

THE CHANNEL MARKER

A Publication of the
ELIZABETH RIVER DISTRICT
Virginia Conference United Methodist Church

MARCH 2015

From our DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT



I want and need Jesus in my life more than ever! However, I need to confess something to you. Even though I love Jesus, I find that I do not always make getting to know our Lord the number 1 priority in my life. It's not that I do not want to, it's just that I don't always do it. However, I am not alone for even the writer of Romans says, "Listen, I can't explain my actions. Here's why: I am not able to do the things I want; and at the same time, I do the things I despise." (Romans 7:15) How about you? Do you struggle like me?

There are times when, instead of developing a deeper relationship with Jesus through scripture reading, praying or fellowshiping with other Christians, I simply prefer to do something else including church activities. These activities have been a barrier from having an authentic, real relationship with Jesus. Knowing Jesus is what the Christian life is about. Right?

This Lent, I have chosen to journey on the road to a deeper relationship with Jesus... to get to know the Jesus who died for me, for you and for us all. How about you? Would you like to get to know the man on the Cross better? If so, would you join with me in this prayer?

Dear Lord, I want to know you better. I want to have an authentic and real relationship with you that impacts my daily life. Forgive me when I have substituted activities even religious ones for that deeper relationship with you.

Lord, I choose today to start a journey to know you more intimately than ever before. Help me Lord! I really need it!

~Wayne

Look INSIDE for:

2015 Annual Conference updates	4
Bishop's Convocation on Prayer	6
Local Church Events	10-11
CEU Training	6
District Calendar	Back Page
Imagine No Malaria	7
Job Opportunities	9
Lay Leader	2
Program Coordinator	3
UMM	5
UMW	5
Youth	8

Virginia UMC Clergy Spouses' Retreat: "Wellness"

You may register online for this event at <http://www.vaumc.org/ClergyFamilyResources>, or just print out and mail or fax the registration on the attached brochure.

Online registration deadline is March 2, but you can contact Blackstone at 434-292-5308 at any time. Come for as much of the time as you would like!

Host:
Virginia Conference UMC, Judy Hall
committee chairperson
804-264-0524

When:
Thursday, March 5 at 6:30 PM
to Saturday, March 7 at 1:00 PM

Where:
Blackstone Conf. & Retreat Center
707 4th Street
Blackstone, VA 23824

DISTRICT LAY LEADER

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Last month I suggested we pray more. This season of Lent is a perfect time to start or start again. **Prayer** has many forms. It is as simple as "Thank you God" or as complicated as doing a complete vigil. What type of prayer is less important than the spirit of your prayer. Lent is a time to grow and learn about our Christ-like life. We go through self-examination, reconciliation of our sinfulness and being thankful for the gift of salvation. How we do this is as varied as we are. I suggested prayer, but there are many ways to observe Lent. There is **fasting**, or more commonly known as giving up something that distracts us from God. It doesn't need



LENT

to be chocolate but maybe watching television. **Service** is another way.

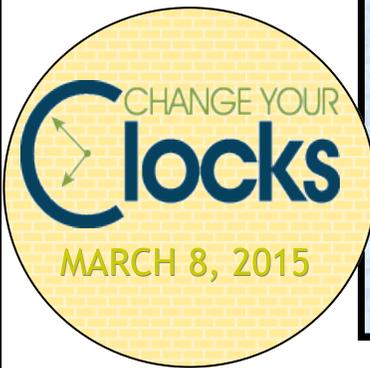
This may be volunteering in the community, special financial gifts to charity, joining a small group or other ministry in your church. **Bible reading** is what I decided to do. I will of course incorporate prayer. "God, I am a sinner and need your grace. Open my heart and mind to your word as I read my Bible. Let me see what you have said and what you would have me do." Then I'll read wherever in the Bible I'm led.

How you observe this time of Lent is up to you. It is a season of reflection leading up to our most holy time. If you're not sure how to start or what to do, there are many resources. Try checking out www.umc.org or www.gbod.org or simply talk to your Lay Leader or pastor. The season began with Ash Wednesday, which reminds us we are sinners; from dust we were made and to dust we will return. But spiritually we can live in eternity because of Jesus' resurrection! As we go through the "40 days", we reconcile ourselves to our Savior. Maundy Thursday reminds us to be of humble service. We cry for Jesus as he dies on the cross. We mourn his death. Then comes elation at His resurrection. Happy Easter!

