

LIVING WATERS

A DISTRICT IN THE
VIRGINIA CONFERENCE OF
THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



EMBRACE EVERYONE. EMPOWER PEOPLE. INSPIRE HEARTS. EMBODY CHRIST.

DISTRICT CONFERENCE

VIRGINIA CONFERENCE

**Bishop Sharma D. Lewis, Resident Bishop
Rev. James H. Carey, Jr., District Superintendent**

**Mr. Gerry Fuss, Mr. Keith Jordan, Ms. Geraldine Sanderson
District Lay Leaders**

**NOVEMBER 17, 2022
7:00 PM BY ZOOM**

FIRST DISTRICT CONFERENCE OF THE LIVING WATERS DISTRICT

November 17, 2022, via ZOOM at 7:00 p.m.

Welcome and Call to Order Rev. Jay Carey
Living Waters District Superintendent

Opening Prayer Rev. Jay Carey

Scripture: *Living Waters*: John 4:10-14 and John 7:37-39 Rev. Jay Carey

"You Can Do This!" Rev. Tim Beck
District Director of Church Vision and Vitality

Election of District Conference Recording Secretary

Attendance (Registration by email)

Minutes of the 2021 District Conference (Farmville – Pages 2-3; James River – Pages 4-5)

Recognition of Outgoing District Leaders: *Rev. Herb Brynildsen (District Youth Coordinator), Mr. Gerry Fuss (James River District Lay Leader), Ms. Geraldine Sanderson (Farmville District Lay Leader), and Ms. Candee Speirs (District UWF President)*

Changes in 2022 Pastoral Leadership (Pages 6-7)

- ❖ Pastors granted Change of Status
- ❖ Retired Pastors
- ❖ New Pastors on the Living Waters District

District Committee on Ordained Ministry Report (Pages 8-10)

2023 District Leadership and Annual Conference Members-at-Large (Pages 11-14)

Other District Leadership Reports

- ❖ Board of Missions, Inc., Farmville District (Page 15)
Election of Rev. Tim Beck and Rev. Gina DeJesus to the Farmville Board of Missions, Inc.
- ❖ Board of Missions, Inc., James River District (Page 16)
Ratify The Stand School Board of Directors
- ❖ Director of Church Vision and Vitality (Page 17)
- ❖ The Gathering at Washington Street (Pages 18-19)
- ❖ Journey United Methodist Church (Pages 20-21)
- ❖ Lay Servants (Page 22)
- ❖ Southside Gleaning/Salvaging Network (Page 23)
- ❖ United Women in Faith (Pages 24-25)
- ❖ Wesley Foundation at Longwood and Hampden-Sydney (Page 26)
- ❖ Youth Council (Pages 27-28)

Approval of 2023 Living Waters District Budget (Page 29)

Closing Prayer

Adjournment



Farmville District

VIRGINIA CONFERENCE
OF THE
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Minutes

One Hundred Fifty-first Annual Session Farmville United Methodist District Conference

The Annual Farmville District Conference took place on Thursday, December 2, 2021, at 6:30 PM via Zoom.

Rev. James H. "Jay" Carey, Jr., District Superintendent welcomed us and led us in prayer. He then presented an overview of the 2021 pastoral changes in our district. The list included those who had a status change, retired, came new to the district, and returned with a new appointment.

We nominated and elected Phyllis Goin, our Farmville District Administrative Assistant as our District Conference secretary.

Attendance was recorded by an email response at the time of the Conference. The attendees reported their first and last names and the church/charge name of their membership. These emails became our official registration for attendance.

A District Conference *Book of Reports* was sent to every voting member before the Conference. Included in the book were the Minutes of the 2020 District Conference, the proposed 2022 district officers, 2022 budget and 2022 Annual Conference nominees. Committee reports were there for review.

The Minutes report of the 2020 District Conference was presented, voted on, and approved with no changes.

In realizing that we are on the cusp of combining the Farmville District and James River District into one district where we will nominate new officers within the entire area, we previously asked our current leadership to continue to serve in the year 2022.

Voting members were instructed to email or mail their votes to the office prior to the Conference. Those votes were counted, and the list of officers found in our *Book of Reports* was approved. Jay thanked those clergy and laity who will continue to serve and those that rotated from their position this year.

Our slate of nominees for the 2022 Annual Conference came before us. The floor was open for nominations; we received none. Separate voting took place, asking for approval of our District at-Large Lay Members and alternates for the Annual Conference in June of 2022. The list of nominees was elected.

Reports from various committees were uplifted. Included in the reports was one from District Lay Leader Geraldine Sanderson. Jay said he was grateful for her leadership, support, and encouragement even before his service started in Farmville and that we are deeply blessed to have

dedicated and spirit-led Lay Leadership in this district. He thanked her for all she does for the church and the kingdom of God!

The Committee on Ordained Ministry report written by Rev. Brian Siegle was presented. Our district has 31 Local Pastors actively serving, including full-time, part-time, and retired, two Certified Lay Ministers, one Certified mission Candidate for Ministry, and six persons serving churches as Lay Supply pastors. Jay followed by asking us to invite folks to listen for that still, small voice from the Lord, inviting them to prayer and discernment for ministry.

The Farmville District Board of Missions, Inc. submitted a report. Their application for requesting funds was on the last two pages of the *Book of Reports*. Other reports were from Journey Church Plant, Southside Gleaning, Edisto Indians, and the Wesley Foundation/Campus Ministry.

The District Stewards and the clergy previously approved the Farmville District Budget for 2022. It was presented for review. This budget represents a 14% reduction from the 2021-budgeted amount. Dale Totten, the chairperson, was thanked for his leadership.

There was a time for remembering Rev. Dr. Paul Beighley, who passed away in May of 2021. Prayer was lifted for clergy in the district with medical issues.

The Farmville District Conference for 2021 concluded.

