



Spring 2011



A Message from our Chapter President

Greetings from the MS Chapter of Discover Gods Call. Exciting things are happening as we continue to take advantage of our opportunity to witness through the spiritual gift search that the DGC format offers.

We have some new leadership on our Chapter Council. Fran Gibson has served her maximum of 6 years and her position is being filled by Judy Goddard of Olive Branch. Steve Seeley has served in his appointed position as registrar for 7 years and his position has been filled by Gene Echols of Saltillo. Everyone in our Chapter has really appreciated Fran and Steve's hard work and contributions to the ministry of DGC in the Mississippi Chapter. Thanks to both of you and we look forward to our continued ministry together in Discover. We are also looking forward to working with Judy and Gene and appreciate their commitment to the Chapter. We also have some new Council members. Carol Warren will be serving as an at large member and her husband, Rev. Dwayne Warren will be serving as Co-Clergy Representative with Julian Davis. For a complete listing of all our council members visit our website at: <http://msdgc.info/dgc-admin.htm>

We will be having our first local retreat with a UMC Cluster in Desoto County, MS the weekend of March 25-27. This group had wanted to have a spring educational event other than the annual Lay Speaking classes, and through contact with our new MS Chapter Vice-President, Judy Goddard, plans have been made for this event to occur at the FUMC in Hernando, MS. This has been made possible through the gracious hospitality of the Pastoral Staff, the Rev. Danny Dabbs, Senior Pastor and Rev. Amy Daniels, Associate Pastor. Rev. John Garrott, an evangelist in the MS Conference of the UMC will be our inspirational speaker. John was very well received at our Spring 2010 retreat in Summit, Mississippi.

From a National DGC prospective, it looks like the momentum has been spreading, and there are presently 6 scheduled retreats for the year of 2011 in various states where we have chapters. We expect others to be planned for the fall season.

God's Spirit is really moving, as we all continue to lift this ministry in our prayers and our communication and witness to others. I ask you each to join us with your prayers that our witnessing will continue to plant seeds, and fruit will be produced for the glory of God from these efforts.

Charles Wood, MS Chapter President



Search Group Leaders

A favorite verse of mine is Proverbs 27:17: *People learn from one another, just as iron sharpens iron* (TEV). In each encounter is the potential to be molded and shaped in God's image.

I remember being a new Discoverer and how the search group leaders shaped my experience of the retreat. Each brought different gifts and graces into our times together as a group. As I have returned for retreats, I've been privileged to be a search group leader. With each time, I come to a greater appreciation for those who allowed God to work through them during my time as a new Discoverer. I pray that I have been faithful to my calling in that respect.

As the spring retreat approaches, would you prayerfully consider returning as a Search Group Leader? If you feel God nudging you in this direction, contact me at cty69868@centurytel.net or 662-890-3806 and let's talk about it.

As a repeat attendee of a Discover God's Call retreat, I've experienced renewed association with several people I knew prior to my Discover experience and new associations. Among my finds is Fran Gibson who has rotated off as vice-president, the role I now fill. Thanks, Fran, for your six years of service as vice-president and for your continued service to the Mississippi Chapter of DGC.

By way of introducing myself, after having lived in the Jackson area for a number of years I returned to north Mississippi and now live in Olive Branch. My church home is Maples Memorial UMC here. I was a new Discoverer at the spring retreat in 2006. The local retreat at Batesville UMC was the first time I came as a repeat attendee. I'm looking forward

to sharing the Discover God's Call experience at the Spring Retreat and beyond.

Blessings! Judy Goddard



Hospitality Corner

The hospitality we show at our retreats is always a very important part of laying strong ground work for good fellowship. One of the ways we enhance our fellowship together is to provide a snack table. We have begun using one serving, individually packaged snacks, i.e. cookies, chips, granola bars, trail mix, small boxed raisins, fresh fruit, canned sodas, bottled water etc. Homemade goodies are still fine if you would please package them in one serving bags or wrap. This time we want to include breakfast snacks for Saturday and Sunday mornings, in case participants don't have time for breakfast before arriving at the church. Our leadership has always been so pleased at how everyone contributes by bringing a plentiful supply of snacks and helping with set up and clean up. If anyone has any suggestions for a different menu and a better way of handling the refreshments, Susan would welcome ideas. For suggestions, questions or to let Susan know if you would like to help her or to let her know what you are bringing to the retreat, contact her at klamathgal@bellsouth.net or 662-869-1505.

