

# THE CHANNEL MARKER

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

**J U N E 2 0 1 5**



## From our **DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT**

The Lord is looking for Courageous Spiritual Leaders today. Leaders who seek to live everyday by Jesus' prayer in the Garden of Gethsemane: Lord, not my will but yours.

These Courageous Spiritual Leaders are risk-takers; risk-takers who are willing to go where God is leading them, even if it means putting their own interest or likes aside out of love for others. That means desiring to fulfill the Great Commandment (Matthew 22: 34-41) and the Great Commission (Matthew 28: 18-20) in our daily lives.

This is especially true in light of the fact that: 20% of the US population attend church on any given weekend; the Average Worship attendance in the US is 75; 3000 plus churches close annually; and that 90% of our churches feel stuck or are in decline.

Remember when Jesus said, "The harvest is great but the workers are few. So pray to the Lord who is in charge of the harvest: ask the Lord to send more workers into the fields". (Luke 10:2) I know Jesus is still saying that to His disciples (us) today.

Friends, the Lord is looking for Courageous Spiritual Leaders — people who love Jesus and are willing to pray, then step outside their comfort zone. Leaders who are willing to pray to the Lord for workers (that would be us) to get out into the fields (outside our churches) then trust God, as we share our story of God's transforming love.

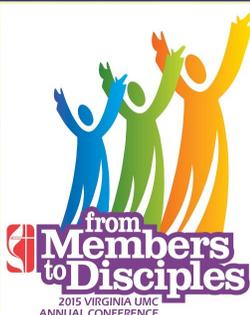
Are you a risk-taker? Are you one who is willing to be an answer to someone's prayer for workers? Christ is counting on you! Are you counting on Christ to meet you in those fields? I look forward to meeting you in those fields.

~Wayne

(757) 473-1592  
ElizabethRiverDS@vaumc.org

## Look **INSIDE** for:

|                                      |           |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|
| 2015 Annual Conference updates ..... | 6-7       |
| District Calendar .....              | Back Page |
| Imagine No Malaria .....             | 8         |
| Job Opportunities .....              | 10        |
| Lay Leader .....                     | 2         |
| Program Coordinator .....            | 3         |
| Storytelling Events .....            | 2, 5      |
| UMW .....                            | 4         |
| MORE.....                            | INSIDE    |



## Annual Conference **ORIENTATION**

### Sunday, June 14th, 2pm

## **OAKLETTE UMC** ~ 520 Oaklette Dr, Chesapeake

## DISTRICT LAY LEADER



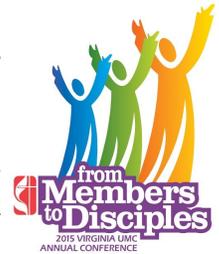
**Gary Denette**

garysmiles@ymail.com  
(757) 636-3895

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Over the past several months I have been asking you to be more prayerful. In my life that is certainly true. Several times in the past three months my wife and I have been sick or had surgery and we know your prayers have helped. On almost a daily basis I pray for family, friends and my church. God does answer! He has placed his healing hands on us. It is certainly a wonderful blessing to see growth at Centenary UMC. In a time that people all over the globe are saying no to God and religion, we as disciples must be even more vigilant in our prayers. All things are possible through God!

June is the time for our Annual Conference. There are many issues facing our church. Once again we will discuss changing the language in the Book of Discipline. Do we and will we actually embrace ALL of God's children, or not? As part of my preparation for Annual Conference and your lay leader, I am asking for your help. Please email me at garysmiles@ymail.com or text me at 636-3895 with your thoughts, concerns and prayers. I will do my best to have our collective voice heard. We will be voting for our conference delegates to both General and Jurisdictional conferences. Here is a list of Elizabeth River district's nominees for General & Jurisdictional Conference: Darlene Amon, Janet Bracey, Frieda Clark, Donna Denette, Oliva Hinton, Michael Monge, Katherine Pearson, and Barbara Rose-Campfield. If you have someone on this list you really want elected please let me know. Pray for all our nominees to be strong, willing and courageous disciples.



This is also a time for graduations from college, high school, elementary to middle school and who knows where else. It is certainly a time of transition for many. Let us all pray for them as we congratulate them on accomplishments and ask for God's guidance going forward. Pray for all the delegates at conference for purity of heart, clarity of mind and the conviction of the Holy Spirit as we go about our conference work. Pray for me, your lay leader, as I go forward as your willing servant.

