



July 2009

# DISTRICT DISPATCH

A Newsletter of The Richmond 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.*

## Welcome, Farewell and Congratulations!

We welcome the following clergy who received new appointments to the Richmond District at Annual Conference in Norfolk, June 17:

- ◆ Darcey G. Johnson to Memorial UMC
- ◆ Lauren E. Lobenhofer to Bon Air UMC as Associate
- ◆ Steven F. Plymale to Mt. Pisgah UMC
- ◆ Lorena E. Beach to Mt. Pisgah UMC as Associate
- ◆ Erin M. Reibel to Woodlake UMC as Associate
- ◆ Sarah G. Sealand to Christ UMC
- ◆ Carl W. Ulrich to Belmont UMC
- ◆ William R. Freeman to Boulevard UMC
- ◆ Dorothy M. O'Quinn to Ginter Park UMC
- ◆ Christina H. Turner to Westhampton UMC



And wish God's richest blessings to these pastors who are leaving the District to begin new adventures in ministry:

- ◆ Alvin J. Horton to First UMC, Charlottesville District
- ◆ Christopher P. Weitzel to Aldersgate UMC, Ashland District
- ◆ Linda E.F. Crabbs to Macedonia UMC, Charlottesville District
- ◆ Edward S. Martin, Jr. to Francis Asbury UMC, Norfolk District
- ◆ Lynda D. Moore to Cheriton Charge, Eastern Shore District
- ◆ Rosemary G. Welch to Hinton Avenue UMC, Charlottesville District

And prayer for a blessed retirement for

- ◆ Frederic L. Breeden
- ◆ Dwight L. Zavitz, Jr.

Congratulations to the following current and former Richmond District clergy who were ordained, commissioned or licensed at Annual Conference:

Licensed as Local Pastors

- ◆ Veronica G. Barrell
- ◆ Lorena E. Beach
- ◆ Erin M. Reibel

Commissioned as Provisional Members

- ◆ Linda E.F. Crabbs
- ◆ Benjamin E. Horrocks
- ◆ Lynda D. Moore
- ◆ Sarah G. Sealand
- ◆ Kotosha Seals
- ◆ Jessica Squires
- ◆ Melody P. Tanner

Ordained as Deacon

- ◆ Joseph S. Torrence

Ordained as Elder

- ◆ Sandra C. Bottoms
- ◆ Christopher R. Donald
- ◆ Carla P. Stearns
- ◆ Michael L. Whaley ◆

## District Stewards to Meet

There will be a meeting of the Richmond District Stewards on Monday, August 3 at 7 p.m. in Rooms 117-118 of the Virginia United Methodist Conference Center at 10330 Staples Mill Road, in Glen Allen. The purpose of this meeting is to approve the 2010 Richmond District Budget and the distribution of the Apportionments to the District churches as described in the 2008 Book of Discipline, Para. 615.3.

Each church should elect a Steward to attend this meeting, if a Steward has not been previously elected. All clergy are also invited to attend this meeting. For more information call 521-1124. ◆

## District UMW News

The third "On The Road Again In Mission Trip" for 2009 for District United Methodist Women (UMW) will go to the Eastern Shore to help at Casa Esperanza Center, Agape Children's Center, and All God's Children Camp at Occohannock on the Bay on Tuesday, August 18 and Wednesday, August 19. The group's overnight stay will be at Chincoteague. All interested persons are invited to participate. Please contact your local UMW President for more information, or call 747-6493 ASAP to reserve your place. ◆

## Holiday Closings

The Richmond District Office and the Virginia United Methodist Conference Center will close at 1 p.m., Thursday, July 2, and will remain closed Friday, July 3, in observance of Independence Day. ◆

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## Richmond District

The Virginia Conference • United Methodist Church  
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July 2009

### A Word from the Superintendent:

Dear Friends:

One of my favorite on-line columnists is the Rev. Laurie Haller, District Superintendent of the Grand Rapids District in the West Michigan Conference. Recently she wrote about "Church Etiquette," and provided a list of potential problems and what to do about them. Since a number of these had to do with pastors – and particularly new pastors – I want to share some of her "problems" and solutions:

1. **You are in line to greet the pastor after the worship service and can't think of one positive thing to say about the sermon.**  
Smile and say, "I really like your shoes, pastor." (Evidently, this really happened to Rev. Haller.)
2. **The pastor ignores you at coffee hour.**  
Don't take it personally. A pastor's head is spinning with all the information that's given to her/him at coffee hour. She/he's probably totally disoriented!
3. **A reference in a sermon hurts you and is insensitive of your experience.**  
Don't nurse your anger or presume that harm was intended. Make an appointment to share your perspective with the pastor: he/she needs to know what you're thinking.
4. **You hear gossip about a new (or old) pastor in the church parking lot.**  
John Wesley had harsh and direct words to say about gossip. Insist that the gossip stop and that people should talk directly to the pastor if they have a question or concern.
5. **You are incensed because your pastor failed to mention Veteran's Day/Mother's Day/Memorial Day during worship.**  
Pastors tend to focus on the Christian year. Consider that it is not possible or even appropriate to recognize every secular holiday in church.
6. **Changes are taking place at church, and you want to email the pastor to express your displeasure.**  
Never hide behind email. There is no substitute for a face to face meeting when discussing important and sensitive issues.
7. **Should I call the pastor "Rev. Jackson," "Pastor Jane" or just "Jane"?**  
Ask. She'll tell you.

Rev. Haller ended her list by saying that all etiquette ultimately resolves problems by listening, communicating, and showing respect!

In Christ,

Steve Jones

### In the Richmond District in May and June, Steve Jones...

- ◆ Participated in worship at Gum Spring UMC
- ◆ Attended worship at New Life UMC, Corinth UMC (Sandston), and St Luke's UMC
- ◆ Conducted Charge Conferences at churches where a change in appointment will take place.
- ◆ Attended the Virginia Annual Conference in Norfolk.
- ◆ Consulted and met with clergy, leaders and members of Richmond District churches. ◆

### Prayers for...

- ◆ Rev. Carol Uzzle and husband Russ on the death of his mother, Mary Ellen Uzzle, on June 6.
- ◆ Rev. Ben Hadley-Goggin who is recovering from May 26 neck surgery.
- ◆ Bryan Compton, Conference IT director, on the death of his father, Olin Compton, on June 8.
- ◆ The family of Ruby Lee Eaton, widow of Rev. Harry B. Eaton, who died June 7.
- ◆ Conference Lay Leader, Shirley Cauffman, on the death of her sister and brother-in-law on May 29. ◆

### Hearing God's Call

Y ou mean that I can listen to God as I make choices about my future?" Many students find this a surprising idea. As people who love God, it is an important question to ask. A special event for rising high school sophomores, junior, and seniors, will be held at Randolph-Macon College on August 2-4. Are You Listening? Hearing God's Call gives young people a chance to gather with other students to consider whether God is calling them to ministry in the church. Contact Margie Turbyfill at <margieturbyfill@rmc.edu> for information. Registration forms can be found at <www.rmc.edu> and the conference website <www.vaumc.org/youth>. This event is co-sponsored by the Virginia Conference and there is no cost to the participants. ◆

## Directory Update Needed

The District office needs for all clergy, active and retired, those appointed beyond the local church, deacons and clergy widows, to check their District Directory listing for any change or update as soon as possible. Please send changes to the Richmond District Office, P.O. Box 1719, Glen Allen VA 23060 or email <RichmondDistrict@vaumc.org>. ♦

