

REGISTRATION

Name _____
Address _____
City _____
State _____ Zip _____
Telephone _____
Email _____
Church _____
District _____

Registration Cost Includes Room, 3 Meals, and Conference fees. Please check your preference:

Linwood (newer section)	Single \$95	_____
Center (older section)	Single \$85	_____
Linwood (newer section)	Double \$80	_____
Center (older section)	Double \$80	_____
Center (older section)	Triple \$70	_____
Commuter	Both days \$45	_____
Commuter	Saturday only \$30	_____

If you are 35 or under and have a roommate, pay half price.

Room Mate Preference: Please send your registration form with the form(s) of your requested roommate(s) if possible.

Two to a room: Me and _____

Three to a room: Me and _____ & _____

Rooms will be assigned on a first come, first serve basis. Please advise if special accommodations are needed (e.g. first floor, handicapped room, etc.).

Credit Card: Visa _____ Master Card _____ Discover _____

Name on Card _____

Card Number _____

Expiration Date _____

3 digit security code (back of card) _____

Please be sure your billing address for this card is on the registration form.

Fax Application to 334-427-1469

Check: Enclosed made payable to *Blue Lake Camp/UMMen*

Mail application to:

Blue Lake Camp / UMMen Advance
8500 Oakwood Lane Andalusia, AL 36420

For More Information and Questions Contact

Paige Haley - Registrar 334-222-5407

Paige@bluelakecamp.com

RETREAT SCHEDULE

FRIDAY

3:30pm- Registration in Vickers Gym
5-5:50pm- Music, Welcome in Vickers
6-7pm- Dinner
7-7:15pm- Music in Vickers Gym
7:15-8pm- Prevenient Grace with Walt Merrill
8-8:30pm- Break
8:30-9:30pm- Breakout sessions in gym and Linwood Wing
9:30-till- Fellowship & snacks

SATURDAY

7-8am- Communion in Vickers Gym
8-9am- Breakfast
9-9:15am- Music
9:15-10am- Justifying Grace with Greg Litton
10-10:15am- Break
10:15-11am- Breakout Sessions
11:10-11:55am- Sanctifying Grace with Bishop Paul L. Leeland
12-1pm- Lunch and Departure

We will be answering the Upper Room Prayer Line again this year. Please sign up to receive the blessing of assisting people with their prayer needs.



 **THE UPPER ROOM**
YOUR PLACE TO MEET GOD



ANNUAL MEN'S ADVANCE

April 11-12, 2014



The
Alabama-West Florida
Conference
United Methodist Church

PLEASE REGISTER BY APRIL 8

AMAZING GRACES: HOW SWEET THE SOUND!

You're right. John Newton didn't write "Amazing Grace" with that "s." But another John—a contemporary of his named John Wesley—saw God's grace in three distinct stages: prevenient grace, justification, and sanctification. When Wesley examined God's grace for a fallen humanity, he found that God had great intentions for us, a means for us to be reconciled with Him, and a path for us to pursue God's will.

John Wesley emphasized God's grace when he preached in the fields, prisons, workhouses and churches of Eighteenth Century England. As his theological heirs, we still center our faith in God's unmerited favor for us, His children.

In fact, if you ask a Methodist today what he loves most about his faith, he may very well answer grace. And that's what we want to celebrate this year at the 2014 United Methodist Men's Advance—God's grace as seen through Wesley's theology. Three outstanding speakers will lead us through Biblical journeys to show us that God has a plan for us as men, that God reclaims us as His children when we stray, and that God leads us in His pathways after He has saved us. First, Walt Merrill will speak on prevenient grace by showing us what God intends us to be. Then Greg Litton will give his testimony of God's redemptive power for us. Finally, Bishop Paul Leeland will challenge us to live our lives directed by God's sanctifying grace.

In addition to three great messages, we'll have inspiring music led by Larry Hanna and two small group sessions led by outstanding Christian leaders:

- **Larry Price**, our Southeastern Jurisdictional president, will lead one small group in exploring what God calls us to be.
- **Jim Boesch**, a deployed staff member of the General Commission of United Methodist Men, will introduce "Lead like Jesus," a workshop that will be coming to our conference soon.

And if you're a man of action, we'll have a "hands-on" project that will allow you to change the life of a handicapped person somewhere in the world.

Fill out the form on the other side of this sheet and mail it in to secure your place. Better still, find a roommate and a couple of buddies to carpool with you. The more the merrier, and remember that God's grace extends to everyone of us.

ANOTHER PERK OF BEING YOUNG

We want young men to be active in United Methodist Men. And just to prove we're serious, we're offering a 50% discount to men 35 and under who attend the 2014 Advance. If you're 35 or younger, simply fill out the registration form, make sure you have a roommate, write "AGE DISCOUNT" across the top of your form, and send it in. We cannot extend the half-price offer to those who want private rooms. Commuters 35 and under qualify for half price too.

And just to show we're not partial to young men, if you're 100 or over, you can come for half price even if you reserve a private room.



The *Book of Discipline* calls upon bishops to "model and lead the spiritual disciplines of our faith and to call and inspire the clergy and laity within the Church to practice the Christian disciplines in their individual lives through the tradition of personal holiness." Since 2008, **Bishop Paul L. Leeland** has been leading the United Methodists of the Alabama-West Florida Conference in "moving on to perfection."

As a preacher and educator, Paul Leeland has worked for the last 42 years to equip Christians to grow in their faith. Before becoming our bishop, he served in the North Carolina Conference as a local pastor, district superintendent and assistant to the bishop. A dynamic preacher, Bishop Leeland will close our Advance with an invitation to us to increase in our knowledge and love of God.

Walt Merrill, the district attorney for the 22nd Judicial Circuit of Alabama, lives in Andalusia, Alabama, with his wife Hannah and daughters Bay, Cape and Banks. He is a graduate of the University of Montevallo and the Cumberland School of Law at Samford University. His biography offers a "concise definition of who he is: a lowly sinner saved by his faith in Jesus Christ and the grace of God."

A Baptist Sunday school teacher and deacon, Walt is a founding board member of Crossover Ministries, a faith-based residential addiction recovery program. And even if he claims not to be familiar with the doctrine of prevenient grace, his life belies a strong belief that God is present in the lives of all men, calling each of us into a personal relationship with Him.



In our wildest dreams, we may dare to see ourselves hitting a home run in the World Series. But **Greg Litton** doesn't have to dream. In the 1989 "earthquake series," as a San Francisco Giant rookie, Greg homered, earning himself a place in Major League Baseball history. In his five-year major league career, he also played for the Seattle Mariners and the Boston Red Sox. In the 1992 Hall of Fame game, Greg played all nine positions, and the glove he used now resides in the Hall of Fame.

In his biography Greg admits that he is not gifted athlete but reached the majors only through a single-minded commitment to his dream. But that narrow focus came with a cost. Greg, a man who achieved a feat the rest of us only dream about, has a message about the most important commitment in his life, one we can all reach through God's justifying grace.