

THE AMBASSADOR

*"So we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us.
We beseech you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God (2 Corinthians 5:20)."*

Volume 17, Issue 2 A newsletter for the Pastors and Lay Leadership of the Charlottesville District

February 2019

C'ville Apt. Project

The Apartment That Love Built

Contributions



C'ville Apt. Project Donations

There is a change in the procedure for giving to the Charlottesville Apt. Project. As we continue our fund raising efforts for this ministry, please make your checks payable to Charlottesville District UMC and in the memo line write "Apt. Project." Mail your contributions to:

C'ville UMC District Office
914 E. Jefferson Street, Suite 104
Charlottesville, VA 22902

Or you can send the gift with your district apportionments. Please specify the amount for the Apt. Project. Thank you!

Fundraiser for Apt. Project

Aprons are now available for \$10.00 each. Please contact Linda Truslow in the District Office to order: charlottesvilledistrict@vaumc.org.

*The Virginia Annual Conference Vision — to be
Disciples of Jesus Christ who are lifelong learners who
influence others to serve*

Ideas for church leadership

<https://www.churchleadership.com/50-ways/50-ways-to-take-church-to-the-community/?id=li20181107>



Special Session of the General Conference

The Council of Bishops has called a Special Session of the General Conference of The United Methodist Church to be held February 23-26, 2019 in St. Louis, Missouri. The purpose will be to act on a report from the Council of Bishops based on the recommendations of the Commission on a Way Forward. The 32-member Commission was appointed to examine paragraphs in *The Book of Discipline* concerning human sexuality and exploring options to strengthen the unity of the church. Resources about this special session and work of the Commission on a Way Forward are available on the Virginia Conference website at <https://www.vaumc.org/GC2019>

This includes the archived livestream from the September 26 Q&A session featuring Bishop Sharma Lewis, the Rev. Tom Berlin, and Ms. Martha Stokes. The direct link is <https://livestream.com/VAUMC/COWFQA>

Links to the three proposed plans can be found at <https://www.vaumc.org/document.doc?id=3289>

Volunteer Opportunity at All God's Children Camp

If you are looking for a place to serve and minister with a group of children ages 7-12, All God's Children Camp is the perfect space! I encourage you to get a group together and come join us for a week at camp with children who need to know that someone is for them. Camp life is so much fun and has so many opportunities for you to get to know your camper and grow in relationship with God and each other. We need mentors to make camp happen. So please consider joining us for a week of mission right here in the state of Virginia. Please contact Lori Smith at lttleon@gmail.com or 571-245-9591 for more information.

To learn more about All God's Children Camp, visit <https://www.vaumc.org/AGC>

Thursday Evening Worship

Every Thursday at 6:30 pm, Palmyra UMC (right outside Lake Monticello in Fluvanna County, across from the Treasurer's office in the courthouse complex) is offering a traditional worship service for Sunday worship. This is not about securing additional members but providing an alternative worship experience for those who perhaps work on Sundays, for those traveling on weekends, etc. Communion will be served weekly, and services will last approximately one hour. All are welcome.

George Gorman, Pastor

Bishop Lewis announces appointment of three new district superintendents

Bishop Sharma D. Lewis is pleased to announce three new district superintendent (DS) appointments effective July 1, 2019.



The Rev. Dr. Sarah L.K. Calvert, currently serving as the Bi-District (Alexandria and Arlington districts) coordinator of Church Revitalization and Leadership Development, will be the new district superintendent of the Arlington District. She will replace the Rev. Cathy Abbott who has served as the Arlington DS since 2013.



The Rev. Charles F. Bates, currently serving as lead pastor at Fishersville UMC on the Staunton District, will be the new district superintendent of the Rappahannock River District. He will replace the Rev. Dr. Ted Smith who has served as the Rappahannock River DS since 2011.



