

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 With Praises and Thanks! January 2024

OUR FIRST REFRESH WAS AMAZING!!!!!!

In times like these...We need the Living Waters of Christ to Reinvigorate, Restore and REFRESH

Our January Refresh Revival was a hit and we are looking forward to taking it to the South Central Region

We have a Sign Up Genius below for volunteer positions. We are in desperate need of parking lot attendants and Clean up. Please help us to continue the momentum.

Please share our Facebook event link on your local Facebook page or within any outgoing correspondence. Also, advertising in local newspapers would be amazing. If you could contact Terri Rosser or Tim Beck with local newspapers, we would be happy to handle the details.

[Facebook Event](#)

Southcentral Region Revival

Date: Thursday, February 15th

Time: 7pm

Location: Mecklenburg High School

[Click Here For Directions](#)

Brodnax
Easters
Kenbridge
Lawrenceville
North Brunswick Charge (Antioch, Lebanon)
North Mecklenburg Charge (Salem, Shiloh)
Olive Branch
Providence-Trinity Charge (Providence, Trinity)
Prospect (Ebony)

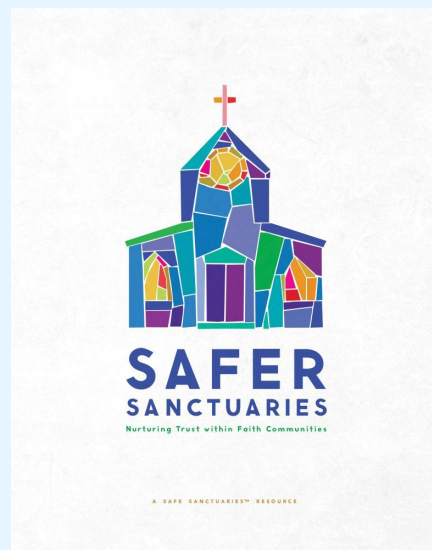
Rock
Sardis
South Hill
West Brunswick Charge (Bethel, Macedonia)
West Mecklenburg Charge (Ephesus, Fields, Friendship)

Click below to volunteer!
VOLUNTEER NOW!



Bishop Sue Visit

Our weekend with Bishop Sue was a total success!! She met with District Lay Leaders, Clergy, Laity and preached at our newest church, Appomattox!



SAFER SANCTUARIES TRAINING

We are proud and excited to announce that the Living Waters District now has 4 Conference Trained Safer Sanctuaries Trainers. In an effort to improve awareness among our congregations, we would like to offer several different trainings, throughout the District. These first training will be District sponsored and offered at NO CHARGE to our churches but please be aware that if additional trainings are requested, there is a \$200 fee per trainer. These trainings are open to Clergy and

Laity and all churches are encouraged to attend. We will not only cover youth and children, but vulnerable adults as well and touch on church security.

Below I am listing dates, locations and trainers. There is a Sign Up Genius link as well so you can sign up. Each church is providing lunch, a love offering for the host church would be a kind gesture, but not required.

We will be using a book titled "Safer Sanctuaries: Nurturing Trust Within Faith Communities" It is not necessary to purchase the book to attend the training, but we are including the link below in case any one would like to purchase a copy.

Order Here

Please respond as quickly as possible so we can begin moving forward. Feel free to contact me with any questions.

Many blessings and thanks!