In Christ's Peace,

*Gary*

768-6040

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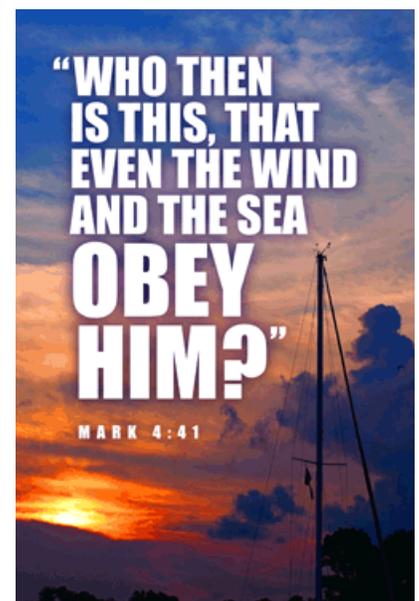
**2015 Festival Gathering  
of Biblical Storytelling**



### **One Story, Many Voices** Network of Biblical Storytellers, Int'l Festival Gathering National 4-H Center, Chevy Chase, MD

This is an international conference for biblical storytelling. The festival features action-packed days of dynamic workshops (for beginners through master storytellers), exciting keynote presentations, performances of both sacred and traditional storytelling, inspiring worship and

opportunities to network with other storytellers from all over the world. There are storytelling and story-listening activities all day and night long. Each evening ends with our "Lighting the Fire" time of sharing where anyone who wants to can get up and share a story in a warm, supportive environment. To register and to find out more about this year's Gathering, go to [www.nbsint.org](http://www.nbsint.org) or call 1-800-355-6627.



## DISTRICT PROGRAM COORDINATOR

This week I finished reading *The Irresistible Revolution*, by Shane Claiborne. Living in inner city Philadelphia, he meets people where they are, broken and bruised, and lives out his faith with little acts of love. Shane has also traveled to Iraq as an ambassador for peace, listening and ministering to Iraqi Christians whose lives have been impacted by war. Shane lives as an ordinary radical, bold enough to confront what isn't working and courageous enough to search for another way, to live more like Jesus. There is a study guide available to go along with this book if you or a small group at your church would like to borrow them.

At a meeting of some Christian Educators last month, we discussed the issue of whether or not to offer children's church or to encourage families to keep their children in worship. Finding enough leaders for children's church or the right materials to use can be a challenge. Teaching children how to worship, whether it be in their own worship time or in the sanctuary with the adults, is a goal we all share. In light of that discussion I ordered some new resources for churches to borrow related to this topic. *Parenting in the Pew (revised and updated)*, by Robbie Castleman shares how to guide your children into the joy of worship with practical advice from her own experience. *Let the Children Come and Worship (revised edition)*, by Judy Gattis Smith is a collection of twelve little liturgies for young Christians. The prayers and worship ideas can be used in a separate children's church or incorporated as part of the worship service in the sanctuary. *Children First, Worshipping with the Family of God*, by Mark Burrows provides twelve complete and engaging worship services for elementary children and their families. These services are designed to be used once a month for a full year. The book describes the elements of worship along with an explanation of how they can be used in the services.

Another resource recommended by the educators at our meeting is *Sacred Parenting, How Raising Children Shapes Our Souls*, by Gary Thomas. There is a copy of the book, DVD and participant's guide with six sessions available to borrow. The author believes that God can transform lessons in raising children into opportunities to grow in the image of Christ.

Two new resources on leadership that you might want to check out are *The New Adapters*, by Jacob Armstrong with Adam Hamilton and Mike Slaughter and *Spiritual Discovery*, by Catherine C. Tran and Sandra Hughes Boyd. In the first book, the author looks at time-tested principles of church leadership and shows how the principle works in new contexts today. It is all about shaping ideas to fit your congregation. In *Spiritual Discovery*, the authors outline a method for discernment in small groups and congregations. This book is a practical guide for groups that desire a prayerful approach to making decisions.

One final resource I would recommend this month is [www.chuckknowschurch.com](http://www.chuckknowschurch.com). There is an insightful yet amusing series of videos about *The Committee*. You can download the video and a study guide for each episode in the series. Start with The Pilot episode and move on to the other topics. You might use them in a Sunday school class or at the beginning of a "committee" meeting to give folks something to reflect upon. Do you need a program for your circle or men's group? This could be a possibility.