The Rev. Denise P. Bates, currently serving as the lead pastor at Cave Spring UMC on the Roanoke District, will be appointed to serve as the new district superintendent for both the Danville and Farmville districts. On the Danville District she will replace the Rev. Dr. Janine Howard and on the Farmville District she will replace the Rev. Bob Parks. Both have served their districts since 2011.

In this new model, Bishop Lewis will also appoint an assistant to the DS for each district. Those part-time positions will be announced at a later date.

Please join Bishop Lewis in giving thanks for these servants and pray for all involved in these transitions.

5-day Safe Sanctuaries Policy Workshop, March 25-29

Prepare for your children and youth programs with this five-day online workshop for congregations that don't have a Safe Sanctuary policy or whose policy is outdated, needs revision, doesn't meet the needs of current ministries, etc. Participants will learn why congregations should have an up-to-date policy, what the policy includes generally and specifically, and how to get a policy written, approved, and implemented – or edited.

Because this is an INTENSIVE workshop, participants will need to be involved on the site every day to receive a completion certificate. Plan on reading two documents, posting a response to one question, and posting responses to at least two other participants every day – a minimum of an hour a day.

You are required to read *Safe Sanctuaries: Reducing the Risk of Abuse in the Church for Children and Youth*, by Joy Thornburg Melton, as a part of this course. Please make sure you have access to a copy of this book throughout the duration of the course.

Following this workshop, you may decide to schedule six additional weeks of support while you get your policy written or edited. The additional time would consist of once-a-week, one-hour conference calls or chat room conversations, for an additional \$150.

This course is eligible for 0.5 CEU.

Click the link for more information and to register <https://www.beadisciple.com/online-christian-courses/ffd157-five-day-intensive-workshop-safe-sanctuary-policy/>

Seven Habits of Highly Effective People

On February 5th, 6th, and 7th, 2019, Baylake United Methodist Church in Virginia Beach, Virginia, will offer the three-day course based on the book by Stephen R. Covey, *The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People*. The course is open to members and non-members alike.

In the book, *The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People*®, Stephen R. Covey presents a holistic, integrated, principle-centered approach for solving personal and professional problems. With penetrating insights and pointed anecdotes, he reveals a step-by-step pathway for living with fairness, integrity, service and human dignity. Come learn these universal principles in his three-day (24 hour) workshop designed to teach the content of his book. Covey's purpose for writing is to invite readers to examine their faith and lives from a fresh perspective and consequently deepen their commitment to the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The cost of the workshop is \$275 for each participant and includes a participant manual, 360-degree assessment, and lunch and snacks for the three days. The purpose of the class is to empower each person to be more effective at creating and being the person God wants them to be.

Full participation in the three-day schedule of 8 AM till 5 PM will result in earning 2.2 continuing education units.

Clark Dennis Cundiff, who is serving in his eighteenth year as a pastor with the United Methodist Church and who has a Masters in Human Resource Development and a Masters in Divinity and has facilitated this class over 35 times since 1994, will teach the class.

Please contact Clark Cundiff clarkcundiff@vaumc.org or call the church office at 757-464-2423 if you are interested in attending.

Clergy Spouse Retreat

I wanted to pass along the website for the clergy spouse retreat coming up March 8-9, 2019 at Camp Overlook near Harrisonburg. It would be great to see you there. If you'd like to have your district office send a notice to your clergy spouses, please feel free. The registration can be done online or by calling in. Space is limited, and this is a wonderful speaker, as you know (Julie Anderman from Pennsylvania, who spoke to us at Conference). The webpage for registration is <https://www.ciseverywhere.com/ereg/newreg.php?eventid=380672&>
Lisa Rochford

How Women Rise

I am offering a 2-day workshop: Feb. 13 and May 8, 2019 for women based on the book *How Women Rise*. This book identifies 12 behaviors common to many women, behaviors that hold them back from achieving their professional and personal goals. The brochure with more information is attached.

If you know clergy or lay women who would benefit from these workshops, please forward this email to them. It has been approved for CEU and funding by the conference.