Respectfully submitted,



Phyllis Goin
Conference Secretary

Minutes of the Eleventh James River District Conference

November 30, 2021, at 7:00 PM by Zoom

Call to Order and Welcome

Rev. James H. Carey, Jr., James River District Superintendent, called the District Conference to order at 7:05 PM, welcomed the members, and opened with prayer.

Election of District Conference Secretary

Rev. Carey nominated Leticia Borden, James River District Administrative Assistant, to serve as the District Conference Secretary. His motion was seconded and passed.

Attendance

The attendance was recorded by Constant Contact email confirmation, providing an official registration list of (35) Clergy; (34) Voting Lay Members; and (4) Non-voting Visitors.

Minutes of the 2020 District Conference

The minutes of the 2020 District Conference were included in the *Book of Reports*, and they were reviewed by the members before the conference. There were no corrections to the minutes, and they were approved.

Changes in Pastoral Leadership

Rev. Carey presented the 2021 pastoral changes in the district. The list included pastors who had a change in status, retired pastors, new pastors to the district, and returning pastors with a new appointment.

2022 District Leadership and Annual Conference Lay Members-at-Large

The *Book of Reports* included the 2022 District Leadership and was reviewed by the members before the conference. There were no corrections, additions, or nominations from the floor. Rev. Carey made the motion to accept the 2022 District Leadership as listed in the *Book of Reports*. His motion was seconded and passed.

Rev. Carey presented the 2022 Annual Conference Lay Members-at-Large, which the members reviewed before the conference. The following persons were

nominated from the floor as Annual Conference Alternates: Dale Mark Benedict, Chester UMC and Laura Spain, Rocky Hock UMC. Rev. Carey made the motion to accept the slate of Annual Conference Lay Members-at-Large. His motion was seconded and passed.

District Committee on Ordained Ministry

The DCOM report was submitted by Chair Rev. Jacob Sahms. The James River District has (3) Candidates for Ministry; (18) Full-time Licensed Local Pastors; and (12) Part-time Licensed Local Pastors. Rev. Carey urged all churches to create a culture of call.

Other District Reports

Rev. Carey reviewed additional district reports, including Lay Leaders, Board of Missions, Church Location and Building, The Gathering at Washington Street, Lay Servants, United Methodist Women, and the District Youth. He encouraged members to read all district reports.

2022 District Budget

Rev. Carey presented the 2022 James River District Budget, which the members previewed before the conference. Rev. Carey made the motion to accept the 2022 budget. His motion was seconded and passed. Rev. Carey thanked Finance Committee Chair Rev. Steve Snodgrass and the committee members for their work on developing the district budget.

Approval of The Stand School By-laws and 2022 Board of Directors

Board Member Rev. Ray Watson stated that The Stand School is a mission of the James River District and seeks approval of their by-laws and Board of Directors. He made the motion to accept the by-laws and Board of Directors. His motion was seconded and passed.

Closing Prayer and Adjournment

Rev. Carey closed in prayer and adjourned the District Conference at 8:10 PM.



Leticia D. Borden
Secretary
James River District Conference

Changes in Pastoral Leadership

July 1, 2022

Pastors Granted Change of Status

Richard E. Speirs	Certified Lay Minister, Rocky-Hock Ivor Charge
Audrey D. Smith	Licensed Local Pastor, The Gathering at Washington Street
Scott R. Honaker	Provisional Member, First UMC (Hopewell)
Nadeem A. Khokhar	Provisional Member, Crenshaw UMC
Carrie D. Moffitt	Provisional Member, Concord UMC
Penny G. Rasnake	Provisional Member, Main Street UMC (Emporia)
Susie H. Thomas	Transfer from Louisiana Conference, Farmville UMC

Retired Pastors

Paul S. Baker – 15 years	
John R. Hall, Sr. – 25 years	
Rita A. Kanten – 22 years	
Patricia L. "Pat" Neilsen – 20 years	(retired 10-31-22)

New Pastors on the Living Waters District

Timothy A. Beck	Director of Church Vision and Vitality
James A. Bollinger	Jamieson Memorial UMC
Robert W. Goodwin	Centenary UMC (Chesterfield)
Michael W. Harrington	Courtland UMC
Heriberto Eric Hernandez	New Pamplin Charge
R. Keith Jordan	Boykins Charge
Paul D. Larrimore	Newsoms Charge
L. Raymond McGarr	Ocran UMC
David W. McMillan	Somerton UMC
Carrie D. Moffitt	Concord UMC
Jesse M. Moffitt	Carson UMC
David James Moreno	New Hope-Southall Memorial Charge
Alfred W. "Fred" O'Daire, Jr.	Fort Grove UMC

New Pastors on the Living Waters District (continued)

Penny G. Rasnake	Main Street UMC (Emporia)
Jennifer A. Rennie	Whaleyville UMC
Kathryn P. Schaefer	Keysville UMC
Audrey D. Smith	The Gathering at Washington Street
R. Shaun Smith	Monumental UMC
Richard E. Speirs	Rocky Hock-Ivor Charge
Charles R. Stacy	South Hill UMC
Denise B. Watkins	Ivey Memorial UMC

District Committee on Ordained Ministry

November 17, 2022

Certified Lay Ministers

Robert I. Ledbetter	Zion UMC (Mecklenburg)
Ralph L. "Red" Moore	Plantersville UMC
Richard E. Speirs	Rocky Hock-Ivor Charge