There are other resources to borrow at the District office. Just give me a call if you would like to borrow something. For a complete list of resources, go to

[www.elizabethriverdistrict.org](http://www.elizabethriverdistrict.org).

See you around the district.

Shalom,

*Ellen*

District Program Coordinator  
(757) 473-1502



Ellen Clements  
ellenclements@vaumc.org

## Farewell & Good Wishes . . .

**ATTENTION CLERGY!!!!**

**PUT THIS ON YOUR CALENDAR...**

**Tuesday, June 2, 2015 at 11:30 a.m.**

**ER District Clergy Association**

**Farewell Luncheon**

**Red Lobster**

*(4115 Chesapeake Square Blvd., Chesapeake)*

If you did not RSVP by **May 22**,  
contact [pastormichellelouk@yahoo.com](mailto:pastormichellelouk@yahoo.com)





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 to know God and experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative supportive fellowship; and to expand the concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.*



I am hearing from those of you who attended **The Spirit Life Retreat first weekend in May** that you had a wonderful, spiritual weekend. I wish I could have been there,

but I have a grandson whose birthday is May 1<sup>st</sup> and grandma must be there. As a matter of fact he was born just before the 2007 retreat. I was packing when I got the call he was on his way. So since I was packed I made it up to Northern Virginia before the birth. What a great day that was. (For all you grandmas out there, you know). Such an exciting time in the life of a family. I sometimes wonder if there is any excitement at a birth in third world country children, where a new person can be a burden. What brought me to thinking about this is my UMW has been putting together **Kits for Conference**. As we've made the Birthing Kits over the years, I wonder about the child the kit would be used for when it's coming into the world. A **small bar of soap** for clean hands, a **pair of clean latex gloves**, a **square yard of clear plastic sheeting** (so as not to lie on the dirt ground), **three pieces of clean 12" long string**, a **razor blade** (to cut the cord), **two receiving blankets**. Not much, is it? But it can make the difference in life and death or infection for that infant and mother. Is this saved child going to have enough food to survive or will it die very young? This is why I think we have a very important responsibility to be in mission. Hope your UMW is making lots of kits of all kinds.

Don't forget your Dimes and Dollars for Blackstone. This is an on going special project of UMW in the Virginia Conference since 1975. Hope to see you at our next event.

Joann McClung, President United Methodist Women [[joannmclung43@gmail.com](mailto:joannmclung43@gmail.com). or [joannmclung@cox.net](mailto:joannmclung@cox.net)]  
Cell (757) 408-1010

UPCOMING EVENTS:

**UMW Prayer Breakfast at Annual Conference, June 20th** — Tickets will be available from Joann McClung. Cost is \$15 and make checks out to Roanoke District UMW.

**Mission Encounter - July 24-26, 2015 at Blackstone** Conference & Retreat Center. Courses include ... Geographic Study: Latin America - People & Faith; Spiritual Growth Study: Created for Happiness— Understanding Your Life in God; Issue Study: The Church and People with Disabilities. You won't want to miss these great studies. The registration form is on [vaumw.org](http://vaumw.org), District Office or from Joann McClung.

**Young Women's Retreat "Big Enough" (ages 18-40) at Blackstone** Conference Center on September 18-19, 2015. Retreat leaders will be Sarah Stephens and Joanna Paysour.

**Annual Meeting and Prayer Lunch Friday, September 26th at 10:30 at Centenary UMC**, 3312 Cedar Lane, Portsmouth. Reservations need to be called in by September 21st to 484- 5051. Our speaker will be Karen McElfish Conference UMW Vice President. Mission Project: Wesley Community Service Center in Portsmouth (our only National Mission Project in VA) - Paper products, food, gift cards (Wal-mart, Food Lion).

**43rd Virginia Conference UMW Annual Meeting, October 24-25 at Blackstone** — Help us celebrate the 40th anniversary of this special program.

## JustPeace offers Resources to help Churches minister to VETERANS

JustPeace, the United Methodist Center for Mediation and Conflict Transformation, has launched Soul Care. The initiative aims to help churches speak to the trauma returning veterans and their families often experience and help them re-integrate back into their communities. Go to <http://www.soulcareinitiative.org>.