Terri Rosser

Living Waters District Communications Coordinator

Cell: 757-329-2513

Email: terrirosser@vaumc.org

Safer Sanctuaries Training Dates

2/3/24 Glenwood UMC Rev. Tim Beck & Terri Rosser

2/10/24 Lebanon UMC Rev. Glenn Riggs & Rev. Carrie Moffitt

3/2/24 Crenshaw UMC Rev. Carrie Moffitt & Terri Rosser

3/2/24 Farmville UMC Rev. Glenn Riggs & Rev. Tim Beck

4/6/24 Bethia UMC Rev. Tim Beck & Rev. Carrie Moffitt

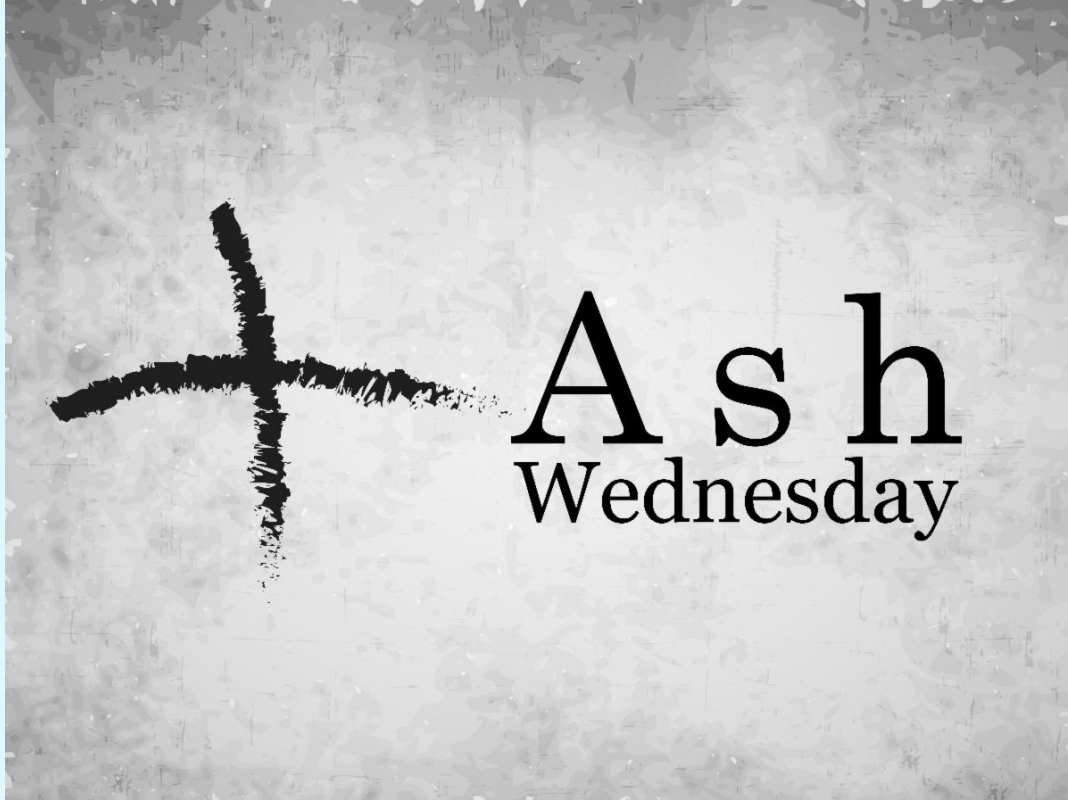
4/13/24 Wesley UMC (Hopewell) Rev. Glenn Riggs & Terri Rosser

5/4/24 Main Street UMC (South Boston) Rev. Tim Beck & Terri Rosser

5/4/24 Lebanon UMC Rev. Glenn Riggs & Rev. Carrie Moffitt

Attendee Sign Up

0.5 CEU Credit it available



Concord UMC is organizing an "Ashes on the Go" ministry this year. They will have a tent at the rest area on I-95 around exit 36 and offer a prayer and ashes to anyone who wants to stop by (truckers, commuters, rest area workers, etc). To make this a success, we want to open it up to other churches near by and see if anyone is interested in joining us.

We would like to have someone on site from 8am-5pm and are asking anyone interested to sign up for one-hour slots. Ashes will be provided and a committee is going to make some care packages with water bottles and a bag of chips to hand out.

If you are interested in volunteering or have any helpful ideas, please contact Rev. Carrie Moffie at carriemoffitt@vaumc.org. It would be great if we could have an abundance of people and could be there longer!

CONFERENCE NEWS



Bishop Sue Hauptert-Johnson is excited to announce the theme of the 242nd session of the Virginia Annual Conference is A Conference in Three Movements. This theme emerges from the belief that there are three principal movements of the Holy Spirit taking place in the present era of the church:

1. The theological movement from prevenient grace to sanctification. This is the movement of the Holy Spirit in the human heart.
2. The historical movement of Methodism captured in our past, lived in our present, and pointed toward our future. This is the movement of the Holy Spirit in the church.
3. The missional movement from gathered spaces into all the world. This is the movement of the Holy Spirit in community.

These movements build upon each other, intertwining together to demonstrate what has been, what is, and what will be as God continues to move amongst God's people.

