

LIVING WATERS

A DISTRICT IN THE
VIRGINIA CONFERENCE OF
THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

The Living Waters District eJournal May 2023



Calling All Active Clergy
(including retired pastors serving appointments),

Bishop Sue cordially invites you to participate in a processional at the beginning of the Service of Call and Ordering at Annual Conference on **Saturday June 17, 2023 at 10:30 A.M.**

Register your attendance here if you are able to be part of the processional: <https://form.jotform.com/231423864966061>

Who does not need to register?

Those who are being licensed, commissioned, ordained and being recognized as associate members in the class of 2023 will already be part of the processional and do not need to register.

Retirees from the class of 2023 will remain seated in their section from the previous service and will stand in front of the stage and welcome all those being licensed, commissioned, and ordained, so will not be part of the processional and do not need to register.

Instructions

If you will be part of the processional wear a black or white robe. Full members will wear a red stole. You will have time to change into your robe after the retirement service, then will line up in the hallway behind the banner with your status.

More instructions will follow soon.

Thank you for participating in this special way at this very important and holy service.

CONNECTIONAL MINISTRIES

Bishop Sue Hauptert-Johnson and the Virginia Annual Conference Common Table are pleased to announce plans for a reorganization in the conference Connectional Ministries Office.

After faithfully serving for several years as both Director of Connectional Ministries and Assistant to the Bishop the Rev. Dr. Steven Summers will move fully into the role of Assistant to the Bishop effective July 1, 2023.

The Rev. Dr. Jonathan Page will serve in the role of Director of Connectional Ministries for Innovation and Creativity and Mr. Dwayne Stinson will serve as Director of Connectional Ministries for Discipleship and Congregational Vitality.

The two will share the responsibilities of Director of Connectional Ministries while they continue to lead in their respective areas of focus. This is all in an effort to ensure the annual conference can grow in its ability to equip, resource, and connect the local church.

Read full article for more information.

Conference News



The 241st Session of the Virginia Annual Conference will be held in-person from Thursday, June 15 – Saturday, June 17, 2023, at the Berglund Center in Roanoke, Va.

The Book of Reports is now available. All conference resources are available online. **Click here**

2023 Annual Conference Videos

The Conference Lay Leader Martha Stokes and the conference Communications Office created video resources for Annual Conference members prior to the 2023 Annual Conference session. Four videos have now been released: Video 1: Welcome from Bishop Sue Video 2: Welcome and music from AC Conference co-directors and a chance to meet the band Video 3: Martha shares responsibilities for lay members and reporting back to local churches. Video 4: Conference Secretary Rev. Joshua King shares information about motions and more. **Watch videos...**

Annual Conference members may find all information at this link

[Annual Conference 2023 | VAUMC](#)

Annual Conference Offering

Part of the Annual Conference Offering will go to help three resettlement agencies working in Virginia. The agencies are the Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service (LIRS), the International Rescue Committee (IRC), and the Commonwealth Catholic Charities (CCC). LIRC works in Northern Virginia, IRC is helping our new neighbors in the Richmond and Charlottesville areas, and CCC is active in the Newport News and Roanoke areas. Although many of these Afghan refugees have been here for two years, needs remain. I hope you will be willing to send this information and possibly this podcast out to your congregation to help spread the message!

RJ in the Conference Serving Ministries office devoted one of his podcasts to this issue as well as the food insecurity needs that will get a part of the offering.

[Click Here for Video](#)

Samaritan Fund Offering

The Samaritan Fund Offering is one of the five Virginia Annual Conference Special Offerings. The Samaritan Fund is a benevolent fund that provides financial assistance to Pinnacle Living residents who have outlived their

monetary resources and can no longer afford the full cost of their care. The time between Mother's Day and Father's Day is designated as the time to support this ministry at Pinnacle Living. Church treasurers can remit contributions to the Treasurer's office by notating Fund #6411 - Pinnacle Living (Samaritan Fund) at the bottom of your apportionment statement.

Display Area space is now available to reserve for the 2023 Annual Conference session.

Guidelines for the Display Area space are available

Reserve an area at this link by April 21: <https://na.eventscloud.com/746103>.





