

DISTRICT NEWS

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

May 2013

Issue 40-5

From Our DS



*Seth Joyner
Son of Revs. Courtney &
Jim Joyner,
Brother of Zachary &
Hunter Joyner*

Dear Friends,

Dr. Graham Standish was the speaker at the Order of the Elder Retreat in Blackstone this past week (April 21-23, 2013). Dr. Standish is the author of "Becoming a Blest Church." Dr. Standish told us that "spirituality" is the breath of the world. He said "spirituality" is often what we get at Retreat Centers and Conferences. He said the church is often "dead" because it has no "spirituality."

Far too many churches are consumed with "functionality." Functionality is when we are consumed with tasks, order and performances. We live in a mostly functional culture.

"Spirituality" is recognizing God's presence everywhere. "Spirituality" is emphasizing faith, prayer, kindness, and God's guidance. Spirituality emphasizes relationships over results.

When the functional serves the spiritual, it creates structure, but when the spiritual serves the functional, it becomes religious routine. The functional is measured in terms of quantity (numbers), but the spiritual is measured in terms of quality (relationships) and spiritual growth.

What is your church - functional or spiritual? Our United Methodist Church is pretty good at being functional but we have a ways to go before we are also spiritual. Take some time this week and pray for your church. Be concerned about the function of the church, but pray that spirituality will take "over" your church. Pray daily for your church. Pray for a structure that encourages discernment. Where your leaders go - that will be the way of the church. Pray for Spiritual Leaders in your church. Pray for your church to become one that encourages prayer and one that listens to God's voice.

We of the church today need to "pray" for the church that we will become the Spiritual Leaders God is calling us to be.

Tommy Herndon



- > Pray daily for your church
- > Pray that spirituality takes over your church
- > Pray for discernment
- > Pray for Spiritual Leaders in your church
- > Pray for your church to become one that encourages prayer
- > Pray for your church to be one that listens to God's voice



The **Conference UMW Spiritual Life Retreat** will be at **Blackstone May 3-5**. The leader will be Rev. Dawn-Marie Singleton, former minister at Keezletown UMC. For more information and/or registration forms for either event, please contact Phyllis Foltz at 540-289-5045 or e-mail: PhylFoltz@aol.com

The **District UMW Executive committee** will meet on **May 16th at Broadway First UMC at 6:30 p. m.** All local unit presidents are invited to join us for a meal and share what their unit is doing. All food is provided by the district officers. All presidents or a representative are urged to join us.

UMW Day at Ferrum College is Saturday, June 8th. See me for registration forms.

Phyllis Foltz, District UMW President, phylfoltz@aol.com



Many thanks are in order to those who helped to make the UMM Spring Rally at Dayton United Methodist Church a huge success. Thanks are owed to Rev. Steve Bird and the men of Dayton UMC for their gracious hospitality and for providing an excellent meal, to Ron Robey and the Great Scotts for leading the music, and to Rodney Bussard for the inspiring devotional. A special thank you goes to Rev. Bob Talbott for doing most of the logistics in arranging for Gary Locklear's visit. Most of all, I want to thank you for attending this event and for your kind words about it. Your support is greatly appreciated. The next event is the Tri-District Retreat. It promises to be a great event so come on out to Blessings Lodge and meet other UMMen from the tri-district (Staunton, Harrisonburg, & Winchester Districts) area.

Tom Devore, District UMM President

Where have all the men gone and how do we get them back? Following World War II the number of men in worship began to drop and continues to drop to this day. In 1950, for instance, 51% of worshippers were women and 49% were men. By 2010, 61% of worshippers were women and 39% men. Likewise, in 2010, 100 million men said they were Christians who did not attend church.

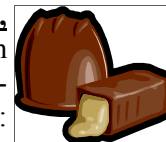
The May 10-11 United Methodist Men's Retreat at Camp Overlook will address both the cause and the solution to this phenomenon. Under the leadership of our District Superintendent, Tommy Herndon, District Program Director, Glen Langston, and District Lay Leader, Rodney Bussard, we will explore why men have left and what must be done to get them back. The retreat will also include fun, fellowship with other men, and uplifting worship.

The retreat begins with dinner of Friday, May 10, at 6:00 p.m. and ends with lunch and devotions at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, May 11. Registration forms can be secured from your pastor, the district office, 540-433-2382, or Camp Overlook, 540-269-2267.