The Annual Conference logo is designed to be an embodiment of this powerful theme. The three flames joining as one light are a reminder of the three movements and the connection they share. The placement of words and font selection are meant to evoke an imaginative sense of movement and the constant motion of the Holy Spirit. The color family of reds, yellows, and oranges is meant to offer a sense of fire that is sparking and burning within the Virginia Conference of the United Methodist Church.

As we prepare to gather in Hampton this June, we hope members of the Annual Conference will begin to consider the role of these three movements in their lives, the lives of their churches, and the lives of the communities we are called to serve.

[Latest Annual Conference News](#)

**Journeys of Paul Cruise with Bishop Sue Hauptert-Johnson
& the Virginia Annual Conference and Guest Speaker Rev.
Magrey deVega
Sept. 21, 2024**

11 days Crete, Greece, Italy & Türkiye

STARTING FROM \$3999*

Join Bishop Sue Hauptert-Johnson & the Virginia Annual Conference for 9 Nights on a Journeys of Paul Cruise aboard Royal Caribbeans Odyssey of the Seas, starting at \$3999* departing on September 21, 2024, with Guest Speaker Rev. Magrey deVega. Journey to Naples, Mykonos, Santorini, Athens, Corinth, Ephesus, and more!

Pompeii, Ephesus and Athens are included in the price!!!

Full deposit required. Savings deducted from balance.

Please use Host Name Terri Rosser

Host ID 62150

[Register Here](#)

Lay Servant Academy Training will take place February 23rd and 24th.

This training will be virtual only. Registration will begin in early January!
Included in the course list are:

- Virginia UMC Roots, Racism, and Discipleship Advanced Course
- Basic Course
- Children and Youth Discipleship—**Ministry with Parents/Guardians**
- Spiritual Gifts
- Called to Preach

Contact **Tianna Durbin** tiannad@arcolachurch.org, Director of Lay Servant Academy with questions!

Announcements



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

[Follow their story!](#)

VAUMC Training Videos

It has come to our attention that there is a need for training in Leadership &

Development, Trustees, SPRC and other areas of leadership within our churches. Here are a few videos developed by the VAUMC and we hope to bring additional resources to you as the year progresses.

[Click Here for Videos](#)



CLAIMING THE PROMISES

The next 5 day Academy at Roslyn is coming up March 3-8. Above is a brochure that we invite you to share as widely as you can.

I know peoples calendars fill up early so wanted to let folks know in advance. More advertising will happen after the first of the year - but the more people see it and hear about it now - the more it will entice them come January.

Thank you so much.

Shalom, salaam, and peace be unto you and to the world,
 Rev. Kimberly Barker-Brugman
 Pastor at Lawrenceville United Methodist Church, Lawrenceville, Virginia
 church phone: 434-848-2320
 cell phone: 540-840-0014

Founder of Soul Story Ministries.org

Soul Story Ministries was created to help individuals find a safe place to share the story of their walk with God and through that make a more intentional connection with the Divine. Please contact me for on-line spiritual direction, retreats, workshops, drama presentations, etc

Soul Story Ministries cell: 540-840-0014

Oak Grove UMC (Dinwiddie) is doing a shoe drive January 7 to February 14, 2024. All proceeds will go to replacing the urgently needed heating unit at the church. Any donations can be dropped off



Do you have shoes you no longer want but don't know what to do with them?
We have the answer!!
Bring them to us and we will package and ship them to others in need.
Accepting all kinds—new, used, kids, adult, dress, casual, boots

January 7, 2024—February 14, 2024

Oak Grove United Methodist Church
12715 Acorn Drive
N. Dinwiddie, VA 23805
804-861-2011



at the District Office on Mondays and Tuesdays from 9:00 to 4:30 and I will see that they get to the church.
I have attached a copy of the flyer for your reference.
Any and all help would be greatly appreciated.

bumcedges.com/rethink

may 17-18
Friday - Saturday

the work of the people
rethinking
church culture

a workshop for your church leadership to better understand and develop your community's dna

hosted by bumc edges in blacksburg, va

registration is open!

in partnership with the virginia conference

Edges has opened registration for the may 17-18, 2024 workshop in blacksburg -- the work of the people: rethinking church culture

Edges is a satellite campus of Blacksburg United Methodist Church; and is partnering with the Virginia Conference to create this workshop for churches looking to rethink their culture. if your church is looking for ways to meaningfully attract and connect with new folks, position yourself in your community as open and affirming, and hoping to find small shifts to renew your energy and passion... this workshop is for you!

