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The Virginia United Methodist

July 2013

Advocate

What we can
learn from
megachurches
*(and what they
can learn from us)*



2013-2014 Appointments on pages 11-21

Connecting with the



Virginia Advocate

The official magazine of
the Virginia Conference of
The United Methodist Church

FROM THE EDITOR



Neill Caldwell
Editor

Bigger isn't
always
better



People come up and give me feedback when I am out and about, most of it about the magazine but sometimes about their churches. Twice in the past few weeks, in different areas of the conference, someone came up to me with almost the exact same message: "We are losing folks – especially young folks – to the megachurch down the street and we don't know what to do about it."

When something happens twice like that, we media types say that it must be a trend, so we tried to come up with a focus for this all-important appointments issue of the *Advocate* that would address the problem without making everyone angry.

First of all, we're certainly not promoting these huge non-denominational churches. But anyone without their head in the sand can see that these churches must be doing something right.

It's human nature to be competitive, even about the number of cars in our parking lot. But I don't think Jesus cares one whit about where you worship, just as long as you are getting your spiritual needs met. It's much better to try and be the best congregation you can be rather than being the next big thing.


And what's wrong with being small? I often tell people that if one or two families started coming to the small church I attend, it would make a huge difference. If one or two families start coming to a megachurch, no one would even notice. Small churches are like families; we know everything everyone is doing, how everyone is feeling, what's happening in people's lives. I believe that's what the Kingdom of God is supposed to be like.

(That may be why, nationwide, the megachurch model now seems to have peaked and there's a new trend growing in popularity: the house church!)

But the question lingers... how can our United Methodist churches of all sizes be more vibrant, more ... vital?

One solution might be to move from an "attractional" mode – what can we do to make our church more attractive? – to a "missional" mindset. Instead of expecting the community to come to you, you go out into the community. That's what our United Methodist "Rethink Church" campaign is all about: taking the church out beyond the four walls of the sanctuary on Sunday mornings to be a 24/7 kind of church. Be in mission to the people just beyond your property line. Get out and talk to your neighbors. You'd be amazed what kinds of needs are out there. Pick one – or two, or ten – and try to help solve it.

Solution number two is that we must provide something of value for young adults and youths, a reason for them to stick around. Megachurches draw these age groups because they are almost 100 percent focused on doing so. We must take a page from that playbook.

And finally, we need to be more welcoming. About 99 percent of congregations believe they are "friendly." The true figure is a lot smaller. Plus we have to be more proactive in welcoming, practicing what Bishop Schnaze calls "Radical Hospitality," much like in the mission field. In other words, don't wait on people to show up at your doorstep, go out there and grab them! 

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available upon request.

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Deadlines

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Advertising/Tributes

Rates for advertising and tributes are available upon request.

Local Church News

Items should be typed (preferably sent via e-mail) or printed legibly, no more than 100 words, and of conference-wide interest. Complete names of individuals, churches and districts should be included. Because of space limitations, the Local Church section prohibits news items related to church members' birthdays (of less than 100 years), wedding anniversaries, receptions for moving and/or retiring pastors, photos of traditional Christmas trees or Easter trees/crosses, and any item over two months old. Color photos are encouraged. Photos returned only if submitted with a stamped, self-addressed envelope. Photos included on a space available basis. The editor reserves the right to edit all copy or refuse publication.

Letters

Letters to the Editor are printed on a space-available basis. Letters should be limited to 150 words for space reasons. The *Advocate* will not print letters addressing a topic beyond two months of the publication of that issue. The *Advocate* editor reserves the right to edit all letters.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS



SECTIONS

- 4** **Commentary and Letters**
- 6-10** **Virginia**
- 32-34** **Nation & World**
- 36** **Local Church**
- 37** **Events**
- 38-39** **Living the Word**
- 40** **Clergy & Diaconal**
- 42** **From the Bishop**
- 43** **One Last Word**



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FEATURES

- 22-27** What we can learn from megachurches (and they from us)
- 28-29** Where have all our young adults gone?

APPOINTMENTS LISTING

- 11-21** List of churches and pastors for 2013-2014

NEWS

- 6** 5 Talent Academy to hear from expert on worship
- 6** Voices of Youth to tour in early July
- 8** Chaplain Service continues prison ministry
- 10** Foundation expands programs, staff
- 30** Board of Discipleship offers to better equip churches
- 33** Chaplain writes about ministering during Boston attack

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Ten reasons why bishops shouldn't meet in private

By Joe E. Pennel Jr.

As one of the retired bishops, I join those who are concerned about the active bishops meeting as a closed "forum," as they did in San Diego in May.

The word "forum" is a public word. Its derivation comes from the open space or market place in an ancient Roman city. It is also used by organizations that hold public meetings for reflections and discussions around themes of common interest.

"Forum"

does not mean closed meeting. It means just the opposite. I want to suggest several reasons why The United Methodist Church would be more vital if this did not happen.

First, it is advantageous for believers to experience the theological and geographical diversity of the bishops. In many ways the meetings are like the entire church reduced to one room. If we look carefully, we experience the Christ who transcends our differences to make us one.

Second, the global nature of the church is experienced in these meetings.

It does no harm for us to be open to this experience.

Third, it is restoring to witness how active bishops reflect theologically on issues such as sexuality, ordination, evangelism and the mission of the church in the world. Having complete transparency on

these and other opportunities will strengthen the witness of The United Methodist Church.

Fourth, others can learn how to share and work with best practices by watching how the bishops

go about this important task. Why not have these best practices published by our religious press so that all could benefit? The presence of retired bishops could also contribute to best practices since experience is one of our great teachers. Practices that strengthened our witness in the past might also be employed today.

Fifth, we are living in a time when there is a growing interest in spiritual retreats. More and more Christians are interested in prayer, meditation, searching the scriptures and keeping the spiritual disciplines.

Others could be helped and informed by how the bishops engage the inner life. Bishop Rosemarie Wenner of Germany, president of the council, described such meetings as "mainly spiritual retreats." If this is true, why should anyone be excluded from such opportunities to grow in grace? Modeling spirituality for the church is a genuine need. Mr. Wesley taught us that social concern grows out of vital piety.

Sixth, it could be beneficial if the whole church could witness how the bishops labor to "make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world." I know from my experience that the bishops are committed to this mission. Why close the meeting so that others cannot experience the fervor around this mandate? Making disciples is one of the ways that we practice the ministry of reconciliation.

Seventh, I doubt that the bishops would suggest closed meetings for local congregations. I say this because the Christian religion is by its very nature a communal religion. We want persons to be fully engaged in the community of faith. The communal nature of Methodism is compromised by not having open minds, open hearts and open doors.

Eighth, it is worth noting that the retired bishops are also excluded from the meetings of the forum. We



Commentary by
Bishop Joe E. Pennel Jr.



are not residential but we are active. Retired bishops serve as professors, chaplains, writers, consultants, interim pastors, handling of complaints and spiritual directors. Our experiences could contribute to the conversation in ways that might be helpful to all concerned. In a word, some of us would gladly serve as a resource to both the active and retired bishops.

Ninth, the forum does not carry out the intention of paragraph 4 of our Constitution. It states: "In The United Methodist Church, no conference or other organizational unit of the Church shall be structured so as to exclude any member or any constituent body of the Church because of race, color, national origin, status or economic condition." The word "structured" is the key word as it relates to closed meetings.

Tenth, the high purpose of the Church is to reconcile people to God and to each other after the example of Christ. All that we do should be done in the spirit of reconciliation. I believe that we can better practice reconciliation by being open in all of our practices.

The Council is made up of persons of deep commitment to the mission of The United Methodist Church. These persons, as a group, want to lead the Church to be an instrument through which Christ can work. I have been in Council of Bishops meetings when

there have been serious theological differences between bishops. Such differences were aired at the mike and with great passion. After the adjournment I have seen the very same bishops hug each other as an expression of love for God and neighbor.

There are times when the meetings do need to be closed because of delicate needs and issues that affect the soul of the church. There should be a place and a time to adjourn into closed session, but having closed meetings contradicts the spirit of Wesley when he said, "do all the good you can, by all of the means you can, in all of the ways you can, in all of the places you can, at all of the times you can, to all of the people you can, as long as ever you can."

-Former Virginia Conference Bishop Joe Pennel is a professor of the practice of leadership at Vanderbilt Divinity School in retirement.

Gays are not made to feel welcome

I was very excited to read in the May issue of the *Advocate* about the news of Fairlington UMC becoming a Reconciling Congregation. My enthusiasm was due, in part, to the fact that my daughter, Hannah, had recently joined Fairlington, and I knew she would welcome this news. I'm very glad that my daughter is a member of such an open and progressive congregation.

The other reason for

my excitement was the decision by Fairlington itself. What a courageous and compassionate witness for the true inclusivity of Christ's church.

Sadly, the gay and lesbian community does not often find such a welcome and outreach from our United Methodist churches. My hope is that, in the not too distant future, our annual conference will not have just three Reconciling Congregations, but dozens or even hundreds of churches willing to welcome the LGBT community.

By the way, the Reconciling Ministries Network includes individuals as well as congregations to become members and support their important work of inclusivity. I recently became a member and I encourage fellow Virginia United Methodist clergy and laity to join also. For more information, visit www.rmnetwork.org.

The Rev. Stephen A. Rhodes, Henrico

Reconciling church makes

hy is it important to be a "Reconciling Congregation?" At Beverley Hills Community United Methodist Church in Alexandria, that question was discussed for several months last year.

It was not an issue of acceptance for those who are LGBT, since ALL are welcome at Beverley Hills. It was more a question of why we needed to make a statement.

A friend likened it to the path of a slinky! It is necessary to move ahead in order for the other part of the slinky to follow.

It is important to let The United Methodist Church know that we disagree with the current statement in the *Book of Discipline*. It is important to let the community know that we are an accepting and open church. It is important to remind ourselves that there is still inequality in our denomination and in our state and in our country.

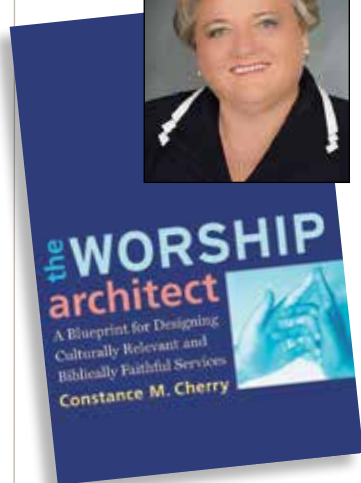
Jesus loved everyone. John Wesley called us to serve everyone. Beverley Hills Community Church voted by 98 percent to become a Reconciling Congregation in June of 2012. We didn't make a big deal of it, because we really didn't change as a church community. But, maybe we should have made a big deal. It is a big deal. We are willing to stand up for equality for ALL the children of God.

Karen Beasley, Church Council chair, Beverley Hills Community UMC, Alexandria

The United Methodist connection in VIRGINIA



5 Talent Academy to bring in expert on worship in the fall



The next session of the 5 Talent Academy, the conference's "All Things New" leadership training for existing congregations, will feature a well-known worship designer.

"How to Craft a Powerful and Meaningful Worship Experience" will be offered Oct. 15 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The speaker will be Rev. Dr. Constance Cherry, author of *The Worship Architect: A Blueprint for*

Designing Culturally Relevant and Biblically Faithful Services. Cherry currently serves as Professor of Worship and Pastoral Ministry at Indiana Wesleyan University, where she directs the major in Christian Worship.

This 5 Talent Academy event will be ideal for those involved with planning and designing worship, including musicians, lay leadership and clergy. It will provide participants with immediate, practical and useful ideas to help your church design a worship experience with both the member and guest in mind.

The cost is \$25 per person; lunch will be provided. One-half CEU will be offered.

Cherry will speak live at Ebenezer UMC, on Embrey Mill Road in Stafford. But, as in the last two 5 Talent Academy events, the session will be live-streamed to these locations: Eastern Shore: Franktown UMC, 7551 Bayside Rd., Franktown; Richmond: Good Shepherd UMC, 9155 Hungary Rd., Richmond; Danville: First UMC, 146 East Main St., Martinsville; Shenandoah Valley: Bridgewater UMC, 219 N. Main St., Bridgewater; Tidewater: Aldersgate UMC, 4320 Bruce Rd., Chesapeake.

Learn more at the conference website, www.vaumc.org, under "Ministries" and "Congregational Excellence." 📖

Voices of Youth choir touring in early July

Voices of Youth, the summertime youth choir experience sponsored by the Virginia Conference, will conduct its "In Our Own Backyards" tour during the early part of July. After a time of

orientation, group building and rehearsal, participants will travel around the conference, participating in local mission projects during the day and presenting worship experiences in host churches in the evenings. For more information visit www.voyva.org, or e-mail Jennifer Dixon at coordinator@voyva.org.



Monday, July 1, 7 p.m.

Elizabeth River District
Community UMC
1072 Old Kempsville Rd.
Virginia Beach, 23464

Tuesday, July 2, 7 p.m.

James River District
Chester UMC
12132 Percival St.
Chester, 23831

Wednesday, July 3, 7 p.m.

York River District
New Hope UMC
2466 Lewis Puller Mem. Hwy.
Saluda, 23149

Schedule

Sunday, June 30, 7 p.m.

Eastern Shore District
Drummondtown UMC
23457 Drummondtown Rd.
Accomac, 23301



The United Methodist connection in VIRGINIA

Woodlake members walk to new worship site

The congregation of Woodlake United Methodist Church assembled for one last time at its Woodlake campus on Sunday, May 26, and then walked together to their new church home in the Hampton Park community.

At the final worship service, Woodlake's senior pastor, the Rev. Dr. Peter Moon, offered a homily to celebrate the congregation's quarter century at its Woodlake location, followed by the celebration of communion.

More than 800 members of the congregation made their way on foot to the church's new sanctuary at 15640 Hampton Park Drive.

Accompanying the congregation were several Boy Scout units which are sponsored by the church. Along the way, the congregation saluted the places where it has worshipped during its 25 years – the pavilion at Swift Creek Reservoir, Clover Hill Elementary School and Cosby High School.

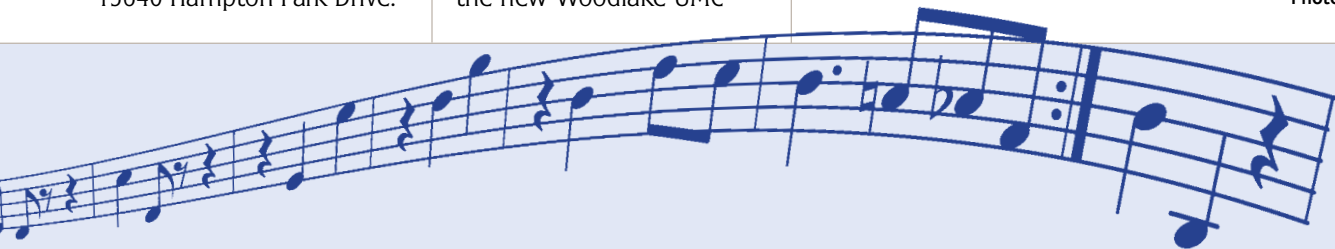
The congregation reassembled at the Hampton Park location for its first service of worship in the worship center that has just been completed. After worship, everyone was invited to tour the new building and enjoy a picnic lunch on the grounds.

The grand opening of the new Woodlake UMC

worship center at Hampton Park was celebrated with special worship services the weekend of June 8-9. 🇺🇸



Photo by Jim Waggoner



Friday, July 5, 7 p.m.

Richmond District
St Matthews UMC
1706 St Matthews Lane
Richmond, 23233

Saturday, July 6, 7 p.m.

Roanoke District
Northview UMC
521 Ridgecrest Dr.
Roanoke, 24019

Sunday, July 7, 11 a.m.

Danville District
Redwood UMC
3001 Old Franklin Trnkp.
Rocky Mount, 24151

Sunday, July 7, 7 p.m.

Farmville District
The Journey UMC
20371 Patrick Henry Hwy.
Jetersville, 23083

Monday, July 8, 7 p.m.

Lynchburg District
Fort Hill UMC
106 Oakridge Blvd.
Lynchburg, 24502

Tuesday, July 9, 7 p.m.

Charlottesville District
Stanardsville UMC
25 Court St.
Stanardsville, 22973

Wednesday, July 10, 7 p.m.

Staunton District
Main Street UMC
601 Main St.
Waynesboro, 24401

Thursday, July 11, 7 p.m.

Harrisonburg District
Otterbein UMC
176 W. Market St.
Harrisonburg, 22801

Friday, July 12, 7 p.m.

Winchester District
Stephen's City UMC
5291 Main St.
Stephen's City, 22655

Saturday, July 13, 5 p.m.

Alexandria District
Burke UMC
6200 Burke Center Pkwy.
Burke, 22015

Sunday, July 14, 11 a.m.

Fredericksburg District
Melrose UMC
1317 Lewisetta Rd.
Lottsburg, 22511

Sunday, July 14, 7 p.m.

Richmond District
Duncan Memorial UMC
201 Henry St.
Ashland, 23005

The United Methodist connection in VIRGINIA



Despite 'challenging year,' Chaplain Service continues spiritual leadership in Virginia prisons

By Barbara Francis

The picture window in the new office of the Chaplain Service Prison Ministry of Virginia overlooks the courtyard at the Virginia Baptist Resource Center, giving Randy Myers and his staff a view of a fountain and tranquil greenery. That's a stark contrast from an office in an aging building with a view of a deteriorating parking deck, said Myers, the Chaplain Service's president.

It's one of several new beginnings for the organization founded by seven Protestant denominations in 1920 as the Chaplain Service of the Churches of Virginia to provide chaplains to Virginia adult prisons and juvenile facilities, he said.

"The reason that the Chaplain Service was formed is because the constitution of the Commonwealth of Virginia prohibits it from hiring or compensating chaplains for state prisons," said Myers, noting that Virginia is the only state in the nation that does not subsidize prison chaplains. Recognizing the need for Protestant chaplains in state facilities, the Chaplain Service was

formed and for 82 years provided chaplains at no cost to Virginia.

"In the early days of this ministry there were only a handful of chaplains. The prison system and juvenile facilities were very small," Myers said. Today there are more than 30,000 adult offenders in state correctional centers and 2,000 in juvenile facilities. The Chaplain Service has 30 chaplains in 30 of Virginia's 40 prisons to reach that population.

"2012 was a year of great challenge for this ministry," said Myers. In April its president of 17 years, the Rev. Cecil McFarland, died. A United Methodist pastor who had served churches in Virginia and Tennessee, McFarland became the executive director, and later president, of the Chaplain Service Prison Ministry of Virginia in 1995.

Myers was elected president on May 1, 2012. A Baptist minister, he had worked for the Virginia Department of Corrections (DOC) for 16 years before joining the Chaplain Service in 2006. As vice president he served primarily as the Chaplain Service's religious advisor to the DOC. He is a member of Powhatan Community Church.

At the same time Joyce Minor was elected vice president. She brought with her 14 years of experience as Virginia's representative with Prison Fellowship Ministries, where she headed up its faith-based

re-entry programs for men and women. She continues to serve in a similar role for the Chaplain Service.

Early in 2012 the Chaplain Service learned its tax-exempt status had been revoked by the Internal Revenue Service. This resulted in a year of calls and correspondence struggling to resolve the situation, said Myers. In January 2013 a letter of apology from the IRS was received acknowledging its error and verifying the Chaplain Service's tax-exempt status had never lapsed. Yet its temporary loss resulted in a loss of over \$100,000 in donations from foundations.

Simultaneously, denominational giving dropped significantly – resulting in \$120,000 less revenue than the same period five years ago, said Myers.

The final challenge involved the renewal of its contract with the Department of Corrections. While the Chaplain Service is not allowed to receive taxpayer dollars, the DOC provides funds for chaplaincy and religious programming through its inmate commissary fund. Myers explains that the DOC previously had authority over the number of chaplain hours per week that the Service provided for each prison. Given that a significant portion of its financial support from other sources had dropped, the Chaplain Service proposed offering the same services as the previous contract – with

For the Lord
hears the needy
and does not
despise his own
people who are
prisoners.

Psalms 69:33

The United Methodist connection in VIRGINIA

the provision of having the right to cut hours or positions if it became necessary. At mid-year the proposal was rejected, and as an emergency measure, the DOC extended the contract under the previous terms until last Jan. 1.

During the final months of 2012, Myers said the Chaplain Service was experiencing a monthly deficit of \$20,000. It was difficult to meet payroll, and some checks were deferred while waiting for donations to arrive from churches and denominations. In late December the DOC accepted the new proposal, issuing a five-year contract.

"During Christmas vacation I had the unpleasant task of calling every chaplain and informing them that their hours and their hourly wages would be cut as of Jan. 1," said Myers. Full-time chaplains at all facilities were reduced to part-time. Some full-time chaplains with salaries of \$40,000 per year are now receiving less than \$20,000 – with no benefits, said Myers.

"Our chaplains are so amazing, because they have such a call of God upon their lives that not one of them bailed on us," said Myers. "Many of them continue to work their previous 40 to 60 hours – donating the time that they are not paid for to make sure every detail of their ministry is covered."

Myers said his immediate goals for the Chaplain Service are to restore

chaplains to full-time ministry and add additional chaplains as necessary to adequately service Virginia's prisons; to raise their compensation closer to the national average; and to provide health coverage for chaplains.