Lay Supply Pastors

Kyle Bass	Philadelphia Charge
Tommy Byrum	Charlotte Charge
Stanley "Stan" Covington	Prince Edward Charge
Robert W. Goodwin	Centenary UMC (Chesterfield)
Jennifer H. Greer	Brodnax UMC
Edward Hanes	Buckingham Charge, Hanes Chapel UMC
R. Keith Jordan	Boykins Charge
Charner R. "Chuck" Lifsey	Centenary (Jarratt)
David W. McMillan	Somerton UMC
Alfred W. "Fred" O'Daire, Jr.	Fort Grove UMC
Jennifer A. Rennie	Whaleyville UMC
Kathryn Schaefer	Keysville UMC
Brenda D. Swan	Buckingham Charge, Rocky Mount UMC
Melissa B. Urban	Meherrin UMC

Licensed Local Pastors (Part-time)

Deborah F. Baugham	Prince George Cooperative Parish, Blandford UMC
Bryan L. Carper	Rocky Run UMC
Tammy Cox	Sharon UMC
Elizabeth L. "Betsey" Davis	Journey UMC
Pennie Foy	W. Dinwiddie Charge
James H. "Jim" Fry	W. Mecklenburg Charge
Thomas F. Lester	Washington Street UMC
Jerry B. Malone	Brodnax Charge, Bethany UMC
George K. Schaefer	W. Buckingham Charge
R. Shaun Smith	Independence UMC, Monumental UMC

Licensed Local Pastors (Part-time)

Benjamin Taylor, III	Amelia Charge
E. Susanna Tolbert	Highland UMC, Associate
Ivelisse M. Torres	Amelia Charge, Trinity UMC

Licensed Local Pastors (Full-time)

Randal L. "Randy" Baisy	E. Nottoway Charge
Michael E. Baugham	Prince George Cooperative Parish, Garys UMC, Salem UMC
James A. "Jim" Bollinger	Jamieson Memorial UMC
Frederick C. Brockhausen, III	Capron Charge
Kenneth T. "Thad" Decker, Jr.	Main Street UMC (South Boston)
Gary G. Denette	Prince George Charge
William A. "Bill" Greer	Lakeland Charge
Michael W. Harrington	Courtland UMC
Maggie L. Hasselbach	Wesley UMC (Hopewell)
Michael A. Johnson	Nottoway-Lunenburg Charge
J. Randall "Randy" Kiel	Victoria UMC
Paul D. Larrimore	Newsoms Charge
Lisa S. Meyers	Providence UMC (Suffolk)
Robert A. Moseley, Jr.	Hopewell (Chesterfield)
Audrey D. Smith	The Gathering at Washington Street
Steven C. Snodgrass	Waverly-Carsley Cooperative Parish
Billy E. Swan	Dillwyn Charge
Theresa M. Swindell	Trinity UMC (Disputanta)
Michael Teixeira	Mount Carmel-Phenix Charge
Kenneth L. Thrasher	Prospect UMC (Ebony)
Michael B. Tolbert	Twin Groves Charge
Johnny R. Tucker	Shady Grove UMC
Phillip P. Urban	N. Amelia Charge
Denise B. Watkins	Ivey Memorial UMC
Michael C. West	Mount Cana UMC

Retired Licensed Local Pastors serving an Appointment

Ruth A. Collins-Dinger	Brunswick Charge
Donald L. Blagg	Surry Charge
Richard L. Bucher	Thomas Chapel UMC
Michael G. Day	Lunenburg Charge
Darwin G. Edwards	Grace Memorial UMC

Retired Licensed Local Pastors serving an Appointment (continued)

Raleigh M. "Leigh" Felton, III	Boydton UMC
Kenneth E. Hanson, Jr.	McKendree-Asbury Charge
Robert F. Hardy, IV	South Halifax Charge
Bonnie G. Pizzeck	Halifax UMC
Dan E. Walker	Nottoway UMC
S. Ray Watson	S. Dinwiddie Hope Charge

Licensed Local Pastors serving in Extension

Gilbert M. Elder (RL)	Prince George County Fire and EMS
Jasmyn C. Graham (FL)	Director of Wesley Foundation, VSU
Robin C. Moore (FL)	Director of Spiritual Care, Jackson-Feild BHS

Retired Licensed Local Pastor, other Conference

Robert E. "Bob" Dowling	Sardis UMC
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Minute Question 20

Sheena A. Laine

Rev. Jacob Sahms, DCOM Chair
JacobSahms@vaumc.org

Rev. ReNe'e Teague, DCOM Vice Chair
ReNeeTeague@vaumc.org

Living Waters District Officers and Committees

January 1-December 31, 2023

Board of Missions, Inc.

Farmville: Rev. Tim Beck, Rev. Josh Blakely, Rev. Jay Carey (Vice President), Rev. Gina DeJesus, Phyllis Goin (Secretary), Beverly Hill, Debbie Keener, Vicki Pepper (Treasurer), Rev. Glenn Rowley, Rev. Mike Teixeira, Rev. Thomas Wynn (President)

James River: Leticia Borden (Secretary), Rev. Jay Carey (President), Rev. Nathan Decker (Vice President), Rev. Gibby Elder, Betty Forbes, Keith Jordan, Kay Mims (Treasurer), Gene Mims, Susan Petrey, Rev. Ray Watson

Disaster Response

Leticia Borden, Rev. Jay Carey, Rev. Gibby Elder, Rev. Jim Fry, Phyllis Goin, Sue Mayo, Rev. Bob Pihlcrantz, Terri Rosser, Rev. Shaun Smith

District Church Location and Building

Elected at Annual Conference

Betty Baldwin, Rennie Bridgman, Rev. Rich Bucher, Rev. Jay Carey, Rev. Joe T. Carson, Betty Forbes, Emory Hodges, Rev. Rich Meiser, Proctor Peebles, Rev. Don Pizeck, Lynn Royster, Rev. Jeux Simmons, Lois Spencer, Rev. Lane Spigener

District Committee on Ordained Ministry (DCOM)