to find out more and to register, visit our website here:
<https://www.bumcedges.com/rethink>

5 things to know before joining us at *the work of the people* rethinking church culture

1 dates & location & timing
may 17th - 18th
edges campus
706 harding ave
blacksburg, va
check in: Friday the 17th, 12:30-1:30 pm
wrap up: Saturday the 18th by 4 pm

2 where to stay
hilton garden inn blacksburg
900 plantation road
blacksburg, va
(540) 552-5005
edges has reserved a block of rooms at a special rate just for you. call to make reservations by 5.1 and ask for the edges workshop block.

3 friday night dinner options
consider one of these local spots
• lefty's main street grille
• the maroon door
• the cellar
• green's grill and sushi bar
• cabo fish taco
• 622 north

4 worship with us friday night
please join us for a night of music and reflection with edges worship, open to the community, and will last about an hour.

5 saturday morning yoga
edges wants to give you the space for personal growth as well. join us saturday morning for flow yoga before the workshop continues.

bumcedges.com/theworkofthepople

bumcedges.com/rethink

the work of the people
rethinking
church culture

session and content overview

your story/our story
what is culture anyway?

community conversation:
what's working?
what's not?

collaborative work with each other, edges folks and other church community!

naming values
let values inform culture

brainstorm and dream, then create action plans

a detailed schedule will be sent to registered participants two weeks before the event

bumcedges.com/rethink

the work of the people
rethinking
church culture

yeps
recognize your yeps: what do you have the people, resources and enthusiasm for?
develop and evaluate your values: what matters most? what's your why? and do your yeps align with your values?

nopes
acknowledge and accept your nopes: who is missing in your community? what isn't working?
bring your nopes to new life: consider how these nopes can lead to the next best thing.

do the work
rethink your nopes: try something new, assess your team, and dream big.

culture shifts
recognize new opportunities: consider your resources, identify your right nows and your big things, and set manageable goals.

bumcedges.com/rethink

the work of the people
rethinking
church culture

about the weekend

friday, may 17th
• check in between 12:30-1:30 with sessions starting at 1:30 pm
• dinner on your own in town (great time to socialize, prepare and process)
• optional worship night with edges worship

saturday, may 18th
• optional morning yoga/meditation
• breakfast together on site
• sessions begin after breakfast
• lunch together on site
• wrap up by 4 pm

about the workshop

who is this for?
• your church leadership (2-4 people)
• churches looking to rethink their culture and find small shifts to renew their energy and passion
• churches hoping to position themselves in their communities as open and affirming
• churches looking for ways to meaningfully attract and connect with new folks

what is required?
• 10-15 min church in the state of virginia
• small fee per person to help cover fixed expenses (\$25 pp)
• provide your own transportation to blacksburg
• provide your own lodging in blacksburg (a hotel block is available)

you're invited to stay with edges and enjoy \$1000 weekly conversation!

MISSION OPPORTUNITY

I am pastor at Providence UMC in Patrick County on the Mt. View District. We are currently undertaking a major mission project that is beyond our capacity to complete without the help of the connection. It is our hope that we can get the word out as to the monetary needs for this project across the connection as soon as possible. I know that the people of God called United Methodist will respond generously.

Please **CLICK HERE** to learn more about this mission opportunity. Please contact Keith Vernon: keithvernon@vaumc.org

Thank you for any help you can offer.

Peace love,

Keith Vernon, Pastor
Providence United Methodist Church
1021 Providence Drive
Patrick Springs, Va. 24133
<https://www.providenceinpatrick.org/>



Heart Havens' month is February and we can't wait to celebrate with you. The Virginia Conference has designated February as Heart Havens Month, one of six special offerings throughout the year. There are eight Heart Havens homes across the Conference, where men and women with a developmental disability are empowered to be full members of the body of Christ, and active participants in their communities.

The theme for Heart Havens Month this year is "*Flourishing.*"

Please visit <https://hearthavens.org/resources/worship-resources/> to see our video and additional electronic resources to share or schedule a speaker for your church group through our online form. Share our Heart Havens month social media posts - it will help us spread our message of empowerment. Thank you for your continued support of Heart Havens!