How will you spend this Lenten season? I will praise God and be thankful for the ultimate gift, Jesus the Christ!

Amen,

Gary
(768-6040, ext. 127)



The Waiting Game ~

Life involves lots of waiting. We wait in groups, in lines, in cars. We wait for packages, for the bus, for the sun to rise. We wait in doctors' offices, at the post office, at the DMV. Waiting implies we're at someone else's mercy, but it's also usually linked to hope. Perhaps that's why Paul Tillich called waiting a metaphor for faith. Why would one wait if there weren't the firm belief that the object of one's wait will eventually materialize?

Waiting can be enervating, which is why Isaiah 40:31 is so promising: "They who wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength." Yet waiting is tough if you have nothing to do while waiting. That's why Jesus, when talking about waiting, also talked about working — work for the night is coming. Sometimes it's less tiring to work than it is to wait.

There's a lot of waiting during Lent. You're waiting for a payoff. You're waiting for the Resurrection. You're waiting for spiritual growth. And then you realize this isn't waiting at all. It's life. It's joy. It's opportunity. It's blessing.

~Timothy Merrill

PASSING the BATON:

"Successful Transitions in pastoral changes, Long-Tenured Pastorates, and for 2nd Pastors Following Founders."

Churches going through Pastoral Transitions

Saturday, April 11th 9-4:30PM, Ebenezer UMC, 1589 Steeple Drive, Suffolk, VA 23433



- Learn successful Transition strategies for any pastoral change
- Understanding the "Change Over Zone" and how to manage
- Key Essentials for long tenured pastoral changes
- Saying goodbye, saying hello
- 6 Cautions for the Church When changing pastors.
- Pre-Appointment Protocol
- Getting a running start!
- How to celebrate the past while building a future

For cost & more info, on registration, contact:: sheila@ebenezerchurch.net; Phone: 757-238-2359.



Gary Denette
garysmiles@ymail.com
(757) 636-3895

District PROGRAM COORDINATOR



Ellen Clements
ellenclements@vaumc.org

For the past month, my Sunday School class has been discussing Tom Berlin's study, *6 Ways We Encounter God*. This past week the lesson was on "God's Righteousness and My Work for Justice." What does God's righteousness mean? The class concluded that it means seeing things as God intended them to be, as they should be, not as they are. The video shows scenes that you might see on the nightly news, poverty and conditions that none of us would ever want to live in. Tom walks around a city taking pictures with a 35 millimeter camera. He challenges us to see the world through a different lens, to see the world as Jesus saw it. What do each of us see in the world that grabs our attention and what are we going to do about it? Are we going to be God's hands and feet here and now to work for the justice that is God's will?

This study is one of many that you can borrow from the **District Office Resources**. You can go online to see a list of what we have in our collection and call or email me to see if it is available. I can also send a request out to other churches to see if they have a copy of a study you are interested in. We are connected so we can share resources and ideas with one another.

Representatives from seven churches attended the **VBS Preview** in early February. We explored two different Vacation Bible School programs. Congratulations to Adelaida Bugtong from Princess Plaza UMC who took home GROUP's **Everest VBS** and to Cindy Williams from Hickory UMC, the winner of COKEBURY's **G-Force VBS**. Everyone shared some great ideas with each other for scheduling, which items were worth purchasing and creative ways to save money. Thank you to everyone who participated. I have sent a request to all of our churches to please email me with information about summer programs you are planning for children and youth. I will publish the list in late April so folks can network and share resources throughout the summer.

I am excited about our upcoming **Mission Dinner** and **How to Reach New People** event in March. The more we build relationships around the District, the stronger and more effective we will be in our ministries. None of us can tackle every issue that is in need of help, but together we can share our insights, pray for one another and support what God is calling each of us to do.

If you are seeking ways to reach out into the community, there are organizations always looking for help, such as Volunteer Hampton Roads. Check out their website, www.volunteerhr.org. One event they have coming up this spring is Global Youth VOLUNTEER Day, Saturday, April 18 at Saint Patrick Catholic School. For more information check out the website or contact Crystal Waitekus, cwaitekus@volunteerhr.org.

On April 18, I will be conducting another **Safe Sanctuaries Training** at Resurrection UMC in Chesapeake. If you would like to send a representative from your church to get training, please let me know. This training is for anyone who serves in the church, whether it is with children, youth, vulnerable adults with special needs or the elderly. I will provide participants with information they can take back to their churches to share with others.