To offset the decline in support from foundations and denominational entities, Myers proposed a designated giving plan for churches and denominational judicatories to support prison ministry in facilities located near them. At its April 1 meeting, board members approved this plan as an emergency tool to bridge the financial gap.

Myers would also like to see a ministry council established at each state prison and correctional center, composed of existing lay and ministerial volunteers, to enhance chaplains' ability to do their ministry more effectively.

"Chaplains have a difficult role because they have a dual role," said Myers. "They are the Protestant pastor for the prison they serve in, doing what any other pastor would do." This includes leading worship services, preaching, teaching Bible and counseling one-on-one and in crisis situations such as when an offender has a death in the family. They are also the religious coordinator at the prison working with volunteers from various denominations to ensure time and space for their ministries.

"The spiritual aspect

is a big part of rehabilitation and preparation for an offender's release with a restored life – not as a prime candidate for further criminal activity," said Myers. "Chaplains provide a presence of Christ in prisons, and by treating everyone fairly and equally, they are a witness for Christ."

"You can give offenders substance abuse recovery programs, education and vocational skills, anger management classes and more," said Myers, "but if you leave God out of the picture, you are missing the core of the person – their heart. That's why chaplains need to be there."

For more information on Chaplain Service Prison Ministry of Virginia, contact its office at (804) 358-7650 or email randymyers@chaplainservice.org.

-Barbara Francis is on the staff of the Religious Herald, the newspaper for the Baptist church in Virginia.

Randy Myers and Joyce Minor are president and vice president, respectively, Chaplain Service of Virginia. Religious Herald photo by Barbara Francis



The United Methodist connection in VIRGINIA



Virginia United Methodist Foundation expands with new grants program, staff

The Virginia United Methodist Foundation will begin sharing its resources by awarding grant money, and is adding a second full-time staff person.

Dr. Russell Busch, chair of the Board of Directors Grants Committee, and Dave Thompson, president of the Foundation, announced the formation of the grants initiative, approved by the Board of Directors at its May meeting.

The primary purpose of the Grants Program is to make financial awards for proposals, projects, ministries, programs and activities at the conference and district levels of the Virginia Conference. The Grants Committee will communicate with district and conference leadership to better ascertain and understand needs and opportunities that have the capacity or potential of enriching local churches or affiliated agen-

cies of the conference.

Grants will not be made to local churches, with the exception of special emergency Financial Assistance Grants made with the sanction of the district superintendent and approval of the Foundation Board Executive Committee.

Grants will not be awarded to perpetually fund a specific ongoing program, activity or ministry. Grants may be awarded for activities that are an integral part of a district or conference outreach program in keeping with the mission of the Virginia Conference of The United Methodist Church. The amount of the grants will vary based upon availability of funds.

Full guidelines and applications are available from the Foundation office. They will also be published on the Foundation and Virginia Conference websites.

"We are plowing new ground, and there will be adjustments as we go along," said Busch.

"By beginning this program we can possibly give back something to those churches and agencies that have been so supportive of the Foundation in the past," said Thompson. He indicated that while the initiative is starting with a fairly modest sum, "we feel certain that the funds available over time will grow both internally and externally."

In other Foundation news, Stephen Clark was named Planned Giving and Endowment officer, effective June 1.

Clark graduated from Houghton College in New York with a degree in Ministerial Studies. He followed in his father's footsteps by serving as a pastor in the Christian and Missionary Alliance, ordained to serve the church in an administrative capacity. For the past 18 years he has worked with a number of faith-based non-




Clark

profit organizations in leadership and legacy fund-raising capacities.

"Stephen combines excellent technical skills with a devout and humble perspective," said Thompson, "aimed at building God's kingdom through the Foundation's mission in helping the churches in the conference with their long-term objectives of gaining disciples for Christ through endowments, planned giving and investment management."

The Board also announced the retirement of the Rev. Thomas Barnard after nine years of service. Board Chair Gus Paulette expressed his appreciation for Barnard's commitment at the recent board meeting.

The Foundation's office is at the United Methodist Center in Glen Allen. Visit www.vaumfgifts.org or call 1-800-768-6040 or (804) 521-1120 for more information. 

Virginia United Methodist Foundation Board of Directors Chair Gus Barnard (left) honors the Rev. Tom Barnard with a plaque honoring his nine years of service on the Board.



Appointments

CLERGY

KEY

Listings in *italics* are charge names with pastor and churches on the charge listed below the italicized listing. Designations in bold print indicate the first year of appointment. The number in parentheses () indicates the year of current appointment. Ministers other than Elder in Full Connection (FE) in the Virginia Conference are indicated by the following symbols listed after years served:

AF	Affiliate Member
AM	Associate Member
DM	Diaconal Minister
DR	Retired Diaconal Minister
EP	Minister Recog. from other Denom. Serving UM Probation
FD	Deacon in Full Connection
FL	Full-time Local Pastor
LM	Certified Lay Minister (Assigned by district superintendent)
MOD	Minister, Other Denom., Serving Ecumenical Parish
OA	Associate Member, Other Annual Conf.
OD	Deacon Member, Other Annual Conf. or Other Denomination
OE	Elder Member, Other Annual Conf. or Methodist Denom.
OF	Full Member, Other Denom.
OP	Provisional Member, On Loan
OR	Retired FE, Other Conference
PD	Provisional Deacon
PE	Provisional Elder
PL	Part-time Local Pastor
PM	Probationary Member, '92 Disc.
RA	Retired Associate Member
RAF	Retired Affiliate Member
RD	Retired Deacon
RE	Retired Elder
RL	Retired Local Pastor
ROF	Retired, Other Denomination
ROM	Retired, Other Methodist
RP	Retired Probationary/Provisional Member
SY	Lay Supply (Assigned by dist. supt.)
TBS	To Be Supplied

ROLL OF THE FIRST MILE

Church names in red represent congregations that have paid 100 percent of all their conference and district apportionments for 2012. Those underlined have paid 101 percent or more of World Service and Conference Benevolences. Green print = 10% Increase Apportionments Paid + 100% World Service and Conference Benevolences.

ALEXANDRIA DISTRICT

District Superintendent: Kenneth J. Jackson (4)

ALEXANDRIA

Beverly Hills: Sara L. Manner (20)

Del Ray: Mark A. Mrini (7)

Fairlington: Gregory L. Adkins (10)

Associate: **Tonya M. Douce** (1)

Min. of Congregational Family Life:

Christian S. White Jr. (3) FD

Roberts Memorial: Janice Y. Prentace (2)

Saint Andrew's: Kitan Petreski (8)

Saint James: James E. Henry (22)

Trinity: Phyllis R. Earley (4)

Associate: Matthew J. Benton (3) PE

Washington Street: Michael A. Lyle (9)

FAIRFAX

Fairfax: Timothy R. Gerde (4)

Associate: Lindsey M. Baynham (2) PE

FAIRFAX COUNTY

Accotink: Robin G. BeMiller (3) PL

Aldersgate: Dennis W. Perry (12)

Associate: Jason A. Micheli (9)

Annandale: Clarence R. Brown (6)

Associate: Eduardo A. Carrillo (4) FL

Associate for Adult Discipleship: Cynthia

D. Johnson-Oliver (6) OE

Associate for Hispanic/Latino Outreach:

Luz M. Zuleta (1) PL

Burke: Lawrence W. Buxton (7)

Associate: Morgan A. Guyton (4) PE

Dir. of Mission: Judith G. Fender (13) FD

Cameron: **Oliver J. Box** (1)

Cana: Joo Sup Park (6) OE

Christ: John C. Speight Jr. (22)

Associate: **Monica T. Reynolds** (1) PL

Cranford: Lorenzo D. Hill (9)

Franconia: Catharine T. Guest (2)

Lincolnia: Vernell M. Carter (2)

Messiah: Ralph W. Rowley (13)

Associate: Meghan Roth Clayton (2) PE

Associate: **TBS**

Mount Vernon: H. Celeste Heath (10)

New Light: Hyeon Ho Lee (4)

Rising Hope: Keary C. Kincannon (19)

Saint George's: **Steven B. Wells** (1)

Saint John's: Paula P. Werner (1)

Saint Matthew's: J. Denise Honeycutt (4)

Associate: Brian W. Johnson (3) PE

Associate of Senior Adults Min. & Visita-

tion: **William E. Moberly** (1) PL

Saint Stephen's: Jeffrey P. Mickle (7)

Associate: **Abigail E. Foerster** (1)

Associate: **Drew VanDyke Colby** (1) PE

Silverbrook: **Martha A. Rose Ambrose** (1) PL

Springfield: Jeffery J. Roberts (2)

Associate: **Martha C. Ringenbach** (1) PL

Sydenstricker: James D. Thomas (3)

Associate: M. Garey Eakes (4)

Washington Farm: **Philip M. Waltz** (1)

Wesley: Janet P. Salbert (4)

Woodlawn-Faith: Lyle E. Morton (5)

FAUQUIER COUNTY

Bethel: Julian H. Martin Jr. (14)

Orlean: James A. Leamon (10) PL

Warrenton: John S. Chadsey (20)

Associate: Sarah M. Harrison-McQueen (7)

Wesley Chapel: **Jose W. Saldana** (1) PL

MANASSAS CITY

Grace: Rudolph E. Tucker (13)

Associate: Meredith L. McNabb (7)

Min. of Music: C. Milton Rodgers III (13) FD

Saint Thomas: David T. Forrest (4)

Associate: Matthew G. Smith (7.5)

PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY

Asbury: **Charles M. Stribula** (1) PE

Bethel: **Joseph A. Shoop** (1)

Buckhall: Linda H. Monroe (3)

Cokesbury: **Clyde T. Nelson** (1)

Dumfries: **Dale E. Gillis** (1)

Gainesville: John E. Patterson (17)

Ghana Wesley UM Mission: Emmanuel

Nkrumah (4) PE

Good Shepherd: R. Levi Stroud Jr. (11)

Associate: Keiko T. Foster (2) PE

Nokesville: **James L. Johnson III** (1)

Old Bridge: Burton C. Robinson (10)

Associate: Ronald T. Lanman (5) RL

Prince of Peace: **Russell T. Urban** (1)

Saint Mark's: **Kurt D. Ludwig** (1) PL

Saint Paul: Larry E. Craddock (2)

Spirit & Life: Matthew A. Meisenhelter (4)

Sudley: Bass M. Mitchell (2)

ARLINGTON DISTRICT

District Superintendent:

Catherine G. Abbott (1)

ARLINGTON

Arlington: Wesley E. Arthur Sr. (4) RE

Associate: Lydia E. Rodriguez Colon (8)

Associate: Raymond Max-Jones (2) SY

Arlington Forest: L. Michael Southall-Vess (7)

Arlington Temple: **Alison G. Roser** (1)

Calloway: Sonja Flye Oliver (3) FL

Calvary: Stephen B. Hassmer (13)

Central: Richard E. Cobb (16)

Cherrydale: Elizabeth A. Foss (3)

Clarendon: Eugene F. Thomas (8)

Community: R. Carl Ripley Jr. (22)
 First Vietnamese-American of Gr. Wash.:
Hieu D. Phan (1) OP
Mount Olivet: **Edward R. Walker** (1)
 Associate: Chenda I. Lee (2) PE
 Associate: Jeffrey H. Goodman (2) PL
 Saint Mark's: **Michelle M. Kim** (1)
 Walker Chapel: James N. Earley II (8)
FAIRFAX COUNTY
Andrew Chapel: Scott D. Hopkins (2)
 Bruen Chapel: Ruth M. Burgess (6)
Centreville: Alan R. Felumlee (8)
 Associate: Marcia K. Huntsman (7) PE
 Associate: Jennifer D. Coffey (4) PE
 Associate: Thomas G. James (3) PE
 Charles Wesley: Candace L. Martin (7)
 Chesterbrook: R. Eugene Larkin (3) RE
 Church of the Good Shepherd: Mark A. Burgess (6)
Community of Faith: Robert E. Vaughn Jr. (16)
 Culmore: Jung Pyo Hong (8)
 Dranesville: William E. Heinzman (2)
 Epiphany: Robert B. Lloyd Jr. (2)
 First Korean: Sung Ho Chung (10) OE
Floris: Thomas M. Berlin (17)
 Associate: Barbara Miner (8) FL
 Associate: Timothy L. Ward (5) FL
 Associate: **Ashley B. Allen** (1) FL
 Friendship: James D. Canody (9)
Graham Road: Marable Southall-Vess (6)
Great Falls: **Denise M. Childers** (1)
Herndon: **Gary L. Robbins** (1)
Korean of Greater Washington: Young Bong Kim (9)
 Associate: Keon Huh (3) FL
 Associate: Ki Cheon Lee (5)
 Associate: David Ryu (2) FL
 Associate: **Eugene Kim** (1) OE
 Associate: **Kook Jin Yun** (1) OE
 Minister of Young Adults: **Eoi Kyung Hwang** (1) FD
 Oakton: Dawn-Marie Singleton (2)
Pender: Kenneth W. Newsome (13)
 Associate: Kevin D. Havens (2) FL
Saint Luke's: Deborah D. Porras (2) PE
 Sleepy Hollow: Pamela Clark Egan (11)
 Associate: Jennifer L. Ailstock (9) PL
 Smith Chapel: David J. Zuchelli (19)
Trinity: James C. Sprouse (17)
 Associate: **Eileen F. Gilmer** (1) FL
 Min. of Christian Ed.: **Amy L. Crisp** (1) PD
 United Christian Parish: Joan L. Bell-Haynes (9) MOD
Vale: Tracy McNeil Wines (19)
 The Vine: D. Todd Schlechty (5)
Wesley: Ray S. Brill Jr. (9)
FALLS CHURCH
 Christ Crossman: M. Mochel Morris (13)
Dulin: M. Davies Kirkland (14)
 Galloway: **Kotosha D. Seals** (1) PE

LOUDOUN COUNTY
Arcola: Christopher E. Riedel (19)
 Associate: **Richard B. Dawson** (1) RL
 Ashburn Korean: **Hyunsik Kang** (1) OE
 Crossroads: David A. Norman (25)
 Associate: James H. Chandler (5)
 Associate: Flor M. Norris (5) PL
 Minister of Congregational Nurture: Jean M. Hankins (5) FD
 Galilee: M. Wayne Snead (18)
 Associate: Matthew B. Sergeant (7) FL
Pleasant Valley: Justin S. White (5)
Sterling: C. Randolph Duncan (10)
 Associate: **Angel M. Martinez Ortiz** (1) PL

CHARLOTTESVILLE DISTRICT

District Superintendent: **Danny J. Kesner** (1)
ALBEMARLE COUNTY
Aldersgate: Scott E. Davis (4)
 Associate: Christopher S. Fuss (10) PL
Batesville: Elizabeth A. Buxton (2) FL
 Batesville, Bethel, **Mt. Olivet**
Binghams: William R. Payne (11) PL
Crozet: J. Douglas Forrester (9)
 Youth Minister: Jessica L. Fuller (3.5) FD
Ivy Creek: James W. Thornton Sr. (7)
 Congregational Care and Ministry Development: Evelyn Y. Jones (3) LM
 Mount Moriah: **John C. Ward Jr.** (1) OE
 Restoration: **Marc W. Rickabaugh** (1)
Southern Albemarle: Bruce N. Lugn (3) PE
Mt. Zion, Scottsville
Trinity (N. Garden): Norman G. Johnson (13) PL
West Albemarle: Benjamin F. Houchens (14) PL
Browns Cove, Gentry
AMHERST COUNTY
Bethany-Sardis: Shin Woo Hong (4) PE
Bethany, Sardis
Mount Pleasant: Judy G. Morris (5) FL
Mt. Horeb, Mt. Pleasant, Poplar
Wesleyan: **Nathan R. Colwell** (1) SY

CHARLOTTESVILLE
First: Alvin J. Horton (5)
 Hinton Avenue: Robert D. Lewis (2) OE
Wesley Memorial: Edward P. Winkler (3)
CULPEPER COUNTY
Culpeper: J. Randall Orndorff (10)
 Associate: Norma Jean Fellows (5.5) OR
 Associate: **Jessica Squires Colwell** (1)
East Culpeper: Stanley H. Mulford III (5) PE
Hopewell, Richardsville
Little Fork Circuit: Sharon L. Forbes (6)
Jeffersonton, Oak Shade, Woodland
FLUVANNA COUNTY
Byrd Chapel: Vivian M Utz (4) FL
Cunningham: Thomas E. Frost (5)
 Haden Chapel: **George E. Gorman** (1) AM
Palmyra: **George E. Gorman** (1) AM
Salem: Andrew B. Willson (3)
South Fluvanna: Gregory E. Miller (2) PL
New Bethel, Seays Chapel, Wesley Chapel

GREENE COUNTY
Greene: Gordon K. Meriwether III (2) FL
Mt. Vernon, South River
Standardsville: Charles S. Winner (2)
Westover: Norma J. Dean (10) PL
LOUISA COUNTY
Louisa: David R. Palmer (2)
Macedonia: **Stephen M. Hall** (1) FL
Mineral-Mt. Pleasant: **Barbara J. Gross** (1) AM
Mineral, Mt. Pleasant
West Louisa: William E. Hepler (4) RL
Ebenezer, Lasley, Mt. Horeb
 Zion: **David C. Lagerveld** (1)
MADISON COUNTY
Bethel-Mountain View: James F. Lacy (3) PL
Bethel, Mountain View
Madison: Stephen P. King (6)
Madison, Rose Park
North Madison: **David A. LeFon** (1.5)
Etlan, Mt. Olivet, Oak Grove
Rapidan: Alan R. Follett (6) FL
Bethsaida, Mt. Zion, Walkers
NELSON COUNTY
Bethany (Norwood): James D. Siddons (3) RE
Bethlehem: Edwin M. Childress (2) FL
 Nelson: Debra A. Powell (8)
New Faith: Gregory Payne (8) LM
Rock Spring: Pamela J. Baldwin (4) PE
Rodes: J. Richard McDowell (15)
ORANGE COUNTY
Gordonsville: **Sue Ann Salmon** (1)
Barboursville, Gordonsville
Orange Circuit: Jeffrey B. Smith (6)
Bethlehem, Salem
Trinity: Thomas R. Barnard (7)
RAPPAHANNOCK COUNTY
Amissville: Maxine C. Crenshaw (3) PE
Rappahannock: Sara Porter Keeling (3)
Flint Hill, Sperryville, Willis Chapel

DANVILLE DISTRICT
 District Superintendent: Janine W. Howard (3)
DANVILLE
Fairview: Kathleen M.R. Monge (4)
Grace Design: Kameron W. Wilds (3) PL
Moseley Memorial-Stokesland Cooperative
Parish: **Laurice Jones-Wilks** (1) PE
 Moseley Memorial, Stokesland
Mount Vernon: Barry S. Foster (6)
 St. Luke's: **Tilden W. Bridges** (1)
Trinity: Charles W. Wickham (11)
FLOYD COUNTY
Harris Chapel: Marcus Wood (7) PL
FRANKLIN COUNTY
Bethlehem: D. Chris Bennett (5) FL
East Franklin: Judith E. Short (13)
Crafts, Penhook
Epworth: Joshua D. Munnikhuysen (8) FL
Fork Mountain: Bobby Shively (7) PL
Franklin: Douglas R. Sasser Jr. (2) PE
Burnt Chimney, Flint Hill

Gogginsville: Mark D. Richardson (5)
Callaway Cooperative Parish: Jason L. Bryant (2) FL
 Highland, New Hope
Oyler's Chapel- Rehoboth Cooperative Parish: Richard L. Barton (3) PE
 Oyler's Chapel, Rehoboth
 Pleasant Hill: Elizabeth H. Lazenby (8) FL
 Red Valley: Joshua S. King (3) PE
 Redwood: Bradley S. Dulaney (5)
 Minister of Community Outreach:
 Susan M. Hughes (1) PD
 Rocky Mount: Bruce D. Tuttle (3) RE
 St. James (Ferrum): Mary S. White (6) RE
 West Franklin: **BaeSick "Peter" Choi** (1) OE
 Bethany, Maple Grove
HENRY COUNTY
 Axton: Anne M. Sisson (6) FL
 Beckham, Carroll Memorial, Irisburg
 Bassett Memorial: E. Russell Gresham IV (2)
 Fieldale: Thomas E. Durrance (4) PE
 Granbery: **Timothy V. Satterfield** (1) OE
 Mount Bethel: Stephen A. Garner (4) FL
 Pleasant Grove: Ian J. Hackmann (2) PE
 Ridgeway: James L. Wilson (2) OR
 Smith Memorial: **Patricia J. Stover** (1)
 Stanleytown: Kenneth E. Cleveland (6) FL
MARTINSVILLE
 Chatham Heights: Marshall L. Banks (3) PL
 First: Keith E. Ritchie (2)
 Wesley Memorial: Steven W. Greer (4)
PATRICK COUNTY
 Fellowship: **Monte Mitchell** (1) MOD
 Meadow: Mark R. Collins (4) PL
 Mount Zion: Keith L. Vernon (3) PL
 Mountain View: Terry F. Martin (9) PL
 North Patrick: Sandra L. Wright (4) FL
 Ross Harbour, Woolwine
 East Patrick: W. Mark Clayton (10) FL
 Concord, Nettle Ridge
 West Patrick: **Tammy P. Franklin** (1) PL
 Creasey's Chapel, New Hope
 Providence: David A. Westmoreland (12) FL
 Salem: John B. Franklin (2) FL
 Stuart: Thomas B. Shepherd (7)
PITTSYLVANIA COUNTY
 Anderson Chapel: Floyd A. Greenwood Jr. (2) SY
 Bethel-Cascade: Richard W. Hayward (5) LM
 Bethel, Cascade
 Brosville: Faith M. Weedling (3)
 Calvary-Kerns Mem.: **Ralph K. Hawkins** (1) OF
 Calvary, Kerns Memorial
 Concord-Mt. Pleasant Cooperative Parish:
 Robert W. Ford (1)
 Concord, Mount Pleasant
 Floral Hills: **Winston L. Crichlow** (1) RE
 Harmony: Robert F. Hardy IV (14) FL
 Hopewell: Michael A. Eisenman (2)
 Mount Olivet: James D. Stevens (4) OF
 Oakland: **Jon M. Woodburn** (1) FL
 Swansonville: Linwood G. Cook (3) RE
 Watson Memorial (Chatham): Kay Barstow