Elected at Annual Conference

Rev. Tim Beck, Rev. Loretta Benninghove, Rev. Lyndsie Blakely, Rev. Jay Carey, Rev. Nathan Decker, Gerry Fuss, Rev. Clara Gestwick, Rev. Alan Layman, Gerry McClenny, Gene Mims, Rev. Don Pizeck, Rev. Jacob Sahms (Chair), Rev. Brian Simmons, Richard Speirs, Rev. ReNe'e Teague (Vice Chair), Rev. Michael Teixeira, Britt Thomas, Peggy Watson, Rev. Seung Hae Yoo-Hess

Finance Committee

Rev. Randy Baisy, Leticia Borden, Rev. Jay Carey, Betty Forbes, Phyllis Goin, Keith Jordan, Rev. Maggie Hasselbach, Rev. Nadeem Khokhar, Rev. Tom Lester, Rev. Steve Snodgrass (Co-Chair), Dale Totten (Co-Chair), Rev. Callie Walker

Lay Leaders

Thelma Crowder, Keith Jordan; **WE ARE SEEKING NOMINATIONS FOR THE OTHER THREE GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS OF THE DISTRICT**

Missions Coordinators

Leticia Borden, Rev. Gibby Elder; **WE WILL ACCEPT NOMINATIONS**

Nominations Facilitation Committee

Leticia Borden (CLDDT rep), Rev. Jay Carey, Debbie Dowling, Rev. Jim Fry, Rev. Mike Johnson, Keith Jordan, Rev. Ken Thrasher (CLDDT rep)

Superintendency Committee

Gina Hancock, Rev. Maggie Hasselbach, Rev. Mark Richardson, Rev. Glenn Riggs (Chair), Rev. Callie Walker (Vice Chair)

Trustees

Elected at Called District Conference 09-18-22

Rev. Jay Carey, Betty Forbes, Rev. Nadeem Khokhar, Gene Mims, Rev. Steve Snodgrass, Dale Totten

United Methodist Men

WE WILL ACCEPT NOMINATIONS

United Women in Faith

Debbie Dowling, President

Youth Coordinators

Karen Bowen, Katie O'Kennon

Lay Members-at-Large 2023 Annual Conference

Thirty-seven (37) persons will be elected as At-Large Members as well as twelve (12) Alternates. In addition, the District Lay Leaders, President of the United Methodist Men, President of the United Women in Faith, two (2) Young Adults, and Four (4) Youth (age 12-17) are also members

1. Abigail Barnes, Lunenburg Charge, Antioch UMC
2. Leticia Borden, Wakefield UMC
3. Michelle Clary, Lawrenceville UMC
4. Kristy Cole, Journey UMC
5. Donna Cortright, Wesley UMC (Colonial Heights)
6. Larry Cortright, Wesley UMC (Colonial Heights)
7. Richard Covington, Highland UMC
8. Thelma Crowder, District Lay Leader, Main Street UMC (South Boston)
9. Carol Elmore, First UMC (Hopewell)
10. Jennifer Greer, Brodnax UMC
11. Rebekah (Danni) Greer, Brodnax UMC
12. Katherine Harris, Main Street UMC (South Boston)
13. Marie Hawks, Carson UMC
14. David Eric Hernandez, New Pamplin Charge, Piney Ridge UMC
15. Robert Mayo, Bethia UMC
16. Magen Moore, Prince George Cooperative Parish, Blandford UMC
17. Katie O'Kennon, Carson UMC
18. Mike Ponder, High Street UMC
19. Jeff Postans, Farmville UMC
20. Laura Jane Rash, LaCrosse UMC
21. Terri Rosser, Wakefield UMC
22. Joanne Sahms, Bethia UMC
23. Candee Speirs, Rocky Hock-Ivor Charge, Rocky Hock UMC
24. Alice Spiers, Concord UMC
25. Wayne Spiers Concord UMC
26. Jean Spigener, Crewe UMC
27. Paula Totten, Antioch UMC (Cumberland)
28. Patty Wagner, Farmville UMC
29. Peggy Watson, Lebanon UMC (Dinwiddie)
30. Lucy McLaughlin, Wesley Foundation at Longwood and Hampden-Sydney

- 31. _____
- 32. _____
- 33. _____
- 34. _____
- 35. _____
- 36. _____
- 37. _____

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|---------------------------------|--|
| District Lay Leader | Keith Jordan, Providence UMC |
| United Methodist Men President | _____ |
| United Women in Faith President | Debbie Dowling, Sardis UMC |
| (2) Young Adult Delegates | Rachel Zahradka, Trinity UMC
(Chesterfield)
Meredith Webb, Main Street UMC (Suffolk) |
| (4) Youth Delegates | Blaine Wood, Wesley UMC (Hopewell)

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The following twelve (12) individuals are nominated as Alternates to the 2023 Virginia Annual Conference.

- | | |
|----------|-----------|
| 1. _____ | 7. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 8. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 9. _____ |
| 4. _____ | 10. _____ |
| 5. _____ | 11. _____ |
| 6. _____ | 12. _____ |

Farmville District Board of Missions, Inc.

Making Disciples of Jesus for the
transformation of our part of the world!

The Farmville District Board of Missions handles the occasional sale of church properties when a congregation has decided to discontinue. We also make those funds available to the district for building maintenance and new program expenses for making disciples of Jesus.

In early 2022, Callie Walker (President) and Jay Carey (DS) brought forward a concern about the Latino Ministry in Amelia needing their pastor to be better paid. The Board of Missions voted to supplement that salary with \$9,000 in 2022. We have not received any requests for funding directly from congregations this year.

We are currently responsible for over \$200,000, to find ways to invest that in mission in the region that was formerly the Farmville District. We invite your congregation to please submit a request for funds. This amount will soon increase when the sale of the Pamplin United Methodist Church closes. Our contract is to sell it to the Evergreen Lavender Farm for \$100,000.

