

DISTRICT NEWS

A Newsletter of The Harrisonburg District • Virginia Conference of The United Methodist Church

February 2013

Issue 40-2

From Our DS



Dear Friends,

We have just returned from Pastors' Convocation. 330 of our pastors attended and it was a joy to see so many of our Harrisonburg Pastors. I was totally pleased and thankful that so many took time and money and traveled to Blackstone to learn together.

We have just gotten Table I into the Conference and 100% of our churches were on time. We now are looking at Table II and III and they are due January 31!

Year End monies have been sent into the Conference Office in Glen Allen and the Harrisonburg District is over 94% for our Conference Apportionments with more money still in the mail.

I have much to be proud of. Our pastors are doing a wonderful job and our laity and churches are responding to God's Call.

Our Bishop, Young Jin Cho, challenged us this week to expand the practices of spiritual disciplines and prayer for an hour a day beyond the first 100 days of his tenure as Resident Bishop and making it something we do everyday. I challenge each of you to do the same thing with the Bishop, the Cabinet and the Pastors. Let's take time each day to read God's Word. Let's slow down and help someone in need - to listen to someone with a problem. Let's worship regularly and take Communion. Let's sit quietly and ask God to fill us with His spirit and take time each day to "pray"!

Bishop Cho invites his pastors to begin each day with prayer - begin each meal with prayer and to pray for each church member (if not daily - weekly)!

I'd like to remind everyone that prayer is first "praise." Thank God for the beauty that surrounds us. Thank God for a church family to surround us with love. When you finish praising God, ask God for mercy for those around you. At Convocation Sam McCracken, Administrator of Blackstone Assembly and Conference Center, told us about an employee hurt in a car accident. We stopped right then and prayed for that person. After praising and asking for healing and mercy for those we love, you may surely add yourself to the prayer list. Don't make it a market list of what you want. Make it a request for what you need, to do what God has called you to do. Your Prayer Life will be different when you praise first and pray for others second!

Won't you join our pastors as we pray for you! Will you take one hour a day to practice the Spiritual Disciplines? Will you join a small group or start a small group. Will you sit quietly and pray and read God's Word and will you be a faithful attender of your church and all its activities. God is calling you to be a disciple! Bishop Cho reminded us that we are to be "disciples" instead of members. Disciples see their place at the table, reading their Bible and praying.

God Bless You as you become a **Disciple!**

Tommy Herndon

Harrisonburg District November 2011 Headline: Fire Destroys Mt. Bethel UMC on the Harrisonburg District - Mount Bethel UMC members search for hope after fire.

Mt. Bethel United Methodist Church has been rebuilt! The church is debt free and was dedicated on **Sunday, January 6, 2013, at 3:00 p.m.** The Reverend Tommy Herndon, Harrisonburg District Superintendent, led the dedication service. Nearly 150 people, along with the congregation, celebrated the dedication of the church back to God and the community.



The church burned on September 30, 2011. Under the leadership of Pastor Neil W. McLaughlin, and with the help of the insurance company, local churches, donations and fund raising, the rebuild was made possible. The fire occurred late on a Friday night, but the church family never missed a Sunday worship, meeting at the Grottoes Fire Department until they were offered a warehouse in Crimora in which to meet.

Mt. Bethel UMC is very grateful for all the donations, prayers and help that they received throughout this experience. The church has not slowed down, they are busy planning the next fund raiser to finish the new building by adding kitchen cabinets.



The rebuilt Mt. Bethel United Methodist Church at 148 Rock Mountain Lane, Crimora, VA



Pastor Neil McLaughlin at the Dedication Service at Mt. Bethel UMC on January 6.



Congregation Members and guests at the Dedication Service held on Sunday, January 6, 2013.



Stained glass created by Ann Chenault for Mt. Bethel Church.

February 4 (Monday) - Partners in Ministry, Broadway: Sunset Drive UMC, 9:00 a.m.*

February 6 (Wednesday) - District Committee on the Ordained Ministry, Asbury UMC, 9:30 a.m.