Gentry (4)
 Wesley Chapel-Rock Springs: **Steven W. Weedling** (1) PE
 Rock Springs, Wesley Chapel
 Whitmell-St. John's Cooperative Parish:
 Susan M. Hannah (6)
 Saint John's, Whitmell

EASTERN SHORE DISTRICT

District Superintendent: Tammy L. Estep (8)
ACCOMACK COUNTY
 Atlantic-New Church: **Rebecca W. McGee** (1) OP
 Atlantic, Berea
 Belle Haven-Bethel: Judith G. Worthington (6)
 Belle Haven, Bethel
 Bloxom Mission: Gregory L. Duncan (5) PL
 Calvary: Elizabeth P. Freund (3) RE
 Cashville: **Jolynn B. Hart** (1) FL
 Andrew Chapel, Leatherbury, Riverview
 Christ (Chincoteague): Travis L. DeLoach (13)
 Craddockville: Robert I. Kelly (2) FL
 Drummondtown: Betty D. Marshall (4) RL
 Grace (Parksley): Donald A. Jamison (3)
 Greenbackville: Derek E. Tomek (4) FL
 Signpost, Union
 Guilford: Verónica G. Barrell (2) PE
 Guilford, St. Thomas
 Hallwood: James R. Maddox (2) RE
 Horntown: Barbara A. Cousar (2) FL
 Deas Chapel, Friendship, St. Mark's
 Leemont: Carl E. Perez (4)
 Adams, Metropolitan
 Market Street: Robert M. Chapman (5)
 Melfa: Glenda T. Turlington (3) PL
 New Hope: **Barbara L. Parker** (1) FL
 Evergreen, Harborton, Mears Memorial
 Oak Grove: **Robert E. Green** (1) RL
 Oak Hall: Donald L. Blagg (4) FL
 Assawoman, Downings
 Ocean View: Sallye H. Bowen (9) RE
 Onley: Charles W. Parks III (14) AM
 Painter-Quinby: **Steve B. Doan** (1) SY
 Donna J. Doan (1) SY
 Painter-Garrisons, Smiths Chapel
 Pittsville-Pocomoke-Wattsville: W. Maury
 Enright (30) SY
 Pittsville, Pocomoke, Wattsville
 Saint John's (Atlantic): Gary C. Miller (27) AM
 Sanford-Saxis: William C. Jefferson (3) PL
 Sanford, Saxis
 Sneed Memorial (Wachapreague): James S.
 Nock (8) PL
 Swain Mem. (Tangier): **John E. Flood Sr.** (1) FL
 Woodberry: Albert L. Crockett (4) RA
NORTHAMPTON COUNTY
 Cape Charles-Capeville: Elizabeth A. Lutz (5)
 Capeville, Trinity
 Cheriton: Patricia S. Money (2) PE
 Cheriton, Travis Chapel
 Epworth (Exmore): **Mikang Kim** (1) PE
 Franktown: Alexander B. Joyner (9)

Min. of Evangelism: Peter Surran (2) PD
 Johnsons: Clarence W. Bowen Jr. (15) RE
 New Mission: Harold E. White (9) FL

ELIZABETH RIVER DISTRICT

District Superintendent: Bradford L. Phillips (6)
CHESAPEAKE
 Chesapeake Avenue: **Timothy R. Earnhardt** (1) FL
 Covenant: Franklin T. Jennings (13)
 Deep Creek: **Michael W. Plasters** (1)
 Good Hope: Mark E. Christian (17)
 Great Bridge: **Timothy P. Craig** (1)
 Associate: Janet C.C. Allen (4) FL
 Hickory: Thomas L. Mercer Sr. (25)
 Indiana: Frances C. Craig (5) PL
 Jolliff: Waverly C. Smith III (10) FL
 Messiah: Ellen W. Comstock (4)
 Mount Pleasant: Robert M. Pihlcrantz (8) FL
 New Creation: David R. Drinkard (6)
 Associate: **Stephanie L. Kimec** (1) PE
 Oak Grove: H. Frank Holley (2)
 Oaklette: Timothy D. Hazlett (3)
 Portlock: Robert G. Robinson (8)
 Saint Paul's: Forrest H. Teague Jr. (2)
CURRITUCK COUNTY, NC
 Knotts Island: Diana Johnson (2) PL
NORFOLK
 Aldersgate: Walton C. Forstall II (4)
 Christ: Derrek P. Koolman (2)
 Epworth: Priscilla Gay Hall (3)
 Fairmount Park: Linda S. Young (3) PL
 First: John F. Shappell (7)
 Ghent: **Sandra Benton Plasters** (1)
 Larchmont: Scott M. Rimer (7)
 Associate: Sarah R. Wastella (4) PE
 McKendree: Michelle D. Louk (9) FL
 Miles Memorial: John B. Haynes Sr. (4)
 Norfolk: Sherry L. Daniels (8)
 Associate: Carolyn J. Graves (3) PL
 Norview: W. Joseph Shepherd (11) RE
 Park Place: Stephen B. Wall-Smith (3) OE
 Saint John's: Brandon L. Gilmore (3)
 Wesley Mem.-Zion-Grace: Scott A. Beck (2) PE
 Wesley Memorial, Zion-Grace
PORTSMOUTH
 Asbury-Cradock: **Jannette V. Clavez** (1) PL
 Broad Street: Lisa R. Blackmonson (4)
 Centenary: L. Wayne Carter (2)
 Cottage Place-TheBridge: **Andrew H. Book** PE (1)
 Cottage Place, TheBridge
 Community-Saint Mark: R. Kirk Culpepper (12) FL
 Community, Saint Mark
 Monumental: Joseph J. Cailles (3)
 Park View: Raymond H. Edmonds Jr. (4.5) RE
 Saint Andrew's: Daniel P. Abbott (2)
 West End: Lynda D. Moore (2) PE
SUFFOLK
 Beech Grove: Keith D. Moore (4)
 Ebenezer: Carl J. LeMon (21)
 Associate: Brent M. Seusy (8)
 Virginia Korean: **Stephen Kwang-hoon Lee** (1)

English Pastor: Lisa S. Meyers (3) PL
Wesley Chapel: Ileana R. Rosario (5)
VIRGINIA BEACH
Asbury: John W. Haynes (24) RL
Baylake: James R. Driscoll (4)
 Associate: Deborah S. Clark (7) FL
 Bethel: Thomas L. Strohecker (11) RL
 Charity: Robert J. Robertson III (4)
Community: H. Leroy Seibert (3)
 Associate: Christa M. Springstead (3) PE
 Courthouse Community: J. Randall McMillen (2)
 Associate: Frederick C. Brockhausen III (10) FL
Foundry: Patricia A. Riggs (5)
Francis Asbury: Edward S. Martin Jr. (5)
 Haygood: Charles A. Shumate (7)
 Associate: **Elizabeth A. Nordan** (1) PL
 Heritage: Kathleen W. Haynes (6)
Lynnhaven: **Ronald K. Morris** (1)
Memorial: John W. Cole II (13)
Nimmo: Clark D. Cundiff (7)
Princess Anne Plaza-Resurrection: Angelito G. Samson (14)
 Princess Anne Plaza, **Resurrection**
Saint Andrew's: **S. Wayne Rickman** (1)
 Associate: Jonathan J. Page (3) PE
Saint Luke's: David L. Cunningham (4)
 Salem: **William L. McClung Jr.** (1)
 Sandbridge Community Chapel: Clyde M. DeLoach (2)
Scott Memorial: Vickie R. Seibert (3)
Tabernacle: Jack E. Davis (18)
 Thalia: David A. Goodpasture (4)
 Minister of Senior Adults: Joan B. Averette (6) LM
 The Gathering: Rachel M. Gilmore (5)
Virginia Beach: Ted E. David (7)
 Associate: Edward H. Johnson Jr. (7)

FARMVILLE DISTRICT

District Superintendent: Robert J. Parks Jr. (3)

AMELIA COUNTY

Amelia: **Dan E. Walker** (1) PL

Tabernacle, Trinity

Journey: Michael T. Davis (3) AM

North Amelia: June C. Carpenter (3) PE

Epworth, Jetersville, Salem

APPOMATTOX COUNTY

Memorial: Russell M. Cheatham (4)

Pamplin: Herndon P. Jeffreys III (3)

Associate: **TBS**

Centenary, Evergreen, Pamplin, Piney Rdg.

BRUNSWICK COUNTY

Brodnax: Co-Pastor, Paul A. Beighley (2) RE

Co-Pastor: Pamela G. Pickard (2) SY

Bethany, Brodnax

Lawrenceville: John R. Jones Sr. (2)

North Brunswick: **Benjamin H. Taylor III** (1.5) PL

Antioch, Lebanon, Rocky Run

Prospect: Kenneth L. Thrasher (7) FL

South Brunswick: Jeffery P. Clemens (2) FL

Olive Branch, Rock

West Brunswick: Jennifer L. Fletcher (2) PE

Bethel, Macedonia

BUCKINGHAM COUNTY

Buckingham: Robert L. Jennings (2) FL

Browns Chapel, Hanes Chapel, Rocky Mt.

Dillwyn: Billy E. Swan (7) FL

Bethel, Salem, White Hall

James River: Brant K. Hays (3)

Arvonnia, Centenary, Glenmore

West Buckingham: **B. Adam Hall** (1) PL

Mt. Tabor, Trinity, Woodland

CHARLOTTE COUNTY

Charlotte: Jiyeon Kim (2) FL

Charlotte Court House, Hebron, Lebanon,

Mt. Calvary

Keysville: Loretta A. Benninghove (2)

Mt. Carmel-Phenix: Michael W. Teixeira (11) FL

Mt. Carmel, Phenix

New Hope-Southall Memorial: Allan T.

Murphy (3) FL

New Hope, Southall Memorial

CUMBERLAND COUNTY

Antioch: **Rebecca Trovalli** (1) SY

Cumberland: W. Todd Gess (2) FL

Centenary, Hobsons Chapel, Payne Mem.

Oakwood: Kang Uk Lee (3) PE

Thomas Chapel: Richard L. Bucher (8) PL

HALIFAX COUNTY

Cherry Hill: **Patricia L. Neilsen** (1) RL

East Halifax: **Kerry L. Halbert** (1) SY

Clover, Scottsburg

Glenwood: **Jody R. Jessup** (1) OR

Glenwood, Olive Branch

Halifax: Randall S. Williams (11) FL

Main Street: Edward F. Rigg (8)

McCanless Memorial: **Joe D. Trickey Jr.** (1) PL

McKendree-Asbury: **Jerry B. Malone** (1) SY

Asbury, McKendree

Mount Cana: A. Randolph Holmes (9) FL

Mount Laurel: Don R. Pizeck (12)

Shady Grove: **Charles W. Townsend** (1)

South Halifax: Bonnie G. Pizeck (3) PL

Cedar Grove, Harmony

Union: Mary V. Tharpe (3) RL

LUNENBURG COUNTY

Kenbridge: Timothy A. Beck (6)

Lunenburg: C. Alan Layman (2) PL

Antioch, Williams

Plantersville: Ralph "Red" L. Moore (10) LM

Victoria: Kyungsuk Cho (2) PE

MECKLENBURG COUNTY

Boydton: **Jeffry K. Yoo-Hess** (1) FL

Boydton, Easters

Centenary (Chase City): **Marsha L. Davis** (1) FL

Jamieson Memorial: **John A. Bright** (1)

LaCrosse-Sardis: Giani Manieri (5) FL

LaCrosse, Sardis

Lakeland: Michael G. Day (5) FL

Kingswood, Rehoboth

North Mecklenburg: R. Kent Wise (7)

Pleasant Grove, Salem, Shiloh, Zion

Providence-Trinity: **Seung Hae Yoo-Hess** (1) PL

Providence, Trinity (South Hill)

Rehoboth: **Ralph "Red" L. Moore** (1) LM

South Hill: Laney S. Spigener Jr. (3)

Union Chapel: **John E. Conner** (1) RE

West Mecklenburg: Randal L. Baisey (7) PL

Ephesus, Fields, Friendship

NOTTOWAY COUNTY

Burkeville: James F. Brown (5) FL

Bethel, Wards Chapel

Crenshaw: Stanley A. Thompson (2)

Crewe: John S. Brenneke (8) AM

East Nottoway: Linda H. Lowe (5) PE

Butterwood, Grace, Rocky Hill

Nottoway: John B. Covington (18) PL

Bethel, St. John's

Nottoway-Lunenburg: **Michael A. Johnson** (1) FL

Laurel Hill, St. Mark's, Thrifts Chapel

PRINCE EDWARD COUNTY

Farmville: **Michael P. Kendall** (1)

Min. of Discipleship (w/Youth Emphasis):

Lyndie N.K. Blakely (2) PD

Meherrin: Larry A. Lehman (2) PL

Prince Edward: Nona F. Allen (2) FL

Beulah, Mt. Harmony, Mt. Pleasant

Prospect: **George K. Schaefer** (1) PL

Olive Branch, Prospect, Smyrna

FREDERICKSBURG DISTRICT

District Superintendent: Theodore Smith (3)

CAROLINE COUNTY

Bethel: Ellen Heatwole (4) FL

Bowling Green: James A. Edwards (3.5) FL

Bowling Green, Shiloh

Caroline: **Mark A. Lawrence** (1) PL

Mt. Vernon, St. Paul's

Hopewell: Lou Woolner (6) PL

Rehoboth: Linda Driver Ray (4)

Wright's Chapel: Charles Tillapaugh (22)

ESSEX COUNTY

Essex-King & Queen: Wilhemina Sumpter (2) PE

Lebanon, Providence, Trinity

Tappahannock Memorial: Carla Stearns (2)

FAUQUIER COUNTY

Cedar Run: J. Stephen Little Jr. (3) FL

Trinity, Wesleyan

Grace (Hartwood): Brenda Lee Pusso (4)

Liberty: **Barbara H. Jamieson** (1) PL

Midland: **Barbara H. Jamieson** (1) PL

Morrisville: Benjamin C. Lalka (2) PL

Mount Horeb: Gayle D. Porias (4) PE

Remington: Walter W. Westbrook (2)

FREDERICKSBURG

Fredericksburg: **Brenda J. Biler** (1)

Associate: Won Gyu Lee (2)

Hillcrest: Justin L. Williams (4) FL

KING AND QUEEN COUNTY

Mizpah: Betty Jo Sims (8) PL

Shepherds: Robert L. Hauck (3) RE

KING GEORGE COUNTY

Dahlgren: Edward H. Johnson (8)

Fletchers Chapel: Michael B. Reaves (2)

Trinity: Susan M. Reaves (2)

KING WILLIAM COUNTY

Epworth: Jonathan B. Baker (2) PL

McKendree: James L. Porter (6) PL

LANCASTER COUNTY

Asbury: A. Ray Massie (6) PL

Bethel-Emmanuel: **TBS**

Bethel, Emmanuel

Irvington: **Jarvis Bailey** (1) OF

Kilmarnock: **Penny P. Cory** (1)

White Stone: L. Bryan McClain (6)

NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY

Bethany (Reedville): Susan F. Brack (3)

Bluff Point: A. Ray Massie (6) PL

Galilee: Charles F. Bates (8)

Heathsville: Rebecca L. Minor (3)

Henderson: **Esther N. Agbosu** (1) FL

Melrose: Janet F. Grissett (4)

Mila-Wicomico: Donna M. Blythe (6) PL

Mila, Wicomico

Northumberland: Seonyoung Kim (2)

Afton, Fairfield

Rehoboth: Donna M. Blythe (2) PL

RICHMOND COUNTY

Richmond: Fred G. Marvel (2)

Calvary, Hopewell, Oakland

Warsaw: **Emily A. Moore** (1) FL

SPOTSYLVANIA COUNTY

Eastland: Craig A. Muffley (3)

Peace: W. David Erickson Jr. (9)

Shady Grove-Olivet: Hae Rin Lawson (2)

Olivet, Shady Grove

Tabernacle: **Moonsup Paul Song** (1)

Wilderness Community: Keith D. Boyette (16)

Zion: Barbara Jacobs (12)

STAFFORD COUNTY

Andrew Chapel: ReNe'e Teague (8)

Antioch: Christopher Fair (9) PL

Ebenezer: Mark A. Miller (19)

Associate: Christopher M. Bennett (5)

Associate: Elizabeth S. Glass (4) OE

Falmouth: Gail L. Dietze (5) PL

New Hope: Teresa S. Smith (4)

Regester Chapel: **Sung Il Yoo** (1)

Saint Matthias: Patsy B. Tony (2)

Salem: Gail L. Dietze (7) PL

WESTMORELAND COUNTY

Andrew Chapel: **Shayne V. Estes** (1) PE

Carmel-Coles Point: Reginald G. Rumburg (6) AM

Carmel, Coles Point

Colonial Beach: Yunho Eo (3)

Edgewater: **Jon B. Davis** (1) SY

Ebenezer: **Rebecca L. Rumburg** (1)

Grace (Oak Grove): **Debra A. Straughter** (1) PL

Montross: **Julie Ann Larch** (1)

Grant, Lebanon, Providence

HARRISONBURG DISTRICT

District Superintendent: Ernest T. 'Tommy'
Herndon Jr. (4)

AUGUSTA COUNTY

Annex: Debra C. Copeland (2) PE

Bethany: Bradley A. McMullen (5)

Crimora: Gayle Thornberry (10) FL

Harriston: I. Cameron Carte (7) PL

Mount Bethel: Neil W. McLaughlin (4) PL

Mount Pisgah: John Crawford III (9.5) RE

Congregational Care & Visitation:

P. Mardy Marston (3) LM

New Hope: R. Douglas Gunsalus (13)

Dir. of Discipleship & Spiritual Formation:

A. Alan Tuten (4) LM

Min. of Music: Courtney C. Joyner (3) PD

Parnassus: Victoria L. Barb (2) PL

Sangersville: Gary M. Monroe (3) PL

Verona: Robert J. Weeks (3)

Weyers Cave: Margaret M. Packard (4) PE

HARRISONBURG

Asbury: **Stephen D. Hay** (1)

Associate: Robert E. Talbott (5) FL

Min. of Music: Laura B. Douglass (14) FD

Cedar Grove: Don L. Shull (10) RA

John Wesley: **Victoria L. Squires** (1) SY

Otterbein: C. Edward Pruitt (2) RE

RISE: Amanda Miller Garber (4)

PAGE COUNTY

Luray: Erich D. Bennett (3)

Page: **Laura Whittle Stratton** (1) PE

Shenandoah: Stephen R. Creech (17)

Christ, Fields

Shenandoah Circuit: Ellen H. Martin (5) PL

Grove Hill, Oak Grove

Stanley: **Richard P. Grendahl** (1) PE

ROCKINGHAM COUNTY

Blue Ridge: Kevin C. Poeckert (2) FL

Assistant: **John M. Crawford** (1) SY

Furnace, Hensley, Jolletts, Mt. Pleasant

Bridgewater: James M. Tongue (3)

Associate: James A. Harris (4) RE

Clover Hill: **Steven E. McMillion** (1)

Dayton: Steven L. Bird (11)

Elkton: David T. Reynolds (22)

Evangelical-St. Paul: **David F. Vaughan** (1)

Evangelical, St. Paul

Fellowship-Linville-Edom: Brian E. Posey (5) FL

Edom, Fellowship, Linville

First (Broadway): David R. Burrough (8)

Fulks Run: J. Randall Kiel (2) FL

Caplingers, Mt. Carmel, Riverside

Grottoes: **D. Glen Langston** (1) RE

Keezletown: T. Joel Robinette (2)

Massanutten: **Richard R. Robertson** (1) FL

East Point, Mt. Zion, St. Peter's, Trinity

McGaheysville: **James R. Wingert** (1)

Mount Clinton: James W. Joyner (4)

Mount Crawford: Russell L. Heinrich (2) PE

Mt. Crawford, Mt. Sidney

Mount Horeb: Isaac E. Harper (9) PL

Mount Tabor: Michael T. Frank (6)

Mountain Valley: Valerie W. Ritter (3)

Port Republic: E. Thomas Murphy Jr. (2) RE

Associate: Marlene A. Chandler (4) PL

St. James (Pleasant Valley): **Carrie L. Talbott** (1) FL

Singers Glen: James O. Radford (5)

Cherry Grove, Donovan Memorial

Sunset Dr. (Broadway): H. Donald Hawks Jr. (2)

Vision of Hope: David M. Burch (8)

SHENANDOAH COUNTY

Christian Newcomer: Luther Edwin "Nip"

Crites Jr. (5) OE

Christian Newcomer, Mt. Hebron

Columbia Furnace-Union Forge: J. Robert

Berghuis (7)

Columbia Furnace, Union Forge

Edinburg: Robert O. Jones Jr. (2)

St. John's, Wesley Chapel

Fort Valley: **Larry Aikens** (1) SY

Oak Level, White Chapel

Manor Memorial (New Market): R. Bruce

Johnson (4)

Mount Jackson: Michael A. Dettmer (3) PE

Mt. Jackson, Quicksburg

Mt. Olive-Shiloh: Edward F. Wilkins (3)

Mt. Olive, Shiloh

Mount Pleasant: W. Glen Early (8) FL

Associate: F. Darlene Wilkins (2) PL

Hawkinstown, Mt. Clifton, Mt.

