



# The United Methodist Church Texas Annual Conference

## *Candidate E-Newsletter*

---

### Winter 2009

#### Welcome

You've received this very first Center for Clergy Excellence **Candidate E-Newsletter** because you are a candidate, seminary student, or summer intern, or because we heard you might be interested in ordained or licensed ministry in the Texas Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church! If you prefer not to receive this new quarterly e-mail, you may opt out below!

#### A message from Tom Pace

Dr. Tom Pace is Senior Pastor at St. Luke's United Methodist Church in Houston and chairperson of the Texas Annual Conference Board of Ordained Ministry

*Why I love my job...There are moments when I have to pinch myself. I can't believe they pay me to do what I do. Don't get me wrong; it is hard work. Yes, there are long hours. No, you can't please everybody. Most of the time, I don't feel I am riding a spiritual high, heart beating faster, believing I am changing the world and building the Kingdom of God. There are days when I go home frustrated and tired and full of doubts. But those days are few, and most days of ministry are full of joy and fulfillment. I love my job. I love my calling. I love being a pastor in the church of Jesus Christ. Why? ...[Click here to read more.](#)*

#### Is God Calling You?

If you think God might be calling you to consider full time ministry, we've created a packet of advice, resources, and possible next steps just for you. [Click here link](#)  
[http://texas.brickriver.com/files/oFiles\\_Library\\_XZXLCZ/Is God Calling You complete packet\\_3VHUWZBD.pdf](http://texas.brickriver.com/files/oFiles_Library_XZXLCZ/Is_God_Calling_You_complete_packet_3VHUWZBD.pdf)

For more general info, go to [www.explorecalling.org](http://www.explorecalling.org)

#### What is "candidacy," anyway?

...and what do all those other words and acronyms mean? For a glossary of UM and Texas Annual Conference candidacy terms and acronyms, [click here.](#)

#### Need cash for school?

College and seminary students may apply for loans and scholarships at [www.gbhem.org](http://www.gbhem.org)

Fellowship and matching grant applications are available at [www.thefund.org](http://www.thefund.org)

For a complete list of all United Methodist seminaries, [click here link](#)

[http://www.gbhem.org/site/c.IsKSL3POLvF/b.3463093/k.79AE/Colleges and Universities.htm](http://www.gbhem.org/site/c.IsKSL3POLvF/b.3463093/k.79AE/Colleges_and_Universities.htm)

For a complete list of all University Senate-approved seminaries, [click here link](#)

[http://www.gbhem.org/site/c.IsKSL3POLvF/b.3474253/k.7A76/University SenateApproved Seminaries.htm](http://www.gbhem.org/site/c.IsKSL3POLvF/b.3474253/k.7A76/University_SenateApproved_Seminaries.htm)

#### Are you a college student interested in pastoral ministry?

We offer \$3000 stipends for 10 week summer college pastoral internships!

To view a 2007 college pastoral internship video, [click here link](#)

<http://www.txcumcmedia.org/video/interns/interns07final.swf>

For complete internship info, [click here link](#)

[http://texas.brickriver.com/files/oFiles\\_Library\\_XZXLCZ/Pastoral Internship Project Broch](http://texas.brickriver.com/files/oFiles_Library_XZXLCZ/Pastoral_Internship_Project_Broch)

[ure WAKU6NCV.pdf](#) To apply, [click here link](#)  
[http://texas.brickriver.com/files/oFiles\\_Library\\_XZXCZ/Pastoral\\_Internship\\_Project\\_webform\\_MBXFJLRB.pdf](http://texas.brickriver.com/files/oFiles_Library_XZXCZ/Pastoral_Internship_Project_webform_MBXFJLRB.pdf) Applications are due February 27.

**Questions? Suggestions? Let us hear from you.**

Contact Director Rev. B. T. Williamson [bt.williamson@txcumc.org](mailto:bt.williamson@txcumc.org) or  
Associate Director Rev. Carol Bruse [carol.bruse@txcumc.org](mailto:carol.bruse@txcumc.org)