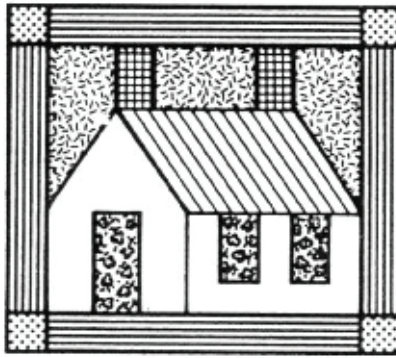
## School of Christian Mission

The Virginia Conference School of Christian Mission will be held July 24-26 (weekend session) and July 27-30 (weekday session) at VUMAC in Blackstone. Sponsored by the conference Board of Global Ministries and United Methodist Women, this year's theme is Together at the Table. The three studies will be Food and Faith, The Beauty and Courage of Sudan, and Giving Our Hearts Away: Native American Survival. Classes are held for men, women, youth and children. There also is a class offered in the Korean language. Plenary speaker will be Angelo Maker, one of the Lost Boys of Sudan. Register early to receive your class choice. Deadline to register is July 13. For information visit <www.vaumw.org>. ♦

## Oberammergau 2010

The "once every decade" performance of the Passion Play in Oberammergau, Germany is just 11 months away! We want to invite you to join Bishop Kammerer and us and lots of other United Methodists from the Virginia Conference for this inspiring experience as we witness faith in action by a community, demonstrated through music and drama for more than 370 years. Departure date is June 22, 2010, and *the costs have been reduced, starting at \$2798*. We look forward to serving as the Richmond District Coordinators for this Education Opportunities Tours (EO) trip, as well as to meeting you and sharing more about this trip. Questions? Call us at 359-1044 (Brookland UMC), or email <neillcaldwell@vaumc.org>.

Rev. Lynne Caldwell  
Pastor, Brookland UMC and  
and Neill Caldwell,  
Editor, Virginia Advocate



### Save the Date!

Richmond District UMW  
Mini School of Christian Mission

### Together at the Table

Friday, September 11,  
5:15-8:30

Bon Air UMC  
1645 Buford Road

#### What is it?

A mini version of the Virginia Conference School of Christian Mission. Participants will gain an overview of the Mission Studies. The School of Mission provides an opportunity for men, women, and youth to learn about partnering in God's global mission and to grow spiritually.

#### Who should attend?

Any United Methodist with a passion for missions.

#### Mission Studies:

- ♦ Spiritual Growth: Food and Faith led by Rev. Ted Smith
- ♦ Issue Study: Native American Survival led by Rev. Karen Sandoval
- ♦ Geographic Study: Beauty and Courage of Sudan led by Kip Robinson

Jointly sponsored by  
Richmond District's UMW and  
Board of Missions  
\$10 Registration Fee including  
supper and class materials

For information call 477-3914.  
Childcare will be available. ♦

## Helping Hands

A Virginia Conference children's mission event, Helping Hands, will be held at Woodlake UMC, 6601 Woodlake Village Parkway, July 23-24. This two-day mission experience is offered to children of all Virginia Conference United Methodist Churches. The event is open to rising 4th through 6th graders, parents and adult leaders. Participants will learn about mission opportunities and the importance of being a caring Christian. Cost is \$35 per person, which includes T-shirt, meals and snacks, and overnight stay (sleeping on the floor and no shower facilities). Each group must have one adult leader for every six children. Registration is limited to 150 people. For more information see <www.vauc.org>. ♦

## What is UMFS?

What is United Methodist Family Services (UMFS) and what can it do for me?

This diverse agency serves the needs of children in your community, and you can be a part of it. There are children in your community that are constantly in need of your support. We are often charged with the giving of our prayers, presence, gifts, and service. I would ask that you prayerfully consider the ways in which you open your heart to all of these forms of giving. Are you a newly developed empty nester looking for a way to serve the needs of young people? Are you a retired grandparent who has seen it all? Or are you a newlywed couple looking for that something extra to fill out your commitment to serving the community? If any of these profiles sound like you, or if you feel a call to serve your community in a new and deepened way, I urge you to investigate the opportunities to serve with UMFS. We are in need of people to act as foster parents in your area. With thorough training and the support of social workers you will be supported throughout this process. Please check our website at <www.umfs.org> to learn more.