**United
Women
in Faith**

Living Waters District
Debbie Dowling, President

April 2023
LIVING WATERS
COMPASS





Kelly Mooney, Editor



<https://vaumc.org/blog/2023/03/29/collecting/>

The Living Waters District will again collect UMCOR kits as part of the Virginia Conference efforts in June. Start NOW making plans to collect items and assemble kits for the following three UMCOR kits

- Cleaning Kits ("Flood Buckets")
 - <https://umcmmission.org/umcor-cleaning-kit/>
 - Laundry soap, scouring pads, gloves, liquid house cleaner, ect
- Hygiene Kits
 - <https://umcmmission.org/umcor-hygiene-kit/>
 - Wash cloth, comb, nail clippers, soap, ect
- Menstrual Hygiene Kit ("Period Pack")
 - <https://umcmmission.org/umcor-menstrual-hygiene-kit/>
 - Hand sanitizer, tampons, maxipads, hand wipes, ect

We will have two collection sites for UMCOR kits:

- **Western side - Farmville UMC** (212 High Street, Farmville, VA 23901) will collect kits Monday through Thursday from 9:00 am-1:00 pm (enter off Randolph Street). **The deadline for kits is Monday, June 5th from 9:00 am-1:00 pm.** Questions? Contact Rev. Susie Thomas SusieThomas@vaumc.org or call (434) 392-4686.
- **Eastern side - Living Waters District Office**(11605 S. Crater Rd, Petersburg, VA 23805) will collect kits on Mondays and Tuesdays from 9:00 am-4:00 pm. **The deadline for kits is Monday, June 5th from 9:00 am-4:00 pm.** Questions? Contact Tish Borden TishBorden@vaumc.org or Thelma "Peanut" Watts ThelmaWatts@vaumc.org or call (804) 732-2538.

Where do we send the \$2 for transportation?

- UMCOR asks for \$1 per kit (\$3 for cleaning buckets) to cover processing and shipping and \$1 for toothpaste for each hygiene kit. **Please do NOT bring checks to the 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 (Advance #5041)" and mailed to Treasurer, Virginia Conference of The United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 5605, Glen Allen, VA, 23058** any time prior to Annual Conference and no later than August 31.

Can we contribute money instead of collecting kits?

- If you prefer to make a financial contribution to enable UMCOR to purchase relief kits, you can contribute \$75 for each cleaning kit; \$12 for each Hygiene kit; \$24 for each Menstrual Kit to Advance #5041.

President Debbie says to think how many kits your unit has made in the past and accept the challenge to increase the number of kits sent from the years prior!

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VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Volunteers are needed for the Annual Conference in-person at the Berglund Center, Roanoke in June. Assistance before, during and after (from June 13-17) is needed.

Please prayerfully consider volunteering.

Volunteers will be contacted by their area coordinator and receive any necessary training or instructions.

Here are the links to the Sign Up Genius pages:

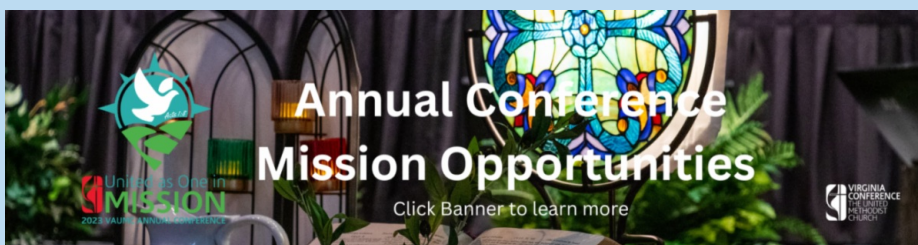
Hospitality Greeters: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0848ABAF2CA0FC1-ac2023>

Platform: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0848ABAF2CA0FC1-ac20231>

Registration: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0848ABAF2CA0FC1-ac20232>

Ushers: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0848ABAF2CA0FC1-ac20233>

If you need assistance signing up, please contact Donna Desper at DonnaDesper@vaumc.org.