I encourage all of you to join in the Bishop's request for supporting **Imagine No Malaria**. He has asked that we observe World Malaria Day this year by selling lemonade to save lives. **World Malaria Day is Saturday, April 25**. This is a great opportunity to bring the generations together, to get outside the church walls, and meet your neighbors over a cup of lemonade! See you around the district.

Shalom, *Ellen*

District Program Coordinator
(757) 473-1502

SAVE THE TENTATIVE DATE: August 3 - 7
CAMP GOTCHA 2015
#PEACEMAKERS

In August of 2001, the then Norfolk District held its first Day Camp, Camp GOTCHA – "God's Outdoor Training Camp – Have an Adventure!" This camp was designed to provide actual camp-type experiences, along with traditional activities normally associated with church youth and children's programs.

Over the years Camp GOTCHA has provided opportunities for children from churches and denominations all over the district as well as unchurched children to come together to meet, share experiences, and broaden and deepen their faith in God and commitment to Christian discipleship.

The GOTCHA leadership team is meeting to determine if there is enough interest to support another camp session - #15 – so it's "15 or Bust," "Fish or Cut Bait." **We need to know if you are willing to provide hands-on support for this camp:** planning, leading a station, or being a crew leader. The dates have tentatively been set for August 3-7.

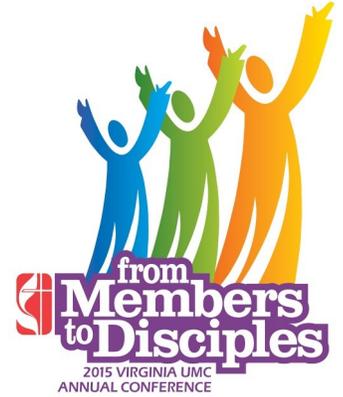
Please give this matter prayerful consideration and respond as soon as possible. Blessings!

Ellen Cummings (ellenwickerc@aol.com) ~ Ellen Clements (ellenclements@vaumc.org) ~ Jacqui Horton (jacqui@firstpresvb.org)

2015 Annual Conference

The 2015 session of the Virginia Annual Conference will be held at *The Berglund Center* (formerly the Roanoke Civic Center) in *Roanoke, VA, June 19-21*. Theme of this year's Annual Conference is "From Members to Disciples."

This year Annual Conference will elect delegates for the 2016 General Conference & 2016 Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference using electronic devices (for the first time). Due to the extra time needed for voting, annual conference will begin earlier than usual with **Clergy and Laity sessions held Friday from 10am thru Noon** and the opening plenary session will begin at 2pm.



Annual Conference Preachers



Retired Bishop Charlene Kammerer
Saturday morning
MISSION Service
Saturday evening
ORDINATION Service



Bishop Young Jin Cho
Virginia Annual Conference
Sunday morning
WORSHIP



Reverend Young Bong Kim
Pastor Korean UMC of Greater Washington
Friday Evening
MEMORIAL Service

Annual Conference Teacher



Reverend Tim Bias
General Secretary for the
General Board of Discipleship.

Kits for UMCOR to be collected at Annual Conference

Various types of Relief Supply Kits will be collected at the 2015 Virginia Annual Conference session. Kit collection is being conducted to replenish the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) supply. Local churches are encouraged to collect items for any of the most requested UMCOR kits — Bedding, Birthing, Cleaning, Health, Layette, School and Sewing Kits — and bring them to Annual Conference. For kit instructions, go to <http://www.umcor.org/UMCOR/Relief-Supplies>. *Kits should be taken to the two tractor-trailers at the far end of the Roanoke Civic Center Parking lot A, near the intersection of Williamson Road and Orange Ave. (across from the Sheetz Gas Station). Kits will be received THUR., June 18, 12noon-2:00p.m.; FRI., June 19, 8:00a.m.-5:00p.m.; and SAT, June 20, 8:00a.m.-12noon.*

CASH for KITS send directly to Conference Treasurer

If you prefer to contribute cash to enable United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) to purchase relief kits, you can contribute \$50 for each bedding kit; \$8 for each birthing kit; \$55 for each cleaning kit; \$12 for each health kit; \$35 for each layette kit; \$11 for each school kit; and \$18 for each sewing kit.. In addition, UMCOR asks for \$1 per kit (\$1.50 for cleaning buckets) to cover processing and shipping and \$1 for toothpaste for each health kit. Please do **NOT** bring checks to Annual Conference. ALL checks (for processing and shipping, for toothpaste and in lieu of providing kits) should be made payable to "Virginia Conference UMC," earmarked for "KITS" and mailed to Treasurer, Virginia Conference of The United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 5605, Glen Allen, 23058 any time prior to Annual Conference, and no later than Aug. 31.

