

North Georgia Conference United Methodist Men

President's Report – May 2021

Website/Social Media

- Ike Moore made regularly weekly updates to the website, while I made updates to the social media accounts.
- Received permission from Ready to Harvest and Brandon Robbins to share videos that they created about the United Methodist Church with the United Methodist Men.
- Ike post a map of the 2021 Chartered United Methodist Men's Units per the General Commission on the United Methodist Men records. There are more than 150 chartered units on the map.
- We created an event around the videos *How to Build a Conference Scout Team* and *Vision, Values, Mission, and Goals* presentations that were conducted at the January Leadership Council meeting.
- Posted Paragraph 722, *Restrictions on Closed Meetings* to the NGCUMM social media accounts, and sent it out via email to everybody that I knew, while also emphasizing that the NGCUMM meeting registration links are posted on our [calendar](#).
- Posted videos for *Strength for Service* to the NGCUMM social media accounts.
- Began posting videos and pictures of Rock Eagle on social media.
- Ike added ministry website links, with pictures, to the bottom of the website.

Conference/Jurisdiction/District

- The Executive Committee and District Presidents began making phone calls to the local church Presidents, to check on the status of men's ministry in their respective churches.
- John Holley and I attended the North Georgia Conference Black Methodist for Church

Renewal virtual meeting.

- Established a schedule for the Executive Committee meetings for the rest of the year.
- I sent out an email to the local chartered units with some important links to information about the United Methodist Men.
- Marquis Ratliff expressed interest in developing a marketing plan to communicate the value of the United Methodist Men.
- I was interviewed by the *United Methodist News Service* concerning a paid advertisement that was published in the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*. You can find the interview [here](#).
- I reached out to Gil Hanke, after he announced his retirement as the General Secretary of the GCUMM. I would like for Gil to speak to the NGCUMM before he leaves office.
- I got caught up on the outstanding President's Report for 2021, and sent them to the Executive Committee for their perusal.
- Conducted the May Executive Committee Meeting online via Zoom.
- I continued to visit some churches this month, the most since the quarantine began.

Social Issues

- I sent an email to local church presidents introducing them to the *Table of Brotherhood* concept that was originally introduced (under another name) by Alpharetta First and St. James UMC. The goal is to get one black church, and one white church together for prayer and bible study for a one month period. We will probably start with the leaders in the local UMM first, before spreading this to the entire local UMM in corresponding churches.

- Received a *Bridging the Gap* plan from St. James UMC in Alpharetta that will be used in long-term racial reconciliation work.

Men's Ministry

- I reached out to a professor again concerning a conversation on drug and alcohol addiction, but to no avail.
- We promoted a *Community Tornado Relief* event for the city of Newnan that was sponsored by Newnan Chapel UMC.
- I reached out to the Retreat Planning Committee to gauge the interest in a virtual conference or an in-person conference. The sentiment is for an in-person, socially distant conference. I recommended that we do not have any workshops, and spend some time outdoors connecting to God and nature more.
- I reached out to the Rock Eagle 4-H Center to inquire about the capacity for hosting a potential men's retreat, and the associated costs. Due to COVID-19, Rock Eagle has a limit of 168 people at the camp at this time. I also reached out to several churches to gauge interest in returning to Rock Eagle later this year. I took a tour of Rock Eagle also.
- Developed a preliminary schedule for the *Igniting Faith Retreat*, pending release from the quarantine. This schedule does not include any workshops, and focuses on more time outdoors, in nature. Feedback revealed that a "big name" speaker would be a draw to bring me out to the retreat. However, "big name" speakers cost thousands of dollars!
- I began looking for alternatives to Rock Eagle due to the costs associated with renting the facility.
- Men began emailing and calling to tell us their "Rock Eagle" stories.
- *Radical Mentoring* has developed a website for the United Methodist Men to promote engaging young men in the discipleship process. <https://radicalmentoring.com/umc/>.

- Had a conversation with some of the Executive Committee members about *Walk to Emmaus*, and promoting this spiritual encounter for men in the UMM.
- The Executive Committee followed up with several churches that have reached out to the UMM with various needs.

Odell Horne – June 21, 2021