## UMW Dimes and Dollars for VUMAC Celebrates 40 years

United Methodist Women from across the Virginia Conference will gather in Blackstone in October 2015 to celebrate the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Dimes and Dollars program for the Virginia United Methodist Assembly Center.

The late Ethel Born in her book "Candlesticks" writing about the history of the United Methodist Women in Virginia, reports that an estimated 700 United Methodist Women gathered in April 1975 at VUMAC to launch this program which has produced more than \$1 million for the Assembly Center over these forty years. More than \$31,000 was contributed by more than 300 local UMW units in 2014, according to Mrs. Dolly Porter, the UMW representative on the VUMAC Board of Directors.

"The United Methodist Women have had a profound impact on the development of the Conference Assembly Center," says Rev. E. T. Herndon, chairman of the VUMAC board of directors. "No other organization has provided this level of sustained financial support."

The relationship of Virginia United Methodist Women with Blackstone began in the 1940's when UMW groups met at what was then Blackstone College. Reportedly, the United Methodist Women Annual Meeting has been held at VUMAC since 1973. The UMW conference president at that time said: "We are all increasingly excited about the possibility of making the Assembly Center at Blackstone into the kind of center which will truly serve the needs of the entire conference." Subsequently, a delegation from Virginia visited the North Alabama Conference to talk with persons who had been involved in a program similar to "Dimes and Dollars" there. Out of that visit came the call to United Methodist Women of Virginia to accept a similar challenge here. Mrs. Born,

in her book, cites these words that were a part of that challenge: "Once in a while we have an opportunity to dream a dream and catch a vision and perhaps a long while afterward, we can look back and say - wasn't that a great idea."

In 1979, the United Methodist Women began an effort to raise funds for what would become the Goodson Lodge which was dedicated in 1989. In addition to these fund raising efforts, the United Methodist Women, led by Mary Jordan, formerly president of United Methodist Women on the Arlington District, have spent hundreds of hours in making and installing drapes for guest rooms and other areas throughout the Blackstone facilities.

"The fall UMW Annual Meeting and the annual spring UMW Spiritual Life Retreat are special times for us at VUMAC," says Sam McCracken, Executive Director at Blackstone. "We anticipate that the Annual Meeting this year on October 23-25 will be a special time as we celebrate the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of this "Dimes and Dollars" program which has so greatly benefited VUMAC."

Contact: Sam McCracken

434-292-5308



### FRIENDS OF THE GROOM

"We are a theater company committed to revealing the Christian message with a unique blend of humor, story, challenging content, and scenes that are hard to forget."

**SAVE THE DATE**

**July 31<sup>st</sup>/August 1<sup>st</sup>**

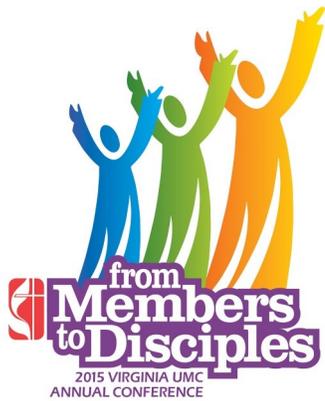
Theater Camp for Adults, Youth, and Children. **Friends of the Groom** will be here at **Messiah UMC**.

Look them up on their website:

[www.friendsofthegroom.org](http://www.friendsofthegroom.org)



**More information will follow!**



# 2015 Annual Conference

<http://www.vaumc.org/AC2015>

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



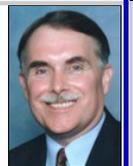
Bishop Young Jin Cho  
Virginia Annual Conference  
Sunday morning WORSHIP



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.



## 2015 Annual Conference Offering

**2015 Annual Conference offering to support Cambodia mission, Ebola victims, poor children in Virginia.** Bishop Young Jin Cho announced that the 2015 Annual Conference offering goal will be \$150,000 and again focus on both international and Virginia-based mission needs. The offering goal includes \$50,000 for continued support of our partnership with the Methodist Mission in Cambodia as they continue to purchase property for new churches and expand their fast growing mission. Another \$50,000 is for United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) Global Health ministries to aid the Ebola-ravaged countries of Sierra Leone and Liberia. Both of these countries have trained and equipped Health Boards in their United Methodist conferences that are working to meet priorities and needs of communities recovering from the Ebola outbreak as well as a holistic approach to health that empowers people to take charge of their own lives and develop positive health-seeking behavior in their communities. In Virginia, the goal is \$50,000 to support mission projects working with the poor in the Danville and Eastern Shore Districts. Both of these districts are working in ministry in areas of Virginia that are well below the national and state poverty levels. Of particular concern and emphasis are children living in poverty.

