

THE DISTRICT BEAM

Final Publication from
NORFOLK DISTRICT
Virginia Conference
United Methodist Church

JUNE 2011

From the District Superintendent

As a child it was important that soon after I received a gift for Christmas or birthday that I was to write a thank you note to the giver of the gift. I can remember my mother standing over me watching me like a hawk as I scribbled out as short a thank you as I could get away with. Even today, I find it hard, but very necessary, to write a note of thanks for someone's kindness to me.



Kay and I are finding time together to attend a weekly Bible study. We are studying the book of Ephesians. In the first 14 verses of Chapter 1, Paul pours out his great thanksgiving in a long thank you note for personal blessings from God. He writes a thank you note to God for God's blessings to Paul, to the church, and also for overarching blessings of God for all of creation. It is a great thanksgiving for God's lavish outpouring of his grace. Paul reminds all of us in these verses from Ephesians that a full life begins by saying, "thank you" to God.

This outpouring of blessings from God reminds me that I feel blessed by God right now as I am on the eve of becoming the district superintendent of the new Elizabeth River District. For me the blessings will be new churches and new people to get to know. The blessings will be to discover great talent and commitment on our new district from our clergy and laity alike.

The blessings are for all of us. Paul also writes in Ephesians about unity in Christ and about sharing the glad gospel. We witness to the goodness of God by our working together in unity so that everyone has the great privilege and chance to be a servant for Christ using our spiritual gifts. We share the gospel message of hope through storytelling, through song, through good works of love and care. I know that I will, in the days to come, see this kind of outpouring of unity and joy in all of our churches.

I will want others around the Conference to hear about and perhaps come to experience the unity and the joy we will have as the Elizabeth River District. I will want others to know what great things God will be doing among us and with us. I look forward to learning anew or for the first time the richness of ministry we will have on the Elizabeth River District. I look forward to beginning this experience as we come together for the first time on Sunday, July 17, at 3:00PM at New Creation-Aldersgate Church to celebrate all things new. See you then!

Love,

Brad



DISTRICT LAY LEADER

If I'm not mistaken, I started last June's article by saying, "June Is Busting Out All Over." Well, it is again, this year! My father used to say that the older he got, the faster time flew. Well, he knew what he was talking about! It's June, again, it's Annual Conference time again, and it's time to celebrate Flag Day, Father's Day, and the First Day of Summer, just like we did last year.

Again this June, delegates from all around the Virginia Conference will be converging, this year in Roanoke, Virginia where Bishop Charlene P. Kammerer will preside over the **229th Session of the Virginia Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church**, June 15 through 19. At Conference this year, we will be electing delegates to both the General Conference and the Jurisdictional Conference being held in 2012, thus, it has been extended one additional day.

This year's theme is: "Being Christ to Others: Snapshots of the Kingdom." At this year's conference, the redistricting as approved at the 2010 Annual Conference will be announced, and four new districts have been structured from this redistricting: the Elizabeth River District, the York River District, the James River District and the Fredericksburg District. What was the Norfolk District and portions of the Portsmouth District will now be known as the **Elizabeth River District**. The Laity Banquet at this year's AC will be held on Friday evening, June 17, 5:00 p.m. at the Hotel Roanoke Conference Center. The guest speaker will be Dr. Scott Johnson, President of the Association of Annual Conference Lay Leaders. Tickets won't be sold at the door, but I have some that can be obtained by sending a check for \$29.00 each, and a self-addressed stamped envelope to me at: 5869 Baynebridge Drive, Virginia Beach, VA 23464. I will also have any remaining tickets available at the **Orientation Session for delegates from the Norfolk District on Sunday, June 5, 2:00 PM at Haygood UMC**. There will also be special luncheons and other evening banquets that you can attend, by having an advanced reservation and ticket. The UMW and the UMM will both be sponsoring breakfast gatherings. Everything you will need to and want to know can be found on the conference website at: <http://www.vaumc.org/2011AC>.

Another event, coming up in July, that you will want to put on your calendar is the **Celebration Service of the Elizabeth River District** to be held on **July 17, 3:00 PM at Aldersgate "New Creation" UMC** in Chesapeake. See you there!