You can always reach out to members of our Board of Directors for more information, assistance, or an application:

Board of Directors

President	Rev. Thomas Wynn (Class of 2024)
Vice President	Rev. Jay Carey, District Superintendent
Secretary	Phyllis Goin, Administrative Assistant
Treasurer	Vicki Pepper (Class of 2025)
Class of 2023	Beverly Hill
	Rev. Mike Teixeira
Class of 2024	Rev. Josh Blakely
	Debbie Keener
	Rev. Glenn Rowley
Class of 2025	Rev. Tim Beck
	Rev. Gina DeJesus

We are asking the District Conference to vote to approve the addition of two new members for the Class of 2025, Rev. Tim Beck and Rev. Gina DeJesus.

James River District Board of Missions, Inc.

President	Rev. Jay Carey
Vice President	Rev. Nathan Decker
Secretary	Leticia Borden
Treasurer	Kay Mims
Director of Church Vision and Vitality	Rev. Tim Beck
District Lay Leader	Keith Jordan
District Missions Coordinator	Rev. Gibby Elder
Members-at-Large	Betty Forbes
	Gene Mims
	Susan Petrey
	Rev. Ray Watson

The James River Board of Missions continued to support The Gathering at Washington Street with an annual grant of \$15,000, designated for the pastor and associate's salary. The total amount of the grant is \$75,000, beginning 2021 until 2025.

On June 7, 2022, the board voted to support the salary of the Director of Church Vision and Vitality, Rev. Tim Beck. The James River District Board of Missions, Inc. and the Farmville District will each contribute \$8,960.41 for Tim's salary, beginning in July 1 through December 31, 2022. The Virginia Conference also awarded a grant of \$25,000 to each of the eight districts, designated for the district developers' salaries.

The James River Board of Missions, Inc., ratifies The Stand School Board of Directors for 2023:

The Stand School Board of Directors

Board Members-at-Large	Magen Moore
	Rev. Ray Watson
Highland UMC Representatives	Debra Carper
	Linda Coleman
	Donna Goulder
	Amber Jackson
Parent Board Members	Rebecca Jackson
	Paula Kwiek
	Emily Staggs

Leticia Borden, Secretary
James River District Board of Missions, Inc.
TishBorden@vaumc.org

Director of Church Vision and Vitality

I began my appointment in July of this year. Since beginning as the Director of Church Vision and Vitality for the Living Waters District, I have made a lot of new and valued relationships. I traveled around the district to all 16 Streams to meet all our pastors and laity in just my first four weeks. I sat and listened to their fears and anxieties, their hopes, and dreams, and connected with them on a sincere, authentic level. After meeting with them I was able to develop a sense of where both the pastors and laity "are" when it comes to ministry, the life and mission of their churches, and their concerns around disaffiliation. I learned that now is a time in the life of our communities where fear seems to rule the day. People are worried about what the future of the United Methodist Church will look like, and how they will fit into it.

I have already worked with several churches, with many more on the calendar, to discern what the next faithful steps are for them in ministry to their communities. It is my hope that with continued enthusiasm and a focus on their future, not the denomination's future, that we can enliven and embolden the churches in the Living Waters District to thrive and be vital once again.

Rev. Tim Beck
Director of Church Vision and Vitality
TimBeck@vaumc.org

The Gathering at Washington Street

November 17, 2022

Our district report for 2021 was full of more questions than answers about the work of The Gathering. Our continued discernment and prayers have clarified more of what God is up to in Petersburg.

Our mission is to empower residents to build relationships of trust that transform their lives and the community. Our vision is that Petersburg will be a City of Hope, a City of Light where all people will thrive. Our work is grounded in stories that lead to relationships that open the door to build faith.

Stories. Relationships. Faith. The activity that is bearing much fruit is showing up on Zoom screens, at community events in the library, at churches, in a parking lot, or a sports complex. Because of showing up, more people in Petersburg are aware of The Gathering at Washington Street. For the first 12 months I showed up, listened, and learned what residents had to teach me about their community. They shared hope and challenges, possibilities, and fears.

Because of that, we began to trust each other and to build relationships, and friendships. The Gathering team has from seven to 12 members (including residents) at any one time. Since the summer of 2019, three Petersburg residents have remained faithful to the work, including Rev. Ray Watson, who is pastor of a two-point charge. Our ecumenical core group of seven continues its commitment to discern what is ours to do in Petersburg for kingdom building as we learn who else is being called to serve.

Between two and five persons participate in Prayer Walks every Wednesday. **“Take a Breath”** is a small group that meets on the fourth Friday of each month at the Petersburg YMCA. We have hosted cookouts in the parking lot next to Washington Street UMC, volunteer monthly for food distribution and other events, and support Westview Early Childhood Education Center, through your generous donations of clothing for children. Also, we donate funds to house unsheltered persons in the winter.

Where is God leading us? Thanks to a grant from the Titmus Foundation and with support from OpenTable, The Gathering at Washington Street is the local entity responsible for starting one network table, January 2023. We will recruit and train local

volunteers to offer priority support to residents of Petersburg. Our goal is to serve 40 to 60 individuals by connecting them with resources and services in the community. Virginia State University students are developing an Android application of these resources that is accessible for residents with a cellular phone.

Washington Street UMC and The Gathering have begun conversations to formalize a memorandum of understanding for potential usage of the west wing of the church as a day program for residents.

Articles of Incorporation to become a non-profit organization have been submitted to the State Corporation Commission. This non-profit status offers numerous grant opportunities to sustain our work in Petersburg.

Faith. Oftentimes, people in Petersburg begin a conversation about God and their faith before I bring it up. My desire is that through listening and building relationships, they will open their hearts and minds to a deeper knowledge of faith that will transform their lives...