## Kits for UMCOR to be collected at 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

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](mailto:vdecker@cox.net) or contact Jeff Wilson at Huntington Court UMC, (540) 366-3465, to indicate what time you would be available.

## More 2015 Annual Conference info ...

**CAN volunteers needed—COMPUTER ASSISTED NOTETAKING** – Individuals are needed for shifts of one hour or longer to type text of reports, worship and music using Microsoft Word, at times as the speaker is presenting. Good typing speed and accuracy is a must! Further information is available at 1-800-768-6040 ext.154 or (804) 521-1154 or by e-mail at [CherylEdleyWorford@vaumc.org](mailto:CherylEdleyWorford@vaumc.org)



4 CAN'S

4 CONFERENCE

2015

To sign up, go to:  
[www.SignUpGenius.com/](http://www.SignUpGenius.com/)  
go/8050444ADA92EAB9-4cans

**Yes, Virginia United Methodists "CAN" make a difference!**

Bring or Send at least 4 cans of food with your church's Pastor and Lay Member to Roanoke in June 2015, including:

(1) meat/fish; (2) fruit/veggies; (3) soup/stew; (4) pop-top (any contents)

ALL gifts benefit the local ministries' services to those in need in the Roanoke Conference Center area. And YES, 4 boxes or even 400 cans will help! Our 2015 Annual Conference Goal is 10,000 pounds of canned and dry / staple foods. Bring your gifts to the 24' U-Haul truck parked near the Kits Collection trucks - not inside the Conference center! (And yes, there will be plenty of opportunities to serve in the Collection Point!)

## Summer Project Youth (S-P-Y)

**SPY** is a week long mission adventure for middle and high school students. It is a home repair ministry making homes safer, warmer, and drier for families in the New River Valley who need our helping hands. Spiritually, we seek to be God's hands and feet in the world. Students will be guided through a necessary home repair project, while experiencing dynamic worship and focused discipleship, topped off with incredible amounts of fun. If you would like more information, please contact me, Justin Gilly. I look forward to hearing from you!



Justin Gilly, Executive Director ~ Project SPY  
EMAIL: [fieldstoneumc@gmail.com](mailto:fieldstoneumc@gmail.com) CELL: 276-275-1382



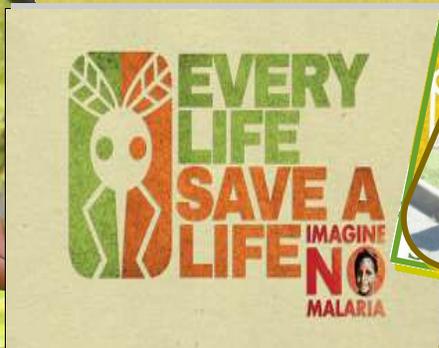


# IMAGINE NO MALARIA . . . AROUND THE DISTRICT



## LEMONADE STANDS *around* Elizabeth River District

Community (VB), Ghent, Lynnhaven, St. Paul's, and Wesley Chapel UMCs raised \$1,948.16 for Imagine No Malaria at their **LEMONADE STANDS**.



**St. PAUL'S UMC**  
Chesapeake

**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*

**LYNNHAVEN UMC**  
Virginia Beach

Contributions to "**Imagine No Malaria**" should be sent to the Va Conference Treasurer's office, P.O. Box 5605, Glen Allen, VA 23058. Check made payable to "Virginia Conference" and designate "Imagine No Malaria, Advance Special #6450," on your check or at the bottom of your apportionment statement. Church checks, be sure to indicate the church GCFA# on the check. If you have questions, contact Maria Maxwell at [mariamaxwell@vaumc.org](mailto:mariamaxwell@vaumc.org) or (804) 521-1160. Thank you for your generosity!

