

# BOOK OF REPORTS

237th Session of the  
Virginia Annual Conference



June 20-22, 2019  
Roanoke, Virginia



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## IMPORTANT REGISTRATION INFORMATION

### Please Read Carefully

If you are a clergy, diaconal, or lay member of the Virginia Annual Conference you should find enclosed, with your *2019 Book of Reports*, your official name badge, and registration card. To register, you must bring the registration card with you to the conference session. Name badges will be essential for voting privileges. If you forget your *Book of Reports*, you will need to purchase one at the information table at conference for \$5.00 per copy.

### PLEASE FOLLOW THE PROCEDURE BELOW:

1. When you arrive at the Berglund Center Coliseum, go immediately to the registration area in the Berglund Special Events Center. All clergy, diaconal, and lay members will register in the Special Events Center. The Registration Help Desk will also be there.
2. Take the enclosed registration card to the registration area and exchange it for your official conference packet, and pick up your plastic name badge holder. Please make any necessary corrections to the information printed on the card prior to registration.
3. Voting devices for the election of General Conference and Southeastern Jurisdiction Conference delegates will be distributed as part of the registration process. Lay members will receive their voting devices when they register. Clergy who are eligible to vote for the election of clergy delegates will receive their voting devices at an area adjoining the registration tables. At the conclusion of the Thursday evening session, voting devices will be returned to persons who will be standing at exits of the main seating areas in the Berglund Center Coliseum and Performing Arts Center. Please be aware that unreturned devices will result in a cost of \$75/each to the conference.
4. Persons who need special attention regarding registration will be asked to go to the Registration Help Desk. Here, name badge corrections, alternate/reserve registrations, and other such situations will be handled. Do not surrender your registration card at the other registration areas if you need help from the Help Desk. You will receive your updated name badge, if necessary, and official packet at the Help Desk.
5. At the conclusion of the conference, receptacles will be provided to collect the plastic holder of your name badge for reuse at future conference sessions, so please be gentle with its use.

**ALTERNATES AND RESERVES** should go to the Registration Help Desk with the entire *Book of Reports* packet, including name badge and registration card of individuals they are replacing. A new badge and registration card will be provided there.

## ATTENTION! CLERGY AND DIACONAL MINISTERS

**PLEASE NOTE** that your registration card should indicate your **PRESENT** address, **BUT** you are asked to correct the card so it lists your **FUTURE MAILING ADDRESS**, appointment and phone number (i.e., that which will be in effect following this year's moving date). What appears on this card when you turn it in will become the conference's official record of your address, to be included in the *2019 Journal* and *2019 Directory of the Ministry*. Email addresses, if provided, will be included in both publications.

**IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND CONFERENCE** and have changes on the card, please mail your corrected registration card to the *Journal of the Virginia Annual Conference*, P.O. Box 5606, Glen Allen, VA 23058, or email to [Communications@vaumc.org](mailto:Communications@vaumc.org).

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The 237th session  
**VIRGINIA ANNUAL CONFERENCE**  
of The United Methodist Church

Roanoke, Virginia

June 20-22, 2019

# **BOOK OF REPORTS**

*The Rev. Marc D. Brown, Director of Connectional Ministries*

*Edited by*

*The Office of Connectional Ministries and*

*Virginia United Methodist Communications*

*On the cover: The 2019 Annual Conference theme is  
“Moving Forward in God’s Mission”.  
Logo designed by Cathryn Huff*

## GREETINGS FROM BISHOP LEWIS

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### Dear Sisters and Brothers of the Virginia Annual Conference,

“Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and from Christ Jesus our Lord!” (I Tim. 1:2)

It has been a joy and blessing to be serving Christ with you as your Interim Bishop while Bishop Lewis is recovering on medical leave. As we gather, join me in continuing to pray for her healing and full restoration.

I have already met many of you and celebrate your faithfulness to Christ, your dedication to God’s mission,

and your commitment to gather for United Methodist conferencing where we value our differences, “rejoice with those who rejoice and weep with those who weep,” (Rom. 12:15) and join together on the common ground of following Jesus where He leads us.

This year’s theme for our worship and deliberations will be “MOVING FORWARD IN GOD’S MISSION.” We will reflect together on the great commission Christ gives each of us in Matthew 28:18-20. Our conference preacher will be the dynamic leader of the East Ohio Conference, Bishop Tracy Smith Malone. The Rev. Alex Duncan will preach for the Retirement Service and the Rev. Seungsoo Jun will preach for the Service of Remembrance.

The 2019 Annual Conference 5K Walk, Run, Bike, and Yoga event will be held on Saturday, June 22.

OUR CONFERENCE OFFERING this year will make tangible our commitment to mission by supporting Africa University, Cambodia, Mozambique, Brazil and Just Neighbors.

As a young child I remember going to Annual Conference Sunday with my family (my father was a pastor). I don’t remember the Bishop’s sermons, or the buzz around the budget, or the intrigue of the “reading of appointments.” But what still resounds in my memory and heart was singing:

“And are we yet alive, and see each other’s face?

Glory and thanks to Jesus give for his almighty grace!”

I look forward to singing, giving thanks, and sharing grace with you this Conference!

To God be the Glory,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Peter D. Weaver". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "P" and "W".

Interim Bishop Peter D. Weaver

### SPECIAL SPEAKERS



**Bishop Tracy S. Malone** (*preaching for the Friday morning Mission Service and the Friday evening Service of Ordering of Ministry*) is the Resident Bishop of the Ohio East Area, which includes the East Ohio Conference in the North Central Jurisdiction of The United Methodist Church. She was district superintendent of the Chicago Southern Region, and was dean of the Northern Illinois Conference Cabinet, when she was elected to the Episcopacy in 2016. Prior to that appointment, Malone served several different churches, the last of which was Gary UMC in Wheaton, Ill., where she was senior pastor.

She currently serves as president of the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women and is a member of the Board of Trustees at Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary. As resident bishop, she also serves on the Boards of Trustees at United Methodist-affiliated colleges, seminaries and organizations in East Ohio. Malone was elected to represent the Northern Illinois Conference as a delegate at General/Jurisdictional Conferences in 2004, 2008, 2012 and 2016. She was chairperson of the delegation in 2012 and served as chairperson of the Agenda and Calendar Committee in 2016.

Malone earned a Bachelor of Arts in Religious Studies and Sociology, with a minor in Computer Science, from North Central College in Naperville, Illinois. She has a Master of Divinity degree from Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary in Evanston, Illinois. Malone earned a Doctor of Ministry degree from United Theological Seminary in Dayton, Ohio. She and husband Derrick are the parents of two daughters.



**The Rev. Dr. Kevin M. Watson** (*leading Bible Study sessions*) is the assistant professor of Wesleyan and Methodist Studies at the Candler School of Theology. His research interests focus on Christian formation and discipleship from a Wesleyan perspective, particularly communal formation, Wesleyan/Methodist Christianity, the history of early Methodism, American Methodism, common misunderstandings of the Wesleyan tradition and current events in The United Methodist Church. In addition to writing articles for both scholarly and popular publications, Watson is the author of three books, including *Pursuing Social Holiness: The Band Meeting in*

*Wesley's Thought and Popular Methodist Practice* (Oxford Univ. Press, 2014). Watson is an ordained elder in the Oklahoma Conference. He completed his PhD in Religious Studies from Southern Methodist University in Dallas, TX and completed his MDiv at Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, D.C.

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## SPECIAL SPEAKERS



**The Rev. Dr. Alexander Duncan, Jr.,** (*preaching the Friday afternoon Retirement Service*) pastor of Arlington Forest UMC in Arlington, was born in Washington, DC. He is the second of five children. Dr. Duncan gave his life to the Lord at an early age. He left home at the age of 18 to serve in the United States Army. He served 20 years active duty and 3 years inactive and retired from the army at the rank of First Sergeant (E-8). He holds a B.A. in Business Administration from St Leo University, a Master of Divinity from Virginia Union University and a Doctorate of Divinity from Southern Christian University. Dr. Duncan is married to the former Valerie V. Walston.

Valerie is a licensed local pastor with The United Methodist Church. She pastors Trinity UMC (Newport News, VA). Dr. Duncan has four sons and one daughter; Keon M. Duncan, Alexander Duncan III, Elliot G. Duncan, Alease A. Duncan and Matthew S. Duncan.



**The Rev. Seungsoo "RJ" Jun** (*preaching the Friday afternoon Service of Remembrance*)

was born in a pastor's family. His great-grandfather was one of the first Korean pastors in the Korean Methodist Church. He completed his studies in 2004 at Wesley Theological Seminary. He is passionate for the next generation. He says, "My role in ministry might change, but my call will never." Most of his ministry was being involved in the life of the next generation, as a youth pastor or an educational pastor. As an elder of The Virginia Annual Conference, he was appointed to Raleigh Court UMC in 2015, and is excited to see how God will use this church to join in God's mission to this community. He is

happily married with his better half, Woori, and they have two sons, Jin and Peter. Their family also has a rescue dog named 'Mandoo,' which stands for Korean dumpling.

## AGENDA

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### 237<sup>th</sup> Session of Virginia Annual Conference

June 20-22, 2019

Berglund Center, Roanoke, Virginia

Bishop Peter D. Weaver, Presiding

#### **"Moving Forward in God's Mission"**

*And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."*

*Matthew 28:18-20 (NRSV)*

*(An **Order of the Day** is an item to be addressed at a particular time as approved by the annual conference. Orders of the Day in the agenda are indicated by bold underlined words.)*

#### **Wednesday, June 19**

*(Registration: 4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.)*

#### **Thursday Morning, June 20**

*(Registration: 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.)*

8:30 a.m.	Welcome for Clergy receiving first-time appointments ....Berglund Hall
10:00 a.m.	Laity Session ..... Coliseum
10:00 a.m.	Clergy Session.....Peforming Arts Theatre

#### **Thursday Afternoon, June 20**

2:00 p.m.	Call to Conferencing.....Bishop Peter D. Weaver
	"And Are We Yet Alive"
	Prayer ..... Rev. Raymond Wrenn
	Mr. Quaid Jones
	Welcomes ..... Rev. Kathleen Overby Webster
	Chief Emeritus Kenneth Adams
	Special Music
	Spiritual Centering ..... Bishop Peter D. Weaver
	Hymn
	Organizing Our Life Together.....Bishop Peter D. Weaver
	Organizing Motions ..... Rev. Kathleen Overby Webster
	Election of..... Rev. Susan Reaves
	Assistant Secretaries
	Editor of the <i>Journal</i>
	Annual Conference Committees

*(Continued on next page)*

## AGENDA

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	Rules Committee.....	Rev. Joshua King
	Monitoring Report.....	Rev. Erin Geoffrion
3:30 p.m.	<b><u>Voting for General Conference and Southeast Jurisdictional Conference delegates</u></b>	
	Laity-Coliseum.....	Bishop Ray Chamberlain
	Clergy-Performing Arts Theatre.....	Bishop Peter D. Weaver
5:30 p.m.	Recess for Dinner	

### Thursday Evening, June 20

7:30 p.m.	<b><u>Voting for General Conference and Southeast Jurisdictional Conference delegates</u></b>	
	Laity-Coliseum.....	Bishop Ray Chamberlain
	Clergy-Performing Arts Theatre.....	Bishop Peter D. Weaver
	Adjournment when voting is completed	

### Friday Morning, June 21

*(Registration: 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon)*

7:30 a.m.	Morning Eucharist.....	Berglund Hall, Parlor A
8:15 a.m.	Singing Our Faith.....	Ms. Christal Heyward
	Bible Study.....	Dr. Kevin Watson
8:45 a.m.	<b><u>Report of Minutes Committee</u></b> .....	Rev. Stan Thompson
	Monitoring Report.....	Rev. Erin Geoffrion
9:00 a.m.	<b><u>Report of the Cabinet</u></b> .....	Rev. Kathleen Overby Webster
	Minute Questions	
	Recognition of New Faith Communities.....	Rev. Mark Ogren
	Glory Sighting—"Lifelong Learners"	
9:35 a.m.	<b><u>Laity Address</u></b> .....	Mr. Warren Harper
	Approval of Consent Agenda.....	Bishop Peter D. Weaver
10:00 a.m.	<b><u>Report of 2019 General Conference</u></b> .....	Ms. Martha Stokes
		Rev. Tom Berlin
10:30 a.m.	Motions .....	Bishop Peter D. Weaver
11:00 a.m.	<b><u>Worship</u></b> .....	Bishop Tracy Malone
	Annual Conference Offering	
12:00 noon	Recess for Lunch	

### Friday Afternoon, June 21

2:00 p.m.	<b><u>Recognition of Retirees</u></b> .....	Rev. Alexander Duncan Jr.
3:00 p.m.	<b><u>Equitable Compensation Report</u></b> .....	Rev. Joe Carson III
	Site Selection Committee Report.....	Mr. Neal Wise
	Historical Society Report .....	Rev. John T. Martin Jr.
	Glory Sighting—"Influence Others"	



## AGENDA

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3:20 p.m.	<b><u>Board of Pensions Report</u></b> .....	Mr. Ken Peterson
3:35 p.m.	<b><u>Common Table Report</u></b> .....	Rev. Ashley Roth
	Board of Communications .....	Rev. Lyle Morton, Dr. Carlos Liceaga
	Election of Boards and Agencies .....	Ms. Jill Gaynor
	Consecration of Conference Leadership .....	Rev. Seung Hae Yoo-Hess
4:10 p.m.	<b><u>Memorial Service</u></b> .....	Bishop Peter D. Weaver
5:00 p.m.	Recess for Dinner	Rev. Seungsoo “RJ” Jun

### Friday Evening, June 21

7:30 p.m.	<b><u>Service of Ordering for Ministry</u></b> .....	Bishop Tracy Malone
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### Saturday Morning, June 22

6:15 a.m.	5K Walk, Run, Bike, and Yoga (Yoga location TBD) Roanoke City Greenway - Target/Best Buy parking lot at 4707 Valley View Blvd	
7:30 a.m.	Morning Eucharist.....	Berglund Hall, Parlor A
8:15 a.m.	Singing Our Faith.....	Ms. Christal Heyward
	Bible Study.....	Dr. Kevin Watson
8:45 a.m.	<b><u>Report of Minutes Committee</u></b> .....	Rev. Stan Thompson
	Monitoring Report.....	Rev. Mary Dadisman
9:00 a.m.	Report of the Statistician.....	Mr. David Dommis
	Report of the Treasurer.....	Mr. David Dommis
9:15 a.m.	<b><u>Report of Council on Finance and Administration (CFA)</u></b> .....	Ms. Betty Forbes
	Recognitions	
	150 Year Anniversary of United Methodist	
	Women and Precedent Organizations .....	Ms. Mary Jane Rowley
	Association of Educational Institutions .....	Rev. John Peters
	Denman Award.....	Rev. Don Jamison
	One Matters Award.....	Rev. Don Jamison
	Green Church Award.....	Rev. Anita Mays
	GBGM Recognition .....	Rev. Glenn Rowley
	Glory Sighting-“To Serve”	
	Unfinished Conference Business and Motions .	Bishop Peter D. Weaver
11:00 a.m.	<b><u>Worship</u></b> .....	Bishop Peter D. Weaver
	Distribution of the Appointments Edition of the <i>Advocate</i>	
	Fixing of Appointments	
	Conclude with Celebration of Eucharist	

### SPEAKING ON A MOTION/MAKING A MOTION

Many motions important to the Annual Conference operation and program are functional and are voted on as a matter of course. Other motions invite much debate. You may find you desire to speak on a motion or even introduce a motion concerning an issue on the agenda.

The proper way to speak on the floor of Annual Conference is as follows:

- ❖ Be recognized by the presiding officer (usually the bishop) by standing at your seat, raising your hand and holding up the brightly-colored half-sheet included in your packet.
- ❖ When recognized, move to the microphone designated by the presiding officer.
- ❖ Give your name, identify your district and give the name of your local church.
- ❖ If you are making a motion in regard to a report on the floor (being discussed), state the motion with no verbal introduction. State, "If seconded, I would like to speak to it," and then when seconded give your comments and supportive details.

NOTE: Motions must be written out and turned in to the conference Secretary, even if not passed or seconded. If you are commenting on a report or motion on the floor (being discussed), then state if you speak in favor or opposition to the motion and make your comments (limit two minutes unless a shorter time has been established). If you desire to make a motion introducing a new issue or concept that is not part of a report presented to the conference, then you must write a motion.

### GUIDELINES FOR THE PARENTS' ROOM

1. The Parents' Room is provided at the Berglund Center for parents who need a place to feed or care for children while Annual Conference is in session.
2. The Parents' Room is also provided so that restless children may have a place to nap or play for short periods of time while Annual Conference is in session.
3. The facilities where Annual Conference is held are not equipped for child care, and the Parents' Room does not meet the high standards of a licensed child care center. It is provided because parents have requested the convenience of a room on site.
4. The Parents' Room is not staffed. No child is to be left in the Parents' Room unattended by the parent or the designated babysitter.
5. The Virginia Conference has provided minimal furnishings for the Parents' Room (playpens, cribs, changing tables, rocking chairs, carpet and water). Parents must provide diapers, baby wipes, bottles and other items, as needed.

## STANDING RULES

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### STANDING RULES OF ORDER AND PROCEDURE

*As Approved by The Virginia Annual Conference at its 2018 Session*

The annual conference shall elect a Rules Committee as allowed by ¶604 of the *Discipline* and as set forth in ¶V.B.18 of the Standing Rules.

The Virginia Annual Conference Rules and Policies shall be those published in the *Journal of The Virginia Annual Conference United Methodist Church* of the preceding annual conference and shall be published in the *Book of Reports* of each annual conference.

#### I. THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

##### A. THE PURPOSE OF THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The purpose of the Virginia Annual Conference is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world by equipping its local churches for ministry and by providing a connection for ministry beyond the local church; all to the glory of God.

##### B. MEMBERSHIP

1. **Clergy Membership.** The clergy membership of the annual conference shall consist of deacons and elders in full connection, provisional members, associate members, affiliate members, and local pastors under full-time and part-time appointment to a pastoral charge.
2. **Campus Ministries.** Campus ministers, chaplains and Wesley Foundation directors shall be included in the annual conference composition. In districts where United Methodist laypersons serve as campus ministers/directors of Wesley Foundations, they shall be added as district-at-large lay members to the annual conference. In districts where United Methodist clergy who are members of the annual conference serve as chaplains, campus ministers, or directors of Wesley Foundations, the laypersons elected as their balancing counterpart shall be elected from and by either that campus ministry board of directors or the students from that ministry/foundation and their expenses paid by the district. Special consideration shall be given to the inclusion of United Methodist young adults who are active participants in campus ministry
3. **Lay Membership.** The lay membership of the annual conference shall consist of the following (or designated alternate), if lay persons:
  - a. a professing member elected by each charge; except that each charge served by more than one clergy member under appointment (including deacons in full connection for whom this is their primary appointment ) shall be entitled to as many lay members as there are clergy members under appointment;
  - b. diaconal ministers;
  - c. the active deaconesses and home missionaries under episcopal appointment within the bounds of the annual conference;
  - d. the conference president of United Methodist Women;
  - e. the conference president of United Methodist Men;
  - f. the conference lay leader;
  - g. district lay leaders;
  - h. the president of the conference young adult organization;

## STANDING RULES

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- i. a member of the conference youth organization;
- j. the chair of the annual conference college student organization;
- k. the conference secretary of global ministries;
- l. the conference director of lay servant ministries;
- m. one young person between the ages of 12 and 18 and one young person between the ages of 18 and 30 from each district, to be selected as set forth in *2016 Book of Discipline*, ¶602.4.  
And by annual conference formula to equalize the number of lay and clergy membership of the annual conference (¶32, *2016 Book of Discipline*) the following, if lay persons:
  - n. one additional young person between the ages of 12 and 18 and one additional young person between the ages of 18 and 30 from each district, to be selected by the District Council on Ministries or equivalent body;
  - o. the conference Treasurer;
  - p. the Chancellor(s) of the annual conference;
  - q. the Director of Connectional Ministries;
  - r. lay members of general boards, councils and commissions, and lay members who serve on agencies related to the general church and are mandated by the *Discipline* because of their office to serve on related annual conference agencies, who are members of such as of August 31 of the previous year;
  - s. district presidents of United Methodist Men;
  - t. district presidents of United Methodist Women;
  - u. the president or chairperson of the following annual conference agencies: Commission on Archives and History; Board of Church and Society; Church Development Team; Commission on Disabilities; Board of Discipleship; Commission on Equitable Compensation; Commission on Ethnic Minority Concerns and Advocacy; Council on Finance and Administration; Missional Ministries Board; Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministries; Board of Ordained Ministry; Rules Committee; Site Selection Committee; Commission on Status and Role of Women; Virginia United Methodist Pensions, Inc.; Trustees of the Virginia Annual Conference, Inc.; and Virginia United Methodist Communications, Inc. and Virginia United Methodist Foundation;
  - v. Additional lay members to be elected by the lay members of the district conference of each district in such numbers as to provide that the total number of lay members from that district shall bear the same ratio to the total lay membership of the annual conference as the church membership of that district bears to the total church membership of the annual conference. Each district conference shall also elect alternates to those elected under this paragraph in number to equal at least one-third of the numbers provided under this subparagraph. The computations that form the basis for the determination of the additional lay membership to be elected by each district hereunder shall be based on the various membership categories as of the adjournment of the preceding annual conference. In making these computations, a lay person shall not be counted in more than one membership position. The Director of Connectional Ministries shall furnish to the Bishop by September 1 of each year the totals of each category of members together with the number of

## STANDING RULES

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additional lay members to be elected by each district.

- w. Conference scouting coordinator;
- x. All lay members of the annual conference shall conform to the requirements for membership of the *2016 Book of Discipline* in ¶602.4.

**4. Members of Next Succeeding Annual Conference.** By the adoption of Paragraphs 3. d-u, all lay persons holding the positions enumerated in those subparagraphs are elected as lay members of the next succeeding annual conference. In the event of a change in the persons holding a position in ¶I.C.3. between sessions of the annual conference, the person holding the position at the time of the next succeeding annual conference shall be the member of the annual conference.

**5. Expenses.** Unless otherwise covered by a local charge, expenses of attending annual conference shall be born as follows:

- a. By the districts:
  - i. two young persons between the ages of 12 and 18;
  - ii. two young persons between the ages of 18 and 30;
  - iii. the district lay leaders;
  - iv. the district president of the United Methodist Men;
  - v. the district president of the United Methodist Women;
  - vi. additional district members at large;
- b. By the annual conference:
  - i. the Director of Connectional Ministries
  - ii. the Conference Director of Lay Servant Ministries;
  - iii. the president of the conference young adult organization;
  - iv. a member of the conference youth organization;
  - v. the conference Treasurer;
  - vi. the conference Chancellor(s);
  - vii. lay members of general boards, councils and commissions, and lay members who serve on agencies related to the general church and are mandated by the *Discipline* because of their office to serve on related annual conference agencies, who are members of such as of August 31 of the previous year;
  - viii. the chair of the annual conference college student organization;
  - ix. the chair of the Resolutions Committee
  - x. the conference scouting coordinator
- c. By annual conference boards or agencies:
  - i. the Conference Lay Leader
  - ii. the conference president of the United Methodist Men;
  - iii. the conference president of the United Methodist Women;
  - iv. the Conference Secretary of Global Ministries
  - v. the president or chairperson, of the following annual conference agencies: Commission on Archives and History; Board of Church and Society; Church Development Team; Commission on Disabilities; Board of Discipleship, Commission on Equitable Compensation; Commission on Ethnic Minority Concerns and Advocacy; Council on Finance and Administration; United Methodist Foundation; Missional Ministries Board; Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministries; Board of Ordained

## STANDING RULES

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Ministry; Rules Committee; Site Selection Committee; Commission on Status and Role of Women; Virginia United Methodist Pensions; Inc., Trustees of the Virginia Annual Conference, Inc.; and Virginia United Methodist Communications, Inc.

- 6. Right to Floor and Right to Vote.** With the exception of provisional members, associate members, and local pastors serving full-time and part-time appointments, those members of the conference listed in ¶¶ I.C.1., 2., and 3. shall be full members of the conference with the right to the floor and the right to vote. Provisional members, associate members, and local pastors serving full-time and part-time appointments have the right to the floor and the right to vote on all matters except the following:
- a. Constitutional amendments.
  - b. Matters of ordination, character and conference relations of clergy. These shall be the sole responsibility of clergy members in full connection.

For the election of delegates to the General and the Jurisdictional conference the following clergy are eligible to vote:

- a. Active and retired members (elders and deacons)
  - b. Active and retired provisional members
  - c. Active and retired associate members
  - d. Part-time and full-time local pastors who have completed the educational requirements and have been under uninterrupted appointment for two years (*2016 Book of Discipline* ¶316.6).
  - e. Retired local pastors (including those under appointment) are NOT eligible to vote for the election of delegates (*2016 Book of Discipline* ¶320.5).
- 7. Roll of Conference.** The roll of the conference shall be the official registration signed by the members of the conference.
- 8. Privilege of Floor Without Vote.** The following shall be seated in the annual conference and shall be given the privilege of the floor without vote: official representatives from other denominations, especially from member churches of Churches Uniting In Christ, invited by the annual conference; missionaries regularly assigned by the General Board of Global Ministries and serving within the bounds of the annual conference; lay missionaries regularly appointed by the General Board of Global Ministries in nations other than the United States and certified lay missionaries from nations other than the United States serving within the bounds of the annual conference (quoting *2016 Book of Discipline* ¶602.9).

### C. ANNUAL CONFERENCE OFFICIALS

- 1. The Presiding Officer.** The resident Bishop of the conference shall preside at all sessions of the conference but shall have the privilege of appointing a presiding officer to preside in his or her stead in the event of illness or temporary absence from the annual conference floor.
- 2. Annual Conference Secretary.** The secretary of the annual conference shall be elected quadrennially by the annual conference upon nominations arising from the floor at annual conference following each regular General Conference of The United Methodist Church. In the event a vacancy occurs between sessions of the annual conference, the Bishop, after consultation with the District Superintendents, shall appoint a person to act until the next session.

## STANDING RULES

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3. **Assistant Secretaries.** The secretary shall annually nominate a sufficient number of assistant secretaries who shall be elected by the annual conference to handle properly the work of the annual conference.
4. **Treasurer.** The annual conference Treasurer shall be nominated by the Council on Finance and Administration. He or she shall be elected by the annual conference at the first session of the annual conference following the regular General Conference. He or she shall be elected for the quadrennium or until his or her successor has been elected and qualifies. If a vacancy should occur during the quadrennium, the Council on Finance and Administration shall fill the vacancy until the next session of the annual conference.
5. **Statistician.** The annual conference statistician shall be elected by the annual conference on nomination by the Cabinet at the annual conference following each regular General Conference of The United Methodist Church. In the event a vacancy occurs between sessions of the annual conference, the Bishop, after consultation with the District Superintendents, shall appoint a person to act until the next session of the annual conference.
6. **Assistant Statisticians.** The annual conference statistician shall annually nominate a sufficient number of assistant statisticians who shall be elected by the annual conference for the annual conference year.
7. **Editor of the Annual Conference *Journal*.** The annual conference secretary shall nominate annually the editor of the conference *Journal*, who shall be elected by the annual conference for the next calendar year. He or she shall be responsible for editing and printing the *Journal of the Virginia Annual Conference* and shall be amenable to the conference secretary.
8. **Conference Parliamentarian.** The Bishop may appoint a conference parliamentarian whose duty shall be to advise and counsel concerning rules of order and procedure.

### D. NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF BOARDS, COUNCILS, COMMISSIONS, AND COMMITTEES

1. **The Conference Leadership Discovery and Development Team:** There shall be a Conference Leadership Discovery and Development Team. The team shall meet at least quarterly. The Director of Connectional Ministries and the Conference Lay Leader shall serve as co-chairs. The Conference Leadership Discovery and Development Team shall consist of 18 members in addition to the co-chairs. Two members (one clergy, one lay) shall be appointed by the Bishop to ensure appropriate age, ethnic and gender representation on the Conference Leadership Discovery and Development Team. The Bishop will make replacement appointments in a manner that continues to ensure appropriate age, ethnic and gender representation and in a manner that maintains the clergy/laity balance on the Conference Leadership Discovery and Development Team. Of the remaining 16 members, eight shall be clergy and eight shall be lay. Each district of the Virginia Annual Conference shall be represented. Representatives of the Commission on the Status and Role of Women, the Commission on Disabilities, and the Commission on Ethnic Minority Concerns and Advocacy shall monitor and have voice at these meetings.  
All persons shall serve terms of four years, and no person shall serve for more

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than four consecutive years. As terms of district representatives expire, each District Nominations Facilitation Committee will name one replacement individual to serve on the Conference Leadership Discovery and Development Team, clergy to replace lay, lay to replace clergy. In the event that a member moves from the district, resigns, or dies during his/her term, a replacement shall be selected in the manner which was applicable to the departing member, with the replacement only serving until the end of the original term.

Each District Nominations Facilitation Committee shall designate one of its members as an alternate to its District Representative on the Conference Leadership Discovery and Development Team.

- 2. District Nominations Facilitation Committee.** There shall be on each district a Nominations Facilitation Committee composed of the District Superintendent as chair; the district lay leader; president of United Methodist Men; president of United Methodist Women; a representative of United Methodist Youth; a college chaplain or a campus minister (applies only to districts with Wesley Foundation or ecumenical campus ministry programs), the district representative to the Conference Leadership Discovery and Development Team, plus one to three persons (lay and clergy) elected by the district council on ministries. The committee shall meet on the call of the chair at least twice a year between annual conference and March 1. The committee shall develop and maintain a talent bank of lay and clergy persons from the district who could be qualified nominees for the various boards and agencies of the annual conference. The committee shall prepare a profile on each person nominated and upon having a person nominated to a board or agency of the conference, will provide a copy of that profile, including address and phone number, conference boards or agencies the individual is already serving, and the person's willingness to serve, to the co-chairs of the Conference Leadership Discovery and Development Team.
- 3. Information to Be Furnished to Each District Nominations Facilitation Committee.** Each board, council, commission and committee of the annual conference shall furnish to the co-chairs of the Conference Leadership Discovery and Development Team on a timely basis for the use of the District Nominations Facilitation Committees:

  - a. A summary of its responsibilities and the specific division/committee for which a vacancy exists;
  - b. A list of the gifts and talents desired;
  - c. Length of service expected;
  - d. Demographic information about its current makeup (e.g., number of men, women, ethnic representation, district representation, etc.); and
  - e. Schedule of times and locations of its meetings during the year.

It may also suggest names and profiles to the Conference Leadership Discovery and Development Team through its co-chairs.
- 4. When Conference Leadership Discovery and Development Team Should Make Nominations.** The Conference Leadership Discovery and Development Team shall annually or quadrennially, as set forth by Disciplinary provision or Virginia Annual Conference Rules and Policies, nominate the membership of the boards, councils, commissions, and committees of the annual conference. Nominees for boards and



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other agencies shall be published in the *Book of Reports*.

5. **Removal Due to Absences.** Any member of any board, council, commission or committee who is absent from two meetings of such board, council, commission or committee without excuse, or from three consecutive agency meetings for any reason, shall automatically cease to be a member of such board, council, commission or committee. The secretary of each board, council, commission or committee shall notify the co-chairs of the Conference Leadership Discovery and Development Team of vacancies. Any vacancy shall be filled by action of the board, council, commission or committee until the next annual conference session, at which time the annual conference shall fill the vacancy.
6. **Request at Annual Charge Conferences for Names to be Given to District Nominations Facilitation Committee.** At each annual charge conference the elder presiding at the charge conference shall ask if the Lay Leadership Committee has any names to recommend for conference boards, councils, commissions or committees. Such names shall be given to the district Nominations Facilitation Committee.
7. **Multicultural Inclusiveness.** The Conference Leadership Discovery and Development Team shall strive to insure multicultural inclusiveness.
8. **Normal Term Of Service Is Four Years.** Unless otherwise specified in these rules or in the *Book of Discipline*, a person elected to a board, council, commission or committee of the annual conference is elected for a four-year term of service and is eligible for re-election to an additional four-year term. However, if one is first elected to fill an unexpired term of two years or less, that person is eligible for re-election to two full terms. A person completing two consecutive full terms is eligible for re-election to that agency after an interim of one year. In the case of a board or agency with an eight-year term, members elected to fill unexpired terms of three years or less shall be eligible for re-election to one full term of eight years. Program boards and agencies other than the Board of Ordained Ministry may co-opt specific persons for specific projects for short periods of time as consultants, without vote. Any combination of continuous service as either a regular or co-opted member shall count on the eight-year time limit for consecutive service. The term of office of members of conference boards and agencies shall begin with the adjournment of the Annual Conference at which said members are elected and shall extend until their successors are elected.
9. **Members of general boards or agencies shall be members ex-officio of the corresponding conference board or agency.**
10. **Nomination or Election to Only One Board, Council, Commission, or Standing Committee with Limited Exceptions.** No person is eligible for nomination, election, or interim appointment to more than one board, council, commission, or standing committee, except where permitted by the *Discipline* and/or conference structure.
11. **District Superintendent Not Eligible to be Chairperson or President of Board, Council, Commission, or Standing Committee.** No District Superintendent shall be eligible to serve as a chairperson or president of any board, council, commission, or committee of the annual conference. The Bishop may appoint a representative

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of the Cabinet to any board, council, commission, or committee which is not program-related of which a member of the Cabinet is not already an elected member. The appointment of District Superintendents to boards, councils, commissions, or committees which are program related shall be made annually.

- 12. Officers of Quadrennially Elected Boards, Councils, Commissions or Committees.** Officers of boards, councils, commissions, and committees whose members are required to be elected quadrennially shall be elected by the representative agency at the session of the annual conference at which new members are elected or within ninety days after adjournment. Nominations shall come from a nominating committee appointed by the outgoing president of the agency and/or from the floor. The organizational or first meeting of each agency shall be convened by a person designated by the Bishop.
- 13. Officers of Other Boards, Councils, Commissions and Committees.** Officers of other boards, councils, commissions and committees shall be elected by the representative agency at the agency's last regular meeting prior to each annual conference. Nominations shall come from a nominating committee appointed by the outgoing president of the agency and/or from the floor.
- 14. Tellers.** For those sessions of the annual conference where there is no election of delegates to General Conference and the jurisdictional conference, the Conference Leadership Discovery and Development Team shall appoint a chief teller, who shall be ineligible to serve again for a quadrennium. It shall additionally appoint a team of tellers composed of two persons, one clergy and one lay, from each district. Each time a count vote is called for in the annual conference session, the chief teller shall have the tellers ready to count the vote, having previously trained them to accurately and efficiently perform their duties.

## II. REPORTS, PRESENTATIONS, PETITIONS, PROPOSALS AND CONSENT AGENDA

### A. REPORTS

- 1. Submission of Annual Reports and Mailing of *Book of Reports*.** Agencies shall submit annual reports to the designated person before the date set annually by the Common Table for Church Vitality. The Director of Connectional Ministries shall mail the *Book of Reports* to each clergy and lay member of annual conference at least 30 days before the opening session of annual conference, printing and mailing at conference expense.
- 2. Reporting At Annual Conference.** For reports printed in the *Book of Reports*, verbal introductions shall not exceed five minutes, and there shall be no further reading of recommendations or resolutions, unless requested for clarification or requested by a majority vote of the annual conference. The presiding Bishop shall amend the Annual Conference schedule as needed.
- 3. Amendments to be Submitted in Writing.** Persons proposing amendments to any report must submit them in writing to the secretary upon presentation to the annual conference.

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4. **Submission of New Reports, Changes, or Additions to Printed Report.** Persons proposing new reports, changes or additions to the printed report of an agency in the *Book of Reports* must submit them in writing for delivery to members of the annual conference at the opening session, but not to be considered by the annual conference before the morning session of the second day of annual conference.
5. **Presiding Officer of Agency giving Report has Privilege of Floor, without Vote, for that Report.** When the annual conference has before it the report of any agency, or a matter concerning any agency, the presiding officer of that group, if not a member of the conference, shall have the privilege of the floor, without vote, for that report.

### B. PRESENTATIONS

Requests for inclusion of presentations for the annual conference agenda shall be submitted to the Director of Connectional Ministries by the due date for the publication of the *Book of Reports*. The author or originating agency must be identified if other than the submitter(s) of the proposal.”

### C. PETITIONS

An area designated by the annual conference planning committee shall be determined for receiving signatures for petitions.

### D. PROPOSALS

1. **Proposals Requiring Publication of Materials.** Proposed annual conference action that includes publication or dissemination of information in the Virginia Advocate or other media shall be referred to the Print Media Committee of Virginia United Methodist Communications, Inc., for its consideration and report on the proposed action, including the financial consequences, prior to conference action. The committee may act through its chairperson, the Advocate editor, or other representatives to make its report and recommendation.
2. **Proposals Requiring Funding.** Proposals or amendments which may require expenditure of funds, which have not been considered by the Council on Finance and Administration (CFA), shall be referred to CFA for its consideration and recommendation prior to final annual conference action.
3. **Proposals Requiring Addition to Agenda.** During the first business session of annual conference, the agenda shall include time to introduce items in addition to the printed agenda. Any such items not referred to conference agencies under the preceding paragraphs shall be referred to the Rules Committee for its consideration and recommendation prior to adjournment of annual conference.

### E. CONSENT AGENDA

Agenda items and reports not requiring action by the Annual Conference other than a vote to receive said items for publication in the Journal shall be placed on a Consent Agenda. For any item or report to be eligible for placement on the Consent Agenda, it must have been distributed in the pre-Conference materials. Determination of items to be placed on the Consent Agenda shall be made annually by the Bishop in consultation with the Consent Agenda Committee. This committee shall be composed of the Conference Secretary, the Conference Lay Leader, the Chair of the Conference Rules Committee, and the Director of Connectional Ministries.

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An individual item may be removed from the Consent Agenda at the request of no less than 30 members of the annual conference. The process for making that request will be determined by the Consent Agenda Committee, and the deadline for such requests will not be prior to ten minutes after the call to order of the annual conference session. The Consent Agenda will be made available electronically one week prior to the annual conference. When an individual item has been removed from the Consent Agenda, it shall be placed into the regular agenda.

### III. ELECTION OF DELEGATES TO GENERAL CONFERENCE AND THE JURISDICTIONAL CONFERENCE

#### A. AN INCLUSIVE CHURCH

We are an inclusive church. We desire to have a delegation that will capably represent the annual conference. The delegation should be representative of the annual conference considering such factors as sex, age, race, disability, ethnic background, economic conditions and geographical locations.

#### B. ELECTION PROCEDURES

Clergy and lay delegates to General Conference and the jurisdictional conference shall be elected in a fair and open process at the session of the annual conference held not more than two years preceding the session of General Conference.

1. **Special Sessions.** Clergy and lay delegates elected to the preceding General Conference and the jurisdictional conference shall be the delegates to special sessions of the respective conferences.
2. **Number of Delegates.** The number of clergy and lay delegates to the General Conference and the jurisdictional conference shall be that number of delegates to such conferences respectively as furnished by the secretary of the General Conference.
3. **Election of General Conference and jurisdictional conference Delegates.** The number of General Conference delegates authorized by the secretary of the General Conference shall be first elected, followed by balloting on the authorized number of the jurisdictional conference delegates who shall be reserves to General Conference in the order of their election. After the authorized numbers of the jurisdictional conference delegates have been elected, 10 clergy and 10 lay reserve delegates to the jurisdictional conference shall be elected on a single ballot with the 10 persons receiving the greatest number of votes in each category being elected in the order of the number of votes received.
4. **Speeches/Printed Materials.** No speeches may be made or printed materials distributed at the site of the Annual Conference on behalf of any nominee.
5. **Nominee Participation.** Nothing herein shall prevent any nominee from
  - a. appearing at the podium or floor microphone for the purpose of conducting Conference business.
  - b. fully participating in activities of the Conference including the debate over budgets, proposals, or resolutions pending before the Conference.

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This shall include the right to bring petitions, amendments, or resolutions to the Conference and encourage votes for or against the same.

- c. conducting one-on-one conversations about the election of delegates to the General Conference and the jurisdictional conference including how that nominee proposes to represent the Conference at such events. Nominees are reminded to respect the need of the Conference to conduct business and are asked to take such conversations off the floor of the Conference.

### C. CLERGY NOMINATIONS

#### 1. Eligibility

- a. **To be nominated.** All clergy members in full connection are eligible to be nominated (2016 *Book of Discipline* ¶35), except as provided in 2016 *Book of Discipline* ¶354.8.
- b. **To vote**
  - i. The following clergy are eligible to vote:
    - a) Active and retired members (elders and deacons)
    - b) Active and retired provisional members
    - c) Active and retired associate members
    - d) Part-time and full-time local pastors who have completed the educational requirements and have been under uninterrupted appointment for two years (2016 *Book of Discipline* ¶316.6)
  - ii. Retired local pastors (including those under appointment) are NOT eligible to vote (2016 *Book of Discipline*, ¶320.5).

#### 2. Nomination Process.

- a. **All eligible clergy have the opportunity to serve as delegates to General Conference and jurisdictional conference.** Clergy persons desiring nomination/election as delegates to General and jurisdictional must follow the process outlined below. No exceptions to the process, including deadline dates, will be granted except as mandated by changes in *The Book of Discipline* of The United Methodist Church and/or the Annual Conference in changing these rules.

Those who consent to or desire nomination are asked to commit to the following expectations:

- 1) Pray for God's guidance in decision-making;
- 2) Commit the time needed to read and study the issues;
- 3) Attend the meetings of the Virginia Conference delegations;
- 4) Attend both General Conference and jurisdictional conference.

Each clergy nomination shall be submitted on a clergy nomination form. Clergy nomination forms will be posted on the conference web site in January preceding the Annual Conference session of delegate elections. The form shall include the names one clergy who is eligible to vote who is making the nomination. Alternatively, any clergy who desires nomination must complete a clergy nomination form. All nominations shall include the nominee's name, picture not to exceed 1 1/2" by 2 1/2" (unless nominated at Clergy Session), address, phone

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number, e-mail address if available, church, district, and should include a personal statement no to exceed 150 words in which may be indicated the nominee's experience, qualifications, and reasons for wanting to serve. There shall be a box to be checked stating: "Nominee is aware of nomination and agrees to serve if elected.", and a line for the signature of the nominee. The completed nomination form or facsimile thereof must be returned to the Director of Connectional Ministries no later than March 1 preceding the Annual Conference session of delegate elections. The deadline is non-negotiable.

- b. **Clergy Nominations from the Floor.** After the convening of the Annual Conference session, prior to entering block voting, the presiding Bishop will ask for any nominations from the floor. Any nominations made from the floor must be made by eligible clergy (III.C.1.b.i) and the nominee must be present to accept or decline the nomination. Nominations from the floor shall be closed by the presiding Bishop.
- c. **Clergy Nomination Review Committee.** The committee shall be composed of two persons appointed by the bishop plus one clergy member of the Rules Committee designated by that committee. The Director of Clergy Excellence shall serve as an ex-officio member. The committee shall review and compile all nomination forms alphabetically according to the last name of the nominee. This clergy nomination booklet will be available on the conference web site. Printed copies will be available at cost from the office of the Director of Connectional Ministries. An alphabetical listing will be included in the clergy *Book of Reports* packet. This committee will also be responsible for reviewing and validating any nomination forms submitted at the Clergy Session of the Annual Conference.

### D. LAY NOMINATIONS

- 1. **Lay Nominations from Districts.** Nominations for lay delegates to General Conference and the jurisdictional conference shall be made by the lay members of the district conference of each district from names submitted by the District Council on Ministries and/or from names of all persons given by any member of The United Methodist Churches of the district to the District Superintendent. These names shall be submitted by the superintendent to the District Conference. Additional nominations at the district conference may be made from the floor, provided that no nomination may be made without the agreement of the nominee to serve if elected. In the event of a tie for the final nominee(s), the nominee(s) shall be selected by lot.

Each district may nominate up to one person for each 2,000 members of The United Methodist Church or major fraction thereof in that district, based upon figures reported at the preceding annual conference. District nominees need not be from the district which nominates them..

- 2. **Agency Nominations.** The lay members of the following agencies of the annual conference may also nominate one additional lay delegate: Board of Church and Society; Commission on Disabilities; Board of Discipleship; Commission on Ethnic Minority Concerns and Advocacy; Council on Finance and Administration;

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Missional Ministries Board; Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministries; Board of Laity; Commission on the Status and Role of Women; United Methodist Men; United Methodist Women; Virginia United Methodist Communications, Inc.; and Virginia United Methodist Pensions, Inc. In addition to the aforementioned nominees, the Conference Council on Youth Ministries, and the Virginia United Methodist Student Movement each may nominate one delegate.

3. **Church Membership.** All nominees shall have been professing members of The United Methodist Church for at least two years preceding their nomination and must be members of churches in the Virginia Annual Conference and shall have been active participants in The United Methodist Church for at least four years preceding their election. They also must be active members within The United Methodist Church at the time of holding General Conference and jurisdictional conference. The four year participation and two year membership requirements may be waived for young persons under twenty-five years of age. Such persons must be members of The United Methodist Church and active participants at the time of election.
  4. **Nomination Forms.** All nominations shall include the nominee's name, picture not to exceed 1½" x 2½" (unless nominated at Laity Session), address, phone number, e-mail address if available, church, district, and should include a personal statement not to exceed 150 words in which the nominee may indicate his or her experience, qualifications and reasons for wanting to serve. There shall be a box to be checked stating: "Nominee is aware of nomination and agrees to serve if elected.", and a line for the signature of the nominee. The nominations shall be on a form or facsimile thereof furnished by the Director of Connectional Ministries. It is recommended that the nomination forms for persons to be voted upon by the district conference be circulated to the members of the district conference in advance of the district conference at which voting is to take place.
  5. **Laity Nominations from the Floor.** After the convening of the Annual Conference session, prior to entering block voting, the presiding Bishop will ask for any nominations from the floor. Any nominations made from the floor must be made by lay members (III.D.3.) and the nominee must be present to accept or decline the nomination. Nominations from the floor shall be closed by the presiding Bishop.
- E. CONFERENCE COMMITTEE ON LAY DELEGATE NOMINATIONS**
1. **Membership.** The committee shall be composed of two persons appointed by the Bishop plus one member of the Rules Committee designated by that committee.
  2. **Function.** Each District Superintendent shall by January 15 of the year of election submit to this committee in care of the Director of Connectional Ministries completed forms for all nominees from the district. The committee shall then forward a list of all nominees to the agencies named in ¶ III.D.2. Each agency of the annual conference shall be responsible for forwarding to the committee any completed nomination form no later than March 1. The committee shall review and compile all nomination forms alphabetically according to the last name of the nominee. This lay nomination booklet will be made available on the conference website. Printed copies will be available at cost from the office of the Director of Connectional Ministries. An alphabetical listing will be included in the *Book of*

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*Reports.* This committee will also be responsible for reviewing and validating any nomination forms submitted at the Laity Session of the Annual Conference.

3. **List of Nominees.** The lay nominees shall be those persons named on the nomination forms.

### F. BALLOTING PROCEDURES

1. **Separate Voting Areas.** Following the convening of Annual Conference, clergy and laity will separate to elect General and jurisdictional delegates and alternates, allowing five (5) hours to complete the process.
2. **Ballots Shall be Counted Electronically.** The Rules Committee shall determine the electronic equipment and procedures to be used and shall do so in consultation with the chief lay and clergy tellers.
3. **Valid Ballots.** To be valid, a ballot:
  - (a) must be cast on the ballot bearing the number designated by the presiding officer for that particular ballot; and
  - (b) must be voted for the number of delegates and/or alternates to be elected on that ballot, no more and no less.
4. **Voting Area.** The presiding officer shall designate the areas of the Lay and Clergy Sessions where members shall be seated during balloting. Ballots shall be cast from only those present and seated within the voting areas of the annual conference and displaying the proper credentials.
5. **Ballot Reporting.** After a ballot has been counted, the chief teller, either clergy or lay, shall furnish a written report to the Bishop which shall contain (a) number of ballots cast; (b) number of ballots not valid; (c) number of ballots counted; (d) number of ballots necessary to elect; and (e) list of names of persons voted for, including the number of votes received by each, beginning with the largest number of votes.
6. **Majority Required for Election.** On every ballot, a majority of the valid votes cast shall be necessary for the election of a delegate, except on the ballot to elect reserve delegates to the jurisdictional conference.
7. **Reading or Distributing Names.** On the first ballot for General Conference, the presiding officer shall read or display all names receiving votes with the number of votes cast for each. After the first ballot, the 25 nominees receiving the highest number of votes shall be read or displayed, according to the highest number of votes received. In the event of a tie between two or more nominees for the last available position on the General or jurisdictional delegation, a run-off election will be ordered by the bishop to select the person to fill that position. Only the names of those in the run-off are open for votes. The names will be read in order of their election. The person with the highest number of votes cast will be seated with the appropriate delegation. When all General Conference delegates have been elected, the same procedure shall be followed for jurisdictional conference delegates.
8. **Handling of Ballots after Counting and Recording.** Upon completion of the counting and recording of a ballot, the chief teller shall seal the ballot results and



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deliver them to the annual conference secretary. The annual conference secretary shall retain all ballot results until the adjournment of the annual conference after which they shall be destroyed.