VOLUNTEERS needed to COLLECT KITS at Annual Conference

More volunteers are needed for this year's "Kits for Conference" collection at Annual Conference. You can help (1) write information on a clipboard; (2) sort kits; (3) seal boxes; or (4) load boxes onto the tractor-trailers. *Kit collection will take place Thursday, June 18 from 12-2:00 p.m.; Friday, June 19, from 8 a.m.-5:00 p.m. and Saturday, June 20, 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.* If you can volunteer to help, e-mail Virgil Decker at vdecker@cox.net or contact Jeff Wilson at Huntington Court UMC, (540) 366-3465, to indicate what time you would be available.

United Methodist Men Spring Training Roundtable - March 7

Virginia Conference United Methodist Men 2015 Spring Training Roundtable Event will be **Saturday, March 7**, at three host churches around the Virginia Conference. Just choose the church location nearest you and join with men to pray, share, exchange ideas and get closer to the Lord.

Questions or need registration assistance? Please contact: Jim Butts, Vice President, Development & Training, Virginia Conference United Methodist Men, Cell: (757) 421-0161, E-mail: charlesdog1@cox.net



Elizabeth River District

United
Methodist
Women
FAITH · HOPE · LOVE IN ACTION

Purpose of United Methodist Women:

The organized unit of United Methodist Women shall be a community of women whose purpose is to know God and experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.

Ladies - As we gear up for this new year in United Methodist Women (2015) we have two big events coming up.

First: The Charter for Racial Justice Seminar that we are hosting at Blackstone Conference Center on May 15-17, 2015 for United Methodist Women, Inc. Come join a number of Northeastern Jurisdiction Conferences in ***Making Racial Justice Happen***. A registration form may be found on the Virginia UMW website at vaumw.org. Come find out how we can take steps to work toward racial justice. This will enrich your understanding of the subject as well as help meet a requirement for "Living our Purpose."

Second: Do you know how many years UMW has been collecting "Dimes & Dollars" for Blackstone Conference Center/Assembly Center? 2015 marks 40 years of giving Dimes and Dollars to Blackstone from United Methodist Women. As you know, in 1975 Ethel Born launched the campaign to pass a sock around during Circle meetings, collect dimes, and send them to Blackstone to provide funds for those extras we love today. You may have read about it in her book "Candlesticks." The last major project, the Portico, was completed as of November 2014 and now work will begin on the old Wicker Room which will become "The UMW Room." I think that is exciting. To quote Jim Bergdoll, "What a blessing the United Methodist Women are to VUMAC." Other than the 2014 bequests and the Titmus Foundation matching grant, the largest contribution was from United Methodist Women (\$31,000). Thank you for encouraging us to do that. Now we want to encourage our women to continue the tradition of 'passing the sock' for dimes and dollars and with your experience and help, **we can do this**.

Remember to take time for yourself by taking care of your spiritual life through devotion, meditation and prayer. Seek out those things that make you know God better and to experience freedom as women of God. Also please let me know what your units are doing. My contact information is joannmcclung43@gmail.com. My cell is 757-408-1010.

Joann McClung, President ~ United Methodist Women

District Prayer Breakfast, Saturday, Mar. 28th 9am - 11:30am

Cost for Breakfast \$4, Wesley Memorial UMC (288 E. Little Creek Rd, Norf)

Speaker: M. Wayne Snead ER District Superintendent

Mission Project: Agape Children's Center supplies (paper products, school items, etc.)

Reservations for breakfast due by noon, Mon., Mar. 23rd ~ 587-2996

Pray for the churches in our District as they attend the *How to Reach New People* event on March 14th and 15th, teams from thirty-five churches will be gathering at Virginia Wesleyan College. This is a time of learning about how to reconnect to our mission fields, how to get more members in our churches, why and how we need to change, why most churches want to reach new people but can't, and what new people look for when selecting a church. Please be in prayer for all of those in attendance and for all of our churches in the District. Pray that the Holy Spirit moves in all of the sessions and discussions that weekend. May new relationships be formed that will bless each of the churches and our District as a whole.