Shalom,

Keith

CHURCH POSITIONS AVAILABLE

ORGANIST/DIRECTOR of MUSIC [Norfolk] Ghent UMC is looking for a Organist/Director of Music. to lead all church music ministries; including Sunday services, adult and children's choirs, instrumentalists, and seasonal programs. We require an energetic blend of traditional and contemporary music styles to support the spiritual development of the church For details, visit the church's website www.ghentumc.org

ORGANIST/PIANIST [Norfolk] Miles Memorial UMC seeking part-time organist who loves Jesus Christ & has a passion for the organ. Must be flexible, enjoy working with all ages, races, and ethnic backgrounds. You must provide references of experience with both organ & piano. For a position description look up this ad at www.vaumc.org/jobs. Submit resume via email to: hillkatz@cox.net, Subj: Organist Application, or call church for mailing instructions, (757) 587-2852..

YOUTH MINISTRIES DIRECTOR [Portsmouth] Centenary UMC seeking a part-time Youth Director to provide leadership, supervision, & guidance for youth, grades 7-12. Responsibilities include coordinating & leading Sunday evening youth meetings, other fellowship events, mission opportunities, fundraisers & retreats. Applicants should have education or experience related to youth programs, with vision and enthusiasm. Good organizational skills and flexibility are essential. Please submit your resume to centenaryumc@verizon.net, or for questions call (757) 484-5051.

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC [Portsmouth] Monumental UMC seeking a part-time Director of Music. Position coordinates church music ministry including traditional Sunday worship service, weekly choir rehearsals, and children's music program. See detailed job profile and church information at www.monumentalumc.org. Email resume with professional references in Word or PDF format to monumentalumc@gmail.com. Position begins August 1. Review of resumes begins July 1. Will consider dividing organist/choir director duties into separate positions for right candidates.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE



VIRGINIA ANNUAL CONFERENCE June 15th—19th Roanoke Civic Center

Keep up with what's going on...
<http://vaumc.org/Page.aspx?pid=1786>

**Annual Conference
ORIENTATION**
Sunday, June 5th 2pm
*If you have not received your
Book of Reports call the
District office right away!*
473-1592

Laity Banquet
Friday, June 17th ~ Hotel Roanoke
Tickets \$29 contact keith.willyard@cox.net
409-1377, 479-0232, mail check to
5869 Baynebridge Dr, Va Beach 23464-1555

LAY SPEAKING MINISTRIES

There is an old Chinese curse that goes: may you live in interesting times. Well those of us serving in the Portsmouth and Norfolk Districts are defiantly doing just that. In just a few short weeks both Portsmouth and Norfolk districts will cease to exist, and in their places will be the new and improved Elizabeth River District. And things are getting really interesting.

First we would like to formally welcome all of you to the Lay Speakers Ministries of the Elizabeth River District, UMC. For the past several months the directors of lay speaking ministries from Norfolk and Portsmouth have talked, discussed, and reassembled programs, goals, and dreams for the new district.

Over the next several months we will be telling you about new training opportunities. Our first major event is already scheduled for Oct 14 and 15. More details will follow. We are also looking at a couple of retirement facilities that would like for us to do services for them. And another major goal is to let people know what we do. Not just at Roper Home, First Colonial, and our home churches, but what are we doing outside the day to day.

Again, welcome and we both look forward to working with you!

Arnie Lindblad
Hickory UMC

Barbara St. Jean
Scott Memorial UMC

School of Christian Mission to be at VUMAC July 22-24, July 25-28

Virginia United Methodist Assembly Center
Blackstone, Virginia
Weekend Session: **July 22-24, 2011**
Week Session: **July 25-28, 2011**
Classes will include:

Coming Out on the Side of Grace: Forgiveness
and Reconciliation
Geographic Study - Haiti: Challenges and Hopes
Joy to the World: Mission & Evangelism
Children's Study: Krik, Krak—The Study of Haiti
Youth Study: Forgiveness and Reconciliation



‘Pitching for Heart Havens’

These past few months, I have been making a pitch for Heart Havens, trying to encourage all to talk it up, to get involved in service to the ministry, and to support it monetarily. Now it's time to really start 'Pitching for Heart Havens' – horseshoes that is! That's right, it time to have some fun, get involved with other men with fellowship, and friendly competition, and ministry. Brother Jim Green, President Virginia Conference UMMen, has endorsed the concept of horseshoe tournaments in every district across our great state. The purpose is four fold: 1) raise awareness about Heart Havens in church and community; 2) raise funds for Heart Havens; 3) promote an active role of UMMen in Heart Havens ministry; 4) promote an active role of UMMen in outreach to men.

The idea is simple, set up local fellowship sponsored tournaments, declare a winner, have a District tournament, with the District Champions going to Blackstone to play for Virginia Conference bragging rights as the UMMen state champions. Potentially, the District playoff could be in August at Heart Havens Picnic at Community UMC.