### G. TELLERS

1. **Appointment of Chief Tellers, Assistant Chief Tellers and Tellers.** The Conference Leadership Discovery and Development Team shall appoint a chief teller and an assistant chief teller for the clergy tellers and a chief teller and an assistant chief teller for the lay tellers. The chief tellers shall not be eligible to serve in the year of the next election of delegates to General Conference and jurisdictional conference. The Conference Leadership Discovery and Development Team shall additionally appoint four (4) clergy and four (4) lay members of the annual conference from each district to form a pool of tellers from which as many teams shall be formed as the chief tellers deem advisable. One member of each team shall be designated as the captain for that team.
2. **Expenses for Balloting.** All expenses incident to the balloting for and election of delegates to General Conference and the jurisdictional conference shall be borne by the annual conference.

### H. EXPENSES OF CLERGY AND LAY ALTERNATES

The expenses of two clergy and two lay alternates to General Conference and to the jurisdictional conference shall be borne by the annual conference. Such expense allowances shall not exceed the expense allowances, per diem and travel, as are paid to the regular delegates.

### I. DELEGATES UNDER THE AGE OF 18

When a General Conference or jurisdictional conference delegate will be under the age of 18 at the time of General Conference and/or jurisdictional conference, the Virginia Conference Child Protection Policy will be observed for this person. The leader of the General Conference Delegation will be responsible for implementation of the Child Protection Policy.

## IV. NOMINATIONS FOR EPISCOPAL ELECTION

At the annual conference immediately preceding the jurisdictional conference, nominations for the office of Bishop may be made by submitting the name of an elder and a biographical sketch of not more than 100 words to the secretary of the conference signed by not fewer than 50 members of the annual conference. To be eligible for nomination the person must not have attained his or her 68th birthday prior to the first day of the month in which the jurisdictional conference is held. Nominations shall cease at the close of the afternoon session of the first day of the annual conference.

The conference secretary shall cause copies of each sketch to be prepared and distributed to the members of the annual conference. Ballots shall be prepared containing the name of each nominee and, beside each name, a square followed by the word "yes." The ballots shall be distributed to the members of the annual

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conference immediately before they are to be cast. A member of the annual conference may vote for one or more nominees, but not more than the number of episcopal vacancies to be filled, or may choose not to vote for any of the nominees. To be nominated to the jurisdictional conference, a nominee must receive an affirmative vote of not less than 60 percent of the total ballots cast.

### V. ANNUAL CONFERENCE PROGRAM BOARDS AND AGENCIES

#### A. ANNUAL CONFERENCE PROGRAM BOARDS AND AGENCIES

The following are defined as program boards and agencies: The Board of Church and Society, the Church Development Team, the Board of Discipleship, the Missional Ministries Board, the Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministries, and the Board of Laity. Each board and agency shall meet at least annually.

1. **Membership.** All program board and agency members shall be elected for a four-year term by the annual conference. So far as possible, board membership shall be composed of an equal number of clergy and laity. No elected member may serve more than eight consecutive years except as authorized by the *Discipline* or in ¶ I.E.8 of the Virginia Annual Conference Rules and Policies. The bishop shall annually appoint for one year terms at least one District Superintendent to each board, agency or commission. Except for the Board of Ordained Ministry, the presiding bishop and the Director of Connectional Ministries are members of all boards, agencies and commissions with vote unless otherwise provided for by the *Book of Discipline*.
2. **Organization.** The boards shall organize in the several divisions or equivalent structure listed below to carry out their respective functions. Each member of a board shall serve on one division or equivalent structure. There shall be an executive committee of each board whose duties and responsibilities shall be determined by the board. A board may develop such additional structure, including the election of division members-at-large, as it deems necessary to discharge its assigned responsibilities, provided, however, that where additional funding is required for such structure, prior approval of the Common Table for Church Vitality shall be obtained by the board. Division members-at-large are not members of the board.
3. **Function.** The conference boards will provide consultative services and resources to the local church, the District Councils on Ministries, the annual conference and the Common Table for Church Vitality. Each board will make program recommendations to the Common Table for Church Vitality, will be responsible for the essential functions of the area of concern assigned by the Common Table for Church Vitality, or by the *Book of Discipline*, and will be related to the objectives and scope of work set forth by its General Board. Each board is amenable to the Common Table for Church Vitality.
4. **Responsibilities.**
  - a. **Church and Society.** The Board of Church and Society, in cooperation with the General Board of Church and Society and the Common Table for Church Vitality, shall develop programs on Christian social concern within the bounds of the annual conference. To discharge its responsibilities it shall divide its membership

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into committees, which so far as practical shall be patterned after the divisions of the General Board of Church and Society. The total membership shall be 20 (10 lay and 10 clergy).

- b. Church Development Team.** There shall be a Church Development Team dedicated to working on strategies for and implementation of church development and new faith communities in the annual conference. This team/board will consist of a minimum of 12 and up to 16 persons: six nominated by the bishop and Cabinet, six nominated by the Conference Leadership Discovery and Development Team, and up to four additional persons who may be co-opted by the team for expertise and diversity. The membership of this team will be placed in four classes to ensure continuity. The team is amenable to the Common Table for Church Vitality.
- c. Discipleship.** The Board of Discipleship in cooperation with the General Board of Discipleship and the Common Table for Church Vitality shall create partnerships by providing a network of experience, knowledge and coaching through intentional connection to enhance or create effective disciple making processes. These partnerships are created by: (1) coaching at local levels and pulling in identified district and conference resources as needed, (2) training at district or regional levels, (3) drawing on best practices gathered locally, jurisdictionally, nationally and globally, (4) connecting mentor/resource churches with those who request assistance and information, (5) organizing in regional teams, and (6) raising vision, visibility and possibility during Annual Conference sessions and inviting people to connect with a congregational coach. The Board of Discipleship shall consist of a directing board to set the vision for disciple-making ministries in the annual conference and to support research on best practices, gathered and distributed by a Conference Awareness Team at events and through all other forms of communication.

The Directing Board will consist of the following eight (8) members: three officers (chair, vice-chair, and secretary)

to be elected by the Annual Conference, the chair of the Disciple Resource Team, and four (4) Regional Network Leads. In addition, the Bishops' Foundation will be represented by one person with voice but no vote. The Directing Board will select individuals to serve as leads of the Regional Network Teams. The Regional Network Leads will be ex-officio members of the Directing Board with voice and vote.

The Disciple Resource Team will consist of eight (8) members, Four classes of two, one laity and one clergy per class. Members of the Disciple Resource Team will be nominated from the Conference Leadership Discovery and Development Team (CLDDT) and elected by the Annual Conference.

Members of the Regional Network Teams will be selected by the Regional Network Leads, in consultation with the Directing Board, based upon best practices research.

Each age-level council will meet at least annually as the conference council for the respective ministry areas (with additional members as required by conference Rules and the *Book of Discipline*, if any) for: (a) sharing of the best practices in their regions, (b) training which will enhance their service to the

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faith communities within each region, (c) coordinating of conference programs and initiatives as appropriate, and (d) serving as resources to the Regional Network Teams.

The Youth Council and Young Adult Council (ages 18 – 35) will consist of members as mandated in the appropriate sections of *The Book of Discipline*.

The Youth Council shall have one youth representative (grade 7 – 12) elected by each District Youth Council or equivalent. Six adults shall be elected to the Youth Council: three adults elected by the Youth Council or equivalent and three elected by the Annual Conference.

The Young Adult Council shall have three additional young adult members at-large elected by the Annual Conference.

The Older Adult Council shall have six members elected by the Annual Conference.

- d. Missional Ministries.** The Missional Ministries Board in cooperation with the General Board of Global Ministries and the Common Table for Church Vitality shall develop programs to assist districts and local churches to carry out all phases of the work of the church in mission and of church extension within the annual conference. The Conference Director of Justice and Missional Excellence shall serve as the Conference Secretary of Global Ministries (CSGM), fulfilling the responsibilities outlined in ¶ 633.3 of the *2016 Book of Discipline*. To discharge its responsibilities it shall divide into two (2) mission teams: (1) Missional Discipleship and Engagement and (2) Missional Connection. The position of Conference Coordinator of Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns (CUIC) shall be appointed by the Bishop and shall be an ex-officio member of the Mission Connection Team of the Conference Missional Ministries Board, as outlined in ¶ 633.2 of the *2016 Book of Discipline*.

The membership of the board shall be 20, with 6 or 4 persons (one-half lay and one-half clergy) elected each year to replace outgoing classes.

- e. Higher Education and Campus Ministries.** The Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministries in cooperation with the General Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministries and the Common Table for Church Vitality, shall develop programs to provide for higher education and ministry objectives as set forth in ¶ 1405 of the *2016 Book of Discipline*, and to perform the responsibilities in regard to education and professional campus ministries as set forth in ¶634 of the *2016 Book of Discipline*.

**Membership:** With an effort to maintain a balance of clergy and laity, the Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministries shall have 12 Conference elected members (placed in four classes): a current campus minister, a current Campus Ministry Local Board Chairperson, a current local church pastor with passion for campus ministry, a current United Methodist College or University President, a young adult/student, a member with expertise in property management, and six general members (with a preference for expertise in executive leadership, finance, communication, and marketing). The member who has expertise in the area of property management shall also serve as the chairperson of the Conference Board of Property Managers of the Wesley Foundation, Inc. Ex officio members shall be: the Director of Connectional

## STANDING RULES

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Ministries, a Liaison District Superintendent (liaison between the BHECM and the Cabinet), an additional District Superintendent, the Conference Treasurer, and any Virginia Conference member to the General Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministries. The related conference staff person (the Director of Ministries with Young People) and the Director of the Association of Educational Institutions (AEI) will serve as members with voice but no vote. The term for chairperson shall be four years and terms for members shall also be four years and follow section I.E.8 of the Conference Rules and Policies. Nominations and election of the chairperson shall follow section I.E.11 of the Conference Rules and Policies. The Executive Committee of the BHECM shall consist of the chairperson, the Liaison District Superintendent, the current campus minister, the member with expertise in property management and three general members.

**Organization:** The BHECM will meet a minimum of every other month. The Executive Committee will meet as needed. The BHECM will also be responsible for a minimum of one annual meeting for the following: Effectiveness Training Forums for Local Campus Ministry Boards, Effectiveness Training Forums for Campus Ministers/Chaplains, and Effectiveness Discussion Forums for District Superintendents. The incorporated entities of the board are the Wesley Foundation, Inc., and Francis Asbury Loan Fund, Inc. The conference board of property managers is a sub-group of the Wesley Foundation, Inc. The Executive Committee of the Board shall function as the board of directors of both the Wesley Foundation, Inc., and Francis Asbury Loan Fund, Inc.

- f. Laity.** The Board of Laity shall act as an advocate for the Virginia Annual Conference laity in all forums of the annual conference. The purpose of the Board of Laity is to create a culture of call by engaging, equipping, and empowering people so that they might effectively partner with each other and their pastors to live out God's call as they lead the church in transforming the world as disciples of Jesus Christ. Membership of the Board of Laity shall be composed of the conference lay leader, three associate conference lay leaders, the Conference Director(s) of Lay Servant Ministries, the presidents of the conference organizations of United Methodist Men and United Methodist Women or their designees, Young People's Representative selected by the Youth or Young Adult Council, sixteen (16) district lay leaders, one District Superintendent appointed by the Bishop, and the Bishop. Three clergy who model excellence in the lay-clergy partnership for ministry will be appointed by the Executive Committee to serve as ex-officio members. To discharge its responsibilities, the Board of Laity shall divide its membership into three work area teams: (1) Engaging (Holistic Stewardship); (2) Equipping (Leadership Excellence); and (3) Empowering (Shared Ministry). The Board of Laity shall nominate to the annual conference for election a layperson to be the conference lay leader for the ensuing four years. Any person elected to the office of conference lay leader shall not be eligible to serve more than two consecutive terms, or a total of eight (8) years.

### B. ADMINISTRATIVE AGENCIES

The following agencies having administrative responsibilities are grouped together

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under the general title “Administration” with duties and responsibilities as indicated.

1. **Archives and History, Commission on.** There shall be a Commission on Archives and History and a Virginia Conference Historical Society. The duties and responsibilities of the commission shall be as set forth in the *2016 Book of Discipline* (See ¶ 641). Members of the annual conference shall be members of the Virginia Conference Historical Society, which will elect 48 members to the commission who will also serve as the directors of the Virginia Conference Historical Society. The officers of the commission and the society shall be the same.
2. **Bishops’ Foundation.** There shall be a Bishops’ Foundation whose purpose is to provide training for leadership development of both lay and clergypersons of the Virginia Conference of The United Methodist Church in the areas of evangelism and preaching in the Wesleyan spirit, and whose Board of Directors shall consist of nine (9) directors nominated by the Cabinet of the Virginia Conference and elected by the Annual Conference: five (5) clergy members and four (4) lay members serving for staggered terms of three (3) years after the initial term of 1, 2, and 3 years. The director of Connectional Ministries of the Virginia Conference or his/her designee will serve as an *ex officio* member of the Board of Directors.
3. **Communications, Virginia United Methodist, Inc.** There shall be a Board of Communications which is to serve all of the agencies of the annual conference in the area of communication. It shall be administratively related to and amenable to the Common Table for Church Vitality. The board and/or its subunits may be incorporated.
  - a. **Function** The mission of Virginia United Methodist Communications is to assist faith communities in communications and related technologies, empowering their mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ.
  - b. **Membership** Virginia United Methodist Communications, Inc., shall consist of 24 persons, 14 of whom (half lay and half clergy) shall be elected by the annual conference. The 14 members thus elected and ex-officio members shall elect 10 additional members-at-large selected with regard to professional expertise, nonprofessional objectivity, and media representation. The ex-officio members shall be the Director of Connectional Ministries, a Cabinet representative, director of Virginia United Methodist Communications, Inc., the Conference Information Systems Director, and any member of United Methodist Communications, the General Board of Publications, and any other general board or agency whose purpose or function is included with the purposes and functions of this organization, or their successors, who is a member of a local charge in the Virginia Annual Conference or a clergy member of the Virginia Annual Conference. There shall be a president, vice president and secretary.
  - c. **Organization** There shall be the following committees:
    - i. *Executive Committee* shall consist of the elected officers of the corporation, the conference director of Communications and three additional members of the board. The three non-officer members of the Executive Committee shall be elected quadrennially by the Board of Directors and shall hold office until their successors are elected and qualify. Vacancies may be filled at any meeting of the Board of Directors. All non-officer members of the Executive Committee shall be chosen from among the directors. The Executive Committee shall

## STANDING RULES

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include both laypersons and clergypersons. The president shall act as chair of the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall also serve as the committee on Nominations, with the corporation vice president overseeing the business of nominations. The Executive Committee shall review board membership annually and recommend changes in membership to the board.

- ii. *Project Committees* As needs arise, project committees may be appointed by the president to function on behalf of specific projects or activities of the corporation. Any two (2) members of a project committee shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of the committee's business. The president shall be an ex-officio of all such project committees. It is strongly encouraged that all board members serve on a project.

### **d. Finance**

- i. The Director of Communications for the Virginia Conference shall be designated as the person who can authorize expenditures on behalf of the corporation under the direction of the Board of Directors.
- ii. Budget. The Director of Communications for the Virginia Conference, working closely with the board president, committee chairs, and communications staff will annually develop the various communication budgets and submit them to the board for approval and will regularly review expenditures to insure compliance with the adopted budgets. The Board of Directors, prior to the budget deadline of the annual conference Connectional Ministries office each year, shall recommend an income and expense budget covering all activities for the next fiscal year, including capital improvements or expenditures.

4. **Conference Leadership Discovery and Development Team (CLDDT).** (See ¶ I.D.1. for composition and function of the Conference Leadership Discovery and Development Team.)
5. **Disabilities, Commission on.** The commission shall consist of 18 members, half clergy and half lay. Membership shall include persons with physical disabilities and persons with intellectual disabilities. The Bishop may appoint to the commission a District Superintendent to serve as Cabinet representative with voice but not vote..
6. **Episcopacy, Committee on the.** There shall be a Committee on the Episcopacy, the membership and duties of which shall be as prescribed in ¶ 637 of the *2016 Book of Discipline*.
7. **Equitable Compensation, Commission on.** The Commission on Equitable Compensation shall be composed of an equal number of lay and clergy persons including at least one lay and one clergy from churches of fewer than 200 members who are nominated by the Conference Leadership Discovery and Development Team and elected by the annual conference. In addition, one District Superintendent named by the Cabinet shall be a member. It shall perform the duties assigned to it by the *2016 Book of Discipline* (See ¶ 625). It shall receive all requests from or on behalf of all pastoral charges for aid to be used solely for clergy support. It shall administer the Equitable Compensation Fund and may employ money from other agencies, including those which may be granted by the Missional Ministries Board, as appropriate in each case, to meet these requests.

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- 8. Ethnic Minority Concerns and Advocacy, Commission on.** There shall be a Virginia Conference Commission on Minority Concerns and Advocacy amenable to the Common Table for Church Vitality. The commission will provide for the functions as outlined in the current *Book of Discipline* for the Committee on Ethnic Local Church Concerns and Commission on Religion and Race. The basic membership of the commission shall consist of 10 clergy, 10 laypersons, and five members at-large elected upon nomination of the Conference Leadership Discovery and Development Team. A minimum of two members shall be youth and young adults between the ages of 12-35. The commission will be constituted so that two-thirds of the membership be representative of people from diverse racial and ethnic backgrounds. The district coordinators for Religion and Race shall be ex-officio members of the commission with both voice and vote. The presidents or chairs of conference caucuses, fellowships, or associations for racial and ethnic constituencies shall be ex-officio members of the commission with voice but not vote. The bishop may appoint to the commission a district superintendent to serve as Cabinet representative with voice but not vote.
- 9. Finance and Administration, Conference Council on.** There shall be a Conference Council on Finance and Administration elected and organized with responsibilities as set forth in the *2016 Book of Discipline* (See ¶¶ 611-619), provided that membership of the council shall be composed of five clergy, five lay women, and five lay men nominated by the Conference Leadership Discovery and Development Team.
- 10. Foundation, United Methodist.** There shall be a United Methodist Foundation organized with responsibilities as set forth in the *2016 Book of Discipline* ¶2513 and pursuant to the charter heretofore approved by the Annual Conference in 2016; fourteen (14) of the twenty-three (23) trustees shall be elected by the Annual Conference.
- 11. Incapacity, Joint Committee on.** There shall be a Joint Committee on Incapacity consisting of two representatives from the Board of Ordained Ministry, two representatives from the Virginia United Methodist Pensions, Inc., one representative from the Cabinet and one representative of the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits. Their duties shall be as prescribed by the *2016 Book of Discipline* (See ¶ 652).
- 12. Investigation, Committee on.** There shall be a Committee on Investigation nominated, elected, and with duties as set forth in the *2016 Book of Discipline* (See ¶ 2703.2).
- 13. Minutes, Committee on.** There shall be a Committee on Minutes consisting of seven members nominated by the Cabinet for a term of eight years, provided that the terms of four members shall expire at the end of one quadrennium and terms of the other three shall expire at the end of the next quadrennium. At least three members shall be lay persons and at least three shall be clergy. The chair shall be designated by the Cabinet. The committee shall review the daily minutes of the annual conference proceedings and report at the next session. Within three weeks of the close of the annual conference session, the committee will meet with the conference secretary to review and correct the minutes of proceedings before submitting the same for printing in the conference *Journal*.



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- 14. Ordained Ministry.** The Board of Ordained Ministry in cooperation with the General Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministries and the Common Table for Church Vitality, shall develop programs to assist districts and local churches in preparing and aiding persons to fulfill their ministry in Christ as this has been historically understood by United Methodism. The Board of Ordained Ministry shall perform all the duties and functions as set forth in the *Book of Discipline* and shall be directly amenable to the annual conference. The Board of Ordained Ministry shall have sixty-seven (67) persons nominated by the bishop (*2016 Book of Discipline* ¶ 635.1) and elected by the annual conference at the beginning of each quadrennium. The annual conference registrar and at least one District Superintendent appointed by the bishop shall also serve on the Board of Ordained Ministry. At least one person from each district shall be included on the board. If during the course of the quadrennium a district should lose its representation on the board, an additional person shall be elected to the board to ensure representation from each district.
- 15. Pensions and Related Benefits, Virginia United Methodist, Inc.** This agency, which is incorporated as Virginia United Methodist Pensions, Inc., shall be composed of twenty-four (24) members in two classes serving eight-year terms. It is recommended that all classes consist of one-third laywomen, one-third laymen, and one-third clergy. Any clergy member of the conference or lay member of a church within the conference who is a member of the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits shall also be a member of the agency (*2016 Book of Discipline* ¶639.2a) If no District Superintendent is a member of this agency the Bishop may name one to represent the Cabinet. He or she shall have voice but not vote.
- This agency shall perform the duties set forth in the *2016 Book of Discipline* (see ¶ 639). In addition, it shall administer the conference program for participant supplemental benefits including the various insurance programs, shall study on a continuing basis the problems of participant disability, making recommendations relative to these problems as needed, and shall provide for a continuing pastoral ministry to disabled participants.
- 16. Preachers' Relief Society.** This is an incorporated body with invested trust funds, the income from which is used from time to time for the relief of needy members of the clergy and their families.
- 17. Professional Association of United Methodist Secretaries.** There shall be a Chapter of the Professional Association of United Methodist Secretaries (VAPAU MCS), which is to provide church secretaries and other administrative professionals a supportive base for unity and fellowship so as to promote individual growth, professional development, continuing education, and spiritual enrichment. There shall be an Executive Committee consisting of a President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, Secretary, Membership Secretary, Treasurer and the Standing Committees Chairs. There shall be standing committees: Communications composed of five members; Finance composed of four members (the President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President and Treasurer); and Nominating composed of six members in classes of two for three-year terms.

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- 18. Rules Committee.** There shall be a Rules Committee consisting of nine members elected by the annual conference on nomination of the Conference Leadership Discovery and Development Team or from the floor for a term of eight years. The terms of four members shall expire at the end of one quadrennium and the terms of the other five members shall expire at the end of the next quadrennium. Five members of the committee shall be lay and four members shall be clergy. The chancellor(s) of the annual conference shall be *ex officio* members of the Rules Committee. The Rules Committee shall review the Virginia Annual Conference Rules and Policies between sessions of the annual conference, and make its recommendations to the annual conference. Proposed amendments to the Virginia Annual Conference Rules and Policies and any other matters of parliamentary order or procedure in the business of the annual conference shall be referred to the Rules Committee.
- 19. Site Selection, Committee on.** There shall be a Committee on Site Selection consisting of four members, one-half lay and one-half clergy, elected on nomination of the Conference Leadership Discovery and Development Team for a term of eight years. The committee shall be divided into two classes with the terms of one class to expire at the end of one quadrennium and the terms of the other class to expire at the end of the next quadrennium. This committee shall make arrangements for the meeting of the annual conference and shall recommend a location for the meeting of the annual conference a minimum of five years in advance.
- 20. Status and Role of Women in the Church, Commission on the.** There shall be a Virginia Annual Conference Commission on the Status and Role of Women in The United Methodist Church amenable to the Common Table for Church Vitality. The membership shall consist of one representative from each district plus six persons at large elected by the annual conference. In addition, the conference United Methodist Women shall name one member. The Bishop may appoint to the commission a District Superintendent to serve as Cabinet representative with voice but not vote. The majority of the commission, including both lay and clergy, shall be women. The chairperson shall be a woman.
- 21. Trustees, Board of.** There shall be a Board of Trustees consisting of 12 members, elected by the annual conference, organized and with responsibilities as set forth in the *2016 Book of Discipline* (§¶ 2512-2517).

### C. TASK FORCES

A task force may be established to accomplish a specific objective. If it is organized by direction of the annual conference, the authorizing legislation shall contain a termination date for the task force. Such task force desiring continuation beyond its termination date shall seek and receive their established termination dates (June or December). Task forces should not as a general rule exist beyond a four-year term. Task forces may request funding for conference projects, but no task force shall disburse funds unless so directed by its parent board or requested to do so by the Common Table for Church Vitality and approved by the Council on Finance and Administration in its report to annual conference. A conference-organized task force continuing beyond its first year shall annually request, in its report to annual conference, funding to cover operational costs in the succeeding year.

## STANDING RULES

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### **D. CHANGING STRUCTURE OF PROGRAM BOARD OR AGENCY**

Any proposal to the annual conference to amend or change the structure of any program board or agency at the division level or above may originate (1) upon recommendation of the board or agency itself and shall be submitted to the Common Table for Church Vitality for its recommendation; (2) upon recommendation of the Common Table for Church Vitality, provided such proposal shall have been submitted to the board itself for its recommendation; or (3) on petition of a member or members of the annual conference if such a petition has been previously submitted to the Common Table for Church Vitality and the board or agency for their recommendations, or if not previously so submitted in time for consideration by these organizations, such petition shall be referred to the Common Table for Church Vitality and the board or agency for their recommendations prior to action by the annual conference. Internal change below the division level shall be the responsibility of each board.

## **VI. THE DISTRICT CONFERENCE**

### **A. DISTRICT CONFERENCE SHALL MEET AT LEAST ONCE A YEAR**

Each district within the Virginia Conference shall hold a session of the district conference at least once during the annual conference year (in accordance with the *2016 Book of Discipline*, ¶658).

### **B. AGENDA**

The district superintendent, in consultation with the district lay leader, shall set the agenda for the district conference. The agenda shall include a report from the district committee on ordained ministry.

Members of the district conference shall elect the district lay leader (¶660.2) for a term of not less than four years and not more than six years. The district conference shall also elect the committee on the district superintendency (¶669.1,2), the district trustees (¶2518.2) and such other officers as it deems appropriate. The district committee on ordained ministry (¶666.1) and the district board of church location and building (¶2519) are approved or elected by the annual conference.

### **C. MEMBERSHIP**

The membership of each district conference shall be composed of the following: all ordained and commissioned clergy, licensed local pastors, lay supply pastors, certified lay ministers, diaconal ministers, and deaconesses and home missionaries related to that district; a church lay leader, chairperson of the church council\*, church school superintendent, president of the United Methodist Women, and president of the chartered United Methodist Men from each local church in the district; the district steward from each charge; the lay member of the annual conference from each charge; and three members at large, one of whom shall be a youth, elected by each charge conference;.

District officers who are members of the district conference include\*: the chairperson of the district Council on Ministries\*, the district trustees, the district treasurer, the district lay leader and associate lay leaders, the president of the district United Methodist Women, the president of the district United Methodist Men, a representative of the district youth council\*, the president of the district United Methodist Young Adults\*,

## STANDING RULES

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the district coordinators of children, youth, young adult, adult, and family ministries, other district coordinators and directors, five youth members elected by the district youth council and five young adult members\* elected by the District Council on Ministries\*. Special attention shall be given to inclusiveness. \*Designates or equivalent body

### **D. ELECTION OF DISTRICT LAY MEMBERS AT LARGE OF ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

District members at large of the annual conference shall be elected by the lay members of the district conference. Nominations may be made in whatever manner the district determines, but provision shall always be made for nomination from the floor. Districts are encouraged to include members-at-large from non-chartered faith communities being served by clergy with voting rights at Annual Conference, provided that they meet the provisions of *2016 Book of Discipline* ¶602.4. Election shall be by written ballot, and those nominees receiving the most votes shall be the members at large, and the rest shall be alternates in order of the votes received up to the number of members at large and alternates allotted to each district by the annual conference.

### **E. RECORD OF DISTRICT CONFERENCE**

The secretary of the district conference shall keep an accurate record of the proceedings and send a copy to the secretary of the annual conference within 30 days following the district conference.

## **VII. RULES OF ORDER AND PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE**

### **A. RULES THAT APPLY WHEN THE CHAIRPERSON STANDS**

When the chairperson stands and calls the conference to order, no member shall speak, address the chair, or stand while the chairperson stands.

### **B. VOTING AREA**

The annual conference shall fix the voting area of the conference at the opening business session and voting on all annual conference matters must take place within the prescribed area. The voting area of the conference shall be separated from other areas at the meeting site. All entrances to the voting area shall be staffed by ushers and admission shall be by official badge only. All members of the conference within the voting area when the vote is taken shall be entitled to vote except such persons as otherwise are ineligible to vote.

### **C. SUFFICIENT SEATS SHALL BE PROVIDED**

Sufficient seats shall be provided for all lay, clergy, provisional, and associate members and all youth members, members on special assignment, and all other persons entitled by the Virginia Annual Conference Rules and Policies to be within the voting area of the conference.

### **D. VOTERS TO DISPLAY PROPER CREDENTIALS**

Members of the conference and others entitled to be seated within the voting area of the conference shall be furnished proper credentials as set forth in Appendix “A” (attached). During balloting, ballots will be distributed to and collected from only those persons displaying the proper credentials.

## STANDING RULES

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### **E. METHOD OF VOTING**

Method of voting shall be determined by the presiding officer. A count vote may be ordered on call of any member supported by one-third of the members present and voting, in which case the members shall arise as they are able from their seats and stand until counted.

### **F. EXCEPTIONS TO THE NO INTERRUPTION RULE**

No member who has the floor may be interrupted except for a question on the matter under consideration, a breach of order, a misrepresentation, to direct the attention of the conference to the fact that the time has arrived for a special order, or to raise a very urgent question of high privilege.

### **G. LIMITS ON SPEAKING**

No member shall speak: 1. more than once on the same question if any member who has not spoken desires the floor; 2. more than twice on the same subject under the same motion; 3. any longer than two minutes, unless this two-minute period may be limited or extended by a two-thirds vote of the conference.

### **H. HIGH PRIVILEGE**

A member claiming the floor for a very urgent question of high privilege shall be allowed to indicate briefly the nature of the question, and if it be adjudged by the chair to be such, he or she may proceed until the chairperson judges that he or she has exhausted the privilege.

### **I. CALL FOR DIVISION OF ANY QUESTION**

Before a vote is taken any member shall have the right to call for a division of any question, if it is subject to such division as he or she indicates. If no member objects, the division shall be made; but if there is objection, the chair shall put the question of division to vote, not waiting for a second.

### **J. MOTIONS TO BE PRESENTED IN WRITING**

For the benefit of the secretary, and for the sake of clarification, motions, including amendments, shall be presented in writing.

### **K. SUSPENSION OF THE RULES**

The operation of any of the provisions of the Virginia Annual Conference Rules and Policies or of these Rules of Order and Procedure may be suspended at any time by a two-thirds vote of the conference.

### **L. CHANGE OR AMENDMENT OF THE RULES**

The Virginia Annual Conference Rules and Policies and these Rules of Order and Procedure may be amended or changed by a two-thirds vote of the conference; provided the proposed change or amendment has originated in the Rules Committee, or has been presented to the conference in writing and referred to this committee, which committee shall report thereon not later than the following day.

### **M. ROBERTS RULES OF ORDER APPLIES**

The current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised* shall apply to any and all situations not covered elsewhere by these rules.

## STANDING RULES

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### NAME BADGE COLORS

**GREEN** (lay vote with full lay voting rights, ¶602.4)

Lay Members

At-Large District Lay Members

District and Conference Lay Leaders

Conference President of United Methodist Men

Conference President of United Methodist Women

Conference Director of Lay Servant Ministries

Conference Scouting Coordinator

President or equivalent of Conference Young Adult Organization

President of Conference Youth Organization

Chair, Conference College Student Organization

District Youth and Young Adult Members (one of each from each district)

Diaconal Ministers

Retired Diaconal Ministers

Deaconesses (see also ¶1314.5)

Home Missioners

**WHITE** (ordained deacons and elders in full connection with full voting rights, ¶602.1a)

FE Elder in Full Connection (¶334.1)

FD Deacon in Full Connection (¶329.2)

*Note: Clergy on voluntary leaves of absence (personal, family, transitional) may vote for other clergy delegates to general or jurisdictional conferences and may be elected to serve as delegates themselves (¶354.7). Clergy on involuntary leave of absence may not vote on or be elected as delegates to general or jurisdictional conference (¶355.7).*

RM & RD Retired Full Member (¶602.1a)

**WHITE** (May vote on all matters except constitutional amendments and clergy matters)

AM Associate Members (¶35 and ¶602.1c)

PM Probationary Member under *1992 Discipline* (¶413.2, *1992 Discipline*)

PD Provisional Deacon (¶35, ¶327.2 and ¶602.1b)

PE Provisional Elder (¶35, ¶327.2 and ¶602.1b)

EP Full member other denomination serving as a UM Provisional Elder (¶35, ¶347.3b, ¶327.2)

DP Deacon recognized from other denomination serving as a UM

## STANDING RULES

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	Provisional Deacon (§35, §347.3b and §327.2)
RA	Retired Associate Member (§35, §602.1c)
RP	Retired Probationary/Provisional Member (§35, §327.2)

*And the following who have completed the educational requirements (Five Year Course of Study, equivalency for the Five Year Course of Study based on approval of GBHEM and VA Conference BOM, or an M.Div. from an approved seminary) and have been under uninterrupted appointment for two years at the time of voting (see §35 and Judicial Council ruling 1181):*

FL	Full-time Local Pastor (§316.6 and §602.1d)
PL	Part-time Local Pastor (§316.6 and §602.1d)

**WHITE** (May vote on all matters except constitutional amendments, delegates to General and Jurisdictional Conference, and clergy matters)

OF	Full member of another denomination (§346.2)
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*And the following who have not met the requirements in the section above:*

FL	Full-time Local Pastor (§316.6 and §602.1d)
PL	Part-time Local Pastor (§316.6 and §602.1d)

**WHITE** (voice but no vote)

AF	Affiliate Member, non-voting (§334.5)
RL	Retired Local Pastor (§320.5)
OE	Elder Member of other Annual Conference (§346.1)
OD	Deacon Member of other Annual Conference (§346.1)
OA	Associate Member of other Annual Conference (§346.1)
OP	Provisional Member of other Annual Conference (§346.1)
RAF	Retired Affiliate Member, non-voting (§334.5)

**RED** (no voice or vote)

SY	Lay Supply
LM	Certified Lay Minister
HL	Honorable Location (§359)
RHL	Retired – Honorable Location (§359.3)
MOD	Minister of Another Denomination Serving an Ecumenical Parish in VA
G	Official Guest
ROC	Retired full member, other annual conference

**BROWN** (not official)

All others

# CHARTER FOR THE COMMON TABLE FOR CHURCH VITALITY

*Effective January 1, 2006*

## I. PURPOSE

The Common Table for Church Vitality (“Common Table”) serves to coordinate and prioritize the ministries and resources of the Virginia Conference. It nurtures, interprets and promotes the vision of the Conference, as well as the mandates of *The Book of Discipline* which relate to Conference work. The Common Table lives out the values of the Conference (stated below in **I.B.**) in its own work, and advocates for the presence and observance of those values in the work and ministry of the Conference.

### A. MISSION

The mission of the Virginia Annual Conference is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world by equipping its local churches for ministry and by providing a connection for ministry beyond the local church; all to the glory of God.

### B. VALUES

The Conference shall embody the following values as it endeavors to assist all churches in the task of *making disciples*:

- Be led by the Holy Spirit.
- Grow spiritually and numerically.
- Serve the local church.
- Connect with and equip the local church for ministries of welcome, nurture and transformation.
- Develop and live out ministries to the poor.
- Strive for excellence.
- Model servant-leadership at all levels.
- Honor diversity and teach inclusivity.
- Practice simplicity.
- Communicate effectively, that others might also.
- Focus on ministry.

## II. MEMBERSHIP

The Common Table provides spiritual leadership for the Conference to carry out the Purpose of this Charter. The Common Table includes the following 14 voting positions and 2 non-voting positions:

### A. Voting Members

1. Presiding Bishop
2. Conference Lay Leader
3. Director of Connectional Ministries



## STANDING RULES

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4. Cabinet representative assigned by the bishop
5. Commission on Ethnic Minority Concerns and Advocacy representative (in accordance with ¶643.5)
6. Chair of Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministries (in accordance with ¶634.3)
7. Eight at-large members equally divided between clergy and laity in annual classes, including two young adult/youth representatives, as elected in III

### B. Non-voting Members

1. Representative from Council on Finance and Administration assigned by the Council on Finance and Administration
2. The elected Secretary of the Annual Conference shall serve as Secretary for the Common Table without vote.

It is both desirable and consistent with our Conference values that the members of the Common Table represent the diversity of our Conference.

## III. SELECTION OF AT-LARGE COMMON TABLE MEMBERS

1. Four of the Common Table at-large members (2 clergy and 2 laity) are nominated by the Conference Leadership Discovery and Development Team and elected by the annual conference. Two of these at-large members must be young adult/youth representatives.
2. Four of the Common Table at-large members (2 clergy and 2 laity) are nominated by the Bishop and elected by the annual conference.

## IV. TERMS OF SERVICE FOR AT-LARGE MEMBERS

At-large members serve four year terms and are placed in annual classes. If a person is elected to fill an unexpired term of two years or less, that person is eligible for reelection to a full four year term. In the event that a member resigns or dies during his/her term, a replacement shall be nominated by the Conference Leadership Discovery and Development Team or the Bishop, according to method of nomination, and elected by the Annual Conference with the replacement serving until the end of the original term. Any at-large member of the Common Table who is absent from two meetings without excuse or from three consecutive meetings for any reason shall automatically cease to be a member of the Common Table.

## V. MEETINGS

The Common Table will meet at least quarterly, often in extended day format, to enhance the depth of its work and its own spiritual formation as a faith community. By invitation of the Common Table, others may meet with the Common Table to enhance its knowledge and understanding. Meetings shall be open, consistent with the provisions of *The Book of Discipline*.

## **STANDING RULES**

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### **VI. OFFICERS**

The Bishop, Conference Lay Leader and Director of Connectional Ministries will lead the Common Table in interpreting the Conference vision. The Director of Connectional Ministries is the Chairperson. The Conference Lay Leader is the Vice Chairperson. The Secretary of the Annual Conference is the Secretary of the Common Table, without vote.

### **VII. COMMITTEES**

#### **A. PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

The Common Table shall appoint a Personnel Committee annually from within its members to assist with the selection and employment of all Conference program staff, both lay and clergy. The Common Table shall appoint the chair of the Personnel Committee. The Director of Connectional Ministries shall serve as an ex officio member of this committee without vote.

#### **B. GRANTS COMMITTEE**

The Common Table may appoint a Grants Committee annually from among the members of the Conference to advise the Common Table on the following:

1. Grants for connectional ministries beyond the local level, funded through the Conference Benevolence apportionment, and
2. Program grants for local ministry projects funded through the Conference Benevolence apportionment, the United Methodist Women, and the Church Extension Fund.

#### **C. OTHER COMMITTEES**

The Common Table may designate such other committees as are necessary for its functioning.

### **VIII. SELECTION OF DIRECTOR OF CONNECTIONAL MINISTRIES AND STAFF**

A. The Annual Conference shall elect annually upon nomination of the Bishop, and in consultation with the Common Table's Personnel Committee and the Cabinet, an executive officer to be known as the Director of Connectional Ministries. The responsibilities of the Director of Connectional Ministries shall be but are not limited to the following:

1. To serve as the Chairperson of the Common Table and Co-chairperson, with the Conference Lay Leader, of the Conference Leadership Development and Discovery Team.
2. To be a communication link between the Conference program agencies and Jurisdictional and General Conference program agencies.
3. To facilitate communication among the Conference program agencies and the local churches.
4. To serve as a resource person for district programs and the Common Table in the program planning, implementation and evaluation process.
5. To supervise the Conference program staff persons.

## STANDING RULES

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6. To serve on other Conference agencies as determined by the Annual Conference, and/or by the Common Table.

B. Each clergy staff person shall be nominated annually by the Personnel Committee of the Common Table with the request that the Bishop would appoint him or her. Each lay staff person shall be nominated annually by the Personnel Committee of Common Table and employed by the Common Table. Nominations for staff members shall be presented to the Common Table after consultation with the appropriate boards and agencies.

C. The Director of United Methodist Communications shall carry out the policies and program of Virginia United Methodist Communications, Inc. and shall cooperate with all agencies of the Conference in the use of the media to disseminate news that promotes the diverse work of the Church's life.

D. The Business Manager/Treasurer of the Annual Conference shall serve the Common Table and all of the boards and agencies in direct support of their work and shall oversee the financial operations of the Common Table. In that capacity, the Business Manager/Treasurer shall coordinate this work with the Director of Connectional Ministries.

E. All Conference program staff shall be employed by and amenable to the Common Table. The Director of Connectional Ministries shall be responsible for the administration and direction of the program staff.

F. Administrative/Technical/Professional Staff of the Common Table shall be employed by the Director of Connectional Ministries in consultation with the appropriate elected staff member as may be requested and as provision for same is made by the Common Table.

### IX. FINANCES

The Common Table shall present a budget to the Council on Finance and Administration to cover the expenses for the work of the Common Table and the boards and agencies, committees, commissions, task forces and other groups for which it is responsible. The right of the Annual Conference boards and agencies to be heard by the Council on Finance and Administration shall not be denied, as provided by ¶614 the *2016 Book of Discipline*.

### X. MEETINGS OF BOARD AND COMMISSION CHAIRS

Semi-annual (or as often as necessary) meetings of Chairs (or designated representatives) of Conference Program Boards and Commissions that are under the oversight of Common Table will be held for the purpose of aligning conference program and mission with the vision of the Conference. A report of the Chairs' meetings will be provided to Common Table to assist in its responsibilities for its purpose of coordinating and prioritizing the ministries and resources of the Virginia Conference. The boards and commissions that are amenable to Common Table are:

- Board of Church and Society
- Board of Communications
- Board of Discipleship
- Missional Ministries Board

## STANDING RULES

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- Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministries
- Board of Laity
- Church Development Team
- Commission on Disabilities
- Commission on Ethnic Minority Concerns and Advocacy
- Commission on Status and Role of Women

### Other Attendees

- a. Conference Staff serving as primary staff resource to these boards and commissions will attend these meetings with voice but without vote.
- b. The Presidents (or designated representatives) of the Conference United Methodist Men and United Methodist Women will be encouraged to participate in these meetings.
- c. Chairs (or designated representatives) of Conference Administrative Boards that are not under the purview of Common Table will be encouraged to participate in these meetings.

The Director of Connectional Ministries shall chair these meetings.

## XI. AMENDMENTS

Amendments to the charter not in conflict with *The Book of Discipline* may be made by a majority vote of the Annual Conference and originate as follows:

- (1) upon recommendation of the Common Table, or
- (2) upon petition of a member of the Annual Conference at least 60 days prior to the next annual conference session.

The Common Table shall review the petition(s) and submit its recommendations to the Annual Conference together with the proposed amendment.

## XII. EFFECTIVE DATE OF CHARTER

The Charter for the Common Table for Church Vitality shall become effective January 1, 2006.

## COMMITTEES

### ANNUAL CONFERENCE COMMITTEES

#### Memoirs

Beth Christian

#### Tellers

Melody Tanner, *Head Clergy Teller*

Terry Bain, *Head Lay Teller*

#### Alexandria District

##### Clergy:

William "Mac" McKenney  
Christina Hart-Perkins  
Lydia Rodriguez Colon  
David McWilliams

##### Lay:

Rhona Alexander Powell  
Lyle Minter  
Honor Fede  
Pat Brown

#### Arlington District

##### Clergy:

Brett Isemhagen  
James Page  
Arum Kim  
Jim Harrington

##### Lay:

Phil Mohr  
Tom Feeney  
Chris Granberg

#### Charlottesville District

##### Clergy:

Brian Lamb  
David Le Fon  
Dan Albrant  
George Gorman

##### Lay:

Rebecca Wagner  
Gwen Prather  
Mary Jeffries  
Dian McNaught

#### Danville District

##### Clergy:

Tammy Franklin  
Tobias Lutz  
Amy Pannell  
Jon Woodburn

##### Lay:

Lisa Haskins  
Rebecca Shadrick  
Jackson Boles  
Chaz Nickens

#### Eastern Shore District

##### Clergy:

Brenda Laws  
Curtis Lucy  
Harold White Sr.  
William Greer

##### Lay:

Harold White Jr.  
Iris Gunter Smith  
Nita Daley  
Jennifer Greer

#### Elizabeth River District

##### Clergy:

Saunnie Butts  
Bob Robinson  
Randy Timmerman  
Michelle Louk

##### Lay:

Frances Webber  
Ryan Duncan  
Gary Lupton  
Brenda Stahl

#### Farmville District

##### Clergy:

Lyndsie Blakely  
Nadeem Khokhar  
Freedman Kinn  
Christine Holly

##### Lay:

Michelle Clary  
Ollie Wright  
Joshua Blakely  
Kristy Cole

#### Harrisonburg District

##### Clergy:

Jonathan Lamb  
Debra Cline  
Todd Gess  
Brian Posey

##### Lay:

Joe Amend, III  
Wendell Cochran  
Becky Downey  
Katharine Layton

#### James River District

##### Clergy:

James Carey  
Steve McMillion  
Brian Simmons  
Jeux Simmons

##### Lay:

Marie Hawks  
Jeanette McMillion  
Martha Dodd-Slippy  
Richard Speirs

#### Lynchburg District

##### Clergy:

June Carpenter  
Debi Straughter  
Jane Whitehead

##### Lay:

Jeanette Walker  
Andy Whitehead  
Deb Broadwater  
Teresa Watson

#### Rappahannock River District

##### Clergy:

Gail Porias  
Bryan McClain  
Justin Williams  
George Warner

##### Lay:

Kay Wright  
George Allen  
Karen Elmore  
Robert Stephens

#### Richmond District

##### Clergy:

Larry Cochran  
Yun Chol Kim  
Owen Taylor

##### Lay:

Lauren Adkins  
Maria Maxwell  
Tom Wagstaff

#### Roanoke District

##### Clergy:

Ray Sandifer  
Robert Haley  
JaeHaeng Choi  
Doug Mitchell

##### Lay:

Ronda Rogers  
Sue McCoy  
Robert MacLeod  
David Bates

#### Staunton District

##### Clergy:

Nathan Anderson  
Bill Bates  
Joe Cailles  
Nancy Palmer

##### Lay:

Kim Warliter  
Libby Keyser  
Sarah Powell  
Linda White

#### Winchester District

##### Clergy:

Marc Roberson  
Sean Devolites  
Joanna Dietz  
Debra Lucas

##### Lay:

Steve Cunningham  
Chad Hrbek  
Paula Levesque  
Catherine Richard

#### York River District

##### Clergy:

David Magruder  
Kenneth Waclo  
Kenneth Cleveland  
Eric Vaudt

##### Lay:

Judy Moughon  
Joan Mizelle  
Blair Ellis  
Carlos Liceaga

## COMMITTEE ON RULES

The Rules Committee of the Virginia Annual Conference met twice this past year and have corresponded also via e-mail. We have reviewed the Virginia Annual Conference Rules and policies and the following are our recommendations.

The first recommendation (1) is to give further clarification on lay membership to the Annual Conference from our local congregations. The Rules Committee believes that our rules are in accordance with the *2016 Book of Discipline*. We have recommended including the appropriate paragraph number from the *2016 Book of Discipline* (“Paragraph 32, *2016 Book of Discipline*”) in section I.B.3.a of our Standing Rules.

The second recommendation (2) will set limits on when a motion can be considered that has financial implications at the Annual Conference. This recommendation with the suspension of our rules is being requested to take effect this Annual Conference.

The third recommendation (3) is to gain clarity around making motions during the annual conference.

The fourth set of recommendations (4-8) will correct the nomination process for clergy and lay delegates to the General Conference to adhere to our current *Book of Discipline*. Years past, we had approved not having nominations from the floor by moving them to the Laity/Clergy Sessions of the Annual Conference, but with the most recent constitutional amendments passed in 2016, it is required to have an opportunity to receive nominations from the floor prior to voting. This recommendation with the suspension of our rules is being requested to take effect this Annual Conference.

The fifth recommendation (9-24) reflect changes made by the formerly known Communications, Virginia United Methodist, Inc. to their new structure.

The sixth recommendation (25) reflects the changes necessary for the dissolution of *The Advocate* at the end of 2019.

The seventh recommendation (26) comes as we spent time at our first meeting reflecting on the proceedings of the 2018 Annual Conference. Upon making recommendations to the Annual Conference Planning Committee, we felt it was necessary also to better educate our Rules Committee on parliamentary procedure so that we may more quickly inform and guide the proceedings of Annual Conference.