Rev. Dr. Margaret T. Kutz

Path 1 and Epicenter Coach

Point of Contact for www.Abuklor.org in South Sudan
804-305-6100 (mobile)

Fresh Expressions Vision Day

We are excited that the Charlottesville District churches will be invited to the Fresh Expressions Vision Day at Calvary UMC in Stuarts Draft on Saturday, February 16.

Please find attached several documents that you can share with your church pastors:

- Valley Vision Day Flyer
- Fresh Expressions Talking Points Handout
- Fresh Expressions Vision Day Handout

Let us know should you need additional information and/or assistance in promoting this exciting training event.

Thank you in advance for your help!

MaryKaye Cochran

Admin Assistant, Center for Congregational Excellence

Virginia Conference of the United Methodist Church

P.O. Box 5606

Glen Allen, VA 23058

804.521.1100, ext. 155

marykayecochran@vaumc.org

Bowling for a Cause

Sunday, March 24, from 2-4 pm, the Charlottesville District Partners in Ministry and Mission Team will be raising funds for the Charlottesville Apartment Project by teams of people bowling. This will be at AMF Kegler's Lanes, 2000 Seminole Trail, Charlottesville (across the street from Gander Mountain on Route 29) 434-978-3999. To register or for more information, contact Deb Reynolds at rynidsdeb@yahoo.com or 434-295-8217. Also see flyer attached to the email with this newsletter. It can be used for posters to advertise in your churches.

Youth News

Youth Retreat

Weekend of February 22-24, 2019

Westview on the James

The price for the February Retreat will be \$80.00 if registrations are received by January 28.

A \$40 nonrefundable deposit should be paid with each registration.

Registrations received after January 28 will be \$100.00.

No registrations will be accepted after February 6.

See the flier attached to the email with this newsletter for the registration.

We will be collecting toiletries for TOP (Teens Opposing Poverty). They are in need of the following items: soap, toothpaste, toothbrush, shampoo, wash cloth, shaving cream, razors, deodorant and white socks. Please note that white works best because some people have skin reactions to dyed socks when their feet sweat.

Save the Dates!

District Fifth Sunday Praise and Worship 2019

March 31, June 30, September 29, and December 29

Youth Rally

August 25, 2019

Churches are invited to host one of the worship services and/or the Rally.

Questions or to host an event, contact RebeccaWagner DCYMCoordinator @ wagnerwimps@yahoo.com or call 434-823-4645

Letter from Rise Against Hunger to the District Youth

Dear Rebecca,

It is with great pleasure that we announce the destination of the Rise Against Hunger meals you helped package on 11/3/2018. A shipping container, holding 285,120 meals, has been sent to Honduras for our partner Convoy of Hope. If you happen to receive more than one of these announcements, your meals have gone to impact multiple partners.

Convoy of Hope is an organization that nourishes lives through food assistance and other services in Honduras. To learn more, please visit our partner/country spotlight on the Impact Stories tab and click and drag on our World Aid Map at <https://www.riseagainsthunger.org/world-aid/>.

Ending hunger is only possible if we continue to grow the movement. We encourage you to share the news about this shipment. Since 2005, volunteers like you have helped us distribute over 310 million meals worldwide. **We can end hunger by 2030**, but we can't do it without you.

Please visit our website www.riseagainsthunger.org and continue your involvement. Consider making a donation, planning another meal packaging event (at your place of worship, school, company, civic club, etc), joining our advocacy efforts, or even inviting us to speak to a group.

Conference Leadership Positions

Leadership for God's church will be critical going forward in these turbulent times. As God's people gathered in the Wesleyan spirit, we understand how God calls us to serve God's kingdom in various ways. One important way is to serve in a position of leadership beyond your local church. The Virginia Conference seeks to lift up and nurture those who feel led to serve the United Methodist connection in vital positions of conference leadership.

As either laity or clergy, if you feel led to serve the conference we invite you to go to our conference website at www.vaumc.org. When the home page opens click on "Resources" and scroll down to "Nominations". When you open the Nominations page you will see a downloadable form titled Nominations Profile form. Please complete this form and send to the Charlottesville District Office. Profiles must be submitted to the conference by Feb. 1, 2019.