Virginia Wesleyan College CEU Seminar for Clergy

March 16-17, 2015 (full day on March 16, half day on March 17)

Presenter: Rev. Jorge Acevedo
Lead Pastor at Grace Church,
Cape Coral, Florida



Topic: "Turbo-Charging the Wesleyan Tradition in the 21st Century"

God used the Wesleys and the early Methodist movement to transform not just the church but the culture. Their unique approach to the Gospel has transferable principles that if harnessed in the 21st century can once again transform the church and culture. Using his 19 years as Lead Pastor at one church, Jorge Acevedo will share some of these transferable principles and their unique application and results in his setting.

Register at ... <http://www.vwc.edu/administration/church-relations/continuing-education-series.php>.

BISHOP'S CONVOCATION ON PRAYER

Saturday, March 21,
Trinity UMC,

903 Forest Ave., Richmond

Both laity and clergy are invited to attend.

Registration Cost: \$10 – includes lunch

Register at www.vaumc.org

Deadline to register
is March 16.

The Rev. Sue Nilson Kibbey, Director of Missional Church Initiatives in the West Ohio Conference UMC, will be the plenary speaker.

There will also be small group learning opportunities in the areas of prayer and Wesleyan spiritual disciplines.



Want to help support **IGNITE**, the new United Methodist Church being planted near ODU?!

Want to learn more about who they are and how you can help?

For the next few months, Brandon Robbins, who is planting this new faith community, will be speaking to various Methodist Churches and groups throughout the district. If you would like to have him come speak to your church or group, email him at brandon@ignitenorfolk.org. This is a great way to reach college students and support this exciting new work God is doing in our district!

If you're available, come join us for **Ignite UMC's 1st worship service on APRIL 5th** at 10am.



T-SHIRTS FOR SALE
AT THE DISTRICT OFFICE
IN THE FOLLOWING SIZES:
S,M,L,XL,2X
child sizes by request
\$10 for *Imagine No Malaria*
(picture above is the logo on Tee)

IMAGINE NO MALARIA . . . AROUND THE DISTRICT



TELL US ... HOW DOES YOUR CHURCH **INM?**

Send us the info so we can share with others what's going on to **INM AROUND THE DISTRICT!**

Include pictures . . . ElizabethRiverDistrict@vaumc.org

Churches asked to sell **LEMONADE**

April 25th to save lives.



Bishop Young Jin Cho is asking all churches in the Virginia Conference to observe World Malaria Day this year by selling lemonade to save lives. "World Malaria Day is Saturday, April 25," Bishop Cho said. "This day is used to bring awareness about the preventable and treatable disease of malaria around the world. The Virginia Conference is excited to announce our plans for the day. We would like all of our churches across the state to participate by hosting lemonade stands in our communities. We want to connect our neighbors with our churches and help save the lives of

thousands in Africa suffering from malaria. I imagine more than a thousand lemonade stands all over the conference.

"So," the Bishop added, "you might be asking, 'What do lemons and mosquitoes have in common?' Well, squashing them saves lives! Help us sip our way to saving lives on **April 25th!**"

[So save the date. More information and resources will be available soon.](#)



"March Gladness" Basketball Tournament Fundraiser for **IMAGINE NO MALARIA**

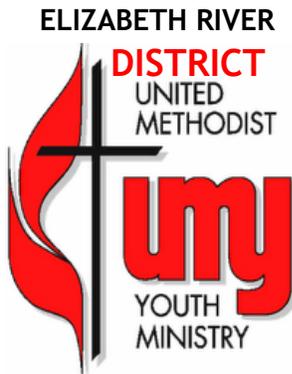
- * **Date & Time:** *March 7th from 10am to 1 pm*
- * **Location:** **Regester Chapel UMC, 85 Bells Hill Rd, Stafford**
- * **Team details:** 3 on 3 Coed teams play for 10 minutes among 16 teams until two teams are in the final four and ready to play the top two teams from the Eastern Shore. Each Player pays a \$20 registration fee & gets an INM tee shirt. Teams are welcome to arrive in Stafford on Friday the 6th (w/a sleeping bag) & stay overnight at the Regester Chapel Youth Center (showers provided).



* **Fundraising:** The Fredericksburg District is calling on its congregations to sponsor a team at the \$100, \$300, or \$500 levels, we are calling on local businesses to provide donations in exchange for advertising in our program books, we are providing some funds from our District Mission funds, and seeking individual donations. Our goal is to exceed \$12,000.

Day of Details: The DS's present will engage in some sort of halftime fun competition like a foul line shoot out or HORSE or something. Regester Chapel will provide a light refreshment stand.