And finally, our last recommendation (27) is simply a desire to more efficiently help the Annual Conference Secretary do the work to which he/she is charged to do.

– Joshua S. King, Chair

## RECOMMENDATIONS

### Changes Recommended by Rules Committee

1. Paragraph I.B.3.a – insert at the end of paragraph, “(¶32, *2016 Book of Discipline*)”
2. Paragraph II.D.2 – Insert the following after “Council on Finance and Administration (CFA),”: “must be submitted by the conclusion of the afternoon session preceding the concluding day of annual conference. Such proposals or amendments which may require expenditure of funds” and continue the sentence as written “...shall be referred...”.

## COMMITTEE ON RULES

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3. Paragraph II.D – Insert a new paragraph II.D.4 “Proposals from the Floor. A motion is a formal proposal. Anytime the Annual Conference is in session and there is no business on the floor of the Annual Conference, a proposal from the floor may be made. This proposal will need to be placed in writing and in conjunction with the rules as stated in VII.J.”
4. Paragraph III.C.2.a – after 2 ½”, strike “unless nominated at Clergy Session” and insert “unless nominated from the floor of the Annual Conference”
5. Paragraph III.C.2.c – last sentence strike “nomination forms submitted at Clergy Session of the Annual Conference” and insert “nominations made from the floor of the Annual Conference”
6. Paragraph III.D.4 – after 2 1/2” strike “unless nominated at Laity Session” and insert “unless nominated from the floor of the Annual Conference”
7. Paragraph III.E.2 – last sentence strike “nomination forms submitted at Laity Session of the Annual Conference” and insert “nominations made from the floor of the Annual Conference”
8. Paragraph III.E – Renumber entire paragraph to become new III.D.6 and all subsequent paragraphs under III.E be renumbered appropriately
9. Paragraph I.B.3.u - strike “Virginia United Methodist Communications, Inc.” and insert, “the Virginia Conference Board of Communications”
10. Paragraph I.B.5.c.v - strike “Virginia United Methodist Communications, Inc.” and insert, “the Virginia Conference Board of Communications”
11. Paragraph II.D.1 – strike “Virginia United Methodist Communications, Inc.” and insert, “the Virginia Conference Board of Communications”
12. Paragraph III.D.2 - strike “Virginia United Methodist Communications, Inc.” and insert, “the Virginia Conference Board of Communications”
13. In the Charter for the Common Table for Church Vitality section VIII.C - strike “Virginia United Methodist Communications, Inc.” and insert, “the Virginia Conference Board of Communications”
14. Paragraph V.B.3 – On first paragraph and first line, strike, “Virginia United Methodist, Inc.” and insert, “The Virginia Conference Board of.”
15. Paragraph V.B.3.a – On the first paragraph and first line, strike, “United Methodist Communications, Inc.” and insert, “Conference Board of Communications”
16. Paragraph V.B.3.b – On the first paragraph and first sentence, strike, “United Methodist Communications, Inc.” and insert, “Conference Board of Communications”
17. Paragraph V.B.3.b – On the first paragraph and third sentence strike, “director of Virginia United Methodist Communications, Inc., the Conference Information Systems Director, and any member of United Methodist Communications, the General Board of Publications,” and insert, “Director of Communications for the

- Virginia Conference, the Conference Manager of Technology, and any member of United Methodist Communications, the United Methodist Publishing House,”
18. Paragraph V.B.3.c.i – On the first paragraph and first sentence Strike, “corporation,” and insert, “board,”
  19. Paragraph V.B.3.c.i – On the first paragraph and first sentence, capitalize “director” to read “Director”
  20. Paragraph V.B.3.c.i – On the first paragraph and first sentence strike, “three additional members” and insert, “one additional member”
  21. Paragraph V.B.3.c – On the first paragraph, second sentence strike “three non-officer members” and insert “non-officer member”
  22. Paragraph V.B.3.c.i – On the first paragraph, second sentence strike, “their successors are elected and qualify.” and insert, “the successor is elected and qualified.”
  23. Paragraph V.B.3.c.i – On the first paragraph, seventh sentence strike “corporation” and insert “board”
  24. Paragraph V.B.3.d.i – On the first paragraph, first sentence strike “corporation” and insert “board”.
  25. Paragraph II.D.1 – strike “in *The Virginia Advocate* or other media” and strike in same paragraph “*Advocate* editor” and insert “Virginia Conference Director of Communications”
  26. Paragraph V.B.18 – insert at the end of paragraph “All members of the Rules Committee are encouraged to take a basic parliamentary procedure course within 6 months of their election. However, those who wish to be parliamentarians of the Annual Conference must take a more advanced course at the approval of the Rules Committee Chair. The cost of these courses will be reimbursed upon the passing of the class.”
  27. Paragraph VII.J. – Insert after “shall be presented in writing.” the following, “If an approved motion is requested to be sent to entities, the maker of the motion shall provide names and addresses to the Secretary of the Virginia Annual Conference.”



### CABINET

Under Bishop Sharma Lewis' wise leadership, the Cabinet has sought to lead non-anxiously in this year marked by the challenges of the called General Conference and her own medical concerns. We are blessed to serve with Interim Bishop Peter Weaver during Bishop Lewis' medical leave. The District Superintendents' ministry as chief missional strategists is strengthened by our worshiping together each day we meet and through the community forged in our cluster covenant groups. Appointment-making, a core task of the bishop and cabinet, is wrapped in prayer, shaped by a careful consultative process, and focused on fruitfulness. Across our conference each district is engaging in contextual ministry and mission.

In the **Alexandria District**, we continue to focus on making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world, even as we wrestle with the implications of the Special Session of the General Conference. We are nurturing an expanding number of vital new faith communities, strengthening existing churches through initiatives like Next Level Innovations, Shift Plus, and more. We are seeing a significant increase in the use of live-streaming and other online techniques to reach new people. We look forward to launching a Neighborhood Seminary this fall to equip laypeople better with theological education, missional adeptness, and spiritual direction, focused on discerning how God is leading us out of our church buildings to bless our neighbors where they are.

The **Arlington District** vision, to come alongside local churches for the sake of vitality, was lived out this year with tailored approaches for all church sizes: Three larger churches competed their Next Level Innovations weekends, approving innovations for greater vitality by more than a 90% vote. Eight mid-size churches are seeking revitalization by participating in a year long process called "Shift Plus." Eleven smaller churches engaged with "Small Church Checkup" led by Kay Kotan. The District thanks outgoing DS Cathy Abbott for all her hard work over the last six years in being an extremely effective missional strategist for the District and looks forward to working with incoming DS Sarah Calvert.

The **Charlottesville District** supported the Central VA Mission HUB ministry at our District Conference by assembling 150 Cleaning Kits and 100 Hygiene Kits. Children, youth and adults all participated. The District Youth had a Mission Blast Saturday where they participated in several mission projects throughout Charlottesville and finished with packaging over 10,000 meals for Rise Against Hunger. Our churches continue to be involved with justice, immigration, and racism issues. We combined our Common Table and District Missions Committees to now become District Partners in Ministry and Mission. This new team sponsored a bowling event where over 100 people bowled to raise money for the C'ville Apt. Project. A vision where individuals with intellectual disabilities will be able to live in community in their own apartments.

**Danville District** laity and clergy are preparing to receive a new District Superintendent and are being asked to embrace a new way in which that role will be filled. The shared arrangement with the Farmville District will require a spirit of trust and patience; yet, it has the potential to create new relationships and partnerships in our missional journey.

The **Eastern Shore District** continues to offer ministry to new populations. The Una Familia ministry has grown from after-school tutoring at four different church sites to developing a partnership with Just Neighbors to offer immigration clinics on the Shore. Craddockville UMC is working on a new Restoration Ministries to connect with persons returning from incarceration, substance abuse rehabilitation, and the military.

The **Elizabeth River District** is working hard to equip the laity and clergy to reach new people by getting out into the community. We have provided excellent training events through our clergy meeting and district-wide training for laity and clergy. This year we added Next Level Innovations and Shift Training for local churches.

The **Farmville District** will live out our vision of “being passionate about **leading, listening and loving** all people to build up the Kingdom,” by having our first District Convocation on Race Reconciliation led by the Rev. Dr. Ted Smith on April 14. This past year we combined our District and Charge Conferences on one day. The attendance of 305 was highest of any attendance in recent years. As we look “outside the box” of doing ministry, we look for to a “new” structure of Danville and Farmville Districts beings served by the Rev. Denise Bates and two part-time assistants to the DS.

The **Harrisonburg District** has completed the Mission Central building which is a 4,200 square feet to distribute clothing, diapers to children, and medical equipment to the community, but most importantly, reflects being the hands and feet of Jesus and assisting those in need. In addition, clergy and laity, as partners in ministry are striving to be strategic and visioning in their churches and communities. A challenge was made to returning to our Wesleyan roots and in making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world, and creating a vision to accomplish this task. Furthermore, we seek to become a more diverse church that reflect the communities where we are. We seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit to share God’s love in the name of Jesus Christ.

The **James River District** is intentionally focusing on spiritual formation and asset-based community development (ABCD) for our pastors and leaders. We have leveraged our district gatherings as well as developing smaller groups to help our clergy deepen their own spirituality while both teaching and resourcing them to help their churches live out of a place of listening to and following God’s Spirit. Furthermore, we have developed training, coaching, and grants to allow churches to understand and implement ABCD in their context with the goal of moving from ineffective ministry “to” our neighbors to transformative ministry “with” those God has placed in our community.

The **Lynchburg District** continues to live into our new structure of making disciples of Jesus Christ by focusing on revitalization, leadership development, ministry with young people, emerging ministries, reconciliation and conflict transformation, and ministry with the poor. We are blessed by the presence of Rev. Leigh Anne Taylor, Revitalization Coordinator, who sees her work throughout the district as cooperating with the Spirit wherever new life is emerging in the lives of congregations, clergy, laity, and communities. Ten clergy participated in a year-long coaching cohort led by Rev. Jim Chandler designed to equip them for transformational leadership.

The **Rappahannock River District** as a whole as well as our individual congregations continue to envision, create, and sustain many vibrant ministries. Examples include our Crossroads Mission Center, which offers “Fun Day at the Crossroads” worship, recreation, and a fellowship meal. A second example is our Heartwood Center, which provides backpack food ministries in King George, Stafford, Caroline, Spotsylvania, and Fauquier county public schools. The Heartwood Center also offers teen summer day camps.

This has been a great year for the **Richmond District**! We have begun new Hispanic ministries through soccer that are reaching many new people in our communities. We have five churches enrolled in our new Next Level Innovations project, and our growing “Safe Zone” for African American teens in our communities continues to offer a safe place for our youth

On the **Roanoke District**, the *ReGenerations: Why Connecting Generations Matter* workshop led by author Jessica Stallings addressed issues pertinent to all size churches. Shane Claiborne and Mike Martin co-authors of *Beating Guns: Hope for People Who Are Weary of Violence* offered a workshop on a faithful response to America’s gun violence crisis. The Community Outreach Program rebranded as *Kids Soar* to better reflect the focus on helping children of inner city Roanoke succeed through literacy. The district is partnering with the Methodist Church of Puerto Rico along with its community outreach program ReHace (Rebuilding Communities with Hope) to install solar panels on homes on the island of Vieques following the devastation of Hurricane Maria.

Over the past Conference year, the **Staunton District** has kept focus on how we “influence others to serve” Christ in our communities. Our development of “Fresh Expressions” faith-communities continues in Waynesboro at the new Wayne Hills Ministry Center, building relationships with more than 100 lower-income families who are for the most part unchurched. In rural Swoope, new affinity-group *BlueGrass Spirit* is engaging those we’d never met before, while in the paper-mill town of Covington, one of our churches has birthed a ministry with families of children with autism, and is planning a worship experience tailored to the needs of this group. Looking beyond our boundaries, we were blessed to launch two District mission teams this Conference year, one a Disaster Relief crew that tackled Hurricane Matthew-ravaged homes near Swan Quarter NC, and an ERT that took part in on-going flood-recovery efforts on the Danville District. At home and abroad, we are connecting with our neighbors; to God be the glory!

In the past year the **Winchester District** had as its focused theme, “*Lifelong Learning, Influencing, and Serving as Christ’s Disciples.*” We have explored how we can be the most effective in proactively integrating the Virginia Annual Conference’s vision statement throughout the ministries and missions of the District as a clergy and laity in partnership. We were particularly blessed by The Rev. Christian Washington’s prophetic presentation at our January district-wide event. In addition to many local church mission and service efforts in the community, our District has committed to at least six trips to Danville this year, and we sent our 13th team to Haiti. We also report, with eternal joy, that there were 163 Professions of Faith on the Winchester District in 2018 – may God be praised!

## REPORTS

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In 2018, the **York River District** formed a District Prayer Team to pray for individuals and congregations in the District to be one with the Triune God and with one another. The District Consultation Team worked with Path 1 consultant to identify ways to strengthen the churches and to reach out to new people in new places. Through the faithful ministry of clergy and laity, we welcomed over 140 new members by profession of faith and contributed over 2.6 million dollars for the ministry and mission of The United Methodist Church.

The Conference Lay Leader, the Conference Treasurer, the Director of Connectional Ministries, the Director of the Center for Clergy Excellence, and the Director of the Center for Congregational Excellence serve as members of the **Extended Cabinet** to inform and provide a connection between the program and missional ministries of the annual conference and the work of the Cabinet.

In March we bid farewell to the Rev. Meredith McNabb and welcomed the Rev. Lindsey Baynham as the Director of the Center for Clergy Excellence. We also give thanks for the Rev. Marc Brown's 11 year tenure as the Director of Connectional Ministries and wish him well in retirement. We look forward to continuing to work with the Rev. Dr Ted Smith as he transitions to this position.

With thanksgiving for their committed leadership, we will also say "farewell" to colleagues the Rev. Bob Parks and the Rev. Dr. Janine Howard. We will warmly welcome the Rev. Charles Bates, the Rev. Denise Bates, and the Rev. Dr. Sarah Calvert, to the cabinet table.

We are exceedingly grateful to the Rev. Tom Joyce, Assistant to the Bishop, and Mrs. Terri Biggins, the bishops' administrative assistant for their dedicated support.

We are blessed that the Cabinet Covenant shapes our life and leadership: *We the Cabinet of the Virginia Conference, covenant with each other to be a Holy Table where Christ is our servant example and Lord; where we joyfully hold each other in disciplines of prayer, study, worship, service and physical self-care; where the truth is told and honored; where we support one another in the effort to maintain confidentiality, through words/action of grace and in the spirit of love; where trust is the rule, brokenness is received with mercy, pain is healed with grace and forgiveness is sought, given and accepted; where the health of the whole Body of Christ is desired over that of any one part; where we seek perfection in love for God and for each other.*

— Kathleen Overby Webster, Dean

### SITE SELECTION COMMITTEE

The Site Selection Committee is charged with identifying the location for the Virginia Annual Conference to meet and to recommend a location five (5) years in advance. Beginning this year (2019) and beyond, the Annual Conference will convene on Thursday and conclude on Saturday as set by Bishop Sharma D. Lewis. By previous Annual Conference action, the following locations have been approved for the site of the Annual Conference:

Roanoke	June 18-20, 2020
Hampton	June 17-19, 2021
Hampton	June 16-18, 2022
Roanoke	June 15-17, 2023

The Site Selection Committee recommends for 2024, Annual Conference be held in:

Roanoke	June 20-22, 2024
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The Committee, along with the Chair of the Common Table and with the assistance of the Conference meeting planner, continues to review other locations for holding Annual Conference across the Commonwealth. For your reference, we have the following requirements in evaluating potential Annual Conference sites:

- Venue to accommodate 3,500 people
- 1,500 hotel rooms in the area
- Parking for 2,500 cars
- Meeting space for the Clergy Session of 1,500 people
- Meeting space for the Laity Session of 1,500 people
- Additional meeting spaces adjacent to the Conference floor
- Two (2) banquet areas to accommodate 500 people each
- Additional banquet locations accessible to Conference
- Restaurants to accommodate 3,500 patrons within 1½ - 2 hour timeframe
- 10,000 sq. ft. of exhibit space

### RECOMMENDATION:

The Site Selection Committee recommends that the 2024 Virginia Annual Conference be held at the Berglund Center in Roanoke June 20-22.

— *Neal E. Wise, Chair*

EQUITABLE COMPENSATION COMMISSION

The Equitable Compensation Commission continues to provide financial aid to those churches requiring supplementation to strengthen their ministries in the communities in which they are located and to provide minimum salary or salary supplementation for the pastors. Equitable Compensation support in the amount of \$225,094 was provided to 30 charges in 2018. A schedule of salary supplementation appropriations for 2018 has been provided to the conference secretary for publication in the Journal.

There were 6 charges receiving salary support in 2017 that did not require salary support in 2018. These are Bethel (Winchester), Boydtown (Farmville), Fletcher’s Chapel (Rappahannock River), Greenwood Montague Avenue (Winchester), Hites Chapel (Winchester) and Woods (James River). These charges and their superintendents are commended for their success in providing a ministry in the communities they serve that has enabled them to grow spiritually in their stewardship.

District Superintendents and charges setting salaries for 2020 that may require supplementation are advised that the “floor” must come from sources other than the Commission on Equitable Compensation.

The Conference Average Compensation (CAC) for 2020 is \$64,590, which is an increase of 1% percent from 2019. The Commission considered Minimum Compensation and the Floor Schedule for 2020 and recommends the schedules remain the same as 2019.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

	2020 Proposed	2019 Approved
1. The Minimum Compensation Schedule:		
a. Full Connection Pastors	\$42,000	\$42,000
b. Provisional and Associate Members	\$38,500	\$38,500
c. Local Pastors	\$36,000	\$36,000
3. The Floor Schedule:		
a. Full Connection Pastors	\$28,000	\$28,000
b. Provisional and Associate Members	\$25,600	\$25,600
c. Local Pastors	\$24,000	\$24,000

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The Equitable Compensation Financial Report for 2016-2018 is provided below:

### EQUITABLE COMPENSATION FINANCIAL REPORT

	Year Ending 2016	Year Ending 2017	Year Ending 2018
Apportioned	500,000	350,000	350,000
Uncollected Apportionment	(61,170)	(36,432)	(41,327)
<b>Apportionment Income</b>	<b>438,830</b>	<b>313,568</b>	<b>308,673</b>
<i>Percent Collected</i>	<i>87.77%</i>	<i>89.59%</i>	<i>88.19%</i>
Grants	193,646	175,506	225,094
Sustenance fund grant		6,513	
Meeting Expense & Other	1,033	373	63
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>194,679</b>	<b>182,391</b>	<b>225,157</b>
<b>Receipts Over (Under) Expenses</b>	<b>244,151</b>	<b>131,176</b>	<b>83,516</b>

– Joseph T. Carson III, Chair

VIRGINIA UNITED METHODIST PENSIONS, INC.

Section I: Reports

■ Report 1: Role & Responsibilities of Virginia United Methodist Pensions, Inc.

*The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church* directs each annual conference to establish a conference board of pension, auxiliary to Wespath Benefits and Investments (Wespath), to have charge of the interests and work of providing for and contributing to the support, relief, assistance, and pensioning of clergy and their families, other church workers, and lay employees of the United Methodist Church, its institutions, organizations, and agencies within each annual conference except as otherwise provided for by Wespath.

On June 22, 1965, the Virginia Annual Conference (VAUMC) established and incorporated the Virginia Methodist Pensions, Incorporation, (subsequently renamed on February 2, 1971 to Virginia United Methodist Pensions, Inc., or “VUMPI,”) as its conference board of pension.

VUMPI, in conjunction with Wespath, develops and administers the numerous employee pension and benefit plans sponsored by the Virginia Conference. Some plans are employer-paid, while others are voluntary and 100 percent participant-paid:

<u>VUMPI Plans</u> Health Prescription Dental Supplemental Life Voluntary Life Long Term Care Healthcare Flexible Spending Account Dependent Care Flexible Spending Account	<u>Wespath Plans</u> Ministers Reserve Pension Fund (Pre-82) Ministerial Pension Plan (MPP) Clergy Retirement Security Program – Defined Benefit (CRSP-DB) Clergy Retirement Security Program – Defined Contribution (CRSP-DC) United Methodist Personal Investment Plan (UMPIP) Comprehensive Protection Plan (CPP)
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■ Report 2: Virginia Conference-Sponsored Health Plans

VUMPI administers health plans for full time clergy of the Virginia Conference, as well as retired clergy who meet eligibility requirements based on years of ministry in the Virginia Conference. Details of the Conference-sponsored health plans follow:

Active Clergy Health Plans

Health plans recommended to be made available in 2020 are unchanged from the plans offered in 2019. Health plans available to clergy serving in full time appointments in the Virginia Conference include the following:

- **PPO Core:** \$1,000 individual deductible, \$2,500 family deductible, 20% coinsurance
- **PPO Buy-Up:** \$750 individual deductible, \$1,875 family deductible, and 20% coinsurance



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- **HSA plan:** a plan with a higher deductible (\$2,250 individual, \$4,500 family) as required by Internal Revenue Service rules for HSAs, a Conference contribution to the Health Savings Account (\$750 for individual tier enrollees, \$1,500 for all other tier enrollees), 20% coinsurance

A fourth health plan which is currently offered, and which is made available only to clergy on medical leave with CPP disability benefits and surviving spouses and children of clergy, is recommended to continue to be offered in 2020 with no plan design changes.

A small group of participants in the previously offered Clergy Managed Care Plan, which is a high deductible health plan that is not eligible for HSA contributions, maintained eligibility to enroll in that plan in 2019 due to remaining medical credits in the plan. Clergy enrolled in the Clergy Managed Care Plan in 2019 will have the option to remain enrolled in that plan in 2020, with no changes in the plan design or participant contributions. VUMPI encourages those who elect to remain enrolled in the Clergy Managed Care Plan in 2020 to utilize remaining medical credits under the plan and to anticipate the termination of that plan at the end of 2020 or soon thereafter.

The vision plan that was offered beginning in 2019 will continue to be offered in 2020, with no changes in the plan design.

The two dental plan options currently administered by VUMPI are also recommended to continue to be offered in 2020 with no plan design changes.

The majority of the cost of the health plans made available to Virginia Conference clergy is funded through a Conference apportionment, as described in Recommendation 1. The remainder of the cost of the plans is funded by participant contributions, as described in Recommendation 2.

### **Retired Clergy Health Plans**

VUMPI administers health plans for eligible retired clergy of the Virginia Conference. The eligibility requirements include a minimum of ten years of full time ministry in either Virginia Conference church appointments or Extension Ministry appointments with enrollment in the Conference-sponsored health plans.

Plans made available to eligible retirees are coordinated with Medicare eligibility. Specific plans for retirees who are not yet eligible for Medicare and the program for Medicare-eligible clergy are described below:

**Conference-sponsored health plan for pre-Medicare-eligible retirees:** retirees who are eligible to enroll in the Conference-sponsored retired clergy health plan but who are not yet eligible to enroll in Medicare may enroll in the self funded PPO Core or PPO Buy-Up plans administered by VUMPI. Pre-Medicare-eligible retirees may also enroll in the self funded dental insurance program and the fully insured vision program made available to active clergy. The majority of the cost of the health plans made available to Virginia Conference clergy is funded through a Conference apportionment, as described in Recommendation 1. The remainder of the cost of the plans is funded by participant contributions, as described in Recommendation 2.

**Conference-sponsored health plan for Medicare-eligible retirees:** retirees who are eligible to enroll in the Conference-sponsored retired clergy health plan and who are also enrolled in Medicare have two options for retiree medical coverage.

The first option is the Group Plan, which is a group Medicare Advantage plan created specifically for Virginia Conference retirees. The Group Plan integrates the retiree's Medicare benefit and includes prescription drug coverage. The majority of the cost of the Group Plan is funded through a Conference apportionment, as described in Recommendation 1. The remainder of the cost of the plans is funded by participant contributions, as described in Recommendation 2.

The second option made available to eligible retirees who are enrolled in Medicare is the Connector option. Under the Connector option, Medicare-eligible retirees are able to select any Medicare Supplement plan or Medicare Advantage plan, and any Part D prescription drug plan, offered by United Healthcare. The Conference will provide funding through a Retiree Reimbursement Account ("RRA"), and those funds can be used to partially or fully offset the cost of the coverage elected through the Connector option. The RRA funding made available to retirees who elect coverage through the Connector option is funded through a Conference apportionment, as described in Recommendation 1. The remainder of the cost of the elected health plan coverage, if any, is paid by the retiree directly to United Healthcare.

### ■ Report 3: Pension Plan Structure

There are four components to the Clergy Retirement Security Program (CRSP):

- A. Ministers Reserve Pension Fund (Pre-82) for service and benefits accrued on and/or prior to December 31, 1981.
- B. Ministerial Pension Plan (MPP) for service and benefits accrued on and/or after January 1, 1982 through December 31, 2006.
- C. Clergy Retirement Security Program - Defined Benefit Plan (CRSP-DB) for service and benefits accrued on and/or after January 1, 2007.
- D. Clergy Retirement Security Program - Defined Contribution Plan (CRSP-DC) for service and benefits accrued on and/or after January 1, 2007.

Wespath refers to plans A - C above as defined benefit ("DB") pension plans. That is, each year an eligible clergy member of the Virginia Conference served/serves and received/receives pension credit, the applicable plan will pay a certain benefit, or "defined" monthly income during retirement. Hence, the term "defined benefit." Defined benefit plans do not maintain participant account balances since the employer, or in our case, Wespath, has the responsibility to manage the funds in a manner sufficient to pay the monthly defined benefit.

Simultaneous to Wespath calculating each participant's defined benefit, it calculates each annual conference's cost to provide these defined benefits. Wespath bills each annual conference the amount due. Each annual conference, or in our case, VUMPI, then in-turn bills and apportions our local churches for the cost of these plans.

In addition to these defined benefit plans, annual conferences provide their clergy pension benefits from the CRSP-DC, a defined contribution ("DC") plan. Each year an eligible clergy member of the Virginia Conference serves and receives pension credit, the Virginia Conference determines how much pension contribution each clergy participant will receive in his/her pension account. VUMPI bills local churches for the required

amount of pension contribution, then in-turn, makes monthly contributions into the clergy CRSP-DC accounts.

### ■ Report 4: Welfare Plan Structure

The welfare plans made available to Virginia Conference clergy include the Comprehensive Protection Plan (“CPP”) sponsored by Wespath, as well as supplemental benefits sponsored independently by VUMPI.

The CPP disability benefits are as follows:

- For Clergy disabled on or after Jan. 1, 2002, the CPP disability benefit equals 70 percent of Plan Compensation, with compensation capped at 200 percent of the DAC.
- For Clergy disabled prior to Jan. 1, 2002, they will continue to receive the same CPP disability benefit per the plan document in-force at the time their disability claim originated.

The following generally describes the death benefit amounts payable under the CPP to eligible participants and their beneficiaries:

***Active Participant Death Benefits:*** payable upon the death of an eligible active CPP participant, as follows:

- Participant: \$50,000, payable in 12 monthly installments or one lump sum
- Spouse of active participant: 20% of DAC in the year of death
- Surviving spouse of active participant: 15% of DAC in the year of death
- Child of active participant: 10% of DAC in the year of death
- Annual surviving spouse annuity benefit of 20% of DAC, less the annuity benefit payable from CRSP and other Church-related sources
- Annual surviving child benefit of 10% of DAC, payable in 12 monthly installments (for those age 17 and younger; benefits are paid through the month in which the child attains age 18)
- Annual surviving child educational benefit up to 20% of DAC, payable in equal installments (for those age 18 through 24 and attending school full-time)

***Retired Participant Death Benefits:*** to be eligible for death benefits in retirement, a clergyperson must have been covered in CPP for a specified number of years. The 2012 General Conference approved a change to the CPP program which increases the length of service requirement for retirees. Retirees with 25 or more years of enrollment in CPP are eligible for the death benefits in retirement, and the eligibility criteria for those with fewer than 25 years in CPP is phased in with one-year increments, as detailed in the table on the following page:

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Retirement Year	CPP Enrollment Requirement for Death Benefit Eligibility
2013	6 of last 10 years
2014	7 of last 10 years
2015	8 of last 11 years
2016	9 of last 12 years
2017	10 of last 13 years
2018	11 of last 14 years
2019+	12 of last 15 years

The death benefit amounts associated with retired participants are detailed in the table below:

Plan Provision	Clergy Who Retired Before Jan. 1, 2013	Clergy Who Retire Jan. 1, 2013 or Later
Death of retired participant	30% of DAC in the year of death	\$20,400
Death of retiree's spouse	20% of DAC in the year of death	\$15,300
Death of retiree's surviving spouse	15% of DAC in the year of death	\$10,200
Death of retiree's child	10% of DAC in the year of death	\$8,160
Annual surviving child benefit, payable in 12 monthly installments	10% of DAC	10% of DAC
Annual surviving child educational benefit, payable in installments	20% of DAC	20% of DAC

The Conference Supplemental Death Benefit for active eligible clergy under episcopal appointment, and who are enrolled in CPP, is \$25,000. The Conference Supplemental Death Benefit is payable in addition to the CPP death benefit. During retirement, a \$5,000 Conference Supplemental Death Benefit will be payable to CPP participants, in addition to the CPP death benefit. The beneficiary will receive the Conference Supplemental Death Benefit payable in one lump sum. The Conference pays the entire cost of this Supplemental Death Benefit.

In combination, the CPP and Conference Supplemental Death Benefit provide total death benefits as follows:

- \$75,000 to beneficiaries of active clergy participants
- 30% of the DAC + \$5,000 (or \$25,400 for those retiring January 1, 2013 or later) to beneficiaries of retired clergy participants

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### Gift Benefit

VUMPI currently elects to provide a one time \$1,500 gift at the time of retirement or disability (once awarded disability benefits under the Comprehensive Protection Plan) to each clergyperson who has served at least ten years of service in a full-time Virginia Annual Conference episcopal appointment in the Virginia Conference with pension credit. Further, a gift to the family of each clergyperson meeting the eligibility criteria above who dies in active service is paid in the same amount as the gift to retired or disabled clergypersons.

### Report 6: Denominational Average Compensation

Several of the pension and welfare plans incorporate the Denominational Average Compensation (“DAC”) into the formula for determining the plan benefit. The formula VUMPI uses for funding those plans relies on the DAC, as well.

As reported by Wespath, the DAC is projected to increase from 2019 to 2020 as follows:

Denominational Average Compensation	
2019	\$71,361
2020	\$72,648



## Section II: Recommendations for Annual Conference Approval

### ■ Recommendation 1: 2020 Pension and Health Plan Apportionment Recommendations

For 2020, VUMPI recommends a total Clergy Benefit Apportionment of \$16,520,000. This is the sixth consecutive year in which VUMPI's recommended apportionments are either unchanged from or less than the preceding year's apportionments. The total benefits apportionment amount includes funding for the Pre-82 pension, the Active Clergy Health Plan (which includes health care coverage for eligible clergy on medical leave and widowed spouses of active clergy) and the Retired Clergy Health Plan. The apportionment total is allocated among these components as follows:

Clergy Benefits Apportionment Recommendations - 2020	
Active Clergy Health	\$ 9,710,000
Retired Clergy Health	6,060,000
Pension Liability Assessment – Pre-82	750,000
<b>TOTAL CLERGY BENEFIT APPORTIONMENTS</b>	<b>\$ 16,520,000</b>

VUMPI recommends the above Active Clergy Health and Retired Clergy Health apportionments as part of its broad strategy focused on maintaining adequate health plans for Virginia Conference active and retired clergy, while moderating the financial impact on local churches and individual participants to the extent possible.

VUMPI will continue to bill Conference-responsible salary-paying-units (such as Extension Ministries) in 2020. The amount billed will be \$11,664 (\$972 per month) for each eligible clergyperson, plus their applicable Participant Contributions for active clergy as noted in Recommendation 2: 2020 Participant Contribution Recommendations.

The Pension Liability Assessment associated with the Pre-1982 pension program is calculated by Wespeth, and is partially based on the projected funding liability that VUMPI is required to meet in 2020. Changes in each year's assessment are driven by multiple factors, including actual and projected investment earnings on pension assets held on behalf of the Virginia Conference at Wespeth. Based on input from multiple entities, including the Virginia Conference Treasurer and the Virginia Conference Council on Finance & Administration, the recommended Pre-82 pension apportionment in 2020 is \$750,000, unchanged from the corresponding 2019 apportionment.

### ■ Recommendation 2: 2020 Participant Contribution Recommendations

A key component of VUMPI's strategy is the administration of clergy health plans which provide sufficient and affordable health care coverage. VUMPI works closely with consultants and advisors to construct plan designs which are designed for long term financial sustainability, while optimizing both coverage and costs for enrolled clergy and their families. VUMPI is recommending no change in participant contributions for

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the PPO Core plan, modest increases in participant contributions for the PPO Buy-Up plan, and modest reductions in the participant contributions for the HSA plan. These recommendations result in the following monthly participant contribution rates for 2020:

### Active Clergy

As was summarized in Report 2, three new health plan designs are recommended for 2019. The recommended plans have been designed to provide a PPO Core health plan option, which is designed to be similar to the current Conference-sponsored PPO plan. Also offered is a PPO Buy-Up plan that offers a lower deductible and out of pocket cost limit, and a Health Savings Account plan option that includes Conference contributions to the HSA. HSA contributions will be prorated for plan participants enrolling in the HSA plan within a calendar year. Any HSA funds remaining at the end of the calendar year will roll over to the subsequent year and will remain under the enrollee's ownership. The recommended 2019 health benefit plan highlights are as follows:

	Medical Plans			Dental Plans	
	PPO Core	PPO Buy-Up	HSA	Core	Major
Clergyperson Only	\$102	\$130	\$80	\$13	\$34
Clergyperson + Spouse	\$308	\$351	\$263	\$49	\$98
Clergyperson + Child(ren)	\$312	\$357	\$269	\$51	\$100
Family	\$325	\$389	\$280	\$60	\$109

Note: active clergy have the opportunity to earn a \$15 reduction in Individual contribution rate or \$30 reduction in Family contribution rate through participation in the Virginia Conference wellness program.

### Clergy on Voluntary Leave, Sabbatical, or Retired Under ¶358.2.a (With Twenty Years of Service) or ¶358.3 (Prior to Age 62 With Fewer Than Thirty Years of Service):

	Medical Plans		Dental Plans	
	PPO Core	PPO Buy-Up	Core	Major
Clergyperson Only	\$642	\$723	\$31	\$60
Clergyperson + Spouse	\$1,429	\$1,549	\$51	\$124
Clergyperson + Child(ren)	\$1,548	\$1,678	\$53	\$126
Family	\$1,994	\$2,162	\$64	\$137

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### Clergy on Medical Leave with CPP Benefits & Under Age 65 Surviving Spouses of Clergy :

	Medical Plans	Dental Plans	
	PPO (\$500 deductible)	Core	Major
Clergyperson Only	\$112	\$13	\$34
Clergyperson + Spouse	\$171	\$49	\$98
Clergyperson + Child(ren)	\$174	\$51	\$100
Family	\$185	\$60	\$109

### Retired Clergy Under Age 65 – Retired Under ¶358.1, ¶358.2b, ¶358.2c, or ¶358.3:

Years of Qualifying Virginia Conference Service	PPO Core		PPO Buy-up	
	Retiree Only	Family	Retiree Only	Family
10-14	\$701	\$1,600	\$834	\$1,901
15-19	\$568	\$1,295	\$675	\$1,539
20-24	\$434	\$991	\$516	\$1,177
25-29	\$301	\$686	\$357	\$814
30+	\$167	\$381	\$199	\$453

Years of Qualifying Virginia Conference Service	Dental Core		Dental Major	
	Retiree Only	Family	Retiree Only	Family
10-14	\$31	\$58	\$60	\$131
15-19	\$31	\$58	\$60	\$131
20-24	\$31	\$58	\$60	\$131
25-29	\$31	\$58	\$60	\$131
30+	\$31	\$58	\$60	\$131



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### Optional Voluntary Vision Benefit Plan for Clergy and Lay Employees Enrolled in a Conference-sponsored Anthem Medical Plan

	Vision
Employee Only	\$8.34
Employee + Spouse	\$15.05
Employee + Child(ren)	\$15.05
Family	\$24.19

### Retired Clergy Age 65 or Over – Retired Under ¶358.1, ¶358.2b, ¶358.2c, or ¶358.3

Under the Conference-sponsored medical plan for Medicare-eligible retirees of the Virginia Conference, there will continue to be two coverage options, as described below.

**Group Plan Option:** The group plan is a group Medicare Advantage plan. The group plan has a required participant contribution based on full time years of service in the Virginia Conference. The recommended 2020 participant contributions for the group plan coverage option are as follows:

Medicare-eligible Retirees - Monthly Personal Contributions		
Years of Service	Individual	Family
10-14	\$375	\$750
15-19	\$310	\$620
20-24	\$245	\$490
25-29	\$180	\$360
30+	\$115	\$230

**Connector Option:** The Connector option allows qualifying clergy to select any available Medicare Supplement or Medicare Advantage plan, and any Part D prescription drug plan, offered by United Healthcare. Retirees electing coverage through this option receive Retiree Reimbursement Account (“RRA”) funding, which can be used to offset the cost of the selected coverage. VUMPI recommends 2020 monthly RRA funding based on qualifying years of Virginia Conference service as follows:

Connector Option - Monthly RRA Funding		
Years of Service	Retiree Only	Retiree and Spouse
20-24	\$150	\$300
25-29	\$200	\$400
30+	\$250	\$500

The monthly RRA funding amounts will be prorated for qualifying retirees and/or spouses of qualifying retirees who gain Medicare eligibility or otherwise gain eligibility for retiree coverage within a calendar year. Any RRA funds remaining at the end of a calendar year will roll over into the subsequent year for use by the enrolled retiree and/or spouse for qualifying medical expenses.

### **General Virginia Conference Health Plan Information**

**For participants enrolled in the Anthem health plans, either as active clergy or as a retiree not yet eligible for Medicare, 2020 health plan selections will be made during the open enrollment period in the fall of 2019. If an eligible clergy person does not elect coverage options during the annual open enrollment period, the default enrollment option is the prior year's plan selections (except for Health Savings Account, Flexible Spending Account or Dependent Care Spending Account contributions), and enrollees will be subject to the associated individual personal contribution rates.**

**If not selected during the open enrollment period, no Health Savings Account or Flexible Spending Account contributions can be made during 2020, in accordance with federal laws.**

**All who are eligible to enroll in a Virginia Conference health plan are strongly encouraged to participate in online open enrollment in the fall of 2019. Details will be distributed through normal annual open enrollment means.**

Virginia Conference clergy members earn a year of service towards his or her Total Years of VAUMC Service as indicated in the coverage options above for each year that Virginia Annual Conference health plan eligibility is met.

Eligibility for the Conference-sponsored retiree medical plans requires a minimum of ten years of full time ministry in the Virginia Conference. Virginia Conference clergy on approved leave or serving in an Extension Ministry appointment earn credit towards retiree medical plan eligibility only if enrolled in the Conference-sponsored health plan while on leave or while serving an Extension Ministry appointment.

### **■ Recommendation 3: 2020 Pre-82 Pension Past Service Rate**

The Pre-82 pension provides a benefit to all eligible clergy who have served in the Virginia Conference prior to 1982. This program pays the greater of the following:

- An annual benefit equal to the Past Service Rate (PSR) times years of pre-1982 service, or
- An annuity amount based upon the participant's cash balance in his or her Defined Benefit Service Money Account

The Virginia Annual Conference establishes the PSR each year. For 2020, VUMPI recommends that the PSR be increased from \$570 to \$575.

### ■ Recommendation 4: 2020 CRSP/CPP/Supplemental Plan Funding Recommendations

#### Clergy Retirement Security Program (CRSP)

The 2020 CRSP Contribution from the local churches and/or salary-paying-units for each appointed eligible clergy member under episcopal appointment at that location shall be:

- For the Defined Contribution component of CRSP: Plan Compensation (base salary plus housing allowance or parsonage rate in accordance with the Internal Revenue Service), times 3%.
- For the Defined Benefit component of CRSP: Plan Compensation (base salary plus housing allowance or parsonage rate in accordance with the Internal Revenue Service, up to 135% of the Denominational Average Compensation (“DAC”) times 9%.

Local churches and salary-paying units are to make their monthly CRSP payments to VUMPI.

#### Comprehensive Protection Plan (CPP)

The 2020 CPP contribution from the local churches and/or salary-paying-units for each appointed eligible clergy member under episcopal appointment at that location shall be:

Plan Compensation (base salary plus housing allowance or parsonage rate in accordance with the Internal Revenue Service, up to 200% of the Denominational Average Compensation) times 4.4%.

Local churches and salary-paying units are to make their monthly CPP payments to VUMPI.

If, for any reason, CPP contributions are more than 30 days in arrears, participation in the CPP is suspended. If contributions are more than six consecutive months in arrears, participation in the CPP is terminated. For terminated participants, readmission into the CPP requires payment of seven months of contributions and submission of medical statement of good health.

Erroneously enrolled clergy who are ineligible to participate in the CPP have no right to benefits under the CPP. Eligible clergy who have not been properly enrolled in the CPP have no rights under the CPP until after proper enrollment.

### ■ Recommendation 5: 2019 Comprehensive Funding Plan

The *2016 Book of Discipline* ¶ 1506.6 requires that each annual conference develop, adopt and implement a formal comprehensive funding plan for funding all of its benefit obligations. The funding plan shall be submitted annually to Wespath Benefits and Investments (Wespath) for review and be approved annually by the annual conference, following the receipt and inclusion of a favorable written opinion from Wespath. This document is only a summary of the information contained in the actual signed funding plan and does not contain all the information required for a comprehensive view of the conference’s benefit obligations. You may request the full contents of the 2020 comprehensive benefit funding plan from the VUMPI office.

### **CLERGY RETIREMENT SECURITY PROGRAM (CRSP)**

The Clergy Retirement Security Program (CRSP) is an Internal Revenue Code section 403(b) retirement program providing lifetime income and account flexibility designed for those who serve as clergy of The United Methodist Church. The program is designed to provide participants with one portion of their overall retirement benefits. CRSP replaced the Ministerial Pension Plan (MPP) effective January 1, 2007, which had previously replaced the Pre-82 Plan for service rendered prior to January 1, 1982.

CRSP consists of both a defined benefit (DB) plan, which provides a monthly benefit at retirement based upon years of credited service to The United Methodist Church, and a defined contribution (DC) plan, which provides a retirement account balance established and funded by the annual conferences.

The Clergy Retirement Security Program (CRSP DB) annuities total liability as of January 1, 2018, is \$(1,740,019,798), while total plan assets are \$1,904,387,237, resulting in a current plan funded ratio of 109%. The Virginia Conference portion of the liability is 4.1200% and the 2020 contribution is \$4,341,391. General Conference 2012 approved a change to CRSP that provides each annual conference the discretion to determine whether to cover three-quarter and/or half-time clergy. The Virginia Conference has elected to cover clergy serving 50%+.

Effective January 1, 2014, the CRSP DC plan was reduced from a 3% to a 2% of plan compensation non-matching contribution. Clergy can earn up to an additional 1% CRSP DC contribution by contributing at least 1% of their plan compensation to UMPIP; therefore, if a participant contributes at least 1% of plan compensation to UMPIP, the individual will receive a contribution of 3% to CRSP DC. The 2020 CRSP DC contribution is anticipated to be \$1,540,884.

### **MINISTERIAL PENSION PLAN (MPP)**

Supplement Three to the Clergy Retirement Security Program (CRSP), also known as the Ministerial Pension Plan (MPP), provides clergy with a pension benefit for their years of ministry with The United Methodist Church from 1982 through 2006. MPP is an Internal Revenue Code section 403(b) retirement plan. MPP requires that exactly 65% of the account balance must be annuitized when the funds are to be distributed. The remainder may be rolled over to UMPIP, another qualified plan or an IRA, or it may be paid in a lump sum.

The Ministerial Pension Plan (MPP) annuities' total liability as of January 1, 2018 is \$(3,606,807,509), while total plan assets are \$3,885,277,143, resulting in a current plan funded ratio of 108%. The required contribution for 2020 is \$0. The Virginia Conference's percentage of the total liability is 3.3695%. Future MPP annuitants have a total account balance of \$3,803,548,721 and the Virginia Conference's portion of that balance is \$136,924,411 or 3.60% of the total.

### **PRE-82 PLAN**

Supplement One to the Clergy Retirement Security Program (CRSP), also known as the Pre-82 Plan, provides clergy with a pension benefit for their years of ministry with The United Methodist Church prior to 1982. The Pre-82 Plan was replaced by MPP

effective January 1, 1982. If a clergyperson retires within the Conference (and does not terminate), the minimum benefit payable is based on the clergyperson's years of service with pension credit and the conference pension rate (Past Service Rate or PSR), which may change from year to year.

The number of years of service with pension credit is multiplied by the PSR, and the product is the minimum annual benefit payable to those clergy eligible for Pre-82 Plan benefits. In certain situations, the benefit received from the Pre-82 plan may vary based on the applicability of what is referred to as Defined Benefit Service Money (DBSM), which is the defined contribution feature of the Pre-82 Plan. At the time that a participant retires, the DBSM account is converted to a life based benefit and, at that point, the clergy's benefit is the greater of the PSR or DBSM benefit. If the conference increases the PSR, the clergy's benefit is recalculated, but the DBSM-based benefit does not change.

As indicated in Recommendation 3 above, the 2020 PSR recommended to the Virginia Conference is \$575, representing a 1% increase from the 2019 rate. The contingent annuitant percentage is recommended to remain at the 70% level.

### **ACTIVE HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM**

The Virginia Conference sponsors a self-funded health benefit program for full-time active clergy. The cost of the program for 2020 is anticipated to be approximately \$13,200,000, which will be funded primarily by apportionments and health plan participant contributions.

### **POST RETIREMENT MEDICAL BENEFIT PROGRAM (PRM)**

The Virginia Conference currently sponsors a self funded health benefit program for pre-Medicare-eligible retirees and a Group Medicare Advantage plan for Medicare-eligible retirees, with optional RRA funding for the purchase of individual supplemental plans through a retiree medical exchange. The projected annual plan benefit cost for 2020, including health plan premiums, Retiree Reimbursement Account contributions and other plan expenses, is approximately \$7,250,000, which will be funded primarily by apportionments and health plan participant contributions.

### **COMPREHENSIVE PROTECTION PLAN (CPP)**

The Comprehensive Protection Plan (CPP) provides death, long-term disability and other welfare benefits for eligible clergy of The United Methodist Church and their families. It is an Internal Revenue Code 414(e) "church plan" funded by plan sponsor insurance premiums. Generally, clergy are eligible to participate in CPP if they satisfy the eligibility requirements, including full-time appointment with plan compensation of at least 25% of the Denominational Average Compensation (DAC). For 2020, the Virginia Conference has an expected required contribution to the Comprehensive Protection Plan of \$1,526,162, which is anticipated to be funded by direct billing to local churches.

### **UNITED METHODIST PERSONAL INVESTMENT PLAN (UMPIP) FOR LAY AND CLERGY**

#### **Plan Overview:**

The United Methodist Personal Investment Plan (UMPIP) is an Internal Revenue Code section 403(b) defined contribution retirement savings plan for clergy and lay employees of The United Methodist Church and affiliated organizations. Participants may make before-tax, Roth and/or after-tax contributions through payroll deductions. Participant contributions, various optional plan sponsor contributions and investment earnings comprise the individual's retirement account balance.

### **OTHER DEFINED CONTRIBUTION (DC) OBLIGATIONS**

VUMPI currently offers a supplemental life insurance benefit that supplements the CPP life insurance benefit. The estimated cost of this supplemental benefit for 2020 is \$300,000.

### **CONCLUSION**

The 2020 Comprehensive Benefit Funding Plan and this summary document incorporates, to the best of our understanding, the Virginia's obligations and funding requirements of the benefits provided to the clergy and laity of the Virginia Conference.

