

DISTRICT NEWS

A Newsletter of The Harrisonburg District • Virginia Conference of The United Methodist Church

July 2019

Issue 46-7



From Your District Superintendent:

I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. – John 6:35 (NIV)

Wow! Time goes so fast. It is hard to believe that a year ago my family and I moved to Harrisonburg. I remember it as if it were yesterday, but at the same time I reflect upon all that has happened. As I reflect, I am in awe about all that has transpired, and how God has always been present.

As I reflect on this year, I think of moments when I felt frustration, I felt sadness, I felt anxiety, I felt anger, I felt loneliness, and I felt overwhelmed. But along the way God has been present in so many ways, which has helped me to confirm that God is my priority. Although I know it, I always look for those reminders along the way that keep me closer to God, and that places God first and foremost in my life. I look for those signs that remind me to continue building a stronger relationship with God every single day.

When our lives get so busy and God is no longer our priority, then I am reminded that we get busier than what God wants us to be. When I reflect on this past year, I can tell you that I saw those signs when I participated with Mission Central and being able to greet the women and children as they came in. It was in those smiles where I saw Jesus. When we had our PIM meetings and our District Clergy gathered together in the name of God for learning opportunities as well as fellowship, I saw Jesus. When I did hospital visits to our Clergy or when I prayed after meeting each one in my office, I saw Jesus. I saw Jesus in my daily devotionals reading God's word and prayer time. I saw Jesus when I was walking out in the street and someone offered a smile or a simple greeting. I saw Jesus when I worshipped with you all at charge conferences, worship services, preaching opportunities, District Conference, and we were filled of the Holy Spirit. I saw Jesus while I attended Candlelight at Emmaus. I saw Jesus while teaching at the Lay Servant Academy. I saw Jesus while bringing new pastors to churches and saw their passion for God. I saw Jesus while spending time with my family. I saw Jesus everywhere I went. What a blessing it is to see Jesus in all places.



This past year, we were reminded that Jesus is the bread of life. I know that moments of frustration, sadness, anxiety, anger and even loneliness will happen again, but when I seek Jesus as the bread of life, I know that I am no longer hungry or thirsty. I know that I am not alone. I know that Jesus experienced these feelings, but I know that God's presence is always with me. I know that in prayer and reading God's word I am in a personal relationship with my Creator. The Holy Spirit reminds me and shows me these signs and I praise God!

Wow! What a year, and I thank God for God's continuing presence in my life. For being able to see Jesus in our midst, and for the Holy Spirit leading me to see those signs.

May you always seek to cultivate God's abiding presence in your life through the power of prayer and the reading of God's word.

In God's Service,

Victor

From the District Director of Congregational Vitality Gordon Meriwether:

Congregational

I Love You, Anyway.

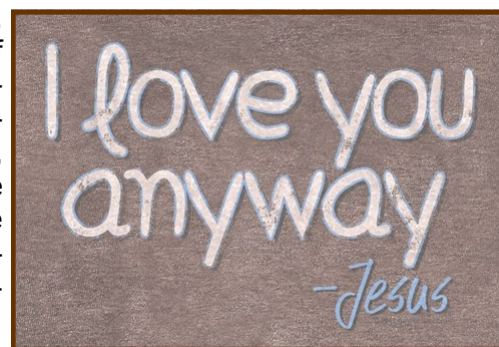


May the love of the Christ embrace your journey, holding you in high places above the fray, potholes and dust of your walk, to carry you always in His holy peace. So Be It.



One thing I missed in my first six months of studying vitality of faith communities in Harrisonburg District is LOVE. I considered community, leadership, resources, vision, spirituality, and worship, but somehow let love slip through my fingers, unnoticed and unappreciated as the foundation of all of these factors.