Hermon, Otterbein Chapel

Shenandoah Valley: Terry L. Hendricks (3) PL

Mt. Zion (Strasburg), Mt. Zion (Woodstock)

Strasburg: P. Douglas Martin (3)

Toms Brook: Robert M. Throckmorton (3)

Woodstock: **Robert H Hoskins Jr.** (1)

JAMES RIVER DISTRICT

District Superintendent: **Robin L. Colwell** (1)

BRUNSWICK COUNTY

Brunswick: Ruth A. Collins-Dinger (2) FL

Edgerton, Pelhams, Pleasant Grove

Philadelphia: Elizabeth W. McLemore (2)

Ebenezer, Matthews Chapel, Philadelphia

CHESTERFIELD COUNTY

Bermuda Hundred: Elizabeth S. Anderson (2)

Bethia: James H. Carey Jr. (16)

Associate: R. Jason Elmore (6) PL

Centenary: **Pennie M. Foy** (1) PL

Chester: **Sylvia S. Meadows** (1)

Ettrick: Bobby H. Lamb (4) RA

Hopewell: J. Christopher Andress (6)

Ivey Memorial: **Nathan A. Decker** (1)

Matoaca: Richard S. Gordon (3)

Trinity: Teresa M. Keezel (3)

Wesley Chapel: Michelle E. Lindsey (4)

Woods: Joseph T. Carson III (4)

COLONIAL HEIGHTS

Highland: Dorothy McNeer O'Quinn (2)

Associate: Michael Tolbert (3) FL

Wesley: **L. Raymond McGarr** (1)

DINWIDDIE COUNTY

Carson: Joseph E. Hammond Jr. (4) AM

Crawford: Thomas F. Lester (10) PL

Kenwood: **Mary K. Dadisman** (1) PE

Lebanon: **John A. Fair** (1)

McKenney: Karen Workman (7) FL

Asbury, Mansons, Rocky Run

Mount Olivet: **S. Ray Watson** (1) SY

Oak Grove: David A. Holbert (7) RE
 Ocran: R. Lawrence House (5)
 Smiths Grove: **Deborah R.B. Fair** (1)
 West Dinwiddie: **James G. O'Quinn** (1)
 Corinth, Trinity, White Oak
EMPORIA
 Main Street: A. Bruce Carper (2)
 Monumental: Gerald L. Wicker (4) FL
GREENSVILLE COUNTY
 Centenary (Jarratt): **Linwood E. Daniel** (1) RE
 Greenville: **Joellen M. Simmons** (1) FL
 Independence, Mt. Pleasant
HOPEWELL
 First: Michael H. Browder (6)
 Wesley: **Steven Vornov** (1)
PETERSBURG
 Petersburg Cooperative Parish: **Gretchen O.S. Nelson** (1)
 Associate: **Alexis S. Fathbruckner** (1) RE
 Saint Mark's, Washington Street
 Trinity: Gerald M. Miller (8) RE
PRINCE GEORGE COUNTY
 Blandford: Jacob H. Sahms (6)
 Garys: Henry D. Butler (9) RE
 Prince George: **Gilbert M. Elder** (1) FL
 Newville, Salem
 Salem: Robin C.M. Jones (2) PL
 Sycamore: **DeWayne A. Duncan** (1)
 The Stand: **Jacob H. Sahms** (1)
 Trinity (Disputanta): Robert C. Blinn (2)
SOUTHAMPTON COUNTY
 Boykins: Michael Baugham (7) PL
 Boykins, Branchville, Persons
 Capron: **Nancy A. Palmer** (1) FL
 Associate: **Richard C. Franklin Jr** (1) SY
 Capron, Drewryville, Joyner, Vincents
 Grove
 Courtland: Brandon P. Robbins (3)
 High Street: John W. Ashley (2)
 Newsoms: Darwin G. Edwards (7) PE
 Barnes, Newsoms
 Trinity Circuit: Rita A. Kanten (4) FL
 Grace Memorial, Sebrell
SUFFOLK
 Magnolia: Doris V. Byrd-Madison (6)
 Main Street: Myrtle F. Hatcher (3)
 Oxford: Kenneth E. Hanson (4) PL
 Providence: Garland K. Hines (4) RE
 Somerton: Grover C. Branton III (2) RA
 Whaleyville: **John E. Meservey** (1) PL
SUSSEX COUNTY
 Rocky Hock-Ivor: Clifton D. Fritzinger (4) PL
 Ivor, Rocky Hock
 Concord: **Brian J. Simmons** (1) FL
 Lebanon: **Phyllis S. Piluso** (1) RE
 Sussex: **Norma Jean Townsley** (1) FL
 Fort Grove, Sharon
 Wakefield: **Curtis Dearman Lucy** (1) FL
 Waverly: Donna B. Smith (3) FL
SURRY COUNTY
 Claremont: V. Kaye Seay (4) PL
 Surry: Raymond G. Rowland (24)

Carsley, Dendron, Oak Grove, Surry
LYNCHBURG DISTRICT
 District Superintendent: Larry E. Davies (6)
AMHERST COUNTY
 Amelon: **John A. Siegle** (1) RE
 Emmanuel: **Nancy Coleman Johnson** (1) FL
 Monroe: George S. Riggins III (7)
 Mt. Tabor-Smyrna: Joyce Austin (6) LM
 Mt. Tabor, Smyrna
 St. James-Beulah Retreat Center: **Nathan R. Colwell** (1) SY
APPOMATTOX COUNTY
 Appomattox Circuit: Larry F. Mann (3) AM
 Mt. Comfort, Trinity
 Bethel: Janet C. Burton (2) SY
BEDFORD
 Main Street: J. Barton Weakley (3)
BEDFORD COUNTY
 Bellevue: H.O. "Tom" Thomas Jr. (7)
 Bethany, Oakland
 Bethesda: Susan W. Keen (3) PL
 Bethlehem (Moneta): David W. Lord (7)
 Big Island-Cove:
 Big Island: **TBS**
 Cove: **Chad T. Beck** (1) SY
 Center Point-Salem: William R. Clark (2) PL
 Center Point, Salem
 Ebenezer-Otterville: Mark A. Wilkerson (9) LM
 Ebenezer, Otterville
 Epworth (Thaxton): **Jeane D. Dunkum** (1)
 Bedford Springs: William Turner Burleigh (6) FL
 Forest, Marsh Memorial
 Kelly Circuit: Kelvin A. Edwards (2) PL
 Hales Ford, New Hope
 Mt. Zion: Mark W. Tucker (4) SY
 Lebanon: Steven D. Parker (4) RA
 Mountain View: Steven L. Propst (5)
 Otter: Jerry O. Viemeister (2) PL
 Ephesus, Nicopolis
 Patmos: Riley R. Smith Jr. (3) RE
 Peakview: George Jackson Davis (2) FL
 Hickory Grove, Mt. Olivet, Wilsons
 Shiloh: Charles E. Johnson (2) PL
 Emmaus-Union: **Edward F. Sheehan** (1) FL
 Emmaus, Union
CAMPBELL COUNTY
 Bethany: **Patrick S. Pillow** (1) SY
 Bethlehem (Concord): Daniel R. Dibble (4) PL
 Brookneal: **David P. Edinger** (1) FL
 Calvary: Michael W. Miller (5) PL
 Concord: **Kevin M. Holt** (1) SY
 Earlys Chapel, Indian Hill, Timberlake East
 Lane Memorial: Alan T. Combs (3)
 Mead Memorial: **Alexander Duncan** (1) FL
 Mount Hermon: William A. Greer (3) FL
 Mt. Zion: James E. Galford (6) PL
 New Bethel: Roger T. Powell (5) PL
 New Hope-Sharon: Charlie S. Haley (13) PL
 New Hope, Sharon
 Providence-Whites: Paul F. Gillespie (10) FL

Providence, Whites
 Rustburg: Sung Woon Yoo (2) PE
 Salem: Charles E. Schooler (16) FL
 Timberlake: **M. Lynne Alley-Grant** (1)
 Minister to Children: Dawn Compton (3) OD
 Twin Lakes: J. Steve Turner (2) PL
 Huddleston, Leesville, Mt. Horeb
 Wesleybury: William A. Smith (2) SY
 West Campbell: Daniel A. Wray (2) PE
 Evington, Lambs
LYNCHBURG
 Boonsboro: Ronald A. Litten (3)
 Centenary: Richard H. Ecklund (8)
 Chestnut Hill: Becky J. Cloud (5)
 Christ's Community Fellowship: Phillip C. Showers (7) FL
 Court Street: **A.J. Edwin Clever** (1) RE
 Forest Road-Fairview: G. Michael Huffman (2) FL
 Fairview, Forest Road
 Fort Hill: **Elizabeth W. Ecklund** (1)
 Minister of Music and Congregational
 Care: Janet D. Hawkins (14) FD
 Heritage: William B. Montgomery (3)
 Associate: Megan J. Saucier (3)
 Jackson Street: **Reason A. Chandler** (1) FL
 Peakland: **John N. Vest** (1)
 Minister of Youth and Education: Jason C. Stanley (2) FD
 Tyreeanna-Salem: James E. Martin (14) RL
 Salem, Tyreeanna
PITTSYLVANIA COUNTY
 Anderson Mem. (Gretna): John B. Snyder (8)
 Fowler Memorial: **Valerie V. Duncan** (1) SY
 Bethany-Ebenezer, Mt. Airy
 Hurt: Robert J. Thorne (2) RA
 Mount Airy: **Andrew P. Schulze** (1) OE
 Providence, Republican Grove, St. Andrew
 New Bethel-Motley: **Richard A. Daily** (1) RE
 Motley, New Bethel
 Payneton-Siloam: **George D. Hatmaker** (1) RL
 Payneton, Siloam
 Smith Mountain: Dorian Powell (2) FL
 Mt. Zion, New Ridgeway
 Zion: Harold E. Thornton (13) RE
RICHMOND DISTRICT
 District Superintendent: Steven R. Jones (6)
CHESTERFIELD COUNTY
 Asbury Memorial: Benjamin E. Horrocks (2) PE
 Beulah: Keith A. Mottley (4)
 Associate: William J. Waller (2) PE
 Bon Air: William A. Davis Jr. (8)
 Associate: Lauren E. Lobenhofer (5)
 Min. of Christian Ed. and Spiritual
 Formation: Kelley Lane (2) PD
 Brandermill: N. Burton Brooks Jr. (4)
 Associate: Edward Kross (2) MOD
 Mount Pisgah: Robert E. Cooper (2)
 Associate: **Anita E. Mays** (1) FL
 New Life: Michael T. Maxwell (6)
 Providence: Mary Beth Blinn (7)
 Saint Luke's: Lisa K. Sykes (3)

Saint Mark's: David J. Bonney (8)
Associate: Karen B. Hittel (6)
Sherbourne: Pamela H. Culler (8) PL
Woodlake: Peter M. Moon (12)
Associate: Paul S. Baker (2) PE
Associate: Erin M. Reibel (5) PL

GOOCHLAND COUNTY
Bethel: John R. Hall Sr. (16.5) AM
Corinth: Richard W. 'Dickie' Coffey (2) PL
St. Matthew's: Gordon K. Pruitt (9)

HANOVER COUNTY
Duncan Memorial: David M. Hindman (4)
Associate: Kendra G. Swager (2)
Dunns Chapel: William R. Freeman (2) RE
Enon: Jeffrey Y. Harlow (3)
Dir. of Youth and Children's Ministry:
Sandra C. Stanley (2) FD
Forest Grove: **Linda E.F. Crabbs** (1) PE
Kenwood: Amy E. Pannell (2)
Lebanon: R. Spencer Broce (9)
Mechanicsville: Kerry D. Boggs (14)
Mount Hermon: Keith A. Lauer (5) PL
Mount Hope: Mark A. Roscoe (2) PL
New Song: Chad M. Herndon (6)
Prospect: **Daniel M. Johnson** (1) PL
Saint Peter's: Debra Ruth Lucas (5)
Shady Grove: John J. Kelchner Jr. (4)
Associate: C. Bradley Robins (5) FL
Min. of Discipleship: Cynthia A. Lee (9) FD
Shiloh: Lawrence A. Erbin (6)
West Hanover: Claudia H. Stallings (11)
Beaverdam, **Rouzies Chapel**

HENRICO COUNTY
Brookland: Lynne B. Caldwell (6) OE
Chamberlayne Heights: Livingstone S. Dore (7)
Christ: Sarah G. Sealand (5)
Corinth: **W. Joseph Winfree** (1)
Discovery: James E. Lavender Jr. (31)
East Henrico Cooperative Parish: **Lorena E. Beach** (1) FL
Bishop Memorial, Fairmount
Good Shepherd: **Steven J. Summers** (1)
Min. of Discipleship & Communications:
Lisa M. McGehee (4) FD
Teaching Minister: Joseph S. Torrence (2) FD
Greenwood-Laurel Park: Barbara D. Lewis (2) PE
Greenwood, **Laurel Park**
Highland Springs: Douglas E. Crockett (3) OE
Lakeside: Rita A. Callis (3)
Laurel Hill: Norman L. Ramsey III (3)
River Road: Frances T. Cooper (2)
Associate: **Daniel Kim** (1) FL
Saint Andrew's: **Amy Beth Hougland** (1)
Shady Grove: David L. Adkins (9)
Associate: Teresa K. McRoberts (2)
Skipwith: William A. James (7) AM
Trinity: **Larry E. Lenow** (1)
Associate: M. Thomas Lott (2) FL
Minister of Discipleship: Judith Clegg
Oguich (14) FD
Welborne: F. Elizabeth Givens (2)
Willis: Mark V. Rooks (4) PE

Worship and Praise: Timothy J. Kirven (3) FL

LOUISA COUNTY
Gum Spring: Jeffrey J. Haugh (10)
NEW KENT COUNTY
Providence: J. Brooke Willson (4)
POWHATAN COUNTY
Powhatan: John T. Hemming (2)

RICHMOND
Asbury (Church Hill): Marilyn A. Heckstall (9)
Belmont: Larry J. Cochran (3) PE
Associate: **Julio Serrano-Perez** (1) PL
Boulevard: Rachel G. May (2)
Calvary: **Susan T. Lynch** (1) FL
Centenary: Matthew D. Bates Jr. (3)
Central: Thomas W. Sweat (6)
Emmaus at Stratford Hills: **Chul Ki Kim** (1)
Ginter Park: Dennis Lipke (2) RE
Huguenot: Peter R. Falbo (2) OR
Ramsey Memorial: **Deborah Ann Koontz** (1)
Associate: Norma E. Aguilar (7) PL
Reveille: James R. Noland (8)
Associate: Katherine B. Anthony (2) PE
Associate: Stephen A. Coleman (4) FL
Walmsley Boulevard: **Denise B. Watkins** (1) FL
Wesley Memorial: Rodney M. Hunter (28) RE
Westhampton: Christina Haga Turner (5)
Westover Hills: Donna C. Holder (4)

ROANOKE DISTRICT

District Superintendent: **Kathleen Overby Webster** (1)

BEDFORD COUNTY

Mays Memorial: **Lowell P. Stovall** (1.5) RA
Parrish Chapel: Troy M. White (10) RL
Three Oaks Fellowship: Tina Cox (3.5) PL

BOTETOURT COUNTY

Andrew Chapel: Morris A. Bennett (7.5) RE
Buchanan: **W. Douglas Mitchell** (1.5) FL
Lithia, Trinity

Eagle Rock: W. Raysor Sandifer (11) PL
Bethel, **Eagle Rock**, **Glen Wilton**, **Shiloh**

Ebenezer: John Preer (3) OR
Fincastle: Sandra A. McMillen (3)
Saint Mark's: **Robert D. Lough** (1)

CRAIG COUNTY

Foothills: Danny L. Kesler (6) FL
Hebron, **Mt. Pleasant**, **Pierce Chapel**
New Castle: **Willie B. Guill Jr.** (1)
Bethel, **New Castle**

FLOYD COUNTY

Floyd Parish: Darren E. Landon (6) FL
Copper Hill, **Havens Chapel**, **Huffville**,
Stonewall

FRANKLIN COUNTY

Boones Mill: Robert H. Garner (7) RE
Mount Olivet: Connie Ray Lee Sr. (31) RL

GILES COUNTY

Newport-Mt. Olivet: Morris V. Fleischer (6) FL
Pembroke: **Daniel E. Elmore** (1)

First, **Mt. Lebanon**

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Asbury (Christiansburg): George M. Warner Sr. (3)
Min. of Visitation: James Hamilton (2) LM
Belview: Bobbie Jo Henley (2) PE
Blacksburg: Reginald D. (Reggie) Tuck (12)
Associate: Christina R. McLain (3)
Associate: **Darryl W. McCallum** (1) FL
Associate: **Kelly A. Shushok** (1) PL
Min. of Music: Leigh Anne Taylor (13) FD
Calvary (Christiansburg): Sebert W. Rorer (12) RE
Crockett Springs: **David R. Mucha** (1) RE
Fieldstone: T. Bryson Smith (6)
Goodwin Memorial: James S. Angle (19) RA
Halls: **TBS**
Lafayette: **Elwood E. Carwile** (1) RL
Mt. Elbert: Emory N. Tarpley Sr. (3) RA
Mt. Tabor: Kenneth D. Farrar (4) PL
Park: J. Michael Sanborn (4) PL
Prices Fork-Wesley Memorial: Gustavo A. Segovia (2) FL
Prices Fork, Wesley Memorial
Saint Paul (Christiansburg): Michael D. Copeland (4)

Trinity (Christiansburg): Russell Shepherd (2) PL
White Memorial: Herbert C. Williams Jr. (6)

ROANOKE

Fairview: Donald W. Baldwin (5) FL
Grace: E. Eugene Jones (9) RE
Greene Memorial: **Gary E. Heaton** (1)
Huntington Court: Jeffrey D. Wilson (4)
Raleigh Court: Milton E. Marks (3)
Saint Paul: Carroll C. Carter (3)
South Roanoke: L. Stanley Wright Jr. (5)
Southview: Larry J. Edmonds (4)
Trinity: William C. Logan (10) RE
West End: **Ralph Harris Jr.** (1)
Windsor Hills: Thomas G. Lee (9)
Woodlawn: Louis M. Strickler (8)

ROANOKE COUNTY

Bonsack: Timothy F. Tate (6)
Youth Minister: **Timothy Craft** (1) PD
Catawba Circuit: Melanie D. Franklin (6) PL
Catawba, **McDonalds Mill**, **Shiloh**
Cave Spring: **Jonathan L. Bennett** (1)
Associate: Joanna M. Paysour (2) PE
Lawrence Memorial: Terry A. Ross (3.5) PL
Locust Grove: Benjamin F. Lockhart Jr. (5) PL
Mount Pleasant: **Robert G. Stutes** (1) OE
Northview: Joseph H. Klotz Jr. (3)
Rockingham Court: Craig C. Newman (4)
Thrasher Memorial: Walter B. Failes Jr. (3)
Associate: **Jaeyong Song** (1) FL

SALEM

Calvary (Salem): Timothy W. Gearheart (6) FL
Central: Kristin M. Holbrook (4)
First: Stephen G. Bray (4)
Associate: Jeffrey L. Dorsey (17)

STAUNTON DISTRICT

District Superintendent: **David J. Rochford III** (1)

ALLEGHANY COUNTY

Alleghany: **Shannon Cox** (1) SY

Callaghan: James R. Rodden (5)

Fletchers Chapel, Hoke Chapel

Epworth: **Daniel K. Purdom Jr.** (1) FL

Iron Gate: Lester W. Kennedy III (4) FL

Iron Gate, Longdale, Walton Mem.

