



Winchester District  
United Methodist  
Church  
  
David T. Forrest  
District Superintendent

# NEWS FROM... THE CORE OF THE WINCHESTER DISTRICT



## October 2008

### Winchester District Conference

Warrenton United Methodist Church  
341 Church Street, Warrenton, VA  
Sunday, October 19, 2008, 3-5 p.m.

All members of our churches are invited and welcome!

Who are District Conference Members and Should Attend:

- ◇ All commissioned and ordained clergy, licensed local pastors, diaconal ministers, deaconesses
- ◇ Local Church Officers: Lay Leaders, chairpersons of Church Council (or equivalent body:
- ◇ Administrative Council, Administrative Board and Council on Ministries), church school superintendents, presidents of UMM and UMW, three members at large, one of whom shall be a youth, lay members to Annual Conference from each charge.

District Conference will begin with a business session to elect the Winchester District officers and committees for 2009, and district at-large members and alternates to the 2009 Annual Conference. A worship service with Holy Communion will follow the business session.

### Children's Music and Arts in Worship

A Winchester District  
Children's Event  
Saturday, October 25<sup>th</sup>

1 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
Braddock Street UMC

115 Wolfe Street, Winchester, VA 22601

**Theme: Being a Friend to All God's Children**

All are invited to come, explore, and experience different ways to worship using various art forms.

For questions please contact Dana Jackson at [harmonyouth@aol.com](mailto:harmonyouth@aol.com) or 540-338-2937.

\*District churches are encouraged to bring your children's Choirs and sing a song or two for the benefit of all.

\*\*Individuals and friends are welcome. Parents and guardians are encouraged to attend with their children if possible.

## DISTRICT CALENDAR



- 5 World Communion Sunday
- 6 District UMM Exec. Committee, District Office - 7 p.m.
- 11 Lay Speaker Training, Leesburg UMC - 8 a.m.- 6 p.m.
- 14-15 DS at Cabinet Meeting in Richmond
- 16 Tri-district Clergy Event, Front Royal UMC - 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
- 19 DISTRICT CONFERENCE, Warrenton UMC - 3-5 p.m.
- 22 DCOOM, Duncan Memorial UMC - 9 a.m.
- 24-26 Conference UMW Annual Meeting, Blackstone
- 25 Children's Art in Worship Workshop & Children's Choir Festival, Braddock St. UMC - 1-4 p.m.
- 28 DCOM, Braddock St. UMC - 10 a.m.  
District Board of Mission, District Office - 1 p.m.
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- 2 Daylight Saving Time Ends!
- 10 Comm. on Superintendency, District Office - 10 a.m.
- 11 Clergy Exec. Committee, District Office - 9:30 a.m.
- 12 District Clergy Assoc., Duncan Memorial - 9 a.m.
- 18-19 DS at Cabinet Meeting in Richmond
- 26 District Office Closes at 1 p.m.
- 27-28 District Office Closed



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- 2 DCOM, Braddock St. UMC - 10 a.m.
- 12 Clergy Assoc. Christmas Dinner, Mt. Olive (Toms Brook) - 6-8 p.m.
- 15 Registration Deadline for District Training
- December
- 18-19 DS at Cabinet Mtg. in Richmond
- 23 District Office Closes at 1 p.m.
- 24 - Jan. 2 District Office Closed

JANUARY 3, 2009 - DISTRICT TRAINING DAY  
SHENANDOAH UNIVERSITY, 8:30 A.M. - 4 P.M.



## *A word from the District Superintendent...*

THANK YOU, TONY!

That's my primary message this month—addressed of course to the Rev. William Anthony Layman, retired minister and former Petersburg District Superintendent, for all his help filling in for me while I was on renewal leave this past summer. Tony did everything, seemingly, that a D.S. normally does while we were gone, and I appreciate it very much.

I also want to thank publically Sheryl Pifer, our Administrative Assistant, and Melanie Melester, our Financial Administrator, for holding things together so well while I was gone. They succeeded so well that it's a little humbling to me to realize that my absence was hardly noticed, apparently!