As I was reminded by a front row matriarch during a recent sermon, that love is a red-lettered testimony in the scripture, the words of Jesus. And right she is! And I would add that the love of Christ covers everybody. He tells us in Matthew 22 that the Greatest Commandment is to love God with all we've got, body, soul, and mind, and love yourself and everybody else. Love not only those in the holiness of the sanctuary, but those beyond the reaches who live among us, lost and without purpose. And just to make sure we understand that He includes everyone in compassion and love, in Matthew 5, Jesus tells us to even love our enemies.



Well that, my brothers and sisters, "covers the waterfront". We are to love everybody, in everyplace, at all times. I wonder if we start with God's love for us, turn it to our constant love of God, a love for all the children of God, to include me, and broaden to the embrace to our adversaries, could all that be the source, the launching point for a New Great Awakening throughout our faith fellowships and faith communities?

Is love where conflict from within and without ends? Where all Vitality begins? Is love the source of all renewal? Yes, Pretty simple. Vitality begins with love, stirs in love, and flourishes with love.

So no matter what you may think, say, or do, as a child of God, and follower of the Christ, I love you anyway.

So Be It.

In Christ, Gordon



I want to thank you for your many acts of kindness shown to me and my husband, Rob, during my recent fall and surgeries. You may have called, sent flowers or a card, or brought us food, or made visits to show your love, care and concern. Your thoughtfulness has been greatly appreciated. Most of all, I am thankful for the many prayers on my behalf for healing.

I have been released from Sentara Home Health Care. I have had approximately four weeks of Home Occupational and Physical Therapy on my wrist and shoulder. I will continue on my recovery journey with outpatient OT & PT. I covet your continued prayers during this journey.

I wish I were able to write a personal note to each of you, however, my handwriting is not yet up to par (but I am working on it!). Please know how sincerely Rob and I appreciate your compassion during this ordeal. A special thank you to Victor Gómez for his care and understanding and to Debbie Creech, who gave up everything she was doing to fill in for me at the district office. Debbie's abilities and efficiency kept the Administrative Assistant's work stable and on track. Also, thank you to Mission Central's Medical Equipment Loaner Closet that provided me with items I needed when I came home from the hospital. This is a wonderful service provided by the Harrisonburg District.

You have been such a blessing to both Rob and me.

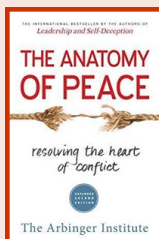
Brenda Woods, Administrative Assistant, Harrisonburg District Office

From Sue MacTavish, District Librarian - July 2019 featured item:

At Annual Conference disagreements and division about our Discipline continue. So I thought it appropriate to feature *The Anatomy of Peace* again (originally featured in the August 2017 District Newsletter). This wonderful little book on getting along with each other is found in the Nurture/Spiritual Development section of the District Library.



The Anatomy of Peace: resolving the heart of conflict by The Arbinger Institute, 2015.



"What if in our conflicts with others there is something we want more than solutions? What if conflicts at home, conflicts at work, and conflicts in the world stem from the same root cause? And what if individually and collectively we systematically misunderstand that cause, and unwittingly perpetuate the very problems we think we are trying to solve? These are among the important questions explored in The Anatomy of Peace.

Through an intriguing story of parents who are struggling with their children and problems that have come to consume their lives, we learn from once bitter enemies the way to find peace whenever war is upon us."

Stop by the District Office and "check out" the Library. Please remember to check out library items by signing the book card in pocket with your name and church and date – you may keep as long as you need – but remember to return when finished so that others may borrow.

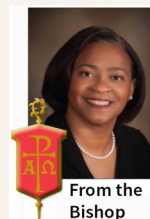
The Library at the District Office contains a wealth of good resources that you and your church can use. Come, take a look!

Thanks, Sue

A challenge to read the Bible in 2019

Bible Readings for July

In 2017 participants were asked to read the Bible straight through and in 2018 you were asked to read the Bible chronologically. For 2019 the Bible challenge will be a blended style of reading, a mixture of Old Testament readings and New Testament each day.