Heart Havens CEO Transition Announcement

After 15 years of dedicated service to Heart Havens, our esteemed Chief Executive Officer, Jennifer Boyden, has decided to step down from the role to pursue new opportunities. We are thrilled to share that Rebecca Huff, current COO of Heart Havens, has accepted our offer to step into the CEO role upon Jennifer's departure. **Learn more here.**

Youth Events



SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE!!!

Share these resources with your students and parents as they prepare for higher education opportunities!

Students who are members of a United Methodist Church can receive financial support for higher education. The GBHEM scholarship application opens December 15th! <https://www.gbhem.org/scholarships/scholarships/list-of-scholarships/> The UMHEF scholarship application opens January 1st! <https://umhef.org/scholarships/apply/>

The Youth Theological Initiative at Candler Theological Seminary is offering a number of programs for youth this year. To find out more information about the various programs, you can visit their website at <https://yti.emory.edu/programs-overview.html>



Greetings from the Wesley Foundation at Longwood University and Hampden-Sydney College. We are heading to Asheville North Carolina after final exams on December 10th for A Collegiate Challenge build with

Habitat for Humanity. The students are excited about seeing a different area and working to build much needed homes for families. To keep the cost down for the students and give the opportunity for students to go that cannot afford the cost, we are asking for donations to help fund the trip. We have received a generous donation to help secure a rental van. We have estimated that with meals, housing and fuel the trip will cost \$4,000 - \$4,200. If your church is able to make a donation of any amount to help with this cost, that would be a tremendous gift to the students and Wesley. We are always working to give students opportunities to develop a passion for missions early in life so that they may continue throughout their lives. Your gift helps to make disciples to spread God's love.

Paula Totten
Administrator, Wesley Campus Ministry
434-392-8089
farmvillewesley2@gmail.com



All God's Children Camp dates are set for 2024. We need 90 folks who are willing to volunteer a week this coming summer and spend time in the great outdoors while mentoring some amazing campers who have an incarcerated parent. So grab your Sr. High youth group, your Young Adult group or any other adult group in you church and join us! This a wonderful mission trip in your own backyard! See dates below and contact Lori Smith at agcc.vaumc.org for more information.

Week 1-June 9-14 at Westview on the James
Week 2-June 16-21 at Camp Chanco on the James
Week 3-August 11-16 and Camp Chanco on the James

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

To download the latest Messenger newsletter please visit:

[Click Here](#)



This year, schedule a Women's Weekend at the lovely **Lambuth Inn at Lake Junaluska.**

Journey to Joy: Lessons from the Women of the Cross **March 15-17, 2024**

This Spring Weekend is a lovely way to enrich your Lenten experience. Explore with us the brave women who stayed with the Lord even as he was dying on the cross. What motivated them to remain with Jesus despite the tragedy in their life? How can we move closer to Jesus in our struggles?

Journey to Joy: Lessons from the Letters **August 23-25, 2024**

Join us this summer for a joyful and worshipful time of fellowship and learning as we dive into "Lessons from the Letters: A Journey to the Abundant Life." This Bible study explores the letters to the seven churches in the opening chapters of the book of Revelation revealing the path to the abundant life. Although written centuries ago, these truths are as relevant to us today as they were to the early believers.

Journey to Joy: The Abundant Life **Nov. 1-3, 2024**

Jesus said "I came that they may have life and have it abundantly." God knows our pain, our relationship challenges, our financial setbacks, and the deep ache in our hearts. Although Jesus tells us, "in this world, you will have trouble," He assures us that we can "take heart," for He has overcome the world. Come join us on this new experience and fresh look at these passages as we dig deeper to claim the promises of the abundant life filled with the joy of the Lord.

CLERGY WOMENS COLLECTIVE

The Collective offers sister support, holy set-apart time for reflection on our church and ministry, the Word and Table and a deep sense of connection to our Mothers in the Church. Don't miss out!

We welcome all ordained and licensed women, active or retired, working or on leave, in church or extension ministry...y'all come!

Our future meetings will be:
April 11, 2024 - Conference office
July 18, 2024 (after Jurisdictional Conference)



Prayer Requests

Please send your prayer requests to terrirosser@vaumc.org

NewsLetter
DEADLINE

February 22nd, 2024

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, Carol, Sanger, Thelma Crowder, David Bailey, Tommy Johnson
Treasurers: Kay Mims, Tina Gudgel

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