Thanks also to all the rest of you on the district for the chance to be away for a little while. We enjoyed it, but it's good to be back.

As you may have heard, we spent five weeks in Northern Ireland and England—with brief trips to the Republic of Ireland and Scotland, as well. It was a wonderful experience which we shared with all three of our sons and our daughter-in-law for all or part of the time. As you may have heard me say, I heartily recommend the British Isles for a trip—my only advice—should you wish to go—being: bring plenty of money! “Petrol” for your car, for example, is more than twice what it is here—closer to ten than four dollars a gallon!

We worshipped in five different churches on the five Sundays that we were there: a Methodist one in Northern Ireland, a Church of Scotland one near Loch Lomond in Scotland, a Methodist one and a nondenominational one in Lincoln, England (where we stayed for three weeks), and Holy Trinity, Brompton—a rather famous Anglican one in London. We attended the last on the night before we flew out for home—along with a rather large and lively crowd with many young people.

Our experience would seem to indicate that the death of the church in Britain is a bit exaggerated. Holy Trinity, Brompton, for example, has as its pastor, Nicky Gumble, the author of the Alpha Course, which has been used around the world (including by some of our Winchester District churches) to introduce people to Christianity.

God is still in the mission and ministry business, and you and I have our part to play. Thank you for all that you do in Christ's name, and keep up the good work!

*David Forrest*

*EVERYONE IS INVITED TO THIS SPECIAL DRAMATIC, MUSICAL PRESENTATION*



### **GOD'S TROMBONES**

by James Weldon Johnson

&

Negro Spirituals

Performed by **YOUTH & FRIENDS**

Presented at First United Methodist Church

**Sunday, October 26 ~ 6:30 p.m.**



**GOD'S TROMBONES: SEVEN NEGRO SERMONS IN VERSE** by James Weldon Johnson (New York: The Viking Press, 1955) is a collection of poetry that contains a prayer and seven sermons inspired by the style of the old-time Negro preachers. James Weldon Johnson used childhood memories of sermons as the basis of these poems in an effort to preserve this facet of Negro history and art.

Youtha Hardman-Cromwell is a United Methodist clergywoman in the Virginia Conference. She pastored Woodlawn United Methodist Church from 1986 to 1989 and has taught and done administrative work in colleges, universities and the seminary. She began presenting **GOD'S TROMBONES** in 1979 and formed **YOUTH & FRIENDS** in 1985. Her goal is to present the work of African-American poets in celebration of their art and to extend the awareness of their work and contributions to the body of artistic expression. Her dramatic presentations of this work give expression to her interpretation and her appreciation of those whose preaching has paved the way for her own.

*Jointly hosted by the North Frederick Charge and First United Methodist  
Please call Suzanne Vance at 540-665-2926 if you have questions.*



Let's Get Growing . . .  
More Children!

**Sponsored by the VA Conference  
Life Span Children's Council**  
**Reaching Out to Infants, Toddlers,  
and Preschoolers**

Wednesday, October 8, 2008  
Trinity United Methodist Church  
903 Forest Avenue, Richmond

**Keynote:**

Melanie Gordon, Dir. of Min. with Younger Children at the General Board of Discipleship in Nashville, Tenn.

**Reaching Out to Children and Families**

*two dates to choose from*

Friday, October 17, 2008  
Williamsburg United Methodist Church  
500 Jamestown Road, Williamsburg  
*or*

Saturday, October 18, 2008  
Calvary United Methodist Church  
1279 Stuarts Draft Highway, Stuarts Draft

**Keynote:**

Nick Ransom, Director of Children's Ministries for the United Methodist Church of the Resurrection in Kansas.

Registration \$35 per event date includes lunch and resources. 0.5 CEU.

Registration deadline is **Friday, October 3.**

You may register online by going to [www.vaumc.org](http://www.vaumc.org), then Events and then the date. Or send completed registration form and payment by credit card or check made payable to "Virginia UM Conference," earmarked "More Children," to: Virginia Conference Office of Children's Ministry, PO Box 1718, Glen Allen, VA 23060. For directions to each of the churches, please refer to the Virginia Conference web site at [www.vaumc.org](http://www.vaumc.org) under Directory, Church Listing, and then the name of the church.