February 7 (Thursday) - United Methodist Day at General Assembly, Richmond*

February 21 (Thursday) - District UMW Evening Together, Manor Memorial UMC, 7:00 p.m.*

February 21 (Thursday) - DCOM Faith Development Ministry Team, Asbury UMC, 7:00 p.m.*

February 22-24 (Fri-Sun) - Lay Servant Academy, Blackstone Conference & Retreat Center*

February 23 (Saturday) - Five Talent Academy, Bridgewater UMC, 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.*

February 25 (Monday) - DCOM Age Level Ministry

Team, District Office, 2:00 p.m.*

February 28-March 2 (Thurs-Sat) - Clergy Spouse Retreat, Blackstone Conference & Retreat Center*

March 4 (Monday) - Partners in Ministry, Fellowship UMC, 9:00 a.m.

March 10 (Sunday) - One Great Hour of Sharing *

March 10 (Sunday) - Youth Rap Event, Bridgewater UMC, 6:30 p.m.*

March 20-22 (Wed-Fri) - Faith Community Nursing Part I, Shenandoah University*

March 21 (Thursday) - District Council on Ministries, Asbury UMC, 7:00 p.m.*

March 23 (Saturday) - District UMW Spiritual Life Retreat, Bridgewater UMC, 8:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

***Denotes related article elsewhere in this newsletter**

The Harrisonburg District Council on Ministries Executive Committee meetings for 2013 are **March 21, April 27 - DCOM Retreat, August 22, November 14, 7:00 p.m.**, at **Asbury UMC**. A May meeting held at Camp Overlook will be set by the Camp. Ministry Team Members and Executive Committee are expected to attend the April Retreat and May meeting at Camp Overlook. Please see information on the 3 DCOM Ministry Teams below.

Bob Talbott, Chairperson



Age Level Ministry Team: The Age Level Ministry Team's meeting dates will be **February 25, 2:00 p.m.; Monday, April 22, 7:00 p.m.; Monday, August 19, 2:00 p.m.; and November 4, 7:00 p.m.** at the **District Office**. Team Members are: Benton Berghuis, Kemper Dadisman, Edith Good, Wanda Miller, Annie Pierce, Joel Robinette, Phil Secrist, and Wes Van Pelt.

Lydia Weeks, Team Leader



Faith Development Ministry Team: The Faith Development Ministry Team welcomes *Dale Dodrill* to our group. Mr. Dodrill is the new District Lay Servant Coordinator. Our meeting schedule for the upcoming year is as follows: **February 21, April 25, July 18, September 19, and October 17**. All meetings begin at 7:00 p.m. and will be held at Asbury UMC in Harrisonburg. Team members are:

Linda Conrad, Dale Dodrill, Becky Downey, Susan Michie-Bent, Tom Murphy, Kevin Poeckert, Ron Robey, and Carrie Talbott.

Overlook Retreat and Camp Ministries has a new webpage: www.CampOverlook.org. Please take a look.

Carrie Talbott, Team Leader



MISSIONS

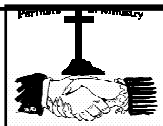
Mission and Outreach Ministry Team: The Mission and Outreach Ministry Team of the DCOM announces the selection of Lydia Weeks as the Team Leader. **Meeting dates for 2013, to be held at Vision of Hope UMC, will be announced.** Team Members are: Sandra Burks, Melissa Fretwell, Louise Jennings, Bill Lalla, Sheila Orndorff, Mary Jane Rawley, Valerie Ritter, and Delores Reid and Lydia Weeks.

Weeks.

Lydia Weeks, Team Leader

A **Foundation of Faith Community Nursing** is being offered at **Shenandoah University** on **March 20-22, 2013 Part 1** and **May 16-18, Part II**. This course offers 36 contact hours and is based on updated curriculum through the International Parish Nurse Resource Center. Faith Community Nursing is an opportunity for nurses to be involved in health ministry and mission within their church and community. For more information you may visit: www.su.edu/nursing/FCN or contact Faculty Coordinator Lisa Zerull, Ph.D., RN, FCN, at 540-678-4374 or e-mail: faith_nursing@su.edu. You may also contact Delores Reid, BSN, RN, FCN, Harrisonburg District Health and Welfare coordinator at dreid515@aol.com or 540-896-1207.

Delores Reid



Partners in Ministry will meet on **Monday, February 4, 9:00 a.m. at Broadway: Sunset Drive UMC**. District Program Director Glen Langston and PiM President Bob Weeks will lead the program. Pastors, you are asked to bring sermon ideas for Lent/Easter. Refreshments will be available, but no lunch provided. You are encouraged to have lunch with your colleagues in ministry in the area.