Rev. Audrey Smith, Pastor
The Gathering at Washington Street
AudreySmith@vaumc.org

Journey United Methodist Church

Living Waters District Church Plant

November 17, 2022

Journey United Methodist Church turned eleven this past July and for a 'tween, we are a feisty church. Our thrift store continues to give away well over \$10,000 each year to our community, which embraces everyone from the local rescue squad to Ukraine. Additionally, their rent pays a significant portion of our Center's mortgage. We can donate jeans for back-to-school and shoes for the Christmas mother. We donate housewares and furniture to those in need.

Our Restaurant sales have increased 100% from 2021 to 2022, so we are reaching more people and are able to engage in more food ministries. All our members carry free family meal tickets that they can distribute for any reason, and we frequently give discounts on meals.

Both mission outreaches are staffed by volunteers and far fewer than half of those are church "members." We have extended the traditional walls of the church to include the whole community, hosting Chamber of Commerce luncheons, Gideon dinners, ServSafe classes, Santa Visits, and more.

Our Good Grief Café has met successfully for the past year, where fellowship grows over lunch and shared loved. Our Breaking Bread dinners were on hiatus, waiting for the release of Season 3 of The Chosen and will resume January 4, 2023, with a weekly free dinner, video, and conversation.

This year we moved our food ministry out of our dark basement into the light of day, where it operates as a free-standing blessing box, 24/7 and is even lit at night. The move was a success, sharing our bounty has never been more fruitful! Patrons take what they need and give what they have.

Our most exciting adventure is the beginning of Phase 2: the renovation of Journey Village Motel, a future transitional living facility to be housed in our 18-room motel. Before COVID, Jamieson Memorial United Methodist Church gave us a generous offering, enabling us to hire an architect to draw plans for the renovation and do some securing of the property with windows and doors. Now Ramsey Memorial United Methodist Church of the Three Notch'd District is partnering with us to begin the

adventure of demolition at the first of the year. In April, the United Methodist Nomads have scheduled a three-week working mission trip here to move the project forward. We are prayerfully asking our sisters and brothers in Christ to consider helping fiscally or physically with this urgent community need.

As you drive Route 360 west from Richmond, please stop in to shop and dine and be a part of our story: the church outside of the walls.

Love in Christ,
Pastor Betsey Davis
2022 Denman Award Recipient
ElizabethDavis@vaumc.org

Lay Servants Report

James River District

This is the final report of the James River District Lay Servant Program (now known as Living Waters District). Although COVID is somewhat in the rearview mirror, we are still challenged by it. In 2021, the James River District conducted two Basic Lay Servant classes, one via ZOOM with 45 students in attendance, and one at Hopewell UMC (Chesterfield) with 12 students. Students who attended the ZOOM classes were not only James River District attendees, but students from all over the Virginia Conference. The classes met the needs of Lay Servants who needed training. It was great to have an in-person class session again!

Lay Servants/Speakers filled in for Pastors around the district. The James River District had a shortage of Certified Lay Speakers and thus, we could not fill all Pulpit Supply requests. This is the second year we were not able to meet pastor pulpit requests for support. I urge Laity across the Living Waters District to step up and be willing to support both your local church and churches in your area. We need your help! Please let me know if you are willing to serve the Lord and other churches as a Pulpit Supply Lay Speaker.

We have 17 Laity filling pulpits across the Living Waters District. I praise God for the service of Laity filling pulpits so that churches may preach the word of God in rural areas and keep their doors open.

I urge pastors to encourage Laity to get involved in Lay Servant Ministries. God is calling, and we need Laity to answer God's call into service.

As I look back at this past year, I praise God and give Him the glory for all Laity across James River District and across our state. We have 40 plus Laity servicing churches as Lay Supply Pastors in the Virginia Conference. God is at work in the entire district and throughout churches across the conference. Congregations across the district are hungry for God's Word and wisdom, and the opportunity to grow and serve God.

Two people from the James River District completed the Certified Lay Minister course during 2021. If anyone has questions regarding Lay Servant Training and/or Pulpit Supply please contact the District Superintendent, Rev. Jay Carey, the District office, or me. I praise God for all who have served or are serving as Lay Servants, Certified Lay Speakers, and Certified Lay Ministers across our district.

GOD'S GRACE IS SUFFICIENT!

Richard Speirs, District Lay Servant Coordinator and Certified Lay Minister (CLM)

Rocky Hock-Ivor Charge

Living Waters District UMC

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(804) 836-3916 (Cell)

Southside Gleaning/Salvaging Network

November 17, 2022

We are thankful to God for the blessings that the Southside Gleaning/Salvaging Network has received through volunteers who donated produce and who gleaned and distributed the produce and other items. Through the power of the Holy Spirit and the dedication and passion of a few volunteers, the Southside Gleaning/Salvaging Network has continued to be successful in its distribution of food.

We began gleaning in mid-June and continued through October. As of October 31, 2022, we have gleaned a total of 71,410 pounds (214,230 servings) of fresh produce. We were fortunate to receive canned goods, protein drinks and bottled water from Gleaning For The World. The produce, canned goods, protein drinks and bottled water were distributed to individuals in ten counties.

The Southside Gleaning/Salvaging Network needs volunteers to help with the gleaning and distributing of food. This is a great mission opportunity for children, youth groups, United Methodist Men and United Women of Faith. If there are individuals in your churches who would be willing to grow food to help feed those who are in need or if you are interested in becoming involved in the gleaning, salvaging, and distribution of food, please contact Michael Teixeira (434) 542-9191 or Martha Reed (434) 294-3002.

We would like to thank the following individuals for their 2022 contributions of produce to the Southside Gleaning/Salvaging Network:

Ronnie Gross (Gross' Orchard, Bedford)
Pat & Carrington Moorefield (Mount Carmel UMC)
Paul and Bonnie Robertson (Crewe Baptist Church)

Rev. Michael Teixeira
MichaelTeixeira@vaumc.org
Martha Reed

United Women in Faith

Answering the call by VUMAC UWF President Nancy Turner to the District Presidents of the state conference, Debbie Dowling – Farmville District UWF and Candee Speirs – James River District UWF presidents began praying and seeking the direction God would have us take to merge our districts together.