**MARK YOUR CALENDARS~  
PLAN TO ATTEND!!**

**Annual Winchester  
District Leadership Training  
Saturday, January 3, 2009  
8:30 a.m. ~ 4:00 p.m.**

**at Shenandoah University's Armstrong Hall**

**One day special event with classes led by  
an outstanding line-up of training instructors  
from which you may choose.**

**More information and registration forms  
available by calling the District Office at  
(540) 662-7332.**

**Braddock Street UMC to host  
Cokesbury Planning Day**

Braddock Street will hold its annual Adult Cokesbury Planning Day on Saturday, November 1, from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m., in the Church Fellowship Hall. They would like to invite the other churches on the District to join them.

Donna Bolton from Cokesbury will be there with samples of adult curriculum and other resources. Participants will have an opportunity to look at and hear about new materials as well as some old favorites.

There will also be an opportunity to plan studies for the coming year and suggestions about how to do it. Experienced adult teachers will be available to help you in your planning and answer questions.



**Flood bucket supplies  
needed after  
Hurricanes Gustav & Ike**

Staff and volunteers at UMCOR Sager Brown, the relief supply warehouse in Baldwin, La., have been busy preparing and shipping relief supplies in response to recent hurricanes. Trailers and truckloads of flood buckets, health kits and generators were sent to several locations in Texas and Louisiana for distribution to families affected by Hurricanes Gustav and Ike.

A total of 9,882 flood buckets have been sent out from Sager Brown Depot, MERCI Mission Center, NC and Midwest Mission Distribution Center, Ill. Nearly 3,000 health kits were sent to five locations in Louisiana and 4,000 flood buckets were sent to eight other locations. Incoming shipments of relief supplies will go to the Texas Annual Conference to support their needs. The Midwest Distribution Warehouse also delivered 1,000 flood buckets to assist Northern Indiana where UMCOR has responded with an emergency grant to help in recovery, as well as anticipates providing case management training.

There is an urgency to replenish flood bucket supplies at UMCOR Sager Brown and other warehouse locations. You can view a list of the flood bucket contents at <http://new.gb-gm-umc.org/umcor/getconnected/supplies/flood-bucket>. Monetary gifts may be made through your local church and earmarked for Material Resources, UMCOR Advance 901440.





Winchester District  
United Methodist Church  
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Winchester, Virginia 22601  
540-662-7332

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*Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.*



Although we can say we completed our final fund raiser of the year, perhaps there are still some that are planning to play their last nine holes of golf which they received as a rain check. Though the rain halted the play, the spirit in which the golfers and helpers participated was most appreciated. A wrap-up report will be out after our October District Cabinet meeting.

At last count I received from the Conference UMM there were 340 registrants for the VA Conference Spiritual Retreat November 7 – 9 in Blackstone. The report showed only 5 had registered from the Winchester District. Applications were sent or attached to the Newsletter last month. The cutoff date for registration is October 11. Scholarship funds are also available for anyone desiring to go and have a need for assistance in that area. Please call me so I can assist you in this way.

GLEANNING SEASON IS HERE, EVERY Saturday from 7 or 8 a.m. until 10 a.m. or so. There are also gleaning opportunities during the week but often on short notice. Watch for announcements in emails and church bulletins as to type of crop and location.

The time for 2009 charter year is upon us. An email is being sent out to all local Presidents and Treasurers along with our District Charter form. As with most everything else in these recent times the National charter fee has gone up. A letter from the GCUMM Secretary explaining this will be sent with the charter form. It is hoped we can have the 2009 chartering completed by December 31 of this year so that will not be an issue for our new President who will be elected at our Fall Rally on Saturday, November 15 at Duncan Memorial UMC in Berryville.

Information on all the above has been sent to all local Presidents and Pastors and you can always contact me at (540) 678-0243 or email [wincdistrictumm@hotmail.com](mailto:wincdistrictumm@hotmail.com) if you have any questions.

Grace and Peace,  
Jim Green