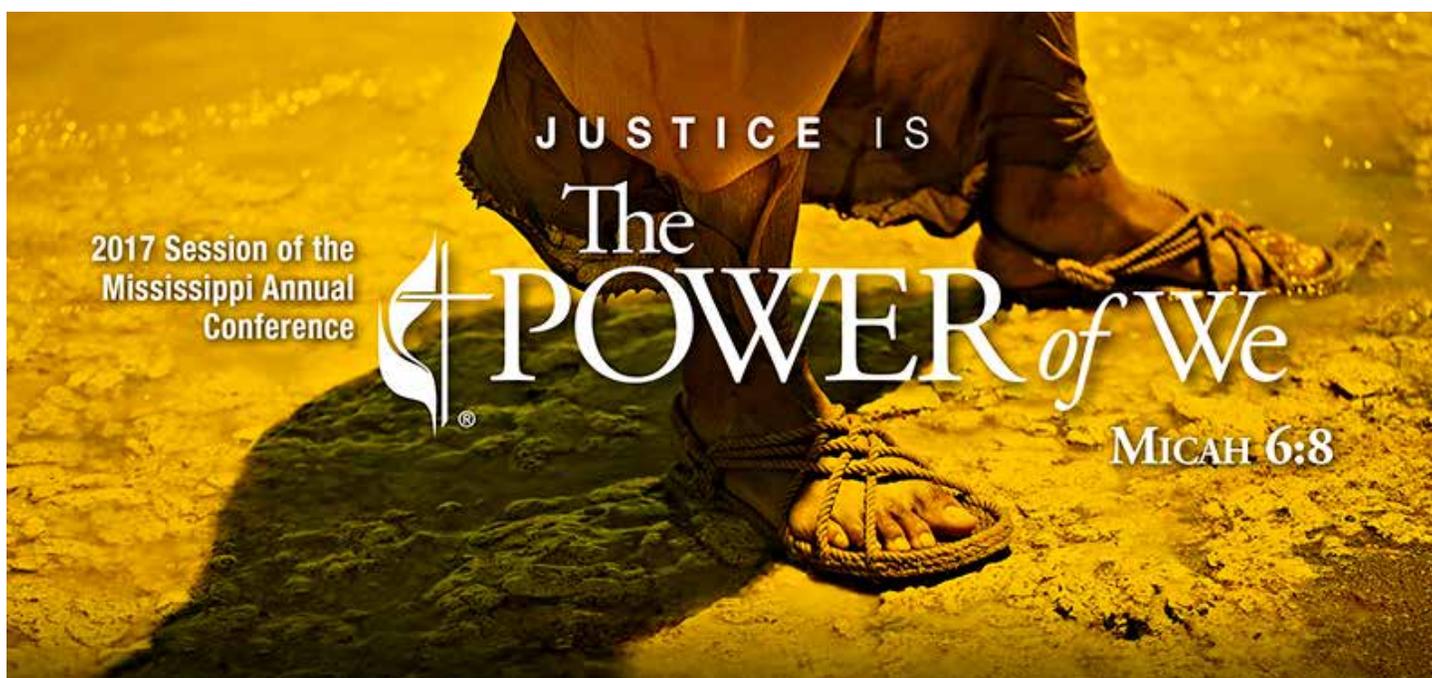


Your Connection *to The* Mississippi Annual Conference

The Circuit Rider

Published Wednesday | June 7, 2017

**See You to the 2017 Session of
the Mississippi Annual Conference!**



Go to www.mississippi-umc.org/2017smac
for all things related to the 2017 Annual Conference!

Save the Date | Announcements

Embrace Conference

June 2-4, 2017

The Embrace Conference will be at Christ United Methodist Church in Jackson, Mississippi on June 2-4, 2017. It will involve workshops on Friday and Saturday and a "Night of Worship" on Sunday night. This event is designed to teach churches how to become multi-ethnic, multi-cultural, and multi-racial churches. More information about the conference may be found at www.embraceconference.info.