D. Glen Langston, District Program Director



The **3rd Annual Chocolate Walk** is right around the corner! Join us on **Friday, May 10th, 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.** for a sweet event where you will sample chocolate from community members and downtown businesses while supporting an incredible Harrisonburg resource, The Collins Center. Details will be available on our website: <http://www.hburgchocolatewalk.com> Interested in helping? We are looking for volunteers to staff tables during the event as well as chocolate donations. Contact Laura at LToniHolsinger@yahoo.com if you are interested.



Laura Toni-Holsinger, RISE



Light the Fire Fest - A Modern Day Camp Meeting will be held at Overlook on Saturday, May 18, from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. We will be inspired by praise bands from our district churches and inspirational speakers. Local churches and artisans are hosting a variety of booths offering food, crafts, games, and beverages. Proceeds from the event will provide scholarship funds for Overlook campers and local churches. Other activities will include an antique car rally, hamburger cook-off competition and more. Contact the camp office or Sherri Miles, LtFF Chairperson, Sharon_miles@msn.com, to arrange for a booth and raise funds for your church. Join us for a wonderful day of faith, food, fun and fellowship!

Ron Robey, Overlook Retreat and Camp Ministries Director



Partners in Ministry (PiM) will meet on Thursday, May 23, 6:30 p.m. at Overlook Retreat & Camp Ministries' Blessings Lodge for a Farewell Dinner to honor the service of those clergy and clergy families that have served appointments on the Harrisonburg District and are going to new appointments. ALL clergy are encouraged to be present.



It is important that all annual conference members (district & charge) and all clergy attend the district's "**Orientation Session**" in preparation for the 2013 Annual Conference, Friday, June 21, to Sunday, June 23, in Hampton Roads Convention Center. There are important issues which clergy and laity will want to hear about and discuss. This year's orientation session will be held on **Sunday, June 2, 3:00 p.m. at Manor Memorial UMC-New Market**. [Expense checks for *district* members will be available at that time.]
Tommy Herndon, District Superintendent

There will be a **Laity Luncheon this year at Annual Conference**. The luncheon will be held on **Saturday, June 22, 2013, 12:00 p.m., at the Hampton Roads Convention Center**. Cost of the luncheon is \$22.00. If you would like to purchase tickets, please contact Rodney Bussard via e-mail: seeker1959@verizon.net or call 540-457-1417.
Rodney Bussard, District Lay Leader



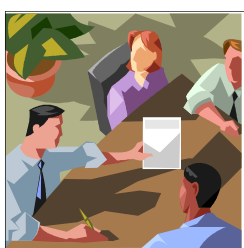
We had a very successful Lay Servants Training Session on Saturday, April 20th. A total of twenty-two adults enrolled and completed the three courses. They were taught by the following dedicated volunteer clergy who welcomed the opportunity to teach and share. They are: Robert Berghuis, Tommy Herndon, Bruce Johnson, Ellen Martin, Carrie Talbott and Robert Talbott. District Lay Leader Rodney Bussard and District Program Director Glen Langston served as our hosts. The **next training session** will be **Saturday, September 28, 2013**. More information will be released next month.
Dale Dodrill, Director of Lay Servants Ministries



Praise the Lord, warm weather is finally here. At Lighthouse Children's Center we had to close several days due to bad weather; snow was too deep and we had no power. We are thankful to be preparing for our "Summer Camp Program" now. We are seeking volunteers and funds to continue with hot lunches this summer for all the children. Currently we have 37+ children expected for summer. We must set up our lunch volunteers and start purchasing the food very quickly.

Won't you and a friend or Sunday school help us out? The cost is approximately \$65.00 a day for 9 weeks this summer. It takes about 2 - 2 1/2 hours to prepare lunch and wash up the large utensils. Food is simple and child friendly. If you can help out in any way call Sheila or Penny at 540-298-5309 or mail a donation to: Lighthouse, PO Box 34, Elkton, VA 22827.

Just a note to let you know you have helped many children with scholarships, food to supplement lunches, and some needed clothing. Your 'Askings' for Lighthouse are making a difference in the lives of our Savior's precious children. May He richly bless each and every one of you.
Sheila Morris, Director



Best SPRC or PPR Meeting Ever!!! We have in the District Library a DVD called, "Role Renegotiation Model." It was shown at the Pastor's retreat this past fall. That is how I came across it. This is the best thing I have seen in years and I could not wait to put it to use in my churches. I strongly suggest one go over the entire presentation with either the lay leader or SPRC/PPR chair before the entire committee. Then follow the directions offered in the presentation and be prepared for the most informative and interesting evening. Since coming to the Conference in 1998, my past January meeting was the best meeting I have ever had. We were much clearer on our mutual expectations and had the opportunity to discuss and evaluate the expectations together.