#### **■ Recommendation 6: 2020 Housing Allowance/Exclusion**

### **Resolutions Relating to Rental/Housing Allowances for Retired, Disabled, or Former Clergypersons of the Virginia Conference**

The Virginia Conference (the "Conference") adopts the following resolutions relating to rental/housing allowances for active, retired, terminated, or disabled clergypersons of the Conference:

WHEREAS, the religious denomination known as The United Methodist Church (the "Church"), of which this Conference is a part, has in the past functioned and continues to function through ministers of the gospel (within the meaning of Internal Revenue Code section 107) who were or are duly ordained, commissioned, or licensed ministers of the Church ("Clergypersons");

WHEREAS, the practice of the Church and of this Conference was and is to provide active Clergypersons with a parsonage or a rental/housing allowance as part of their gross compensation;

WHEREAS, pensions or other amounts paid to active, retired, terminated, and disabled Clergypersons are considered to be deferred compensation and are paid to active, retired, terminated, and disabled Clergypersons in consideration of previous active service; and

WHEREAS, the Internal Revenue Service has recognized the Conference (or its predecessors) as an appropriate organization to designate a rental/housing allowance for Clergypersons who are or were members of this Conference and are eligible to receive such deferred compensation;

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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

THAT an amount equal to 100% of the pension, severance, or disability payments received from plans authorized under *The Book of Discipline* of The United Methodist Church (the “*Discipline*”), which includes all such payments from Wespeth Benefits and Investments, during the period January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020 by each active, retired, terminated, or disabled Clergy person who is or was a member of the Conference, or its predecessors, be and hereby is designated as a rental/housing allowance for each such Clergy person; and

THAT the pension, severance, or disability payments to which this rental/housing allowance designation applies will be any pension, severance, or disability payments from plans, annuities, or funds authorized under the *Discipline*, including such payments from Wespeth and from a commercial annuity company that provides an annuity arising from benefits accrued under a Wespeth plan, annuity, or fund authorized under the *Discipline*, that result from any service a Clergy person rendered to this Conference or that an active, a retired, a terminated, or a disabled Clergy person of this Conference rendered to any local church, annual conference of the Church, general agency of the Church, other institution of the Church, former denomination that is now a part of the Church, or any other employer that employed the Clergy person to perform services related to the ministry of the Church, or its predecessors, and that elected to make contributions to, or accrue a benefit under, such a plan, annuity, or fund for such an active, retired, terminated, or disabled Clergy person’s pension, severance, or disability plan benefit as part of his or her gross compensation.

NOTE: The rental/housing allowance that may be excluded from a Clergy person’s gross income in any year for federal (and, in most cases, state) income tax purposes is limited under Internal Revenue Code section 107(2), and regulations thereunder, to the least of: (a) the amount of the rental/housing allowance designated by the Clergy person’s employer or other appropriate body of the Church (such as this Conference in the foregoing resolutions) for such year; (b) the amount actually expended by the Clergy person to rent or provide a home in such year; or (c) the fair rental value of the home, including furnishings and appurtenances (such as a garage), plus the cost of utilities in such year. Each clergy person or former clergy person is urged to consult with his or her own tax advisor to determine what deferred compensation is eligible to be claimed as a housing allowance exclusion.

— Ken Peterson, Chair

### COMMON TABLE FOR CHURCH VITALITY

*The mission of the Virginia Annual Conference is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world by equipping its local churches for ministry and by providing a connection for ministry beyond the local church; all to the glory of God.*

Guided by this mission, Common Table for Church Vitality coordinates and prioritizes the program ministries of the Virginia Conference. Conference program agencies relating to Common Table are: Board of Church and Society, Church Development Team, Board of Discipleship, Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministries, Board of Laity, and Missional Ministries. The conference administrative agencies that relate to Common Table are Board of Communications, Commission on Disabilities, Commission on Ethnic Minority Concerns and Advocacy, and Commission on Status and Role of Women. Through the work of these agencies, the churches of the Virginia Conference are connected with each other in ministries throughout the Commonwealth, nation, and world.

For an accounting of ministries made possible through the program agencies and commissions of the Virginia Conference, I invite you to review each agency's report that is included as part of the fuller report of Common Table. There you will read of faith filled ways the churches of the Virginia Conference witness to the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Common Table expresses appreciation for the ministry of the Connectional Ministries staff who provide tireless leadership and support for all of these connected ministries.

At last year's annual conference, approval was given to form a Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder task force for military veterans. The task force has engaged in its responsibilities with plans to develop a regional test model for ministry that will eventually be shared across the conference.

At last year's annual conference, there was discussion about the relationship of the Virginia Council of Churches and the Virginia Conference. In response to that discussion, Rev. Larry Lenow has been assigned by Bishop Lewis to represent the Virginia Conference in relationship with VCC. In this capacity, Larry participated in the VCC Annual Assembly, Nov. 7 2018, is part of the 2019 Coordinating Cabinet of the VCC and provides updates to the bishop's office and Common Table. In addition, Larry is chairing the ecumenical state committee of LARCUM (Lutherans, Anglicans, Roman Catholics, United Methodists).

Last year's annual conference budget included a reduction for the conference's financial support of the Virginia Council of Churches. As the Virginia Council of Churches continues a process of reorganizing, the recommendation from the conference grants committee is for 2020 funding to remain at its current level.

In light of possible changes to the connection of The United Methodist Church, the members of Common Table invite us to give thanks for the lives that have been impacted through the connectional ministries of the Virginia Conference. As we approach an uncertain future in the certainty of God's grace, we invite the congregations and members of the Virginia Conference to faithfully remember the encouraging words of I Corinthians 15:58:



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*Therefore, my beloved, be steadfast, immovable, always excelling in the work of the Lord, because you know that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.*

### RECOMMENDATIONS

Approve the following recommendations by the following boards:

- a) By the Board of Discipleship regarding the recommendation and endorsement of Gregory B. West as a General Evangelist according to the standards set by the General Board of Discipleship
- b) By Missional Ministries that the Relationship Agreements as presented to the Missional Connections Team of the Conference Missional Ministries Board between the Virginia Conference and Heart Havens, Inc.; United Methodist Family Services of Virginia; Pinnacle Living, Virginia United Methodist Housing Development Corporation; and Wesley Housing Development Corporation, be continued
- c) By Missional Ministries regarding special offerings for Heart Havens, United Methodist Family Services of Virginia, and Pinnacle Living

— Marc Brown, VAUMC Director of Connectional Ministries



*The following reports, from page 70 to page 109, fall under the umbrella of the Common Table for Church Vitality.*

## BOARD OF CHURCH AND SOCIETY

*The United Methodist Book of Discipline* (1629) specifies the purpose of the Conference Board of Church and Society. The Conference Board is to help the conference, districts and congregations employ our Social Principles to connect our faith communities to the world around us. This work is both individual and societal. We are called to invite faithful disciples of Christ to lead the church prayerfully into the world.

We have organized our board to follow the issues raised by our United Methodist Bishop's letter: "God's Renewed Creation: Call to Hope and Action." In this 2009 letter, UMC bishops raised virtually the same issues, as did Catholic Pope Francis in 2015, namely that the world is awash in 1. Violence, 2. Environmental Destruction and 3. Poverty.

Following the need to address these three interconnected disasters, we have organized three work areas:

- 1. Peace and Non-Violence
- 2. Caretakers of God's Creation, and

### 3. Eradicating Poverty/Criminal Justice and Mercy Ministries.

#### **Social Principles Hearing:**

On May 12, the conference board held it first hearings in at Community of Faith UMC in Northern Virginia to consider the draft of the **Social Principles** re-write developed by the General Board of Church and Society for submission to the 2020 General Conference.

#### **Peace with Justice Sunday:**

The Conference Board promotes the Peace with Justice Sunday Special Offering, one of the six Church-wide offerings that The United Methodist General Conference asks of each local church. In 2018, only a fraction of our churches gave to this Special Offering, but their giving has allowed the conference to fund key ministries within the conference. We expect the 2019 total will show more churches taking the offering. One half of the offering stays in the annual conference, the other half is used by the General Board.

#### **Caretakers of God's Creation:**

The Board's Caretakers of God's Creation work area has begun a program of district workshops to help churches become "Green Churches". The Caretakers are also working to help congregations divest of stocks of thermal coal companies as required by the resolution voted on at conference in 2015. They are promoting Fossil Free Funds, a project of *As You Sow*, a corporate responsibility program (<http://fossilfreefunds.org/>.) The fossilfreefunds.org tool makes it very easy to evaluate your portfolio for all kinds of fossil fuel investments. Caretakers also co-sponsored the National Caretakers of God's Creation Climate Justice Conference held at Mt. Olivet United Methodist Church in Arlington. Each year, Caretakers awards a conference church, the Green Church of the Year award. In the fall of 2018, Caretakers is implementing the conference resolution on fracking by holding hearings in the Northern Neck (Warsaw UMC), Giles County (Mt. Olivet UMC-Newport Nov. 10) and the Richmond Area (place to be determined). Jaydee Hanson is continually scheduling and rescheduling meetings to get the fact out about fracking.

#### **Peace and Non-violence Work Area:**

The Peace and Non-violence Work Area is also working to fight gun violence, care for immigrants and refugees and to promote care of veterans. The work area proposing three resolutions to annual conference: 1. Compassionate Support for Members of the Armed Forces, Veterans and Their Families Suffering from Post Traumatic Stress and Moral Injury. This resolution did past and work has begun, they have put their team together to move forward. 2. Comprehensive Immigration Reform and 3. Study and Action on Gun Violence are area we are still doing our work to make changes in our community by continue talking with law makers.

#### **Eradicating Poverty:**

The Eradicating Poverty Work Area is working on planning our program for mentoring youth based on the resolution passed at the 2016 Annual Conference. It also is exploring how to implement the Annual Conference resolution on implementing the

banning the “box” which allows prospective employers to choose to not interview persons who have served their time for crimes and are now trying to become employed. We celebrate that the Virginia state government no longer discriminates in job applicants based on an employee’s past criminal convictions, but many private employers still ask potential applicants to check the box saying whether they have any criminal convictions.

### **United Methodist Day at the General Assembly:**

This year was the 27th anniversary United Methodist Day at the General Assembly. We partner with the Virginia Interfaith Center on Public Policy to hold the United Methodist Day at the General Assembly. Each year, United Methodist Day at the General Assembly is held on the first Thursday in February. We hold this event jointly with the United Methodist Women and the Conference Legislative Network. We look forward to Bishop Lewis helping to lead the event in future years.

— James Page, Clergy Co-Chair

## **VIRGINIA UNITED METHODIST COMMUNICATIONS**

Over the last several years, the Board of Communications has been reflecting on our role as stated in the *Discipline* to “meet the communication, publication, multimedia, public and media relations, interpretation, and promotional needs of the annual conference.” (§646) We have reviewed all of the ways we communicate as a conference, and our effectiveness in meeting the needs of the entire annual conference.

Working closely with the conference communications director and staff, the board has been working hard to develop a plan to improve and expand conference communications. We have focused on ways we can improve in three major areas: increasing our reach, removing the cost barrier, and providing access for all.

The board is undertaking a multi-step process to help chart the future of conference communications. We started by reaching out to annual conferences around the country and other key communications professionals to learn from their experiences. We then began researching the communications needs of clergy and laity across the Virginia Annual Conference. We conducted 19 listening sessions in 5 different locations, and were able to ask in-depth questions about the communication needs of 98 people from 10 districts. Participants included active and retired clergy, church staff, lay members and leaders in local churches, districts, and conference boards & agencies, and youth. This helped us gather a variety of great ideas on how we can improve conference communications.

As we plan for our future, we have also looked at how we are currently utilizing our resources, and how well that is aligned with our mission. Currently, the conference communications staff and the board spend the majority of their time producing and supporting the conference’s monthly magazine, the Virginia United Methodist *Advocate*. Producing a printed magazine is a labor-intensive effort, and it is a communications medium that continues to increase in cost while decreasing in readership. The *Advocate* has been running a deficit for several years, and despite multi-pronged ideas and efforts, readership has continued to decline. Circulation is now less than 2,200 people in a conference with over 300,000 members. We are therefore reaching less than 1% of our membership with our primary communications vehicle. To better live out our *Discipline*

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mandate, we need to improve the way we communicate and engage with the membership of our conference.

Printing and mailing the monthly *Advocate* magazine is expensive, so people currently have to pay to subscribe. This creates a cost barrier for many people. Shifting our efforts to focus more on digital communications would dramatically expand our reach while also allowing us to distribute content for free. As we make the transition to increase our digital communications efforts across multiple platforms, we also need to remember that parts of our state do not have good Internet access, and some of our members are not able to use digital communications. We are therefore also looking at ways to continue to meet their needs, as we work to provide access for all.

In June we will distribute a communications survey conference-wide to help test the ideas we gathered in the listening sessions. The results of the survey will help focus and prioritize our efforts so we can continue improving conference communications. We want your feedback, and we encourage everyone in the conference to participate in the survey. A link to the survey will be available on the conference website, and will be emailed to everyone for whom we have an email address. Printed copies will be distributed in the July edition of the *Advocate* and at the Board of Communications booth at the Annual Conference meeting.

*—Jill W. Gaynor, President*

## BOARD OF DISCIPLESHIP

The Board of Discipleship since its movement to change in 2008 has been posturing itself to be a resource for the conference. In the last year, we trained all of the Regional Directors, along with folks in the Alexandria/ Arlington District to be coaches. Coaches are available to work with churches at reigniting the fires of discipleship, understanding and implementing Intentional Discipleship Plans and learning more about Membership to Discipleship within their churches. These coaches are clergy and laity within the conference who can be available for little or no cost to churches. In addition, Don Jamison, chair of the Board, has published a white paper on Intentional Discipleship Planning and is available to work with churches in understanding what it means to begin a discipleship movement within the local church.

The Resource Group has been diligently working at developing, tracking and sharing best practices from local churches all along the connection. They have been developing a database that can be accessed through the [www.vaumc.org](http://www.vaumc.org). There you will find links to internet resources, stories of successful discipleship within the conference and lists of books and other resources to help with your journey. Our goal is constantly to be a resource for the local churches of the Virginia Annual Conference. We have been working with the Bishop's collaborative team to offer information about best practices to serve within our conference.

Each year the Board of Discipleship awards one youth, one laity and one Clergy the Denman Evangelism award. This year, the Board will be awarding a local congregation the One Matters award for recognition of turn around success in growth, professions of faith and fruitfulness.

Each year we endorse candidates to be a General Evangelist in the United Methodist

Church and this year with great acknowledgement of his work we endorse Greg West (Chaplain of Wesleyan College) as a General Evangelist. We also participate in the Christian Education Sunday and use those funds for scholarship and grant requests for Education in our local churches, districts and conference. We work closely with the Office of Bishop by facilitating conference wide activities like the Bishop's Convocation of Prayer and have offered assistance for the Conference Day of Prayer and Week of Prayer for the Praying Forward Campaign. Members of the Board continually work with the Conference Staff and Cabinet in areas of Discipleship and have participated in the Mid-Size and Small Church Initiatives.

It has been my honor to work with the Board of Discipleship over the last eight years and my hope is that their work will continue. We have successfully postured the Board to be a great resource of the local churches in our conference.

*– Donald Jamison, Chair*

### **Conference Council On Youth Ministries (CCYM)**

Grace and peace to you in the name of Jesus Christ! We write to you as your 2019 Co-Chairs of the CCYM.

This Spring, the CCYM (conference council on youth ministries) met to review and award YSF (youth service fund) requests, we had an overwhelming number of compelling applications. We were able to help fund 12 groups with the \$9,950 we raised this year. We gathered to discuss the results of General Conference, to expand leadership skills, and to elect new youth co-chairs for the upcoming year. With the graduation of 2018-2019 co-chair, Lizzy Lawrence, the nomination and appointment of Ally Shipe will be official this year after Annual Conference. We thank Lizzy for her uncanny ability to carry on a conversation with just about anyone she meets. Additionally, after many years of CCYM service (including several of those years as CCYM adult chair) Alison Malloy will be transitioning off CCYM. Juli Odell (Danville District) will become CCYM adult chair after Annual Conference. We are thankful for Alison's advocacy on behalf of conference youth ministries. Please join us in praying for Juli as she prepares to lead in this capacity.

In the coming year, we hope that all districts will actively seek and submit youth nominees for CCYM. To do so, please email Juli ([juliodell1982@gmail.com](mailto:juliodell1982@gmail.com)).

*– Chris Ganoe and Ally Shipe, Co-Chairs*

### **Older Adult Council**

The Older Adult Council is tasked with engaging and equipping pastors, local churches and districts with knowledge and skills for ministry to, for, by and with older adults within congregations and in the community at large. The Council works to provide life long learning and spiritual growth in discipleship throughout life, appreciating the great resource our older adults are to the Body of Christ. The Council works to combat the negative influence of ageism. The Council, now advised by Age Related Ministries, continues working to increase inter generational programming and encourage older adults to share their rich spiritual legacy with all ages. As the tsunami of aging adults, now

including the Baby Boomers, present churches with significantly changing physical, emotional and spiritual needs, the Council provides resources through the Conference website, and offers speakers and presentations. A curriculum on Spiritual Legacy has been provided to each District Office. Classes on Sacred Circle Dance, and Ways of Experiencing God have been offered and well attended. Many older adults have fond memories of committing their lives to Jesus during a revival experience. In response to numerous requests the Olde Time Revival, being offered regionally, provides an opportunity to renew faith and refresh that commitment. Retired Bishop Peter Weaver preached the revival in 2018 at Williamsburg UMC. In April the Council joined Pinnacle Living and the Beard Center on Aging of Lynchburg University in sponsoring the third annual Faithful Aging Conference held this year at Culpeper, Virginia. Faithful Aging is among the first statewide, faith-based, nondenominational, conferences on aging. Speakers included healthcare providers, chaplains, pastors, gerontologists, and other experts on issues faced by the aging population. Representatives from the Virginia Conference are serving in leadership roles with the Southeastern Jurisdictional Wisdom and Grace Conference held each year in Lake Junaluska.

— Suzanne Spencer, Chair

### Goodson Academy of Preaching

In her book, *And God Spoke to Abraham*, Fleming Rutledge writes, “*The incarnate Word of God is a mighty sword put into your hand. Those who hear it will feel their chains cut off, their prison unlocked, their lungs filled with oxygen...*”

The Goodson Academy of Preaching (GAP) exists for the purpose of encouraging excellence in preaching. Through the best use of the Scripture, and the best practices from homiletics today, we want to help preachers unlock the prison in which the people in our congregations, and sometimes ourselves, are locked.

GAP is the only Virginia Conference entity devoted to preaching. In the last year, we have been assigned to the Board of Discipleship as one of its ministries.

In March 2019 GAP offered a preaching workshop, *The Power of Storytelling for Preaching*, with Rev. Donald Davis, ordained elder (retired) from the Western NC Conference, and a well-known storyteller as our presenter. He instructed the participants in how to claim or reclaim the stories deep inside of us that have potential to impact our preaching. About 70 attended. An evening of storytelling was well attended.

We are open to new ways of sharing the Gospel and connecting with a world that needs The Word proclaimed in powerful and effective ways. We are considering live streaming, peer preaching groups, website resources, and one-day events. If you are reading this and are passionate about worship and preaching, we would love to hear your thoughts and ideas of how we might more effectively connect the Word with the People of God for the sake of the Gospel.

Our members are: Larry Buxton, Amanda Newman, Youtha Hardman-Cromwell, Jason Micheli, Derrick Parson, David Rash (Chairperson), and Greg West. Marcia Huntsman had to drop out due to family commitments. Thanks to Marc Brown as staff liaison and Bev Myers as support staff. We welcome a new chairperson as of AC 2019. It has been my pleasure to serve as chairperson for a few years and a greater pleasure to see

a bright future for this essential ministry. Preach the Word, in season and out of season.

“May the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts be acceptable in God’s sight.”

– *David A. Rash*

### CONFERENCE MISSIONAL MINISTRIES BOARD

**“Engaging, Connecting and Equipping Clergy and Laity of the Virginia Conference for God’s mission.”**

**The Missional Discipleship and Engagement Team** includes the inter-related work of several Conference Committees: Disaster Response, Initiatives of Hope, Volunteers in Mission and Voices of Youth.

**Disaster Response** – The Disaster Response ministry completed four continuous years of disaster response and recovery in October 2018 with the completion of our work following Hurricane Matthew. This has only been possible with the help and support of volunteers across our annual conference and the great UMC connection. On behalf of all the survivors that you have helped with your gifts and talents; Thank you!. Since October, the Conference Disaster Response Team took time to rest, conduct inventory of our resources, fix or replace equipment, and refocus on training.

This pause was short lived following the impact of Hurricanes Florence and Michael in the late fall. Danville District experienced significant flooding following these storms and many homes received water damage. District clergy and laity stepped up and began conducting local disaster response and relief and it became evident early that there were many families with unmet needs. The Conference Disaster Team provided equipment and basic training and volunteers did an outstanding job in responding and assisting the survivors. Our Bishop requested financial support of the conference churches and an initial grant from UMCOR was received. Long Term Recovery operations began in March. UMCOR grants were requested and UMCOR Case Management Training was completed and several Conference tool trainers, and the large shower are on-site in support of the volunteers that are working hard during this Recovery Phase.

As always, these efforts are impossible without the love and support, both in volunteering and financial, of you, the Annual Conference of Virginia. Please continue to do so by being the hands and feet of Christ! Also thank you for your continued donations to the Conference Advance Special #5037.

–*Bob Pihlcrantz, CDRC*

**Initiatives of Hope (IOH)** mission is to increase awareness of and generate increased participation in partnership-in-mission opportunities in identified countries or local and national missional ministries. Current overseas connections are with Brazil, Cambodia and Mozambique. The 18<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Shade and Fresh Water Ministry in Brazil was celebrated in October, 2018. This ministry combines evangelism and social justice as it teaches the love of God and provides a safe place for children of the streets. Representatives from our conference to the celebration were welcomed by

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Missionary Emily Everett and former missionaries Gordon & Teca Greathouse. Virginia Conference support for this ministry was recognized and is appreciated. Steps are being taken to enlarge the ministry to include older youth, ages 14-18 with a focus on drug prevention, discernment and life choices.

Juanita Csontos chairs the Cambodian initiative. She is currently working on projects with missionaries there to develop feminine hygiene kits. Nancy Yarborough traveled to Cambodia to teach in February of this year. Currently a VIM medical team is being organized to deploy Jan 17-Feb 2, 2019 and is seeking team members. Nancy Forrest is leading that team.

In Mozambique we support vital training for lay and clergy leadership. We will send a VIM team to Northern Mozambique this fall to assess needs. Significant work is being done by missionary John Nday to develop sustainable agriculture practices to support the orphanage in Cambine and Chicuke Rural Hospital.

IOH is continues support new initiatives and relationships with Native Americans and is helping sponsor “Nitapewak” (FRIENDS) Family Camp July 11-14 2019 at Camp Rockahok. It is open to all Native Americans and Friends of Every nation and will include an Intertribal Powwow.

*—Judy Fender, Chair*

**Volunteers in Mission (UMVIM)** coordinated by Rebecca Makowski has organized UMVIM team leader training events with a renewed commitment to youth teams. UMVIM teams are encouraged to visit the UMVIM webpage on the conference website and facebook page for upcoming training events, best practices information and the conference policy for short term volunteer in mission teams.

**Voices of Youth (VOY)**, coordinated by **Mary Letson**, has as its mission statement: “Fill your mind with truth, your heart with love, your life with service.” We are a group of youth and adults who have a passion for music and mission and combine those two gifts into a unique service experience. VOY will be traveling to Poland for their mission experience to return and share with churches in the conference.

**The Missional Connections Team** includes the work of mission contexts and relationships; mission education, interpretation and resources; and health and relief connections. Our newest Board member, **Reba Miller** will coordinate the conference’s relationship with global health and support for health ministries in local churches.

**Mrs. Anne Klotz, Missionary Itineration Coordinator**, has facilitated connections and visits for many missionaries with their covenant churches during the past year.

**Mission Encounter**, is a cooperative school offered by the Conference Missional Ministries Board and the United Methodist Women to help us understand God’s work in our world and our involvement as United Methodists. Mission Encounter 2019 will be offered July 26-28 at Smith Mountain Lake 4-H Center.

**Conference Committee on Mission Personnel, (CCMP)**, chaired by **Kip Robinson**, guides and mentors interested persons through the application and discernment process



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for mission service. Applicants can access the Personnel Information Form (PIF– Application for Missionary Service) and other application materials from the Virginia Conference web site under Ministries - Center for Justice and Missional Excellence - Committee on Mission Personnel (CCMP) - Related Documentation. **All completed application materials should be sent to the Virginia Conference Committee on Mission Personnel, The Virginia Conference Center for Justice and Missional Excellence, P. O. Box 5606, Glen Allen, VA 23058.** It should NOT be sent to the General Board of Global Ministries.

*–Veronica Barrell, CMMB Chair*

### Advance Specials 2019-2020

#### INTERNATIONAL

Mozambique: Chicique Rural Hospital - #09734A  
Congo: North Katanga Wings of the Morning - #08597A  
Liberia: Ganta United Methodist Hospital - #15080N  
Cambodia: Mission Initiative - #00230A  
Cambodia: Street Children Ministry - #14921A  
Macedonia: Macedonia in Mission Together - #00220A  
Brazil: Ministry with Children, Shade and Fresh Water Project - #11580A  
Israel: Bethlehem Bible College - #12017A  
Eurasia: Eurasia Mission Initiative, Ukraine, Moldova - #14053A  
Sierra Leone: Child Rescue Program - #14377A  
Sudan: Sudan Development - #184385  
Global: Anti-Human Trafficking - #333615  
Global: Sustainable Agriculture - #982188  
Mexico: Give Ye Them To Eat - #07629A  
Sierra Leone Water and Development Ministry - #181000  
Vietnam Mission Initiative - #14932A

#### NATIONAL

Mississippi: Choctaw United Methodist Mission - #761544  
District of Columbia: Christ House - #381215  
Kentucky: Red Bird Mission, Inc., Beverly - #773726  
Kentucky: Henderson Settlement, Frakes - #773365  
South Dakota: Tree of Life Ministry - #123615  
Tennessee: Jubilee Project, Inc., Sneedville - #781350  
USA: Justice for Our Neighbors Immigration Ministry - #901285  
USA: Volunteers in Mission, Southeastern Jurisdiction - #901875  
USA: Society of St. Andrew - #801600  
USA: Response and Recovery to Natural Disaster - #901670

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### VIRGINIA

Agape Christian Children's Community Center, Inc. - #5020  
Caretakers of God's Creation - #5016  
Crossroads Mission Center - #5028  
Disciple Bible Outreach Ministries of Virginia - #5029  
ESL and Immigrant Ministries Childcare Support - #5036  
Heart Havens - #6442  
Henry Fork Service Center - #5008  
Highland Support Project - #5007  
Journey Community Center - #5009  
Just Neighbors Ministry, Advance - #803002  
Kids Soar (formerly UM Community Outreach Prog. of Roanoke) - #5004  
Park View Community Mission - #5019  
Pathways Virginia Advance - #5045  
Rising Hope United Methodist Mission Church - #5043  
Teens Opposing Poverty, Inc. (TOPS) - #5010  
Tuesday's Table - #5024  
Una Familia - #5027  
Virginia Conference Disaster Response & Recovery - #5037  
Wesley Community Service Center - #5025  
Abukloi Enterprises, Inc. – new  
Basic UMC-Hispanic & God's Table Ministry – new  
Belmont UMC – Belmont Community Resource Services - new

### RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Relationship Agreements as presented to the Missional Connections Team of the Conference Missional Ministries Board between the Virginia Conference and Heart Havens, Inc.; United Methodist Family Services of Virginia; Pinnacle Living.; Virginia United Methodist Housing Development Corporation; and Wesley Housing Development Corporation, be continued.

– *Verónica Barrell, CMMB Chair*

### Partnership Reports

#### Heart Havens

Heart Havens continues its mission of empowering people with a developmental disability to live and thrive in their community. From paint nights and tailgate parties to the gym and church choir, our VAUMC friends empower the people we support to be active members in their community. Your financial gifts and volunteer engagement make our mission of empowerment possible!

We continue to operate group homes across the Conference in seven different locations. Heart Havens was born out of listening; it was listening to the needs and desires of people with a developmental disability and their families that led to the startup of Heart Havens. Through this listening, we have learned that it is time to offer new services and means of more individualized support. Heart Havens plans to continue to operate all of our current group homes while exploring an additional group home in the Richmond area, and new services that might include a day program and community engagement program. These programs reflect our mission of empowerment; Heart Havens is about people, not houses.

We are blessed with the support of congregations and small groups throughout the Conference. Heart Havens shared our message of empowerment in February during Heart Havens Month. Additionally, we welcomed many volunteers from churches, businesses, and civic groups. These volunteers blessed us by planting flowers, assisting with maintenance, and organizing nights of fellowship.

The York River District United Methodist Men — formerly known as the Peninsula District United Methodist Men — are the 2018 Brian Manwiller “In HIS Grip” Award winners. We recognize the York River District United Methodist Men for their contributions during the building of the Morrison Heart Havens house in Newport News, for their years of help in maintenance of the home and their friendship and fellowship with the individuals in the home. Further, they provided unwavering support during a difficult transition.

With your vital support, Heart Havens can continue to empower people with a developmental disability by doing more than just providing the basics but also enabling them to live vibrant, independent lives. As brothers and sisters in Christ, we invite you as the church to continue to advocate for Heart Havens and support people with a developmental disability.

*— Jennifer Boyden, Chief Executive Officer*

#### Pinnacle Living

As an organization, the year since the 2018 Annual Conference has been one of great celebrations and difficult decisions. With a mission of Enriching Life’s Journey and a vision of a culture in which age does not define the person, Pinnacle Living has celebrated several significant accomplishments:

- Our 70th Anniversary Celebration kicked off at Cedarfield on Sept. 29 and ended with a worship service at Hermitage Richmond on September 30.
- Physical renovations focused on improving the lives of our residents are underway at Hermitage Richmond.

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- Our Person-Centered culture is making a difference in the lives of our residents. Pinnacle Living is committed to changing the culture of how senior living services are offered and experienced.
- Renovations and an expansion at Cedarfield are ongoing.

In December 2018, Pinnacle Living sold Hermitage Eastern Shore to Commonwealth Senior Living. The Pinnacle Living Board of Directors also made the decision to close the Lydia Roper Home on January 30, 2019. Both these communities have been a vital part of our mission and ministry. The decisions to sell and close were not easy ones to make, however, necessary.

Pinnacle Living has also worked diligently to strengthen our community partnerships. For the third year, Pinnacle Living has partnered in offering the statewide Faithful Aging Conference, a time in which individuals and groups can learn more about older adult ministries and available resources. Pinnacle Living has taken an active role in guiding churches and communities to become dementia friendly. Several team members have become Dementia Friends Champions, offering general information sessions to help everyone understand five key messages about dementia, how it affects people and how we can make a difference in the lives of people living with dementia in all its varied forms. Contact us if you would like to involve your church in this education and awareness effort.

Pinnacle Living is grateful to all local churches that supports the Samaritan Program. This benevolent assistance has been given in Pinnacle Living communities since the year the organization was founded. During 2018, we were privileged to recognize the following Samaritan Award Churches, the congregations across the Virginia Annual Conference with the highest level of giving to the Samaritan Program.

- Reville (Richmond District)
- Fairfax (Alexandria District)
- Bethany - Hampton (York River District)
- Fairmount (Richmond District)
- St. Andrews - Henrico (Richmond District)
- Westover Hills (Richmond District)
- South Roanoke (Roanoke District)
- Greene Memorial (Roanoke District)
- Lawrence Memorial (Roanoke District)
- Monumental (Elizabeth River District)

In 2018, Pinnacle Living was honored to recognize two local congregations with Innkeeper Awards. The award offers appreciation to congregations of the Annual Conference for exemplary support of the mission of Pinnacle Living with older adults. Local Community Guilds select the churches based upon both the financial stewardship and volunteer service of members of the congregation.

- First - Salem (Roanoke District)
- Ramsey Memorial (Richmond District)

Rev. Dr. Bernard Via, our first administrator was consistent in ascribing the existence of the organization to “faith, hard work and prayer.” Thank you for your continued faith, hard work, prayer and generosity in support of the mission and ministry of Pinnacle Living.

– Martha Stokes, Director of Church and Community Relations

– Charles W. Wickham, Director of Donor Development

– Christopher P. Henderson, President and CEO

### **United Methodist Family Services of Virginia (UMFS)**

For well over a century, United Methodist Family Services has had a legacy of empowering children and families. From the Virginia Conference Orphanage of 1900, to the Virginia Methodist Children’s Home of the 1950’s, to the present day state-wide agency bringing hope and healing to the whole family, UMFS has partnered with churches and church members to live out our mission. Today we are unwavering champions for high-risk children and families across Virginia, collaborating with communities to help them reach their full potential by providing foster care and adoption services, community-based services, residential treatment services, and specialized education.

In 2018 we served 2,057 high-risk children across the state through regional centers in Richmond, Northern Virginia, Tidewater, Fredericksburg, South Hill, Farmville, and Lynchburg; residential treatment centers in Richmond and Fairfax; and schools in Richmond and Edinburg. While many of our programs are focused on children, we strive to support the entire family, helping us touch the lives of 13,772 high-risk children and families in 173 communities in Virginia. We are dedicated to creating a world where caring, opportunity and generosity are passed on from generation to generation, empowering all children to contribute to society as engaged citizens.

Since 1900, the churches of the Virginia Conference have partnered with us as advocates for high-risk children and families. Churches recruit and support foster and adoptive families, serve as mentors and tutors, provide transportation for children and families, provide much-needed financial support, and donate countless gifts-in-kind. Our church partners, Child Champion Councils and the UMFS Auxiliary are critical resources for the children and families we serve. They are tireless advocates for our ministry throughout the conference.

We are also excited about our growing collaboration with local churches through our partnership with The Open Table. The Open Table is a national movement to transform poverty through community by bringing together local church volunteers who make a year-long commitment to act as a team of life specialists, encouragers, and advocates. The Table works with an individual or family in need (often former foster children) to provide ongoing mentoring and support to help achieve major life goals. Nine tables have been formed since we started this partnership in 2017. Three of the original churches are already starting a second table, and several new churches are in the process of recruiting table members.

We recently launched the Be a Champion Capital Campaign, the first comprehensive effort to revitalize our 33-acre Richmond campus since the 1950s. This campaign will allow us to upgrade facilities and technologies while building capacity for our programs

to address some of the most pressing challenges facing our communities today. UMFS will fund this project through charitable gifts, a long-term land lease on the front of our property, and internal refinancing and debt reduction. We will begin by upgrading the Child & Family Healing Center residential program from post-WW II cottages to a state-of-the-art treatment facility. In the second phase, we will build an addition to Charterhouse School which will enhance our career and technical education and expand services for elementary students and students with autism.

We are grateful for the support of the Virginia Conference and for your partnership with us as unwavering champions for high-risk children and families. It is because of your support that we are able to help children and families reach their full potential.

*– Ken Huntsman, Chair, UMFS Board of Directors*

*– Greg Peters, President and CEO*

### **Virginia United Methodist Housing Development Corporation**

The Virginia United Methodist Housing Development Corporation (“VUMHDC”) is a covenant partner with the Virginia Annual Conference with the mission to expand the supply of affordable housing to the disabled, low-income and senior populations in Virginia. VUMHDC has an annual goal of developing, renovating, partnering in, and/or refinancing at least one new facility a year.

VUMHDC currently owns and operates eighteen (18) projects and is the non-profit minority partner of an additional seventeen (18) properties. Totaling these 36 properties, VUMHDC has approximately 2100 apartment units across the conference with an approximate land value of \$80,000,000. These apartment properties serve over 3000 residents, equally mixed between seniors and families. All of the apartments are classified as “affordable”, meaning that all receive some form of rent subsidy through HUD or VHDA.

Since our founding in 1975, VUMHDC’s program has been accomplished without operating support or allocations from the Virginia Annual Conference. Our projects and operating costs are funded entirely through governmental grants, low income housing tax credits (LIHTC), community partnerships, and income/distributions from our project operations.

VUMHDC is led by President Larry Dickenson, a lay member of Raleigh Court UMC in Roanoke. He is assisted by the corporate officers making up the Executive Committee, and the other ten (13) Directors. Our one major change in leadership is our new Treasurer, Randy Spears. He replaces Jim Branscome, who retired after serving as Treasurer continuously since the corporation’s beginnings. We salute his dedicated service!!

VUMHDC has identified a multi-year priority of strengthening the corporate financial capacity, as we evolve toward a new, sustainable business model. This direction will require some added Directors and consultants with applicable industry credentials, providing the necessary expertise to aid in expansion of our program.

During 2019, we expect complete sale of certain property assets as a means toward growing our financial base, enabling a more robust development program in the future. At the same time, we are advancing the planning for an expansion of our seniors housing in Blackstone, VA and partnering on four tax credit applications for projects Emporia, Warrenton, King William County and Henrico County.

*– Larry Dickenson, President*

### **Wesley Housing Development Corporation**

Wesley Housing's vision is that everyone in the greater Washington, DC region has a safe, quality, affordable home, serving as a foundation to thrive, and has a place of value in the community. This guides our mission of opening doors to brighter futures for our most vulnerable community members by creating and operating healthy, supportive, stable, affordable housing communities. For over four decades, we have served over 25,000 residents in the Washington, DC metropolitan area. We currently manage 31 properties (more than 2,800 residents) in Alexandria, Arlington, Manassas, Fairfax County, and the District. We also manage 11 Community Resource/Support Service Centers that offer a full range of crucially needed programs and services to support children, adults, seniors, those with chronic disease, and those with disabilities to regain their dignity and renew their lives.

#### **REAL ESTATE DEVELOPMENT**

- Wesley Housing acquired its second and third properties in the District, 1 Hawaii Ave. and 410 Cedar St. Apartments.
- Construction completed on The Fallstead, a new apartment community in McLean, which added 82 units of committed affordable housing to the area for low-income seniors aged 62+.
- Development plans began with Fairlington Presbyterian Church in Alexandria to build 81 new affordable housing units. Construction is expected to begin in 2020, with completion by late 2021.
- Development plans began on The Arden, a new Alexandria community, which will feature up to 139 affordable units. Construction is expected to begin in late 2019, with completion by 2021.
- Development plans began on The Cadence, a new Arlington community, which will feature 97 mixed-income units. Construction is expected to begin by the end of 2019.
- Development plans began on Senseny Place, a new Winchester community, in partnership with St. Paul's on the Hill Episcopal Church, which will feature 70 affordable units for seniors. Estimated completion date 2021.
- Renovations on Brookland Place (DC, 84 units) and Culpepper Garden (Arlington, 204 units) began in 2018, to be complete in 2019.
- Redevelopment plans began for 1 Hawaii Avenue Apartments; the project will nearly double the density of the current affordable residential site.

#### **RESIDENT SERVICES**

- Housing Stability Initiative: Every month, 400+ adults take advantage of housing stability and eviction prevention programs such as crisis intervention, referrals to community resources, financial literacy, household budgeting, resume building and job search assistance, computer training, and certification courses.

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Through the work of our Housing Stability Specialists, nearly 100% of “high priority” referrals (688/690 households) maintained their housing in 2018, 150 sessions of adult employment programming took place, 30 individuals obtained new and/or improved employment, and 50 residents participated in health and wellness activities each month. Over 110 children and teens participated in youth programming every month, with 90 attending a learning intensive summer camp.

- **Volunteers:** In 2018, volunteers provided 11,900+ hours of service (valued at \$416,850) by helping with food security initiatives, after school programs, adult education including ESOL, health and fitness classes, and summer camp. As a result, 350 youth received new school supplies from our annual drive, and 800+ residents received gifts through our Holiday Help program.

– *Shelley S. Murphy, President/CEO*



### BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND CAMPUS MINISTRIES

Greetings from your campus ministries. Throughout this report you're invited to enjoy the glory sightings of mission and transformation taking place in our campus ministries. But first, I want to thank you and your congregations for your faithful support of the evangelism, care, mission and discipleship happening all the time on our campuses across the Commonwealth of Virginia. Our process for ministry is very simply the three "E's." We invite students to **EXPLORE** through events like the Pace Center's (VCU) \$1 Lunch Thursdays where students are introduced to food they can afford from a diversity of cultures. Next comes **ENGAGE**. After beginning the process of building relationships, our students are invited to engage through worship, Bible study and small groups like the nine "Communities of Grace" (COG's) small groups at Virginia Tech, or the 80+ students in weekly worship at FLOW (wesley at VSU). Finally, we **EMBODY**. To embody Christ to the world takes as many forms as there are followers, but some examples are the various ways our campus ministries facilitate students engaging the greater community like the Life Groups at Arise (GMU) who took turns volunteering at a local church's hypothermia shelter this winter.

Each year we follow the stories of young adults who find a home-away-from-home in one of our campus ministries. In these ministries, young adults are continually formed, challenged, and sent, eventually moving on to what's next for them. Many of these young adults will attend seminary, while many others will follow their careers, engaging in faithful service in local churches wherever they land. We celebrate returning a host of faithful Christ followers, lay and clergy alike, to our local churches and into God's wide mission field. Brothers and sisters, these are the fruits of your faithfulness to God and of the Holy Spirit moving in and through our campuses.

*— Rob Lough, Chair*

After three years of faithful service with the BHECM, Rev. Rob Lough will be stepping down as chair of the board. Personally (and I believe this sentiment is shared by the BHECM and campus ministers alike), I am deeply grateful for Rob's commitment to campus ministries, his forward-focused leadership, and his love and support for all of us who are engaged in what I understand as the ultimate American missional frontier. Rob has led us through many important decisions, transitions, and initiatives. However, I have learned most from his pastoral heart and willingness to listen and learn from those around him.

Please join us in thanking Rob for his time in this crucial leadership role!

*— Paulo Lopes, Director of Next Generation Ministries*

### FLOW – Wesley Foundation at Virginia State University

A glory sighting for the FLOW Wesley Foundation during the year 2018 is related to the development of a new ministry stemming from the desire of our students to become intentionally involved with the Acts of Mercy by feeding the hungry. FLOW has engaged in new partnerships that facilitate opportunities to connect with the community in this regard!!

Our first new partner is the Totty Place in Ettrick, Virginia located a tenth of a mile from the Ettrick United Methodist Church sanctuary. The Totty Place is an adult group home of 22 residents. On the first Friday of each month, FLOW orders a meal from a local restaurant and serves it at the facility. Bob Lamb, Pastor of the Ettrick United Methodist Church accompanies our students and shares an inspirational devotional message from the Word of God just before the meal. This is a powerful witness to the Glory of God that has built a significant relationship between the Totty Place, the Ettrick United Methodist Church, and the FLOW Wesley Foundation!! It is now a common occurrence to see members of the Totty Place worship with the Ettrick UMC congregation on Sundays at 11:00 am!! We initiated this ministry in June of 2018 and have served a total of 132 dinners in the year of 2018. We are blessed to continue this ministry in 2019 and beyond!

Our second partner is the Downtown Churches United HOPE Center in Petersburg, Virginia. Our ministry served 120 meals each month in August, September, October and November. We were blessed to have partnered with the Metropolitan Baptist Church in Petersburg and Bermuda Hundred United Methodist Church in Chester in delivering these ministry services!! We are thankful to have been able to prepare and serve a total of 480 meals in 2018 and are thankful to also continue this ministry in 2019!!

To support the ministry of feeding the hungry, our students came up with the idea of a fundraiser to allow help with the cost of this endeavor!! Each Wednesday, our students run a snack shop on the campus of Virginia State in the Foster Hall Lobby from 12:00 noon to 5:00 pm. Our students have soft drinks, snack chips, candy bars, fruit snacks, and other popular items for ranging from 50 cents to a dollar!! The prices are the most competitive around for these snacks and generate proceeds that defer the costs of the items served during these ministry occasions! Every snack counts, as each item purchased is an opportunity for students to help us in responding to the call of God in Isaiah 58:10 to “pour yourself out for the hungry and satisfy the desire of the afflicted, then shall your light rise in the darkness and your gloom be as the noonday.” We thank God for the glory of being able to work together as disciples of Jesus Christ. We are delighted to be involved in the process of making disciples who are “lifelong learners who influence others to serve.”

### **IGNITE NORFOLK – Wesley Foundation at Old Dominion University (ODU)**

Our IGNITE Norfolk ministry community serves not only the spiritual needs of the ODU community but the physical needs as well. This last year, our food pantry served between 12 and 15 individuals/families per week and continues to be one of the highlights and mainstays of the four year old ministry. I was particularly blessed by a shorty but impactful conversation that I had with a young man who was one of our clients. He had already been serviced by our intern and was just about ready to leave. As I entered the area where he stood, I happily greeted him and inquired, “How is your day going?” He spontaneously gave an authentic sigh of relief. He said, “Much better, now that I know where my next meal is coming from.”

I know that statistics say 1 in 4 college students experience food insecurity. And with a student population of 25,000, some 6300 ODU students may face this problem.

But to hear these words from one student was certainly touching, and I will remember the expression on his face, the words he spoke, and the feeling it ignited in my heart forever. Truly, this is what is meant when we hear the words, “Even if only one person is blessed or touched, the journey is all worthwhile.” And so, I can relate to the words of a songwriter, “If I can help somebody, I know that my living is not in vain.” This experience resonates regularly as IGNITE continues to pursue sustainability for our food pantry. And yes, we have been blessed as individuals and churches continue to give, give, give.

– Rev. Maxine Thomas

### **PACE – Wesley Foundation at Virginia Commonwealth University**

Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms. – 1 Peter 4:10. After several semesters of prayer and listening to fellow students it became clear to the students at The Pace Center that God-given gifts and passions abound in the VCU community.

One engineering student was stirred by the Spirit to help fellow students use their gifts to serve God and one another. He began a ministry called Community Café where VCU students cook their favorite recipes for other members of the VCU community. Every Thursday morning, a different group of students come to Pace’s kitchen ready to share their culture with the VCU community through food. Their recipes are as local as Richmond, and as far away as Ghana, Guatemala, and Thailand. Pace provides the food and the kitchen, but it is the gifts and the passions of the student chefs that make lunch time a great feast.

With generous donations and grants from local churches, the conference, and individuals, Pace can offer this meal to VCU community members for \$1. By partnering with RamPantry, VCU’s food pantry, Pace’s Community Café reaches some of the nearly 40% of students who experience food insecurity at VCU.

Pace’s Community Café is a glory sighting where students discover the gifts and passions God has given them and celebrate those gifts and passions by serving their neighbors. The result is a great feast of people from diverse backgrounds, faiths, and sexualities. Gathering with each other. Sharing with one another. And creating community. Pace strives to be a foretaste of the Kingdom of God on VCU’s campus - the Community Café mirrors that great feast in heaven.

– Rev. Katie Gooch

### **Wesley Foundation at Longwood University & Hampden-Sydney College**

This past year at the Wesley Foundation in Farmville has been one of change and new opportunities. After 16 years of faithful service and dedication to the ministry with and for the Students of Longwood and Hampden-Sydney we said thank you to Rev. Richard Meiser for all that he has done here at Wesley. In July of 2018 we welcomed Rev. Justin Hicks and his family to our family and we hit the ground running. We are excited about what is happening here at Wesley and on our Campuses. We are finding new and creative ways to invite and be with our college students. Our students can most accurately reflect

upon and share with you the ways we are working to share the love of Christ here in Farmville.”

Over the last year, I have had the opportunity to co-lead, and now lead small groups. Leading Small Groups has allowed me to be a disciple in ways I never saw myself being before. At this time as a leader, it has helped not only my friends, but myself see and interpret the message as a group rather than just teaching ourselves. At first, I was scared to share the word due to fear of misinterpreting and misleading, but I have found that to be the opposite. Small Groups has lead me to find strength in the understanding and encouraged me to share more about what gets me through each week, and that is my faith. Prior to Small Groups, I was shy when it came to sharing the gospel and now I have the enjoyment of sharing it confidently every week. Later in life, I want to become a Youth Leader, and Small Groups has allowed me the opportunity to see into my future and encouraged me not to give up my dream. Each week I find joy in researching and deciding on what I want to talk about in ways that my peers will understand. Not only has it helped me relate my life as a college student to the word, but it has also helped me create a routine to set aside more time to reconnect with God each week.

– Hailey Brickhouse, Longwood Class of 2020

I have been going to Wesley for two years now and it has become a major part of my weekly routine. This past semester, I have enjoyed planning our mission trips here at Wesley. It has given me a chance to explore the ways that I can help people while doing God’s work. Planning the mission trip is my favorite part of the process. I get to think of some way that Wesley can make the greatest impact to a community outside our own. Doing mission work has allowed me to see all the people in need in the world and to discover ways that I can help them. Knowing I have ways that I can help people has allowed my faith to grow. At Wesley, I am discovering new things about God and getting closer to him every day. Once I graduate College, I plan to join the Peace Corp and try to help as many people I can all over the world. Being strong in my faith will help me make a greater impact in the lives of all the future people I get to meet and help.

– Christie Douglas, Longwood Class of 2021

I began attending Wesley Campus Ministry during my freshman year at Longwood University after being invited by a senior I met at the involvement fair. When I attended the first time, I had no idea that I would be meeting my best friend and finding my home away from home. Through Wesley I was able to make friends with people whose faith was important to them in the same way that mine was important to me. Our small group my freshman and sophomore year helped me to navigate the struggles of starting college in a new state and town where I knew no one. Wesley became my homebase at Longwood and the comfort I needed when I was stressed or missing home. Since Wesley provided this comfort, it became and has stayed important to me even now as a Senior. Attending Wesley is the reason I have stayed connected to my faith in college because I found a group of people who were welcoming, kind, and made me feel like I belonged with them.