So, we invite your district to enter a team or two and send folks to cheer on the teams. Just let me know if your district would like to participate. Questions? Contact Wayne Snead in the district office.



meeting at Oak Grove
this year!

Second Monday each month
7:00 to 8:30 p.m.

See you there!

(427 N Battlefield Blvd, Ches)

Contact person:

Betsy Parsons, (757) 537-7297
elizabethriverdyc@gmail.com

Indulge for Lent?

Rather than sacrificing something insignificant, such as chocolate — Patty Kirk, in *Guideposts* magazine, suggests finding new ways to *indulge* in God's presence. Surely one can do this by having extra devotions or attending Lenten worship services. But Kirk offers these ideas:

- Spend time outdoors, sensing God's magnificence.
- Spend time with others, extending generosity and compassion. Remember Jesus' promise that when you care for others, you care for him (Matthew 25:31-46).
- Pray for the "little things," coming before God in childlike trust and feeling peace.
- Watch attentively for God's answers to prayer, and receive them as reminders of his presence.
- Turn anxiety into prayer. As you frame concerns as prayers and entrust them to God, you "sacrifice" the tendency to wallow in worry.



Funding For Church Projects

If your church has projects planned, the Virginia United Methodist Credit Union has the solution. Use a VUMCU project loan to fund painting, parsonage repairs, kitchen upgrades, parking lot improvements & heating/AC systems. We have a fast and easy application process (48 hours with a completed application) and there is no fee to apply. Our project loans are unsecured and for amounts up to \$50,000 with rates as low as 4.00% APR*.

Contact Mike for details at 866-657-0004 or mhaydon@vumcu.org.

*All loans are subject to approval.
Credit restrictions apply
and rates are subject to change.

UPDATE CHURCH OFFICERS

on EVC

<http://www.evc.vaumc.org/>

As you continue to update your church officers on the EVC site, please send an email to the district office so that we can change our contact information. The Conference office will be using what you've entered for mailing, (including the Annual Conference Lay Member information., which is the Book of Reports & the Registration Card/Nametag packet.) And the District Office needs to be able to access contact info of your major church leaders.

Be in touch with Debbie in the district office if you have any questions. Call (757) 473-1592 or email elizabethriverdistrict@vaumc.org.

IMPORTANT!!!

CHURCH POSITIONS AVAILABLE

BUSINESS MANAGER [Courthouse Community UMC, Va Beach] this full time position will provide oversight of the finance and business areas of the church. Will supervise paid and unpaid staff in the business area of the church as well as work with the church program staff and church leadership teams and members. Proficiency in Microsoft Office, Quickbooks, and a demonstrated understanding of state and federal employment tax regulations is necessary. For details, visit Virginia Conference web site at www.vaumc.org/jobs

PART-TIME HOUSEKEEPER POSITION [Miles Memorial UMC, Norfolk]- 15 hours per week/flextime, salary to be determined. Must serve 30-day probationary period, then salary to be adjusted. Must have own transportation & physically able to perform housekeeping duties, working alone and/or with others at odd times according to requirements of church calendar. Must be able to demonstrate: ability to follow oral & written directions, work cooperatively with staff members, good work habits, punctuality, dependability, customer service skills, and share beliefs and convictions of Christian faith. Resumes with experience and references due no later than Friday, Noon, March 27, 2015, ATTN Jo-Anne Wolfe. Miles Memorial UMC, 9450 Granby St, Norfolk, VA 23503.

CHURCH SECRETARY [Community UMC, Va Beach] This part time position (20-hrs per week) provides administrative support to the pastors and staff. Applicant should be proficient in computer usage to include website management. Resumes may be mailed to Community UMC, Attn: SPR Committee, 1072 OLD Kempsville Rd, Virginia Beach 23464, or emailed to cumc@cumcvb.org.

DIRECTOR OF FAMILY MINISTRIES [St. Andrew's UMC, Va] for a mid-size church connected to the growing Town Center and Kempsville neighborhoods of Virginia Beach. A successful applicant will be a person with a deep faith and connection to Methodist theology and doctrine, a passion for Christian education, and an ability to lead and coordinate teams. For details, visit the Virginia Conference Web site at www.vaumc.org/jobs

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION DIRECTOR [Resurrection UMC, Chesapeake] a multi-cultural environment needs a part-time Christian Education Director for young adult, youth & children to lead Christian programs; recruit/or train, empower & equip volunteers. Plan meaningful worship, devotions & prayer time. This position combines faith and service to church and society. For more details & qualifications, email (resurrectionumc@cox.net) or call the church office (479-0452), or look on the district website jobs page.