2023

Mission Opportunities on conference website

Mission Opportunities provided throughout the Annual Conference allow the churches to maximize the impact in transforming the world through the connectional system. Each year, Virginia Conference offers Mission Opportunities for the over 1,000 churches to 'Unite in Mission' as we serve our Lord together. Below you will find information on how we, serving together, can become a 'blessing to this world' (Gen 12:3).

[Learn More](#)

Announcements

DON'T FORGET

Annual Clergy Evaluations and Parsonage Inspections are due June 1st!

Email documents to ThelmaWatts@vaumc.org

You may access the forms at this link: [Staff/Pastor Parish Relations Committee Resources | VAUMC](#) If you have any questions, contact TishBorden@vaumc.org or call (804) 732-2538.



Have you heard what is happening at **Journey Community Center**? Sign up to get their newsletter and see the progress!

[Follow their story!](#)

MENTOR MATTERS!!!

Do you have a passion for walking with Certified Candidates and Licensed Local Pastors in their call? Have you been previously trained but need a refresher in the process for candidates?

Mentor Matters is a training event for first time and returning mentors. Participants will explore a theological vision for VAUMC mentoring, receive practical training, and spend time reviewing the roles for mentors and dCOM Coordinators.

Mentor Matters will take place in person at the Conference Center from 10:00 a.m to 3:30 p.m, **Thursday, August 10**. For questions: CrystalSygeel@vaumc.org
A link to register can be found here: <https://form.jotform.com/231304301801134>



We are sending you a very special invitation. There is an opportunity this summer (July 7-16) for you to join a once in a lifetime mission to Liberia, West Africa. On the campus of My Heart's Appeal, we will lay out a 2-acre plot for vegetables –The Liberty Garden.

Liberia imports 80% of its food at prices rising to 35% per year. The government has declared a “food scarcity.” As many as 720,000 people go hungry every week. The garden project will bring the community and our school together in a common cause to plant and to harvest fresh vegetables and fruits will become affordable and our students will be trained in basic gardening skills.

My Heart's Appeal is the only school offering education and training for those with intellectual disabilities in West Africa.

As part of a Virginia UMC Volunteer in Mission team of 10, you will experience a once in a lifetime opportunity to make such a huge difference in the lives of so many.

If you are curious or interested, email our Team Leader, Arthur Richardson , for an application. (arthur@dcwebgroup.com) Or call the co-leader, Rev. Tim Craft (540) 989-3673

UMVIM Virginia Teams: photo request

Mission team photos needed for Annual Conference!

If your church or district has fielded a mission team, we want your digital pictures! We are looking for variety: regional, national, international, construction, medical mission, Christian ministry, cultural and community engagement - teams of all sizes and purposes are urged to participate.

To be responsive, please observe the following:

- Send ONLY up to 6 pictures per team.
- Choose the best and *most representative pictures of your work and the community served.*
 - Please send no more than one group photo of your team. One.
 - Include the name of the team leader.
 - List the church (or churches) that participated.
 - Include name and location of the community you served.

Here are some prompts for pictures:

- Did you worship in the community you served?
 - Did you share a meal or activity with your host community/family?
 - Is there a last day or final photo of a construction site or VBS class?
- If you served a variety of patients, projects or clients, is that visible in what you share?

Send your photo responses to Terri Morgan at tlynmorgan@icloud.com *and see them displayed for others to see at Annual Conference!*

Youth Events



HIGHLAND SUPPORT PROJECT
WITH
THE PACE CENTER AT VCU

Young Adult Trip
Santa Catarina, Guatemala.

- Stove Building
- Maya Arts Program-
working with indigenous
schools
- Coffee Coop Tour
- Fellowship with young
adults outside your
congregation

\$1300 not including airfare
June 24-July 1
2023
Email hello@highlandpartners.org
to sign up!

HIGHLAND SUPPORT PROJECT

A Richmond based Advance Special of the UMC. We have partnered with indigenous communities for over 30 years to facilitate cross cultural exchange and transformational development alongside the Pace Center at VCU. We are putting together a young adult mission trip for high school and college students in Virginia to Guatemala this summer. The cost of the trip is \$1,300, not including airfare. For additional information, contact Rebecca Andrews.