Mountain Valley: **Bobbie Jo Gardner** (1.5) SY

Mount Pleasant-South Covington: Charles

H. Cole Jr. (3) PE

Mt. Pleasant, **South Covington**

Potts Valley: David C. Brown (12) FL

Humphrey's, Persinger Mem, **Pinnell**

AUGUSTA COUNTY

Augusta Springs-Craigsville-Goshen: Ryan

Schaeffer (4) PL

Augusta Springs, **Goshen**, St. Paul's

Bethlehem-Jollivue: Janet C. Knott (3) AM

Bethlehem, **Jollivue**

Calvary: Douglas B. Paysour (3)

Associate: Sarah Locke (4) PE

Fishersville: Larry Jent (5)

Associate: Ryan Oswald (3) FL

Glossbrenner: Adam Blagg (7) PE

Greenville: Kevin W. Haynes (10)

Lyndhurst-Oak Hill: Michael W. Pettry (3) FL

Lyndhurst, **Oak Hill**

McKinley: Donald L. Long (14) RE

Mint Spring: Terry L. Clark (5)

Mount Zion: **Wesley Thornberry** (1.5) RL

Rankin: Charles E. Carroll (6) ROM

Associate: **David Coffey** (1) SY

Saint James: **Edward S. Barnett** (1)

Sherando: Clayton Payne (2) FL

Stonewall-West View: **Peter Geoffrion** (1) PL

Stonewall, **West View**

West Augusta: **W. Robert Nash** (1) SY

West Staunton: Mary Pysell (3) SY

Asbury, **Community**, **Lawson**

BATH COUNTY

Bath: Lorrie Aikens (2) FL

Burnsville, **Eden**, **Starr-Bolar**, **Va. Chapel**

Hot Springs: J. Lynn Wright (7) FL

Ashwood, **Emory**

BOTETOURT COUNTY

Mount Olivet: Doris T. Hedrick (2) PL

BUENA VISTA

Saint John's: Ji Hoon Choi (6)

CLIFTON FORGE

Central: **Luis E. 'Ned' Alderman** (1.5)

COVINGTON

Christ: Michael L. Snider (9) RE

Granbery Memorial: **James M. Smith** (1)

Mt. Carmel: Douglas E. Hollenbeck (12) FL

Parrish Court: **Deborah D. Washer** (1) FL

HIGHLAND COUNTY

Blue Grass: W. Andre Crummett (14) FL

Blue Grass-Central, **Hightown**

McDowell: David R. Boger (13) RE

Doe Hill, **McDowell**, **McKendree**, **Totten**

Monterey: Erin Geoffrion (2) FL

Asbury, **Green Hill**, **Monterey**

LEXINGTON

Randolph Street: **Louis H. Caddell** (1.5) RE

Trinity: Norman Tippens (4)

ROCKBRIDGE COUNTY

Beth Horon: Kenneth T. Decker Jr. (3) FL

Collierstown: **James A. Bollinger** (1.5) FL

Collierstown, Mt. Horeb

Ebenezer: **Michael Long** (1) SY

Fairfield: Elizabeth von Trapp Walker (2)

Emory, **Fairfield**

Marvin: Dale Crosby (4) SY

Rockbridge: Sarah Payne (3) SY

Elliott's Hill, **Mt. Zion**, **Wesley Chapel**

STAUNTON

Central: **Won Un** (1)

Cherryvale: DeBorah F. Barnwell (4) FL

Christ: Robert A. Edwards (6)

Marquis Memorial: Robert W. Sharp (4)

Saint John's: **Taylor C. Mertins** (1) PE

Saint Paul's: Robert H. Woodfin II (2)

Staunton-Grottoes: **John Benson** (1) SY

Augusta Street, **Mt. Moriah**, **Mt. Tabor**

WAYNESBORO

Basic: Donald Gibson (10) PE

Glovier Memorial: Charles N. Wiest (6) AM

Main Street: Neil R. Hough (5)

Certified Lay Minister: Harold E. Baldwin Jr. (9) LM

Pleasant View: **Eric Strother** (1) SY

St. Mark's-Wayne Hills: William D. Bearden (6) FL

St Mark's, **Wayne Hills**

WINCHESTER DISTRICT

District Superintendent: Lawrence R.

Thompson Jr. (4)

CLARKE COUNTY

Boyce-White Post-Millwood: **John T. Martin Jr.** (1) RE

Boyce, **Millwood**, **White Post**

Crums: Hyo J. Lee (8)

Duncan Mem. (Berryville): **R. Douglas Geeting** (1)

Marvin Chapel: Kenneth K. Patrick (11)

Paris Mountain: Karen D. M. Adams (9) PL

Mt. Carmel, **Providence Chapel**

FAUQUIER COUNTY

Cool Spring: Janet L. Martin (5) PL

Linden-Markham: **Penny L. Matheson** (1) FL

Linden, **Markham**

Marshall-Middleburg: Edna F. Moore (2)

Marshall, **Middleburg**

Rectortown: **John A. Martin Sr.** (1)

St. Mark's: Jan V. Sickel (3) PL

FREDERICK COUNTY

Brucestown: Yun Chol Kim (3) PE

Burnt Factory: C. Steven Melester (8) FL

Cedar Grove: Thomas W. Crosby (2)

Little Mountain, **Mt. Pleasant**, **Pleasant Vly.**

Emmanuel: **Paulo C. Da Silva** (1)

Fairview-Refuge: John E. Lock (8)

Fairview, **Refuge**

Francis Asbury: **Anthony A. Wadsworth** (1) RE

Chestnut Grove, **Howard Chapel**

Gainesboro: **Saundra A. Nottingham** (1) RE

Grace (Middletown): Thomas H. Keithley (5)

Greenwood-Montague Avenue: **Andy L.**

Brock (1) PE

Greenwood, **Montague Avenue**

Kernstown: W. Clay Knick (9)

Macedonia: Jason B. Duley (13)

Mt. Bethelview: Victor R. Gomez (3)

Mt. Olive, **Old Bethel**

North Frederick: **Thomas W. Reynolds** (1) FL

Rest, **White Hall**

Pleasant View: Hung Su Lim (5)

Mt. Pleasant-Lamps, **Mountain View**

Redland: **Melissa D. Porter-Miller** (1)

Relief-Hites: Aaron W. Fitch (4)

Hites Chapel, **Relief**

Round Hill: **Penny L. Wilson Jr.** (1)

Stephens City: J. Jeffrey Butcher (6)

Welltown: C. Marc Roberson (6)

Wesley Chapel-Pine Grove: **Jerome F.**

Weigel (1) RL

Pine Grove, **Wesley Chapel**

LOUDOUN COUNTY

Bethany (Purcellville): Michael D. Finn-McKenzie (2)

Evergreen: F.W. Giessler II (15)

Harmony (Hamilton): Stephen T. Vineyard (5)

Leesburg: James N. Wishmyer (7)

Minister of Administration: Wayne R.

Reynolds (6) LM

Loudoun: J. Robert Schoeman (3) PE

Aldie, **Unison**, **Upperville**

Lovettsville: Eugenie Finn-McKenzie (2)

Bethel, **Mt. Pleasant**

Mt. Olivet: Lee J. Crosby (6) FL

Mt. Zion (Leesburg): Melbourne H. Bailey (5) RE

Purcellville Circuit: Alphonso L. Irving (7) FL

Austin Grove, **Grace Annex**, **Powells Grove**

Rehoboth: Carl M. Chapman (2) PL

Round Hill: Jeffrey A. Witt (13)

Short Hill: Philip H. Brumback (6) PL

Ebenezer, **Hillsboro**

West Loudoun: Wesley S. Corber (3) PL

Bluemont, **Roszell Chapel**

Willisville-Hamilton Cooperative Parish:

Reginald A. Early (9) FL

Mt. Zion (Hamilton), **Willisville Chapel**

WARREN COUNTY

Bethel: Robert Moore (9) RE

Front Royal: **Denise P. Bates** (1)

Howellsville: Francis P. Bertrand (2) PL

John Wesley: **Mary L. Marshall** (1) RL

Reliance-Ridings Chapel: **Mary J. Lock** (1)

Reliance, **Ridings Chapel**

Riverton: J. Michael Derflinger (6)

Warren: **Sherry L. Waddell** (1) FL

Asbury, **Bennetts Chapel**, **Limeton**

WINCHESTER

Amor Y Paz, Iglesia Metodista Unidas:
Martha de la Rosa (13) PL
Braddock Street: G. Kirk Nave (2)
Associate: **J. Adam Sowder** (1) PE
First: William M. White (5)
John Mann: James E. Page Jr. (6) PL
Market Street: **Eric C. Song** (1)
Wesley: Michel Q. Mayton (7)

YORK RIVER DISTRICT

District Superintendent: Joseph D. Carson (7)
CHARLES CITY COUNTY
Memorial: Darcey G. Johnson (5)
GLOUCESTER COUNTY
Bellamy: Kenneth Stephen Waclo (5)
Bethany (Gloucester Pt.): **Deborah T. Marion** (1)
Bethlehem: Carol I. Bookwalter (1.5) RE
Gloucester-Mathews: Donald M. Warrick Jr. (4)
Locust Grove, Mt. Zion
New Hope: Brian D. Siegle (5)
Salem-Olive Branch: Rita L. Staul (11)
Olive Branch, Salem
Singleton: Calvin J. Griffin (4.5)
Susanna Wesley: J. Garrett Livermon (5)

HAMPTON

Aldersgate: David C. Cook (7) OR
Bethany: Arthur Rajanayakam (10)
Central (Hampton): **Charles E. Beard** (1) OF
East Hampton: Edward Merry (10) PL
First (Fox Hill): Brian Sixbey (4)
First (Hampton): Michael L. Nelson (4)
Fox Hill Central: Wayne C. Moore (7)
Phoebus: Robert E. Rough (3) PL
Saint James: Dwight Hughes (4)
Saint Mark's: Roy P. White (3)
Wallace Memorial: Kevin C. Stefano (2) FL
Wesley: Jason W. Snow (2)

ISLE OF WIGHT COUNTY

Benns: Orville H. Burton (6)
Bethany: Lowell D. Petry (5) FL
Oak Grove/Riverview: Leon C. Basham Jr. (13) PL
Oak Grove, Riverview
Trinity: Jeffery Lee Cannon (3)
Uzzell: Rebecca W. Gwaltney (2) PL
Woodland: Michael W. Harrington Sr. (9) FL

JAMES CITY COUNTY

Mount Vernon: David E. Craig (10) AM
New Town: David V. Ford (15)
Wellspring: Edward A. Hopkins (4)

KING & QUEEN COUNTY

Shackelfords Chapel: Charles J. McHose (4) RE

KING WILLIAM COUNTY

West Point: Melody P. Tanner (2)

MATHEWS COUNTY

Bethel-St. Matthew: Robert A. Ulmer (2) FL
Bethel, St. Matthew
Beulah-St. Paul: Delia M. Parrish (3)
Beulah, St. Paul
Central: Suzanne D. Gibson (5)
Mathews Chapel: Harry R. Loyd (7) FL

Salem: William H. John Jr. (9)
West Mathews: David C. Magruder (4) PE
Emmanuel, Grace-Providence

MIDDLESEX COUNTY

Clarksbury: Eric J. Vaudt (6) PE
Lower Church: Barry L. Burkholder (3)
Middlesex: Geraldine R. Burkholder (3) FL
Forest Chapel, Old Church
Urbanna: Hyung Il Moon (3)

NEW KENT COUNTY

New Kent: Lawrence S. Brayton (2) FL

Pamunkey, Tabernacle

NEWPORT NEWS

Asbury: Myles Pierson (6) RE
Chestnut Memorial: Robert W. Gochenour (4)
Christ: Thomas G. Tipton (2)
First: Robert L. Haley (2)
Grace: **Steven D. Barbery** (1) PE
Holy Cross International: Yoon Seok Choi (4) OE

Noland-Trinity: Jennifer L. Day (3)

Noland Memorial, Trinity

Parkview: Timothy M. Porter (2) PL

Warwick Memorial:

Co-Pastor: **Regina Anderson-Cloud** (1)

Co-Pastor: **Bert Cloud** (1)

POQUOSON

Tabernacle: **Barry R. Throckmorton** (1)

Trinity: Charles R. Stacy (2)

WILLIAMSBURG

Williamsburg: Matthew W. Jones (4)

Associate: **Kristen Barré** (1) OE

Min. of Congregational Care: **Helen**

Casey-Rutland (1)

YORK COUNTY

Crooks Memorial: **Lisa A. Barbery** (1)

Providence: C. Douglas Akers (4)

Saint Luke's: Douglas D. Gestwick (8)

Associate: Clara P. Gestwick (8)

Zion: Kathy B. Gochenour (4)

EXTENSION MINISTRIES AND OTHER APPOINTMENTS

ALEXANDRIA DISTRICT

Mi Sook Ahn (FL)—Chaplain, Montgomery Hospice (Trinity)

Herbert Brynildsen (FD)—Program Coordinator, Alexandria District (Secondary appointment: St. Matthew's)

Timothy M. Farabaugh—President/CEO of Glenwood Park, Inc., Princeton, WV (Fairlington)

Judith T. Hall (FD)—Pastoral Counselor, Pastoral Counseling of Northern VA (Secondary appointment: St. Matthew's)

Lucretia Hurley-Browning—Director, Juniper Tree Pastoral Counseling Center and Chaplain, Joan Karnell Cancer Center, Philadelphia (Aldersgate)

Karla M. Kincannon—Director of Field Education and of Vocational Formation and Church Leadership, Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary (Rising Hope)

David F. McAllister-Wilson—President, Wesley Seminary (St. Matthew's)

Drema McAllister-Wilson—On loan: Minister of Congregational Care, Metropolitan Memorial UMC, Baltimore-Washington Conference (St. Matthew's)

Pamela G. Meeuwissen (PL)—Chaplain/Spiritual Counselor, Mary Washington Hospice (Christ)

Marianne K. Nassef—Chaplain, Kindred Healthcare (Fairlington)

James A. Noseworthy—Vice President for Administration and Director of External Programs, Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary (Rising Hope)

Ann On-Lin Tang—AGR Chaplain, US Army (Messiah)

J. Pat Watkins—Church and Community Worker, General Board of Global Ministries (St. Matthew's)

Susan E. Willhauck (FL)—Associate Professor of Pastoral Theology, Atlantic School of Theology (St. Matthew's)

ARLINGTON DISTRICT

Sandra L. Boone—On loan: Water's Edge UMC, Baltimore-Washington Conference (Pender)

Elizabeth Gray Caudill—Program Coordinator, Arlington District (Clarendon)

Tammie E. Crews—Brigade Chaplain, US Army (The Vine)

Melissa R. Dunlap—Alexandria-Arlington Bi-District Church Development Coordinator (The Vine)

Paul A. Hanak—International Dir., Ambassadors for Christ International (Pender)

Gary L. Hulme—President/CEO and Pastoral Counselor, Pastoral Counseling of Northern VA (Mount Olivet)

Seungsoo Jun—On loan: Associate Pastor, Holy Flames Methodist Church, Bundang District, Joongang Annual Conference, Korean Methodist Church (Korean UMC Greater Washington)

Sangkeun Kim—Professor of Mission Studies, Theology Department, Yonsei University, Korea (Korean UMC Greater Washington)

James M. Melson—Director, The Cornelius Corps (Crossroads)

Edgar Miranda—Elementary Principal, Anglo-American School of Sofia, Bulgaria (Saint Luke's)

Paul A. Nixon—New Church Development Strategist, GBOD and President, Epicenter Group (Arlington Temple)

Martha M. Real (FD)—Executive Director, GRACE Ministries of The UMC (Floris)

R. Kendall Soulen—Professor of Systematic Theology, Wesley Seminary (Culmore)

Charles K. Tran—On loan: Pastor, Vietnamese Fellowship, San Jose, CA, Cal-Nev Conference (First Vietnamese)

CHARLOTTESVILLE DISTRICT

Christopher R. Donald—College Chaplain and Director of Religious Life, Millsaps College (Crozet)

Barry Penn Hollar—Professor of Religion and Philosophy, Shenandoah U. (Madison)

Deborah E. Lewis—Director & Campus Minister, Wesley Foundation, UVA (Wesley Memorial)

Janice M. Rivero—University Relations Director, Stop Hunger Now (Wesley Memorial)

Thomas W. Sherrod—Director of Pastoral Care, Iredell Hospital, Statesville, N.C. (Mt. View)

Rochelle A. Shoemaker—Director, Rochelle, Inc. (Wesley Memorial)

Adam James White—Chaplain and Director of Service Learning, Virginia Episcopal School (Wesley Memorial)

DANVILLE DISTRICT

Brenda L. Rose—Pastoral Counselor, Chrysalis Counseling and Consultation Center, Inc. (Smith Memorial)

EASTERN SHORE DISTRICT

Brenda Lee Laws (FD)—Coordinator, Parent Infant Program on the Shore, Eastern Shore Community Services Board (Secondary appointment: Horntown)

Peter Surran (PD)—Fire Medic and Chaplain, Accomack County Fire Dept. (Franktown)

ELIZABETH RIVER DISTRICT

Frank P. Decker—Vice-President, Member Care and Development, Mission Society for UMs (Community, Portsmouth)

Joseph T. Eldridge—University Chaplain, American University (Epworth)

Pamela J. Gable—On loan: Pastor, Lisbon UMC, E. Ohio Conference (Great Bridge)

William T. Greer Jr.—Pres., Virginia Wesleyan College (Larchmont)

John B. Haynes Jr.—Dir./Campus Minister, Tidewater Wesley Foundation, ODU (Heritage)

Amy Dawn Johnson—Staff Chaplain, Sentara Norfolk General Hospital (VA Beach)

Charles H. Leavitt Jr.—Chaplain, Bon Secours Healthcare Systems, Inc., Suffolk (Community, VA Beach)

Joel M. LeMon—Assistant Prof. of Old Testament, Candler School of Theology, Emory University (Ebenezer)

Charles E. Rowley—Chaplain, U.S. Navy (Courthouse Community)

Gregory B. West—Chaplain, Virginia Wesleyan College (Monumental)

FARMVILLE DISTRICT

Charles F. Baber Jr. (FD)—On loan: Minister to Youth and Families, Highland UMC, Raleigh, North Carolina Conference (Oakwood)

George H. Donigan—On loan: Pastor, Monaghan UMC, Greenville, SC, South Carolina Conference (Jamieson Memorial)

Richard L. Meiser Jr.—Campus Minister/Director, Wesley Foundation, Longwood and Hampden-Sydney (Farmville)

T. McKennon Shea—Director of Admissions, Duke Divinity School (Farmville)

FREDERICKSBURG DISTRICT

Robert A. Almy—Director, ChurchIngenuity.Com (Register Chapel)

Gerald C. Headley III—Chaplain, Calvert Hospice (Melson)

Teresa Signer Smith—Director, New Pathways Ministries (New Hope)

HARRISONBURG DISTRICT

Benjamin D. Burks—Vice President, VA Mennonite Retirement Community (Asbury)

Julie Ann Haushalter—Director, Lavender Center for Education and Retreats (Vision of Hope)

Charles F. Reynolds—Exec. Dir., Virginia Conference Wellness Ministries, Ltd. (Verona)

Paul Ritter (PL)—Correctional Chaplain, Augusta Correctional Center, Chaplain Service Prison Ministry of VA, Inc., (Mountain Valley)

JAMES RIVER DISTRICT

Dwala J. Ferrell—Chief Executive Officer, Pathways-VA, Inc. (Oak Grove)

J. Stanley Hargraves—Registrar, Union Presbyterian Seminary (Chester)

Robin C.M. Jones (FL)—Director of the Spiritual Care Program/Chaplain, Jackson-Feild Homes (Concord)

P. Michael Watts—Dir., Shalom Homes, Pathways-VA, Inc. (Oak Grove)

John D. White (FD)—Special Education Teacher, Matoaca High School (Secondary appointment: Trinity/Chesterfield)

LYNCHBURG DISTRICT

Dori Baker—Research Fellow/Chaplain, The Fund for Theological Education (Lane Memorial)

Ray A. Buchanan—Founder and President, Stop Hunger Now, Inc. (Bedford Circuit)

Jennifer Vestal Moore (FL)—Dir. Of Church Relations, Society of St. Andrew's (Peakland)

RICHMOND DISTRICT

Marc D. Brown—Director of Connectional Ministries, Virginia Conference (Trinity)

David E. Carl Jr.—Ex. Dir., Pastoral Care & Education, Carolinas Health Care System, Charlotte, NC and On loan: Pastor, Big Spring UMC, WNC Conference (River Rd.)