We were led to produce good sound steps to take in our merger. As we worked the items that came to mind, we prayed for and sought more of the answers we needed to have. As we perceived a course, much revised at every turn, we felt we had direction in which to lead the Living Waters District UWF in the way God would have us begin our journey together. We set our official start date as January 1, 2023, so each district could fully finish out the year already planned.

We jumped right in with a combined mission team meeting and a meal in August. We shared with the ladies present, questions were asked, and proposals were made; with discussion and clarification, much was decided with the knowledge that much will be tweaked as the 2023 Mission Team begins to meet. Just like our name Living Waters District, our unified group will be living into the changes that will come up before us. With God's direction, we will navigate a steady course through the waters.

We laid the foundation for the annual meeting each district needed to have for the recognition and celebration of the accomplishments achieved over the year 2022. In our planning for the annual meeting, we would recognize each district as an entity through recognitions. Business decisions would be for the combined district. Worship would be meaningful for where we have been and where we are going.

On October 9, 2022, Living Waters District United Women in Faith held a combined Farmville & James River District Meeting at Crenshaw United Methodist Church in Blackstone, VA with the following highlights:

- 53+ individuals attended in person and to date, the live Facebook stream has 31 views and was seen by 16.
- Candle Burning Recognition with \$3,854 raised for missions between the two districts, with 20 units participating.
- 5- and 6-Star Unit Recognition for 14 Six Star Units, 2 Five Star Units.
- Living Into Our Purpose Recognition for 13 Gold Units, 8 Silver Units, and 1 Bronze Unit.
- Rainbow Giver Recognition: 14 individuals were thanked for their participation.
- The budget for 2023 Living Waters District UWF was approved: \$35,000 pledge to missions and \$6,000 total expenses for a total budget of \$41,000.

- Reading Program Recognition with six units participating, 247 books read, 39 participants with 13 receiving certificates of recognition, and 2 child readers. The top readers were Farmville District: Beverly Chestnutt (36 books) and James River District: Rev. Sheena Laine (10 books).
- Memorial Service Recognition: 16 units reported the loss of 20 cherished members. A bell tolled for each woman and a beautiful litany completed this portion of the meeting.
- Retiring Officers from both districts were recognized.
- A special recognition pin was presented to Rev. Hyungsuk Oh, Olive Branch, Brunswick, for his ongoing support of UWF during the past year.

Rev. Ken Thrasher from Prospect UMC, Ebony, was the guest speaker during our worship service and provided a thought-provoking and meaningful message about "Unity."

The program concluded with Rev. Jay Carey, Living Waters District Superintendent, installing the 2023 Living Waters UWF District Officers with a special litany to send us off united and working together to put faith, love, and action to make a difference in the world as Christ's hands and feet.

2023 Living Waters District UWF Officers

<p>President</p> <p>Vice President</p> <p>Secretary</p> <p>Treasurer</p> <p>Spiritual Growth</p> <p>Social Action</p> <p>Secretary of Program Resources</p> <p>Secretary of Communications</p> <p>Education and Interpretation</p> <p>Membership, Nurture & Outreach</p> <p>Nominating Committee</p>	<p>Debbie Dowling</p> <p>Marilyn Johnson</p> <p>Nancy Turner</p> <p>Lori Chevalier</p> <p>Sherry Guerrant</p> <p>Laura Jane Rash</p> <p>Linda Callis</p> <p>Kelly Mooney</p> <p>Candee Speirs</p> <p>Alice Johnson</p> <p>Ruby Lee Anderson, Chair,</p> <p>Thelma Crowder, Linda</p> <p>Garrison, and at least two</p> <p>vacant positions are</p> <p>continuing to be recruited</p>
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We are Blessed Beyond Measure!

Debbie Dowling, Farmville District UWF President
dbbdowling@gmail.com

Candee Speirs, James River District UWF President
candee.speirs@gmail.com

Wesley Foundation at Longwood and Hampden-Sydney

November 17, 2022

The Wesley Foundation at Longwood and Hampden-Sydney has been busy over the past year. We continue to be an open and welcoming Campus Ministry. I have been working over the past year to build relationships with other campus ministries on campus.

We continue to be a place where students belong. We have nurtured current students and continue to reach out to other students. We have found that a good majority of our new students are unchurched or have had a bad experience at church. We see that as an honor to have them give faith a second chance with us. This allows us to have very deep and faith-driven conversations.

I have also spent a good amount of time with our student leadership and have challenged them to pour into other students. This year I have seen this bear much fruit in both sets of students. This has allowed us to reach even more students.

I continue to work to find places for our students to grow and reach out into this world. My goal is to have the students graduate with a faith that calls them to reach out to the world and share their faith.

Rev. Justin Hicks
Campus Minister
Wesley Foundation at Longwood and Hampden-Sydney
JustinHicks@vaumc.org

District Youth Council

Youth Ministry in the Living Waters District is alive, Spirit-led, growing, and welcome all youth of Living Waters District churches to be a part of it. COVID tried to stop this youth movement, but our persistent and faithful youth leaders weren't going to let that happen, and they used all means available to stay connected, to keep the faith, and to carry on. During COVID days there were virtual meetings, virtual retreats, and constant contact. They carried on and kept the momentum going. When COVID hit and the long-time leadership of Laura and Dallas Hancock also came to an end, the youth leadership kept going. When some thought it was time to let district level youth ministry fade away, the youth persisted and kept going. First, under the leadership of Grace Fry (a high school senior) and then with just a handful of youth led by Blaine Wood and Emiley Griffin (high school sophomores), the guidance of a few faithful adults (Betty Fry and Guy Short), and a new adult coordinator, the district youth council kicked it back into gear.