### 2015 Samaritan Offering ~



Churches in the Virginia Conference have been asked to receive a special offering **between Mother's Day on May 10 and Father's Day on June 21** for the **2015 Samaritan Offering** to support the Samaritan Program of Virginia United Methodist Homes (VUMH), a benevolent fund which provides financial assistance to residents who have outlived their monetary resources and, through no fault of their own, can no longer afford the full cost of their care. Ideas to promote this offering, including cut-and-paste newsletter articles, bulletin announcements, Facebook posts, Tweets, worship resources and bulletin inserts, are posted on the website at [www.vumh.org](http://www.vumh.org) under the "**Samaritan Program**" section. For help in

telling the VUMH story within your congregation or extra copies of promotional materials, contact Martha Stokes, director of Church and Community Relations at Virginia United Methodist Homes, at [MStokes@VUMH.org](mailto:MStokes@VUMH.org) or (804) 474-8718.

# THANK GOD FOR KIDS MINISTRY

with Dr. Jim Lavender from Discovery UMC in Richmond



WHEN THE MOST AMAZING SHOW ON EARTH IS REALLY ABOUT HEAVEN!

**AUGUST 1, 2015**

**Noon-3pm (Show at 1pm)**

**St. Paul's UMC**

437 W. Providence Rd, Chesapeake

Food, games crafts, & flea market before and after the show  
*From 1-2pm, hear and see stories and lessons from the Bible as they come ALIVE when illustrated by dozens of live, exotic animals!*



The Gathering UMC is partnering with Heritage UMC to open a **new preschool in June of 2015** and we need your help!

Our current preschool has 60% of students attending our preschool on scholarship and we project that our new preschool will have over 75% of kids on discount or scholarship. Would you join us on July 11th, 2015 at Mt. Trashmore for a 5k run where 100% of funds will go to support our scholarship

families? We are recruiting runners and volunteers. To show how much we value your support, if you enter the code UMC onto the login page, you will receive a \$5 discount off the 5k. If you get a group of 3 or more runners to participate in the race, you will get \$7 discount using the code GROUP.

<http://www.beachgatheringmontessori.com/sunnyday5k/>

Thank you for supporting your fellow Methodist brothers and sisters in Christ....

#### Registration Fees

##### 5K Run

- Jan 1 - April 30 = \$25
- May 1 - June 14 = \$30
- June 15 - registration close \$35

1 K Fun Run/ walk = \$10

#### Schedule of Events

Saturday, July 11

6:45am - 7:45am Registration/

Packet Pick-up

8:00 am 5K

9:00 am 1 K Fun run/ walk

- Water & bananas provided on race day

## CHURCH POSITIONS AVAILABLE

**DIRECTOR OF MUSIC [Hickory UMC, Chesapeake]** Experienced, energetic, dynamic person to lead a choir and church in musical praise. Hickory's Staff Parish Committee is looking for someone with choral music experience to fill our Director of Music position. Resumes should be sent to Hickory UMC, 2708 Battlefield Blvd., S., Chesapeake 23322, "Attention: Staff Parish Committee". For more information, please contact Don Brewer, Staff Parish Chair, Home: (757) 410-2139, Cell (757) 641-9261.

**YOUTH MINISTRY LEADER [Centenary UMC, Portsmouth]** is seeking a Youth Ministry Leader who will serve as a spiritual leader and role model to help build young disciples for Christ. Position is part time. Applicants may call or email the church at 484-5051 or [centenaryumc@verizon.net](mailto:centenaryumc@verizon.net) or Pam Kelly at 484-7158 or [pamkelly1@verizon.net](mailto:pamkelly1@verizon.net).

*For more employment opportunities & details, visit the Virginia Conference Website at [www.vaumc.org/jobs](http://www.vaumc.org/jobs)*



**Clara Mridula Biswas** is a missionary with the General Board of Global Ministries of The United Methodist Church serving as a community worker in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. She works with the 'poorest of the poor,' especially children, in slum areas and garbage dumps to facilitate their transfers to relocation and rehabilitation centers.

