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The Mission Society helps equip Smyrna church for strategic outreach

Interactive workshop: Making a difference in and beyond our community

SMYRNA, Ga.—Members of Smyrna First United Methodist Church will gain a greater understanding of global outreach when The Mission Society, which sends Christian missionaries worldwide on ministry assignments, presents a Global Outreach Weekend March 9-11.

"God has chosen the local church as His instrument to spread the gospel to the ends of the earth," said Stan Self, senior director of church ministry for The Mission Society. "The challenge is encouraging Christians to leave the four walls of the church to reach their neighborhoods and world. This is essential both to advance the gospel and maintain the spiritual health of the local church."

Self, who directs mobilization efforts that strategically engage local churches in worldwide evangelism, will lead the weekend's events.

The Global Outreach Weekend, which begins at 7 p.m. Friday, March 9, is designed to help Christians understand the biblical basis of worldwide missions and challenge them to become more involved in local and international outreach. Workshops will continue at 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. March 10. The weekend will conclude with three missions-focused worship services at 8:45 a.m., 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. March 11.

The event is open to area churches.

Smyrna First United Methodist Church (<http://www.smyrnafumc.org/>) is located at 1315 Concord Rd. SE, Smyrna, Ga 30080. Steve Lyle is senior pastor. Those interested in participating may contact Beverly Mancuso at 800-478-8963 ext. 9046.

Founded in 1984 in the Wesleyan tradition, The Mission Society (www.themissionsociety.org) exists to mobilize and deploy the body of Christ globally to join Jesus in His mission, especially among the least-reached peoples. To that end, The Mission Society recruits, trains and sends Christian missionaries to minister around the world. Its church ministry department provides seminars, workshops and mentoring for congregations in the United States and abroad, helping equip churches for outreach in their communities and worldwide. Its vision is for the Kingdom of God to advance among all peoples, bringing about redemption and reconciliation through Jesus Christ. At present, The Mission Society has more than 200 missionaries in 37 countries.

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