– Anna Knapp, Longwood Class of 2019

Elwood's cabinet has been a wonderful opportunity of growth for me, both as a community member and in my faith. Through working with Elwood's Cabinet my eyes have been opened to a need in my community, and I have been blessed to be a part of the team to fulfill that need. We have seen the generosity of our peers through the amount of donations we have received and the number of volunteers wanting to help out. We are even getting to the point that we need to expand our shelves due to the number of donations we have! We have reached a few of our friends that need this service every week, and our numbers keep growing. It's nice to know that a service so new is already becoming a welcomed and appropriately used part of this community

– *Madison Trebour, Longwood Class of 2019*

We believe now more than ever that lives are changed and impacted by sharing the Gospel and allowing our leaders to lead and take ownership of what we are doing here and we thank all those who have supported us over the past year.

– *Rev. Justin Hicks*

### **Wesley Foundation at University of William & Mary**

The Beloved Community, that was Wesley's theme last fall semester. Little did we know that on the Sunday night we were introducing the theme, we would be invited to embody it. The message came to us from the president of Hillel, the Jewish student group on campus. She asked if, even though it was the same night as our dinner and large group, they could use our kitchen and fellowship hall for their Rosh Hashanah dinner. "Of course," we said, and decided that we would do a picnic dinner outside for Wesley that night. The next day our campus minister, Max, was chatting with the rabbi at the local synagogue, Temple Beth El, and mentioned that Hillel was going to have their Rosh Hashanah dinner at Wesley. David, the rabbi, shared that the synagogue and Hillel were having their Rosh Hashanah worship service at the Unitarian Universalist sanctuary, because the synagogue was too small. Max asked if Wesley could meet at the synagogue while Hillel met at Wesley. "Of course," the rabbi said.

Thus, on the very first Sunday night that we shared the theme The Beloved Community:

1. Hillel was cooking and serving their Rosh Hashanah dinner at Wesley.
2. Wesley was meeting at the synagogue for pizza and Beloved Community Worship.
3. Temple Beth El and Hillel celebrated Rosh Hashanah together later that evening at the Williamsburg Unitarian Universalist sanctuary.

It was an evening of the Beloved Community indeed. During our worship, we shared that traits of The Beloved Community are that the community offers radial hospitality to everyone, an inclusive family rather than exclusive club; and recognizes and honors the image of God in every human being. Thanks be to God that we, along with Hillel, Temple Beth El, and Williamsburg Unitarian Universalist embodied those traits on that very evening.

– *Rev. Max Blalock*

### Wesley Foundation at Virginia Tech

“We have no design but to promote the glory of God.” – John Wesley

“The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one.” - John 17:22

We begin each of our Team Meetings and Communities of Grace (Small Groups) with the question: “Where have you seen the glory of God?” We believe that the more we look for “Glory Sightings” the more we will find them in our lives and in our ministry. We are witnessing a movement of the Spirit at Wesley through the ways we see God at work in our ministries as we seek to “Love Out Loud” on our campus, in our community, throughout the nation, and in the world. We are passionate about being a faith community that is inclusive to ALL people, that seeks to grow spiritual leaders to be in mission and serve others, and to reach out to students on our campus so that they can experience the love of God in Christ Jesus.

So, let me share some of our “Glory Sightings”:

- Over this past year we have seen an increase in our Communities of Grace (Small Groups) from 4 to 9 (with about 6-8 students in each)
- We have seen our average number in worship grow from about 35-40 to now 50
- Ecclesia (our night of worship and discipleship) grew from around 10 to 15 students
- We had multiple students come to Wesley who were active in our Youth Retreats that we lead each year
- Our LGBTQ+ Community of Grace became more active and grew to almost 10 students
- A student from Liberty University stopped by our building admiring the Pride Flag and United Methodist Cross and Flame saying that this is a sign from God that she was loved even when she thought she wasn't by the Church
- Students organized a Mental Health Seminar with other student groups and the counseling center that had over 100 students attend to hear about Mental Health and Faith
- Our food pantry (209 Manna Ministries) saw over 400 students receive the food and support they needed
- We had 30 students go to Jacksonville, FL to help UMVIM with Hurricane Irma and do homeless ministry on the streets of the city
- 31 students went to Camp Dickenson for our Fall Retreat where we shared about our Values and how to live those daily
- Our students are transforming lives of Middle School and High School students through our FUN143 tutoring ministry on Mondays and Thursdays
- We connected with First UMC, Salem, to make 10 shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child
- Students traveled to Danville, VA to help with Flood Recovery in the Fall
- Worship at Mt. Pleasant UMC in Roanoke was a Spirit-filled experience with our students sharing their faith through testimony and music.
- The Fusion and Roanoke District Youth Retreats provided an opportunity to lead

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- over 200 youth in worship and small groups
- Welcome week saw our students engage with over 500 students with Life-Sized Game Night, Swag Bags, and a Cook Out!
- And more...

This is seeing God's glory at work in our community. Lives are being transformed and community is being strengthened. Our students are committing themselves to the work of making disciples of Jesus Christ and it is witnessed in the ways they are living out their faith in service to each other and their neighbors.

Wesley continues to be a vital, authentic, and vibrant presence on the Virginia Tech campus. Our students live out their faith in such meaningful ways and are leaders throughout campus. Members of our Board of Directors are always speaking to the multitude of ministries our students are engaged in while still doing classes. Being student-led, it is always refreshing to see how dedicated they are to being followers of Jesus while living that out through leading our ministry in worship, fellowship, discipleship, missions and outreach.

We are excited about the opportunities to live into our new vision at Wesley and we are appreciative of our wonderful Annual Conference that supports us greatly! Thank you for being a Conference that embodies the call "To be disciples of Jesus Christ who are lifelong learners who influence others to serve" (Bishop Sharma Lewis) through ministry with college students.

– Rev. Bret Gresham

### **Wesley Foundation at University of Virginia**

When the disciples pointed out to Jesus that the crowds were hungry, Jesus surprised them by not dismissing the crowds to go find their own food. To the tired and hungry disciples, far from town, Jesus said, "You give them something to eat." So they scrounged up five loaves of bread and two fish, which Jesus blessed, broke, and gave to the disciples to disperse. More than 5000 ate their fill and yet there were leftovers (Mark 6: 30-44).

Through the generosity and faithfulness of the Virginia Annual Conference, Wesley has more than five loaves and two fish to share with one another and the university community. But, like the disciples, we know what it's like to be a small group in the midst of a larger group, far from home, all cranky and hungry for something we can't conjure up for ourselves. So we gather at Christ's Table every Sunday evening to hear again the invitation to feast. We gather to hear that the Table doesn't belong to us or to any iteration of the church and we gather to hear that there is a place at it for everyone born. Because we gather and are fed here each week, we can give others in the UVA community something to eat, too.

When I asked our student leaders what they wanted to communicate to you about our ministry this year, a second-year student, aptly named Justice, mentioned serving one another Communion in a circle around the Table and "bringing love to our school and community through simple acts (cookie bake, dinners, Ramadan)." We are fed; we give others something to eat. Love looks like this.

Love takes the form of heart-shaped cookies baked all weekend and handed out to frazzled students between classes on a cold February morning. Love looks like home-cooked Tuesday night dinners, offered by local churches to students too used to dining halls and food on the go. We gathered for bagels and conversation during the heavy news of the Kavanaugh hearings, in the weeks when several students shared with me their own experiences with sexual violation; we fed one another tenderly, with space to hear and absorb the pain and confusion we have endured. Last fall love was delivered in the form of warm cookies to our Hillel neighbors as they met in the wake of the Tree of Life synagogue shooting. Later this spring – during the final week of exams when Ramadan begins – love will look like United Methodists and Jews and Baptists and Catholics and non-denominational Christians all gathered together at Wesley to host a series of dinners for our Muslim neighbors, who will fast each day and be welcomed here each evening to break their fast and pray. (Thank you to the Virginia UM Foundation for the “Micah 6:8 Grant” we received to support Ramadan dinners!) As we have helped support Wesley Memorial’s ministry of sanctuary for our neighbor, Maria, love has pulled us together around pancake-laden, Mardi Gras tables and around those topped with hand-made tamales. We asked Maria to cook for us one Tuesday and then listened as she told us about her life and the journey she has taken to find sanctuary here.

You give them something to eat.

It was a Tuesday night this spring semester when I stood greeting students before our weekly dinner and a colleague texted me the General Conference final vote. Students came in bewildered, anxious, hurt, and full of questions. So we did what we do: we gave one another something to eat, we talked about what happened, we prayed, and we made room for everyone at the table. The next Sunday we came again to Christ’s Table, where at least 20% of our disciples gathered that day identify as LGBTQIA. One such person came back on that Sunday after not having been present since the middle of fall semester. It wasn’t by accident or mistake, but with the full knowledge that no matter how long it had been and no matter what else the church says, Wesley would make room for her and give her something to eat. And we did.

– *Rev. Deborah Lewis*

### **RISE Faith Community at James Madison University**

Life at RISE over this past year has been exciting as we have seen significant growth in a variety of areas.

First, our college ministry is embarking on some exciting new paths. Eastern Mennonite has restructured its campus ministry and invited RISE to become an affiliate campus ministry alongside the chaplain’s office. What this has meant is that RISE has significantly more access to EMU’s campus, including monthly meetings with student ministry assistants as well as the other 4 hand-picked affiliate ministries from the area. Our focus there has been primarily working with EMU’s “Safe Space” student organization that advocates for LGBTQ+ students on campus who we joined to offer a beautiful campus-wide chapel service with in December. Our JMU student outreach has also had some exciting growth as we experimented with a new small group experience called “Story”. We saw genuine transformation within our students as they learned to



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explore their life stories and discover where God has been present with them throughout their lives. We are currently in the process of launching a new, fully student-led campus ministry program in the Fall of 2019 which we have hopes will significantly grow our impact at JMU.

The larger RISE community has also experienced exciting growth and maturity. We hosted several strong community-wide events including a Disc Golf Tournament in the Summer and an enormously successful Mac and Cheese Cook-Off event in October that drew over 400 Harrisonburg residents. We have plans to expand that event even further this coming year.

The Love Packs ministry (a weekend food backpack program) continues to thrive and we are currently working on finding funding so that we can partner with several other schools in the future. RISE and Shine, a hygiene distribution ministry, continues to provide hygiene products monthly to nearly 50 primarily immigrant and refugee families in our area.

This year, we started a new outreach ministry in partnership with several other local churches, that we call “With”. This program leverages our proximity to the Harrisonburg-Rockingham County Jail and opens our doors on Saturday mornings to family members of incarcerated persons who are waiting for their scheduled visitation time to come into our facilities at 60 West Market St. (what we fondly refer to as 60 West) to get a cup of coffee, a place to sit, and kind folks to chat with. The stories coming out of this new ministry have been genuinely beautiful.

Our Sunday Worship service continues to be a vibrant and life-changing part of our community. We continue to find new ways to utilize our space at 60 West, bringing together art, music, preaching, discussion groups, and weekly communion in exciting and new ways every week. It is truly a rare Sunday that we don’t have new visitors coming through our doors on Sunday morning where they experience a diverse, inclusive, affirming, and Holy Spirit-led community of Jesus followers that seeks to Mend God’s Creation Together.

– Rev. Amanda Garber

### **ARISE at George Mason University**

Arise has seen many Glory Sightings this year. We are in the midst of something new and seeing the new launch of our ministry in the fall of 2018 continues to bear fruit.

This year has seen two students decide to be baptized. One baptism took place in a local church and the second during our worship service on campus. It has been awesome to witness the Holy Spirit move students to seek baptism! This year also saw our first winter break mission trip to Honduras. In January, we took a team of nine to work with the Leadership Center. Our students worked with the students and staff to help teach, learn and serve. For several of the students this was the first time they had been out of the country, and students have shared that it was lifechanging. Students were sharing of the hospitality they experienced and the ways their sense of God and community were deepened as a result of the time spent in Honduras. We look forward to returning to The Leadership Center next January.

Arise continues to grow and it is in large part to the generosity of our partner churches

and denominations. We look forward to fulfilling our vision for ministry, which is We believe in Jesus and thus welcome all, share God's universal love and compassionately live out our faith on campus and in the community. In the coming months we look forward to sharing God's love with all of our students at GMU, and will continue serving faithfully in our ecumenical community of faith.

— *Rev. Drew Ens*

### **Campus Christian Community at University of Mary Washington**

This academic year has been a big one for Campus Christian Community. Throughout the year, we have worked on a plan for reimagining what our ministry could be. With so many other ministries at the University of Mary Washington, we had to focus on what made us different and why people would want to become involved in our ministry. We decided that what we are and what we want to focus on is being an intentional community, where all are welcome and where if you come once, your name will be remembered. This has led us to have a larger group of underclassmen and it is exciting to think about what the future of the ministry will be with so many of our leaders and students being freshmen and sophomores.

Our students, as well as others on our campus, have taken up the cause of mental health and what they can do to improve their own lives as well as those of students they interact with. We also have been interested in exploring more of where our lives of faith interact with mental health. We began the year with participating in the “Out of the Darkness” walk which raises money for the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention. We also have had programs throughout the year focused on mindfulness, mental health in scripture, and self-care. We have built more on our tradition of having Mindfulness Weeks at midterms in order to help our students feel more grounded and connected to God in stressful times. This year we have included conversations, meditation, yoga, and a spirituality center as a part of this week.

Other highlights from our year include Pastors Panels, where we invite local clergy to speak and answer questions from our students, a bible study through the book of Acts, and working to increase our ties with local churches. A first for our ministry this year will include an alumni reunion on June 1 in conjunction with the University's reunion weekend. We have not had the opportunity to celebrate and connect with our alumni this way in the past.

One of the big transitions for our ministry is the departure of our Campus Minister, Rev. Shannon Waite Hendricks in June. It will be a big change for our ministry after five years of journeying together, but the future holds many possibilities that we are looking forward to engaging with.

— *Rev. Shannon Waite*

### **Wesley-Westminster Foundation at Norfolk State University**

The Wesley-Westminster Foundation (WWF) at Norfolk State University received its second award and I celebrated my fifth year as the Director. We were awarded with the 2018 Excellence in Community Service Award. Our ministry received college-wide

recognition and a plaque for our outstanding service to the college and the community. WWF Campus Ministry is an ecumenical ministry of the United Methodist and Presbyterian Churches seeking to impact the College, the Community, and the Current Culture with Christian Principles, Open Hearts and Open Minds. It is our mission to provide a safe place to explore and to experience one's faith, while offering a respectful and non-threatening environment of love, service to others and learning.

The Foundation House offers students a place to forge friendships, to spend time in prayer and study and to simply enjoy themselves. Students enjoy a space to grow and to develop their faith. Bible Study, Prayer, Small Groups and weekly meals are offered. We worship and work together. We participate in all school sponsored events as a team. We marched together in the MLK Day Parade on Campus; represent Campus Ministry at Open Houses throughout the year and offer spiritual support to faculty, staff and students. Our annual revival and concert was beyond blessed. More than 250 students were in attendance for our two-night event. Guest choirs, groups from campus and the community participated in this event. We continue to strive to make disciples for the world.

Yearly, we engage in a Spiritual Growth Retreat. This year more than 20 students gathered to stretch their faith. We not only had a Spiritual Retreat but also a trained musician hosted a music workshop and offered additional professional training to our choir. It is our goal to grow together and to strengthen those with whom we come in contact. We collaborate with other campus ministries and will host the Gospel Celebration during Spartan Fest. The WWF Campus Ministry Choir, Regenerated, opened for gospel recording artist Kierra Sheard during Homecoming. The choir has been invited to several community churches and even sang at the sold-out Roc Solid Charity Event that raises money to fight childhood cancer. Soon, Regenerated will celebrate its first Anniversary. This year we adopted seven graduate students from Ghana and assisted them with items for their homes. They continue to be an active part of the ministry.

As usual, Family Weekend was a huge success. This year we had more than 90 students and their parents present. This is double the normal attendance. We provided the music, led worship and offered the sermon for this Inspirational Service for the college. We volunteer at the Judeo Christian Outreach Center, continue to feed the homeless through our hashtag lunch bag initiative and have extended our reach to students on campus by offering food and other snacks to students who may be suffering from food shortage. Additionally, with the help of the United Methodist Women from Norfolk United Methodist Church and donations from some of our board members, we also offer toiletries and feminine products to students in need.

We continue to participate as a ministry team in Homecoming Activities, Spring Fest, Faith Fairs, all Organization Fairs, Open Houses and other events hosted by the college. It is our aim to know Christ and to make Him known throughout our campus and our community.

*— Rev. Joy Carrington*

## BOARD OF LAITY

The Virginia Conference Board of Laity like everyone else in our denomination in 2019 anxiously awaited the results of prayer and legislative opportunities from the Called General Conference in St. Louis. Our denomination including the Virginia Conference is very diverse. The Board of Laity has expressed a very mixed set of emotions as a result of General Conference. However the one single thread we can all agree on is God is in control and God has something yet to be revealed to all.

For several years now the Board has been organized under the three focus areas of Engaging, Equipping and Empowering the laity with the help of our clergy partners. Last Annual Conference Bishop Lewis challenged all churches to intentionally continue or develop new ways to nurture groups of disciples by 2020, in all our churches.

Realizing the conference vision Bishop Lewis brought to us: to be disciples of Jesus Christ who are lifelong learners who influence others to serve, we are in the beginning process of creating a Board emphasis for the conference in the spirit of our 2019 Annual Conference theme: Moving Forward in God's Mission.

Disciples Worship, Disciples Make New Disciples, Disciples Grow Their Faith, Disciples Engage in Mission and Disciples Share Their Recourses For Mission.

These targets will be merged with our ministry of prayer, presence, gifts, service and witness. To enable the Board to be more responsive we have realigned the Board into four Prayer / Work groupings mirroring our geographical locations.

We will continue to focus on ways to enhance our Lay Servant Ministry under the direction of Richard Speirs and David Bailey. Our On Demand courses are still available and active. Lay Servant Academy is scheduled for August 2,3,&4 at Randolph Macon in early August 2019. Local District courses are being created and offered throughout the year.

We continue to advocate for the United Methodist Women and United Methodist Men. We have added our Conference Director of Scouting Ministries, Bill Chaffin, to our Board. The ministry and evangelism opportunities working with the Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, Camp Fire and Boys and Girls Clubs is flourishing. The Bishop's Scouting Dinners have been well received. The UMMen Advance is again going to be in Virginia Beach July 27,28, 2019.

We have celebrated the leadership of three District Lay Leaders whose terms have ended on the Board. Bobby Thompson, Martha Murray, Mira Suddreth have greatly enhanced their respective district ministries. We thank them all. There are servants among us always. In addition we have celebrated new faces joining the board. We welcome Dave Berry, Harold White, Jr., Jeb Guy, John D. Glass, Gloria C Phillips and Susan White.

We thank Rev. Danny Kesner, for being our Cabinet representative, Rev. Teresa Keezel one of our co-opted members. We thank Rev. Mark Ogren our staff representative for guidance and support. Thanks to MaryKaye Cochran, and Cindy Ingroff, administrative assistants for invaluable assistance and gifted wisdom always.

Bishop Sharma Lewis challenged us in June 2017 with a Vision for our conference - A disciple of Christ is a Lifelong learner who Influences others to serve. We pray for Bishop Lewis as she heals and cannot wait for her to be back in our midst. I and the Board are partnering with Bishop Pete Weaver as we lead together in our respective service to Christ our Lord for a portion of this year. We bless this time together with him.

– Warren R. Harper, Conference Lay Leader

### CHURCH DEVELOPMENT TEAM

The Church Development Team (CDT) has been working hard to fulfill its mission to assist in creating New Faith Communities and supporting the work of vitality in existing churches under the All Things New Plan. Below you will find CDT's activities toward this work.

The Five Talent Academy continues to offer training opportunities related to worship, financial stewardship, discipleship, evangelism, and ministry with the poor. In March, Rev. Rachel Billups spoke about faith development and October's focus was worship with Bishop Sharma Lewis, Greg Moore, Matt Miofsky and Jason Byassee.

The Equipping Planter team directs the invitation, discernment, and training of planters of new faith communities for the Virginia Conference. Those who are interested in planting engage in a process of discernment as to each person's gifts for this unique ministry. The first stage is the Church Leadership Institute, which is held annually each fall. The team is using a new planter assessment tool from Lifeway.

The New Faith Community subgroup of the CDT continues to help create a culture of excellence, fruitfulness and vitality in the area of new faith community development in our conference. This year we have continued to resource and encourage recently initiated new faith communities, local churches, district Boards of Mission and their equivalents, the Cabinet and others in our conference to live out the "All Things New" strategy through the planting of new faith communities. In addition to resourcing our conference in the area of new faith community development, the New Faith Community subgroup also receives, reviews and makes recommendations to the CDT and the Common Table regarding funding for new faith community development proposals. This year we received multiple proposals that were reviewed and given careful consideration. We remain prayerful and excited about the future of new faith community development within our conference. In July of 2018, two new faith communities were launched, Restoration Loudoun and Fairfax Multisite.

To further support growth and renewal in existing churches, CDT has partnered with four districts to offer Next Level Innovations, a three and a half year investment in church change and leadership development.

The Church Development Team partners with the Large, Medium and Small Church leadership teams. These teams offer training events both for pastors who have just moved (Just in Time trainings) as well as training for clergy and laity in order to increase vitality.

We would like to thank Mark Ogren and MaryKaye Cochran for their efforts that help make "All Things New" in the Virginia Conference.

*– Melissa Dunlap, Chair*

### COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES

Members of the Commission on Disabilities (COD) committee continues to strive to uphold our mission statement by providing advocacy, education, and direct service on behalf of persons with challenging conditions. We do this by affirming the responsibilities of the Church to be in ministry with all persons regardless of their physical and/or mental conditions. The Commission continues to promote full inclusion of persons with disabilities and other challenging conditions in the life of the local church and the VA Annual Conference.

We meet at least three times annually at the Conference Center Office. Our committee is made up of numerous clergy and laity throughout our Conference and we strive to have a representative from each district in our VA Conference. In 2018 we approved grants to local churches totally \$2,225 to improve accessibility in their facilities.

We continue to have a good relationship with our Camp Rainbow committee and Heart Havens by supporting them in all ways possible. We have a representative from COD that connects with Camp Rainbow and a representative from Heart Havens that is a member of our committee.

Members of COD have placed articles in the *Advocate* magazine and in the February 2019 issue we reminded churches that February 3, 2019 was Disability Awareness Sunday. We continue to work with the annual conference on educating all our clergy and laity on how to effectively interact with people that have challenging conditions by updating our language in our literature and we are currently working on a video to share at our Annual Conference.

We would like to thank all our clergy and laity with their support toward our COD committee and if you would like to be a part of our committee in some way you can visit us at our display table at our Annual Conference. We look forward at helping empower our churches and people to continue to strive to be inclusive and be a people with *Open Hearts, Open Minds, and Open Doors*.

– Neil W. McLaughlin, Chair

## COMMISSION ON ETHNIC MINORITY CONCERNS AND ADVOCACY

The Commission on Ethnic Minority Concerns and Advocacy (CEMCA) serves to be the prophetic voice for the full and equal participation of all ethnic and racial constituents into the total life and mission of the Virginia Annual Conference. This year our work focused on education, strategic planning, advocacy, and accompaniment into account God's church at all levels. We believe that our commission can stimulate individual and group agency that will continue moving the Virginia Annual Conference forward to be more inclusive, ethnically-diverse, and racially just.

The Commission represents African-American Ministries, Latino Clergy Caucus, Immigration Task Force, Asian-American Ministries, Native American Ministries, Black Methodists for Church Renewal (BMCR), VA FOCUS 2020, Methodists Associated for the Cause of the Hispanic-American (MARCHA/ National) and the Southeastern Jurisdictional (SEJ) Hispanic-Latino Caucus.

This year we saw many areas of continuing growth in our constituencies and our commission. We continue to use social media with #CEMCAVAUMC and are launching a Facebook page to better inform and educate on a diversity of concerns. We will continue to partner with the Commission on the Status and Role of Women (COSROW) for conference monitoring efforts at both annual conference and at district events, like the Bishop's Chat 'n Chews. We connectionally endorsed a GCORR award winner: *Faith Justice Foundation* and their social justice work around race-related issues. We had multiple members of our commission present at the called General Conference 2019, serving in varying capacities. In addition, our commission has chosen two uniquely qualified laity for election as delegates for General Conference 2020. Our primary endorsement is for commission member, David Brown.

We are excited by the continuing work of the *Latino Clergy Caucus* in Lay Servant

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Leadership development, grant development for ministry, mentorship, and multilingual faith resources. The SEJ Latino H/L Caucus took inspiration from Virginia's *Immigration Task Force* and held its bi-annual gathering in May 2019, focusing on faith-issues around Immigration. We celebrated with our Native American brothers and sisters during the season of Lent by following their vision quest.

As a follow up to the Bishop's Convocation on Race and Reconciliation in 2018, we invite everyone to our display to complete a survey of "where is our conference now", a year later in our conversations about racial positioning and individual bias. Links to resources are on our website (<https://vaumc.org/cemca>). We are also here to be your resource in these conversations. We are looking ahead to Bishop Lewis's return and the continuation of this bi-annual event in 2020.

We encourage all members of the Annual conference to focus on the talking points outlined in the *Race & Reconciliation* Convocation's resources when engaging in difficult, faith-driven conversations as we continue the journey ever closer to becoming the Beloved Community.

With the help of each member of the annual conference, guidance by the Holy Spirit, and by the healing love that can only come from Christ our Savior, we look forward to continuing our partnerships in educating and resourcing our conference, at each district, and through the local church, in this divine work of reknitting the fabric that injustices and prejudices have torn.

— Lori Valentine de Segovia & Lyle Morton, Co-Chairs

## COMMISSION ON THE STATUS AND ROLE OF WOMEN

The Commission on the Status and Role of Women (COSROW) encourages participation of women in the full life of the United Methodist church. At each Annual Conference, COSROW works with the Committee on Ethnic Minority Concerns and Advocacy (CEMCA) to observe and record the participation of women, minorities, youth and young adults, and persons with disabilities in the leadership roles of the church. This data collection continues at Annual Conference 2019.

COSROW also encourages our District Representatives to begin gatherings of women in the district for local ministry support and advocacy, such as a listening post or networking. COSROW can also send trained representatives to your district to hold a Listening Post.

Like us on Facebook for news, events, and updates at "Commission on the Status and Role of Women – VA United Methodist Conference."

Our next meeting is October 21, 2019 10 AM – 2 PM.

— Mary Dadisman, Clergy Chair



*The following four reports are from agencies that have been awarded  
Conference Benevolence Grants:*

### GRACEINSIDE

United Methodist affiliated staff:

- Chaplain Michael Blythe (Greensville Corr. Ctr. - 5-1 Cluster)
- Chaplain Donna Smith (Greensville Corr. Ctr. - 5-2 Cluster)
- Chaplain Paul Ritter (Keen Mtn. Corr. Ctr. & Marion Corr. Treatment Center)

Methodist Representatives to Gracelnside's Board of Trustees:

- Rev. Marilyn Heckstall, Liaison to Bishop Sharma Lewis (Virginia Conference UMC)
- Rev. Kevin Richardson, Liaison to Bishop Mary Virginia Taylor (Holston Conference UMC)
- Dr. John Spencer (Virginia Conference UMC; Chair, Development Committee)

With a mission field of more than 30,000 men and women, Gracelnside's mission to "save lives from the inside out" places over 30 amazing chaplains in 32 of Virginia's major state prison facilities. Unique in the United States as a Christian organization, Gracelnside is privately funded and has appreciated the support of the United Methodist denomination (one of our founders) from our beginning in 1920. Your enduring commitment to Jesus' mission behind bars helps incarcerated men and women. Because of you, they can find that essential connection to Jesus Christ and His redemptive love through worship services, baptisms, Bible studies, grief groups, recovery programs and pastoral care. You are building the Kingdom and making disciples! Here is a recent note received from "M."

*"Chaplain, I'm not sure if you remember me, but I was on the worship team at Brunswick Women's Work Center. I was incarcerated for 5 years. I've been home for a year now and my faith is stronger than ever, and it's because of you and what you taught me! I'm getting my CSAC (Certified Substance Abuse Counselor) state certification, and I'm hoping to be able to help and give back. I will never forget being locked up and that feeling of being lost and forgotten. Very few people in there made me feel human (instead of being just a number). My calling is to help spread the Word - to help heal and to bring up women's self-worth so they can be the mothers their children need them to be. Please let me know how and what I can do to help my sisters in Christ. I want them to know and believe that they're worth so much - more than just a DOC resident or a prisoner. I want to help.... Thank you!"*

The more time we spend behind bars, the more difference we can make—together! Gracelnside received its new 5-year contract with the Virginia Department of Corrections



in 2019. With changes to the contract, GraceInside is in a stronger position than ever before. We celebrate that with your partnership and with the recognition of the DOC the value of state prison chaplaincy in Virginia has now increased from just over \$18 an hour to the national standard of \$25 an hour! Our chaplains now at last have a living wage! We also celebrate the fact that the amount of the money received from the Inmate Commissary Fund (i.e. non-taxpayer funds) through the DOC remained constant and did not decrease.

However, because of the hourly wage increase and limitations from the legislature, the DOC was forced to reduce its chaplaincy funding at many/most facilities, resulting in reduced chaplaincy hours under the contract. Because of your care, though, GraceInside was able to protect wages and bolster services at most facilities! You are helping us provide 1,000 additional hours of chaplaincy over and above the DOC contract! Praise God! Thank you SO much for caring and for continuing to help us strive toward s our goal of full-time chaplaincy at all major facilities (and appropriate levels of care at smaller facilities). We love you SO much in the Lord, and we thank you from the bottom of our hearts!!!

*– J. Randy Myers, President*

## SOCIETY OF ST. ANDREW

Forty years ago at Annual Conference, two young pastors and their families were assigned to a brand-new ministry. They were assigned to become the Society of St. Andrew—a covenant community, holding all things in common, living as stewards of creation, and praying for God’s Kingdom and all the created order. Ken Horne, Ray Buchanan, Jean Horne, and Marian Kelly had no idea what our gracious God had in store for them! Within just a few years this covenant community had birthed a gleaning and food recovery ministry, sharing fresh produce with hungry people across the Commonwealth of Virginia. The Society of St. Andrew was the first gleaning organization of the modern era in the United States, and today it is both the largest such organization and the only organization with national scope.

Thank you, Virginia Conference, for the courage, vision, patience, and faith to breathe life into this fledgling ministry, ‘way back in 1979! Thank you for being part of this ministry from its inception, for sharing with us a vision for a world without hunger, in which faith and stewardship meet God’s abundance—and good food is shared with people in greatest need every day.

A new mission and vision statement, adopted in 2018, sets the path before SoSA for the next decade’s work: Envisioning a world without hunger, in which physical and spiritual hungers are met by God’s abundance and grace through Jesus Christ, the Society of St. Andrew brings people together to harvest and share healthy food, reduce food waste, and build caring communities by offering nourishment to hungry neighbors.

In 2018, 334 congregations of the Virginia Conference provided financial support to the Society of St. Andrew. 32 congregations and more than 2,100 Virginia United Methodists took part in “crop drops,” produce pickups, farmers market gleaning or field gleaning.

Through the Virginia Gleaning Network, the Potato & Produce Project, and SoSA’s

Harvest of Hope mission work-camp program in 2018, 223 feeding agencies (soup kitchens, shelters, emergency food assistance programs, food pantries, and large food banks) across the state received more than 2,737,410 pounds of nourishing food to share with their clients—providing more than 8.2 million servings of health and hope to our hungry brothers and sisters. The Seed Potato Project (a “hand up” endeavor that provides seed potatoes to poor, land-owning Appalachian families) shared an additional million servings of good food with hungry Virginians. All this is work made possible because you care.

Nationwide, 23.1 million pounds of food (69.3 million servings) reached millions of hungry Americans in 2018 through the work of the Society of St. Andrew, through crops donated by more than 984 farmers/producers and through the gleaning and volunteer efforts of 30,680+ individuals. We are actively working to build the capacity in both funding and partnerships with farmers and feeding agencies, to expand into new areas over the next few years. United Methodist congregations across the United States will be integral to SoSA’s growth, and the Virginia Conference has paved the way for relationships that now extend across the continent.

We’re grateful for all the Virginia Conference congregations that join with the Society of St. Andrew through its spiritual life programs, including seasonal devotional materials, Vacation Bible School curriculum, and Bible studies. In 2017, 16 VAUMC congregations participated in SoSA’s “Abundance Orchard” VBS; 188 congregations used SoSA’s Advent devotional resources, and 272 congregations utilized SoSA’s Lenten devotions or Good Friday Fast programs.

The Society of St. Andrew’s mission fields are just that, fields and orchards. The need for volunteers throughout the year is great, and the opportunities are plentiful. Congregations that partner with SoSA have found the partnerships transformative, spurring deeper faith, greater support for local missions, and an abiding concern for those our Savior called “the least of these.”

— *Lynette Johnson, Executive Director*

## VIRGINIA INTERFAITH CENTER FOR PUBLIC POLICY (VICPP)

The Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy (VICPP) is enormously grateful for its partnership with the Virginia Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church. VICPP works to bring people of all faiths together to be a witness to the General Assembly and advocate economic, social and environmental justice throughout the Commonwealth. Highlights of our work during the past year include:

- **Passing Medicaid expansion.** VICPP and United Methodists across the Commonwealth were important in helping pass Medicaid expansion. This important step forward helps low-income families have access to affordable healthcare. Even though the program is new as of the beginning of 2019, more than 233,000 Virginians had applied for the program. Another 167,000 Virginians are eligible but haven’t applied yet, which is why VICPP is now engaging congregations to help with outreach. Learn more about how your congregation can reach eligible people in your congregation or community by emailing visiting our website and downloading free resources, such as bulletin inserts at: <https://www.vicpp.org>.

[virginiainterfaithcenter.org/issues/access-health-care/healthcare-expansion-toolkit/](http://virginiainterfaithcenter.org/issues/access-health-care/healthcare-expansion-toolkit/). If you wrote a letter, sent an email, attended the Day for All People Advocacy day, signed the clergy sign-on letter or talked with your Delegate or Senator about Medicaid expansion, you helped pass Medicaid expansion. To get involved, email Dora Muhammad at [Dora@virginiainterfaithcenter.org](mailto:Dora@virginiainterfaithcenter.org).

- **Stopping and deterring wage theft.** VICPP worked throughout 2018 to line up support for a package of bills to stop and deter wage theft. During the 2019 General Assembly (January and February 2019), two of the bills passed, thanks to your and others' advocacy. One bill removes some of the historic Jim Crow exemptions from the Virginia Minimum Wage Act (exemptions like newsboys, shoe-shine boys, movie ticket takers, and concession workers). The other bill requires most employers to provide workers with paystubs explaining their pay (hours, rate of pay, deductions). Paystubs encourage employers to pay people fairly and provide documentation to workers if there are problems. The Virginia Conference has a good statement addressing the issue of wage theft. We came close to passing a bill to enable workers to take their wage claims to court (referred to as a "private cause of action") but was killed on the floor of the House by the patron referring the bill back to committee, even though we had the votes on the floor to pass it. We have more work to do on this for next year.
- **Creating Living Wage Certification programs.** VICPP helped create Living Wage Certification programs around the state. Programs have launched in Richmond, Alexandria, and Harrisonburg and are in the planning stages in Charlottesville and Williamsburg. These programs recognize and honor employers that pay living wages. VICPP would love your help in any of the cities with existing Living Wage Certification programs or to create a program in your community. For more information, contact Amanda Silcox at [Amanda@virginiainterfaithcenter.org](mailto:Amanda@virginiainterfaithcenter.org).
- **Standing with and protecting immigrants.** VICPP mobilized the faith community to support the two legislative priorities of the immigrant community – Drivers' Privilege Cards for immigrants and in-state tuition for immigrant students who meet state residency requirements. Unfortunately, neither bill passed during the 2019 General Assembly. VICPP continued its work in Central Virginia in supporting the Central Virginia Sanctuary Network, which has supported congregations offering sanctuary and developed an extensive network of volunteers who drive undocumented immigrants to immigration-related government appointments. For more information about standing with immigrants, contact Benjamin Hoyne at [Benjamin@virginiainterfaithcenter.org](mailto:Benjamin@virginiainterfaithcenter.org).
- **Reforming Virginia's criminal justice system.** During the 2018 General Assembly, VICPP supported raising the felony threshold, which was raised from \$200 to \$500. VICPP also spent time developing relationships with criminal justice groups in order to work on additional criminal justice reform initiatives.
- **Merging with Virginia Interfaith Power and Light to fight climate change and environmental racism.** At the end of 2018, VICPP merged with Virginia Interfaith

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Power and Light. This exciting merger will enable faith advocates to help fight climate change and environmental racism. For information about what your congregation can do, contact Kendyl Crawford at [Kendyl@vaipf.org](mailto:Kendyl@vaipf.org).

- **Responding to hate.** Immediately after the Pittsburgh massacre at the Tree of Life Synagogue, VICPP compiled information about the memorial services being held around the Commonwealth and distributed information about the services to everyone on its mailing list. Consequently, many more people from diverse faith traditions participated in the services than might have otherwise. In times of tragedy, it is important that people of faith stand with one another.
- **Expanding congregational support.** Faith Advocacy Partners are congregations that work with and offer support to Virginia Interfaith Center. In 2018, VICPP had 5 UMC partner congregations and groups: Wesley Memorial United Methodist Church (Richmond), Mount Olivet United Methodist Church (Arlington), Beverly Hill Community UMC, Doe Hill United Methodist Women, and Williamsburg UMC.
- **Tapping volunteer “witnesses” at the Capitol.** VICPP had a team of volunteers to be Witnesses at the Capitol during the 2018 (and 2019) legislative seasons and will use volunteers again in 2020. These volunteers meet with legislators, speak in committee hearings (after they are comfortable) and offer a presence from the faith community. If you would like to be a “witness,” email Kim Bobo for more information at [Kim@virginiainterfaithcenter.org](mailto:Kim@virginiainterfaithcenter.org).
- **Reaching more people.** Throughout 2018, VICPP expanded its online presence and increased the number of people involved in the work. If you are not already on VICPP’s mailing list, get connected now so you can learn about activities around the Commonwealth and ways you can be an advocate for justice. Sign up at [www.virginiainterfaithcenter.org](http://www.virginiainterfaithcenter.org).
- **Supporting UMC advocacy.** VICPP has helped staff the United Methodist Day at the General Assembly both in 2018 and 2019. In addition, VICPP staff and board members regularly speak at UMC congregations and programs. If your congregation, UMW chapter, or Church and Society group would like a speaker, please reach out to Yanet Limon-Amado at [Yanet@virginiainterfaithcenter.org](mailto:Yanet@virginiainterfaithcenter.org).

Mark your calendar for the following dates:

- **Thursday, September 19, 2019 – Annual Celebration at the Hippodrome Theater in Richmond (5:30 to 8:30 p.m.)**
- **Thursday, December 12, 2019 – Annual Meeting at the Innovation Center in Richmond (5 to 7 p.m.)**
- **Wednesday, January 22, 2020 – Day for All People (our Advocacy Day) in Richmond**

– Kim Bobo, Executive Director

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### CONFERENCE LEADERSHIP DISCOVERY & DEVELOPMENT TEAM

#### *Chairpersons:*

Marc Brown, *Director of Connectional Ministries*

Warren Harper, *Conference Lay Leader*

#### *Monitors:*

Neil McLaughlin, *Commission on Disabilities*

Mary Dadisman, *COSROW*

Lyle Morton, *CEMCA*

#### *District Representatives:*

Alexandria – John Meeuwissen

James River – Susan Petrey

Arlington – Ellen LaCroix Fillette

Lynchburg – Jennifer Moore

Charlottesville – Charles Winner

Rappahannock River – Brad Phillips

Danville – *vacant*

Richmond – Lisa Sykes

Eastern Shore – Greg Duncan

Roanoke – Joanna Paysour

Elizabeth River – Samantha Hudler

Staunton – Beth Christian

Farmville – Geraldine Sanderson

Winchester – Andy Brock

Harrisonburg – *vacant*

York River District – Melissa White

### NOMINATIONS

#### **Director of Connectional Ministries**

Ted Smith

#### **Common Table for Church Vitality**

*CLDDT Nominee:*

Beth Christian

*Bishop's Nominee:*

Susie Wolf

#### **Board of Church and Society**

*Clergy:*

Shayne Estes

James Page

*Lay:*

Bill Chaffin

Jennifer Greer

Calvin Hughes

Archana Samuel

#### **Church Development Team**

Seungsoo Jun

Mike Plasters

John Speight

*(Continued on next page)*

## REPORTS

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### **Board of Discipleship**

Cindy Banek  
Erin Geoffrion  
Kathy Gochenour  
Paul Greer  
Kevin Mooers

*Youth Council*  
Paula Coker-Jones

*Older Adult Council*  
Marie Hawks  
Barbara Parker

### **Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministries**

John Dunning  
Jennifer Vestal Moore  
Sarah Payne  
Arn On-Lin Tang

### **Missional Ministries Board**

*Clergy:*  
Marcie Huntsman  
Justin Hicks  
Matt Meisenbelterr  
Seung Hae Yoo-Hess

*Lay:*  
Judy Moughon  
Emily Turner  
Reba Miller

### **Commission on Archives and History**

*Clergy:*  
Linda E. F. Crabbs  
James M. Smith  
Arthur D. Thomas

*Lay:*  
Robert S. Brock  
Linda Stead  
Jon D. Vrana  
Katharine J. Wash  
Neal Wise

### **Virginia United Methodist Communications, Inc.**

*Clergy:*  
Doug Paysour  
Sandra Benton Plasters

*Lay:*  
Brian Bachrach  
Michelle Clary

### **Commission on Disabilities**

*Clergy:*  
Neil McLaughlin  
Young Sung Ryu

*Lay:*  
Gary Ayers  
Carolyn Kreider

### **Equitable Compensation Commission**

*Clergy:*  
Tom Durrance  
Brad Phillips

*Lay:*  
Paula Totten

## REPORTS

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### **Commission on Ethnic Minority Concerns and Advocacy**

*Clergy:*

Chenda Lee  
Steve Snodgrass  
Callie Walker

*Lay:*

Margie Hernandez  
James Klagge  
Zaccheaus Katta

*At Large:*

Gustavo Segovia

### **Council on Finance and Administration**

*Clergy:*

June Carpenter  
Elizabeth Foss

*Lay:*

Cindy Martin  
Bret Hrbek

### **United Methodist Foundation**

Sarah Harrison-McQueen  
John Jones  
Linda Monroe  
Malcolm White  
Amanda Wilson

### **Commission on Status and Role of Women**

*Clergy:*

Lauren Wright

### **Conference Trustees**

*Clergy:*

Dorothy O'Quinn

*Lay:*

Gene Cross  
Karen Elmore  
Frank Caldwell

### **Bishops' Foundation**

*Clergy:*

Andy Brock

*Lay:*

Charles Sullivan

### **Society of St. Andrew**

Randy Beardsworth  
David Bowen  
Sheila Carden

*(Continued on next page)*

## REPORTS

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### **Ferrum College**

David Arrington

Jeff Davoud

Bernice Cobbs

### **Randolph College**

Margaret Keyes Beckstoffer

Alison Buckley

Elizabeth H. Crighton

Lesley C. Morgan

Caroline R. Noyes

Hollis Redmond Spiller

Eugenia Livings Welburn

Randolph-Macon Academy

Lawrencia Pierce

### **Randolph-Macon College**

Macon F. Brock, III

Grace Burke Carroll

J. Scott Colley

Andrea Holloway

William B. Kilduff

Stephen P. Long

Louis E. Renjel, Jr.