Rebecca Andrews
Highland Support Project
(804) 796-0689
highlandsupportproject.org
rebecca@highlandsupportproject.org

Applications for Convergence 2023 are open! Randolph-Macon College's summer Youth Theology Institute on Faith and Science will be held July 18-23 this year. The event is open to students who are finishing their 9th, 10th, or 11th grade year in the next few months.

The '23 Convergence theme is Food, Faith and Farming. We have a lot of exciting activities and experiences planned including:

- Field trips to Sophia Farm, Fitrah Farm, Shalom Farm and Babylon MicroFarm
- A special project with the Ashland Farmer's market
- The Theology of Soul Food, a speech and cooking demonstration with author, James Beard award winner, and certified barbeque judge Adrian Miller
- Workshops on campus
- Planning and helping to lead worship at Duncan Memorial United Methodist Church on the R-MC campus.

Cost to attend is \$350. Financial Assistance is available if needed. All Convergence campers receive a \$1,000 scholarship if they attend R-MC for college. You can find more information as well as the link to apply at: <https://convergence.rmc.edu/>. Questions? Email kendragrimes@rmc.edu.



Go ahead and mark your calendars to come mentor with us next summer at All God's Children Camp. Below are the dates. Please email Lori Smith at agcc@vaumc.org for more information.

Camp Chanco-June 18-23

Camp OOTB-August 6-11

Camp Chanco August 13-18

Lori Smith, Coordinator
All God's Children Camp
P.O. Box 8506
Glen Allen, VA 23058

Mentors needed for summer camps

All God's Children Camp is looking for mentors this summer. There are three opportunities to serve: June 18-23, August 6-11, and August 13-18. This is a wonderful opportunity to serve locally. Also, this is a great mission trip for youth groups and other small groups and it's free. Please contact Camp Coordinator **Lori Smith** for more information. A ministry of the Virginia Annual Conference, All God's Children Camp is a weeklong overnight camp for children ages 7 to 12, with an incarcerated parent. Campers have an opportunity to participate in all the physical activities the camp has to offer such as boating, swimming, hiking, archery, music, crafts, and Bible study, along with a conflict resolution/self-esteem-building class. **Learn more...**

For more information, check the website at www.vaumc.org/agcc/ or contact Lori Smith agcc@vaumc.org



The Virginia Conference supports 13 campus ministries at colleges and universities across the Commonwealth, and additionally, four United Methodist colleges and universities. Our campus ministers provide opportunities for students to worship, to study, to serve, and to grow as leaders. You can find information for each campus here: <https://vaumc.org/newstudents/>

To help our campus ministers connect with your students, please complete the following form as soon as you know where students will

attend: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfOEIHxpnZmSHmEj9bZs8uLNX9lvQI36buJNU5LeOHY4WEFTA/viewform>

If you prefer to email a spreadsheet that includes an entire list of students, their contact information, and the college or university they will attend, please email it to learning@vaumc.org.

For clergy, completing this form fulfills the requirement of ¶232 of the *Book of Discipline* that you must notify the chair of the conference Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministry (that paragraph also requires notifying the district superintendent and the charge conference, which this form does not accomplish). This form also fulfills ¶256.3d, which requires local church youth coordinators to provide student information to the chaplains and campus ministers.



Lake Junaluska to hold three women retreats in 2023

Lake Junaluska will host three Journey to Joy Women's Retreats in 2023, bringing women together for meaningful weekends of laughter, sharing, worship and fellowship. [Learn more...](#)

Offered in partnership with Leigh Young, author of "Journey to Joy: A Seven-Week Path to the Joyous Life God Intended" and "Lessons from the Letters," the retreats will be held Aug. 25-27, and Nov. 10-12. Lake Junaluska in North Carolina is a place of Christian hospitality where lives are transformed through renewal of soul, mind and body. All are welcome at the beloved retreat center nestled in the mountains of Western North Carolina. The 1,200-acre property is perfect for personal getaways, family vacations, conferences, retreats, weddings and reunions.