Historic Children's Church Camp Comes to Gulfport

June 5-9, 2017

Camp Lake Stephens in Oxford has a fully-staffed traveling day camp coming to the Gulf Coast for the first time. The camp will be hosted by First United Methodist Church in downtown Gulfport at 2301 15th Street.

The day camp, for any child who has finished kindergarten through 4th grade, will meet Monday through Friday beginning the week of June 5. The hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. each day.

The cost is \$50 per camper for the week. Payment must be made at reservation to hold a spot for your child. Scholarships are available. For information or to register, call the church office at 228-863-0047, or e-mail Jill Senn, Director of Children's Ministries, at jill@fumc-gulfport.org.

United Methodist Men Annual Meeting June 7, 2017

The annual meeting of the Mississippi Conference United Methodist Men will take place Wednesday, June 7, 5:30 p.m. at the Jackson Convention Complex in Jackson, Miss. Annual elections and the business of the UMM will be conducted during this meeting. All male members of Mississippi Conference United Methodist Churches are invited. To follow the Mississippi United Methodist Men on Facebook, go to <https://www.facebook.com/UMMenMS/>.

To visit website of the General Commission on United Methodist Men, go to <http://www.gcumm.org>.

Connected: A Night of Worship June 7, 2017

Join us as we unite in an intergenerational evening of connection. We as The United Methodist Church want to open our doors to the public, inviting people from all around the state-from different churches, communities and denominations-to gather to worship the one true God under one roof. A worship opportunity featuring music from Shane & Shane and speaker Rev. Dr. Kenda Creasy Dean.

For more information, go to <http://www.mississippi-umc.org/connected>.

Retirement Service for Rev. David and Pattie Cumbest June 24, 2017

Safe Harbor UMC invites you to a retirement celebration in honor Rev. David and Pattie Cumbest on Saturday, June 24, 2017 at 5 p.m. To attend, RSVP to safeharborumc@cableone.net.

M28Camps Youth Conferences 2017 July 2-6 | July 6-9 | July 10 -14

M28Camps is in partnership with Lake Junaluska Conference Center to provide 3 youth events at Lake Junaluska, NC during the first two weeks of July. These 3 events are designed to help youth ministers and church adult volunteers foster Christian discipleship in their groups in the United Methodist/Wesleyan tradition. Participants can expect moving worship, speakers, special "late night" entertainment, and plenty of activities in the surrounding mountains. This year's keynote speakers are Rev. Regine Baptiste and Rev. Patrick Quinn. Registration is still being accepted! For more information please go to www.M28Camps.com.

Lake Junaluska Announces Summer Worship Series July 2 - Aug. 6, 2017

The 2017 Summer Worship Series at Lake Junaluska will feature distinguished speakers from around the country. All are invited to attend the six Sunday morning worship services and Monday night Taizé services. Spirited, traditional worship services will take place on Sunday mornings from July 2 to August 6 at 10:30 a.m. The theme for this year was inspired by Psalm 121:1, "I lift up my eyes to the hills." Learn more at www.lakejunaluska.com/summer-worship.

Laura Story Performing at Lake Junaluska July 3, 2017

Laura Story will perform July 3 at Lake Junaluska as part of the Independence Day Celebrations. Story is a well-known contemporary Christian artist who has been recognized for her amazing musical ability and knack for getting to the heart of difficult issues. Her song "Blessings" won a GRAMMY award, a Billboard Music Award and three Dove Awards. Her fifth studio album, "Open Hands," was released in March 2017. To learn more about the Independence Day Celebrations at Lake Junaluska, visit www.lakejunaluska.com/july4th.