Hilary M. Holman  
Community Ministries Intern  
UMFS  
353-4461

## July Lay Speaking Schedule

Dann Ladd (672-1855) and Larry Brayton (539-2122), Co-Directors, Lay Speaking Ministries.

Date	Place	Speaker
7/5	Beth Shalom	Dann Ladd
7/5	Guardian Place	TBA
7/12	Elmcroft	Richard Arnold
7/12	University Park	TBA
7/19	Chippendale	Ann Arnold
7/19	Guardian Place	Cindy Butler
7/26	Elmcroft	S Schmidt

## Lay Speaking Training

Date	District	Contact
7/18 & 25	Harrisonburg	540/433-2382
9/18-19	Portsmouth	757/484-8472
9/19	Harrisonburg	540/433-2382
9/25-26	Peninsula	757/596-3476
9/3	Rappahannock	804/758-3686
10/9-10	Alex./Arlington	703/820-7200
10/17-18	Ashland	804/798-1649
10/23-24	Roanoke	540/989-3335

## District Opportunities

- ◆ July 3–UM Center closed.
- ◆ July 10-26–VIM to Pyatigorsk, Russia, 323-9134.
- ◆ July 11–Ministry in Different Size Churches, Mt. Pisgah UMC, 272-3313.
- ◆ July 23-24–Helping Hands, Woodlake UMC, 739-4536.
- ◆ July 24–Voices of Youth Concert, 7 p.m., Centenary UMC, 648-8319.
- ◆ July 24-26 and 27-30–School of Christian Mission, VUMAC, 521-1143.
- ◆ August 2-4–Hearing God's Call, Randolph-Macon College, 521-1135.
- ◆ August 3–District Stewards, VAUMCC, 521-1124.
- ◆ August 14-16–Stretch Out Your Hand, Camp Overlook, (540)2MY-CAMP.
- ◆ August 18-19–UMW Road Trip, Eastern Shore, 747-6493.
- ◆ August 21-23–Middle School Mission Weekend, Westview on the James, 521-1135.
- ◆ September 11–Mini School of Christian Mission, Bon Air UMC, 477-3914.
- ◆ September 25-27–Kid's Work Camp, Westview on the James, 457-4210.
- ◆ September 26–Charles City Spiritual Ensemble Concert, 3 p.m., Pace Center, VCU, 658-4064.
- ◆ October 3–Seasoned Adults Spice Up the Church–Aging and Ministry in the 21st Century–Mt. Pisgah UMC, 521-1135.
- ◆ October 16-18–Middle School Mission Weekend, Westview on the James, 521-1135.
- ◆ October 24–Family Fun Camp, Westview on the James, 457-4210.
- ◆ November 13-15–Middle School Weekend Retreat, Eagle Eyrie, 521-1135.
- ◆ January 10, 2010–C3, District Conference and Leadership Training Event, 521-1124.
- ◆ June 22, 2010–Oberammergau Passion Play departure, 359-1044◆



## DISTRICT DISPATCH

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Virginia Conference**

**The United Methodist Church**

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Charlene Payne Kammerer *Area Bishop*  
Steven R. Jones *District Superintendent*  
Susan Petrey *Administrative Assistant,*

*Web Administrator*

Cindy Payne-Ingroff *District Treasurer*

Garth Griffith *District Lay Leader*

Pat Compton *District Lay Leader*

Bill Davis *Chair, Parish Development*

Donna Patterson *District President, UMW*

Roth Sykes *District President, UMM*

Bill Chaffin *District Ministry of Scouting Coord.*

D. Ladd/L. Brayton *Co-Directors, Lay Speaking*

**We're on the web at:**

[http://gbgmchurches.gbgm-umc.org/  
RichmondDistVA](http://gbgmchurches.gbgm-umc.org/RichmondDistVA)

**The DEADLINE for the NEXT  
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