

Monroe District Ministry Team

August 23, 2007

The Monroe District Ministry Team met at Claiborne United Methodist Church of West Monroe at 6PM. Present were Rev. Bob Burgess, Donna Foster, Brenda Moffett, Natalie Ray, Becky Ham, Rev. Wanda Cosentino, and Renee Evans. Wanda opened our meeting with prayer and offered a blessing for our food. We are grateful to the Monroe District for providing us with a sandwich supper.

On this first meeting of the new year the team introduced themselves to one another and gave a brief description of "How they spent their summer vacation." We then read the purpose and mission of the District Ministry Team as printed in Design for a New Day. We are reminded that all of our efforts are to align us with our purpose of helping local congregations make disciples for Jesus Christ.

Rev. Bob Burgess gave us an overview of the Monroe District as of the 2006 statistics.

Geographically the district contains 89 churches in 12 entire and 2 partial parishes. Of those 89 churches:

- 60 had no professions of faith in 2006
- 56 had less than 50 in worship
- 33 had less than 25 in worship
- 2 will be closed in 2007

A look at the Calendar

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| Aug. 26 | Review of Adult Sunday School and Small Group Curriculum, 10-2, St. Paul's UMC, Monroe, Dr. Dawn Young, Conference Christian Education Coordinator |
| Aug. 27 | ULM Wesley Foundation, Installation of Alan Johnson, 5:30PM, 5 th Floor of ULM Library. |
| Sept. 2-3 | DCYM Fall Event – Mission Impossible (OWL Center and Trinity UMC) |
| Sept. 29 | Youth Fall Convo, our DCYM in charge of crafts and inside games. |
| Oct 19-20 | Teach a Child, Touch a Life, Monroe District Christian Education Event. Flyers distributed to all present. |
| Nov. 2-4 | Youth, Jr. Hi Retreats |
| Nov. 3 | Lay Speaking, Basic and Advanced, Location to be Announced |
| Nov. 9-10 | Youth, Jr. Hi Retreats |
| Nov. 27 | Local SPRC Training, Mt. Zion UMC, Calhoun |
| Jan 12 | VBS Preview – Dawn Young, Wesley Center |
| Jan 18-20 | Youth - Happening 31 – Adults encouraged to attend |
| Jan 25-26 | Youth - CCYM |
| Feb 8-10 | Youth – Senior High Retreat #1 |
| Feb. 9 | Faith & Money Workshop, Trinity, Dr. Michael Reeves, 9-Noon |
| Feb 15-17 | Youth – Senior High Retreat #2 |
| Feb. 25 | District Laity Banquet, Bishop Hutchinson speaker, Location TBA |

March 14–15 Conference Laity Retreat, Lovett Weems will be speaker
 March 23 EASTER
 April 20 Meet the Methodists, Location to be announced
 April 18-
 May 2 General Conference, Ft. Worth, Tx, Bro. Bob is lead clergy delegate.
 June 1-4 Annual Conference, Centenary College, Shreveport

Planning:

My Job Training – Training in specific areas of church service will be offered at local congregations by persons willing to facilitate such training. Our job will be:

- to make sure churches are aware of this opportunity, and
- Identify willing facilitators:
 Gary Green – Local Lay Leader training
 Larry Stafford – Trustees / Finance
 Brenda Moffett – Family Life
 Denise Hardy – Rotation Sunday School
 Ben Nicholson – Youth Leaders
 Jill Mouk – Christian Education

Common Sense Financial Training – to train local church facilitators. Several names were offered. More information will be gathered re: presentation and scheduling.

Mission and Outreach – Several district-wide events were considered: Taking it to the Streets for 2008, District mission trip to New Orleans or Dulac, District Rebuilding Shower through Lowes or Home Depot. Becky will check in to these possibilities and report back.

Contagious Christianity Training – a great need in all congregations is training in individual faith sharing. Persons need help in articulating the basics of the Christian faith and their own faith stories. Renee will check with possible facilitators as to scheduling and designing an event. It is hoped that such an event will be a catalyst for on-location training in local congregations, as well.

District Communications – The need for a person to help us upgrade our District web-page continues. Names were suggested for follow-up.

Our Mission/Outreach Vision: The Monroe District will provide information, education and opportunities for outreach on a local, national, and international level in an effort to help local congregations make disciples for Jesus Christ.

Brenda closed our meeting with prayer.