



July 2011

THE DISTRICT CORE



A NEWSLETTER OF THE WINCHESTER DISTRICT • VIRGINIA CONFERENCE • THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
We envision churches where all God's people are welcomed at table, nurtured and transformed to be Christ to others in the world.

APPOINTMENT CHANGES ON THE WINCHESTER DISTRICT

<i>Appointment</i>	<i>New Pastor</i>	<i>Coming from...</i>	<i>Previous Pastor</i>	<i>Going to...</i>
Boyce-Millwood-White Post	Saundra Nottingham	Mt. Olive/Shiloh	Adam Sowder	Rectortown
Brucetown	Yun Chol Kim	First Appointment	Robert Schoeman	Loudoun Charge
Cokesbury Charge	Lorrie Aikens	First Appointment	Jody Osborne	Retiring
Greenwood	Andy Brock	West Loudoun Charge	Jerry Weigel	Retiring
Loudoun Charge	Robert Schoeman	Brucetown	Bill Wade	Retiring
Middleburg	Leah DeLong	Rappahannock Chg. Charlottesville Dist.	Vickie Seibert	Scott Memorial Elizabeth River District
Mt. Bethel View Chg.	Victor Gomez	Ashland District	Dan Spaugh	Retiring
Rectortown	Adam Sowder	Boyce-Millwood-White Post Chg.	Jeri Bishop	Retiring
West Loudoun Chg.	Wesley Corber	Wesley Chapel—Fauquier County	Andy Brock	Greenwood

Volunteers needed for tornado recovery projects in Virginia



United Methodist Volunteers In Mission (UMVIM) teams are needed for tornado recovery projects in Pulaski and Washington counties. Currently there are nine projects ready to proceed – five roof repair jobs and four rebuilds. More projects will be added in the coming weeks.

If you are interested in serving in this area of need, contact Julie Warren, Virginia Conference UMVIM coordinator, at (817) 975-9216 or jwarren@woodlakeumc.org.

School of Christian Mission to be held July 22-24, July 25-28

The 2011 School of Christian Mission will be held at the Virginia United Methodist Assembly Center (VUMAC) in Blackstone **July 22-24 and July 25-28**, under the theme "All Things Made New."

Spiritual Growth Study leaders include the Rev. Steve Hundley, superintendent of the Roanoke District; and the Rev. Pat Watkins, executive director of Caretakers of God's Creation.

Registration deadline is July 10. Visit www.vaumc.org, click on Ministries, then School of Christian Mission, for more information, including detailed brochure, registration form and class choice, or contact Louise Miller, dean of the school, at rollmiller@cox.net.

Please note that online registration will NOT be available this year.

Annual Conference Offering reaches \$175,932

To date, \$175,932.15 has been collected for the Annual Conference Offering which will support leadership development in the United Methodist Church in Mozambique, Shade and Fresh Water programs in Brazil, Agape Christian Children's Community Center on the Eastern Shore, and Shalom Zone: Grace Ministries in Roanoke.

Contributions may still be sent to the Conference Treasurer's office, P.O. Box 5605, Glen Allen, VA 23058.

VUMAC to host July 8 reception honoring Cammie Armstrong

The Board of Directors of Virginia United Methodist Assembly Center (VUMAC) in Blackstone invites everyone to a reception at VUMAC at 6 p.m. Friday, July 8, honoring Cammie Armstrong, who served as executive director for the past six years and is retiring effective July 1. As she loves the beach and will be spending much time there with her grandchildren, the dress for her retirement celebration will be "beachy casual." Cost is \$17 per person. RSVP to (434) 292-5308.

Exploring Ministry Event Set For November 2011 in St. Louis

Some young person you know needs to hear about Exploration '11, scheduled for November 11-13, 2011 in St. Louis, MO. Someone 18 to 26 years old who is gifted for ordained ministry, but hasn't yet identified his or her gifts to serve the Church and the world. A young adult who is already considering a call to ordained ministry in The United Methodist Church. Do you have a desire to impact the Church for the future? Your invitation may help these leaders for the future hear a call to ministry. Pass this invitation on so that they can explore their passion and possibilities.

Exploration '11 is designed to help young adults explore what ministry in the United Methodist Church looks like and to connect them with resources to respond to God's call in their lives. Young adults from all over the world will gather for a week-end of inspiring worship, engaging workshops and meaningful small group interaction. All 13 UM-related seminaries will be participating as well.

A previous Exploration event was part of the journey to ordination for the Rev. Jessica Fuller, a deacon serving at Crozet UMC. Jessica will be attending Exploration '11 as a representative from the Virginia Conference. She would be glad to talk with anyone who is interested in attending. Information on the event is available online at www.gbhem.org/exploration.

