



Physical address: 10330 Staples Mill Road, Glen Allen, VA 23060
Mailing address: P.O. Box 5606, Glen Allen, VA 23058
(804) 521-1100 • www.vaumc.org

Equipping local churches for ministry and providing a connection for ministry beyond the local church

May 13, 2020

Grace and peace to you in the name of our risen Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

We hope this finds you well and staying safe during this time. You are receiving this email as a clergy member of the Virginia Annual Conference. In light of the COVID-19 social distancing restrictions and the need to keep our annual conference moving forward, the Bishop, in consultation with the Office of Clergy Excellence, Cabinet and the Executive Committee of the Board of Ordained Ministry, has decided to hold an Executive Session of the Annual Conference on **Thursday, June 18**.

An Executive Session of the Annual Conference includes only clergy members in full connection with the annual conference (BOD ¶369.5). Considering it has been the practice of the Virginia Conference to invite all clergy members to attend, this decision to move into Executive Session was not made lightly. We ask for your grace, trust and understanding of the decisions that need to be made during these circumstances. Know that the executive session is for the purpose of voting on the minute questions or Business of the Annual Conference and for the fixing of appointments. There is no plan for this session to include formal worship or statements to the body. There has been no termination of conference memberships, no involuntary status changes of full members, and no suspensions (MQ 43, 45-47). For those participating in the executive session, both the minute questions and the appointment listing will be made available to you before the session. For those not participating, the documents will be made available following the session.

For those deacons and elders in full connection with the annual conference, you will receive an email after June 1 with instructions on joining the executive session.

We thank you for your understanding and patience as we navigate the rules in this unprecedented time so that we can approve conference membership changes to be in order for our denomination. If you have questions, please email those to Rev. Lindsey Baynham in the Center for Clergy Excellence at clergyexcellence@vaumc.org.

Know that we are continually praying with and for you as you seek to lead with your communities during this time. Blessings!

Grace upon grace,

Rev. John R. Hall, Sr.
Chair, Board of Ordained Ministry

Rev. Lindsey M. Baynham
Registrar, Board of Ordained Ministry

The VAUMC Center for
Clergy Excellence
(804) 521-1126
FAX (804) 521-1176

Rev. Lindsey M. Baynham
Director
LindseyBaynham@vaumc.org

Rev. Joanna S. Dietz
Associate Director for
Call and Candidacy
JoannaDietz@vaumc.org

Kristen Dowdy Seibert
Program and Administrative
Coordinator
KristenSeibert@vaumc.org