Clara is in Covenant Relationship with several churches on the Elizabeth River District and while she is visiting the district, Nimmo & Oaklette UMC's are co-hosting her on **Thursday, June 11<sup>th</sup> at Oaklette UMC** (located on Indian River Road at the corner of Oaklette Drive in Chesapeake) **at 7PM.**

### Clergy & Membership Secretaries ...

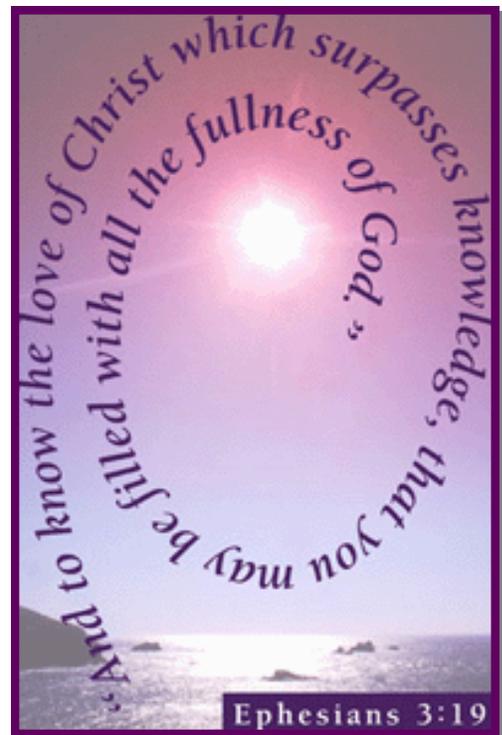
#### TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE OF TYPES OF U.M.C. MEMBERSHIP

A family moved from out of town into the community of **LOCAL UMC**. Family members include **MOM** (professing member of **OUT of TOWN UMC**, wants to keep membership at **Out of Town UMC**, but actively participate at **Local UMC**), **Dad** (baptized as infant at **SOME Lutheran** church, but never joined a church), **17 yr-old Son** (baptized and confirmed at **OUT of TOWN UMC** wants to transfer membership to **LOCAL UMC**) **10 yr-old Son** (never baptized or confirmed), **Grandma** (member of **SOME Lutheran** Church, but active at **LOCAL UMC**, doesn't want to move membership).

**On membership Sunday what will be the membership status of each member? CHOICES: Professing Member, Baptized Member, Constituent, Affiliate, Associate.** (Hints show how they will be reported at charge conference on EVC & the Year End Statistical Report on EZRA.)

| PERSON  | EVC PASTOR'S STAT REPORT (c.c.) | EZRA'S STATISTICAL REPORT | 2012 Book of Discipline LOCAL UMC STATUS |
|---------|---------------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| Mom     |                                 | N/A                       | ¶ 227                                    |
| Dad     | Profession of Faith             | Line 12                   | ¶ 216                                    |
| Son 17  | Transfer from other UMC         | Line 3                    | ¶ 236                                    |
| Son 10  |                                 | Line 13                   | ¶ 236                                    |
| Grandma |                                 | N/A                       | ¶ 227                                    |

*Answers can be found on the back cover*





# "300 & 1"

## Summer Challenge

\*300 Campers  
\*1 Summer to Change a Life



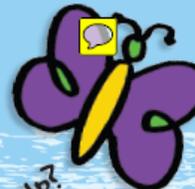
Camp Occohannock on the Eastern Shore offers summer camp programs for children, youth and families. The mission of *Occohannock on the Bay* is to provide programs & facilities which make use of the natural setting of waterfront, woodland, and open spaces to help people of all ages and backgrounds to grow in a positive and meaningful manner. This summer the Traditional and Extreme Summer Camps include the following:

- Ages 6-9:** Young Explorers; Arts & Crafts; and Princess Camp (includes 2 days & 2 overnights)
- Ages 9-12:** Adventure Seekers; Science Camp; Moon Camp; & Horse Camp (Sunday - Friday evening)
- Ages 9-15:** Bay Ecology Camp (Sunday - Friday evening)
- Ages 11-16:** Paint Ball Camp (Sunday - Friday evening)
- Ages 12-16:** Extreme Campers; Bay to Mountains Trek; Culinary Arts; & Horse Camp (Sunday - Friday evening)

Parent/Guardian Camp on the last weekend in June.. For more information and registration, go to [www.ootbay.org](http://www.ootbay.org)

What is All God's Children Camp?

# ALL GOD'S CHILDREN CAMP



### 2015 CAMP DATES

August 2 - 7  
Occohannock on the Bay in Belle Haven

August 9 - 14  
Westview on the James in Goochland

[www.vaumc.org/agcc](http://www.vaumc.org/agcc)

Lori Smith, Director  
All God's Children Camp  
The Virginia Conference of  
The United Methodist Church  
P.O. Box 5606, Glen Allen, VA 23058  
(804) 521-1138  
(571) 245-9591 (cell)  
littlori@gmail.com

Children ages 7 to 12 spend a week at camp, participating in activities such as boating, swimming, hiking, archery, horseback riding, music, crafts, Bible study and conflict resolution. Partnering with Virginia United Methodist 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.