Grants for Youth Groups

If your church youth group is raising funds for **special projects or mission trips**, we want to help.

Each quarter we will be awarding a grant for up to \$500 to a United Methodist youth group within the conferences we serve. We welcome the opportunity to help our youth in their service to others.

Applications deadlines: Winter Grant- February 28

<https://www.tumcu.org/grants-for-youth-groups/>

Chili Cook-Off and Comedy Night

Featuring Shawn Reynolds, this evening is for audiences 16 and up. February 17, the Chili Cook-Off will be at 5 pm and the Comedy Event at 6:30 pm. Culpeper UMC, 1233 Oaklawn Dr., Culpeper, VA. Early bird pricing: \$20 per person, \$50 per family. See flyer attached to the email with this newsletter. For tickets, please visit COMEDYNIGHTCUMC.EVENTBRITE.COM.

Convergence: Where Faith and Science Meet

This is a 9-day program (June 22-30, 2019) that allows current 9th, 10th, and 11th grade students to come to Randolph-Macon's campus in Ashland, Va., and learn about the intersection of science and Christian faith. They will dive deeper into their religious beliefs, deeper into the study of science, and will meet other high school students and Randolph-Macon College student leaders with those same interests. There will be time in the classroom and outdoor experiences throughout the region. The cost to participate is only \$250 for this 9-day program. Upon high school graduation, if a Convergence participant chooses to attend Randolph-Macon, they will receive a \$1,000 annual scholarship for each year they participated in Convergence. [Please visit the website to learn more.](#)

Last year's Convergence program brought 32 outstanding high school students from across the East Coast to Randolph-Macon's campus, including 16 youth from Virginia Conference congregations. If you would like to nominate a participant, [click here](#) to fill out the nomination form, and the Convergence staff will contact your nominee with further information. The application form for participants is available [here](#).

Please contact Rev. Kendra Grimes or Laura Ruxton (convergence@rmc.edu) with any questions about the program.

The United Methodist Credit Union Is Offering 0% APR Loans For Those Affected By The Government Shutdown

The United Methodist Credit Union (TUMCU) is offering loans to Federal Government Employees that may need paycheck replacement during the current shutdown. Loan amounts are based on the member's monthly pay prior to the shutdown. Loans have a 0% APR during the shutdown, and are available up to a maximum of \$5,000.

- *Applicants must be eligible for TUMCU membership or a current member.*
 - *Applicants must provide documentation that they are affected by the shutdown and verification of income at the time of application.*
 - *Once the shutdown has ended and paychecks have been restored, loan repayment is due within 30 days. If the loan is unpaid after 30 days, it will be converted to a 12-month interest bearing loan at 9.25% APR. Credit terms and conditions apply.*
- Contact TUMCU at 866-657-0004 to apply or for more details.

Janie Hightower Marketing Manager
The United Methodist Credit Union
(866)-657-0004 Toll Free
(804) 672-0200 Office
(804) 672-0444 Fax
www.tumcu.org

Help for an Individual

As you know Wesley Memorial UMC is offering sanctuary to an individual. If you or your church would like to help with this ministry please reach out to Pastor Isaac. If anyone would like to know more about helping, please tell them to email me at pastorisaac@wesleymumc.org

Come Pray with Us at the Kindred Project

February—the month of love. As we focus on the love that binds our human relationships, let us remember the source of our love. "We love, because He first loved us." (1 John 4:19, NIV).

The Kindred Project invites you to join us in deepening our awareness of God's love. The Kindred Project is a group of clergy and laity who gather together for the practice of spiritual disciplines, contemplative prayer, and fellowship.

We gather on the second Tuesday of each month at First United Methodist Church, 101 East Jefferson Street, Charlottesville, VA 22902. We meet from 8:00 am until about 10:00 am. We pray, have some time of silence, share, and celebrate Holy Communion. Beginners and long-time practitioners of spiritual practices are welcome.