MUSIC DIRECTOR [Resurrection UMC, Chesapeake] needed for adults, youth, & children in this multi-cultural environment. Lead Praise Band, adult & children's choir. Plan meaningful music for worship. Backup for morning worship pianist, For more details & qualifications, email (resurrectionumc@cox.net) or call church office (479-0452), or look on the district website jobs page.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR [Aldersgate Renewal Ministries, Nashville] seeking a Spirit-filled individual to work out the mission of the ministry ... to bring renewal to the United Methodist Church by equipping local churches to minister to the world in the power of the Holy Spirit. This position is full-time with a full benefit package and is based at the Aldersgate Renewal Ministries office just outside of Nashville, Tennessee. For details visit the Va Conf website at www.vaumc.org/jobs.

*For more employment opportunities & details,
visit the Virginia Conference Web site at www.vaumc.org/jobs.*

~ THROUGH HIS HANDS ~

Through HIS Hands (THH) is a 501c3 (non profit) organization that does free consulting on how to establish and run a Community Food Program or a Pantry Ministry. We have 15 years of experience (collectively as a volunteer board) in the organization and administration of food ministries, including how to form partnerships with local food suppliers and food banks. *We would like to know how many churches would be interested in obtaining information on starting a Food Pantry or Community Food Assistance Program. Email for our organization: infothroughhishands.org; Phone: 757-905-3720.*

Heritage United Methodist Church
proudly presents



The Proclaimers Quartet
from Columbus, Georgia,

and invites you to a
Southern Gospel Concert
Saturday, April 11th, 2015
7:00 P.M.

Heritage U.M.C.

815 Baker Road, Va Beach, VA 23462

Cost: **FREE** (a love offering will be collected)



For more info, contact
Gene Hannan
(757) 404-9221,
or the church
(757) 497-3943.

Camp Overlook
**Confirmation
Camp**
March 27-28, 2015



Part of joining the church is recognizing that the church is not just the building or the people in it. THE CHURCH is our connection with our congregation of Christians, our neighboring Christians, and Christians all around the world.

We invite you to bring your confirmands and join with the larger church as we explore what it means to be a United Methodist and how we can all be Christ's disciples in the world today. Speakers include: Beth Christian (Staunton District Director of Congregational Excellence), Rev. Gary Heaton, Rev. Gary Ziegler, and Bob May (UM Missionary).

Registration forms and details will be sent to churches in the coming weeks. Mark your calendars for this special weekend with other, like-minded youth and their pastors/mentors www.campoverlook.org.

PEARL FAITH COMMUNITY
**INTERFAITH
PRAYER
BREAKFAST**

Thursday March 19, from 7:00-8:15 A.M.
BROCK ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER
3663 Marlin Bay Dr., Virginia Beach, VA 23455
Tours following program

Featured Speaker:
Ralph S. Northam
Lieutenant Governor

RSVP 757-962-5398, pam@lrnow.org

LYNNHAVEN River NOW
Restoring a legend.

Monumental UMC

450 Dinwiddie Street, Portsmouth, 23704
(757) 397-1297

We now have an Art and Crafts Group, meeting Wednesdays & Fridays. This is your chance to indulge your artistic talents, & spectacular imagination. **March activities are: Drawing, Jewelry Making & Chrismons.**

CHRISMONS & JEWELRY

March 4,11,18,25 Wednesdays

BEGINNING DRAWING

March 6,13,20,27
Fridays

This event is free –
open to the public

Classes 10am-Noon



Thalia United Methodist Church

4321 Virginia Beach Blvd. Virginia Beach, Va. 23452



CRAFT FAIR & SALE

For our church's Costa Rica Mission Team!



March 7th
From 9am till 3pm

Featuring gift ideas for
Easter and Mothers Day!

Also - A HUGE Bake Sale!
A Real Old Fashioned BBQ Cookout
...and a really cool auction!!!