From the Bishop

July 1	Deuteronomy 13-15; Acts 4:1-22	July 16	Psalms 16-17; Acts 12
July 2	Deuteronomy 16-18; Acts 4:23-37	July 17	Psalms 18-19; Acts 13:1-25
July 3	Deuteronomy 19-21; Acts 5:1-21	July 18	Psalms 20-22; Acts 13:26-52
July 4	Deuteronomy 22-24; Acts 5:22-42	July 19	Psalms 23-25; Acts 14
July 5	Deuteronomy 25-27; Acts 6	July 20	Psalms 26-28; Acts 15:1-21
July 6	Deuteronomy 28-29; Acts 7:1-21	July 21	Psalms 29-30; Acts 15:22-41
July 7	Deuteronomy 30-31; Acts 7:22-43	July 22	Psalms 31-32; Acts 16:1-21
July 8	Deuteronomy 32-34; Acts 7:44-60	July 23	Psalms 33-34; Acts 16:22-40
July 9	Obadiah; Acts 8:1-25	July 24	Psalms 35-36; Acts 17:1-15
July 10	Ruth 1-4; Acts 8:26-40	July 25	Psalms 37-39; Acts 17:16-34
July 11	Psalms 1-3; Acts 9:1-21	July 26	Psalms 40-42; Acts 18
July 12	Psalms 4-6; Acts 9:22-43	July 27	Psalms 43-45; Acts 19:1-20
July 13	Psalms 7-9; Acts 10:1-23	July 28	Psalms 46-48; Acts 19:21-41
July 14	Psalms 10-12; Acts 10:24-48	July 29	Psalms 49-50; Acts 20:1-16
July 15	Psalms 13-15; Acts 11	July 30	Psalms 51-53; Acts 20:17-38

Holy Land with Bishop Lewis Feb 24 - March 4, 2020

Join Bishop Sharma Lewis and the VA UMC Conference on this 10-Day journey where you will visit all the major sites, such as the Sea of Galilee, Mt. of Beatitudes, Jordan River, Bethlehem, Nazareth, Jerusalem and more with Educational Opportunities Tour. Go to this address <http://www.eo.travelwithus.com/tours/hl20022420#.XRI2yj9Kjm5> for a brochure and more information.



District Co-

From Harrisonburg District Co-Lay Leader Marquetta Mitchell:

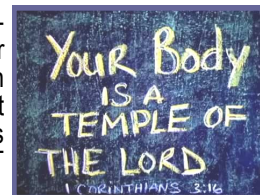


Does your temple need an overhaul?

"This letter is from John, the elder, to my dear friend, Gaius whom I love in the truth. Dear friend, I pray that you may enjoy good health and that all may go well with you even as your soul is getting well." (3 John 1:1-2)

This letter was written about 90 years after the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. John writes Gaius encouraging him and the early church to continue to offer hospitality as well as to address those who do not reflect God's values. This letter from John addresses not only the church's spiritual health ("...as your soul is getting better...") but physical health as well: ("...that you may enjoy good health....")

After searching more scripture about how God addresses the importance of our physical health, I was so encouraged to see that I Corinthians also addresses His concern about our physical health in reference to our "Temples" in I Corinthians 3:16-17. These passages address Paul's question to the church. He asks a question which defines more about who we are in Christ and gives us even more information about God's concern about our physical health. Paul asks: "Don't you know that you yourselves are God's temple and that God's Spirit lives in you? If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy him for God's temple is sacred and YOU ARE THAT TEMPLE. Wow! Enough said! It doesn't seem that John could be any more clear than that!