District United Methodist Women: The United Methodist Women will observe an **Evening Together** on **Thursday, February 21, 7:00 p.m. at Manor Memorial UMC in New Market.** Snow date is February 28th. Sharon Harold and Chris Cole will give a program on their visit to Mozambique last summer. Please join us for an evening of fellowship and worship.

Our **Spiritual Life Retreat** will be on **Saturday, March 23, at Bridgewater UMC from 8:30 – 2:00 p.m.** Rev. Amanda Garber from RISE: A New Faith Community will be our leader for the day.

Our Social Action focus for the year will be on Human Trafficking and Immigration. We invite all ladies to join our events and become involved in United Methodist Women. For more information, you may contact Phyllis Foltz at 540-289-5045 or PhylFoltz@aol.com.
Phyllis Foltz, District UMW President



An Outreach for all youth in the Harrisonburg District (and anyone else who would like to attend) to gather in fellowship: Bridgewater United Methodist Youth is sponsoring an “Awakening “ event and you are invited! Please join us on Sunday, **March 10, at Bridgewater United Methodist Church, 6:30 p.m.** for a Rapping evening of Praise and Worship! Our speaker will be Briar Lam. Briar is the 20 year old Youth Pastor at IMPACT Ministries in Elkton, VA. Briar was called to ministry at age 14 and has spent 6 years preaching. Briar attended Emmanuel College in Georgia. He was officially ordained in 2012. Briar has been heavily involved in the FCA at East Rock High School. In addition to his preaching and counseling youth, he has branched his ministry out to Christian music. Briar has been rapping and performing the past two years. He has released several mix tapes and is currently working on an album. Briar’s calling is to reach others for Jesus Christ. Reception immediately following! There is no cost for attendance, however, please RSVP to Bridgewater UMC at (540) 828-0890 or e-mail: lmccammon@bridgewaterumc.com to ensure enough snacks for the reception.

Liz McCammon



Save the date and begin planning to come to the **Harrisonburg District Youth Retreat** which will be held **April 27-28, 2013, at Camp Overlook.** The retreat is for middle and high school youth. Recruit a male and female chaperone for your youth to attend. For more information, please contact Joel Robinette at 269-8531 or joel_robinette@hotmail.com



District Website? Yes, we have a NEW website which may be found at www.harrisonburgdistrict.org. It is very easy to remember and find. Just type the address into your browser search box and you should see our listing on the top of the search findings. There is a great deal of information on the website so please take a look! If you have any suggestions of how to improve it, please let me know by e-mailing me at revrides@yahoo.com

Here is an example of what is available under the Events, Missions, Information Tabs:

- From the Main File: Business Offers, Counselors Needed, and Scholarships
- From the Main File: Can You Help?
- From the Main File: Chronologically Listed Events
- From the Main File: Mission Projects at District Churches and Shenandoah Valley and neighboring valleys
- From the Main File: Mission Trips/Training
- From the Main File: On Going Events in the District
- From the Main File: Special Ministries of Learning and Training
- Main File Events & Information Around the District (Shenandoah and Surrounding Valleys)
- Events Around the Conference
- Important Info (scholarships, internships, funds)
- Web Ministries Series (online training and learning)

We have a Devotions Tab, where you can find Henri Nouwen Society Daily Devotions, Lead Like Jesus; Lectionary Based Daily Devotional by Rev. J. Robert Berghuis; Upper Room Daily Devotional; and a Weekly Devotional by Larry Davis. Please take a look!

Rev. Robert Berghuis, District Webmaster



Kingsway Prison and Family Outreach is excited about happenings as we begin 2013.

There are new Re-entry Programs we will be looking at and we need volunteers to be visionaries with us. We have 2 openings on our Board of Directors and we have extended our office hours for volunteers. The more volunteers we have the more we can do to fulfill Matthew 25. We would like for the churches that do Apple Tree to know that we have programs going on all year not just at Christmas. If you would like a speaker for any of your meetings someone will be happy to come make a presentation. Come see us at our new location at Duke's Plaza, 2217 S. Main Street, Harrisonburg, VA 22801. Jim Templeton and Louise Jennings will be doing some Mini-workshops at the Lay Servants Academy in Blackstone, Feb. 22-24, 2013. You may reach us at 540-433-5658 or e-mail: kingswayoutreach@hotmail.com



Pastors, please make copies of the monthly issues of the district newsletter and have them available to your parishioners who do not receive the newsletter by electronic mail. Thank you!