Each tournament should be able to raise at least \$300 - \$500 through sponsorships, entry fees, food / beverages, etc..(\$1,000 is possible and has been done in Norfolk District in past). Our goal is at least 5 local tournaments and a District tournament with a conservative estimate of \$20,000 across the state this first year. We will be limited only by our own vision.

Since this idea was born in Norfolk District, it would be great to see us lead the way. I can tell you once you get on board the fellowship, ministry opportunities, and friendships formed will be lasting. I realize all do not play, neither do all play golf, tennis, etc.. It's about men in ministry, and Heart Havens is our ministry, we have taken ownership, and we need to keep moving forward. All funds raised in our District can be designated for maintenance and improvements to our two homes.

I have the concept, plans, sketches for portable / movable pits, rules references, tournament ladders, etc., all I need is a call from you saying you are interested. It is my plan to have a joint meeting of all interested parties, or I will meet with your group anytime we can develop a mutual date. I'm here to serve, and I'm just waiting on you to join me!

Clyde Harrell – District Advocate HH

Days 421-2631 ; e-mail : charrellsr@verizon.net

ALL THINGS NEW

Churches asked to participate in 'ALL THINGS NEW' Fundraising Campaign by June 12

Each Virginia Conference church has been sent a letter from Bishop Charlene Kammerer and a supply of “*All Things New*” brochures for distribution to congregation members. These brochures, along with the videos on a DVD sent to each church Feb. 1, are resources for churches to use as part of the “*All Things New*” fundraising campaign.

In addition, weekly stories from new faith communities will be posted on the conference Web site and e-mailed to pastors for inclusion in bulletins or worship announcements until June 12.

PLEASE NOTE: By Pentecost Sunday, June 12, each congregation is asked to receive gifts and pledges for “All Things New” and send any gifts and pledge information to Becki Stokes in the Conference Treasurer's office. Gifts and pledges should *NOT* be brought to Annual Conference, but the amounts reported to the Treasurer's office will be announced and celebrated during the Annual Conference session in Roanoke. Receipt of these gifts and pledges will conclude the financial campaign for “All Things New” approved by the 2009 Annual Conference. Questions about this invitation for financial support or “All Things New” may be directed to Marc Brown, conference director of Connectional Ministries, at MarcBrown@vaumc.org. — from *e-Advocate News from the Conference, May 27, 2011*

Norfolk District Resource Center

Open

Monday thru Thursday

Mornings 9am–1pm

NOW AVAILABLE:

UMW Reading Program

List 2007-2011





Notes from the Norfolk District President and Vice-President

Carolyn Patterson and Jacqueline Freebus
nanaavon@cox.net and pfreebus@cox.net

*He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making everything new!"
Then he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true." Rev. 21:5*

Changes are coming and the "new" will be the forming of the Elizabeth River District, as we will officially be known as of July 1, 2011. Clear your schedules and make every effort to attend the upcoming annual meeting. There will, as always, be uplifting and encouraging music; skits about change and our look to the future; and, inspiring speakers, John Hatcher, Executive Director, Wesley Community Service Center, Rev. Brad Phillips, current Norfolk District Superintendent, and Rev. John Vest, current Portsmouth District Superintendent. We are also looking forward to an accounting of the history of the UMW and Norfolk District as presented by Nancy Coleman.

The following invitation contains the pertinent dates, times and contact information for our annual meeting so call and make sure you've saved a space to participate in this exciting gathering.

Other important dates:

June 4th – UMW Day at Ferrum College,
for details, call Carolyn Patterson (424--0683)

June 18th – UMW Breakfast at Annual Conference
Airport Holiday Inn; hosted by Roanoke UMW
Time: 6:45 AM
Cost: \$14.00/person
Call Carolyn Patterson for tickets (424-0683)

**July 21-28 – Conference School of
Christian Mission, VUMAC**

You are Cordially Invited to Celebrate!