Our next meeting will take place on Tuesday, February 12. Join us, as we celebrate God's love in our lives.

For more information or to get on our email reminder list please contact Rev. Tom Frost at tefrost@aol.com.

Wesley Heritage Tour

April 23-May 1, 2019

"I invite you to join me on this Wesley Heritage Tour that will expand our knowledge of the ministry of John Wesley. Please consider this my personal invitation to be a part of this adventure in faith and join me in experiencing a once in a lifetime journey!" - Bishop Sharma D. Lewis

To see details about the trip, go to: [http://](http://www.co.travelwithus.com/tours/he19042319/#.W89GuvnNtLM)

www.co.travelwithus.com/tours/he19042319/#.W89GuvnNtLM

Shenandoah University Youth Theology Institute

This is a 14 day institute (July 14-27, 2019) where high school students explore the exciting intersection of faith and justice. Upon completion of the institute, and a self-identified justice project in their local context students receive **3 credits from Shenandoah University**. At SUYTI students spend one week at Shenandoah University in Winchester VA and one week at Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington D.C. Each day includes worship, class time with world-class professors, compelling afternoon immersive experiences, and mentoring from undergraduate and seminary students. The cost for students in 2019 is only \$200.

SUYTI is open to current 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th grade students. If you would like to nominate a student you can use our [2019 NOMINATION FORM](#)

You can find our [2019 STUDENT APPLICATION](#), and more information on our website: www.su.edu/youththeology For more information please contact Rev. Colleen Hallagan Preuninger (cpreunin@su.edu) 540-665-5453.

Helping Hands

Helping Hands is a hands-on mission experience for rising 4th-6th graders. We have three host churches this year who invite your church to come and be a part of the fun, worship, and service. Registration links will be on the conference website in March but we want to make sure you have this great event on your calendar. June 26 & 27 hosted at St. Paul's UMC, Staunton, VA, Contact: Chris Lyle lyle.chris@gmail.com, Aug. 1 & 2 hosted at Woodlake UMC, Midlothian, VA, Contact Dianna Foster dfoster@woodlakeumc.org, Aug 1 & 2 hosted at Deep Creek UMC, Chesapeake, VA, Contact: Keriann Craig keriann.craig@deepcreekumc.org.

UMW Reading Program

I am Catherine McLaughlin, the new UMW Reading Program Coordinator. I would like to encourage all the district units to participate in the reading program. There are a lot of good books to choose from and your individual units can decide to buy the books or borrow them from the district. I, personally, am a reader, and love the choices we have to read from. If you have a question, or need to know how to start a reading unit in your unit, please get in touch with me!

Certificates are given for the books read. There is a program for children too. What a great way to get the children involved! Catherine McLaughlin
catdmclaughlin@gmail.com

Annual Conference Delegates

Pam Bryant
Pat Cutright
Mary Jeffries
Sue Lewis
Karen McGowan
Anthony Moyers
Kimberly Moyers
Helen Nitzsche (Youth)
Ashley Oliver (Young Adult)
Mary Parr
Deb Reynolds
Hu Shaffer
William Stead
Rebecca Wagner
Margaret Webster
Nina Winkler

Christmas ChildHelp Ministry

ChildHelp is a social service group that houses abused children who have been removed from their families at court order. They provide housing, food, education, and activities to the children they receive. Their campus is just a few miles from Hopewell UMC. This year they asked us for socks, underwear, pajamas, and slippers for the 68 children currently residing at ChildHelp. Here are the pictures from our collection. Our members purchased enough of the required clothing to provide for every child.



Westview on the James

A message from Westview's Board Chair: Paige Bell

Dear Friends and Families of Westview:

In October, I shared with you that due to health issues, Pete Albert would be stepping down from his full time role as the Executive Director on November 30, 2018. Pete will continue to be associated with the camp in a part-time capacity, as his health allows. The Board of Stewards is incredibly grateful to Pete for the leadership that he has provided to the camp. In November, a dinner was held to celebrate Pete and to thank him for his many contributions to the camp. The high ropes course that Pete designed and built at Westview will be named after him and a commemorative plaque will be placed in his honor at the ropes course.