Theater Camp for Children and Youth July 10-12, 2017

Things are getting dramatic at Galloway UMC with a brand new opportunity for children and youth who have completed 1st through 12th grades. Join us for a special two-week theater camp July 10-21, Monday through Friday from 8:30 am to noon. Director Lauren Gunn will lead students in acting workshops, dance lessons, set design, costume creation, and more, all in preparation for a final performance for the whole community on Friday, July 21 at 6 pm at Galloway UMC (305 N Congress Street, Jackson, MS). The cost is \$100 per student. Scholarships are available.

For more information and registration, go to <https://goo.gl/cBMD7u>.

Festival of Wisdom and Grace Aug. 7-10, 2017

Attend the Festival of Wisdom and Grace at Lake Junaluska, North Carolina, Aug. 7-10, 2017. Registration is open. Learn more about this amazing older adult educational opportunity at <https://tinyurl.com/mn36txc>.

FAM JAM

Aug. 12, 2017

Save the date, Aug. 12, 2017. The Mississippi Conference presents a family event especially for children, kindergarten through 6th grades. Keep checking Mississippi Conference newsletters, social media and the website for details.

Leadership Institute

September 27-29, 2017

The United Methodist Church of the Resurrection invites you to Leadership Institute 2017, which takes place at the Leawood, KS campus, September 27 - 29, 2017. Registration is now open! Join clergy, church staff and volunteers from across the nation for one of the largest mainline training events in the country. The line-up of nationally known General Session speakers includes Adam Hamilton, Adam Weber, Nancy Beach, Olu Brown, Tony Morgan, Chris Folmsbee, Scott Chrostek, and Sarah Heath. For details and registration, visit <http://li.cor.org/>. For questions contact sharechurchevents@cor.org or 913-232-4139.

2020 Pre-General Conference Briefing

Jan. 23-24, 2020

Mark your calendar to attend the 2020 Pre-General Conference Briefing in Nashville, Tennessee on Jan. 23-24, 2020.

- Learn about legislation and logistics
- Prepare for your work at General Conference
- Connect with fellow attendees

More details will be provided closer to the date of the event.

UMC Events

Visit <http://www.umc.org/events> to see more educational opportunities and other upcoming events in the life of The United Methodist Church.

Announcements

Camp Lake Stephens Summer Camp

It is not too late to register for summer camp! Day and resident camp options are available. At camp children and youth can make new friends, learn new activities, challenge themselves, sing camp songs, play in the creek, go down the zip line, and most importantly learn about God. Please go to our website to learn more about our camp options. Register before the end of May and receive a \$50 discount. To receive discount enter CIRCUIT in promo code box when you register your camper. To register, visit www.camplakestephens.com.

Stay Connected

- Facebook: www.facebook.com/pages/The-Mississippi-United-Methodist-Conference/436491529732524
- Twitter: https://twitter.com/Mississippi_UMC
- You Tube: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCSRtxv_Kix8IbYuHKRMLIjg
- Flickr: www.flickr.com/photos/119483421@N02/

Stay Connected with ConnectText

Mississippi United Methodists with the ability to receive text messaging via phone are encouraged to sign up for ConnectText. The service is another option for people to stay informed about important dates and other conference happenings.

To sign up for ConnectText:

1. Remember, you must have the ability to get text messages on your phone.
2. From your mobile phone, text the letters 'MSUMC' to the number 95577 and press send.
3. Wait a few seconds for a confirmation text and you're connected!

Mississippi Conference's Mobile App—MY MSUMC

MY MSUMC—the Mississippi Conference of The United Methodist Church's official mobile app—is available at no cost on all iPhone, Android, Galaxy and Blackberry phones and their corresponding pads and tablets. MY MSUMC allows easy access to the latest conference events, local UM news and The *Circuit Rider*. The MY MSUMC app presents users with a unique opportunity to interact with the conference by submitting prayer requests, recording audio of personal testimonies and posting comments via facebook and twitter. Plus, the 'Our Districts' feature shows a comprehensive list of district contact information and even directions from the user's current location—all from a mobile smart phone or tablet device.