James G. Daniely—Director/Campus Minister, Pace-Wesley Foundation, VCU (Asbury Memorial)

Roger C. Dowdy (FD)—Director, CROSS-PATHS Ministries (Secondary appointment: Good Shepherd)

Beth Downs (FD)—Director, Center for Clergy Excellence, Virginia Conference (Secondary appointment: Reveille)

David Andrew Forrest (PE)—On loan: Pastor, Munger Place Church, a campus of Highland Park United Methodist Church, Metro District, North Texas Conference (Shady Grove, Short Pump)

Allen E. Gunther Jr.—Battalion Chaplain, US Army (Shady Grove, Henrico)

Sandra K. Hamilton—Pastoral Counselor and Faculty, VIPCare (Trinity)

Lynda W. Harding—Clinic Manager/Chaplain, Crossover Healthcare Ministry (New Song)

M. Jan Holton—Associate Prof. of Pastoral Care and Counseling, Yale Divinity School (Reveille)

Stephen C. Hundley—On loan: Executive Director of Connectional Ministries, Cal-Pac Conference (Corinth)

Virginia A. Lee (FD)—Associate Professor of Christian Education and Dir. of Deacon Studies, Garrett-Evangelical Seminary (Charge Conference: Reveille)

Mark V. Ogren—Dir. Of Congregational Excellence, Virginia Conference (Duncan Memorial)

Jinwook Oh (PD)—Director/Minister, Milal Mission (Emmaus at Stratford Hills)

Derrick Parson—Director of Ministries with Young People, Va. Conference (River Road)

Nancy Robinson (FD)—Continuing Education Coordinator, Sierra Leone, General Board of Global Ministries (Secondary: Lakeside)

Kathryn F. Talley—Deputy Exec. Dir., VA Supportive Housing (Centenary)

Michelle Renee Thorne (PE)—On loan: Pastor in charge, Community UMC, Annapolis Southern Region, Baltimore-Washington Conference (Asbury Memorial)

Joseph Torrence (FD)—Minister of Youth and Church Relations, UMFS (Secondary: St. Matthew's)

Dorothee Tripodi (PE)—Assoc. Dir. of Supervised Ministry and Vocational Planning, Union Presbyterian Seminary (Westover Hills)

Michael L. Whaley—On loan: Associate Pastor of Missions/ Membership, Davidson UMC, WNC Conference (Woodlake)

ROANOKE DISTRICT

Stephen Darr—Campus Minister Dir., Community College Ministries (Blacksburg)

Bret-Ashton G. Gresham—Director/Campus Minister, Wesley Foundation at VA Tech (Blacksburg)

Jeffrey C. Pugh—Professor of Religious Studies, Elon (South Roanoke)

STAUNTON DISTRICT

Kenneth A. Beals—Assistant Professor, Mary Baldwin College (Central)

Harlan Beckley—Director, Shepherd Program on Poverty and Fletcher Otey Thomas Professor of Religion, Washington and Lee Univ. (Trinity/Lexington)

Charles V. Jackson II—International Dir., Generous Hands Ministries, Inc. (Basic)

WINCHESTER DISTRICT

B. Justin Allen—Dean of Spiritual Life and Director of The Institute for Church Professions, Shenandoah University (Braddock Street)

Rhonda VanDyke Colby—Vice-President for Student Life, Shenandoah University (Braddock Street)

John D. Copenhagen Jr.—Professor of Religion and Philosophy, Shenandoah U. (Stephens City)

Kenneth K. Patrick—Chaplain, Blue Ridge Hospice (Marvin Chapel)

Lemuel E. Pearsall Jr.—Chaplain, Randolph-Macon Academy

Sara E. Pugh—On loan: Pastor, Coweta First UMC, Muskogee District, OK Conference (Braddock Street)

Cynthia I. Zirlott (FD)—Protestant Chaplain, United Campus Ministry, Frostburg State University (Secondary appointment: Frostburg UMC; Charge Conference: First)

YORK RIVER DISTRICT

Christina M.H. Perkins—On loan: Pastor, Renwick and Goldfield UMCs, Iowa Conference (Bethany, Gloucester Point)

DIACONAL

DANVILLE DISTRICT

Lynn Meeks—Rocky Mount UMC, Director of Music Ministries/Organist

DEACONESS & HOME MISSIONER

ALEXANDRIA DISTRICT

Brenda Romenius (D)—Director of Christian Education, Saint John's UMC (Saint John's)

DANVILLE DISTRICT

Elizabeth "Lisa" Nichols (D)—Exec. Dir./ Church and Community Worker, Henry Fork Service Center (Redwood)

ELIZABETH RIVER DISTRICT

Haniel Garibay (HM)—Cross Cultural Common Witness Coordinator, Methodist Federation for Social Action (Resurrection)

Olma Eleanor Garibay (D)—Multi-Ministry Director, Resurrection UMC (Resurrection)

FARMVILLE DISTRICT

Diane W. Hassell (D)—Director, Amelia Charge Outreach Ministry, Amelia Charge (Trinity)

FREDERICKSBURG DISTRICT

Susan Lewandowski (D)—GED Instructor, Rappahannock Area Regional Adult Education (Fredericksburg)

LYNCHBURG DISTRICT

Ann Farris (D)—Family Leave of Absence (Fairview)



What can my church learn

THE WORLD OF MEGACHURCHES

Officially, "megachurch" is defined as any Protestant congregation with 2,000 or more members. Megachurches have come to represent a particular brand of evangelicalism, primarily targeted at young adults, and often worship in auditoriums or theaters instead of worship halls. As many traditional churches lose members, megachurches are growing rapidly both in weekly attendance and annual budgets. Here, we examine the world of megachurches.

What Does the Average U.S. Megachurch Look Like?

Average weekend worship attendance:
2,000-2,999 members



48% are located in a young suburb outside a major city



AVERAGE NUMBER
OF FULL-TIME
STAFF MEMBERS



SENIOR PASTOR'S
AVERAGE TENURE

13

AVERAGE AGE OF
SENIOR PASTOR



Most Megachurches Are Evangelical

Percent of megachurches

Evangelical **56%**

Charismatic **8%**

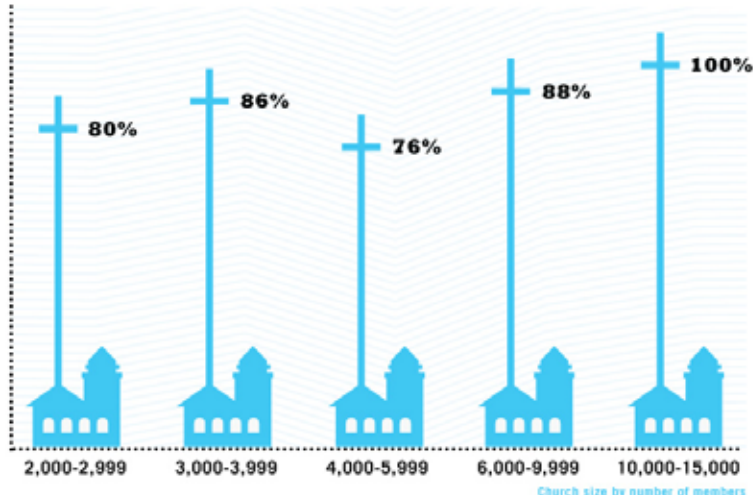
Pentecostal

Membership Is Climbing

Eighty-three percent of megachurches have seen attendance grow since 2009.

All Large Churches Have Grown in Membership

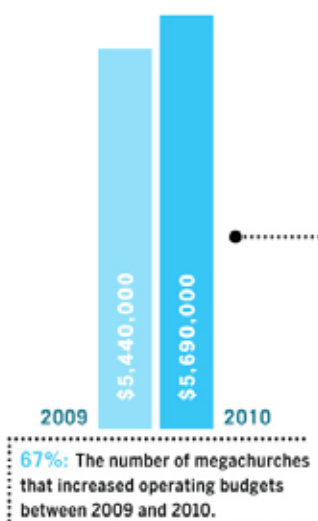
Percent of megachurches that grew in attendance (2009-2010)



With an average 43,500 weekly attendees, Houston's Lakewood Church is the largest congregation in the U.S. Its senior pastor, Joel Osteen, reaches more than 7 million people in more than 100 nations through his television broadcasts and books.

Budget Growth

Average megachurch's annual budget



Most Plan to Hire More Staff

Adding more staff **71%**

How Much the Staff

Average salary (2010)

Senior/Lead Pastor

Executive Pastor

Teaching Pastor

Associate Pastor

Business Administrator

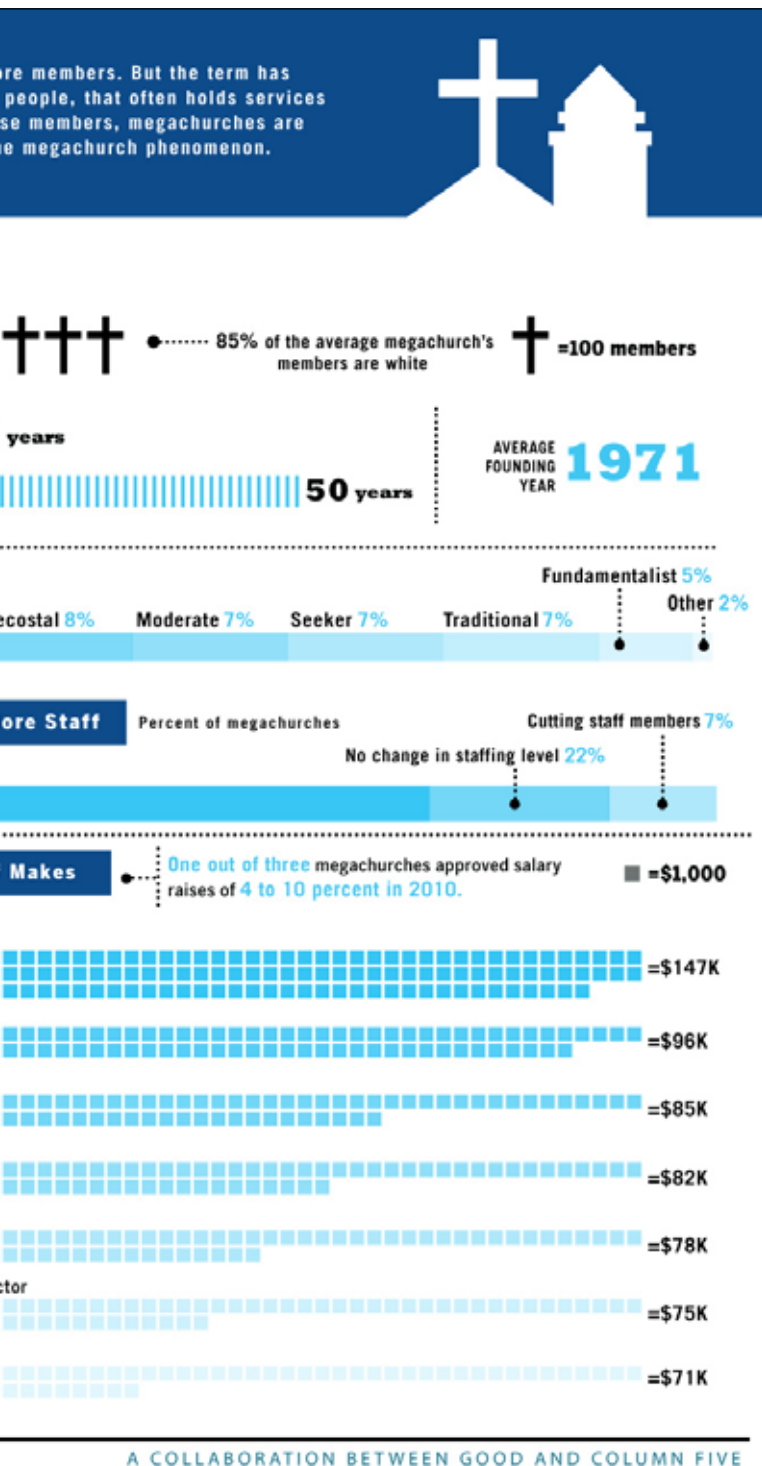
Worship Programming Director

Director of Finance/CFO

SOURCES: LEADERSHIP NETWORK | CHRISTIAN POST | FORBES



Learn from a megachurch?



By Scott Thumma

“What could my church possibly learn from these behemoths with million-dollar budgets, hundreds of staff and thousands of excited volunteers?”

In my travels, I repeatedly hear pastors ask this question. I understand why. But my last 20-plus years of research on megachurches throughout the world suggests that churches of all sizes have much to learn from this phenomenon. However, I don't believe the primary lessons come from their specific ministry efforts. Instead, the most important things we can learn are the strategies behind all their ministry efforts.

I've found that one of the biggest keys to most megachurches' success is their ability to minister in, and adapt to, an ever-changing contemporary world. A vital church reaches out to both its members and non-Christians in relevant ways, and megachurches seem to do this both accidentally and intentionally.

Here are 11 basic principles gleaned from megachurches that I believe churches of all sizes can apply:

1. Don't strive for size; strive to serve God.

The vast majority of megachurches came about because their pastors had a passion and a vision for reaching the unchurched. They were able to communicate this vision to a group of people who embraced it and joined the pastor in a commitment to share the Gospel with their friends and neighbors.

2. Know your strengths and put them to work.

Come to an awareness of exactly what God is calling your church to be and do in your context. This requires spiritual seeking through prayer on the part of the pastor and church leaders. It also involves knowing the needs and cultural characteristics of the persons you are called to reach. You must speak the Gospel in their language. This may mean embracing the use of electric guitars, drums and keyboards, or it could mean hiring a pastor of another race, or starting another service on Sunday evening for young adults.

3. Evangelize in every possible way.

The entire congregation, every person – not just the leadership – is commissioned to go and make disciples of all nations. It is clear from our research that megachurches operate more evangelistic programs than smaller churches do. Even more important, their membership is involved in

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evangelism to a greater extent. It is also true that the fastest-growing megachurches have the largest percentages of their members engaged in outreach activities.

4. Make it appealing, then make it challenging.

Most visitors want to slip in anonymously and experience worship in a user-friendly manner. But don't leave newcomers at the "spectator stage." Christianity is about maturing in the faith. The goal of pastors and teachers is to help the body of Christ "become mature." Many megachurches provide intentional paths for new persons to move into deeper levels of the faith.

5. Worship is not just a "Sunday thing."

Megachurch leaders place high priority on worship as central to the life of the church. Their worship services are overwhelmingly described as joyful, inspirational, thought-provoking, exciting, informal, reverent and constantly evolving. But if church is only Sunday morning entertainment, it isn't any better than a Friday evening movie. Preach and demonstrate a faith that is practiced daily in everyday ways.

The Church of the Resurrection in Leawood, Kansas, is the largest United Methodist church in the country.



6. Create participants – not members.

Active participation matters. If your members don't attend and aren't active in the life of the church, sooner or later they'll fall away. Megachurches create intentional ways to integrate new persons into the active life of the church. This means more than just new members classes. Show them how committed Christians serve God and the church and encourage them to do likewise. The sooner new people become involved in ministry, the more likely they are to stay and participate.

7. Connect the congregation.

It is well-known that megachurches intentionally use small fellowship groups to create intimacy and connections. No church, however, should take the creation of interpersonal relationships for granted. It will not happen naturally. Think about turning all your groups into cell groups. Any grouping of volunteers, hobbyists or committee members can be a small group and strengthen both members' spiritual lives and enhance the social fabric of the congregation. Regardless of their primary intent, these regular gatherings should model a fellowship group and incorporate prayer, Scripture study and support of personal concerns. Think of this as strengthening the spiritual fabric that holds the church together.

8. Whatever you do, do it with excellence.


Very few churches will be able to orchestrate worship or put on pageants comparable to the megachurches. However, every size church can start on time, have greeters and ushers who undertake their duties professionally, make sure their bathrooms are clean, and ensure the landscaping is well-groomed. Appearance and attitudes matter to someone attending for the first time. View your church as you would your

home when you prepare to entertain guests. After all, God asks for our best and so do those you want to reach out to – whatever "best" means for your church.

9. Empower people to identify and live out their calling.

No megachurch pastor ever created a megachurch alone. God was the primary active partner, but it also required the commitment and spiritual labor of the entire congregation. All Christians are called to serve God through their own unique talents and gifts. Megachurches encourage their members to recognize what God is calling each of them to do, and then empower them to use these gifts and offer them space in which to do it. These churches have a great capacity for sharing the load of a mega-ministry among hundreds, even thousands, of volunteers. By providing a place for individuals to express their calling to serve God, the megachurch helps to mature the faith of people while expanding the scope of the church's ministry to the world.

10. Sanctification isn't just for newcomers.

It's for the saints, too. Strive to deepen the spirituality of your entire congregation. If you are intentionally taking new Christians around the "bases," make sure the long-time Christians continue to run the bases too. Many megachurches offer weekly discipleship and evangelism classes, as well as men's and women's Bible studies, and they encourage both young and mature Christians to participate. Christians who are growing in their faith journey create growing churches. 

-Dr. Scott Thumma is a sociologist and researcher for Hartford Institute for Religion Research at Hartford Seminary. His books include Beyond Megachurch Myths: What We Can Learn from America's Largest Churches, co-written with Dave Travis. This article originally appeared in Outreach magazine.



Clockwise from top left: Elevation Church in Charlotte, N.C.; the Rev. Jonathan Falwell, senior pastor at Thomas Road Baptist Church in Lynchburg; Joel Osteen's Lakewood Church in Houston; a flash mob at Willow Creek Baptist Church in Des Moines; a megachurch praise band; The Potter's House in Battle Creek, Mich.





5 principles megachurches ca



By Karl Vaters

1. Everyone matters

The average person can have a greater impact in a small church. Your presence matters and your absence is noticed. People recognize your face and know your name – and not just your friends, but the pastor, too.

In a bigger church, a pastor can't know everyone, or even most people. It's the price of growth. But we need to be careful, as we grow, not to see people only as members of subsets.

This is where “we need to grow smaller as we're growing bigger” comes from. Big churches need systems in place, not just to keep the mechanics of the church functioning smoothly, but to let every individual know they matter.

Giving people a sense of personal value isn't automatic, even in a small church. It takes work. But it's worth it.

2. Friends are more important than friendliness

Josh Hunt wrote a terrific post entitled *People Are Not Looking for a Friendly Church*, in which he quotes Rick Warren, who says, “People are not looking for a friendly church; they are looking for friends.”

Josh and Rick are right. It's nice

when a greeter has a friendly smile and when an usher asks your name as they show you to your seat. But I don't expect those people to think about me after I leave any more than the smiling barista at Starbucks does.

I don't go to Starbucks for the barista's friendliness any more than I go to church for the usher's smile. I go to Starbucks for the coffee, and to church for the worship and teaching. But I hang out in each place because of the friends I meet there.

Friendly churches may be over-rated – after all, I can get that at Starbucks. But hanging out is holy.

Hanging out? Really? That's holy?

Yes it is. In the Bible they call it fellowship. But we've turned fellowship into something other than what the Bible intended, I think. Look at it this way: What would most people rather do – go to a “fellowship time” at church, or hang out with their friends?

People don't usually stay in small churches because of the high quality of the preaching, the music, the nursery or the facilities. Megachurches do all of that better. They stay because they can hang out with their friends in a small church. We all need to be intentional about fostering friendships, not just friendliness.

3. Conversations are more valuable than surveys

Megachurches love surveys. It's the primary way they monitor the success or failure of their programs.

But small churches don't need to conduct surveys. We can have conversations.

When you're trying to measure scientifically verifiable data from massive groups of people, surveys are invaluable. They help us look past our own small, prejudicial view of

things and give us verifiable, objective results.

But when we're dealing with people, surveys can give us a false sense of understanding. Knowing how many people have been through a discipleship class is not the same as knowing how much they've grown in their faith. That requires a much more personal touch.

In the classic leadership book, *In Search of Excellence*, Tom Peters introduced the world to MBWA – Management By Wandering Around. The concept is simple. In large companies, including large churches, it's easy to think you know what's going on because of all the raw data you collect. But you can lose a sense of what's really happening if you rely too heavily on the numbers. Leaders need to spend time in the trenches or they lose touch.

In small churches, MBWA is just the way things are. There are no layers between the pastor and the people. Surveys aren't needed because conversations are taking place.

In big groups, conversations can give you a skewed picture of what's going on, so they need to be supplemented by surveys, and vice versa. But in smaller groups, you can get a large enough sample size through conversations, and have all the info you need.

MBWA isn't a new concept. It's the original data collection system. Shakespeare referred to it in *Henry V*, when he had the king disguise himself to walk among the troops and gauge their mood the night before the Battle of Agincourt. And, long before Shakespeare, Jesus did it with his disciples.



n learn from small churches

4. The people who need connection the most won't sign up for small groups

Most large churches recognize the need to make relationships more intentional. A massive worship meeting, while exciting and inspiring, is not enough. So most of them work very hard at developing and promoting small groups.

The problem is that most people feel like they've received their weekly spiritual dosage by attending a one-hour weekend church service. They don't see the need or have the time to add another meeting to their schedule. And that's what many people see a small group as – just another meeting.

No, that's not a very spiritually mature view of small groups. But aren't the spiritually immature people the ones who need those groups the most?

In a small church, people get the small group experience on Sunday morning – one-stop spiritual shopping. And the friendships that develop there are one reason why small churches likely have a higher level of volunteerism and involvement. In a bigger church, the only way to get that much-needed smaller group is to add one more meeting to the calendar. Most people won't.

So what's a big church to do?

Clearly, I'm not an expert on running a big church, but it seems to me that it might be helpful to find a way to infuse more one-on-one connection into the main service times. Not just "turn around and say hi to someone before you're seated."

What about these as starter ideas? For bigger and smaller churches.

- ❖ Have a mid-service break every

once-in-a-while. Take five minutes in the middle of your biggest services for people to grab coffee, chat and get to know the people sitting near them.

- ❖ Assign section hosts. People usually sit at the same place in the same service time. A section host could get to know everyone in that section and be the "social glue" that recognizes new people.
- ❖ Have discussion times after each service for those who want to stick around for a few extra minutes. It's a lot easier to stay while you're there than to come out on another day.

5. Stories matter more than numbers

"So, how's your church doing?" is the #1 question ministers ask each other when we get together.

What's the #1 answer to that question? "We're running (insert your Easter Sunday numbers here) in attendance."

That's how I used to answer that

question. I don't any more. Attendance isn't an accurate measure of how my church is doing.

Stories are a far better measure of how a church is doing. How is Jesus affecting the people in your church? How are they responding to the needs of their friends and the community. Are lives being transformed, relationships being healed, families growing stronger, ministry to the community being effective?

Numbers can get in the way. When the church is growing, they can give us a false sense of health and, let's admit it, ego. When the church is small or shrinking, they can make us doubt our ministry and calling. But attendance statistics are not an accurate measure of how any church is really doing. Stories are.

Stories matter because people matter. From the world's biggest megachurches to the smallest home churches, let's never stop knowing people and celebrating their stories. 🍷

-Rev. Karl Vaters is a small church pastor, creator of www.newsmallchurch.com and author of "The Grasshopper Myth."





Where have all our young adults gone?

By Max Blalock

A recent beautiful summer evening, my family had a cookout at James River Park. While we were there, lots of college students started arriving. In all, about 40 students arrived for a cookout and Bible study.

It was an event organized by the college minister at Williamsburg Community Chapel, a local church here in Williamsburg.