DISTRICT NEWS
Harrisonburg District
Virginia Annual Conference
The United Methodist Church

32 South Gate Court ♦ Suite 102
Harrisonburg, VA 22801

Phone: (540) 433-2382 Fax: (540) 433-7587

Ernest T. (Tommy) Herndon, Jr.
District Superintendent
HarrisonburgDS@vaumc.org

D. Glen Langston, District Program Director
glenlangston0@gmail.com

Brenda P. Woods, Administrative Assistant
brenda.woods@verizon.net

Harrisonburg District on the web at
harrisonburgdistrict.org
Virginia Conference on the web at
www.vaumc.org



Opportunities from the Virginia Conference. . .

United Methodist Day at General Assembly is February 7: United Methodist Day at the General Assembly 2013 will be Thursday, Feb. 7. The day will begin at 7:00 a.m. at Bon Air UMC, Richmond, with a hot breakfast provided by the UMM. Participants will travel together on buses to the General Assembly to meet with legislators and attend committee meetings. In the afternoon, return to Bon Air UMC for lunch, discussion and speakers. Registration details available at www.vaumc.org

Lay Servant Academy to be February 22-24: Lay Servant Academy will be Feb. 22-24, at Blackstone Conference and Retreat Center. In addition to the 13 familiar courses found at the Lay Servant Academy, this year's offering includes 19 mini-courses in a wide range of specialties and interests. Taking five classes will count towards advanced certification. All registration is through Blackstone. Contact Cyndi Schnell at 434-292-5308 or CyndiSchnell@vumac.org.

5 Talent Academy to focus on faith development February 23: The next 5 Talent Academy training event will focus on spiritual formation and faith development 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Saturday, February 23. It will be hosted at Floris UMC and live-streamed to five conference locations (one being Bridgewater UMC on the Harrisonburg District). Speaker will be Mindy Caliguire, founder and president of Soul Care, Transformation Ministry director at Willow Creek Association and author of "Soul Care Resources." All churches, regardless of membership or affiliation with the 5 Talent Academy, are invited to attend.

Clergy Spouse Retreat to be February 28-March 2: 2013 Clergy Spouse Retreat will be Feb. 28-March 2, at Blackstone Conference and Retreat Center. Speakers will be the Rev. David and Judy Canada. Bishop Young Jin Cho will speak during the Friday morning session. The Revs. Brian Siegle and Carl Perez will be worship leaders. Josh Wortham will be music leader and will give a concert Friday evening. Retreat program will start on Friday at 9:45 a.m. Thursday evening pre-retreat will offer fun and fellowship. Registration information on the conference website www.vaumc.org.

One Great Hour of Sharing is March 10: One Great Hour of Sharing is March 10. United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) receives no apportionment dollars and the disaster-relief agency relies on the One Great Hour of Sharing special offering to pay for all of its administrative costs. This allows 100% of donations given for specific appeals to go directly to those relief efforts. Support One Great Hour of Sharing to ensure that UMCOR can continue to respond immediately and effectively to help victims of emergencies around the world.

Booklet featuring 31 days of prayers available online: "The All Things New - Equipping Vital Congregations" prayer team has developed a booklet featuring 31 days of prayers and devotionals that can be downloaded from the conference website, www.vaumc.org.

Churches entering weekly statistics on "Vital Signs" website: Beginning January 1, nearly all of the UM churches have been in the process of registering "Vital Congregations" statistical data on the UM "VitalSigns" website. One e-mail address, usually that of the senior pastor, has been designated for each church. E-mails containing instructions for entering statistics on the "VitalSigns" website will arrive each Sunday to the designated e-mail address.

Application deadline extended for 2013 Voices of Youth: The Voices of Youth 2013 "In Our Own Backyards" summer tour will be June 27-July 14. worship experiences in host churches in the evenings. Application deadline for VOY 2013 has been extended. If you have questions, contact Jennifer Dixon at coordinator@voyva.org.