



Fall 2010



A Message from our Chapter President

I bring greetings from the MS Council to all of our friends of the Discover Gods Call community. We of the MS chapter have continued to be blessed with the success of our April DGC local retreat at Johnston Chapel UMC in Summit, MS with the cooperation of their pastor Rev. Allen Dearing. We had 14 new Discoverers and a new inspirational speaker Rev. John Garrott, an evangelist in the MS Conference of the UMC.

The Council met at our home on May 22 for a review of the evaluations from the staff and new Discoverers, along with comments from the Retreat Manager, Walter Miles and comments from our National Vice President, Doris Hedrick. Overall evaluations were very favorable and the staff was complimented on the success of the event.

Preliminary plans were discussed for our Fall Retreat at Camp Wesley Pines retreat center Nov. 5-7, 2010, with the Rev. Julian Davis as our inspirational speaker. With the assistance of our national officers, this retreat has been placed on the official schedule, and contract signed with Wesley Pines, and brochures printed for distribution.

Several promising contacts were made with various churches and pastors at the MS UMC Annual Conference in June, and leads are being pursued for potential retreats for the year 2011. One of the most promising prospects at this time is a Desoto County Cluster retreat in Hernando, MS for the spring, with Judy Goddard making the preliminary contact with representatives.

The National DGC Council met in Brentwood, TN on June 25-26, 2010. This meeting was basically a "workshop" meeting for the development of a set of By-laws for DGC becoming a new 501 C3 non profit organization, with autonomy from the Foundation of Evangelism, the establishment of a Board of Directors and budget forecasts for the coming year from all of the State Chapters and the National unit. Progress made in this effort has been reassuring and continuing discussions are taking place for the finalization of this new organization.

Plans for a MS Council meeting are being made for August 21 for final planning and prayer for the fall retreat. Please continue to lift up our DGC ministry in your prayers, so that we will continue to be blessed with this opportunity to serve God.

Charles Wood, MS Chapter President.

"As a past Discoverer from May 2001, an at large board member, prayer chairman and now just someone who attends a retreat every chance I get, I cannot sing enough praises to DGC for the growth I have experienced through my participation in the retreats, my service to the organization and the ongoing fellowship. As new Discoverers my husband and I found the clarity of service in our local church and served as laypeople on committees, in class rooms and outside the church in helping ministries. We are now in fulltime ministry and we give credit to DGC for helping us hear the call of God on our lives for this season and the seasons to come."

June Thornhill

Music, Music, Music ...

What wonderful surprises God always has in store for music at *Discover God's Call* Retreats! It's an awesome way to worship, praise, and physically express our love for God. Whether through praise songs and choruses or through hymns that have stood the test of time, we lift our voices to our Lord.



Each musical section during the retreat begins with some happy praise music, then music selections that transition into a deeply spiritual anointing of the Holy Spirit through slow worship and praise. It's a time of giving ourselves more to God and letting Him minister to us as we praise Him. Our 2010 Spring Retreat also involved some drama during the music times, which added visual confirmation to what our lips were singing.

Music at *Discover God's Call* is definitely a "God thing." Studies have proven that music has healing effects, and that is evident as God touches people through music at *Discover God's Call*.

*In His Service,
Dr. Brenda Wilder
Music Praise and Worship Leader*



Hospitality Corner

The fellowship at retreats is always a very important part of the retreat. One of the ways we enhance our fellowship together is to provide a snack table. A Few retreats back we started using individually packaged snacks, (i.e. cookies, chips, granola bars, canned sodas, bottled water etc). Homemade goodies are still fine if you would please package them in individual bags or wrap.

I am very pleased with all the help at the retreats. Everyone contributes and there is always plenty to snack on. If anyone has any suggestions for a different menu and a better way of handling the refreshments I would welcome ideas. I know the fall retreat will have plenty of goodies now we need to get people involved. Pray very earnestly that God will provide. For suggestions, questions or to let Susan know what you are bringing to the retreat, contact her at klamathgal@bellsouth.net.

Susan Echols, Hospitality Chair

Serendipity Bible Study

If you would like to continue your Discover experience, but don't feel like God is calling you to be a small group leader or to be on the prayer team, there is another option available. At every retreat we have a Serendipity Bible Study for those who want to continue to come to retreats and experience the fellowship and worship opportunities. There is no preparation for the Bible study so this is an excellent way to have sort of your on personal retreat, while enjoying fellowship with others in the Discover family.



We will have Serendipity Bibles available for purchase at the retreat, but it is not required for the study. In addition to a good Bible study, you will also learn how to use the Serendipity Study Bible and lead a similar study when you return home. To register, fill out the registration form and mark Serendipity Bible study under return participants.

Genny Seeley



I'd love to encourage everyone to do all you can to encourage your family and friends to attend a *Discover God's Call* weekend. My experience started just over six years ago when I was going through a bit of discontentment in my heart. Yes, my husband was a pastor and I was able to do some outreach with a few folks here and there, but I felt that the doors of ministry were either not open wide enough or seemed to be closing. It was at this time that a friend I had come to know at a Lay Leadership Retreat began to encourage me to attend a *DGC* retreat. Praise the Lord! This is one of the best decisions I've made in quite a while. It was definitely what I needed for 'such a time as this'.