* Craft artists only

For more info contact:
Tiesthatbind@verizon.net

Spaghetti



Dinner

Who: You, Your Friends and Family

What: Memorial United Methodist Church's
Annual Spaghetti Dinner

When: Saturday, April 18, 2014 from 5 to 7 PM
Take-out is available at 4:30 PM

Where: 804 Gammon Road, Va Beach, VA 23464

Cost: \$10.00 per Adult (ages 11+)

\$5.00 per Child (ages 5-10)

Children under 5 are Free

Tickets available in advance and at the door,
call 757-420-1407 for more information

Includes: Plate of spaghetti and meatballs,
unlimited salad bar, garlic bread, and
beverage. Wide variety of desserts
available at modest prices.
TO GO ORDERS AVAILABLE!

Hope to See You There!!!



Faith Inclusion Network
(FIN) OF HAMPTON ROADS

BRINGING PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES
IN OUR FAITH COMMUNITIES

That All May Worship
– 2015 Conference

**“Embracing
Inclusion”**

*A conference to promote
awareness, provide support and
celebrate the gifts of people with
disabilities in our faith communities*

Friday, March 20th 2015

8:30am (check in), 9:00am-3:00pm

Lynnhaven United Methodist Church,

1033 Little Neck Road, Virginia Beach, VA 23452

Cost (includes lunch and materials):

Early Bird Rate (by February 20) \$25/person

After Feb. 20 and at the door, \$30/person

Accommodations:

ASL Interpreter ~ Hearing Loop System

CART (Communication Access Real Time Translation)

Accommodations for persons who are deafblind

Online registration for participants, vendors and sponsors
at: <http://FINconference2015.eventbrite.com>

Wanted: Fully Alive!
Meal Service Teams
To prepare, serve, and clean up after the
Community Supper Program

at
**Park Place
United Methodist Church**

Several Monday or Thursday evenings available

Orientation and training provided

Team size: 8-10 people

Meals for 100-150

Please call Jennifer Arditia

or John Schroeder at

757-622-3363

Also seeking donations of paper goods:

plates in all sizes, flatware, napkins,

table cloths; large trash bags; coffee,

sugar, coffee creamer.

Be blessed. Be a blessing!



In the Virginia Conference
 United Methodist Church
 P.O. Box 12654
 Norfolk, VA 23541-0654

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 District Program Coordinator Ellen J. Clements
 District Treasurer Mary R. Stroh
 District Lay Leader Gary G. Denette
 District Webmaster Julianne Rosas

DISTRICT CALENDAR

To receive the *Channel Marker* by email,
 Send your request to

ElizabethRiverDistrict@vaumc.org

Newsletter Articles **Deadline**
 is the **15th** of every month
 All articles should be submitted

BY EMAIL

to address below.

Job Announcements should be 60-words or less.

Events 100-words or less or 1/4 page flyer-format

District Officers try to limit to a half-page



ElizabethRiverDistrict@vaumc.org



1 MISSION DINNER, Centenary, 5:00pm

7 March Madness, Register UMC, Richmond

9 District Youth meeting, Oak Grove, 7pm

14-15 How to Reach New People, VWC

16-17 VWC Clergy CEU (see pg 6)

21 Bishop Convocation on Prayer, (see pg 6)

26 Dist Comm on Ministry dist office, 8:30am

28 UMW Prayer Breakfast, Wesley Memorial



HOLY WEEK

March 29 ~ April 5



5 RESURRECTION DAY

5 Ignite UMC 1st worship service, 10am

13 District Youth meeting, Oak Grove, 7pm

18 Safe Sanctuary Training, Resurrection, 10am

23 Dist Comm on Ministry dist office, 8:30am

24 UMW Prayer Luncheon Beech Grove, 10:30

25 Imagine No Malaria LEMONADE STANDS

27 Dist Board of Mission, district office, 9:30am

MARCH Clergy Lunches

2 & 16 BRAVOS, 11:30
 (Town Center)

3 & 17 ABUELOS, 11:30
 (Greenbrier)

9 & 23 JONES', 12:00
 (5811 W Norfolk Rd, Ports)

10 & 24 LOGANS, 12:00
 (Janaf)

APRIL Clergy Lunches

6 & 20 Clergy Lunch, 11:30
 BRAVOS (Town Center)

7 & 21 Clergy Lunch, 11:30
 ABUELOS (Greenbrier)

13 & 27 Clergy Lunch, 12:00
 JONES' (Portsmouth)

14 & 28 Clergy Lunch, 12:00
 LOGANS (Janaf)

Office Location: 815 Baker Rd. Suite 301, Virginia Beach

Phone: 757.473.1592 Fax: 757.473.1790

Email: ElizabethRiverDistrict@vaumc.org

District Website: ElizabethRiverDistrict.org

Conference Website: vaumc.org