### **Shenandoah University**

David Baxa

Victor Gomez

James Imoh

Spencer McAndrews

Michael Perry

### **Virginia Wesleyan University**

Joseph Thomas

Sharon Goodwyn

Jean Jenkins

Robert McFarland

Troy DeLawrence

Eric Nyman

James Shumadine



## REPORTS

### REPORT OF THE CONFERENCE STATISTICIAN

	Total Professing Members at Beginning of Year	Received and Restored on Profession of Christian Faith	Net Transferred in (out) from other United Methodist Churches	Net Transferred in (out) from non-United Methodist Churches	Removed by Charge Conference action and prior year corrections	Withdrawn from Professing Membership	Removed by death	Total Professing Members at End of Year	Net Change in Membership	Percent Change	Average attendance at all weekly worship services	Number of Persons Baptized
Alexandria	36,805	503	76	40	163	72	241	36,948	143	0.4 %	13,957	329
Arlington	28,033	383	15	71	400	33	135	27,934	-99	-0.4 %	12,132	225
Charlottesville	12,353	118	33	22	7	6	153	12,360	7	0.1 %	3,459	67
Danville	10,644	61	13	-11	30	104	166	10,407	-237	-2.2 %	3,185	59
Eastern Shore	6,513	44	17	1	42	5	102	6,426	-87	-1.3 %	2,017	52
Elizabeth River	29,552	301	-61	41	289	105	280	29,159	-393	-1.3 %	9,041	228
Farmville	11,756	97	15	-14	73	30	187	11,564	-192	-1.6 %	3,808	65
Harrisonburg	17,245	146	36	3	92	59	205	17,074	-171	-1.0 %	5,383	108
James River	17,723	112	33	30	95	20	245	17,538	-185	-1.0 %	5,408	95
Lynchburg	15,928	93	69	40	139	28	203	15,760	-168	-1.1 %	5,579	69
Rappahannock River	18,174	223	23	39	46	16	153	18,244	70	0.4 %	6,307	170
Richmond	39,669	418	94	57	520	59	357	39,302	-367	-0.9 %	10,085	249
Roanoke	19,805	154	44	67	45	8	200	19,817	12	0.1 %	5,308	135
Staunton	12,280	97	18	23	92	18	200	12,108	-172	-1.4 %	3,846	58
Winchester	17,777	178	-39	39	6	16	193	17,740	-37	-0.2 %	5,623	100
York River	25,874	154	-15	-15	445	113	319	25,121	-753	-2.9 %	5,934	98
Totals for 2018	320,131	3,082	371	433	2,484	692	3,339	317,502	-2,629	-0.8 %	101,072	2,107

## REPORTS

# REPORT OF THE CONFERENCE TREASURER

### FINANCIAL COMMITMENT REPORT

December 31, 2018

Virginia Conference

	YTD 12/31/2018	YTD 12/31/2017	Increase (Decrease)	Pct. Inc.\Dec.	Pct. Pd 2018	Pct. Pd 2017
<b>Apportioned Funds</b>						
<i><b>Conference Apportionments</b></i>						
401 Conference Mission & Ministries	2,817,009	2,908,999	(91,990)	-3.16%	87.21%	89.51%
402 Conference Services	1,457,793	1,816,371	(358,578)	-19.74%	88.57%	91.14%
403 District Superintendents	1,800,812	1,858,815	(58,003)	-3.12%	88.93%	90.45%
404 Equitable Compensation	308,673	313,568	(4,895)	-1.56%	88.19%	89.59%
405 Church Extension & Development	835,185	585,481	249,704	42.65%	83.52%	86.74%
406 Virginia Education Fund	659,554	773,492	(113,938)	-14.73%	82.44%	85.94%
Subtotal	7,879,025	8,256,726	(377,701)	-4.57%	87.05%	89.52%
<i><b>Clergy Benefit Apportionments</b></i>						
407 Active Clergy Health Benefits	8,790,111	8,873,775	(83,664)	-0.94%	90.53%	91.39%
408 Retired Clergy Health & Pensions	5,455,713	5,522,557	(66,844)	-1.21%	90.03%	91.13%
409 Pension Liability Assessment-Pre 82	893,278	903,594	(10,316)	-1.14%	89.33%	90.36%
Subtotal	15,139,103	15,299,926	(160,823)	-1.05%	90.27%	91.23%
<i><b>General &amp; Jurisdictional Apportionments</b></i>						
410 Episcopal	779,329	801,560	(22,231)	-2.77%	86.59%	89.06%
411 World Service	2,545,061	2,631,580	(86,519)	-3.29%	83.72%	86.71%
412 General Connectional	352,480	416,046	(63,566)	-15.28%	82.74%	86.32%
413 Ministerial Education	845,235	876,805	(31,570)	-3.60%	82.06%	85.54%
414 Black College	338,472	352,688	(14,216)	-4.03%	82.55%	86.02%
415 Africa University	77,169	80,393	(3,224)	-4.01%	83.88%	87.38%
416 Interdenominational Coop.	68,274	70,794	(2,520)	-3.56%	84.29%	87.40%
Subtotal	5,006,021	5,229,866	(223,845)	-4.28%	83.73%	86.80%
<b>Total Apportioned Funds</b>	<b>28,024,148</b>	<b>28,786,518</b>	<b>(762,370)</b>	<b>-2.65%</b>	<b>88.13%</b>	<b>89.91%</b>
<b>Non-Apportionment Receipts</b>						
<i><b>Advance Specials</b></i>						
GBGM	1,052,159	1,775,900	(723,741)	-40.75%		
Va. Conference Advance Specials	83,974	314,150	(230,176)	-73.27%		
<i><b>Special Days</b></i>						
Human Relations	11,275	12,725	(1,450)	-11.39%		
One Great Hour of Sharing	118,207	89,739	28,468	31.72%		
Native American Ministries	15,203	15,274	(71)	-0.46%		
Peace with Justice	11,826	8,760	3,066	35.00%		
World Communion	17,454	22,706	(5,252)	-23.13%		
UM Student	8,803	13,181	(4,378)	-33.21%		
<i><b>Other Funds</b></i>						
Youth Service	354	1,188	(834)	-70.17%		
Samaritan Fund - Pinnacle Living	25,143	25,154	(11)	-0.04%		
UMFS	49,330	52,031	(2,701)	-5.19%		
Heart Havens	16,808	23,417	(6,608)	-28.22%		
Comm. on Disab.\Camp Rainbow	18,630	16,831	1,799	10.69%		
Annual Conference Offering	149,055	151,684	(2,629)	-1.73%		
Other	12,614	55,550	(42,936)	-77.29%		
<b>Total Non-Apportioned Funds</b>	<b>1,590,836</b>	<b>2,578,289</b>	<b>(987,453)</b>	<b>-38.30%</b>		
<b>Total Church Receipts</b>	<b>29,614,984</b>	<b>31,364,807</b>	<b>(1,749,823)</b>	<b>-5.58%</b>		

Year	Year End
2018	88.13%
2017	89.91%
2016	87.05%
2015	85.85%
2014	87.70%
2013	88.57%
2012	87.26%
2011	86.83%
2010	84.40%
2009	85.92%
2008	90.08%
2007	92.03%
2006	93.16%
2005	93.87%
2004	94.79%
2003	95.58%
2002	97.08%
2001	96.33%
2000	96.43%
1999	94.92%
1998	93.51%
1997	90.64%
1996	89.20%

## REPORTS

### Balance Sheets

	<u>12/31/2018</u>	<u>12/31/2017</u>
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b><i>Current Assets:</i></b>		
Cash	1,956,174	1,427,041
Investments	5,697,044	6,446,710
Receivables	2,640,081	3,316,160
Prepaid expenses	93,771	57,302
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b><u>10,387,070</u></b>	<b><u>11,247,213</u></b>
<b><i>Fixed Assets:</i></b>		
Land	793,019	793,019
Buildings	5,017,597	5,017,597
Furniture & fixtures	318,708	225,566
Equipment and vehicles	740,555	662,000
Software	21,735	21,735
Accumulated depreciation	(2,547,632)	(2,348,776)
<b>Total Fixed Assets</b>	<b><u>4,343,982</u></b>	<b><u>4,371,141</u></b>
<b><i>Other Assets:</i></b>		
Francis Asbury Education Fund	1,022,666	1,015,571
Loans receivable	149,848	420,510
<b>Total Other Assets</b>	<b><u>1,172,514</u></b>	<b><u>1,436,081</u></b>
	<b><u>15,903,566</u></b>	<b><u>17,054,435</u></b>
<b>LIABILITIES and NET ASSETS</b>		
<b><i>Current Liabilities:</i></b>		
Accounts payable	4,089,114	4,559,650
Accrued expenses	22,712	30,918
Unearned revenue	74,412	43,514
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b><u>4,186,238</u></b>	<b><u>4,634,082</u></b>
<b><i>Net Assets:</i></b>		
Unrestricted conference reserves	3,082,876	3,378,880
Emerging funds	58,414	16,743
Board designated reserves	714,036	917,685
Property and Equipment fund	4,343,983	4,371,142
Church Extension Fund	1,304,598	1,467,632
Donor restricted and miscellaneous	2,213,421	2,268,271
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<b><u>11,717,328</u></b>	<b><u>12,420,353</u></b>
	<b><u>15,903,566</u></b>	<b><u>17,054,435</u></b>

## REPORTS

### Virginia Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church

#### Statement of Changes in Unrestricted Conference Reserves

*For the Year Ending December 31, 2018*

**Income directly attributed to Conference Reserves:**

Net gain on investments held at the Foundation	(276,453)
Dividends and interest	76,787
Miscellaneous income	1,824
Gain on sale of land in Blackstone	17,859
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>(179,983)</b>

**Expenses directly attributed to Conference Reserves:**

Special funding - VUMAC closing	151,943
Special funding misc	8,749
Bank service charges	14,042
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>174,734</b>

**Income Over/(Under) Expenses** (354,717)

**Apportionment Closeouts:**

401 - Conference Mission and Ministries	118,124
402 - Conference Services	(81,550)
403 - District Superintendents' Fund	(61,377)
404 - Equitable Compensation Fund	83,516

**Total Apportionment Closeouts** 58,713

**Net increase/(decrease) in Conference Reserves** (296,004)

**Beginning balance** 3,378,880

**Ending Balance** 3,082,876

# REPORTS



## 401 - Conference Mission & Ministry Financial Summary

12/31/2018

Project #	Project Name	Apportionment Income	Transfer to/ (from)	Other Income	Total Income	Total Expenses	Receipts Over/(Under) Expenses	Closeout to Conference Reserves	Beginning Balance	Ending Balance
3500	Conference Benevolence Grants	192,401.68	-	-	192,401.68	192,401.68	-	-	-	-
3510	CT Special & Sustaining Grants	63,382.70	-	43,255.10	106,637.80	73,050.00	33,587.80	(33,587.80)	-	-
5000	Emerging Funds	86,482.17	(6,968.00)	156,014.94	235,529.11	193,858.09	41,671.02	-	16,743.40	58,414.42
3600	Campus Ministry	818,059.27	-	-	818,059.27	843,936.96	(25,877.69)	25,877.69	-	-
Sch 1	Program & Board Administrative	1,656,682.70	(152,317.75)	37,489.49	1,541,854.44	1,431,440.29	110,414.15	(110,414.15)	-	-
		<b>2,817,008.52</b>	<b>(159,285.75)</b>	<b>236,759.53</b>	<b>2,894,482.30</b>	<b>2,734,687.02</b>	<b>159,795.28</b>	<b>(118,124.26)</b>	<b>16,743.40</b>	<b>58,414.42</b>

### Schedule 1 - Program & Board Administrative

3100	Common Table	3,380.41	-	-	3,380.41	3,165.31	215.10	(215.10)	-	-
Sch 2	Departmental Administration	54,649.98	-	-	54,649.98	59,234.87	(4,584.89)	4,584.89	-	-
Sch 3	Board & Agency Administration	70,425.19	-	351.94	70,777.13	49,540.30	21,236.83	(21,236.83)	-	-
3000	Personnel Costs - Common Table	1,275,259.81	35,295.00	35,295.00	1,345,849.81	1,265,567.10	80,282.71	(80,282.71)	-	-
3210	CT Information Technologies	28,733.47	(28,733.47)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3240	Outsourced Graphic Design Serv	36,621.10	-	-	36,621.10	32,515.24	4,105.86	(4,105.86)	-	-
3200	Video Production	9,577.82	-	1,842.55	11,420.37	7,695.44	3,724.93	(3,724.93)	-	-
3155	Connections 21 Interns	9,577.82	-	-	9,577.82	6,775.06	2,802.76	(2,802.76)	-	-
3220	Common Table Rent	158,879.28	(158,879.28)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3230	CT Postage, Printing & Phone	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3090	CT Contingencies	9,577.82	-	-	9,577.82	6,946.97	2,630.85	(2,630.85)	-	-
		<b>1,656,682.70</b>	<b>(152,317.75)</b>	<b>37,489.49</b>	<b>1,541,854.44</b>	<b>1,431,440.29</b>	<b>110,414.15</b>	<b>(110,414.15)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

### Supporting Schedule 2 - Departmental Administration

3010	Connectional Ministries Office	7,605.93	-	-	7,605.93	8,703.82	(1,097.89)	1,097.89	-	-
3020	Communications Office	7,042.52	-	-	7,042.52	5,317.79	1,724.73	(1,724.73)	-	-
3030	Congregational Excel	10,704.64	-	-	10,704.64	9,389.55	1,315.09	(1,315.09)	-	-
3040	Higher Ed & Next Gen Office	12,113.13	-	-	12,113.13	13,206.43	(1,093.30)	1,093.30	-	-
3050	Inclusivity and Lay Ldrshp Exc	4,788.93	-	-	4,788.93	833.29	3,955.64	(3,955.64)	-	-
3060	Justice and Missional Excel	12,394.83	-	-	12,394.83	21,783.99	(9,389.16)	9,389.16	-	-
		<b>54,649.98</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>54,649.98</b>	<b>59,234.87</b>	<b>(4,584.89)</b>	<b>4,584.89</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>0.00</b>

### Supporting Schedule 3 - Board & Agency Administration

3105	Board of Church & Society	5,634.01	-	351.94	5,985.95	4,324.21	1,661.74	(1,661.74)	-	-
3110	Missional Ministries Board	8,732.73	-	-	8,732.73	2,875.66	5,857.07	(5,857.07)	-	-
3115	Board of Communications	6,197.42	-	-	6,197.42	3,809.01	2,388.41	(2,388.41)	-	-
3120	Board of Higher Education	2,817.01	-	-	2,817.01	2,598.92	218.09	(218.09)	-	-
3125	Board of Discipleship	8,169.33	-	-	8,169.33	7,232.45	936.88	(936.88)	-	-
3130	Church Development Team	1,690.20	-	-	1,690.20	2,168.80	(478.60)	478.60	-	-
3135	Board of Laity	7,605.93	-	-	7,605.93	6,901.69	704.24	(704.24)	-	-
3140	CEMCA	1,690.20	-	-	1,690.20	1,876.34	(186.14)	186.14	-	-
3145	COSROW	845.10	-	-	845.10	491.17	353.93	(353.93)	-	-
3150	Commission on Disabilities	1,408.49	-	-	1,408.49	2,425.85	(1,017.36)	1,017.36	-	-
3160	Committee on Mission Personnel	25,634.77	-	-	25,634.77	14,836.20	10,798.57	(10,798.57)	-	-
		<b>70,425.19</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>351.94</b>	<b>70,777.13</b>	<b>49,540.30</b>	<b>21,236.83</b>	<b>(21,236.83)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(0.00)</b>

# REPORTS



## 402 - Conference Services Financial Summary

December 31, 2018

Project #	Project Name	Apportionment Income	Transfer to/ (from)	Other Income	Total Income	Total Expenses	Receipts Over/(Under) Expenses	Closeout to Conference Reserves	Beginning Balance	Ending Balance
<b>Funds that Close to Reserves:</b>										
2100	Treasurer's Office	372,611.77	-	87,000.00	459,611.77	463,706.00	(4,094.23)	4,094.23	-	-
2110	Computer Services	77,408.80	(6,561.53)	800.00	71,647.27	155,264.23	(83,616.96)	83,616.96	-	-
2120	Annual Conference Session	235,287.71	-	4,281.34	239,569.05	250,518.99	(10,949.94)	10,949.94	-	-
2130	Conf Publications Committee	11,662.34	-	(6,625.56)	5,036.78	10,060.77	(5,023.99)	5,023.99	-	-
2140	Council on Finance & Admin	2,478.24	-	-	2,478.24	2,872.30	(394.06)	394.06	-	-
2150	Board of Trustees	1,457.80	-	-	1,457.80	1,367.42	90.38	(90.38)	-	-
2160	Committee on Episcopacy	1,895.12	-	-	1,895.12	1,628.38	266.74	(266.74)	-	-
2170	Historical Society	7,726.30	-	-	7,726.30	2,779.94	4,946.36	(4,946.36)	-	-
2180	Assistant to Bishop	82,219.48	-	-	82,219.48	83,587.21	(1,367.73)	1,367.73	-	-
2190	Cabinet Discretionary Fund	14,519.67	-	-	14,519.67	1,000.00	13,519.67	(13,519.67)	-	-
2200	Pastor Relocation Transition	16,473.04	-	-	16,473.04	3,954.15	12,518.89	(12,518.89)	-	-
2210	Episcopal Residence	-	-	20,000.00	20,000.00	60,353.24	(40,353.24)	40,353.24	-	-
2220	Episcopal Budget Support	25,657.14	-	-	25,657.14	26,499.96	(842.82)	842.82	-	-
2230	Conference Liability Insurance	14,577.92	-	-	14,577.92	13,918.00	659.92	(659.92)	-	-
2270	General Conference Delegation	2,478.24	-	-	2,478.24	27.84	2,450.40	(2,450.40)	-	-
2290	Contingencies	9,679.75	(8,000.00)	768.75	2,448.50	11,645.96	(9,197.46)	9,197.46	-	-
2300	BOM Personnel Costs	241,993.57	-	-	241,993.57	235,531.06	6,462.51	(6,462.51)	-	-
2310	Clergy Excellence Admin.	15,015.28	-	-	15,015.28	12,250.44	2,764.84	(2,764.84)	-	-
2320	Board of Ordained Ministry	72,598.06	-	-	72,598.06	60,093.67	12,504.39	(12,504.39)	-	-
2330	BOM - Ministerial Support	36,736.37	-	3,550.00	40,286.37	25,364.46	14,921.91	(14,921.91)	-	-
2400	Postage, Printing & Phone	46,503.58	-	12,389.42	58,893.00	55,708.42	3,184.58	(3,184.58)	-	-
		1,288,980.18	(14,561.53)	122,163.95	1,396,582.60	1,478,132.44	(81,549.84)	81,549.84	-	0.00
<b>CFA Designated Funds with Carryover Balances:</b>										
4000	United Methodist Center	24,199.34	158,879.28	135,152.00	318,230.62	320,499.11	(2,268.49)	-	44,788.63	42,520.14
4010	Building Maintenance Fund	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	200,000.00	200,000.00
4020	Wesley Foundation Inc.	58,020.14	15,984.00	-	74,004.14	67,195.87	6,808.27	-	(1,944.83)	4,863.44
4030	Legal Expenses	29,010.08	-	-	29,010.08	154,557.53	(125,547.45)	-	55,753.36	(69,794.09)
4060	Employee Moving Fund	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6,272.50	6,272.50
4070	Archives	9,184.09	-	-	9,184.09	15,913.65	(6,729.56)	-	(3,845.09)	(10,574.65)
4080	Sustentation Fund	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20,000.00	20,000.00
4090	Bishop Strategic Collaboration	-	-	-	-	6,936.57	(6,936.57)	-	3,037.76	(3,898.81)
4500	Property & Equipment Fund	-	-	-	-	27,158.74	(27,158.74)	-	4,371,142.07	4,343,983.33
4790	VA Clergy Leadership Program	48,398.71	-	-	48,398.71	71,748.90	(23,350.19)	-	155,320.33	131,970.14
		168,812.36	174,863.28	135,152.00	478,827.64	664,010.37	(185,182.73)	-	4,850,524.73	4,665,342.00

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## CFA Designated Funds with Carryover Balances Financial Summary

December 31, 2018

Project #	Project Name	Apportionment Income	Transfer to/ (from)	Other Income	Total Income	Total Expenses	Receipts Over/(Under) Expenses	Closeout to Conference Reserves	Beginning Balance	Ending Balance
<b>CFA</b>										
4000	United Methodist Center	24,199.34	158,879.28	135,152.00	318,230.62	320,499.11	(2,268.49)	-	44,788.63	42,520.14
4010	Building Maintenance Fund	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	200,000.00	200,000.00
4020	Wesley Foundation Inc.	58,020.14	15,984.00	-	74,004.14	67,195.87	6,808.27	-	(1,944.83)	4,863.44
4030	Legal Expenses	29,010.08	-	-	29,010.08	154,557.53	(125,547.45)	-	55,753.36	(69,794.09)
4060	Employee Moving Fund	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6,272.50	6,272.50
4070	Archives	9,184.09	-	-	9,184.09	15,913.65	(6,729.56)	-	(3,845.09)	(10,574.65)
4080	Sustentation Fund	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20,000.00	20,000.00
4090	Bishop Strategic Collaboration	-	-	-	-	6,936.57	(6,936.57)	-	3,037.76	(3,898.81)
		120,413.65	174,863.28	135,152.00	430,428.93	565,102.73	(134,673.80)	-	324,062.33	189,388.53
<b>Common Table</b>										
6100	Advocate Publication	-	-	50,586.09	50,586.09	79,513.84	(28,927.75)	-	172,642.97	143,715.22
6200	Lay Servant Ministries	-	-	15,713.46	15,713.46	13,626.09	2,087.37	-	1,201.71	3,289.08
6210	Board of Laity Special Project	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,887.45	4,887.45
6220	CommonTable Youth Contingency	-	-	640.00	640.00	640.00	-	-	160.63	800.63
6225	Campus Ministry Team	-	-	-	-	2,368.85	(2,368.85)	-	11,928.75	9,559.90
6230	Camp Rainbow	-	-	68,521.14	68,521.14	75,344.20	(6,823.06)	-	33,206.69	26,383.63
6240	Commission on Disabilities	-	-	1,915.00	1,915.00	3,525.00	(1,610.00)	-	11,039.80	9,429.80
6310	UMVIM	-	-	50.00	50.00	5,356.26	(5,306.26)	-	32,399.38	27,093.12
6311	UMVIM - Haiti	-	-	68,708.78	68,708.78	3,558.31	65,150.47	-	3,762.72	68,913.19
6340	Mental Health Conference	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,233.22	1,233.22
6400	All God's Children Camp	-	-	54,527.48	54,527.48	84,993.54	(30,466.06)	-	47,117.05	16,650.99
6420	Safe Sanctuaries Training	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,051.75	2,051.75
6505	Five Talent Academy - Events	-	-	19,445.65	19,445.65	24,374.77	(4,929.12)	-	12,468.34	7,539.22
6560	CDT Training Events	-	-	532.02	532.02	532.02	-	-	-	-
6565	Small Church Pastors	-	-	-	-	1,227.79	(1,227.79)	-	6,267.64	5,039.85
6570	Mid-Size Church Lead Pastors	-	-	271.97	271.97	3,535.96	(3,263.99)	-	2,765.79	(498.20)
6580	Large Church Lead Pastors	-	-	2,425.38	2,425.38	7,588.73	(5,163.35)	-	(3,581.66)	(8,745.01)
6590	Clergywomen's Coaching Init.	-	-	6,340.00	6,340.00	(260.00)	6,600.00	-	-	6,600.00
		-	-	289,676.97	289,676.97	305,285.36	(15,608.39)	-	339,552.23	323,943.84
<b>Board of Ordained Ministry</b>										
4610	Welcome Meal at AC	-	-	2,500.00	2,500.00	2,963.70	(463.70)	-	2,281.76	1,818.06
4620	Order of Deacons	-	-	2,328.15	2,328.15	1,647.40	680.75	-	2,673.09	3,353.84
4630	Local Pastor's Retreat/Lunch	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,240.25	1,240.25
4640	Order of Elders	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9,276.90	9,276.90
4650	Spouse Retreat	-	-	478.00	478.00	591.91	(113.91)	-	1,112.58	998.67
4660	Seminary Scholarships	-	-	26,482.30	26,482.30	31,911.90	(5,429.60)	-	5,699.24	269.64
4690	BOM Training Events	-	-	3,310.44	3,310.44	2,569.37	741.07	-	1,173.42	1,914.49
4700	Pell Fund - Josephus Daniels	-	-	65,000.00	65,000.00	61,000.00	4,000.00	-	1,300.00	5,300.00
4710	Calling Z1	-	-	22,900.00	22,900.00	26,312.32	(3,412.32)	-	17,450.02	14,037.70
4730	AC Clergy Spouses Luncheon	-	-	-	-	14.82	(14.82)	-	2,752.44	2,737.62
4740	Ministers' Convocation	-	-	42,319.07	42,319.07	69,803.56	(27,484.49)	-	49,163.96	21,679.47
4770	Pilgrimages	-	-	15,150.00	15,150.00	13,596.64	1,553.36	-	-	1,553.36
4780	Cross Culture/Cross Racial	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,667.25	2,667.25
4790	VA Clergy Leadership Program	48,398.71	-	-	48,398.71	71,748.90	(23,350.19)	-	155,320.33	131,970.14
4800	Candidacy Summit	-	-	11,522.92	11,522.92	11,596.26	(73.34)	-	1,959.62	1,886.28
4810	Extension Ministry	-	-	340.00	340.00	340.00	-	-	-	-
4820	Licensing School	-	-	28,333.84	28,333.84	28,333.84	-	-	-	-
		48,398.71	-	220,664.72	269,063.43	322,430.62	(53,367.19)	-	254,070.86	200,703.67
<b>Total</b>										
		168,812.36	174,863.28	645,493.69	989,169.33	1,192,818.71	(203,649.38)	-	917,685.42	714,036.04

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## Donor Designated and Miscellaneous Funds Financial Summary

December 31, 2018

Project #	Project Name	Apportionment Income	Transfer to/ (from)	Other Income	Total Income	Total Expenses	Receipts Over/(Under) Expenses	Closeout to Conference Reserves	Beginning Balance	Ending Balance
<b>Property &amp; Equipment</b>										
4500	Property & Equipment Fund	-	-	-	-	27,158.74	(27,158.74)	-	4,371,142.07	4,343,983.33
		-	-	-	-	27,158.74	(27,158.74)	-	4,371,142.07	4,343,983.33
<b>Church Extension Fund</b>										
6500	Church Extension Fund	835,184.78	-	26,074.02	861,258.80	1,024,292.96	(163,034.16)	-	1,467,632.17	1,304,598.01
		835,184.78	-	26,074.02	861,258.80	1,024,292.96	(163,034.16)	-	1,467,632.17	1,304,598.01
<b>Ministerial Education Fund</b>										
4600	Ministerial Education Funds	211,308.88	-	550.00	211,858.88	224,266.75	(12,407.87)	-	611,708.63	599,300.76
		211,308.88	-	550.00	211,858.88	224,266.75	(12,407.87)	-	611,708.63	599,300.76
<b>Donor restricted</b>										
8010	Discipleship Circles	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	21,615.40	21,615.40
8050	Francis Asbury Education Fund	-	-	7,119.75	7,119.75	25.00	7,094.75	-	1,018,828.60	1,025,923.35
8100	Initiatives of Hope	-	-	3,015.01	3,015.01	4,374.42	(1,359.41)	-	15,952.26	14,592.85
8110	IOH - Mozambique	-	-	19.59	19.59	3,662.82	(3,662.83)	-	20,413.18	16,750.35
8111	IOH - Brazil	-	-	3,510.94	3,510.94	3,510.94	-	-	24,580.21	28,091.15
8113	Sierra Leone	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,285.18	1,285.18
8114	IOH - Cambodia	-	-	4,021.86	4,021.86	2,861.39	1,160.47	-	28,960.61	30,121.08
8115	Haiti Music School	-	-	137,000.00	137,000.00	137,000.00	-	-	-	-
8120	Russian Initiative	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9,894.18	9,894.18
8160	CEMCA-Hispanic Aid Fund	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9,616.78	9,616.78
8200	Bishops' Foundation	-	-	7,168.00	7,168.00	9,493.25	(2,325.25)	-	3,702.35	1,377.10
8300	Wesley Foundation Proceeds	-	(15,984.00)	-	(15,984.00)	-	(15,984.00)	-	175,040.26	159,056.26
8305	Disaster Relief Fund	-	(29,451.00)	38,623.96	9,172.96	42,281.93	(33,108.97)	-	15,349.54	18,240.57
8310	Youth Service Fund	-	-	11,203.03	11,203.03	14,748.50	(3,545.47)	-	13,117.29	9,571.82
8315	Peace with Justice	-	-	5,815.18	5,815.18	3,000.00	2,815.18	-	14,004.28	16,819.46
8320	Native American Awareness Sun.	-	-	15,340.02	15,340.02	4,250.00	11,090.02	-	11,438.61	22,528.63
8325	Christian Education Special Fd	-	-	-	-	2,141.40	(2,141.40)	-	8,842.20	6,700.80
8330	Merit Awards	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	324.63	324.63
8400	Treasurer's Discretion	-	-	-	-	400.33	(400.33)	-	2,901.05	2,500.72
8411	Matthew Recovery Grant	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	132,935.10	132,935.10
8413	UMCOR 2nd Matthew Recov Grant	-	(10,000.00)	-	(10,000.00)	-	(10,000.00)	-	15,437.66	5,437.66
8414	2018 Matthew Recovery	-	39,451.00	250,555.00	290,006.00	290,472.24	(466.24)	-	-	(466.24)
8415	Danville Recovery	-	-	-	-	687.81	(687.81)	-	-	(687.81)
		-	(15,984.00)	483,392.34	467,408.34	515,418.69	(48,010.35)	-	1,580,239.37	1,532,229.02
<b>Miscellaneous Connectional Funds</b>										
8504	2019 SEJ COB Leadership Mtg	-	-	-	-	400.00	(400.00)	-	-	(400.00)
8505	Called Session Training Event	-	3,000.00	-	3,000.00	3,844.14	(844.14)	-	-	(844.14)
8506	Virginia FOCUS 2020	-	-	20,467.00	20,467.00	27,129.43	(6,662.43)	-	21,935.76	15,273.33
8507	2018 SEJ Historical Soc Mtg	-	-	6,817.96	6,817.96	15,237.66	(8,419.70)	-	4,928.50	(3,491.20)
8508	Natl Net of UM Cong Developers	-	-	12,105.31	12,105.31	7,114.44	4,990.87	-	3,003.55	7,994.42
8509	Clergywomen's Retreat	-	-	81,699.19	81,699.19	74,589.00	7,110.19	-	2,500.00	9,610.19
8510	Heritage	-	-	230.89	230.89	970.30	(739.41)	-	6,251.81	5,512.40
8520	Scouting Camporee	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8,906.58	8,906.58
8530	Voices of Youth	-	-	20,532.99	20,532.99	12,951.70	7,581.29	-	3,000.69	10,581.98
8540	ARMS	-	-	10,905.48	10,905.48	9,974.28	931.20	-	19,825.01	20,756.21
8560	Caretakers of God's Creation	-	-	1,825.00	1,825.00	2,327.85	(502.85)	-	4,094.46	3,591.61
8565	Bishop's Convocation - Prayer	-	-	3,901.55	3,901.55	1,503.40	2,398.15	-	1,824.40	4,222.55
8566	Bishop's Conv - Race & Recon	-	5,000.00	1,950.68	6,950.68	5,899.31	1,051.37	-	-	1,051.37
8570	Conference Data Initiative	-	-	-	-	350.61	(350.61)	-	-	(350.61)
8575	Social Committee	-	-	440.00	440.00	407.80	32.20	-	-	32.20
8580	Cabinet Dues	-	-	770.00	770.00	511.29	258.71	-	52.28	310.99
		-	8,000.00	161,646.05	169,646.05	163,211.21	6,434.84	-	76,323.04	82,757.88



## REPORTS

### COUNCIL ON FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION

#### SECTION I - Proposed Conference Budget for 2020

	Sch.	2019	2020	% of Budget	Inc.\(Dec.)	% Chg.
<b>Conference Apportionments</b>						
401 - Conference Mission & Ministries	A	3,225,000	3,140,000	9.98%	(85,000)	-2.64%
402 - Conference Services	B	1,875,000	1,990,000	6.33%	115,000	6.13%
403 - District Superintendents Fund	C	2,005,000	2,000,000	6.36%	(5,000)	-0.25%
404 - Equitable Compensation		300,000	250,000	0.79%	(50,000)	-16.67%
405 - Church Extension & Development		1,125,000	1,200,000	3.81%	75,000	6.67%
406 - Virginia Education Fund		700,000	600,000	1.91%	(100,000)	-14.29%
<b>Total Conference Apportionments</b>		<b>9,230,000</b>	<b>9,180,000</b>	<b>29.18%</b>	<b>(50,000)</b>	<b>-0.54%</b>
<b>Clergy Benefits Apportionments</b>						
407 - Active Clergy Health		9,710,000	9,710,000	30.89%	-	0.00%
408 - Retired Clergy Health		6,060,000	6,060,000	19.27%	-	0.00%
409 - Pension Liability Assessment - Pre 82		750,000	750,000	2.37%	-	0.00%
<b>Total Clergy Benefit Apportionments</b>		<b>16,520,000</b>	<b>16,520,000</b>	<b>52.53%</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>0.00%</b>
<b>General &amp; Jurisdictional Apportionments</b>						
410 - Episcopal Fund		875,000	870,000	2.77%	(5,000)	-0.57%
411 - World Service		3,000,000	2,925,000	9.30%	(75,000)	-2.50%
412 - General & Jurisdictional Connectional Fund		420,000	400,000	1.27%	(20,000)	-4.76%
413 - Ministerial Education		1,000,000	990,000	3.15%	(10,000)	-1.00%
414 - Black College Fund		400,000	395,000	1.26%	(5,000)	-1.25%
415 - Africa University Fund		90,000	90,000	0.29%	-	0.00%
416 - Interdenominational Cooperation Fund		80,000	80,000	0.25%	-	0.00%
<b>Total General &amp; Jurisdictional Apportionments</b>		<b>5,865,000</b>	<b>5,750,000</b>	<b>18.29%</b>	<b>(115,000)</b>	<b>-1.96%</b>
<b>Total Apportionments</b>		<b>31,615,000</b>	<b>31,450,000</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>(165,000)</b>	<b>-0.52%</b>

## REPORTS

### Schedule A - Apportionment 401 - Conference Mission & Ministries

	2019	2020	Budget	Inc.\(Dec.)	% Chg.
<b>Common Table Directed Ministries</b>					
A. Program & Board Administrative	1,531,700	1,379,200	4.37%	(152,500)	-9.96%
B. Benevolence Grants	200,000	200,000	0.64%	-	0.00%
C. Special & Sustaining Grants	66,000	66,000	0.21%	-	0.00%
D. Conference Programs	90,000	90,000	0.29%	-	0.00%
E. Campus Ministries	850,000	850,000	2.70%	-	0.00%
	2,737,700	2,585,200	8.21%	(152,500)	-5.57%
<b>Other Ministries</b>					
Wesley Foundation Capital Improvements	250,000	321,000	1.02%	71,000	28.40%
Wesley Foundation Maintenance	60,000	60,000	0.19%	-	0.00%
Bishop's Discretionary Fund	30,000	30,000	0.10%	-	0.00%
<b>Total Ministry Expenses</b>	3,077,700	2,996,200	9.52%	(81,500)	-2.65%
<b>Contingency Funds - Budget Shortfall</b>	147,300	143,800	0.46%	(3,500)	-2.38%
<b>Total 401 Apportionment</b>	<b>3,225,000</b>	<b>3,140,000</b>	<b>9.98%</b>	<b>(85,000)</b>	<b>-2.64%</b>
<b>Supporting Details for Line Items Above</b>					
<b>A. Program &amp; Board Administrative Expenses</b>					
1. Common Table	3,500	3,500	0.01%	-	0.00%
2. Departmental Administration	59,400	57,900	0.18%	(1,500)	-2.53%
3. Agency Administration	70,800	60,800	0.19%	(10,000)	-14.12%
4. Personnel Costs	1,330,000	1,230,000	3.91%	(100,000)	-7.52%
5. Outsourced Graphic Design Services	38,000	7,000	0.02%	(31,000)	-81.58%
6. Video Production & Documentation	10,000	10,000	0.03%	-	0.00%
7. Connections 21 Internships	10,000	-	0.00%	(10,000)	-100.00%
8. Contingency	10,000	10,000	0.03%	-	0.00%
	1,531,700	1,379,200	4.37%	(152,500)	-9.96%
<b>B. Conference Benevolence Grants</b>					
1. Graceland	167,000	167,000	0.53%	-	0.00%
2. Virginia Council of Churches	10,000	10,000	0.03%	-	0.00%
3. Virginia Interfaith Center	15,000	15,000	0.05%	-	0.00%
4. Society of St. Andrew	8,000	8,000	0.03%	-	0.00%
	200,000	200,000	0.64%	-	0.00%

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### Schedule B - Apportionment 402 - Conference Services

	2019	2020	Budget	Inc.\(Dec.)	% Chg.
1. Board of Ordained Ministry (see below)	427,000	411,000	1.32%	(16,000)	-3.75%
2. Bishop's Assistant	85,000	85,000	0.27%	-	0.00%
3. Annual Conference Session	260,000	245,000	0.78%	(15,000)	-5.77%
4. Treasurer's Office	395,000	450,000	1.43%	55,000	13.92%
5. Computer Services	130,000	130,000	0.41%	-	0.00%
6. Richmond Area Episcopal Expense	26,500	26,500	0.08%	-	0.00%
7. Pastor Relocation & Transition	17,000	12,000	0.04%	(5,000)	-29.41%
8. Archives	16,000	20,000	0.06%	4,000	25.00%
9. Council on Finance and Administration	2,500	2,500	0.01%	-	0.00%
10. Historical Society	8,000	4,000	0.01%	(4,000)	-50.00%
11. Board of Trustees	1,500	1,500	0.00%	-	0.00%
12. Telephone Service	15,000	10,000	0.03%	(5,000)	-33.33%
13. Insurance	15,000	15,000	0.05%	-	0.00%
14. Postage & Printing	33,000	33,000	0.10%	-	0.00%
15. Building Operations & Services	190,000	190,000	0.60%	-	0.00%
16. Conference Publications	12,000	12,000	0.04%	-	0.00%
17. Contingency Funds for Unforeseen Expenses	25,000	25,000	0.08%	-	0.00%
18. Legal	100,000	200,000	0.64%	100,000	100.00%
19. Episcopal committee	2,000	2,000	0.01%	-	0.00%
20. General Conference	10,000	10,000	0.03%	-	0.00%
21. Contingency Funds - Budget Shortfall	104,500	105,500	0.34%	1,000	0.96%
	<b>1,875,000</b>	<b>1,990,000</b>	<b>6.33%</b>	<b>115,000</b>	<b>6.13%</b>

#### Board of Ordained Ministry

1. Minister's Family Counseling	15,000	15,000	0.05%	-	0.00%
2. Candidates' Evaluation	21,000	21,000	0.07%	-	0.00%
3. Sexual Ethics Response Team	2,000	2,000	0.01%	-	0.00%
4. Conference Clergy Leadership Program	50,000	36,500	0.12%	(13,500)	-27.00%
5. Center for Clergy Excellence	16,000	16,000	0.05%	-	0.00%
6. Personnel Costs	250,000	245,000	0.78%	(5,000)	-2.00%
7. Board of Ordained Ministry Administration	73,000	75,500	0.24%	2,500	3.42%
	<b>427,000</b>	<b>411,000</b>	<b>1.32%</b>	<b>(16,000)</b>	<b>-3.75%</b>

### Schedule C - Apportionment 403 - District Superintendents Fund

	2019	2020	Budget	Inc.\(Dec.)	% Chg.
1. Salaries & Pension	1,685,000	1,685,000	5.36%	-	0.00%
2. Travel & Meetings	140,000	140,000	0.45%	-	0.00%
3. Continuing Education & Other	50,000	45,000	0.14%	(5,000)	-10.00%
4. Contingency Funds - Conference Budget Shortfall	130,000	130,000	0.41%	-	0.00%
	<b>2,005,000</b>	<b>2,000,000</b>	<b>6.36%</b>	<b>(5,000)</b>	<b>-0.25%</b>

Section II — Recommended Apportionments to Districts and Local Churches

A. TOTAL RECOMMENDED APPORTIONMENT LEVELS:

The Council of Finance and Administration (CFA) recommends that the amounts apportioned from the General, Jurisdictional, and Annual Conference be apportioned to the districts as follows:

2020 Virginia Annual Conference Apportionments

401-Conference Mission & Ministries .....	3,140,000
402-Conference Services .....	1,990,000
403-District Superintendents Fund .....	2,000,000
404-Equitable Compensation .....	250,000
405-Church Extension & Development .....	1,200,000
406-Virginia Education Fund .....	600,000
407-Active Clergy Health .....	9,710,000
408-Retired Clergy Health .....	6,060,000
409-Pension Liability Assessment - Pre 82 .....	750,000
410-Episcopal Fund .....	870,000
411-World Service .....	2,925,000
412-General & Jurisdictional Connectional Fund .....	400,000
413-Ministerial Education Fund .....	990,000
414-Black College Fund .....	395,000
415-Africa University Fund .....	90,000
416-Interdenominational Cooperation Fund .....	80,000
<hr/>	
\$ 31,450,000	

B. CONFERENCE APPORTIONMENT RECOMMENDATION SPECIFICS:

The Conference Apportionments are intended to carry out the mission and ministry of the Virginia Annual Conference. All balances at the end of the year are to be closed to Conference Reserves unless an exception is granted by the Conference Council on Finance and Administration.

401-Conference Mission & Ministries

This apportionment provides funding for the Conference Common Table benevolences and ministries, including Campus Ministries, other Common Table Program Boards and Agencies support.

402-Conference Services

This apportionment primarily covers the administrative requirements of the *Book of Discipline* and Conference-owned properties.

## REPORTS

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### **403-District Superintendents Fund**

This apportionment covers the personnel and travel costs of the District Superintendents.

### **404-Equitable Compensation**

This apportionment is required by the *Book of Discipline* and is administered by the Equitable Compensation Commission to provide clergy salary supplementation based upon their policies and procedures.

### **405-Church Extension and Development Fund (CEF)**

This apportionment is based on recommendations of the Common Table and is directed to the Church Development Team for use in providing conference-wide grants to new and existing churches in accordance of the policies of the Common Table.

### **406-Virginia Education Fund**

This apportionment is apportioned to the districts at \$600,000 for 2020. Based on recommendations of the Common Table, the following percentage distribution of the Fund is proposed for 2020:

#### **Virginia Education Fund Allocation**

▪ Ferrum College	19.5%	\$117,000
▪ Randolph-Macon College	18.5%	\$111,000
▪ Randolph College	16.0%	\$96,000
▪ Randolph-Macon Academy	10.0%	\$60,000
▪ Shenandoah University	18.0%	\$108,000
▪ Virginia Wesleyan College	18.0%	\$108,000
		<hr/>
		\$600,000

### **Report on 2018**

As set out in the Annual Conference procedures, the Annual Conference is informed, through this report, of shortfalls in the Apportionments that impact Conference Reserves. These shortfalls were managed through budget cuts, contingency funds and Conference reserves in accordance with Annual Conference-approved policy. Below are the stated Apportionments for 2018.

	<b>Shortfall</b>
401 Conference Mission & Ministries	412,991
402 Conference Services	188,207
403 District Superintendents	224,188
404 Equitable Compensation	41,327
	<hr/>
	<b>866,714</b>

## SECTION III — Apportionment Procedures

### A. APPORTIONMENT FORMULA:

- **All Apportionments except for the Active Clergy Health Benefits**

Apportionments are calculated using the last year of available statistics of each local church (i.e. 2020 apportionments are calculated using 2018 statistics). The formula is based on total net paid expenses which are the total expenditures of the church minus expenditures for benevolent causes, apportionments, capital improvements, and payments on loans and mortgages. The apportionments for each church are sent to each district based on decimal calculations from the formula below:

**Individual Church Net Paid/Total of all Conference Churches Net Paid = Church Decimal**

- **Active Clergy Health Benefits Apportionment Formula**

The costs of the active clergy health benefits will be apportioned using a two-tier calculation. The first tier will consist of a fixed dollar amount (\$5,000) per health plan eligible clergy based upon the July 1, 2019 appointment list. The remaining costs after the tier one calculation will be apportioned to the churches based upon total clergy (regardless of classification) compensation (salary plus accountable reimbursement) paid by a church divided by the total clergy compensation paid in the last year of available statistics (2018 for 2020 apportionments).

- The district then passes the apportionments on to the local church according to recommendations developed by the district superintendents and the district stewards.
- The Council on Finance and Administration, in consultation with the Church Development Team and Cabinet, has the authority to set a policy for apportioning newly chartered churches, legacy churches, and second sites of chartered churches.

- Effective January 1, 2016, the policy will be to phase in the apportionments for new chartered churches over a five year period with the first year beginning at 20% and increasing 20% for each subsequent year until the church is at 100%.

- Effective January 1, 2016, for a legacy church as determined by the Church Development Team and the Cabinet, the district superintendent may present a projected budget of expenses to be used in the legacy church's apportionment calculation for the first 18 months of its classification as a legacy church.

- Effective January 1, 2016 second site (satellite & multi-site) locations that are recognized as new faith communities by the Church Development Team and the Cabinet, the existing chartered church may exclude direct expenses of the second site from the apportionment calculation based upon the following schedule:

0-42 months	100%
43-54 months	80%
55-66 months	60%
67-78 months	40%
79-90 months	20%

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- Effective January 1, 2017, for a renewal church location as determined by the Church Development Team and the Cabinet, the existing chartered church will be treated in the same manner as a newly-chartered church.

- Effective January 1, 2020, Ecumenical (multi-denominational) churches will be direct billed for health insurance when they are served by an eligible United Methodist pastor and will not be subject to the 407 apportionment.

### **B. REPORTING GUIDELINES:**

- District superintendents will report the apportioned amounts for each church to the Conference treasurer and the apportioned amounts will be shown on the monthly Treasurer's report sent to each church.
- Apportionments are to be calculated and distributed annually rather than on a quadrennial basis.
- The Annual Conference will raise World Service funds only through contributions from the local churches. CFA urges that district superintendents, pastors, and local church leaders seek to fully implement Section 812 of the *2016 Discipline*.

### **C. IMPORTANCE OF WORLD SERVICE:**

- The importance of World Service to the life of the Church is lifted up to the Annual Conference. "The World Service Fund is basic in the financial program of The United Methodist Church. The World Service apportionment represents the minimum needs of the general agencies of the Church. Payment in full of these apportionments by local churches and annual conferences is the first benevolent responsibility of the Church." (Section 812 of the *2016 Discipline*).

## **SECTION IV — Annual Conference Special Offerings**

Annual Conference offerings provide important and life-giving support for key Conference programs. The following are recommended for approval for 2020:

- **United Methodist Family Services.** It is recommended that December be designated as United Methodist Family Services Month and that each church promote an offering during this time for this purpose.
- **Pinnacle Living (Samaritan Fund).** It is recommended that the period between Mother's Day and Father's Day be designated in support of the Pinnacle Living (Samaritan Fund), and that local church offerings collected during that period be dedicated to this ministry.
- **Heart Havens.** It is recommended that February be designated as Heart Havens Month and that each church promote an offering during this time for this purpose.
- **Annual Conference Offering.** CFA recommends continued support for this important offering.

### SECTION V — Policies

#### A. DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT'S FUND

Overall Policies for the Fund:

- In compliance with the *Book of Discipline*, the current salaries and expenses for district superintendents (DS), and those under special appointment, will be published in the Conference *Journal* with each DS's salary individually calculated and assigned each year as part of the appointive process, using the following criteria:
  - Each District Superintendent's salary shall be \$90,000.
  - Each year, the annual salaries of the District Superintendents are to be recommended by CFA to the Annual Conference.
  - CFA also administers salary-related expenses, to include such items as pensions, supplemental benefits, travel by voucher, continuing education, and other Cabinet-related expenses.
  - The total cost of salaries and related expenses apportioned to Districts are to be based on the current approved decimal system (upon recommendation of CFA).
  - All other District Superintendent's costs, such as housing, district office expenses and staff, are to be paid at the district level.

#### B. TRAVEL & MEETING EXPENSES

Board and Agency members and staff engaged in Conference business are provided and are to be managed as follows:

- The mileage reimbursement rate is set at 45 cents for Conference staff. The mileage reimbursement rate for volunteers is set at half the IRS rate for volunteers (currently 29 cents) for those serving boards and agencies of the Conference.
- Meals are to be reimbursed at actual costs, but not to exceed \$20 per 24-hour period. (Breakfast on the date of departure from home/office is not accepted; dinner on the date of return is not accepted, except when the arrival to home/office is after 7 p.m.).
- Reimbursement for daily room charges is set at \$100, if the travel incurred extends to a period over three hours prior to the starting time of 10 a.m. on the day of the meeting.
- Spouse expenses are not part of allowable expenses.
- To encourage stewardship in this area, CFA suggests: (1) that advance reading materials be provided for study prior to meetings; and (2) that there be use of teleconferencing, where feasible.

#### C. INDIVIDUAL EXPENSES FOR ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Provided for and managed as follows:

- Each charge is responsible for the expenses of both the clergy and lay members (including diaconal ministers) from that charge to the annual conference, working out its own plan of compensating for actual expenses.



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- Persons not covered through local church appointment shall receive annual conference reimbursement not to exceed \$170 a night for mileage, meals and lodging; the Conference treasurer shall reimburse the claimant through voucher of approved expenses. Coverage under this section extends to:
  - (a) retired clergy who retired with pension under one of the Disciplinary options and who are not serving full-time;
  - (b) clergy on medical leave;
  - (c) clergy on sabbatical leave who are members of the Virginia Annual Conference;
  - (d) retired diaconal ministers who served at least eight years in the Virginia Conference and who are granted a retired relationship by the Conference;
  - (e) persons expecting their first appointment;
  - (f) members of the conference who have been appointed to attend a theological school;
  - (g) those serving as chaplains in Armed Forces;
  - (h) deaconesses under appointment;
  - (i) furloughed missionary members of the Virginia Annual Conference;
  - (j) those on loan to other annual conferences, whose expenses are not otherwise provided for; and
  - (k) clergy returning from an approved leave of absence receiving local church pastoral appointments.
- Each district is responsible for the expenses of its district superintendent, youth members and members-at-large.
- Each board, agency or committee is responsible for the expenses of its chairpersons, if that person is not a clergy or lay member whose costs are covered by their charge or district.

### **D. CONFERENCE RESERVE FUNDS**

Policies on the Maintenance of Reserve Fund Levels:

- The Council monitors the Conference Reserves to ensure the ability to cover future contingencies including,
  - a) Reserve funds for emergencies and catastrophic needs related to the maintenance of Conference property held by the Conference trustees, and include: (1) Virginia United Methodist Center; (2) Wesley Foundation buildings; and (3) the Episcopal residence. [The total value of these properties is estimated at more than \$15 million.]
  - b) Reserve funds for cash flow purposes.
  - c) Reserve funds for economic and financial downturns.

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- The Council has set the following target for Conference Reserve Funds:

### **Core Reserves:**

A. 20% of the Conference Budget that closes to reserves	\$ 1,481,000
a. 401 – Conference Mission and Ministries	
b. 402 – Conference Services	
c. 403 – District Superintendents' Fund	
d. 404 – Equitable Compensation Fund	
B. 15% of Invested Assets	<u>855,000</u>
	\$ 2,336,000

At December 31, 2018 the Annual Conference had reserves greater than the target amount.

- Consistent with approved Annual Conference policies (effective January 1992), the use of investment income is authorized to maintain reserve levels. (At the discretion of CFA, excesses may be used to: (1) meet shortfalls in Conference benevolences; (2) meet shortfalls in Conference Services; and/or (3) reduce apportionments from the Annual Conference to local churches.
- Reserve funds in the amount of \$300,000 are available to cover actions emerging from Annual Conference vote, emergencies, support of advances for campaigns, and potential liabilities of the Conference
- Of the amounts reserved: (1) up to \$50,000 is available for emergency needs of the Common Table, with the approval of CFA; and (2) up to \$100,000 may be allocated by CFA between sessions of Annual Conference, as deemed necessary
- The status of Conference reserves at the end of the prior actual year is to be reviewed each year by CFA and included in the Treasurer's Report to the Annual Conference Session.

### **E. PASTOR RELOCATION TRANSITION FUND:**

1. By action of the June 2003 Annual Conference, CFA has established Pastor Relocation Transition Fund and has provided funding through the Conference Services apportionment.
2. Churches/charges which are served by full-time clergy appointed to their charge as pastor may request reimbursement on the following schedule for an incoming pastor, if the previous pastor served two years or less in the appointment to their charge:
  - One-year appointment – Seventy-five percent of the verified moving expenses up to a maximum of \$3,000 reimbursement.
  - Two-year appointment – Fifty percent of the verified moving expenses up to a maximum of \$2,000 reimbursement.
3. No moving expenses will be reimbursed that are not in compliance with the Virginia Annual Conference Guidelines for Moving Expenses as printed in the *Journal* of the Virginia Annual Conference.

4. Payment will be made at the end of the year based on a pro-rata share of the apportionment receipts from the churches.