We, as Christians, traditionally teach, preach, talk about and instruct on how to be ministers who are spiritually healthy. We, however, tend to neglect the physical aspects of our health which is also directly related to taking care of our "Temples". Are we responsible for some of the destruction of our "Temples" by not taking good care of our bodies? Could many of our illnesses and diseases be prevented by taking better care of ourselves spiritually and physically? God deliberately designed our bodies to function in a certain way and it is important that we understand and honor this. It is very important that we make every effort to keep the design that he created. Genesis 1:26-31 reminds us how majestically God created each of us: "God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them...God saw that all that he had made, and it was very good..." God wants us to be strong spiritually and physically so we may serve Him and each other. Genesis also addresses that God made specific provisions for us so that we may be spiritually and physically well. He wants us to be able to enjoy the life he has provided for us here on this earth while we are

As God has recently answered my personal prayers for healing, He has revealed to me that He wants me to grow more spiritually close to Him. He also revealed that there are some things I need to do to repair and maintain my "Temple" as He moves me along in the ministry that he wills for me. I am called to share this with you. We are all called by God to be ministers in our own special way. He asks all of us to do our best to take care of our Temples.

In our culture that pushes us from one minute to the next, we find ourselves attempting to live 36 hours of activity in the 24 hours that God gave us. We live blindly and without sensitivity to the anxiety, stress and frustration that this causes and then wonder why we have illnesses and diseases. Much of the time many of us, including me, are living this stress and anxiety and we are not even aware of it. God, Himself, took a break and rested on the seventh day after He created the world that He continues to provide for us.

Does your "Temple" need an overhaul? For those of us who experience this all too often; let us stop and consider taking the time to have an "on purpose" conversation with God and listen to what God is telling us about how to take care of our temples. The following may be a good list to get started with as we have this conversation. The following list includes some of my conversations with God; conversations with medical experts; conversations with other Christians who are exploring what God is revealing to them about how to take care of their temples.

1. Prayer: asking God to reveal how to obtain good physical health (and spiritual health), repair, maintain or continue good health for your "Temple".
2. Rest: Even God rested on the Sabbath. Are you and your family observing Sabbath as a day of rest? Are you getting enough rest in your diet?
3. Stress/Anxiety: CAN KILL!!!
Do you consider delegating some of your responsibilities to others?
Do you consider letting go of activities if they are not producing fruit?
4. Do you ask your medical experts about best diets for you?
Do you ask your medical experts for nutrition education for your "Temple" that promotes health?
Do you talk with your medical experts about drinking enough water?
5. Do you have a difficult time saying "no" when opportunities seem to appear for you?
Not every opportunity that appears is necessarily the will of God for you. Sometimes we may say "yes" to an opportunity to please others and not necessarily God.
6. Are you exercising?
Are you talking with your medical experts about the right amount of exercise recommended for your "Temple"?
7. Are you getting enough sleep in your diet?
8. Do you relax?

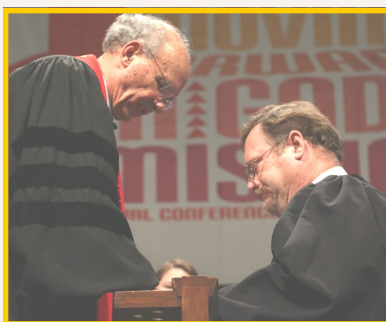
God calls all of us to minister. Each one of us has a God given ministry. In order to minister according to God's will we must be ready spiritually and physically. It is never too late to start to have these conversations first with God and perhaps with your own medical experts. Remember that God did not create us to be "busy." He created us to be fruitful. Amen.

Your sister in Christ, Marquetta

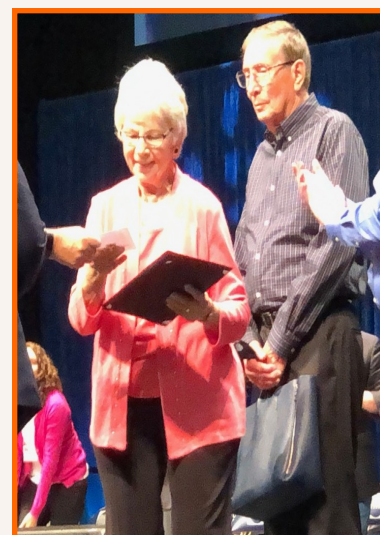
Accolades from Harrisonburg District at 2019 Virginia Annual Conference