Festival of Wisdom and Grace
 Aug. 21-24, 2023

REGISTER TODAY
lakejunaluska.com/wisdom

A conference for finding purpose and renewal in the second half of life

Join us for the Festival of Wisdom & Grace
 Aug. 21-24, 2023

Worship | Learning | Workshops | Recreation | Fellowship

Come to beautiful Lake Junaluska Conference and Retreat Center for the Festival of Wisdom and Grace.

Through worship, workshops and teaching, gain insight about Jesus' experiences as we explore the 2023 theme, "Strong Roots, Bright Future: Our Jewish Roots."

Plus, renew your spirit and make new friends as we pray at the Cross, enjoy lake devotional walks, and discuss topics from leaving a legacy to sharing our stories.

Workshops

- Messianic Prophecies
- "Bless The Lord, O My Soul"
- The 5th Gospel: The Geography Of Israel
- Jewish Grief Traditions
- Remembering Your Story - Sharing Your Legacy
- Generous Living - Time, Talent, And Treasure
- Finishing Well

Rev. Dr. Bob Rambo
 Conference Preacher

Ellen F. Davis
 Keynote Speaker

Marty Goetz
 In Concert

REGISTER TODAY | lakejunaluska.com/wisdom | 800-222-4930

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

To download the latest Compass newsletter please visit:
[Click Here](#)

UNITED METHODIST MEN
 UNITED METHODIST MEN/VAUMC
 BEACON NEWSLETTERS & NOTICES/VAUMC



\$10.00 PER MAN PER YEAR

The Virginia Conference United Methodist Men seek to support:

Heart Havens	Grace Inside
Scouts	Black Methodists for Church Renewal
All God's Children Camp	Asian American Ministries Association
Camp Rainbow	Native American Caucus
Society of St. Andrews	Latino/Hispanic Caucus

To accomplish this, we are asking **each man** in the Virginia Conference to donate **\$10.00 per year**. With your help, this would provide sufficient funds to send each of these ministries a generous donation!

What a great way for the men of our Conference to join in support!

4 DONATION OPTIONS:

Mail a check to our treasurer
 Gary Lupton, 1661 Hawks Bill Drive, Virginia Beach, VA 23464
 Please make your check payable to Virginia Conference United Methodist Men.

Text Giving
 Text UMC2023 to 44-321 and you will be directed to our campaign.

Online Giving
www.vaumc.org/umm-support

QR Code Giving



UMM Annual Conference Breakfast

The Virginia Conference United Methodist Men will hold its annual breakfast at Greene Memorial UMC downtown Roanoke at 7AM on Friday, June 16th, at 7AM. Our speaker will be Chris Henderson, CEO of Pinnacle Living. Breakfast donation is \$15.00 each.

Greene Memorial is located at 402 Second Street, Roanoke, at the corner of Second and Luck Avenue.

Please forward your responses to: David Collins <djcoll@icloud.com>; no later than June 12th.



Prayer Requests

Rev. Mark and Dori Richardson. Mark lost his brother and sister-in-law (Sylvester and Lien Richardson) two weeks ago, and they passed away within five days of each other.

You may send condolences to Mark and Dori at: 5042 Pennbrook Drive, Chesterfield, VA 23832. Mark is currently serving at Wood's UMC.

Revs. Doug and Clara Gestwick

The Family of Rev. Richard Burnette

The Family of Susan Clark (Courtland UMC's Administrative Assistant)

All pastors that are retiring, leaving for other districts or changing churches

Please send your prayer requests to terrirosser@vaumc.org



HAPPY FATHER'S DAY

NewsLetter
DEADLINE

June 26th, 2023

Email: TerriRosser@vaumc.org

Living Waters District UMC | TishBorden@vaumc.org | 804.732.2538
Area Bishop: Rev. Sue Hauptert-Johnson
District Superintendent: Rev. Jay Carey
Director of Church Vision & Vitality: Rev. Tim Beck
Administrative Assistant: Leticia Borden
Office Support: Phyllis Goin & Thelma Watts
Communications Coordinator: Terri Rosser
Lay Leaders: Keith Jordan, Geraldine Sanderson
Treasurers: Kay Mims, Jennifer Honeycutt

Living Waters District UMC | P O Box 3413, 11605 S Crater Rd, Petersburg, VA 23805

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