### **F. CONFERENCE *JOURNAL***

The 2019 *Journal* is to be made available by posting on the Virginia Conference website ([www.vaumc.org](http://www.vaumc.org)) as a PDF file. It will be available as a CD or printed copy upon request at a cost of \$10 for the CD and \$25 for the print version. Requests for printed copies must be made by August 1 of the calendar year, and payment must be made at the time the order is placed. Only a small quantity of *Journals* will be printed and distributed in compliance with the *Book of Discipline* (606.2), to district offices, Conference staff, and those purchasing copies before the August 1 deadline.

### **G. CONFERENCE PUBLICATIONS:**

It is recommended that the Conference-Provided Publications Committee be continued, composed of the following: (1) the Director of Connectional Ministries; (2) Conference Treasurer; (3) the *Journal* Editor; and (4) the Conference Director of Communications, who will serve as the convener of the committee. The Committee may convene at any time at the request of any committee member as long as a majority of the committee members are present. [The committee oversees the production and publication of the conference *Journal* and other such publications and mailings that are appropriate to keeping the conference members linked to the business of the Annual Conference.]

### **H. CLERGY DIRECTORY:**

One copy of the *Directory of the Ministry* is to be mailed to all Virginia Conference clergy (active and retired, including lay pastors and diaconal ministers). Widows/widowers of clergy are also entitled to a free copy upon request. Additional copies may be purchased at a cost of \$4 each (includes shipping and handling). An updated version of the directory is available on the Conference website as a PDF file.

### **I. AUDIT REPORTS:**

The Council on Finance and Administration reminds all district offices, agencies, institutions and organizations receiving any financial support from conference funds or from any authorized conference-wide appeal to be in compliance with the 2016 *Book of Discipline* 617.2 and 617.3 to submit audited financial statements to the Conference Treasurer no later than six months after the end of the organization's fiscal year.

### **J. IRS REGULATIONS:**

CFA reminds all church and/or charge treasurers to comply with the IRS regulations.

### **K. REQUESTS FOR BUDGET FUNDING:**

CFA recommends that all groups requesting funding from CFA submit requests for budget funding to CFA by January 15 of the year the request is being made. This will allow the requests to be reviewed by CFA in sufficient time for consideration at the Annual Conference Session the following June.

### SECTION VI — A Church in Mission

We are a Church in Mission and a three-pronged focus of teaching, communication, and recognition enriches us as a Conference and as Christians. With it, we are able to share and learn further what it means to enter into the vision and share concerns with many people. But more importantly, it sets out a focus throughout our Conference on the value and importance of the unique connectional relationship we have as United Methodists.

Our charter has already been defined for us and it is set out in Scripture: “Just as in the human body, though it is made up of many parts, is a single unit, because of these parts, though many, make one body, so it is with Christ.” (1 Corinthians 12:12). And that body is composed of all of God’s children, including the rich and poor, found and lost, and secure and dispossessed. For as Jesus said, “Truly, I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.” (Matthew 25:40).

As part of that body, we are called to serve our brothers and sisters in mission throughout the connection. Because of our covenant with God and with each other, it is our goal to fund the basic missional witness of the United Methodist Church.

We have much to be proud of as a Conference, as we live out the full meaning of the Stewardship of the Gospel. Our connectional giving — the important life blood of the work we all do together — is a reflection of the great commitment that Virginia United Methodists have to the mission and ministry work of our Lord. The budgets we draw up, while important, are more than a series of numbers. They reveal the very character of the people who build them, support them, and act through them. They are Christ’s work in the world, put into a plan for receiving and spending — collective understandings of commitments to fulfilling ministries and mission priorities. It’s no small thing we do individually, when collectively we are making such big impacts beyond our church doors.

The Stewardship of our Conference is part of our response to the needs we know about, as well as those not yet seen. Seeing the need, then doing what Jesus would do. That’s true Stewardship! It’s our faith in action!

*— Betty Forbes, President*

## BOARD OF ORDAINED MINISTRY

The Virginia Conference of the Board of Ordained Ministry (BOM) serves as the credentialing body for persons responding to God's call as ordained elders, ordained deacons, and Associate Members. These "candidates," following the three-year provisional journey for elders and deacons, participate in late January interviews for full membership before Theology, Vocation and Leadership, and Practice of Ministry committees. "Candidates" for Associate Membership also interview in January. In late February, certified candidates are examined for a three-year provisional elder or provisional deacon journey before Theology, Personal Growth and Development, Practice of Ministry, and Call committees. Besides committee assignments, BOM team members perform other responsibilities in various workgroups (Order/Fellowship Chairs, Call Culture Committee, Candidacy Team, Clergy Effectiveness, Conference Relations, Retirement Committee, Ethics, Extension Ministries, Grants and Loans, Joint Committee on Clergy Medical Leave, Licensing School, Professional Certification, Provisional Membership Team, Spiritual Vitality, and Transfer Committee). These workgroups enhance the broad spectrum of the Board of Ordained Ministry's purpose: "to assist disciples of Jesus Christ with God's continuing work in the areas of call, development, and collegial support." The Virginia Conference BOM is composed of genuinely diligent and committed board members.

Here are reports of some of the workgroups and their noteworthy endeavors since Annual Conference 2018:

**The Grants and Loans Committee** awarded \$12,500 to five candidates through the Excellence in Clergy Leadership Scholarship with the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry. Also, a total of \$104,742.93 was awarded to twenty-seven candidates through Service Loans, Pell Grants, Individual Scholarship Funds, and Clinical Pastoral Education Funds.

**Clergy Effectiveness** completed the third cohort of the Virginia Clergy Leadership Program (enhancing vocational competencies in mission, disciple-making, and worship leadership and preaching), the first under its new design, and commenced cohort four in January 2019. Also under a 2016 General Conference directive, an eight-year cycle of assessment for clergy should begin in 2020. The Virginia Aldersgate Experience will invite participants to engage in a discernment process every eight years to keep their ministry and souls rejuvenated through essential spiritual practices.

**The Ethics Committee** continued its clergy ethics training events across the Virginia Conference called "The Minister as Moral Theologian," facilitated by Dr. Sondra Wheeler, longtime professor of Christian ethics at Wesley Theological Seminary. This event examined the broader ethical aspects of the role of a ministry leader in a changing world.

**The Candidacy Team** witnessed a steady number of people discerning a call to ministry, and a desire for information about ordination in The United Methodist Church through Candidacy Summit events in July 2018, and January 2019. Also, training of mentors for licensed local pastors, certified candidates, and provisional members occurred through a combined event called Mentor Palooza with over sixty mentors trained in August 2018.

When this article was composed, the special session of General Conference 2019 had just completed its legislative session. Certain aspects of the petitions passed could have a

direct effect upon the ministry of the Board of Ordained Ministry. Several leaders of the Virginia BOM will have attended a “BOM MidQuad Gathering,” under the auspices of the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, May 16-17, 2019 at First United Methodist Church of Belmont, Belmont, North Carolina (near Charlotte). This event focused upon the outcomes of the 2019 General Conference, and how Boards of Ordained Ministry will need to respond to actions adopted by the special session of General Conference.

We conclude by offering our sincere appreciation to Rev. Meredith McNabb for her committed service during these past five years as the Director of the Center for Clergy Excellence. At the end of March, she entered into extension ministry at the Lake Institute, part of the Lilly Family School of Philanthropy in Indianapolis.

We are also deeply grateful to Rev. Lindsey Baynham who has served as the Interim Director, and to Kristen Dowdy Seibert in her new position as Program and Administrative Coordinator for the Center of Clergy Excellence.

— John R. Hall Sr., Chair

### COMMITTEE ON EPISCOPACY

The Committee on Episcopacy is responsible for the review and evaluation of the resident bishop as required by *The Book of Discipline*. A process for this review has been created by the Southeastern Jurisdiction Committee on Episcopacy and is used in every episcopal area in our Jurisdiction. We meet with the bishop three to four times a year to engage in conversation around this process and to hear Bishop Lewis reflect on issues in the Annual Conference and the larger connection. This has been a difficult year for our Bishop. A surgical procedure in December has led to an infection and multiple follow-up surgeries. She is currently on a six-month medical leave with plans to return in September, 2019. We are very grateful for the leadership of interim Bishop Pete Weaver who has come out of retirement to serve the Virginia Annual Conference during this time. The committee recognizes what an important time we are in following the called 2019 General Conference, and the need for episcopal leadership. We are grateful for the leadership role of members of the extended Cabinet, Conference staff, the Connectional Table, the Board of Laity and all those in leadership who work together for the good of the Virginia Annual Conference.

—Tom Berlin, Chair

### Episcopal Residence Committee

The Episcopal Residence Committee is given the responsibility for the Episcopal Residence for the Resident Bishop. The committee is to give oversight in all matters related to upkeep, maintenance, upkeep and appropriate insurance coverage for the residence. (*The Book of Discipline*, ¶638)

The committee met on November 30, 2018 to do the annual inspection of the residence with Bishop Lewis. With only a few minor details to be taken care of, the residence is in excellent condition and will serve our bishop well for many years. We also oversee the landscaping and care of the grounds.

The committee consists of Carl Moravitz (Trustees), Betty Forbes (CFA) and me (representing Committee on Episcopacy).

—Shirley Cauffman, Chair

### CONFERENCE TRUSTEES

The Virginia Conference Board of Trustees held their two regularly scheduled meetings in September and March. In addition, further communication via conference calls during the Conference year were also held to follow-up on other issues, including General Conference and VUMAC.

In addition to our normal work, the Board continued its involvement with the VUMAC property by having 3 members of the Trustees on the VUMAC Board. That process has involved extended meetings and conference calls throughout the year to assist in the handling and resolution of VUMAC issues, as well as, the review and study of multiple proposals received during the past year. During this past Conference year, the sale of the Blackstone property was completed.

The Board continues to address property issues related to discontinued and/or abandoned United Methodist churches in the Virginia Conference.

The Board continues its involvement with issues pertaining to the Episcopal residence. Kathy Lutman serves as the Board's representative to the Episcopal Residence Committee (ERC). The annual inspection review of the Episcopal residence was completed in Fall 2018.

The Board of Trustees is expertly supported by the LeClair Ryan firm, our attorney and counsel, on Board of Trustees and Annual Conference matters. The Board contracted with LeClair firm in 2017, following the retirement of Benham Black. The firm, and, in particular, Andrew White and Katja Hill, has integrated well into the total work of the Board, providing expert counsel to us in our current and ongoing work.

The current slate of officers for the Conference Trustees is: Carl L. Moravitz, president; Kathy Lutman, vice president; Clyde T. Nelson, secretary; David Dommissie, treasurer.

I am thankful for the dedication of all the members of our Board as we work to meet the important tasks set out for the Board by the Conference and the *Discipline*. I am especially thankful for the continued leadership of our Vice President, Kathy Lutman, who has stepped in many times over the past year, when I was unavailable, to help me in the many tasks of our Board.

– Carl Moravitz, President

### THE BISHOPS' FOUNDATION

The Bishops' Foundation provides for leadership development of both laity and clergy in the areas of evangelism, spiritual formation, preaching, and congregational leadership in the Wesleyan Spirit. The foundation is led by a board of directors (five clergy and four laity) nominated by the Cabinet. Endowment funds are invested with the Virginia UM Foundation. In 2014, the foundation was dissolved as a corporation and is now a board reporting to the annual conference.

As an event-sponsoring or co-sponsoring organization that supports the training of both laity and clergy, the foundation supported the Academy of Spiritual Formation, the Goodson Preaching Academy of 2019, and Creating a Culture of Renewal Cohort on the Eastern Shore and remains interested in supporting conference ministry programming that fosters opportunities for young adult laity and clergy to help the church in reaching all generations. Grant application forms can be found on the conference website under the tab for The Bishops' Foundation.

Financial donations in honor or memory of a Virginia Conference Bishop are welcomed to continue the educational legacies of our conference leaders.

– Kevin W. Bruny, Co-Chair

### UNITED METHODIST-RELATED SCHOOLS

#### Ferrum College

Since its founding in 1913, Ferrum College has undergone a number of transformations as it has lived out its mission. From a training school to a junior college to a baccalaureate level institution, the College has responded to changes in higher education, regional needs, and market demands, by adapting and growing. We are in an exciting period of evaluation and discernment, and over the past year have rolled out new initiatives that will strengthen the College, make us more competitive, and help us better prepare our students for the futures they will inhabit.

Utilizing the opportunities inherent in our location, the College will launch a new major in eco-tourism this fall, and will strengthen signature programs in recreation leadership, environmental and agricultural sciences. We are preparing to launch our first graduate level and online degree programs, and we are developing a new suite of healthcare related programs that will prepare our students for lives of meaningful work.

Mr. Wilson Paine '07 joined the Ferrum administrative team as Vice President of Institutional Advancement on April 1. He was an accomplished student who continued to serve on the Alumni Board as well as the College's Board of Trustees. Wilson will visit many friends of the College throughout the Virginia Annual Conference, so please extend to him your greetings and hospitality.

We anticipate important changes in the village of Ferrum, with the county's new plan for village revitalization and renewal. Many of these developments, including a pedestrian bridge increasing access to commercial venues in the area, will improve the quality of life for our students.

To provide for the medical needs of our students, we partner with the local Tri-Area Community Health Center which is currently building a comprehensive health center and pharmacy on our campus. This new facility will include space for future development in behavioral health and dental services, and will be a crucial component in our upcoming academic healthcare programs.

Ferrum College's Spiritual Life program provides a sanctuary for a diverse community of students who attend a small group, evening worship, Gospel Choir or Praise Band rehearsal, or who volunteer in an outreach opportunity. Ferrum College Spiritual Life works with United Methodist Volunteers in Mission to offer work team experiences that are organized by student leaders. In October 2018, a student work team traveled to Fayetteville, NC, and in November, another group traveled to Danville, VA. And in March 2019, 17 students traveled to Florida to assist survivors of Hurricane Irma.

As we have for the last twenty-seven years, we hosted the annual United Methodist Women's Day celebration in June. In this way and many others, Ferrum College acknowledges our connection to the Church and thanks those whose contributions assure the success of our students. We are grateful for the support of alumni and friends of the



College and we encourage each of you to share in the promise of our future by becoming a generous member of the Ferrum family.

—David L. Johns, President

### Randolph College

Although Randolph College has seen many changes throughout its history, our commitment to the liberal arts has remained—and continues to remain—unwavering. The College’s strong programs in the sciences, the creative arts, sustainability, and career services, among others, prepare our students to move into the world ready to make a difference.

During 2018, Randolph College launched a new first-year seminar course, CE 101: The Abundant Life, designed to introduce our entering students to a variety of disciplinary traditions and to provide an opportunity for them to explore contemporary issues. The College also continued to expand its online summer course offerings. Our new Master of Fine Arts (M.F.A.) in Creative Writing held its first 10-day residency in July bringing new students to our campus from all over the country—California, Oregon, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Pennsylvania, North Carolina, New York, and Virginia—many of them having already published their first books. Additionally, our annual science festival had its most successful year to date, bringing over 3,000 visitors to our campus.

The College’s Office of Institutional Advancement and Career Development Center collaborated in 2018 to launch **Randolph Connect**, a new online engagement platform for alumni, students, parents, faculty, and staff. **Randolph Connect** provides a one-stop site for news stories, job and internship listings, community directory, past and present photos, event promotion, and mentorship engagement.

Randolph College remains steadfast in its commitment to provide an outstanding and affordable education. Our ability to do this is made possible through the generous institutional grants the College provides to students, which totaled over \$15 million in 2018. Additionally, Randolph raised just under \$7 million during our last academic year, with just over \$2 million designated for the Annual Fund. *U.S. News and World Report* and *Forbes*, among other ranking guides, continues to name Randolph a “best college,” and *The Princeton Review’s Best 384 Colleges* list ranked us #18 in the nation for “Most Accessible Professors.” Accolades such as this one are a testament to our outstanding faculty and their dedication to our students.

The College continues to strengthen its infrastructure. Our final implementation of the boiler upgrades was completed in 2018, reaching the culmination of a project that began two years ago. Upcoming infrastructure improvements include renovations to the Randolph Athletic and Dance (RAD) Center, which will take place during summer 2019, and an extensive renovation and expansion of the Martin Science Building targeted to begin in 2020.

Increasing enrollment remains a high priority for Randolph College. Our Enrollment Management team has unveiled a number of new strategies designed to reach out directly to potential students who are seeking the kind of college experience offered at Randolph. Additionally, we are embarking on a strategic planning process in the coming year.

Randolph College is grateful for the work of our college chaplain, Rev. Jennifer

Moore, and her ongoing efforts to provide opportunities for the spiritual development of our students. These efforts are made possible through your generous support. The College also appreciates the strong relationship it maintains with the Conference and the ongoing guidance provided to us by Rev. John Peters. We thank each member of the Conference for their ongoing support of Randolph College. Your contributions continue to allow us to fulfill our mission of preparing students to think critically and creatively, to live and work honorably, and to experience life more abundantly.

*—Bradley W. Bateman, President*

### **Randolph-Macon Academy**

As president at Randolph-Macon Academy, nothing gives me greater joy than to see our students succeed. In 2018, we had much to celebrate. Our drill team claimed the Air Force Association's Virginia State Air Force Junior ROTC Drill Championship title for the first time. Our band won first-place awards in both the Firefighters' Parade and the Grand Feature Parade at the Apple Blossom Festival in Winchester, VA. Three of our bandmen won awards at the Military School Band Festival. Our Air Force Junior ROTC unit, VA-091, was named a Distinguished Unit with Merit. Most importantly, we continued to meet our mission of being a college-prep school, as our 68 seniors earned 230 college acceptances to 139 different colleges and universities, and were offered more than \$6.2 million in college scholarships.

Our students' spiritual development continues to be important to us. In addition to the weekly required chapel service, approximately 50 students are taking advantage of small group opportunities and movie nights, and 11 are part of our Praise Team. For the fourth consecutive year, we are offering confirmation classes; there are five enrolled in the UMC class and another six in the Catholic class. New initiatives for the 2018-19 school year include an Interfaith Prayer Room, a Spiritual Life Leadership Team that has five students and three faculty members involved in Campus Ministry Institute, and a spring break mission trip.

We have successfully implemented a one-to-one computer program, ensuring that every student has a computer, and we also opened the Hadeed Innovation Wing with a simulation labs that focus on robotics, flight, graphic design, computer science, and art. These technological and design improvements provide new tools and new opportunities for our students. Dean of Instructional Leadership and Innovation Dr. Tess Hegedus and the faculty have been implementing important changes in the classroom; as we focus on authentic, collaborative learning, we are encouraging students to create, innovate, and problem-solve.

Dr. Hegedus has added Pre-Professional Pathways (PPP) to our curriculum; these programs are geared towards students who have a strong interest in a specific area. With the arrival of the flight simulator, the Redbird TD, the final piece of our Flight PPP was complete. We now offer a program where students can take flight lessons, fly on a flight simulator, pilot drones, explore the physics of flight, and even design and build their own remote aircraft. Future PPP's will bring opportunities in entrepreneurship, leadership, biomechanics, and health fields.

I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge that one of our Middle School teachers,

Chris Peter, was named a “Teacher of the Year” by Washington Family Magazine, and our summer camp program was named “Best Summer Camp” by Northern Virginia Magazine. I am deeply thankful for the hard work that Chris and others have put in over this past year. God has indeed blessed us with talented, caring faculty and staff members.

Your support and prayers are greatly appreciated as we continuously seek ways to bring our students closer to God, and for our Academy to be a “City on a Hill”. God bless you all.

– Brigadier General David C. Wesley, USAF, Retired, President

### **Randolph-Macon College**

Founded in 1830, Randolph-Macon College is a selective, co-educational, nationally ranked liberal arts college located in Ashland, Virginia, just minutes north of Richmond and 90 miles south of Washington, D.C. The college achieves its mission of “developing the minds and character of each student” by balancing rigorous academics in more than 54 areas of study with individualized attention between our exceptional faculty and students. The student-faculty ratio is 12:1 and the average class size is 16 students. The college has an outstanding reputation for academics, national and international internships, study abroad programs and undergraduate research opportunities.

Now in our 189th year, the college is larger and more diverse than at any time in history, having experienced a significant growth in our student body in recent years. The 2018-2019 academic year opened with the largest and most diverse student body in our college history. Our student body has more than 1,480 students from 22 states and 14 countries. Of these students, 47% are male and 53% are female. Many are Presidential Scholars, recipients of R-MC’s signature scholarship that recognizes students who demonstrate the highest levels of academic achievement and leadership.

Our outstanding faculty has been recognized for its achievements on countless fronts, including superior teaching, research, and mentorship, creating personalized education for students both inside and outside of the classroom.

The EDGE Career Center is focused on preparing our students for careers and post-graduate success. Faculty serve as mentors and offer important advising, linking valuable liberal arts education with important career and post-graduate success strategies and life skills. The EDGE focuses on providing students with tools that build a competitive advantage in career and post-graduate environments. The success of this program is reflected in the college’s tagline, *Building Extraordinary Futures*.

The EDGE also offers Boot Camp, a signature two-day, off-campus immersion program where students learn to identify their career passions, tell their story and hone their interview and communication skills to prepare for success after college. The weekend is devoted to helping students develop their own elevator speech and “brand,” learn how to communicate with confidence, and identify their strengths and capabilities—all with the help of world-class speakers, interviewers and mentors, including R-MC alumni.

R-MC’s January Term (J-term) is a four-week session in which students can study abroad and immerse themselves in other cultures, conduct a regional, national or international internship, or take an on-campus course in a specific area of interest.

January Term internships provide unique opportunities, and this year, 126 students interned across the country and around the world.

One of the flagship programs at Randolph-Macon is the Schapiro Undergraduate Research Fellowship program (SURF), an endowment to support scholarly undergraduate research by students in all disciplines. SURF allows students the opportunity to conduct original research, under the guidance of a faculty member, and to be paid a stipend. Many students present their findings at academic and professional conferences both nationally and internationally. Now in its 23rd year, SURF has funded research opportunities for over 670 students.

R-MC offers a Four-Year Degree Guarantee, which pledges in writing that freshmen who meet all necessary requirements will graduate within four calendar years. If not, Randolph-Macon will waive tuition costs for R-MC courses needed to complete the degree.

R-MC integrates the value of diversity into the fabric of campus life. Through a wide range of student organizations and multicultural programs, Randolph-Macon seeks to build a community that upholds the inherent worth of individuals in an atmosphere of mutual respect, trust, and civility.

In 2015, R-MC completed its enormously successful Building Extraordinary campaign with over \$125 million raised from 12,129 alumni and friends. In 2018, 36% of our alumni gave back to the college. The college has experienced a campus renaissance, with over \$80 million spent on new and renovated facilities in recent years.

In 2017, R-MC's new science building, Macon F. Brock, Jr. Hall, was completed. This three-story, 30,000-square-foot facility, with state-of-the-art teaching laboratories, plus classrooms and faculty offices, houses the biology, environmental science/geology, and chemistry departments. Additionally, a new Keeble Observatory was constructed in 2017.

The A. Purnell Bailey Pre-Ministerial Scholarship Program was established in 2004 to support students who express an interest in ordained ministry in the Christian tradition. Students awarded this scholarship receive half-tuition for the first two years and full tuition for the junior and senior years. The program includes weekly mentoring, two internships in ministry settings, and support selecting and applying to theology school. 25 out of 37 Bailey Scholar graduates are in full time ministry or currently in seminary. R-MC's class of 2018 saw graduates attending Duke Divinity School, Asbury Seminary, Reformed Seminary, Union Presbyterian Seminary, and Yale Divinity School.

Summer 2017 marked the beginning of two new summer programs for high school students offered at Randolph-Macon. *Pathways to Science* invited rising sophomore Hispanic girls to campus to meet scientists and explore STEM related activities. R-MC recently received an additional \$1,082,291 grant from the National Science Foundation to continue this program for an additional three years. *Convergence*, a 9-day event in which high school students explore the many ways that Christian faith and science come together, is now in its third year. *Convergence* includes faculty lectures and hands-on experiences in regional watersheds, at Shalom Farms, and at other area parks, museums, and venues.

In 2018, the college established a new Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) program, and Dr. Cindy Rubenstein was named chair. The first cohort of nursing students will enter the college in the fall of 2019. The BSN program will integrate R-MC's liberal

arts tradition as it prepares students to work as collaborative members of interdisciplinary healthcare teams. A new, state-of-the-art building will house the BSN program. It is currently under construction and projected to be complete in June 2020.

R-MC's new Cybersecurity major is a computing-based discipline that involves the creation, operation, analysis, and testing of secure systems, networks, and applications to protect against a variety of digital threats. The college's new Writing major heightens students' power to use the written word effectively and with style. R-MC also boasts a new Criminology major, the central focus of which is to understand social structure and social processes in relation to crime, criminality, and punishment.

The college offers 18 intercollegiate sports (NCAA Division III) and participates in the Old Dominion Athletic Conference (ODAC). 2018 was a banner year for the college: The baseball team was the top seed in the 2018 College World Series (NCAA Division III Baseball Championship), and the football team reached the second round of the NCAA Championship. In 2018, R-MC added men's volleyball to its lineup of varsity sports.

The college recently launched an eSports program. eSports—also known as electronic sports or e-sports—is a form of competition using video games in an online environment. R-MC also launched a Show Choir program. Show Choir uses vocals, choreography, staging, costuming and production to synthesize an artistic experience.

The college's equestrian program continues to flourish, and in 2018, R-MC purchased Coventry Horse Farm. Located close to campus, it boasts 70 acres of pasture, has space for 33 horses, and includes an indoor riding arena, two large outdoor areas, and space for cross-country fences.

Student outreach through community service continues to be an important aspect of the Randolph-Macon College experience. In 2017-18, R-MC students collectively amassed more than 23,700 volunteer hours and donated \$42,800, to various causes. Students in Fraternity and Sorority Life contributed more than 14,000 hours of collective service to the community and donated nearly \$27,000 to various organizations and philanthropies. In addition, \$10,600 was raised and donated to the American Cancer Society from the annual Relay for Life. The Students Engaged in Responsible Volunteer Experiences (SERVE) program, in the Office of Student Life, is an integral part of Randolph-Macon College.

R-MC coordinates dynamic opportunities for service and service-learning to help students explore the root causes and contexts of social needs through connections with the greater community. Students are actively engaged with groups such as Habitat for Humanity and the American Cancer Society Relay for Life. There are two signature events each year, The Big Event in the fall and Macon a Difference Day in April. These campus-wide community-service initiatives bring together the college's clubs, organizations and academic and administrative departments to volunteer their time and energy for environmental projects and other needs in the surrounding communities.

At Randolph-Macon College, students bond with their peers, faculty mentors and alumni to build meaningful relationships that last a lifetime.

*— Alan B. Rashkind, Chairman*

### Shenandoah University

Calling 21, the Shenandoah University Youth Theology Institute, and the Fast Track (six years instead of seven) to a Master of Divinity partnership with Wesley Theological Seminary are just a few of the ways Shenandoah University is partnering with the Virginia Conference of the United Methodist Church to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

We remain committed to working with the United Methodist Church to send nursing students to Brazil as part of the Initiatives of Hope aboard the John Wesley Medical Missions Boat. In March 2019, ten students, two faculty, and a leader from our Office of Spiritual Life went to Brazil for the fifth time this decade to care for our neighbors, to educate and inspire our students, and to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

We remain committed to working with the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) to train and send students to areas that are still recovering from natural disasters. Each year for the last eight years, we have sent an UMCOR Early Response Team (ERT) of students, staff, and faculty to an area in need. This year Spiritual Life traveled to Princeville, North Carolina to help with hurricane relief. The state of North Carolina estimated that the fifteen students and three faculty and staff volunteered 576 hours and gave \$14,031 in labor.

We remain committed to working with the United Methodist seminaries to educate and inspire our graduates that feel a call to lead the church as lay people and as clergy. Four Shenandoah University graduates just finished their first year of seminary at three different United Methodist seminaries (Candler, Wesley, and Drew). All four have full-tuition scholarships.

We remain committed to working with the United Methodist Church General Board of Higher Education and Ministry (GBHEM) to educate and inspire students with excellence. This year, Maggie McCampbell Lien, director of Inclusion and Diversity, was one of ten winners of the GBHEM's Cutting-Edge Curriculum Award which recognizes faculty at United Methodist-affiliated colleges. McCampbell Lien's course, "You Don't Have to Be Gandhi: Student Activism in a Global Perspective," was recognized for the engaging content and enhanced student experience.

We remain committed to the United Methodist Church in educating and inspiring young Christian leaders for our church and world. The Shenandoah University Youth Theology Institute engages high school students in a three-credit college course over two weeks in July. If you would like to nominate a dedicated high school student, or you are a dedicated high school student that would like to apply, please do so at [su.edu/youththeology](http://su.edu/youththeology). Calling21 is now entering its thirteenth summer hosting college interns at Virginia Conference local congregations. College students can apply by February 1 each year at [calling21.org](http://calling21.org). Finally, the 3 year plus 3 year fast-track agreement with Wesley Theological Seminary allows Shenandoah University undergraduate students to forgo their senior year and pursue their Master of Divinity degree one year sooner and with less tuition debt. This program offers a streamlined approach for those who feel a call to leading the church and faith-based non-profits from both a clergy and lay perspective.

We remain committed to the Virginia Conference of the United Methodist Church and

have notified the Site Selection Committee that the new James R. Wilkins, Jr. Athletics and Events Center might be well suited to host Annual Conference. With a capacity of nearly 5000 people, we are exploring opportunities to engage our community through large-scale regional events. I hope you will dream about what events we can hold on our campus in Winchester that might reach others as we “make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world” and share those ideas with our Dean of Spiritual Life, Rev. Dr. Justin Allen.

Shenandoah University remains committed to educating and serving the diversity of God’s people, to the Virginia Conference of the United Methodist Church, and the international community that is the United Methodist Church as we make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

— Tracy Fitzsimmons, *President*

### **Virginia Wesleyan University**

Virginia Wesleyan University has been recognized nationally as achieving one of the most profound campus transformations in higher education history. Prominently featured in business journals for innovative best practices, our business model has been profiled in a higher education case study. In recognition of our vigorous fundraising program, we were designated as the 2018 Outstanding Non-Profit in Fundraising, awarded for our philanthropic achievements by the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP) Hampton Roads Chapter.

Having completed the transition to university status prior to the 2017-2018 academic year, the institution graduated the first class as Virginia Wesleyan University in May 2018. Additionally, VWU added the first graduate programs—Master of Business Administration (MBA) and Master of Arts in Education (MAEd)—when transitioning to a university and graduated the first MBA student in December 2018. Developed by a campus committee, a new academic-based strategic plan—Preeminence ’28—was approved by the Board of Trustees on February 21, 2018. The Virginia Wesleyan faculty approved a new general education program in 2018.

In January 2019, VWU’s University College expanded online course offerings through two new partnerships: The Council for Independent Colleges (CIC) Online Course Sharing Consortium and ed2go, a short-term career-training platform. In February 2019 came the establishment of the University’s fourth academic school—the D. Henry Watts School of Professional Studies—which will be in effect with the start of the 2019-2020 academic year on July 1.

Enrollment at Virginia Wesleyan is the highest it has ever been in the institution’s 58-year history. Total enrollment for the 2017-2018 academic year was 1,660, a five percent increase over the previous year. The students included two from Puerto Rico on full scholarships from the Hurricane Maria-damaged University of Puerto Rico at Humacao for the spring 2018 semester.

Rebranding and trademarking of VWU symbols have entered final phases; campus and community response to the transition has been extremely positive, and we continue to be embraced with enthusiasm and support by both the cities of Virginia Beach and Norfolk as well as other areas we serve.

Two prominent additions that have created a “national niche” for Virginia Wesleyan—the state-of-the-art Greer Environmental Sciences Center (GESC) and the highly selective Batten Honors College—have remained distinctive since their start in fall 2017. The GESC has provided new prominence in the natural sciences programs, with Virginia Wesleyan receiving the “2018 Conservationist of the Year” award from the Chesapeake Bay Foundation and advancement to the top-tier Model Level in the Elizabeth River Project’s River Star Business program. Additionally, our faculty have distinguished themselves and VWU in this field. Dr. Deirdre Gonsalves-Jackson, Associate Professor of Biology, was recently featured in a *Virginian-Pilot* article about “hidden figures,” women who have distinguished themselves in E-STEM fields. Assistant Professor of Education Dr. Bill McConnell, with a grant from the Dominion Energy Charitable Foundation, oversaw an outdoor Environmental Explorers camp in partnership with YMCA Camp Red Feather. The Virginia Wesleyan Environmental Institute: Summer Scholars Program for ninth-grade girls also took place in the GESC.

The Batten Honors College welcomed its second cohort of Fellows and Scholars in fall 2018. The full-tuition Batten Fellows have a collective grade point average of 4.21 on a 4.0 scale, an average SAT score of 1344, and an average ACT score of 29. Sixty-three percent hail from Virginia, and over 60 percent indicate an interest in a science discipline at Virginia Wesleyan.

Partnerships continue to grow and strengthen at Virginia Wesleyan. In November 2018, the institution joined the Coalition of Urban and Metropolitan Universities, which supports its 100 cross-sector members’ unique challenges and opportunities. Over 60% of CUMU’s members hold the Community Engagement Classification through the Carnegie Foundation. The Virginia Center for Inclusive Communities (VCIC) selected Virginia Wesleyan as the location to open its first satellite office outside its Richmond, Virginia, headquarters in the organization’s history. In December 2018, the University opened an office for Virginia Wesleyan’s Army Reserve Officers’ Training Corps (ROTC) program. In February 2019, Virginia Wesleyan formalized a new Fair Transfer agreement with Tidewater Community College (TCC)—part of the Virginia Community Colleges’ System with four branches in Coastal Virginia—eliminating previous barriers for TCC students’ admission. The agreement guarantees TCC graduates junior-class status at VWU. Newly formed in December 2017, Wesleyan Engaged: Center for Civic Leadership and Service Learning at Virginia Wesleyan flourished in 2018, the Center’s first year in operation. One of many successful Wesleyan Engaged initiatives includes achieving the designation for VWU as a “Voter Friendly Campus,” given by the Campus Vote Project and NASPA for 2019-2020.

Each spring, in partnership with the Virginia Conference of the United Methodist Church, Virginia Wesleyan University hosts a workshop for UMC pastors that offers continuing-education units. The Boyd Institute complements a variety of programs offered by the University’s Center for Sacred Music, Center for the Study of Religious Freedom, and Marlin Ministries.

Construction is nearly complete for Virginia Wesleyan’s new Susan S. Goode Fine and Performing Arts Center, opening on March 30, 2019. This new facility, coupled with planned expansion of the existing Fine Arts Building, will enhance Virginia Wesleyan’s fine and performing arts offerings and showcase the prominence of its arts programs to



the community.

Also completed was construction on a new softball complex at TowneBank Park and Broyles Field for our back-to-back national championship team. Additionally, the new Betty S. Rogers Track and Field Center was completed, joining numerous other improvements of our athletic facilities. Upgrades to Bray Village, which houses five residence halls, have been completed.

In January 2019, restoration was completed on The Beacon, a symbolic campus icon previously known as “The Bell Tower” and built adjacent to Monumental Chapel in 1975. During the University’s campus master planning process in 2016, the 44-year old tower was found to have structural deficiencies which prompted a generous donor to allow us to strengthen—rather than remove—the structure. The Beacon maintains its original cross at the top—a symbol of VWU’s United Methodist heritage. It tells the story of those who laid the University’s foundation and serves as a light of reason and knowledge that points us toward better shores of understanding, inclusion, and social justice.

— *Scott D. Miller, President*

### PREACHERS’ RELIEF SOCIETY

The purpose of the Preachers’ Relief Society is to assist clergy families faced with emergency financial needs. In 2018 grants were given to three clergy.

If in need, clergy, retired and active, their widows and widowers should apply for help through their district superintendents. Each request is responded to in what the Society believes is appropriate after it has carefully evaluated the crisis and also considered the financial resources of the Society. As far as the Society is concerned the grants given are confidential. The recipients, of course, are free to disclose whatever they wish.

The Society welcomes contributions. In recent years these have been small in number. Fortunately, the Society’s ability to provide grants has been sustained by the returns on its investments. The Dale Mercadante Riggan Financial Group with BB&T Scott & Stringfellow in Norfolk currently serves as the Society’s investment advisor. Those wishing to contribute to this ministry may contact them or our treasurer, Robert F. Cofield Jr., at [atbcofield1@hotmail.com](mailto:atbcofield1@hotmail.com).

The current directors of the Society are: Robert T. Casey, president; Edward Lilly, vice-president; James R. Bergdoll, secretary; Robert F. Cofield Jr., treasurer; Robert N. Baker, III; Sallye Bowen; Katherine Kidwell; James S. Matthews and Harold E. White Sr.

— *Robert T. Casey, President*

### THE UNITED METHODIST CREDIT UNION

Our goal is to be a primary resource for encouraging sound stewardship principles and helping United Methodist churches, individuals and institutions. Our objective is to help our members “to earn all they can and save all they can so they can give all they can” as servants of Christ in the world.

We are a full service financial institution and we operate solely to serve the financial needs of our member owners. Our all volunteer board of directors is comprised of a cross

section of lay and clergy. We help our members by providing quality financial products and services, including savings and checking accounts, loans, Visa rewards credit cards, online services and resources to assist our members with personal financial management. We offer SnapLoan, an educational line of credit for college students that comes with an interest rate discount for students attending a United Methodist affiliated college or seminary school. We have partnered with several conference churches to establish Jubilee Assistance Funds; a program that assists churches with short term loans to help their church members who may be experiencing a financial emergency. We recently partnered with a financial services firm that can assist our members with college planning/529s, annuities, long term care and saving for retirement.

Our church loan program helps conference churches with the refinance of current loans, loans for parsonages, renovations, and vans and buses. We also offer project loans (up to \$50,000 unsecured) and Visa rewards credit cards for church business.

John Wesley was among the first to organize financial cooperatives among the faithful in the Methodist movement and it is in the spirit of Wesley that in 1952 a group of Virginia pastors pooled their resources to help each other and established our credit union. As we celebrate 67 years of service in 2019, our membership has grown to include United Methodist churches, church members, clergy, organizations, agencies and institutions in the conferences of North Carolina, Western North Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia and Baltimore-Washington (*churches and organizations only*).

– Alvin J. Horton, Chair

## UNITED METHODIST MEN

The Virginia UM Men's key initiatives in 2018 were to: relaunch our annual spiritual weekend following the South Carolina model; test a Disciple mentoring program; encourage the formation of Wesleyan Transformational Small Groups at fellowships; focus on service ministries; and continue to accomplish the other goals we established in 2016. Praise God for our success!

In 2019 we will continue to pursue our goal to have our leadership be representative of our membership. We will continue emphasizing the importance of service and discipleship and build on the success of our 2018 Spiritual Advance where lives have been changed for 40 years. Next fall we will update our vision, values and goals for 2020-2023. All these efforts help us to fulfill the conference vision of disciples who are life-long learners influencing others to serve. Glory to God!

**Vision:** *Men Building God's Kingdom led by the Holy Spirit through Christian Fellowship*

**Values:** Service, Excitement (passion), Teamwork

### 2019-2020 Goals (summary)

Prepare (disciple) men for service and leadership; succession management aligned with church demographics; reach new men and their families and mentor new Christians; connect with other conference agencies and boards; prevent domestic violence jointly w/ UMW; Holy Spirit-led Christian fellowship through Wesleyan Transformational Small Groups (class meetings) at all fellowships; Bible studies; grow attendance and improve the Men's Spiritual Weekend; Ignite Younger Men's Ministry.

To accomplish this we need to fill four key vacancies: All God's Children Advocate; Chaplain; Vice President for Membership, and Young Men's Ministry Advocate. Please pray for us!

### MINISTRIES

**Men's Spiritual Advance:** Building on 2018's success, our Spiritual Weekend in the fall of 2019 will continue to follow the model of the South Carolina Conference while taking into account the context of the Virginia Conference's vision. Our two-day Spiritual Advance (September 27-28), will again be in a family-friendly vacation location hosted by Baylake UMC in Virginia Beach with multiple clergy speakers including our Conference Bishop Sharma Lewis and author of *The Class Meeting*, Rev. Dr. Kevin Watson. Our theme is *Transformational Grace*.

A new initiative designed to attract at least 12 men per church is now underway. Spouses are again welcome with special rates for couples, first timers, pastors, and early-birds. By the grace of God our numbers will continue to grow, and we will regain financial stability. Please celebrate our success with us!

**Wesleyan Building Brothers (WBB):** Leadership training continues throughout Virginia and WBB graduates have undertaken the task of developing mentors for both new and young Christians. Advocate David Bean and his team will be establishing mentor qualification criteria having already developed a training program. They are currently conducting pilot mentor training at the fellowship level (Culpeper UMC) using Wesley's 21 questions and corresponding scripture. This initiative will help us address generational gaps in our churches and focus our discipleship on service.

**Men's Ministry:** Three certified Men's Ministry Specialists (Todd Hoar, Johnnie Draughon and David Bean) are engaged in training and support activities offering *Understanding Men's Ministry* and other courses around the conference.

**Young Men's Ministry:** In coordination with the SEJ Conference we have established this ministry to explore ways to integrate and grow participation by late Boomers, Gen Xers, and Millennials. We have initiated a survey asking young church members how to improve the UMM to better serve them.

**Scouting:** We serve more than 16,000 youth with more than 9,000 adult volunteer leaders. Scouting is a key element to our strategy to reach new people since half of scouting families do not have church homes. Part of our success in 2018 is attributed to the addition of girls into the Scout program, now known as "Scouting USA". Bishop Lewis will participate in two more Bishop's Dinners in 2019 having led two others in 2018. These events recognize Scout leaders and support the Scouting Ministry throughout the conference.

**AMEND Together:** AMEND Together is an innovative, prevention initiative dedicated to ending domestic violence against women and girls by engaging and educating men. The General Commission on United Methodist Men has partnered with AMEND Together to create a training course in which men will learn to recognize, respond to, and prevent violence against women. "Good men" must play a critical role in creating a community where all women and girls are valued and safe. This is accomplished through education and mobilization. Only with the support and involvement of men and boys can the cycle of gender violence be stopped. To find out more visit the GCUMM website or

view this video: <https://youtu.be/KskVFJktm0g>



**Refocusing:** We have developed a new logo, motto, and flyer (<http://www.vaumc.org/ncfilerepository/UMMen/MenintheSpiritflyer.pdf>) reflecting our values of service, excitement, and teamwork in making disciples and building God's kingdom. In some instances, districts and other

conferences, as well as the General Commission, have recognized that the UMM brand may have a stigma of "Retired Old Men Eating Out" (ROMEOs). As a result, we have refocused on service through men's ministry with a vision of building God's kingdom.

**Prayer Advocacy:** United Methodist Men supported The Upper Room prayer line with a gift of \$312.50 for fiscal year 2018. There are currently five District Prayer Advocates. Districts that are in need of an UMM Prayer Advocate are; Alexandria, Arlington, Charlottesville, Danville, Harrisonburg, James River, Lynchburg, Rappahannock, Roanoke, Staunton, and York River. Todd Hoar, our Conference Prayer Advocate spoke at the annual York River prayer breakfast on the power of prayer through the Upper Room and on Kairos prison ministry, and distributed Upper Room materials throughout the year.

**Heart Havens:** The UMM, through our advocate David Campbell, supports the developmentally disabled through fundraising, community events involving residents and providing volunteer maintenance and repair to group homes.

**Camp Rainbow Connection:** This is a week-long respite camp held once in June and once in July for individuals with developmental disabilities. Like so many of our ministries, finances are rarely the challenge—it's having enough volunteers! The camp is held at Richard Bland College in Petersburg, and Ron Rumsey is our advocate.

**Prison Ministries:** UMM provides volunteer and monetary support to: Disciple Bible Outreach Ministry (DBOM) which provides the 32-week Disciple Series to prisoners (Gene Mims, advocate); Good News Jail Ministry serving inmates in Virginia's county and city jails; Kairos which provides an Emmaus Walk experience for inmates of Virginia's Correctional Institutions; and GraceInside, a ministry supporting prison chaplains.

**Hunger Relief:** Wade Mays with The Society of St. Andrew, with the help of our UMM volunteers, will have provided an estimated 1.2 million servings of food through July of 2019.

**All God's Children:** We continue to advocate for the children of incarcerated adults. Each year our Annual Conference sponsors 90 youth and children with an opportunity to grow in Christ. Thirty different children enjoy one week outdoors for a breath of fresh air and learning at three different camps. One-on-one mentors pair with the campers giving spiritual support. Our current advocate, Bill Crosley, is retiring after many years of faithful service. We are actively seeking an advocate for this ministry, and are training four young men as a support team. When you see Bill, thank him and wish him the best!

**The Beacon:** Our monthly e-newsletter has strong readership especially from clergy, with laity and subscribers outside the conference taking regular notice of our men's activities. *The Beacon* is the envy of other Conference UMM boards, providing insightful articles, timely news items and promoting UMM sponsored events. Our new editor, Jon Simons, welcomes input!

**Recognition:** This past year the Virginia Conference UMM honored Larry Burian for his years of service and dedication to men's ministry with a fellowship in the Society of John Wesley. We also recognized Brenda Capen, our conference webmaster, with the Susanna Wesley Award of Excellence for her years of dedication and support to both the UMM webpage and event promotions.

**Web Page:** Visit us at <https://www.vaumc.org/UMM>

— Andrew Kissell, President

## UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

United Methodist Women is the women's mission organization of The United Methodist Church, putting faith, hope, and love into action on behalf of women, children, and youth in the United States and internationally. We are a creative, supportive community of women organized around the Purpose, which is "to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ" and "to expand concepts of mission by participation in the global ministries of the church."

Throughout our nearly 150 year history, United Methodist Women and its predecessor organizations brought women together in small groups to grow in faith, learn about their own needs and potential, learn about others, and organize and raise funds so that we could reach out to marginalized neighbors in our local communities and around the world.

Our theme this year has been "Sisterhood of Grace". As UMW we are striving to be a covenant group as we build relationships, speak truth, listen to one another, hold each other in prayer, and do what is best for each other as well as the United Methodist Women in Virginia. We seek God's presence among us in our meetings and our mission work with women, youth, and children.

United Methodist Women offers several opportunities to grow spiritually to women by attending retreats. Each spring a UMW Spiritual Life Retreat is held that brings together 150-175 women from all over the conference. On May 3-5, 2019 the retreat theme was "A Second Cup of Tea with Jesus" with the Rev. Dawn-Marie Singleton as the retreat leader. The event was held at Eagle Eyrie in Lynchburg.

The second opportunity for spiritual growth is for the young women of our conference. Held in September each year is our Young Women's Retreat and is always a great opportunity for young women between the ages of 18-40 to come together for worship, music, sharing, and crafts around a theme. The event's date is September 13-14, 2019 at the Blessings Lodge at Camp Overlook in the beautiful mountains of the Shenandoah Valley. The retreat leader will be the Rev. Genevieve Bowles.

One of our Church's best kept secrets is its Mission Encounter Event held each summer. This is an event shared by Virginia United Methodist Church and United Methodist Women and is for everyone - clergy, laity, youth and children. The dates for the event for 2019 are July 26-28 at Smith Mountain Lake 4H Center. Our website [vaumw.com](http://vaumw.com) has registration forms.

UMW Annual Meeting in October is always a time for celebration. It will be held at Reveille UMC on October 26. The CEO of United Methodist Women, Harriette Jane Olson, will be our speaker.

United Methodist Women around the Virginia Conference are always looking for women to join us in our work and mission! If you are not a member, we would love to have you!

— Mary Jane Rawley, President

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## PROFESSIONAL ADMINISTRATORS OF THE UNITED METHODIST CONNECTIONAL STRUCTURE (PAUMCS)

The purpose of PAUMCS is to provide a supportive base for the unity and fellowship of its members in order to provide individual growth, professional development, continuous education and spiritual enrichment. PAUMCS promotes and encourages the training and support of United Methodist Church secretaries; serves as an advocate for emerging concerns that affect church secretaries; encourages and assists in the establishment of chapters of church secretaries, within or across jurisdictional and annual conference boundaries, and assists in coordinating the program and work of these chapters.

The Professional Association of United Methodist Church Secretaries was organized on April 14, 1982 in Dallas, Texas. Since that first meeting, conferences have been held annually, by-laws and a logo were adopted, working committees were formed, a quarterly newsletter was established and chapters were organized across the connection. Legislation was adopted at the 1988 General Conference which states that the General Conference of Finance and Administration (GCFA) has the authority and responsibility to provide guidance and consultation for continuing education of church secretaries, including establishment of professional standards, training and certification programs and to provide assistance to the Professional Association of United Methodist Church Secretaries (2016 *Book of Discipline*, ¶807.18).