I chatted with their college minister, and he told me the students were home from college for the summer. They have a Bible study and events for them in June and July. The Chapel, as most people call it, is the local megachurch in Williamsburg. They easily

have the most active young adults of any church in Williamsburg, and probably more than all the mainline churches combined.

Why is that? Why is it that 62 percent of people who attend megachurches are under the age of 45, compared with 35 percent of smaller churches?

According to research by the Hartford Seminary, offered in a report titled "Not Who You Think They Are," there are three primary factors that first attract young adults to megachurches: the reputation of the church, the style of worship and the senior pastor. However, what keeps them attending is that megachurches "offer a multitude of choices and diverse avenues" by which people can

grow. As a result, young adults (and everyone) can "craft their unique, customized spiritual experience to meet their needs."

My random sampling of several megachurch websites reveals that each has at least 25 different ways that young people can grow spiritually, serve the community, have needs met, serve on a mission trip or serve or lead within the church. This huge variety of ways folks can choose to live out their faith and grow spiritually is what sets apart many megachurches from smaller churches in the community. Ways to get active and engaged in your faith are literally right at your fingertips.

These churches dedicate resources (time, money, staff, volunteers and fa-



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cilities) to their young adult ministries. They make ministry with young adults a priority, and the ministry of young adults a priority as well. For example, two times a month The Chapel rents our fellowship hall at the Wesley Foundation for a support meeting with college students who serve as mentors to youth. There are at least 30 college students who participate, as well as two staff members.

This points out another aspect of many megachurches: they empower their young adults to be in ministry now, not after they're done with college or married or "older." Young adults can also volunteer in a variety of ways, help lead worship and music, participate in a variety of small groups, as well as have multiple options for serving in the community and serving on mission trips. Who wouldn't want to attend a church like that?

I hear the naysayers as I am writing this. "We don't have the money to hire more staff!" "We don't have the people to have more small groups!" "We don't have ANY young adults!"

If more of our United Methodist churches in the Virginia Conference want to truly be in ministry with young adults, we do have to make some radical changes in the way we do ministry, regardless of the size of our church.


According to our own denominational statistics, 89 percent of those attending United Methodist churches are age 30 or older, and 55 percent are over the age of 60. As a result, most of the resources of our churches are being directed toward ministry with persons who are not young adults. Thus, it is no surprise that we don't have

many young adults active or even attending our churches. It's simply a matter of priorities.

It's perfectly fine if we decide that we don't want to be in ministry with young adults, but let's not lament the fact that they aren't in our churches when we haven't dedicated the time, energy or resources to make space for them.

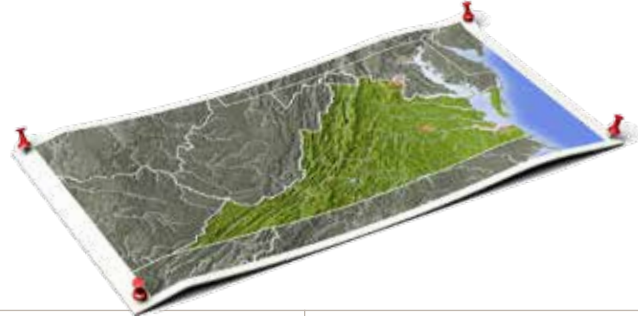
So what can we do? Here's some advice from students at Wesley:

- ❖ When young adults show up at worship, talk to them, and engage them like you would any other adult. Young adults want to have relationships with adults that have mutual integrity, respect and compassion.
- ❖ Provide leadership opportunities for young adults, especially in worship. It makes a huge difference when young adults attend church to see other young adults leading worship.
- ❖ Take the time to get to know young adults in your church. One of the most successful partnerships that we have here is our "Adopt-a-Family/Adopt-a-Student" program, where we connect students with families in local churches. There fellowship always revolves around eating! Everyone loves it.
- ❖ Get connected with your local campus ministry and help them. We love partnering with local congregations!

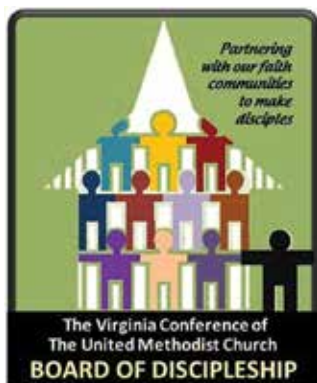
A little love and hospitality can go a long way! 

-Max Blalock is director of the Wesley Foundation at the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg

The United Methodist connection in VIRGINIA



Conference Board of Discipleship offers to better equip church leaders



by Michael Kendall

Christians can get into rhythms where we “go solo” disconnected from worship, a small group, or from our fellow Christians. Clergy are often cautioned about operating as “lone rangers.” Local churches can get caught in the same phenomenon. When we “go-it-alone,” we can miss the benefits of creativity and encouragement that we find in interactions with other congregations.

Sure, we can search the internet over any number of questions or ideas. We can stare at computer screens or turn the page of a book considering a partic-

ular idea, mentally roaming around the globe in search of ways to do ministry.

Yet remember how Jesus declared “where two or more gather in my Name, there I will be.”... (Matthew 18:20)? Beyond information, there is value in knowing that we are not alone. Our perceptions of our situations can be transformed as we look at them together.

The Virginia Conference Board of Discipleship has been discerning ways to encourage and equip local churches. Given our commission to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world, the board focuses on four primary areas in the life of a local church: Evangelism, Spiritual Formation, Worship and Christian Education.

The mission of the Board of Discipleship is “engaging with church leadership to understand and equip the

local church so that they may experience the sheer joy of making disciples.”

One way the board can assist a local church is to assign an “Assessment Coach.” This person would visit on-site with the local church leadership team. The coach can help the team assess the needs of the church and direct the team to resources. The coach may introduce a church team to a “best practices” group, or to a ministry specialist. The board can also provide training events in your district or region for churches wrestling with similar items.

Be encouraged to network, to brainstorm ideas together and to discover God’s creative Spirit at work. To learn more, contact the regional team leader for your area. ☞

—The Rev. Michael Kendall is pastor at Redland UMC, Winchester District.

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Healing

Max's Story

Imagine being 13 years old and never having gone to sleep feeling safe. Never. Not once. For Max, a graduate of the Child & Family Healing Center, this was his norm. From an early age Max had suffered abuse, whether physical or sexual, at the hands of adults he trusted.

Max came to UMFS from another treatment center and initially had a hard time accepting that he had to overcome his past to have healthy relationships. Max stayed at UMFS for one year and during that time he worked hard. The turning point for Max happened when an adoptive family was identified for Max. This gave him the push he needed to complete his treatment.

Jerry Moreno had been a foster parent for many years and a child advocate for many more. Jerry already had one adopted son, Lawrence, and had had one successful foster placement before he met Max.

"My experience with my foster placement had me convinced that I wanted Lawrence to have a brother, but it was so incredibly hard to let our foster placement return to his birth parents that I knew that the next foster child would be a foster-to-adopt placement," says Moreno. "Our UMFS social worker introduced the idea of adopting Max to me...it was Lawrence who really had to make the final decision as to whether we would take in a troubled teen...from the moment we met Max, we both knew Max would become a part of our family."

Max commenced from the Child & Family Healing Center in June 2009. While he still struggles to believe that his family and their love is permanent, he is happy to have Jerry and Lawrence as his family and they are happy to have him as well.



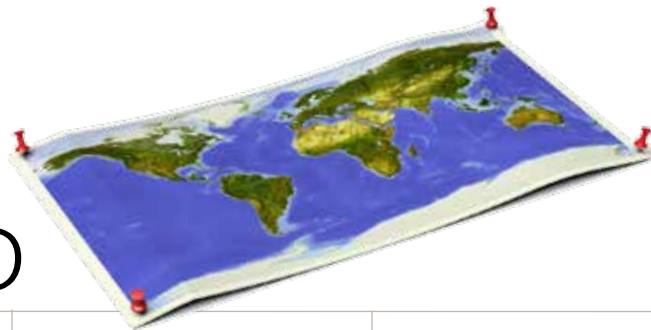
Max and Jerry Moreno



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Religious news from around the NATION & WORLD



UMC reports 3,175 new places for people to worship

The United Methodist Church established 3,175 new places for new people to worship God around the world during the past quadrennium, according to a new report detailing for the first time the work of church planting throughout the entire United Methodist connection.

The Worldwide Church Plant Update, which was presented to the Council

of Bishop's Congregational Vitality Team, includes 684 new churches started by annual conferences in the United States, 574 new churches and cell groups initiated by Global Mission Initiatives and 1,917 new missions, churches, circuits and preaching points in the Central Conferences.

"The report suggests that we are making huge strides in reaching new people with the gospel of Jesus Christ, and that is a marvelous thing," said Karen Greenwaldt, General Secretary of the General Board of Discipleship (GBOD), which helps annual conferences plant churches within the United States through its New Church Starts (Path 1) division.

"I think the report provides a positive word in the midst of ongoing concern about decline in the U.S. part of the church," Greenwaldt said.

Thomas Kemper, General Secretary of the General Board of Global Ministries (GBGM), which leads the Global Missions Initiative for the church, echoed the encouraging aspects of the report.

"I think the major significance of this is that there are places where the church is growing and where the church is making disciples for the transformation of the world, and that should be

an encouragement for all of us," Kemper said. "So we focus on bright spots of our church, which creates the energy to move forward. I think that's a key element which we should see in this report."

Bishop Mike Lowry of the Central Texas Conference, who chairs the Vital Congregations Team in the Council of Bishops, said bishops on the team were "delighted with a sense of accomplishment this report represents."

"We ought to be dancing on rooftops, celebrating and giving effusive praise to the God who moves among us as Father, Son and Holy Spirit," Lowry said. "Secondly, I think we ought to celebrate it by way of taking great encouragement in evangelistic outreach."

"One of the primary ways we engage in evangelism is through new church development. This means a huge number of new people who have come into a saving relationship with Jesus Christ and engaged in transformation of this world through faith in Christ in deepening discipleship," he said.

The church plant update was compiled with data from GBOD's Path 1, which surpassed the General Conference's new church start development goal of 650 in the United States during the 2008-2012 quadrennium by 34 churches; GBGM's Global Initiatives, which topped its four-year goal of 400 new churches by 174;

and a survey of bishops in the Central Conference's seven episcopal areas.

Under the Global Initiatives, 346 churches or cell groups/sections were started in Southeast Asia, 157 in Africa, 60 in Latin America and 11 in Eurasia, Central Asia and Baltics.

Bishops from the Central Conferences reported 553 churches/missions planted in Africa Conference, 571 in Congo Conference, 131 in West Africa Conference, 620 in Philippines Conference, 16 in Central and Southern Europe Conference, nine in Germany Conference and 17 in Northern Europe Conference.

"The significance of the report is that this is the first time we've ever collected new church start data from all around the whole United Methodist connection," Greenwaldt said. "We have beginning numbers now that can tell us something about how we're doing, and we should celebrate that good news."

"We have set goals for ourselves that we are going to start a number of new churches around the world, and we need to know whether we're making progress on the promises that we have made," she said.

The full report can be viewed and downloaded here: www.gbod.org/content/uploads/legacy/New_Church_Starts_Global_Stats_Update_revised_final.pdf

-The General Board of Discipleship



Religious news from around the NATION & WORLD

Navy chaplain talks about ministering in Boston following terrorist attacks

Editor's note: United Methodist Navy Chaplain the Rev. Jen Bowden was in Boston on April 15 with fellow members of her Coast Guard unit. She was called on in the days after to offer counseling and pastoral care to first responders and others who witnessed the bombings.

By Jen Bowden

April 15 was a beautiful day for a ballgame! About 20 members of my Coast Guard unit were headed into Boston to say farewell to a shipmate by celebrating at a Red Sox game. In addition, there were quite a few Coasties running in the Boston Marathon. Since Fenway is along the marathon route, it was a great way to be a part of both events.

The group of four people I was traveling with decided to take the "T" into Boston to avoid downtown driving, so we made great time.

It was an awesome game, and as we departed during the eighth inning, we were able to stop and watch the runners approaching the finish line. When the clock read "3:38" we were at the "1 Mile to Finish" line and went from there to the "T." We were probably one of the last trains to get out of Boston before the explosions rocked the finish line as the



The Rev. Jen Bowden

clock read "4:09."

We were back to the outer edge of Boston and had just reached my car when the news flashed on our phones regarding the bombs.

The roughest part of that period of time was not being able to connect with the rest of our group. Because we had departed a few minutes early, it was distinctly possible that everyone else had made their way to the finish line to cheer the runners.

It was about an hour later that we confirmed the safety of all of our unit personnel, and later into the evening when we reached one runner whose command had not made contact.

In the wake, it was evident that there were residual traumatic impacts within the personnel who

were in Boston and the family/unit members back on the Cape.

On Tuesday, April 16, I was mobilized along with two Crisis Intervention and Stress Management (CISM) peers to provide a CISM debrief for personnel and dependants affected by the bombing.

I found that there were many other units who used the ballgame and marathon as a morale event. Several of those people were at or near the finish line and found themselves frustrated either because they couldn't act as first responders despite their exemplary Coast Guard training or because of what they had witnessed while they were there.

In the days that followed, other chaplains, medical and Work-Life personnel (Coast Guard Family Support) and I responded to individual and group requests for counseling and support.

Because of my location on Cape Cod, I work with Air and Army National Guard units and chaplains who were activated in Boston for various tasks. The chaplains' stories of supporting on-scene efforts were amazing, and I helped the chaplains by supporting family members here on the Cape who were frustrated and scared from the events and news.

While one never wishes to be in the aftermath of a natural or terrorist disaster, it was moving to see the dedication and teamwork demonstrated both within the Coast Guard and also with the DOD, local fire and police, and other federal agencies.

The communication was exemplary as stories were shared through email about the ministry going on both in Boston and in affected units.

While I pray it never happens again, I am thankful to know that there is room for effective ministry and care in the face of tragedy and pain and appreciate the opportunity to serve in this manner. ☞

-The Rev. Jennifer Bowden is a United Methodist Navy command chaplain, Coast Guard Sector, Southeastern New England.



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unto his people, the Lord
will bless his people with peace.*

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Religious news from around the NATION & WORLD

Momentum building for Imagine No Malaria

Financial commitments to Imagine No Malaria have doubled in the past year, moving the campaign past its June benchmark goal of \$40 million ahead of schedule. Participation continues to build with more annual conferences and churches pledging involvement for this initiative of The United Methodist Church to raise \$75 million to end preventable deaths from malaria in Africa by 2015.

"Imagine No Malaria stands at its greatest point of momentum," said Imagine No Malaria spokesperson Bishop Tom Bickerton. "Since annual conference season one year ago, we have garnered an additional \$20 million in gifts and pledges. We have crossed the \$40 million threshold. This is exciting news. We continue to believe that God is at work through this vital life-saving ministry."

Congregations and individuals from 58 U.S. annual conferences have given to Imagine No Malaria with offerings ranging from \$10 to \$600,000. At least 10 annual conferences are expected to make formal commitment pledges to Imagine No Malaria this summer to raise at least \$1 million each.

These conferences join the eight conferences that are now actively engaged in working to reach their commitment goals after launching initiatives in the fall or winter (Desert Southwest, Kansas East, Kansas West, Iowa, Holston, Nebraska, Arkansas and Rocky Mountain), as well as the eight "pioneer" conferences (Southwest Texas, Illinois Great Rivers, North



Sierra Leonian volunteers with the Imagine No Malaria campaign visit with a small child near Bo, Sierra Leone, after installing a new mosquito net in his home. UMNS photo by Mike DuBose

Texas, Western Pennsylvania, Northwest Texas, New Mexico, Minnesota and Central Texas) that helped launch the Imagine No Malaria effort following the success of the Nothing But Nets campaign. The Texas, Baltimore-Washington and New York conferences have also contributed significant amounts to the malaria cause, even without a formal campaign.

The Texas and Southwest Texas conferences have each raised more than \$1 million for Imagine No Malaria, while Western Pennsylvania has contributed more than \$1.5 million, and Minnesota and Illinois Great Rivers have each donated more than \$2 million.

In addition to saving lives, Imagine No Malaria is also revitalizing congregations by mobilizing United Methodists to get involved in a cause.

Churches both large and small have gotten involved in the effort. For example, Peck's Memorial United Methodist Church in Maryville, Tenn., has only 63 members, yet they have raised more than \$15,000 for the fight against malaria. They did it simply by

passing the offering plate every single Sunday between Labor Day 2012 and Memorial Day 2013. "Imagine No Malaria has revitalized our spirit which has led to a renewed purpose," said the Rev. Tim Jones. "Now that the congregation has seen what they can do, the question has become, 'What next?'"

LeRae Collins, field coordinator for the Holston Conference says the churches she serves are so excited about the opportunity to help others a continent away that they've gone over the top to find creative ways to raise money. Congregations have built lemonade stands, shaved a pastor's head, dared to dive in at a Polar Bear Plunge, and have even pledged to sky dive if they don't meet their goal. "Knowing that \$10 saves a life is something all our churches can share," Collins said.

Imagine No Malaria is an initiative of The United Methodist Church to raise \$75 million to end preventable deaths from malaria in Africa by 2015.

For more information, visit <http://ImagineNoMalaria.org>. 



ALL GOD'S CHILDREN CAMP

FOR CHILDREN OF INCARCERATED MOTHERS OR FATHERS



WHAT IS ALL GOD'S CHILDREN CAMP?

Children, ages 7 to 12, spend a week at camp, participating in activities such as boating, swimming, hiking, archery, horse-back riding, music, crafts, Bible study, and conflict resolution. Partnering with Virginia United Methodist camps, the All God's Children Camp provides a week of sanctuary for children who face so many challenges in their lives: economic poverty; temporary living conditions; loneliness; low self-esteem; violence; and drugs.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

MENTORING: Volunteers come from churches across the conference to spend the week at camp. Mentors do not lead activities, but provide supervision, companionship and compassion to the children during their daily activities. They are the ones who assure the children that they are indeed all God's children and God loves and cares about them in the midst of their struggles. After camp, mentors agree to maintain their contact with their campers by phone or letters throughout the school year. Mentors are adults ages 17 and up. They attend training the Sunday morning prior to the week of camp. It is an intense, yet extremely rewarding experience.

SUPPLIES: Your Sunday school class, UMM or UMW circle, or Vacation Bible

School can help by collecting supplies, such as...new sleeping bags (plain colors - no special characters), pillows, pillow cases, flat twin sheets (no fitted sheets). Also, love notes/ bracelets /journals can be donated as something special to give the kids. Check the website often for updates on supplies specific to the camps.

PRAYER: The camp and children need your prayers. Alarming statistics show that these children are more likely than their peers to have behavioral problems, trouble in school, and likely to eventually be incarcerated. We hope to give these children the chance to break this cycle.

FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION:

The camp is funded by individuals, groups, and churches. A scholarship of \$350 sends one child to camp. Please make checks payable to VA Conference UMC with AGCC in the memo.



2013 CAMP DATES

• AUGUST 4-9

Camp Highroad in Middleburg, VA

• AUGUST 4-9

Ocohanock on the Bay in Belle Haven

• AUGUST 11-16

Westview on the James in Goochland

.....
Casey Torrence, Director
All God's Children Camp

The VA Conference UMC
PO Box 5606, Glen Allen, VA 23058
804-521-1138 or 1-800-768-6040 ext. 138
caseytorrence@vaumc.org

www.vaumc.org/agcc

LOCAL CHURCH NEWS



▲ **Beulah and St. Paul United Methodist Churches** in Mathews feel especially called to help stop hunger. In the past two years members there have packed two trucks full of meals for Stop Hunger Now and have supplied, packed and delivered weekly backpacks for school-age children in the county. This year these churches were met with a challenge from the Society of Saint Andrew to make the bags needed for the potato drop at 2013 Annual Conference. One Saturday morning in May, 28 people gathered and cut 16,000 feet of mesh (more than three miles), then tied and organized more than 5,500 bags.



▲ Members of the Chuck Spivey Sunday School class at **St. Andrews UMC** in Portsmouth recently got together to make sandwiches for patients at the V.A. Hospital in Hampton. The class partnered with the Hodges Ferry Ruritan Club, which meets at the church, to furnish food and prizes for a bingo night. The church's Bind Us Together quilting group has delivered several quilts to the Naval Hospital in Portsmouth and will be making lap throws for veterans at the Hampton hospital, and the Prayer Shawl Ministry has been busy knitting and crocheting blankets and shawls for newborns.



▲ **Shady Grove UMC**, Halifax Charge, Farmville District, United Methodist Women sponsored a Stop Hunger Now event on May 4, with 59 volunteers packaging 20,550 meals.



▲ On Pentecost Sunday, **St. Luke's UMC**, Richmond District, celebrated 50 years in mission and ministry. The Rev. Dr. John B. Peters, returning pastor, preached the service, and is shown here cutting the anniversary cake with charter members Ruth Russell and Jean Richardson. Five clergy and 250 members and guests shared in worship and fellowship, giving God thanks for the church's history and its renewed vision for the future.



▲ Members of **Main Street UMC**, Suffolk, committed to making 500

birthing kits this year. They successfully gathered all the materials, including 1,000 receiving blankets, and a group packed the kits for delivery to Annual Conference. Participants were so blessed by the response that a collection of materials for next year has already begun! Kits were dedicated and blessed on Mother's Day during worship.



▲ The third Sunday of each month is a special outreach day for members at **Lebanon UMC**, South Sussex Charge. The Meals of Love team meets and prepares meals for the church's elderly and shut-ins. Meals are also prepared for other elderly persons in the community who are not church members. Team members then deliver the meals and visit with the recipients.