The Board of Stewards formed a committee to actively undertake the search for Pete's successor. After assessing Westview's strengths and opportunities for growth, the Search Committee established the criteria for hiring the next Camp Director. After a robust search, the Board of Stewards is pleased to announce that Bobby Boyd has been hired as the next Camp Director of Westview.

Bobby earned a B.S. in Business Management from Asbury College and a M.A. in Christian Formation in Ministry from Wheaton College. His experience includes having served as the Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries at Warwick Memorial United Methodist Church, as the Program Director at Riverside Lutheran Bible Camp, and most recently as the Director of Waukaway Springs Christian Retreat Center. Bobby is married and he and his wife, Jenny, have two beautiful daughters. The family will reside at Westview. The Rev. MJ Kim (of Kim Cabin) described Bobby as "impeccable" and said that Bobby is devoted to camp ministry and focused "not just on having a good time at camp, but on the spiritual things going on at camp." Rev. Jessie Colwell, the Pastor of Rappahannock Charge UMC, who worked with Bobby when he was a youth pastor, wrote that Bobby "combined his love of the outdoors with his passion for Jesus Christ. He loved to teach the youth about God's love for them." Rev. Colwell is very familiar with Westview having participated in Adventure Camp, served as summer staff, and then, as a pastor, she brought youth to confirmation camp at Westview. She said that Bobby "would be a wonderful addition to the Westview family."

Bobby will join Westview on February 4, 2019. He is excited to work with the staff to promote Westview's mission of "Creating a place apart to grow with God in every season."

We want to thank our families and wonderful donors for your prayers and continued support through this transition. We believe that in hiring Bobby, we have found an experienced Camp Director, with a passion for outdoor ministry, to provide leadership and direction for the camp and assure that Westview achieves its Vision of "Playing outdoors. Building community. Transforming lives." Bobby is looking forward to Westview's exciting 2019 retreat and summer camp season.

Any inquiries should be directed to the Chairperson of the Board, Paige Bell at westviewdirector@gmail.com

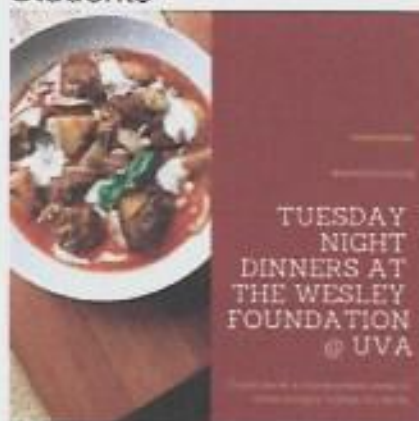
Westview on the James Board of Stewards

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Dates to Remember

February 2	ERT Certification
February 3	ERT ReCertification
February 5-7	7 Habits of Highly Effective People
February 12	Kindred Project
February 13	How Women Rise Workshop
February 16	Fresh Expressions Vision Day
February 22-24	District Youth Retreat
February 23-26	General Conference
March 8-9	Clergy Spouse Retreat

A Home Cooked Meal for College Students



Wesley Foundations are United Methodist supported campus ministries. Did you know there's a Wesley Foundation at UVA? Located across from Grounds, this ministry invites, welcomes, and equips students to explore, engage, and embody an active and transforming faith. Weekly opportunities include Sunday night worship, Tuesday night dinner and a discussion focusing on faith-related topic, and small groups.

One of our biggest weekly events is Tuesday night dinner. During the school year the Wesley Foundation offers free weekly dinners as a place for fellowship and a home cooked meal.

"I value Wesley dinners because I'm reminded of the community of students around me as well as the church community that exists around the university that is supporting us by giving their time and their service," says Emily Church, a UVA Wesley Foundation alum.