The Virginia Chapter of PAUMCS was established March 1999 at the Virginia United Methodist Conference Center (VUMAC) in Blackstone. Since that time the membership of the Virginia chapter has grown to as many as 90 members and an all time high of 130 attendees at a fall event at the Virginia United Methodist Conference Center. The chapter sponsors two meetings each year: normally, a one day fall training event and a one day spring spiritual growth retreat.

At their National Conference in Chicago in May 2017 the Professional Association of United Methodist Church Secretaries voted to change their name to the Professional Administrators of the United Methodist Connectional Structure, thereby broadening their vision while retaining their acronym, PAUMCS.

VA PAUMCS members are persons presently or previously, full-time or part-time, paid or volunteer, engaged in administrative work in any local church or agency of the United Methodist Church. For a member to be in good standing, annual dues must be paid for the current year. Membership advantages include reduced rates on workshop registration fees, a bi-annual chapter newsletter and networking with other church secretaries throughout the Virginia Conference.

During the Annual Conference year 2018-2019 VA PAUMCS:

- This year our annual mailing went digital. All newsletters, events and updates are posted to our webpage at [www.vaumc.org/paumcs](http://www.vaumc.org/paumcs) and promoted by MailChimp.
- On Wednesday, October 31 we held our “Experience Your Conference Connection” Fall Event 2018 featuring Madeline Pillow, director of conference Communications, who updated us on the use of social media in the church and how to keep up with changing technology and communication trends in the world.

The event was attended by 35 from across the conference.

- Our National PAUMCS Conference will be held March 14-18 on board Royal Caribbean's Independence of the Seas, sponsored by Educational Opportunities Tours. Our guest speakers will be Mike Slaughter, his wife Carolyn, and his Administrative Assistant Catherine Crowell. Topics will include caring for your spiritual life, your personal health, your professional growth, and the others in your community and world.
- Our VA PAUMCS spring event will be held Wednesday, May 1, at the VAUMC Conference Center. John Fuller, executive director of Virginia United Methodist Pensions, Inc. will present an overview of the Virginia Conference health plans. Rev. Chris Bennett, a consultant with The Spark Mill, a Richmond-based strategic planning and consulting firm, will lead us in Discipleship through Volunteer Management.

Bishop Lewis has said, "United Methodist Church secretaries are called to ministry as surely as any pastor. Our administrative staff persons are a part of the ministry teams of our local churches and other United Methodist agencies. It is critically important that we work to develop effectiveness and vitality in the life of these teams. To that end the VA PAUMCS is committed to providing a supportive base for the training and fellowship of its members."

— Susan Mundell Petrey, President

## VIRGINIA CONFERENCE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Much of the work of the VCHS this past year focused on our hosting of the Southeastern Jurisdiction Historical Society's Annual Meeting, July 17-20, 2018 at Williamsburg UMC. The theme of the event was Religious Liberty in the Historic Advance of Virginia Methodism and included lectures on various aspects of our history, historical interpretations, displays, field trips, worship, and a banquet followed by a retrospective and concert celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Uniting Conference of 1968. There was a record attendance of 132 persons and reviews from across the Jurisdiction were of a highly positive nature. The 2019 SEJ/HS meeting will take place July 9-12 at Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia.

The principal work of the VCHS since that time has related to the work of our three foundations and the Conference Archives.

### The Old Brunswick Circuit Foundation

The Old Brunswick Circuit Foundation has sought to give greater visibility to its work through various exhibits and articles, along with the development of a professional-level brochure, all of which were utilized during the SEJ/HS Annual meeting and can be seen in the display area. At the old Randolph-Macon College site in Boydton, the emphasis has been on determining the structural soundness of the Helensha Cottage and preparing the building for future improvements. Much of the work has been done by partnering with various volunteers, United Methodist colleges and youth groups. Efforts are being

made to secure grants to fund this on-going enterprise. At the Dromgoole site, the home of pioneering circuit-rider, the Rev. Edward Dromgoole, has been stabilized, with the age of the house recently determined by dendrochronology (late 1790's). Plans are underway to provide a caretaker's house and rustic campground on site. At the Ebenezer School site plans are underway for repair/replacement of signage and for a more extensive interpretive display at the site, telling its history as the first Methodist school in America. The OBCF elects its own Foundation Board as a certified 501 (C) 3 non-profit organization.

### **The Old Stone Church Foundation**

The Old Stone Church Foundation has developed a display explaining the significance of this first-owned Methodist property in America and is available to be seen in the display area. The Rev. Michael Browder was the keynote speaker at the annual meeting on September 12, 2018, addressing the topic German Methodists Loudoun and the Origins of the United Brethren in Christ. The Old Stone Church Foundation aspires to make the Old Stone Church Site a meaningful pilgrimage destination for all visitors, becoming operational in May 2019.

### **William Watters Foundation**

The William Waters Foundation serves to oversee the preservation, care and interpretation of the McLean gravesite of William Watters, the first American-born Methodist itinerant preacher. In June of 2018, the WWF and the Virginia Commission on Archives and History nominated the site for designation as a Heritage Landmark, United Methodism's highest honor for its Historic Sites, and will be voted on at the General Conference of 2020. The WWF has developed a fine display of its work, which was utilized at the SEJ/HS Annual Meeting and is available in the display area of this Conference. Much effort has gone into keeping the side well kempt with removal of dead trees and plans for on-going repairs and maintenance, funded by generous donations. Heritage is now reporting updates about the site and the work of the WWF.

### **Archives Committee**

The Archives Committee has done extensive work this year developing a detailed plan of structure and oversight, job description for the Conference Archivist (Stephanie Davis) and budget, all of which were approved at the March 2, 2019 meeting of the VCHS. The budget for the Archives totals \$17,000, including salary, supplies, dues, training and misc. Their report is as follows:

The *Book of Discipline* of the United Methodist Church, 2016, assigns responsibilities for United Methodist Church (UMC) archives to the General Commission on Archives and History (GCAH), which in turn assigns archival responsibilities to Jurisdictional and Annual Conferences.

In accordance with church guidance and mandates, the mission of the Virginia Annual Conference Archives (VAC) is to collect, organize and preserve materials that document the historical development of the UMC and its antecedents in Virginia, the VAC Archivist



is tasked with implementing this mission.

To ensure the maintenance of VAC records as prescribed, the archivist is tasked with a vast array of records responsibilities including:

- ensuring VAC records are deposited in the Archives in accordance with *The Discipline* and GCAH guidance;
- arranging VAC records to make them accessible when needed;
- providing research assistance to VAC churches, districts, committees and other entities when requested;
- maintaining the collections in accordance with prescribed guidelines for preserving archival records in all formats, including photographic and electronic formats;
- providing guidance to VAC churches and committees for maintain and subsequently transferring to the Archives records as identified in *The Discipline*; and staying up-to-date with current archival practices and implementing changes as needed.

The current VAC archivist is contracted and paid to work 15 hours per week, which does not allow her ample time to implement all aspects of the job. Most of her time is spent responding to information requests from local churches, district superintendents, and researchers, and accepting new acquisitions. Answering research requests requires meticulous, detailed and time-consuming work. As a result, she is unable to perform many of the critical tasks relating to the maintenance of the Archives.

Acquisitions to the Archives can represent multiple boxes and weeks of assessing, organizing and filing. In recent years the archivist has processed records from over 20 closed churches, several closed districts, the entire Virginia United Methodist Assembly Center Collection, and the collection from the Blackstone College Alumnae Association. With the prediction of more church closings, this job will, of necessity, become even more challenging.

Many of the critical jobs necessary to ensure the collection of VAC records and to provide guidance to AC churches and committees on the identification and disposal of local AC records and the disposition of permanent records are traditionally provided by a records manager or an archivist/records manager. The current, part-time archivist simply does not have the time needed to perform these additional jobs.

The Program Budget request for the VCHS for the coming year is \$6,400.

The Archives Budget request for 2019/20 is as follows: Salary, \$16,000; Supplies, \$650; Dues, \$170; Training, \$400; Miscellaneous, \$380. Total: \$17,600

Note: The Patti Russell Endowment now stands at approximately \$356,000, interest earnings of which help to support the salary and work of the Conference Archivist. [It is hoped that the principal will grow substantially before interest earnings are fully utilized.]

As a final, significant note, the Trustees of the VCHS have placed in nomination with biographical support the names of the Rev. Dr. Raymond Fitzhugh Wrenn and Catherine D. Morgan for the GCAH Ministry of Memory Award.

– John “Jack” T. Martin, Jr., President

### RECOMMENDATION

The Trustees of the Virginia Conference Historical Society, meeting March 2, 2019, unanimously approved the following request to the Virginia Annual Conference and/or District Boards of Mission of the Annual Conference, 2019:

That 10% of the funds received by the Virginia Annual Conference and/or District Boards of Missions from the sale and/or closing of churches be directed to the Conference Treasurer and reserved for the salary and operating costs of the Conference Archives.

### THE VIRGINIA UNITED METHODIST FOUNDATION

In accordance with the Socially Responsible Investing principles of the United Methodist Book of Discipline, the Virginia United Methodist Foundation manages over \$68 million dollars from local churches, investing this money to create scholarship funds, mission funds and growth funds for the Virginia Conference. Our commitment is to live out our core values with a vision for relevant ministry that leaves a lasting legacy for generations to come.

We have a Grant Program where we tithe money that comes to us for operating the Foundation. In 2018, the Foundation awarded more than \$80,000 to local church projects and district mission events. We had 76 applicants from all districts across the Virginia Conference. One of our most rewarding grants was to a mission church that serves a multi-cultural community. We are thrilled that our grant was able to make their budget end up in the black so they can begin a new year of service for their community. This church serves the needy with a massive garden in the summer, a food pantry all year long, Wednesday night dinners for the community and a special worship service in Spanish. It is a haven for the lost, lonely and hungry. This Grant, along with twenty-four others, assisted Virginia United Methodist Churches as they serve all of God's children.

Additionally, another aspect of our mission is to visit local churches and invite them to start Endowment Programs. Such programs can grow each year and yield a percentage towards the funding of mission projects, music funds, building programs, youth programs, etc. The various items that Endowment Funds can fund for eternity is nearly endless. Scholarship funds are popular and are a wonderful way to make sure that younger generations will have the education needed to proclaim the message of Christ.

Over the past year, the Virginia United Methodist Foundation has served hundreds of churches across the Virginia Conference in creating ministries for the future. We are committed to serving every local church and dedicated to helping all God's children, both present and forthcoming generations. We stand ready to help your church or your members design a program that will grow and serve others.

*– Board of Directors*

Virginia United Methodist Development Company, LLC

The Virginia United Methodist Development Company (‘DevCo’) is growing exponentially. It has grown to over \$45 million dollars in approximately four years. DevCo loans money to churches who want to buy land, construct buildings or refurbish current structures. Currently, we have over fifty active loans. To fund these loans, DevCo has investment certificates that pay great interest rates. Churches, as well as individual, can invest in these certificates; hence, our motto has come to be known as “Methodists helping Methodists”.

DevCo loan rates are tied to Wall Street Prime. We are competitive with banks. However, it should also be recognized that the Federal Reserve increased rates four times in 2018. We can reduce interest rates by up to 75 basis points dependent upon how much money the church has with DevCo as well as other factors, such as the payment of apportionments. Additionally, investing with DevCo will produce a wonderful rate of return and help reduce a church’s loan rate.

DevCo offers construction loans with terms up to one year. Permanent loans with terms of five years and amortization up to 30 years often provide lower payments and allow the church to pay more on principle.

An example of DevCo’s mission is Rising Hope UMC, which started in 1995 when Rev. Keary Kincannon was appointed in Northern Virginia to make a difference to the poor and homeless. He started Rising Hope out of the back of his car. The church moved several times until Mr. Edwin Lynch gave about a half million dollars to acquire the present building at 8229 Russell Road, Alexandria, Va. Today, this site serves about 300 families each week. The Food Pantry supplies about 200,000 meals each year. Rising Hope also has a Soup Kitchen that supplies 20 to 40 meals per day – over 16,000 meals in 2018. The church also has a Hypothermia Shelter that can house 24 individuals per night or about 2800 Bed Nights per year. It takes about 250 volunteers to make these ministries operate. During Thanksgiving, they gave away 430 baskets of food and fed 150 hot meals. They reciprocated these same efforts on Christmas Day. How has DevCo served? We helped Rising Hope UMC with a loan to expand their facilities and the Foundation has helped their ministry through the award of several grants.

As DevCo grows, our focused perspective remains: Strengthening the local church to expand ministry in its community through effective planning and ongoing consultation as we manage assets and provide support to fulfill its enduring local mission! We are “Methodists Helping Methodists!”

Total Assets	\$44,165,446
Total Outstanding Loans	\$36,842,641
Loan Commitments for future	\$4,946,251
Loan to Collateral Value	33.28%

– Board of Directors

## A REPORTING GUIDE FOR LAY MEMBERS OF THE 2019 VIRGINIA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

June 20-22, 2019  
Bishop Pete Weaver, presiding  
Warren R. Harper, Conference Lay Leader

All God's People in  
All Places,  
And in  
All Times,  
Are Called to Love  
And to Serve.  
— *Ministry of the Laity*

### **The Purpose of Annual Conference**

The *2016 Book of Discipline* of The United Methodist Church, ¶601, Section IX, THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE. “The purpose of the Annual Conference is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world by equipping its local churches for ministry and by providing a connection for ministry beyond the local church; all to the glory of God.”

The *2016 Book of Discipline* of The United Methodist Church, ¶131, Section II, THE UNITY OF MINISTRY IN CHRIST. There is but one ministry in Christ, but there are diverse gifts and evidences of God's grace in the body of Christ (Ephesians 4:4-16). The ministry of all Christians is complementary. No ministry is subservient to another. All United Methodists are summoned and sent by Christ to live and work together in mutual interdependence and to be guided by the Spirit into the truth that frees and the love that reconciles.

### **Dear Lay Member of the Virginia Annual Conference:**

Welcome to the 2019 Virginia Annual Conference. In The United Methodist Church we often speak of the church's “connectional system.” As the lay member of Annual Conference, YOU ARE THE CONNECTION from your church/district/agency to the Annual Conference and from the Annual Conference to your church/district/agency.

### **AS A LAY MEMBER OF ANNUAL CONFERENCE YOU SHALL:**

Attend all sessions and participate in all sessions of the Annual Conference: “The lay members of the Annual Conference shall participate in all deliberations and vote upon all measures..” ¶602.6 *2016 Book of Discipline*

“Connect” with your local church when you return: “...The lay member(s) of the annual conference, along with the pastor, shall serve as an interpreter of the actions of the annual conference session. These persons shall report to the local church council on actions of the annual conference as soon as possible, but not later than three months after the close of the conference.” ¶251.2 *2016 Book of Discipline*

### THIS GUIDE IS PRINTED TO:

- aid lay members in recording their experiences and feelings about the events of this Annual Conference session;
- encourage lay members to interpret the mission and ministry we have together through our Annual Conference;
- assist lay members in preparing their report and interpretation of the actions and business of the 2019 Annual Conference session for sharing back in their local church.

You make a difference by your attendance and participation in the Annual Conference session, and by reporting back to your local church or agency represented!

### SPEAKING ON THE FLOOR DURING ANNUAL CONFERENCE:

You have the right to speak and vote on all issues except those that have to do with clergy and ministerial orders. If you wish to speak: Take a few moments to think about what you want to say. Make some notes; keep your comments direct and to the point. Stand and raise the assigned color sheet from your *Book of Reports* so that the bishop can recognize you. Then, addressing the chair, identify yourself. For example: “Bishop Weaver, I am (your name), a lay member from (name of your local church and district.) State the reason for seeking recognition and wait for a response from the bishop before continuing. If recognized, then ask your question, call for some clarification of parliamentary procedure, or make a statement in support of or opposition to the matter under discussion. Be brief and to the point! If you have a motion you wish to present, introduce yourself and declare that you have a motion you would like to have considered. When action is complete, write the motion on the approved form and take it to the Conference Secretary. The blank forms can be found near the secretary’s desk (left side) on the stage.

### REMEMBER:

- There is an equal number of lay and clergy making the decisions;
- Standing Rules govern the session (see Order and Procedure and Standing Rules starting on page 8 of this *Book of Reports*);
- Items to be voted on come from this *Book of Reports* and from issues raised by members of the conference.

### GENERAL INFORMATION

To help you while at Annual Conference, please follow the agenda as printed in this *Book of Reports*. Be on time for all scheduled events, including Singing Our Faith and worship.

You are representing the approximately 330,000 United Methodists in almost 1,165 churches which are divided into 16 districts across the conference. It is important that we be faithful to this responsibility.

### PEOPLE YOU NEED TO KNOW

- Presiding Bishop: Bishop Pete Weaver
- Director of Connectional Ministries: The Rev. Marc Brown
- Conference Secretary: Rev. Susan Reaves
- Conference Lay Leader: Warren R. Harper
- Conference President of United Methodist Women: Mary Jane Rawley
- Conference President of United Methodist Men: Andrew Kissell
- Student Chairpersons of Conference Youth Council: Adult Council Rep. Alison Malloy, CoPresidents 2018-19 Chris Ganoe & Lizzy Lawrence, 2019-2020 Chris Ganoe & Ally Shipe.
- Conference Director of Lay Servant Ministries: Richard Speirs, Lay Academy Director, David Bailey

**SELECT, OBSERVE, CONSIDER** while at Annual Conference. A balanced and interesting report interpreting the work of Annual Conference should include “facts,” “feelings,” “feelings” and “flavors.” We suggest that you:

- Select significant happenings and impressions, and then make notes.
- Observe the diversity and unity of our conference and identify some of the challenges this creates and some of the benefits this brings.
- Consider the importance of what is happening here for you, for your local church, district and your conference.

### HOW, WHEN, WHAT will you share of the Annual Conference session?

#### HOW:

- A panel with members presenting different aspects of conference.
- A dialogue between clergy and lay members.
- Be interviewed by someone in the congregation.
- Write an article(s) for your church newsletter.
- Display pictures, resource material, etc.

#### WHEN:

- Sunday morning during worship.
- Administrative Board/Church Council meeting.
- United Methodist Women/United Methodist Men/Youth meetings.
- Adult church school.
- Conversation with others.
- Special all-church dinner, picnic, etc.

#### WHAT:

- Write notes in the margins of your *Book of Reports*
- Materials received both online and in your packet, as well as handouts.
- Resources found for programs in your church (people, ideas, materials).
- Information obtained from display areas. Be certain to visit the displays and the Cokesbury book store during free time.

## REPORTING GUIDE FOR LAY MEMBERS

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### LAITY SESSION

In addition to the regular agenda, all lay members of Annual Conference shall gather at 10:00 a.m., Thursday, June 20th in the Burglund Center, Roanoke, VA for, prayer, testimony, and information related to Annual conference and voting procedure for General Conference 2020 & Southeast Jurisdictional delegate elections beginning Thursday, June 20th at 3:30 p.m.

This guide is prepared for you by the Board of Laity, Virginia Conference of The United Methodist Church. Any comments, questions or suggestions should be directed to Virginia Conference Lay Leader Warren R. Harper, 200 Ladybank, Williamsburg, Va. 23188. For more information, email [warrenharper@vaumc.org](mailto:warrenharper@vaumc.org); or call (757)784-3631.

### MISSION OPPORTUNITIES DURING ANNUAL CONFERENCE

#### ANNUAL CONFERENCE MISSION OFFERING 2019

The Annual Conference Mission Offering will be taken during the Friday morning mission themed worship service. Local churches are encouraged by the bishop to participate in this second mile offering as an expression of support for designated conference priority mission projects and programs locally, nationally and globally. The pastor or lay representative of every faith community should contribute to this offering. Of course, individual gifts are also welcome!

Checks may be made payable to “Virginia Conference of the UMC with **“Conference Mission Offering”** in the memo line.

Our goal total set by Bishop Lewis for the offering is \$150,000. The recipients of the 2019 offering represent again a mixture of long-term mission partnership commitments as well as new mission opportunities:

**\$40,000 Africa University Student Scholarships** - Making a conference commitment to strengthen our support to United Methodist higher education in Africa.

**\$40,000 Cambodia Pastors Leadership Training** – Building on our long term commitment to support church growth and development for the Methodist Church in Cambodia

**\$20,000 Mozambique Lay Leadership Training** – Strengthening lay leadership in the UMC in Mozambique through theological and biblical training across the three conferences.

**\$20,000 Brazil “Shade and Fresh Water” children’s program** – This ministry of the Methodist Church in Brazil continues to expand as our partnership continues to grow.

**\$30,000 Just Neighbors** - Matching funds grant to provide immigrant legal counsel in four districts of the Virginia Conference.

Please be generous in your support of the Annual Conference Mission Offering this year as an expression of our still strong connection.



### MOVING FORWARD IN GOD'S MISSION: 5K WALK, RUN, BIKE & YOGA - 2019

To live out the vision of Bishop Sharma D. Lewis and support the Annual Conference theme, *Moving Forward in God's Mission*, clergy, laity and guests are invited to participate in the 2019 Annual Conference 5K Walk, Run, Bike, and Yoga event on Saturday, June 22 at 6:15 AM. **The Moving Forward in God's Mission 5K** will be an opportunity for fitness, fellowship and fundraising in the Roanoke City Community.

**The Moving Forward in God's Mission 5K** will raise funds for KIDS SOAR (formerly Community Outreach Program of Roanoke). Kids Soar is a Virginia Conference Advance Special and a direct service provider for children, youth and families of poverty in inner-city Roanoke. For over 30 years, this UM mission has addressed the basic needs of poverty by teaching skills, and providing opportunities for growth and education for a successful future. A special emphasis of Kids Soar is literacy—so we are also asking for donations of new or gently-used books appropriate for children grades K-5. Books may be dropped off in the Special Events Center at the 5K registration area and on Saturday morning at the event sites. The opportunity to add a donation to your participation fee will be available during the registration process.

**The Moving Forward in God's Mission 5K** will take place in two locations—first, outside (walking, running and biking,) on a part of the Roanoke Greenway. The second is inside (chair yoga) in a hotel ballroom or event space. All members of Annual Conference, their guests and local church members are encouraged to sign up for one of these activities.

1. *Moving in God's Mission outside*: This is an opportunity to raise funds for Kids Soar while participating in fitness and fellowship while walking, running or biking 5 kilometers (3.12 miles) along a part of the Roanoke City Greenway. On this trail you will learn about and witness three different Ecological zones found within the Roanoke City community. A prayer labyrinth during the 5K will be available for your use. Children (accompanied at all times by an adult) are welcome to participate, however pets of any kind (except service animals) are discouraged. This is not intended as a race and will not be officially timed.
2. *Moving in God's Mission inside*: This opportunity will give those who choose the experience of Chair Yoga, a modified form of yoga, focusing on its meditative/spiritual core and utilizing the mind/body connection. Chair Yoga is perfect for all levels of abilities but is especially good for those with stability issues and looking to start slowly and confidently.

### UMCOR KITS FOR CONFERENCE

While other types of kits have been received in previous years, UMCOR is currently focusing efforts on Hygiene Kits, School Kits and Cleaning Kits.

Collection of the kits will begin Wednesday, June 19 from 4—8 p.m. and continue Thursday, June 20 from 8 a.m.—7 p.m., and Friday, June 21 from 8 a.m.—5 p.m. Contact Kit Collection Coordinator, the Rev. Morris Fleischer (Newport-Mt. Olivet UMC-Roanoke District), at (540) 544-7183 or [morrisfleischer@vaumc.org](mailto:morrisfleischer@vaumc.org) with any questions.

If you prefer to make a financial contribution to enable UMCOR to purchase relief kits, you can contribute \$75 for each cleaning kit; \$12 for each health kit; and \$11 for each school kit. Additionally, UMCOR asks for \$1 per kit (\$1.50 for cleaning buckets) to cover processing and shipping and \$1 for toothpaste for each health kit. **Please do NOT bring checks to Annual Conference.** All checks (for processing and shipping, for toothpaste, and in lieu of providing kits) **should be made payable to “Virginia Conference UMC,” earmarked for “kits” and mailed to Treasurer, Virginia Conference of The United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 5605, Glen Allen, VA, 23058** any time prior to Annual Conference and no later than August 31.



#### Hygiene Kit

*Value: \$12.00 per kit*

#### Hygiene Kit Materials:

- **One hand towel (15 x 25 –17 x 27 inches)** - No kitchen, cleaning, or microfiber towels
- **One washcloth** - No kitchen, cleaning, or microfiber towels
- **One comb** - Must be sturdy with at least 6 inches of teeth; no pocket combs or picks; rattail and combs without handles are acceptable but must have at least 6 inches of teeth
- **One toenail or fingernail clipper** - No emery boards or metal nail files
- **Bath-size soap (3 oz. bar or larger)** - No Ivory or Jergen's soap; do not remove from packaging
- **One adult toothbrush** - Do not remove from packaging; personal advertising not acceptable
- **10 adhesive bandages (¾ by 3 inches)** - Common household bandages acceptable
- **One one-gallon size re-sealable bag**

#### Assembly Directions:

Lay hand towel flat on a table. Lay the washcloth in the center of the hand towel. Place all remaining items on top of the washcloth (except the plastic bag). Fold the sides of the hand towel to cover the items. Grasp the bundle tightly and roll over the remainder of the towel. Place the tightly rolled bundle in the plastic bag, remove air, and seal.

## MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

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### Important Notice:

- All items must be new.
- Do not wash any of the items as they will no longer be considered new.
- Do not include any personal notes, money, or additional materials in the kits.
- Contents of kits or the containers of kits should not be imprinted with cartoon characters, advertisements, religious, patriotic, military or camouflage symbols.
- UMCOR is now purchasing toothpaste in bulk to be added to health kits before shipping to ensure that the product does not expire before they are sent. Do not put single dollar bills in each kit. Collect all monies for toothpaste and shipping place it in a separate envelope and send along with the kit donations.

### Packing and Shipping Kits Instructions

- Complete two packing lists, one for the box and one for your records.
- Attach a packing list on the outside of each box.



### **School Kit - 2019**

*Value: \$11.00 per kit*

### School Kit Materials:

- **One pair blunt scissors** - Round tips only; no plastic scissors
- **One box of 24 crayons** - Only 24-count boxes are accepted
- **Three one-subject notebooks** - No marble composition books; no 3 or 5-subject notebooks
- **One pack of loose-leaf paper** - 100 or 200-page packets are acceptable; wide or college rule accepted
- **One hand-held pencil sharpener** - 1-inch or longer; remove from packaging
- **One ruler** - 12 inches or 30 centimeters long; sturdy or flexible material accepted
- **Six unsharpened pencils**
- **One eraser** - Two inches or larger
- **One two-gallon re-sealable plastic bag**

### Assembly Directions:

Stack all paper items on top of each other. Place all loose items on top of paper. Small loose items may be placed in a smaller resealable bag. Place kit inside of resealable bag and seal.

## MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

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### Important Notes:

- Homemade or purchased cloth tote bags are no longer being accepted.
- All items must be new.
- Please do not include any personal notes, money or additional materials in the kits.
- Contents of kits or the containers of kits should not be imprinted with cartoon characters, advertisements, religious, patriotic, military or camouflage symbols.

### Packing and Shipping Kits

- Packed box should not exceed 70 pounds.
- School kit item can be packaged inside of the large plastic re-sealable bag.
- Complete two packing lists, one for the box and one for your records.
- Attach a packing list on the outside of each box.



### Cleaning Kit

*Value: \$75.00 per kit*

### Cleaning Kit Materials

- **One five-gallon round bucket with lid (14.35" h x 12.19" w x 12.19" d)** - No screw lids; May be used, but must be free from all residual product; Advertisement on the outside acceptable
- **One 32–64 oz. bottle liquid laundry detergent**
- **One 16–40 oz. bottle liquid concentrate household cleaner** - No spray cleaners
- **One 16–34 oz. bottle liquid dish soap**
- **One 4–8 oz. pump spray air freshener** - Three solid or three gel fresheners are also acceptable
- **One 6–14 oz. pump spray insect repellent** - Pack of 10–20 wipes also acceptable; Pump spray bottles must have protective covers
- **One scrub brush** (with or without handle)
- **18 reusable cleaning wipes** - No terrycloth, microfiber, or paper towels; remove from packaging
- **Five scouring pads** - No stainless steel or pads with soap in them; remove from packaging
- **36–50 clothespins**
- **One 50–100 ft. clothesline** (cotton or plastic)
- **24 roll of heavy-duty trash bags (33 or 45-gallon)** - Remove from packaging

## MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

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- **Five N95 particulate respirator dust masks (1–3 mm thickness)** - No surgical masks
- **Two pairs of kitchen gloves** - Durable for multiple uses; remove from packaging
- **One pair of work gloves** - Cotton with leather palm or all leather

### Assembly Directions

Place all liquid items on the bottom of the bucket. Place remaining items in the bucket fitting them around and between the liquid items. Scouring pads and trash bags can be separated in order to fit all items in the bucket. Clothespins may also be placed in a small resealable bag. Secure the lid on the filled bucket.

### Important Notes

- All items must be new with the exception of the bucket and lid.
- All cleaning agents must be in liquid form. No powders will be accepted.
- If items have been omitted, label bucket. Please indicate which items are missing.
- Sponges have been removed from the list of supplies due to the challenge of locating the non-cellulose sponges that prevent mildew. Non-cellulose sponges will be added to each bucket upon arrival at the affiliate warehouse.
- Do not include any personal notes, money or additional materials in the kits.
- Contents of kits or the containers of kits should not be imprinted with cartoon characters, advertisements, religious, patriotic, military or camouflage symbols.

### Packing Instructions

- Packed buckets cannot exceed 70 pounds.
- Complete two packing lists, one for your records and one for the shipping box.
- Attach a packing list on the outside of each box.

## 4 CANS 4 CONFERENCE

As annual conference members gather in Roanoke this June, the plan is to bless that community with five tons of non-perishable foods for the Roanoke Rescue Mission.

### SUGGESTED ITEMS

- 1 can of meat
- 1 can of vegetables and/or fruit
- 1 can of soup and/or stew
- 1 can that may be opened with a pop-top

Boxes of nonperishables such as pasta, rice, beans, cereals are also welcome. Please do not bring home-canned items, out of date cans, glass jars, damaged cans, fresh fruits/veggies, or already-opened or partially used supplies.

For more information contact Herb Brynildsen at [herbbrynildsen@vaumc.org](mailto:herbbrynildsen@vaumc.org).

## CONFERENCE CALENDAR

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### JUNE 2019

- 16-21 All God's Children Camp, Camp Chanco on the James
- 20-22 Virginia Annual Conference, The Berglund Center, Roanoke
- 21 Council on Finance and Administration, 5:30 p.m., Roanoke
- 22 UMM Annual Conference Brekfast, 6:00 a.m.,  
Thrasher Memorial UMC, Vinton
- 22-28 Camp Rainbow Connection, Richard Bland College, Petersburg
- 26-27 Helping Hands Children's Mission Experience, St. Paul's UMC, Staunton
- 26-29 SEJ Youth Harambe, Location TBA

### JULY 2019

- 1 Application available for Provisional, Full and Associate Membership and Professional Certification from Center for Clergy Excellence
- 1 Seminary Student Grants & Loans Application Deadline
- 1 Clergy Development Application Deadline
- 3 UM Center closes at 1:00 pm, Independence Day holiday
- 4 UM Center Closed, Independence Day observance
- 12-13 Candidacy Summit, Roslyn Retreat Center, Richmond
- 25-26 Helping Hands Children's Mission Experience, Windsor Hills UMC, Roanoke
- 26-28 Mission Encounter, Smith Mountain Lake 4H Center
- 27-Aug 2 Camp Rainbow Connection, Richard Bland College, Petersburg
- 28-Aug 2 All God's Children Camp, Occohannock on the Bay

### AUGUST 2019

- 1 Deadline for Special/Sustaining Grant applications
- 1-2 Helping Hands Children's Mission Experience, Woodlake UMC, Midlothian
- 1-3 Lay Servant Academy, Randolph-Macon College, Ashland
- 1-4 MARCHA National Gathering, Location TBA
- 2-4 Lay Servant Academy, Randolph-Macon College
- 11-16 All God's Children Camp, Camp Chanco on the James
- 15 CEMCA meeting, UM Center, 10:00 a.m.
- 15 Provisional, Full, Associate and Certification Application deadline
- 16-17 Lay Supply Minister Orientation, Roslyn Retreat Center
- 30 UM Center Closes at 1pm, Labor Day Observance

### SEPTEMBER 2019

- 2 UM Center Closed, Labor Day Observance
- 7 Board of Laity, UM Center, UM Center, Glen Allen, 9:30 a.m.
- 8 UMMen Cabinet, UM center, 9:30 a.m.
- 9 Conference Board of Trustees, UM Center, 10:00 a.m.
- 13-14 UMW Young Women's Retreat, Camp Overlook, Keezletown
- 14 Bishop's Convocation on Prayer, Location TBD, Richmond
- 14-15 Board of Church and Society, UM Center
- 19 Common Table for Church Vitality, UM Center, 10:00 a.m.
- 27-28 UMMen Annual Spiritual Advance, Baylake UMC, Virginia Beach
- 30 Commission on Disabilities, 10:00 a.m., UM Center, Glen Allen

## CONFERENCE CALENDAR

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### OCTOBER 2019

- 1 Seminary Student Grants & Loans Application Deadline
- 1 Clergy Development Application Deadline
- 2 Church Development Team, UM Center, Glen Allen
- 3-4 Randolph College Board of Trustees Mtg., Randolph College
- 5 UMW Budget Meeting, UM Center, 9:30 a.m.
- 7 Conference Rules Committee, UM Center 10:30 a.m.
- 10 CLDDT Meeting, UM Center, 10:00 a.m.
- 11-12 Randolph-Macon College Trustees Mtg., Randolph-Macon College, 9:00 a.m.
- 12 Missional Ministries Board, UM Center, 10:00 a.m.
- 16 Council on Finance and Administration, 10:00 a.m., UM Center, Glen Allen
- 17 Conference Board Chair Meeting, UM Center, 10:00 a.m.
- 17-19 SEJ BMCR Gathering, Tampa, FL
- 18-19 Fresh Expressions Learning Community Retreat I, Location TBD
- 25 UMW Exec. Comm Meeting, Reveille UMC, Richmond
- 26 UMW 47th Annual Meeting, Reveille UMC, Richmond
- 26 Folklife Festival, Ferrum College

### NOVEMBER 2019

- 4 Ferrum Board of Trustees Meeting, Ferrum College
- 4-6 Church Leadership Institute, UM Center, Glen Allen
- 8-9 UMMen Cabinet Visioning Retreat and meeting, Location TBD
- 11 VUMDH annual meeting, Virginia Crossings Hotel, Glen Allen, 9:00 a.m.
- 13 5 Talent Academy Pre-event for Clergy, Location TBA
- 14 5 Talent Academy: Community Transformation, Location TBA
- 14 Common Table for Church Vitality, UM Center, 10 a.m.
- 15-17 Combined Middle & High School Retreat, 6:00 p.m., Eagle Eyrie, Lynchburg
- 21 Equitable Compensation Commission, UM Center, 10:00 a.m.
- 27 UM Center Closes 1:00 p.m. for Thanksgiving Observance
- 28-9 UM Center Closed, Thanksgiving Observance

### DECEMBER 2019

- 4 Church Development Team, 10:00 a.m., UM Center, Glen Allen
- 6 Full and Associate Membership Paper deadline
- 23 UM Center Closes at 1:00 p.m. for Christmas observance
- 24-26 UM Center Closed for Christmas observance

## CONFERENCE CALENDAR

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### JANUARY 2020

- 1 UM Center closed New Years Day
- 10 Provisional Membership and Certification Paper deadline
- 11 UMW Mission Team Meeting, UM Center
- 17-18 Candidacy Summit, Roslyn Retreat Center, Richmond
- 20 UM Center closed for Martin Luther King Day
- 25 CEMCA, UM Center, Glen Allen, 10:00 a.m.
- 26-29 Board of Ordained Ministry Meeting, Roslyn Retreat Center, Richmond
- 30-31 Board of Church and Society, UM Center

### FEBRUARY 2020

- 1 Deadline for Conference Benevolence Grants
- 1 Calling 21 Intern Application Deadline
- 1 UMM Cabinet, 9:00 a.m., Conference Call
- 5 Church Development Team, 10:00 a.m., UM Center, Glen Allen
- TBD UM Day at the General Assembly
- 6-8 Randolph College Board of Trustees, Randolph College
- 8 Missional Ministries Board, UM Center, 10:00 a.m.
- 10 Provisional Membership and Certification Paper Deadline
- 13 Common Table for Church Vitality, UM Center, Glen Allen, 10:00 a.m.
- 14-15 Randolph-Macon College Trustees, Randolph-Macon College, 9 a.m.
- 15 Clergy Retirement Request deadline
- 15 Transfer and Minister of Another Denomination Application Deadline
- 20 CLDDT, UM Center, Glen Allen, 10:00 a.m.
- 22 Commission on Disabilities, 10:00 a.m., UM Center, Glen Allen
- 25 Conference Rules Committee, UM Center, 10:30 a.m.

### MARCH 2020

- 1-4 Board of Ordained Ministry meeting, Roslyn Retreat Center
- 2 Conference Trustees, UM Center, 10:00 a.m.
- 5 CEMCA, UM Center, Glen Allen, 10:00 a.m.
- 5-8 National Association of Conference UMMen Presidents, Nashville
- 6 Deadline for *Book of Reports*
- 12 Common Table for Church Vitality Meeting, UM Center, Glen Allen, 10:00 a.m.
- 26 UMW Mission Team Meeting, location TBD
- 27-28 UMW Executive Committee Meeting, location TBD

### APRIL 2020

- 1 Clergy Development Application Deadline
- 3 Ferrum College Board of Trustees meeting, Ferrum College
- 9 UM Center closes at 1:00 p.m.
- 10 UM Center closed, Good Friday Observance
- 17-18 Fresh Expressions Learning Community Retreat II, Location TBA
- 17-19 SEJ UMW Meeting, Mobile, AL



## CONFERENCE CALENDAR

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- 24-25 Randolph-Macon College Trustees Mtg., Randolph-Macon, 9:00 a.m.
- 27 Commission on Disabilities, 10:00 a.m., UM Center, Glen Allen
- 29 Church Development Team, 10:00 a.m., UM Center, Glen Allen

### MAY 2020

- 1-3 UMW Spiritual Life Retreat, Location TBD
- 2 UMMen Cabinet meeting, 9:00 a.m., UM Center, Glen Allen
- 7-9 Randolph College Board of Trustees Mtg., Randolph College
- 9 Ferrum College Commencement, Ferrum College
- 17 Randolph College Commencement
- 21-29 Licensing School, Virginia Wesleyan College
- 22 UM Center Closes at 1 p.m. for Memorial Day Observance
- 24 Randolph-Macon College Commencement
- 25 UM Center Closed, Memorial Day Observance

### JUNE 2020

- 6 UMW Day at Ferrum College
- 19 UMW Breakfast at Annual Conference, Roanoke
- 20 UMMen Breakfast at Annual Conference, Thrasher Memorial UMC, Vinton
- 18-20 Annual Conference, Roanoke

### JULY 2020

- 2 UM Center closes at 1:00 p.m. for Independence Day observance
- 3 UM Center Closed, Independence Day observance
- 24-26 Virginia Conference Mission Encounter, 4-H Camp at Smith Mountain Lake

### AUGUST 2020

- 1 Deadline for Special/Sustaining Grant applications
- 30 UM Center closes at 1:00 p.m., Labor Day Observance

### SEPTEMBER 2020

- 7 UM Center Closed, Labor Day Observance
- 14 Conference Trustees, UM Center, 10:00 a.m.
- 11-12 UMW Young Women's Retreat, Camp Overlook, Keezletown
- 17 Common Table for Church Vitality, UM Center, Glen Allen, 10:00 a.m.
- 26 Commission on Disabilities, 10:00 a.m., UM Center, Glen Allen

### OCTOBER 2020

- 1-3 Randolph College Board of Trustees, Randolph College
- 3 UMW Budget Meeting, UM Center
- 4 Ferrum College Board of Trustees, Ferrum College
- 22 CLDDT, UM Center, Glen Allen, 10:00 a.m.
- 23 UMW Mission Team & Exec. Committees, 4-H Camp at Smith Mtn. Lake
- 24 UMW 48<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, 4-H Camp at Smith Mtn. Lake

## CONFERENCE CALENDAR

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### NOVEMBER 2020

- |       |   |
|-------|---|
| 12    | Common Table for Church Vitality, UM Center, Glen Allen, 10:00 a.m. |
| 25    | UM Center Closes 1:00 p.m. for Thanksgiving Observance              |
| 26-27 | UM Center Closed, Thanksgiving Observance                           |

### DECEMBER 2020

- |       |  |
|-------|--|
| 23    | UM Center Closes at 1:00 p.m. for Christmas Observance |
| 24-28 | UM Center Closed for Christmas Observance              |

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### ABBREVIATIONS USED IN CALENDAR

- |           |   |
|-----------|---|
| BCS       | Board of Church and Society                                     |
| BMCR      | Black Methodists for Church Renewal                             |
| CEMCA     | Commission on Ethnic Minority Concerns and Advocacy             |
| CLDDT     | Conference Leadership Discovery and Development Team            |
| MARCHA    | Metodistas Representando la Causa de los Hispanos Americanos    |
| TBD       | To Be Determined  |
| UM Center | Virginia United Methodist Center in Glen Allen                  |
| UMC       | United Methodist Church   |
| UMMen     | United Methodist Men  |
| UMVIM     | United Methodist Volunteers in Mission                          |
| UMW       | United Methodist Women  |
| VUMDHC    | Virginia United Methodist Housing Development Corporation, Inc. |

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## ORDER FORM FOR JOURNAL AND DIRECTORY OF THE MINISTRY

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Name \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

[Clergy: Please enter your NEW address if you are moving this year.]

### 2019 DIRECTORY OF THE MINISTRY ORDERS

One free copy of the *2019 Directory of the Ministry* is sent to all Virginia Conference clergy (active and retired, including lay pastors and diaconal ministers; widows/widowers of clergy are also entitled to a free copy upon request.) Lay members attending Annual Conference do not receive a free copy of the *2019 Directory of the Ministry*. Anyone wishing to purchase a directory in addition to what is automatically sent should fill out this form, detach it from the booklet and drop the completed form off at the Virginia United Methodist Communications display at Annual Conference. Or mail it to the Communications Office at: P.O. Box 5606, Glen Allen, VA, 23058. Payment is requested at the time of purchase. Make checks payable to: "Virginia Conference United Methodist Church" (earmark for "*2018 Directory of the Ministry*"). For credit card orders, call (804) 521-1110 or 1-800-768-6040, ext. 110.

I would like \_\_\_\_\_ copy(ies) of the *2019 Directory of the Ministry* at \$4 each (includes shipping/handling).

Widow/Widower of Clergy: Check here to request a free printed copy of the *2019 Directory of the Ministry*: \_\_\_\_\_

### 2019 CONFERENCE JOURNAL ORDERS

The *2019 Journal* will be made available in the following ways:

- Posted on the Virginia Conference website, [www.vaumc.org](http://www.vaumc.org), in pdf format.
- Provided as a printed copy upon request at a cost of \$25. Requests for printed copies must be made by Aug. 1. Payment must be made at the time the order is placed.
- Provided as a CD upon request at a cost of \$10. Payment must be made at the time the order is placed.

To order a *2019 Journal*, fill out this form, detach it from the booklet and drop the completed form off at the Virginia United Methodist Communications display at Annual Conference. Or mail it to the Communications Office at: P.O. Box 5606, Glen Allen, VA, 23058. Make checks payable to: Virginia Conference United Methodist Church (earmark for "*2019 Journal*"). For credit card orders, call (804) 521-1110 or 1-800-768-6040, ext. 110.

I would like \_\_\_\_\_ regular-bound printed *2019 Journal(s)* at \$25 each (includes shipping).

I would like \_\_\_\_\_ spiral-bound printed *2019 Journal(s)* at \$25 each (includes shipping).

I would like \_\_\_\_\_ *2019 Journal(s)* on CD at \$10 each (includes shipping).

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

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### REGISTRATION HOURS:

Wednesday, June 19: 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., Laity and Clergy Registration

Thursday, June 20: 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Laity and Clergy Registration

Friday, June 21: 8:00 a.m. to noon, Laity and Clergy Registration

**NEWS MEDIA PHONE NUMBER:** (804) 248-1380 (Director of Communications mobile).

No emergency calls can be taken at this number.

**PER DIEM:** By conference action, retirees, persons receiving their first appointment and selected others (see page 125 of this *Book of Reports* for the list) are authorized to receive reimbursement for expenses to attend Annual Conference. This reimbursement is not to exceed \$170 per night (\$340 maximum reimbursement, receipts required,) and is subject to the limitations of conference approved rates. Vouchers will be available online at [www.vaumc.org/AC2019](http://www.vaumc.org/AC2019) and at the VUMPI display in the Special Events Center and should be submitted to the Conference Treasurer's Office with appropriate receipts. The Conference Treasurer encourages all reimbursements to be made by direct deposit. Instructions will be attached to the vouchers to make provisions for direct deposit. Vouchers will not be accepted after July 31st.

**MESSAGE BOARD RULES:** Persons needing to page someone at the conference must go to the pages' desk. The pages will see that the name of the person being paged is put on the electronic message board. This message will run twice only; however, they will not be shown during worship or major program presentations. The individual will be asked to come to the pages' desk for his or her message. If the message is not retrieved from the pages' desk during that session, the message will be placed on a bulletin board at the information booth. The bulletin board will be cleared of unclaimed messages at the end of each day.

**BANQUETS:** A list of banquets is included with the mailing of this *Book of Reports*. Other information may be obtained from the banquet host or from the information desk at the Berglund Center Coliseum.

**FOOD SERVICE:** The Berglund Center Food and Beverage Services will provide several concession stands with menu options that will include items healthy items for snack and meal options as well as a variety of beverages.

**CHILDCARE:** South Roanoke UMC (2330 Jefferson Street, SE, Roanoke, VA 24014) will be hosting paid child care during Annual Conference this year. Child care for ages 0 through 12 years old will be offered Thursday, June 20, 8 a.m.- 5:30 pm. and 7-9:30 p.m.; Friday, June 21, 8:00 a.m.-5:30 pm. and 7-9:30 p.m.; and Saturday, June 22, 8:00 a.m. – 12:30 pm. Due to safety concerns, we cannot accommodate walk-ins. Please, access <https://www.etouches.com/2019acchildcare> and see the costs to register. Early registration will help us have an appropriate number of childcare staff and ample resources for the conference. The deadline for registrations is May 31. Childcare staff members are professionally trained and meet all Safe Sanctuaries requirements which includes a background check. For questions regarding childcare, please contact Rev.Mikang Kim at [mikangkim@vaumc.org](mailto:mikangkim@vaumc.org) or Heather Case at [heathercase@whumc.roacoxmail.com](mailto:heathercase@whumc.roacoxmail.com).

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

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**ACCESSIBLE PARKING:** 100 designated accessible parking spaces will be available in the front lot (on Williamson Rd.) of the Berglund Center. For wheelchair access, please use Gate 2 to enter the building.

**WHEELCHAIR SEATING SECTIONS:** Reserved areas for those who use wheelchairs or scooters will be available within the bar of the conference on both the main arena floor of the Coliseum; on the inner concourse level at Boxes 1, 3, 7 and 9; and in the corners of the inner concourse near boxes 1 and 12. The easiest access into the Coliseum for those with mobility challenges is on the concourse level Gate 2. There is access to the Coliseum floor from the concourse by chair lift located between gates 1 and 2. Near Gate 5, there is an indoor accessible route between the Coliseum (concourse level) and Special Events Center that will be clearly marked.

**ACCESS TO RESTROOMS:** Restrooms at gates 1-2 and 11-12 provide the best access for people using wheelchairs. Ushers will be available to assist persons using wheelchairs should they need help entering restrooms that have lips.

**ACCESS FOR THOSE WITH HEARING AND VISION CHALLENGES:** Assisted listening receivers will be available with sign-out of the equipment at the Accessibility table. American Sign Language interpreters will be provided for all sessions. Requests for large print materials should be made by June 13. A limited number of large print materials of the Book of Reports and the Memorial and Ordination Services will be available at the Accessibility table. For more information, contact Mark Ogren, 1-800-768-6040 or 804-521-1100, ext. 155 or 156.

**TO ORDER JOURNALS OR CLERGY/DIACONAL DIRECTORIES:** An order form is available on page 171 of this *Book of Reports*. Order forms will also be available at the information desk and at the communications display table in the Berglund Special Events Center; or call the communications office at 1-800-768-6040 or (804) 521-1100, ext. 110.