EVENTS

JULY

Camp Rainbow Connection

July 7-12 and Aug. 11-16

Blackstone Conference and Retreat Center

Camp Rainbow Connection is a week-long respite camp for individuals with intellectual disabilities. A ministry of the Commission on Disabilities of the Virginia Conference of The United Methodist Church, it has been in operation since 1985. For more information, contact the Office of Inclusivity and Lay Leadership Excellence by telephone at **1-800-768-6040** or **(804) 521-1100, ext. 153** or by e-mail: **cindyingroff@vaumc.org**.

Camp Loud and Clear

July 12-14

Appomattox County

Camp Loud and Clear will be held at Holiday Lake 4-H Educational Center for the third year. The camp is designed to meet the needs of children who are deaf and hard of hearing regardless of their degree of hearing loss or their chosen communication mode. For more information, contact Dr. Lissa Power-deFur at **powerdefurea@longwood.edu** or **(434) 395-2972** or Jennifer Kingsley at **jkingsley@hotmail.com** or **(434) 391-3679**. The camp flyer and application can be found on the Virginia Conference website at: **www.vaumc.org/loudandclear**.

Helping Hands

July 18-19, Woodlake UMC

July 29-30, Springfield UMC

July 29-30, Fairview UMC, Danville

A two-day hands-on mission experience for children (rising fourth- through sixth-graders), parents and adult leaders. Cost is \$36 per person. For more information contact Shana Barr (Springfield) at **families@sumc-cares.org** or **(703) 451-2375**; or Katherine Lewis (Danville) at **director.fumc@comcast.net** or **(434) 792-3391**.

Launch

July 21-23

Shenandoah University, Winchester

The Spiritual Life Office at Shenandoah University and the Virginia Conference Board of Ordained Ministry invite high school students to an outdoors adventure in the Appalachian Mountains while exploring a call to ministry. For more information contact Beth Downs at **bethdowns@vaumc.org**, **(804) 521-1127** or **1-800-768-6040, ext.127**.

LEAD

July 26-Aug. 4

Roanoke

LEAD is a leadership training event offered by the conference Council for Youth Ministry. District and local church youth councils are encouraged to select as many as 3-5 youths who are willing to commit to this 10-day intensive experience.

Connexions

July 26-28

Shenandoah University, Winchester

The Spiritual Life Office at Shenandoah University and the Clergy Family Enrichment Committee of the Virginia Conference invite 9th through 12th graders who are children of United Methodist clergy to this first-time event to make connections with each other. For more information, contact Beth Downs at **bethdowns@vaumc.org** or call **(804) 521-1127** or **(800) 768-6040, ext.127**.

Mission Encounter

July 26-28 and July 29-31

Blackstone Conference Center

Formerly the School of Christian Mission, Mission Encounter is sponsored by Virginia United Methodist Women and the conference Board of Global Ministries. Two sessions are offered, including tracks for youth and children in the weekend session. Studies for 2013 are "Poverty," "Roma of Europe" and "Living Sacramentally, Walking Justly." For more information visit the conference website at **www.vaumc.org**.

AUGUST

All God's Children camp

Aug. 4-9, Camp Highroad

Aug. 4-9, Occohannock on the Bay

Aug. 11-16, Westview on the James

The All God's Children camps provide a week of sanctuary for children age 7-12 with a mother or father who is incarcerated. For more information, contact director Casey Torrence at **(804) 521-1138** or **1-800-768-6040, ext. 138** or **caseytorrence@vaumc.org**.

Devotions from International Lesson Series

LIVING THE WORD



The Rev. John C. Ward moved from Montross UMC to Mount Moriah UMC, Charlottesville District, effective July 1. He was ordained Elder in the Church of the Nazarene in 1996 and has been serving the Virginia Conference on loan since 1992. John's wife is Kathleen Erikson Ward, and he has a daughter, Makayla Renee' Ward. He has a B.A. in Sociology from Bluefield State College in West Virginia and earned his M.Div. from the Samuel DeWitt Proctor School of Theology at Virginia Union University in Richmond. His future goals are to earn a doctorate and write and publish a liberation theology from an Appalachian perspective.

July 7, 2013

"Restoration"

Ezra 3:8-13

Many times we look around the church and feel just as the people in Ezra's day feel. We weep when we think of the past glories and accomplishments of our congregations. In some situations, we encounter declining attendance and struggling finances. We begin to wonder if there is any future for our church.

Today's scripture gives us a resounding "yes"! The key is to experience what Ezra and the people of Israel experienced. What we need is restoration. But the question we must ask is: "what must happen in the people of God for restoration to occur?"

First, there must be a willingness among the people of God to overcome fear. Often we look at the obstacles before us and believe that they are just too large or too much for us to overcome. Thus, we become frightened to venture out into the unknown. But the truth is our God is bigger than any obstacle we face and best of all, God is with us every step of the way – just as God was with the people as they were seeking to restore the Temple. We can face the future with confidence because God is on our side!

Then, there must be a willingness among the people of God to make worship a priority. Even without a physical temple and all of the resources that went with it, the people of Jerusalem made it a priority to seek God's face in worship. If our churches are to be revitalized, we must make the worship of God THE priority. When we make worship a priority in the church, God draws even closer to us. This in turn empowers us to dream big dreams and make a far greater impact on the world than we ever imagined.

Finally, there must be a willingness among the people of God to focus on what can be. The people of Jerusalem were restricted due to their focus on the past. Although it is great to reflect on past glories and victories, revitalization and restoration occurs when we focus on the great things God has in store for us right around the corner.

The great news of today's lesson is that there is hope! Restoration and renewal are possible! Our church's best days are ahead! Are you looking forward to tomorrow?

July 14, 2013

"The Special Place"

Ezra 6:13-22

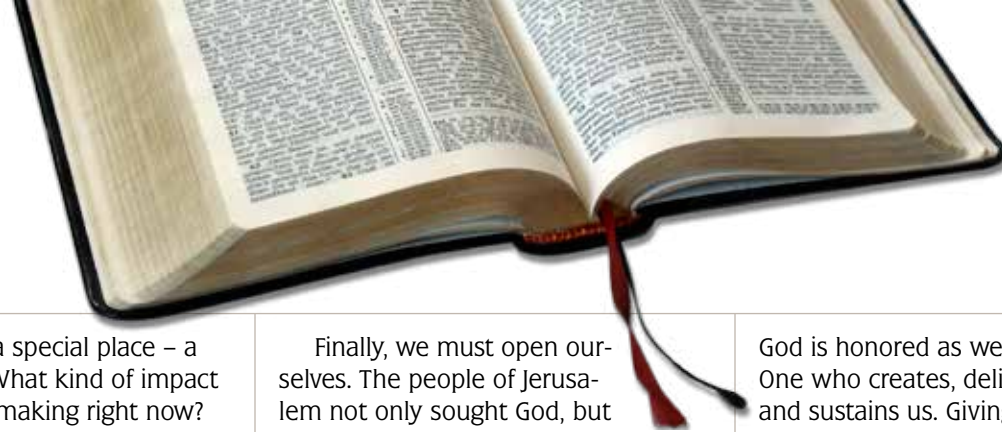
There are many special places in our lives. Special places are special because they make definite impacts in our lives. In today's lesson, we see the Israelites celebrating a very special place – the Temple.

The Temple in Jerusalem was far more than a building or even a place of worship. The Temple symbolized God among them. It galvanized them after many years of dispersion and gave them hope of the restoration of their nation. Our churches are more than buildings or organizations. The church is a special place and can impact our lives in powerful ways. But how can the church make an even greater impact?

The church must be a place of encounter. The church is a place where we can encounter the Real Presence of God. We encounter God's holy Presence in prayer, praise and sacrament as well as in involvement in ministries of peace and justice. The exciting part of encountering God in the context of church is that it is far more than a personal encounter. We encounter God together in blessed community. This can make all the difference in the world!

The church must also be a place of transformation. When we experience the Real Presence of God, God touches our hearts and lives in such a way that transformation occurs. When transformation occurs, our focus will change. The Israelites' focus changed as they experienced God. They went from maintenance and survival to living adventurously and fruitfully. God changes our focus from merely trying to survive to where we live pure and fruitfully. Transformation enables the church to make an impact on the lives of those around it. This is the life Jesus died in order to give us.

The church must be a place of welcome. The Israelites allowed outsiders to join them if they committed themselves to God. As we experience the Presence of God and are transformed, our hearts are filled with God's love. When our hearts are filled with the love of God, we can't help but to throw open the doors of God's house to anyone and everyone. No matter who they are, where they come from or what they have done, the church has a passion to welcome and include everyone.



The church is a special place – a place of impact. What kind of impact are our churches making right now?

July 21, 2013

"Prepare!"

Ezra 8:21-23

Life is definitely a journey! Life is full of ups, downs, challenges and victories. As we move forward in life's journey, it is a good idea to take a break and prepare for the future. Ezra and the people of Jerusalem had accomplished a great deal in their short time back in Palestine. They had rebuilt homes, raised families and begun to rebuild the temple. Now, in preparation for the future, Ezra led the Israelites in a time of reflection as well as seeking God. Looking at Ezra's example, what must we do in order to prepare for the future?

First, we must humble ourselves. The scripture tells us that Ezra and the Israelites "humbled themselves before the Lord" (NIV). When we humble ourselves before God, we confess that we cannot make it on our own. We confess that we need God's Presence in, around and through us. We must get to the point of total reliance on God to take us where we need to go. When we do this, God draws near and gives us the guidance we need.

Next, we must dedicate ourselves. Ezra and the Israelites took time from the struggles, challenges and threats to focus on God in worship. In order to face the future effectively, we must take our focus off of the voices and signals the world at large gives us. We also need to take our focus off of the obstacles and challenges that are staring at us and place our focus clearly on God. Dedicating ourselves means worship: prayer, praise, passion and community. It is within the context of worship that we personally, as well as in community, will gain a clearer vision of God's will and purpose.

Finally, we must open ourselves. The people of Jerusalem not only sought God, but they also listened to God when God communicated to them. We cannot only seek God, but we must listen to God and trust in God enough to put God's directives in action. We must open our hearts and minds to the message and movement of God in our midst. We must be willing to go and do whatever God shows us we must do. When we do this, we are enabled to dream big dreams and accomplish great things for God. This is where we begin to make a difference in the world and God is glorified.

As we look at our lives, personally as well as communally, we need to ask the question "where are we going?" God is faithful. God will lead us forward. Are we ready?

July 28, 2013

"Radical Giving"

Ezra 8:24-30


We give to causes that are important to us. We give to those who mean a lot to us as well as give to people who are in desperate need. The scripture calls upon us to be people of a generous heart that gives. In today's lesson, the Israelites gave, but their giving was a giving that went above and beyond the norm. There is a great difference between casual giving and radical giving. Casual giving comes from our abundance. It demands little and costs little. But radical giving is sacrificial in nature. It asks a lot of us and can even bring us to our knees and move us out of our comfort zones. Radical giving also glorifies God and makes a difference in the world around us. How can we move from casual giving toward radical giving that makes an impact?

Radical giving occurs when we view giving as an act of worship. When we give as an act of worship,

God is honored as we celebrate the One who creates, delivers, redeems and sustains us. Giving as worship shows gratitude for all God does for us; physically, spiritually, emotionally and materially. Giving as worship declares our reliance on God. When we "give 'till it hurts," we declare that we believe the same God who has met our needs in order to enable us to give will do it again!

Radical giving comes from passion. We will give to what we are passionate about. When we take the time to learn about the ministries and lives that are impacted by our giving, it can light a fire which encourages giving even more. When we do this, ministries are revitalized and many lives are touched! So take the time to learn about all the ministries we are asked to contribute to. Who knows? Possibly a missional fire will be lit within our hearts!

Radical giving requires responsibility. We must take the responsibility to guard against taking the gifts that are given and using them irresponsibly. The temptation is always there to take what is given to build organizations and institutions. Giving to God must always be about God and people. We give to God in order to touch the lives of people.

Radical giving makes a difference! Have we moved from casual giving to radical giving? 

CLERGY & DIACONAL



Deaths



Eugene "Jack" Parrish, of Charlottesville, died June 6, 2013. He was a U.S. Merchant Marine and U.S. Army veteran. As Charlottesville

District Lay Leader in 1973 he was appointed to fill in as a part-time local pastor at Mount Chapel UMC near Ruckersville. He was appointed pastor there for 1974-1975. After receiving seminary training at Duke Divinity School in Durham, N.C., Parrish served the Schuyler/Green Mountain Charge, the West Mathews Charge at Mobjack, Ebenezer UMC at Oldhams and finally at Weyers Cave UMC, before retiring in 1994. He also filled in at Mount Vernon/South River Charge and at Stanardsville Baptist Church in retirement. Parrish is survived by his wife of 55 years, Glory Roach Parrish of Charlottesville, three daughters, three grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Stanley Burkholder, brother of the **Rev. Barry Burkholder**, pastor at Lower UMC, York River District, died April 22.

Elsie Couchman, widow of the **Rev. James Couchman**, died April 26, 2013. A memorial service was held at First UMC Hilton Village, Newport News.

Nowlin "Slick" Hyler Hardy, 35, of Danville, died June 7, 2013. He was the son of the **Rev. Robert and Woodie Hardy**. Rev. Hardy is the pastor of Harmony UMC.

Peggy Plasters, mother of the **Rev. Mike Plasters**, pastor of Zion UMC, Charlottesville District, died June 1, 2013.

Hazel Grigg White, 94, of Crewe, widow of the **Rev. Hubert A. White**, died April 30, 2013.

L. Thomas "Tom" Miller, 81, of Danville, died June 3, 2013. He was a very active lay member at Trinity UMC, a certified Lay Speaker, member

of annual conferences and delegate to Southeast Jurisdictional Conference and General Conference. Miller also served on the board of the Henry Fork Service Center in Rocky Mount.

Births

Peyton James Richardson was born May 7, the newest grandson of **Harry Loyd**, pastor of Mathews Chapel UMC, York River District.

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2013 Licensing School class

The 2013 Licensing School Class of 39 students poses together at Camp Occahannock on the Eastern Shore. The Rev. Joe Cailles is the dean of Licensing School, which includes those being appointed for the first time as local pastors, provisional elders and provisional deacons. There was also one "minister of another denomination" participating this year. Photo by Bill Moberly.

Corrections

Beverly Hills Community UMC in Alexandria was actually the second Reconciling Congregation in the Virginia Conference, making Fairlington UMC the third (May Advocate, pg 11).

Joe Torrance III (June Advocate, pg 17-18) is now minister to Youth and Church Relations at United Methodist Family Services (UMFS).

And Joe Carson has not been appointed to the Elizabeth River District (June Advocate, pg. 10). Carson is superintendent of the York River District.

YOU CAN VISIT ISRAEL

A 10-day trip is being offered by Alpha Christian Tours Jan. 7-14, 2014. Visit Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Galilee, Jericho and more. Let your Bible come alive! Led by biblical storyteller Tracy Rados-
evic of Baltimore, the cost is \$3,349 from New York. Includes airfare, tour guide, bus, hotels, and two meals a day. For a brochure, contact the Rev. Cynthia Corley at (804) 526-6234 or cacorley@ctsi.net.

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FROM THE BISHOP



Do not
be afraid!

May the grace and peace from our God be with you. When we receive this Advocate, it will be the last day of our 2013 Annual Conference. I deeply appreciate all of you who prepared and helped us to have a very meaningful and fruitful Annual Conference this year. So many people worked very hard on the stage or behind the scenes, and more people throughout the Virginia Conference prayed for our holy conferencing. I cannot thank all of you enough for your dedication and ministries.

This is the first Annual Conference during which I presided as bishop. It was a challenge for me, but also a great joy. I thank God for the honor and privilege to serve this great conference and for the presence of our risen Christ in us and among us during our gathering. My prayer has

been for God's will to be done in this Annual Conference as it is in heaven because the risen Lord is the head and the owner of this conference. And God's will is best for all of us. As Paul says, "... God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength (I Cor. 1:25)."

Now, we will begin a new journey together. Many ministers will move and begin serving new churches after this Annual Conference. Many churches and laity will welcome new pastors. And many clergy and laity will continue their journeys without changes of appointments. Whether there is a change or not, all of us will start anew together because the future always brings us a new possibility. Every day that we welcome a new morning is a brand new day and a great gift from God.

When I served the Korean UMC of Greater Washington, the lay member of Annual Conference used to introduce me anew to the congregation when he or she made an Annual Conference report. They used to say, "Rev. Cho was appointed to our church again this year. Let us welcome him." The congregation welcomed me with a big applause, and I usually preached a sermon focusing on the mission and ministries of the church for the coming year. We did the same thing for more than 20 years on the Sunday after Annual Conference was adjourned. The church and I wanted to start anew every year.

The future we will welcome is an opportunity, but is also full of uncertainties. We do not know tomorrow. Anything unexpected can happen on our journey, and some of those things, undoubtedly, we will not want. Because of this uncertainty, we have worries and anxiety for

tomorrow. This is a natural, human response to the future. We certainly want the transitions to go well for all of our clergy and churches, but who knows?

There is a message and a promise for us from the Lord. We find this message so many times in the Bible. (Someone said it is found 366 times in the Bible.) It is, "Do not be afraid. Be strong and courageous. I will be with you." None of us knows our future, but we, the people of God, know who will lead us into a new future. We know that we are not alone on our journey. The risen Christ is with us through the Holy Spirit.

This is great news! The Lord who is still our good shepherd will not leave us like an orphan. This is not an empty promise. Truly, God is and will be with us. We have sufficient reasons not to be afraid of our future. Though we will face many challenges and obstacles on our way into our future, please do not give up and be troubled by these challenges. The Lord is risen, indeed, and is with us. As John Wesley said on his death bed, "The best of all is God is with us."

Friends, we are not alone on our new journey. The risen Christ is and will be with us. Though the Lord is with us, we may face challenges and difficulties. But please do not be afraid. Be strong and courageous! The Lord is with us. This is the promise our faithful God has given us. While we may not know the future, we do know who is with us and will lead us. Thanks be to God! 🇸🇰

ONE LAST WORD

Remembering N. Gordon Cosby

By Keary Kincannon

Early last December I got a call from Gordon's secretary saying he wanted to see me. I was grateful for this call as I knew Gordon's health, at 95, was failing. This would be the last time I spoke with him. Gordon and his ministry with Church of the Saviour have been an inspiration and support to me for the last 35 years. I first visited Church of the Saviour when I was a seminary student at Wesley Theological Seminary in the late 1970s.

The Washington Post described Gordon as the most influential pastor you have probably never heard of. He was a very humble man, refusing to be addressed with the title "reverend" but preferring to simply be called Gordon by all. His career spanned nearly seven decades and his work spawned more than 40 nonprofit ministry organizations serving the needs of the poor in Washington. He was a pastor and a social activist.


He was deeply committed to the "inner journey" that he believed could only be accessed through a disciplined life of reading the scriptures, prayer, journaling, fasting, tithing, small accountability groups and acts of compassion. John Wesley called these disciplines "means of grace." Gordon described our spiritual journey as a journey "into knowing who we are, who we really are, and who we are intended to be because our Christian faith says we are made in God's image. Therefore, built into us is God's own being, God's own image. The question is whether we are going to become who we are intended to become in the few years that we may have."



Only through an inward spiritual journey that gets us in touch with who God created us to be will we be able to move into the outward spiritual journey confident that we are becoming who God wants us to be in this world. "In contemplation, we catch a vision of not only what is, but what can be. Contrary to what we have thought, contemplatives are the great doers," he said.

Gordon visited Rising Hope UMC on several occasions. He took a keen interest in how we were creating church with the poor and not simply serving the poor to assuage our middle class guilt.

At the opening ceremony when Rising Hope moved into our current building on Russell Road, Gordon recognized that real church was happening at Rising Hope as a result of spiritual discipline and sacrifice. He challenged those gathered to go deep in supporting our efforts with financial, volunteer and prayer support.

Cosby died on March 20. He will be particularly noted for 65 years of prophetic preaching and teaching, calling people of faith to greater dedication and fuller embodiment of God's vision for the world. 



Tweets heard 'round the conference

Jason C. Stanley @jasoncstanley

Spirituality "is moving from knowing about God to knowing God." Bishop Cho [#vaumc](#)

Patti Money @pattimoney

Was someone praying for me this morning? If so, thank you. Had drastic shift in my heart/outlook.

Keith Elgin @keithelgin

Funniest thing I heard all week...a teenage girl asked why I wear a Walgreens hat. [#Nats](#)

Eric Vaudt @EVaudt

Kind of scary having church members as followers. Guess I need to behave!

Tom Berlin @RevTomBerlin

"I think the church is an imperfect body with flaws, but some days we do exactly the thing Jesus would have us do."

Jason Micheli @JasonMicheli

[#Accepting our doubts = Accepting our humanity = Celebrating being created by God.](#)

Imagine No Malaria @NoMalaria

New [#Vanderbilt](#) [#OhioState](#) & [#Cornell](#) study shows mosquitos' kidney failure could help end [#malaria](#).

McKennon Shea @McKennon

I saw Rowan Williams driving a Geo Metro on [Duke's] campus this morning. Or maybe just someone that resembled Rowan Williams. I'll never know for sure.

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Rhode Island School of Design ~ Randolph ~ Liberty
Virginia Tech ~ Shenandoah ~ Southern Methodist ~ JMU
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