Suggestion: make sure everyone is clear on what is meant. For example, "pastor should be more active in church events". What specifically does this mean? Should the pastor show up for every event? Should the pastor be present from the beginning to the end? What should the pastor be doing while at the event? Is the pastor expected to be there to set up/or clean up afterwards? The more specific and quantifiable the example the better.

Be prepared to hear some honest expectations that might rub one the wrong way. Ultimately this will help both the pastor and committee decide more clearly if a move is in order (and I dare say, "more honestly"). Another suggestion: watch the whole DVD - do not summarize or only view part of it. You cannot get the full impact of the session by shortening it in any way. If you have questions, contact me at revrides@yahoo.com
Rev. J. Robert Berghuis

May 3-5 (Fri-Sun) - Conference UMW Spiritual Life Retreat, Blackstone*

May 7 (Tuesday) - Lay Servants Committee, St. Peter's UMC, 7:00 p.m.

May 10 (Friday) - 3rd Annual Chocolate Walk-Harrisonburg, 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.*

May 10 - 11 (Fri-Sat) - Tri-District UMM Retreat, Overlook-Blessings Lodge, Fri, 6:00 p.m. to Sat, 2:00 p.m.*

May 16 (Thursday) - District UMW Executive Committee & Local Church Unit Presidents, Broadway First UMC, 6:30 p.m.*

May 18 (Saturday) - Bishop's Convocation on Prayer, Bon Air UMC-Richmond, 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.*

May 18 (Saturday) - Light the Fire Fest, Overlook Retreat and Camp Ministries, 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.*

May 19 (Sunday) - Pastoral Change Announcement Sunday

May 23 (Thursday) - Partners in Ministry Farewell Dinner,

Overlook-Blessings Lodge, 6:30 p.m.*

May 24 (Friday) - VUMCenter-Glen Allen & District Office closes at 1:00 p.m. for Memorial Day Observance

May 27 (Monday) - VUMCenter-Glen Allen & District Office closed for Memorial Day Observance

June 2 (Sunday) - Annual Conference Orientation, Manor Memorial UMC-New Market, 3:00 p.m.*

June 6 (Thursday) - DCOM Dinner Meeting, Overlook-Blessings Lodge, 6:00 p.m.*

June 8 (Saturday) - Congregational Health Ministry Event, Vision of Hope UMC, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon*

June 8 (Saturday) - UMW Day, Ferrum College*

June 21-23 (Fri-Sun) - Virginia Annual Conference, Hampton Roads Convocation Center*

June 26 (Wednesday) - Virginia Conference Moving Day

June 30 (Sunday) - New Pastors' first Sunday

**Denotes related article elsewhere in this newsletter*

The Harrisonburg District Council on Ministries dinner during which we will meet and commission the Overlook summer staff will be **Thursday, June 6, 6:00 p.m. at Overlook**. This will also be the time to review our 2014 calendar and budget. ALL members of the DCOM Executive Committee and the ministry teams are invited. Reservation deadline is May 30 and reservations can be made by contacting either Camp Overlook, 269-2267, or the District Office, 433-2382.



Executive Committee meetings for 2013 are **August 22, November 14, 7:00 p.m.**, at **Asbury UMC**. Please see information on the Ministry Teams below.

Bob Talbott, DCOM Chairperson



Faith Development Ministry Team: Our meeting schedule for the upcoming year is as follows: **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.
Carrie Talbott, Team Leader



Mission and Outreach Ministry Team: Meeting dates for 2013 will be held at **Vision of Hope UMC: August 19; and November 11**. Team members are: Sandra Burks, Melissa Fretwell, Louise Jennings, Bill Lalla, Sheila Orndorff, Mary Jane Rawley, Valerie Ritter, Delores Reid, and Lydia Weeks.
Lydia Weeks, Team Leader

A seminar on **Congregational Health Ministry** is planned for **Saturday, June 8, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon at the Vision of Hope UMC, 1723 Port Republic Road, Harrisonburg**. Anyone involved in health ministry in the church or is interested in learning more about this vital program is encouraged to attend. You may contact Delores Reid, RN FCN with any questions at 896-1207 or dreid515@aol.com



We extend sympathy to Pam Heinrich, wife of Rev. Russell Heinrich, pastor of the Mt. Crawford Charge. Pam's father, Bob Taylor, passed away on March 26. Mr. Taylor's funeral was held on Saturday, March 30, at the Mt. Joy Presbyterian Church in Vesuvius, Va. Please keep the Heinrich family in your prayers.