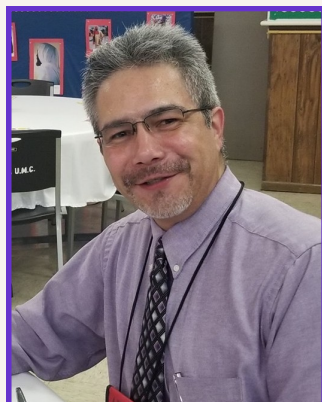
Rev. Costello Forney, pastor of John Wesley UMC, was licensed as a Local Pastor at the Service for Ordaining Ministry, Friday, June 21st.



Rev. Brian Posey, pastor of Grottoes UMC, was ordained as Elder at the Service for Ordaining Ministry, Friday, June 21st.



Rev. Gordon Meriwether and the Rev. Dr. Victor Gómez attended the Latino Caucus Thursday night, June 20th.



Joe Amend, our District Lay Leader, and Victor Gómez, our District Superintendent, represented our district well!



The 2019 Denman Laity Award was presented to Artie Frederick, from McGaheysville UMC, for her work at Mission Central.

Rev. Bob Talbott, associate pastor at Asbury UMC, received the 2019 Denman Clergy Award. Congratulations to both!



Mary Jane Rawley, President of the Virginia UMW, (member of Bridgewater UMC) spoke on the 150th anniversary of the United Methodist Women, Sunday morning, June 22nd.

Over 2,500 Clergy and Laity gathered for the 237th session of the Virginia Annual Conference in Roanoke.

And yes, it was cold!!!!!!



**“Lord, Teach Us to Pray” District Event - Manor Memorial UMC, New Market, VA
Friday Evening and Saturday—October 4-5, 2019
Lay Servants Approved Course! Clergy CEU Approved Course!**

The Harrisonburg District is sponsoring a special event to be held at Manor Memorial UMC, New Market. The Aldersgate Renewal Ministries (ARM) will be providing the leadership and teaching this event. ARM equips local churches to minister to the world in the power of the Holy Spirit. Volunteers who are trained by ARM go to churches to provide teaching and group facilitation. Mary O. Jones of Front Royal, will be our ARM Coordinator and lead “Lord, Teach Us to Pray” with her volunteer team of 4 or 5 volunteers. This event is “designed to encourage God’s people to become people of prayer.” Mary was trained shortly after the “Lord, Teach Us to Pray” seminar was created and has successfully led many of these events.



From **Friday evening through Saturday evening, October 4-5, 2019**, the vision is to have each participant grow and/or establish a vibrant prayer life by employing various tools and teaching to be offered and energized by the Power of the Holy Spirit. The event will be open to all who wish to grow in their relationship with God through prayer. This event has the potential to change lives and to transform churches as participants are challenged to walk in intimacy with God through prayer. We hope that you will mark your calendars and plan to attend. We are fortunate that it will be on the Harrisonburg District! Although there will be an affordable registration fee to help defray meal and handbook expenses, the exact amount has not yet been determined. Specifics on registration and expenses will be published later this summer.

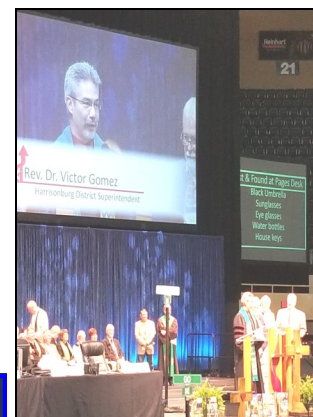
A local Steering Committee has been formed to help plan and prepare for this. Ginger Turner of Manor Memorial UMC is the chair of this committee which is comprised so far of Robert Talbott, Advisor; Faith Carlson, Ellen McDorman, Dale Dodrill, and Lee Pugh. **Rev. Dr. Gomez in concert with ARM has approved one Continuing Education credit for clergypersons attending the event. In addition, he also approved this event to count toward Lay Servant certification or recertification (as a substitution for the Prayer course).**