— Coming Soon! —

"We've a Story
to tell to the
Nations"

a District-wide Mission Event



September 23-25, 2011

2011 Annual Conference Wrap Up

Meeting in Roanoke, members of the 229th Virginia Annual Conference elected the largest U.S. delegation to the 2012 General Conference, considered almost 20 resolutions and welcomed a familiar face filling in for their bishop as “substitute teacher.”



Bishop Whitaker

Richmond Area Bishop Charlene Kammerer became very ill the week before conference due to an adverse reaction to a typhoid vaccination she had in preparation for an upcoming trip to Mozambique. She asked Bishop Timothy Whitaker of Florida – who was elected to the episcopacy from Virginia in 2001 and will retire to the Commonwealth next year – to preside, and it proved to be a very comfortable fit.

The theme of the gathering was mission, “Being Christ to Others: Snapshots of the Kingdom.” Thirteen children from the conference-supported Shade and Fresh Water project in Brazil were special guests at a celebration of mission. Forty-three “Mission Mentors,” who will make themselves available to speak at local churches about mission opportunities, were commissioned.



Thomas Kemper, General Secretary for the General Board of Global Ministries, announced that the Virginia Conference was again the denominational leader for designated giving for mission support in 2010. Kemper talked about United Methodist ministries in Haiti, Mongolia, Eastern Europe and Vietnam, and introduced Clara Biswas, a missionary in Southeast Asia.

Members collected 53,469 kits for the United Methodist Committee on Relief, including 26,617 health kits and 944 cleaning buckets. The Society of St. Andrew’s “Potato Drop” involved more than 220 participants who unloaded and packed 39,000 pounds of sweet potatoes that went out to 12 feeding agencies in Virginia and West Virginia.



Rev. Dr. Wells

Conference preacher the Rev. Dr. Sam Wells, Dean of Duke Chapel, preached on the indifference faced by persons doing Christian ministry, and the passive-aggressive behavior of many members of the typical congregation. “Isn’t this why pastors burn out?” Wells asked. He encouraged everyone to not be discouraged by indifference, but to “shake it off” and “see what a God who makes all things new will do.”

In his sermon during the ordination service, Wells said he didn’t want to “spoil” the night of those being ordained, commissioned and licensed, but offered some tough love, at one point asking “are you up for it?”

Wells also preached on division, particularly in congregations. “Many of us resent that wasted time and grieve the waste of emotional energy,” he said. “We can pretend there’s no conflict, but Jesus says not to call it peace if it isn’t.”

At the Ordering of Ministry service there were 25 persons licensed as local pastors, one received as an associate member, 20 commissioned as provisional members, one ordained as a deacon and 19 ordained as elders.



Ordering of the Ministry

Forty-one retiring clergy were recognized. Together they represented 1,170 years of service.

Service of Retirement

Members passed resolutions on the election of additional lay members, on a call to fast and pray, the priority of proclaiming Christ, support of “20/20: Visioning an AIDS-Free World,” on peace-making efforts between Palestinians and Israelis, and honoring the 50th anniversary of the founding of Virginia Wesleyan College. They narrowly defeated a resolution of affirmation of the retired bishops’ “Statement of Counsel to the Church,” which urges a change in the *Book of Discipline* in regard to views on homosexuality and ordination of gays and lesbians.

Membership stands at 335, 275, down 3,806 from the previous year. Worship attendance stands at 108,420 down 4,204.

-Neill Caldwell



DISTRICT CORE

Winchester District
Virginia Conference
The United Methodist Church
21 S. Kent Street
Winchester, VA 22601
Phone: (540) 662-7332
Fax: (540) 722-6780
Email: sherylpifer@vaumc.org

Charlene Payne Kammerer-Area Bishop
Larry Thompson -District Superintendent
Sheryl Pifer-Administrative Assistant
Melanie Melester-Financial Administrator
Kathy Lutman-District Lay Leader
Forrest Smith-Associate Lay Leader

Website:
www.winchesterdistrictumc.org

NON-PROFIT
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
WINCHESTER VA
PERMIT NO. 138

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.

DISTRICT CALENDAR

- ◆ July 1 - District Office Closes at 1 p.m.
- ◆ July 4 - District Office Closed
- ◆ July 6 - Mission Celebration Committee, District Office - 10 a.m.
- ◆ July 14 - UMM Day at Camp Rainbow
- ◆ July 19 - Clergy Welcome Dinner, Shenandoah University - 6 p.m.
- ◆ July 23 - UMM Spiritual Event - 9 a.m.
- ◆ July 26 - DCOM, Braddock St. UMC, 10 a.m.
- ◆ July 31 - District Stewards Meeting, Duncan Memorial UMC - 3 p.m.

- ◆ August 11 - UMM Day at Camp Rainbow
- ◆ August 21-22 - Clergy Retreat, Camp Overlook-Blessing Lodge - 5 p.m.