In the fall of 2021 with the help of the Bethia United Methodist Church youth ministry, the DYC hosted a youth rally at Bethia UMC. Approximately 85 Youth and adult leaders from 12 churches participated in that rally, which included small and large group games, praise and worship led by the Sparrows of Trinity UMC, Chesterfield, a spirited message by the Rev. Jasmyn Graham (the Wesley Foundation Director and Campus Minister at VSU) and great food provided by the good people of Bethia UMC.

In March of 2022, "**Jesus Camp**," a district youth retreat tradition was back and held at the 4H Center in Wakefield, VA. This retreat was planned and led by the four youth of the DYC – Blaine Wood, Emiley Griffin, Peyton McGee and Audrey Norris. Approximately 90 youth and adults from 10 churches participated. The theme, "**Let Youth Light Shine**," was based on Matthew 5:15-16 and the Disney movie **The Incredibles**. Wesley UMC, Hopewell, youth leader and Sunday School teacher extraordinaire, Karen Bowen, delivered the keynote messages with humor, storytelling, and great depth.

In April of 2022, DYC "(s)elections" were held and seven new youth and two new adults were added to the District Youth Council, giving the new DYC 11 youth and five adults. Our DYC members come from 5 district churches: Carson UMC, Ocran UMC, Trinity UMC, Chesterfield, Wesley UMC, Hopewell, and Woods UMC. Our youth representatives are **Emiley Griffin, Blaine Woods (Co-Chairs), Audrey Norris (Secretary), Jeremiah Fry, Peyton McGee, Eric Robertson, Allison Ryan, Sarah Ryan, Raygen Taylor, Noah Vattelana, and Kaylyn Young. Our adult members are Karen Bowen, Herb Brynildsen (Coordinator) Betty Fry (Prayer Warrior), Katie O'Kennon and Guy Short. Dallas Hancock** continues to provide logistical support and positive encouragement to all. New youth are always welcome to join the DYC!

The 2022-23 DYC gathered in August at the Williamsburg Christian Retreat Center for bonding and planning. Prayer Partners were picked, meals shared, fellowship enjoyed, and planning accomplished, including the details for the Fall kick-off retreat at Camp Willow Springs, held on September 17-18, 2022.

The September retreat at Camp Willow Springs saw approximately 90 youth and adults from 11 churches participating. The Rev. Justin Hicks (the Wesley Foundation Director and Campus Minister at Longwood University and Hampton-Sydney) was the keynote speaker, addressing a theme built around Romans 8:28 and the Disney movie ***Inside Out***. A DYC band, **"Bear With Us,"** under the leadership of Turner Wilkes of Trinity UMC, Chesterfield, provided the music and praise.

In closing, I share a few words of appreciation and an invitation:

Much thanks are given to Laura and Dallas Hancock for their many years of service to the DYC and for the youth leaders they nurtured and developed. Thanks also to Karen Bowen (Wesley UMC, Hopewell) and Katie O'Kennon (Carson UMC) who will be the new adult coordinators for the DYC as my time with the DYC comes to an end. The support of the Living Waters District Office, Tish Borden, is priceless and appreciated!

The Invitation – The DYC invites any and all youth of our district churches with their adult leaders to participate in these upcoming events:

Winter Rally on Sunday, January 22, 2023, at Crenshaw UMC (Blackstone, VA) from 2:00 to 6:00 pm, which may include a Rise Against Hunger meal packing.

"Jesus Camp 2023" Spring Retreat on March 17-19, 2023, at the 4H Center in Wakefield, VA.

Watch for details coming soon or contact HerbBrynildsen@vaumc.org, Karen Bowen (karenelizabethbowen@gmail.com), Katie O'Kennon (1katieok@gmail.com) or the Living Waters District Office (TishBorden@vaumc.org).

Respectfully Submitted,
Rev. Herb Brynildsen
HerbBrynildsen@vaumc.org

2023 Living Waters District Budget

January 1-December 31, 2023

Category	2023
1000 Ministry/Program Expenses	
1001 Annual Conference Reimbursement	15,000
1002 Conference & District Training	2,500
1003 District Conference	500
1004 Flowers, Memorials, Gifts, & Meals	5,000
1005 Stream Meetings, Evangelism Events, Missions, & Program Contingency	12,500
1006 Wesley Foundation Support (Longwood & VSU)	22,000
1007 Youth Ministries	10,000
TOTAL	\$67,500
2000 Personnel Expenses	
2001 District Administrative Assistant	49,200
2002 Part-time Office Support	31,200
2003 Part-time Communications Coordinator	10,400
2004 Seasonal Office Support	4,200
2005 Continuing Education	500
2006 DS Discretionary Fund	7,000
2007 Insurance (Liability & Worker's Comp)	2,000
2008 Payroll Taxes	8,000
2009 Professional Memberships	100
2010 Retirement Benefits (Administrative Assistant)	4,000
2011 Staff Appreciation	1,000
TOTAL	\$117,600
3000 Operational Expenses	
3001 Accounting Services	10,000
3002 Audit	1,000
3003 Communication Services	6,000
3004 Miscellaneous	2,000
3005 New Office Equipment	2,000
3006 Office Supplies	5,000
3007 Service Contracts & Equipment Maintenance	4,000
3008 Telephone & Internet	6,000
TOTAL	\$36,000
4000 Property expenses	
4001 District Office Equipment & Maintenance	5,000
4002 Insurance (Property & Contents)	5,000
4003 Janitorial Services	2,000
4004 Office Utilities	2,500
4005 Parsonage Lawn Care	2,500
4006 Parsonage Repairs & Maintenance	10,000
4007 Parsonage Utilities	2,500
TOTAL	\$29,500
TOTAL BUDGET	\$250,600