"As a graduate student I generally don't leave my lab until 9 or 10 at night. By the time I make it home, cooking for myself is the last thing on my mind, so 90 percent of my dinners consist of frozen pizza or some other quick (probably unhealthy) alternative. Tuesday night dinners give me a chance to have a home cooked meal once a week that I can look forward to," says Philip Hahn, a third-year graduate student perusing his doctorate in Chemistry.

If you are interested in providing dinner on a Tuesday night, please contact Leatha Harlow at leathaharlow@comcast.net. For this semester, we're looking for more volunteers during February and March, but we'd love for you to come serve! For more information about the Wesley Foundation at UVA, please visit: wesleyatuva.org.

Bible Study Challenge

Since 2017, Bishop Lewis has been encouraging the Virginia Conference to read the Bible in a year. Each year has featured a different way of reading.

- 2017- read the Bible straight through
- 2018- 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. In this new year, challenge yourself to study the Bible and strengthen your faith in the process. Each month's readings will also be printed in each Advocate issue.

Tips on reading the Bible daily:

- Start reading the Bible today.
- Set aside a specific time and place each day. Set your schedule and then stick to it. Mornings are great; but feel free to use any time that works consistently with your schedule.
- Get a good study Bible to help to illuminate the meaning of the original Hebrew, Aramaic and Greek text.
- Choose a translation to use during your reading.
- Say a short prayer to God before you begin, asking the Holy Spirit to give you wisdom and understanding.
- Dive in and enjoy the richness of God's Word! Apply God's Word to your life. Bible study should be practical and applicable. I assure you that these seven steps will help you begin a journey in becoming a "lifelong learner" of God's Word.

Newsletter Deadline - February 15

Please send your submissions for the **March 2019** newsletter by January 15 to Carol Frost at cifrost@aol.com.

The Ambassador by email

If you would like to receive The Ambassador by email, or if your email address has changed recently, please send an email to the District Office with your request to CharlottesvilleDistrict@vaumc.org

ERT Certification Classes

ERT Basic Certification Class

Galilee United Methodist Church is hosting an ERT (Early Response Team) Basic Certification Class. Tom and Linda Cooper will lead the training. **This class is intended for those individuals seeking to become new ERT Team members.**

Saturday, February 2

8am - 4pm

45425 Winding Road

Sterling, VA 20165

The cost of the training is \$35. Checks should be made out to "Galilee UMC" and can be brought on the day of training.

Registration link: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdHeZ_q8eKrijLkyxCSqbgN89upN6ZqrluRNxW93MCY_BDrAw/viewform?usp=sf_link

ERT Recertification Class

Galilee United Methodist Church is hosting an ERT (Early Response Team) Recertification. Tom and Linda Cooper will lead the training. This course is for ERT Team members have previously held an ERT Certification and need to renew. **Please note that this class is NOT for individuals seeking to become new ERT Team members.**

Sunday, February 3

1pm-4pm

45425 Winding Road

Sterling, VA 20165

The cost of the training is \$35. Checks should be made out to "Galilee UMC" and can be brought on the day of training.

Registration link: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScs5Ck1XoT11FkxMa20YSdLEc7R-z6SmW4w1JPN34cF2fk2g/viewform?usp=sf_link

Connectional Ministries of the Virginia Conference of the United Methodist Church is looking to select summer interns for two roles: Communications and Next Generation Ministries.

CX-21 (Connections 21) is a 10-week full-time summer internship for college students interested in using their gifts/skills in a faith-centered work environment. In addition to each specific role, during the 10-week period interns will read books/articles together; reflect on the intersection of faith and work; develop their strengths; listen to stories of others who have been through the journey of professional and vocational discernment.

For details, visit the Virginia Conference website at www.vaumc.org/jobs



SAVE THE DATE - Tuesday, April 2, 2019 - for the Faithful Aging Conference.

We are pleased to announce the third Faithful Aging Conference, presented by the University of Lynchburg Beard Center on Aging and Pinnacle Living. Persons of all faith traditions are invited to come learn, network, and share best ministry practices as we address opportunities related to aging congregations and meeting the needs of older adults, inside and outside the walls of our faith communities. Plans for the day are being finalized.