So in April of '04 I attended at Arlean Hall on the Coast. Since that initial introduction to *DGC* I have not been able to allow this ministry to leave my heart. I have had a few opportunities since to attend as a participant in the Bible study, led a Bible study, and act as a Small Group Leader during the weekend. My heart's cry is that everyone in the Church would attend and allow God to meet them with His direction for their life. Sometimes those who attend think they haven't received their "Call" from God, but often these folks are already living out their "Call" and God is just solidifying their understanding of what He has already done in their lives. When you approach someone to talk to them about *DGC*, use my testimony and allow the Lord to lead you. God will definitely meet people at the retreat, for He says in His Word that when we knock, seek and ask He will hear, appear and answer.

*In His Love and Service,
Jennie Heberg Eph. 3:20*



Search Group Leaders

The *Discover God's Call* retreat weekend is a wonderful time to praise God, serve God, love God and to love others, serve others and encourage others.

This organization has been blessed to be able to provide an environment for God's children to find their spiritual gifts and then discern how God wants them to put these gifts to use for His Kingdom. In order to provide this environment we solicit and train leaders for the small groups of new Discoverers.

If you are getting nudged by the Holy Spirit to learn how to be a small group leader or if you have previously served in this capacity and would like to serve again please contact Frances Gibson, Vice President Mississippi Chapter of *DGC*. What a fantastic opportunity to be a part of the search of others to discover their gifts and call. It's great to be the facilitator, encourager and active listener for new Discoverers. We will have training before the upcoming retreat. You may contact Frances at any of the following: gibson_fran@hotmail.com , 944 A Chickasaw Road, Pope, MS 38658, or 662-578-8840. I am looking forward to hearing from you.

Frances Gibson



Prayer Team

As I reflect on *DGC* retreats, I realize it is a privilege to be a part of the prayer team. When I am asked to pray for someone or a specific situation, I take it seriously. The prayer team keeps all requests confidential. God already knows, HE just wants to hear from us. When brothers and sisters in Christ are praying the same prayers again and again, it is an overwhelming experience. The responsibility of praying for others is serious business.....God's business!! If you are interested in being on the retreat prayer team contact Betty Darnell at bdarnell@cablone.net or mark the "other" section on the registration form and specify prayer team.

Betty Darnell

In Loving Memory ...

*Zubie Martello of Crystal Springs,
died May 18, 2010*

*Sandra Armstrong of Foxworth,
died on June 2, 2010*

Chapter Registrar

After being our Chapter registrar for 7 years, Steve Seeley has decided it is time for him to move out of this position and peruse other aspects of the Discover experience. We appreciate the excellent job that Steve has done. To fill positions in Discover we like for people to pray about the needs and consider their spiritual gifts before accepting a position of ministry. We would like for everyone to be praying for God to raise up a new registrar and also to be praying if this is something that God is calling you to do. The job is by appointment and will be approved by the Chapter Council. The qualifications and job description are as follows:

- Accounting or bookkeeping background recommended
- Home computer with word processor software is required
- Spiritual gifts of administration and helps is recommended

If you would like more information about the position contact Charlie Wood at woodlaroy@yahoo.com or Steve Seeley at gseeley@bellsouth.net or 601-372-7461.

Responsibilities:

- Receive and record all registration checks for a retreat and forward them to the National treasurer
- Mail acknowledgment letters and scholarship acceptance letters where applicable
- Follow up to see that full payments are received from all participants
- Mail all retreat materials to participants and staff
- Stuff envelopes with all the appropriate retreat materials for participants
- Create or arrange for the creation of name tags for all participants, including staff and guests
- Make retreat room assignments
- Be at the retreat center early to get prepared for the arrival of participants
- Notify the retreat center of the number actually attending the retreats
- Is an ex-officio member of the Chapter Council with the right to vote
- Attend all Chapter Council meetings
- Maintain the Chapter's copy of the Registrar's Manual, with updates as issued by the National Registrar, and become familiar with all the instructions in the Manual

Discover Where You Are! GOD'S CALL Fall Retreat

November 5-7, 2010

Camp Wesley Pines, Gallman, Mississippi

The Registration Deadline is September 24, 2010



A few pictures from our Spring 2010 retreat at Johnston Chapel in Summit Mississippi.

"The Discover God's Call Retreat experience is one of the most valuable steps in my Christian walk. I have learned so much about spiritual gifts and about God and HIS call in my life. Having always been a shy, introverted person, I have truly found my self esteem in Christ through my experience of this retreat. Many times I have returned to retreats since that first one in 1996. During these retreats I have been blessed by serving as a search group leader, participating in the awesome Serendipity Bible Study, and being a part of the prayer team. At each retreat I come away re-energized and filled with the Holy Spirit. All Christians have spiritual gifts but unfortunately, most do not know what their gifts are. It could be likened to owning a new car and not knowing that there is a full tank of gasoline in it to make it run and to give it power. The power of the Holy Spirit is the main theme of Discover God's Call. May we all experience it. Amen."

Sheila Gillies

Visit us on the Web at <http://msdgc.info>