If you would like more information, you can go to: <https://aldersgaterenewal.org/events/local-church-events/lord-teach-us-to-pray>. The Steering Committee would welcome help in various areas such as welcome and hospitality, transportation, prayer, meals, child care, publicity and registration. If you would like to help with this wonderful opportunity, please contact Ginger at vabel-lat@gmail.com or call her 540-740-4616.



We congratulate those from the Harrisonburg District who retired at the Recognition of Retirees Service, Friday, June 21st

- Rev. Sue MacTavish
- Ms. Janet Davis
- Rev. Bruce Carper
- Ms. Marlene Chandler
- Rev. Jim Wingert



Our District Superintendent, Victor Gómez, “Fixes” the appointments on the Harrisonburg District at the Sunday Session, June 22nd.

We thank the following people for providing pictures for this issue of the district newsletter: Kevin Poeckert; Gordon Meriwether; and Debbie Creech. Pictures were also resourced from the VAUMC website.



July 3 (Wednesday) - VUMCenter-Glen Allen & District Office closes at 1:00 p.m.

July 4 (Thursday) - VUMCenter-Glen Allen & District Office closed for 4th of July holiday

July 5 (Friday) - District Office Closed

July 26 through 28 (Friday-Sunday) - UMW Mission Encounter Weekend at Smith Mountain Lake 4-H Center *

August 2 through 4 (Friday-Sunday) - Lay Servant Academy at Randolph Macon College *

August 3 (Saturday) - District UMW Executive Committee, Mission Central, 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. *

August 6 (Tuesday)-District Committee on Lay Servant

Ministry, District Office, 7:00 p.m.

August 11 (Sunday)-Partners in Ministry [PiM] Welcome Picnic, Overlook Picnic Shelter, gather 4:30 p.m.- eat at 5 p.m. *

August 24 (Saturday)-Partners in Ministry [PiM] and Laity Retreat at Manor Memorial, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. *

August 29 (Thursday)-District Council on Ministries, District Office, 7:00 p.m.

September 7 (Saturday)-UMW Prayer Breakfast at St. James UMC *

September 13 through 14 (Friday-Saturday) -UMW Young Women's Event at Camp Overlook *

** Denotes related article elsewhere in this newsletter*

UMW News

Mission Encounter will be held at Smith Mountain Lake 4-H Center **July 26-28**. Everyone is invited to attend, you do not need to be a UMW member and CEU credit is available. A registration form is attached to this newsletter with more information. **Deadline for registration is July 15**. District and Conference UMW Scholarships are available for this event. Please contact Sharon for questions on scholarships, transportation or if you need a mission study book.

The District UMW Executive Committee will meet for our **2020 planning on Sat., Aug. 3 at Mission Central 9:00am - 1:00pm**. We will approve our 2020 budget and work on our calendar for the coming year. All members of the Executive Committee are encouraged to attend.

Please mark your calendar for upcoming events: **Sept 7 - UMW Prayer Breakfast at St James UMC** and **Sept 13-14 - Conference UMW Young Women's Event @ Camp Overlook**. More information will be available in the Aug. newsletter.

Sharon Harold, District UMW President 540-879-2270 or sharold714@aol.com



40th Anniversary Lay Servant Academy—August 2 through 4, 2019 at Randolph Macon College, Ashland, VA

The Lay Servant Academy is designed for all laity, not just lay servants. Courses are designed to support those seeking to become Certified Lay Servants and Certified Lay Speakers.

Early registration (by July 2nd) is \$45. Regular registration cost is \$50.

Please see the attached flyer attached to this newsletter for all the information!



The District Committee on Lay Servants Ministry will meet on Tuesday, August 6th at 7:00 p.m. in the District Office.