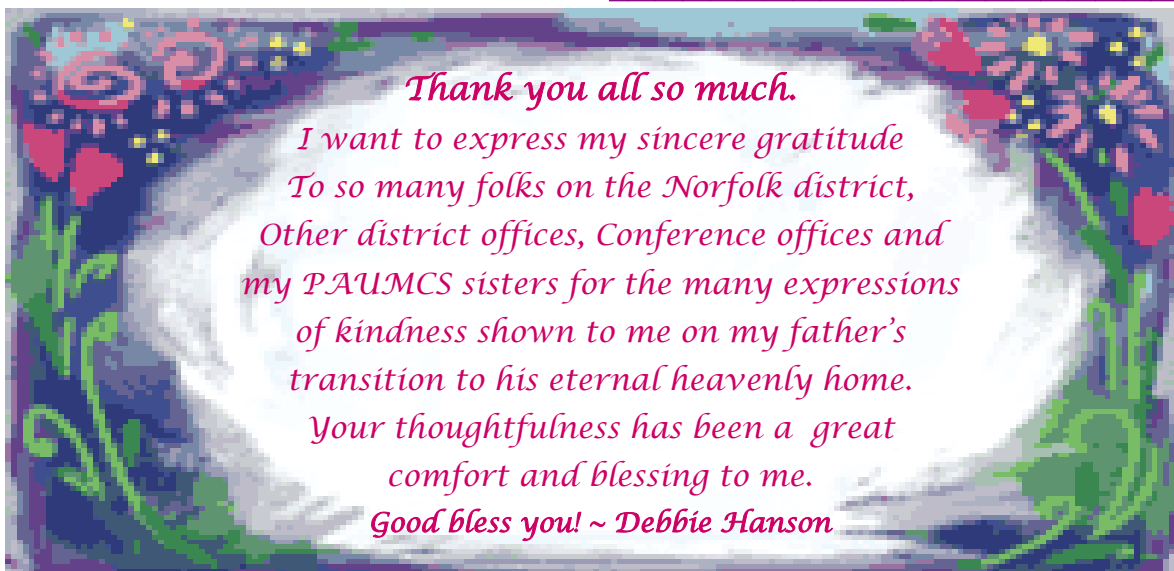
*Elizabeth River
United Methodist Women
First Annual Meeting*

*Oak Grove United Methodist Church
472 North Battlefield Boulevard
Chesapeake, Virginia 23320*

June 11, 2011 10:00 A.M.

*Reservations, please, by June 3
547-2319*

*Free Child Care by reservation
Phone: 547-2319*



Soap 4 Sudan



The 2010 Norfolk District Container Project was a huge success thanks to the generosity and participation of over 50 different churches and other organizations, which donated over \$300,000 in supplies and filled a 45-foot cargo container for the Harvesters Reaching the Nations orphanage in Terekeka, Southern Sudan.

After making a substantial contribution to the Norfolk District Container Project last year, Mount Ararat Baptist Church, in Stafford, VA, is committed to continuing this vital ministry and is leading a **2011 Container Project**. Mount Ararat has requested that Baylake UMC shares in this opportunity by collecting Bars of Soap for the Harvesters orphans in Southern Sudan

Please bring bars of soap to Baylake UMC and place them in the bin outside Ellen Cummings's office or contact Jon Johnson [jon@drajon.com] to arrange for a pick-up. Call 464-2423 for more information.

**The collection deadline is
July 1, 2011**



If you can't feed a hundred people, then feed just one.
MOTHER TERESA

G
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**GOD'S OUTDOOR TRAINING CAMP -
HAVE AN ADVENTURE!**

GOD'S
BOOT
CAMP

Register early!
Camp GOTCHA
is limited to the
first 200 recruits.

Lunch provided
or you may bring
your own.

**Tenth Annual
Children's Summer
Day Camp**
Rising 3rd-6th graders
August 1-5, 2011

**Baylake United
Methodist Church**
4300 Shore Drive
Virginia Beach, VA 23455

CAMP GOTCHA

AUGUST 1-5, 2011

9:00 AM - 2:30 PM

REGISTRATION FEE		FEE INCLUDES:
<u>Due Date:</u>	<u>Cost:</u>	MEALS (LUNCH AND SNACK) & A CAMP GOTCHA T-SHIRT!
Before April 30 th	\$15.00 per child	
Before May 31 st	\$20.00 per child	
Before July 15 th	\$25.00 per child	
After July 15 th	\$40.00 per child	
Camp Out for Rising 6 th Graders: Add additional \$5.00 Fee		

CONTACT: ELLEN CUMMINGS, 757-464-2423

You can download registration forms, poster, and bulletin inserts from the district webpage, under Upcoming Events & News...

http://www.gbqm-umc.org/norfolk_district_umc



**FOR IMMEDIATE
RELEASE:**

**Governor
Robert F. McDonnell
to Deliver
Keynote Address,
entitled . . .**

***Faith of Our Founding Fathers* at VUMAC**

The Board of Directors for Blackstone: The Virginia United Methodist Assembly Center announces an extraordinary opportunity for the Virginia Conference. On Saturday, June 11, 2011 special guest and keynote speaker **Governor Robert F. McDonnell** will deliver an inaugural Founders Day address entitled ***Faith of Our Founding Fathers***. Governor McDonnell's address will be preceded by a colonial style dinner in Blackstone's dining room and followed by a lively debate between renowned PBS interpreters for President George Washington and Governor Patrick Henry. In addition, area youth will salute the *Faith of Our Founding Fathers* in song.