Congratulations to Rev. Jim and Linda Mahaffey on the arrival of twin granddaughters, Lydia Haset ("overjoyed") Mahaffey and Sofia Emnet ("faith") Mahaffey, on April 13th at Rockingham Memorial Hospital. Parents James and Nancy, and six year old brother "J" are delighted. Rev. Mahaffey is a retired pastor on the Harrisonburg District.



Kingsway Outreach needs both men and women willing to write a letter or two a month to an inmate. We are also looking for me to befriend some men returning to society. Please invite Kingsway to do a program for your church. Richard Jackson, a Kingsway Board Member, will be happy to share what it is like returning to society after years of incarceration and how you can help others. Put Saturday, July 13 on your calendar. We will be having a concert with several groups at Vision of Hope UMC. Plan to come and enjoy the music with us. For more information e-mail: kingsway-outreach@hotmail.com or call 540-433-5658.

Louise Jennings, Director



Please take a look at our website:

www.harrisonburgdistrict.org for the latest events around the district.

Rev. Robert Berghuis, Webmaster



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!



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Harrisonburg District
Virginia Annual Conference
The United Methodist Church

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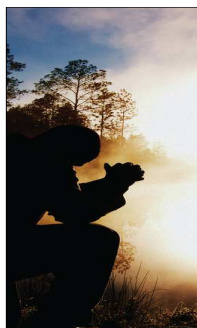
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Harrisonburg District on the web at
harrisonburgdistrict.org
Virginia Conference on the web at
www.vaumc.org



A Bishop's Convocation on Prayer will be held on May 18, from 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. at Bon Air UMC (1645 Buford Road, Richmond). Dr. Dwight H. Judy (Professor Emeritus of Spiritual Formation at Garrett-Evangelical Seminary) will be the keynote speaker on "A Quiet Pentecost: Inviting the Spirit into Congregational Life." Workshops will be offered on *Prayer Discernment in Making Congregational Decisions*, *Prayer 101*, *Spiritual Disciplines*, *Contemplative Prayer*, and *Congregational Prayer*. There will be time for regional groups that are designed to inform about the variety of ways that congregations and individuals can continue to develop the practice of spiritual disciplines. Information will also be shared about resources offered by the Virginia Conference. Registration cost is \$10 and will be received at www.vaumc.org.



The 2013 session of the Virginia Annual Conference is being held at the Hampton Roads Convention Center in Hampton, VA, Friday, June 21, to Sunday, June 23. Laity and Clergy sessions will begin at 1:00 p.m. on Friday. Ending time should be around noon on Sunday.

Offering goal is \$200,000 and is focused on children's mission work internationally and locally.

- BRAZIL - Shade and Fresh Water programs for at-risk "street" children: \$50,000
- MOZAMBIQUE - Classroom construction and building repairs for Janene Pennel Secondary School: \$50,000
- CAMBODIA - Christian education materials, scholarships and other projects with children focused on growing the young church: \$50,000
- VIRGINIA - \$50,000 divided among three children's ministries: One Family "Una Familia," a new Eastern Shore District tutoring ministry for Hispanic children; The Henry Fork Center in rural Franklin County, and All God's Children Camps for children of incarcerated parents.

4 Cans 4 Conference collection! For the fifth year, each clergy and lay member of Annual Conference is encouraged to bring '4 Cans 4 Conference,' canned goods or boxed dry foods to benefit local area food banks. This year, the food will go to the Peninsula Food Bank. Please visit www.vaumc.org > Annual Conference > scroll down & click on '4 Cans 4 Conference' to see how you can help feed the hungry.

Kits for Conference: The 2013 Virginia Conference kit collection is being conducted to replenish the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) supply. UMCOR's Sager Brown Depot reports there is a need for all types of kits. Local churches are encouraged to collect items and bring them to Annual Conference. Go to www.vaumc.org > Annual Conference > scroll down & click on 'Kits for Conference' for individual kit items.