Dale Dodrill, District Director of Lay Servants

The Partners in Ministry will hold their Welcome Picnic on **Sunday, August 11**, at the **Overlook Picnic Shelter at 4:30 p.m.** The meal will begin at **5:00 p.m.** All returning pastors are encouraged to be present to welcome new pastors to the Harrisonburg District. Details to be sent out in July.

The PiM Clergy Retreat will include Laity this year and have a different setup. Mark your calendar for **Saturday, August 24th, 9 to 4 p.m. at Manor Memorial**. Details will be forthcoming. *Pastors, you are asked to reserve this date on your calendars and be in attendance.*

Pastors, please note: PiM monthly meetings are being scheduled for **Tuesdays** (instead of Mondays) for the remaining months of 2019 and for 2020.



The Harrisonburg District extends sympathy to Rev. Sue MacTavish on the loss of her brother, Donovan (Don) Hanna of Lake Placid, FL who passed away Monday, June 10th. Rev. MacTavish is the pastor of St. Paul UMC in Elkton.

Mission Central's Children's Clothes Closet To give a summary of the day's activities on June 13th, the clothes closet saw 55 families; gave clothing to 135 children and handed out 1450 diapers. **Needs at the present time are size 2 children's clothes and Tide and Clorox 2.** The clothes closet has also been blessed to receive 14 black bags of lost and found clothing from the schools so the washers and dryers are very busy!



Mission Central would like to expand their hours but need more volunteers to do so. Would your church consider taking a morning?

If you have questions, please call me. *Artie Frederick, 208-7669*



Mission Central's Medical Equipment for Caring Loaner Closet is open **Mondays 9-11:00 a.m.** and **Thursdays 5-7 p.m.**

We always are in need of donations of medical equipment, especially shower benches and rollators (walkers with seats for resting). These are always appreciated and at times we buy needed equipment with your monetary donations. We welcome volunteers for the hours we are open and also to help in delivering and setting up hospital beds. Please call Delores Reid, 540-383-6112, if you are interested or have questions or need equipment. Let your neighbors know we have medical equipment to loan and disposables (adult diapers, pull-ups, dressing supplies, etc.) to give to those who need these items. We serve Harrisonburg and the surrounding counties, so spread the word.

Kingsway Prison and Family Outreach has a birthday card mailing list of over 1500 inmates statewide. These are men and women who have attended church services or bible studies at one of the prisons where it is offered on a regular basis. Some have moved on to another facility within the state but remain on the list, so this means we send out about 25 cards a week. Mary Earman, a volunteer for several years, keeps this list updated and the location of each person. We make our own cards, but postage to mail the cards has increased so we could use some stamp support! If your group would like to buy us a roll of stamps from time to time it would be a blessing. For more information call 540-830-700 or 540-433-5658. Check our Website: kingswayoutreach.org



Louise Jennings, Director

In Case You Didn't Know!

The Harrisonburg District has scholarships available for those in Scouting. If you have scouts, boys or girls, who would like to attend camp but funds are limited, please contact the District Office to apply for a scholarship!



Visit Harrisonburg District on Facebook:
Harrisonburg District of VaUMC

Harrisonburg District webpage:
www.harrisonburgdistrictumc.org

The Harrisonburg District office will have summer hours on Fridays during the summer. The office is open from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday - Thursday and Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Regular office hours resume on Tues, Sept. 3rd. (which is Monday-Friday 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.)



Share Your Voice –
Participate in the Conference Communications Survey

The mission of the Conference Communications Office is to provide you with the Virginia Conference information you need, including conference news and events, updates from the Bishop, information on training opportunities, and local ministry stories. Our goal is to provide you with the information you want to see through the communications channels that are most useful to you. We have created a short communications survey to get your feedback so we can learn how to serve you better. Please visit www.VAUMC.org/survey to take the survey, and please share this link with others in your congregation. **The survey will remain open until July 31, 2019.** Thank you! Jill Gaynor President, Board of Communications

2019 Annual Conference: Moving Forward in God's Mission - Matthew 28:18-20 New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)18

And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember I am with you always, to the end of the age."