Susan Echols, Hospitality Chair

Prayer Team



It is a privilege to be a part of the ministry of Discover God's Call. Being a part of the prayer team is an even greater privilege.

Prayer is such a vital part of this ministry.

Long before the retreat begins we begin to pray for God to lead people to come to the retreat as a New Discoverer. We have prayer groups meeting to pray for the New Discoverer's to listen as God nudges them to be a part of the upcoming retreat. Once that first step is made and we have the names of the people as they register we begin to pray for them by name long before the retreat takes place. Upon arrival at the retreat center or church we do prayer walks around the perimeter and through out the facilities. We also pray for those who will enter in whatever capacity. We make sure the retreat is bathed in prayer before we begin. Once the retreat begins we take prayer requests from

everyone involved in the retreat and pray over each one.

Everything said in the prayer room is extremely confidential and only known by the prayer team and GOD! After the retreat ends members of the prayer team continue to pray for the requests we received and each facet of the retreat. We also draw names for prayer partners and pray for each other for 30 days after the retreat.

I personally am excited to know we have recent Discoverer's interested in being a part of the prayer team. Each one of them will be contacted to be a part of the team at the next retreat. God knows where you need to be in the next retreat. Listen as you pray. You can contact me if you would like to be a part of the prayer team at bdarnell@cablone.net or 662-402-7901.

*Emmanuel,
Betty Darnell*



Desoto Cluster Retreat

March 25-27, 2011

(Friday 6:15 PM - Sunday Noon)

Hernando United Methodist Church

Hernando, Mississippi

Our Speaker is Reverend John Garrot

Registration Deadline: February 11, 2011

Pre-retreat study for New Discoverers begins: March 4, 2011

Discover God Call "Into the Churches" is an innovative approach to bringing the retreat experience into churches. This ministry has been so successful in challenging discoverers to a new understanding of the Lord's gifts and His call on them to use these ministry gifts. This is a partnership with the Church leadership and the Discover God's Call ministry team to provide an atmosphere within the church.

"But each man has his own gift from God" 1 Corinthians 7:7b (NIV)

...I want to Serve at the DeSoto Cluster Retreat,
March 25-27

Registration Fee – Staff: \$ 25.00 - Includes Saturday meals

- Prayer Team
- Search Group Leader
- Bible Study
- Other _____

Complete form and mail to:

Gene Echols, DGC Registrar
116 Winchester Place
Saltillo MS 38866
Phone: 662-869-1505

Make checks payable to:

Discover God's Call

Registration deadline: **February 11, 2011**

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: February 11, 2011, Hernando United Methodist Church, Hernando, MS

Your Name: _____ E-mail: _____ Male Female

Name for Tag: _____ Church: _____

(Example: Name: Charles; Tag: Chuck) Pastor: _____

Street Address: _____ Church Address: _____

City: _____ State ____ Zip: _____ City: _____ State: ____ Zip: _____

Phone: () _____ Referred by: _____

Special Needs: _____

Discover GOD'S CALL



Spring 2011 Newsletter



Hernando United Methodist Church
1890 Mt. Pleasant Road
Hernando MS 38632

Serendipity Bible Study



We plan to have a Serendipity Bible Study at our upcoming local retreat for any who want to return and continue their DGC experience. Glen Gibson will be our study leader. He has been in a number of studies so brings a lot of experience to our weekend. We will have Serendipity Study Bibles available for purchase, but any Bible can be used, but other Bibles don't have the resources and questions in them. Since this is a local retreat the cost does not cover lodging. Each participant is responsible for the cost of and making their own lodging reservations. The complete registration form (found on our website) gives

the names of a couple of hotels where most of the staff will be staying and a map of the area.

The Bible study is a great way to maintain the friendships you have made and be a part of the retreat if you feel like you aren't ready to be a small group leader or be on the prayer team. There is no preparation for the Bible study so this is an excellent way to have your on personal retreat, while enjoying fellowship with others in the Discover family. In addition to a good Bible study, you will also learn how to use the Serendipity Study Bible and how to lead a similar study when you return home. To register, fill out the registration form enclosed and mark Serendipity Bible study under return attendees.

Genny Seeley