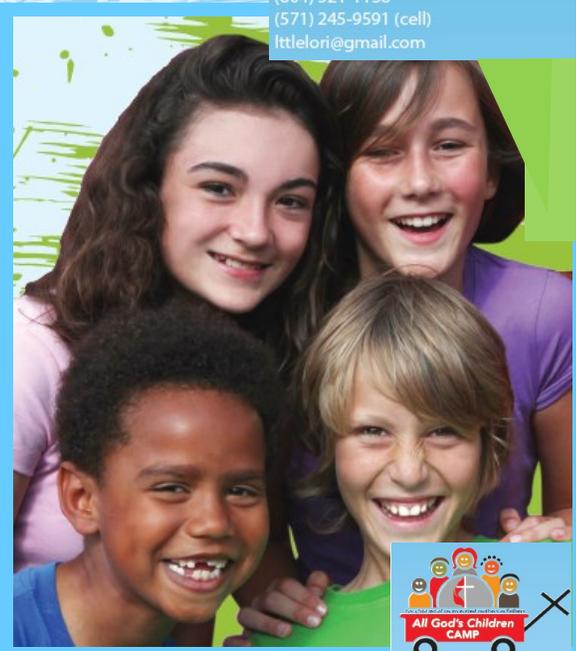
.....Wondering how you can help?

**MENTORING:** Volunteers come from churches across the conference to spend the week at camp. Mentors do not lead activities, but they do 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 for them in the midst of their struggles. After camp, mentors agree to maintain 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, UMW circle or Vacation Bible School can help by adopting a cabin and providing supplies. Please check the website to sign up and see the list of supplies. Collect the supplies and then deliver them to camp the Saturday before it begins. Also, notes, bracelets, and journals can be donated as something special to give to the kids. Check the website often for updates on supplies specific to the camps.

**PRAYER:** The camp and the children need your prayers. Alarming statistics show that these children are more likely than their peers to have behavioral problems, trouble in school, and are likely to 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 \$400 sends one child to camp. Please make check payable to VAUMC with AGCC in the memo line.





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

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 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



**ElizabethRiverDistrict@vaumc.org**

**CLERGY LUNCHES**  
 1 & 15 Clergy Lunch, 11:30  
*BRAVOS (Town Center)*  
 16 Clergy Lunch, 11:30  
*ABUELOS (Greenbrier)*  
 8 & 22 Clergy Lunch, 12pm  
*JONES' (Portsmouth)*  
 9 & 23 Clergy Lunch, 12pm  
*LOGANS (Janaf)*

- 2 Clergy Assoc Farewell Lunch,**  
*Red Lobster (Ches Square) 11:30*  
**14 A C Orientation, Oaklette, 2pm**  
**19-21 VA ANNUAL CONFERENCE,**  
*Roanoke*  
**21 FATHER'S DAY**



- 1 MOVING DAY**  
**3 OFFICE CLOSED for holiday**  
**9 District FINANCE, 4p d.o.**  
**26 CLERGY WELCOME PICNIC**  
*Virginia Wesleyan College*



| From pg. 10 |  | TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE       |                   |
|-------------|--|---------------------------|-------------------|
|             | EZRA'S STATISTICAL                               | Relationship to Local UMC |                   |
| Mom         | <i>N/A Affiliates are counted by home church</i> |                           | Affiliate Member  |
| Dad         | <i>Profession of Faith</i>                       |                           | Baptized Member   |
| Son 17      | <i>Transfer from other UMC</i>                   |                           | Professing Member |
| Son 10      |  |                           | Constituent       |
| Grandma     | <i>N/A Associates aren't counted</i>             |                           | Associate Member  |

Office Location: 815 Baker Rd. Suite 301, Virginia Beach  
 Phone: 757.473.1592 Fax: 757.473.1790  
 Email: [ElizabethRiverDistrict@vaumc.org](mailto:ElizabethRiverDistrict@vaumc.org)  
 District Website: [ElizabethRiverDistrict.org](http://ElizabethRiverDistrict.org)  
 Conference Website: [vaumc.org](http://vaumc.org)