The 2019 session of the Virginia Conference was held June 20-22, at the Berglund Center in Roanoke, VA.

Kits for Conference Totals

14,243 school kits valued at \$156,673

39,296 hygiene kits valued at \$435,552

663 flood buckets valued at \$49,725

Total of 54,202 kits valued at \$641,950.

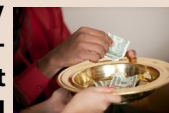


This year's kit collection required a third tractor trailer. The kits will make their way to the Mission Central warehouse in Mechanicsburg, PA for distribution anywhere in the United States they are needed as determined by the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR).

Kids Soar received 1,324 books at Annual Conference and the 5K According to the Roanoke District, "They were overwhelmed, with joy, as the heart of their program is literacy!!" One annual conference member brought 12 boxes from the school where she teaches, as her fellow teachers donated books.

For the latest Annual Conference information, visit www.vaumc.org/AC2019

2019 Annual Conference Offering - the offering goal is \$150,000 and recipients will be: Africa University Student Scholarships-\$40,000; Cambodia Pastors Leadership Training-\$40,000; Mozambique Lay Leadership Training- \$20,000; Brazil "Shade and Fresh Water" Children's Program- \$20,000; and Just Neighbors Matching Funds Grant for Immigrant Legal Counsel in four districts-\$30,000. **You may still contribute to the offering by mailing your gift through your church, where it will be forwarded to the Conference Office.**



DISTRICT NEWS
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Virginia Annual Conference
The United Methodist Church

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Rev. Dr. Victor Gómez

District Superintendent

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Rev. Gordon K. Meriwether

District Director of Congregational Vitality

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Harrisonburg District on the web at

www.harrisonburgdistrictumc.org

Harrisonburg District on Facebook at

Harrisonburg District of VaUMC

Virginia Conference on the web at

www.vaumc.org

General Conference Elections for 2020**Elected Clergy:**

Tom Berlin

Lindsey Baynham

Meredith McNabb

Rob Vaughan

Rhonda VanDyke

Mark Ogren

Grace Sun-khil Han

F. Elizabeth Givens

Jason C. Stanley

G. Kirk Nave

Jonathan Page

Elected Laity:

Warren Harper

Martha Stokes

Shirley Cauffman

Darlene Amon

Beth Christian

Alison Malloy

Marshall Bailey

Jill Gaynor

Joshua Blakely

Jacob Paysour

Mark Elder

Jurisdictional Conference Elections**Elected Clergy:**

Jeff Mickle

Doug Forrester

Leigh Anne Taylor

Dan Kim

Tim Ward

Chenda Lee

David Vaughan

Lyndsie Blakely

Lauren Lobenhofer

Brian Johnson

Jennifer Coffey

Elected Laity:

Karen McElfish

Andrew Kissell

Kim Johnson

Debbie Cali

Phillip Mohr

Deborah Angerman

Shawn Kiger

Amanda L. Holmes

Kenn Speicher

Neal E. Wise

Richard Underwood

Clergy Alternates

Drew VanDyke Colby

Esther Nanna Agbosu

Gordon Keith Pruitt

Joshua S. King

Rachel M. Gilmore

Andrew B. Wilson

M. Lynne Alley-Grant

Amy L. Crisp

Sarah Dumas Locke

Matthew Joseph Benton

Laity Alternates

Kip Robinson

Brenda Brooks

Carl Moravitz

Marie Hawks

Jane Wilson

Jerry A. Taylor

Jaydee Hanson

Maureen McKay

Michelle Heffman

Carlos Liceaga

**Harrisonburg
District United
Methodist Men's
Rally
at Furnace UMC**



**Thursday,
September 19th**

More information
to follow soon!