- Melissa Andrews, Chief Executive Office of LeadingAge Virginia, will offer the keynote address on our theme of *Aging Abundantly*.
- Hess ("Doc") Hall, Director of Older Adult Spiritual Formation Programs for The Upper Room, will close our day with a focus on sharing our legacy of faith.
- Workshop offerings will include:
 - Effective communication across the stages of dementia
 - Things everyone needs to know when making hospital and end-of-life visits
 - Health equity and the needs of older adults
 - Using music to deepen spirituality
 - Scams and financial exploitation
 - Health ministries as support and outreach to older adults
 - Practical ways to enhance ministries with people with dementia
 - Dealing with loss and grief
 - A local partnership model to meet the needs of seniors
 - Using music to reach parishioners living with dementia
 - Spirituality and aging
 - Understanding and navigating senior services.

The conference will be held at Culpeper Baptist Church, Culpeper VA. Conference details and registration information will be available in January 2019.

Opportunities are still available for sponsors and exhibitors. You can find more information at: <https://www.lynchburg.edu/academics/academic-community-centers/beard-center-on-aging/faithful-aging-conference/>

For general information, contact Martha Stokes at mstokes@pinnacleliving.org or 804-474-8718. Mark your calendar and plan to attend!



General Conference Feb. 23 - 26

Understanding and Praying for the General Conference
General Conference is the United Methodist Church's top legislative body. See page 1 of this newsletter.

The General Conference is an international body of nearly 1,000 delegates. The delegates are elected by annual conferences (at annual conference sessions) to attend General Conference. They represent all United Methodists voting delegates from the following areas of the world.

The singular focus of the Special Session of General Conference will be the portions of *The Book of Discipline*, our denomination's book of law, that address issues of human sexuality. Delegates will discuss and vote on the recommendations of the Council of Bishops and the report of the Commission on A Way Forward; The delegates will also have to consider petitions and resolutions submitted by individuals, agencies and annual conferences within the denomination that relate to issues of human sexuality and *The Book of Discipline*. The action of this General Conference may result in a revision of The Book of Discipline, and the church's official stand on issues of human sexuality the practice of gay marriage, and the ordination of gay persons.

How is God guiding you to pray for the General Conference delegates and our bishops?

- Pray for all the delegates to General Conference: the Virginia Conference delegates as well as those from other conferences, here and around the world.
- Pray for the General Conference Committees.
- Pray for the General Agencies that implement the decisions of the General Conference.
- Pray for the United Methodist Council of Bishops.
- Pray for the mission vision and passion of The United Methodist Church.
- Pray for the unity of the United Methodist Church.

VA Delegates to the 2019 General Conference

Clergy

Rev. Thomas Berlin	Rev. Meredith McNabb
Rev. Dr. Denis Honeycutt	Rev. Dr. Jr. Clarence Brown
Rev. Estep Tammy	Rev. Dr. Ted Smith
Rev. Rosario Ileana	Rev. Peter Moon
Dr. Kendall Soulen	Rev. Mark Ogren
Rev. Rob Vaughn	

Clergy Reserves

Rev. Seonyoung Kim	Rev. Bob Cooper
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Laity

Ms. Martha Stokes	Mr. Warren Harper
Ms. Shirley Cauffman	Mr. Nathaniel Bishop
Ms. Virginia Greer	Ms. Darlene Amon
Ms. Winston Joyce	Mr. Gene Mims
Ms. Beth Christian	Ms. Alison Malloy
Mr. Marshall Bailey	

Lay Reserves

Mr. Lawrence Burian	Mr. Jacob Paysour
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Attached to this email are fliers about Lay Nominee Form, 2019 Convergence, Youth Retreat Feb, 2019, FX Talking Points, FX Vision Day, Landscape Poster, Valley Vision Day, How Women Rise, Bowling for a Cause