For guests wishing to spend the night, following a hearty Southern breakfast, Bishop Hasbrouck Hughes will deliver the Sunday morning message on July 12. For event information or concerns, please telephone 434-292-5308 or email jenniferwall@vaumc.org

**Early Response Training to
be offered June 25**

When tornadoes, floods, hurricanes and ice storms bring destruction to our region, you can be prepared to help. The Virginia Conference and United Methodist Committee on Relief are offering Early Response Disaster Training 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. **Saturday, June 25**, at Thalia United Methodist Church, 4321 Virginia Beach Blvd., Virginia Beach. Cost is \$50 and covers background check, Virginia Conference badge, T-shirt, ERT manual and lunch. To register, contact Michele Michaelian at mlskcs@aol.com or (757) 642-1571.

It'll be here before you know it ...

Celebrating
a new district,
Elizabeth River District
July 17, 2011 — 3:00 p.m.,
New Creation—Aldersgate UMC
4320 Bruce Road, Chesapeake

A time for Worship —
a little traditional ... a little contemporary
followed by Fellowship & refreshments

Steve & Diantha Hodges

Missionaries in Sudan are coming to Virginia Beach!



Monday, June 27th 7:00 p.m. Haygood UMC

4713 Haygood Road, Virginia Beach 23455
Light refreshments will be served.

For more information and to RSVP, please call 499-1269.

Steve and Diantha are United Methodist Missionaries; since 1987 they have served in South Korea, North Carolina, and Tennessee doing community and economic development.

In August 2010, they began serving in Sudan. Please come gather with them as they share about their ministry!





Norfolk District Office
 Virginia Conference
 United Methodist Church
 P.O. Box 12654
 Norfolk, VA 23541-0654

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VA Conference Bishop . . . Charlene P. Kammerer
 District SuperintendentBradford L. Phillips
 District Secretary Deborah L. Hanson
 District Treasurer Mary R. Stroh
 District Lay Leader Keith Willyard

Office Location:

815 Baker Rd. Suite 301, Virginia Beach
Phone: 757.473.1592 **Fax:** 757.473.1790
Email: norfolkdistrict@vaumc.org

Website:

http://www.gbgm-umc.org/Norfolk_District_UMC

*More information, registration forms on
 Conference events can be found on the
 Virginia conference web-site: vaumc.org
 or from the District web-site*

Newsletter Articles Due 15th of every month

All articles should be submitted by email to
norfolkdistrict@vaumc.org

Job Announcements should be 60-words or less
 Events 100-words or less or 1/4 page flyer
 District Officers try to limit a half-page

*If you would prefer to get the newsletter by e-mail
 Send your request to norfolkdistrict@vaumc.org*

Return Service Requested



NORFOLK DISTRICT'S CALENDAR



- 2 Clergy Spouses' Farewell Dinner,
District Parsonage
- 5 ANNUAL CONF. **ORIENTATION**,
Haygood UMC, 2pm

- 11 UMW "A Day of New Beginnings" Oak Grove-10am
- 11 Youth end of Year Party-Little Island Park in Sandbridge- 3pm
- 12 DAY OF PENTECOST
- 14 Disaster Meeting, Mount Pleasant, 7pm
- 15-19 VIRGINIA ANNUAL CONFERENCE, Roanoke Civic Center
- 19 FATHER'S DAY



- 17 Elizabeth River Celebration, Aldersgate, Chesapeake 3pm
- 18 District Budget & Finance, 7pm at district office
- 21 District Stewards, 7pm



- 14 Clergy Family Welcome Picnic – VWC
- 16 Charge Conference Set-up Option1 – Deep Creek UMC
- 24 Charge Conference Set-up Option2 – Heritage UMC

VIRGINIA ANNUAL CONFERENCE
 June 15th—19th
 Roanoke Civic Center



Keep up with what's going on...
<http://vaumc.org/Page.aspx?pid=1786>