



A Newsletter of The Richmond District • Virginia Conference • The United Methodist Church  
July 2017



## Welcome, Farewell and Congratulations!

We welcome the following clergy who received new appointments to the Richmond District at Annual Conference in Hampton on June 18:

- ◆ Mi Sook Ahn to Fairmount UMC
  - ◆ Dickie Coffey, to Brookland UMC as lead pastor
  - ◆ Terry Eum to Brandermill Church as associate
  - ◆ Don Gibson to Beulah UMC
  - ◆ Amy Wolz Johnson to Central UMC
  - ◆ Joshua McCauley to Duncan Memorial UMC as associate
  - ◆ Christina McLain to Shady Grove UMC (Short Pump) as lead pastor
  - ◆ Sheldon F. "Mac" McLeod to Prospect UMC
  - ◆ Marie Misiaszek to Woodlake UMC as associate
  - ◆ Dorothy McNeer O'Quinn to Duncan Memorial UMC as lead pastor
  - ◆ Mark Rooks to Lakeside UMC
  - ◆ Adam Sowder to Discovery UMC
  - ◆ Art Thomas to Willis UMC
  - ◆ Michael Whaley to St. Matthew's UMC
- And wish God's richest blessings

to these pastors who are leaving to begin a new adventure in ministry:

- ◆ Lori Beach to York River District
  - ◆ Anita Mays to James River District
- And prayers for a blessed retirement

for:

- ◆ David Adkins
- ◆ Tim Gerde
- ◆ Steve Hundley
- ◆ Keith Mottley
- ◆ G. Dean Pittman

Congratulations to the following Richmond District candidates for ministry who were ordained, commissioned or licensed at Annual Conference:

Licensed as a Local Pastor:

- ◆ Terry Eum
- ◆ Marie E. Misiaszek

Commissioned as a Provisional Member:

- ◆ Marti Ringenbach
- Ordained as a Deacon:

- ◆ Amy Crisp

Ordained as an Elder:

- ◆ Anita Mays ◆



## Annual Conference Offering

As of June 29, \$118,000 has been received for this year's Annual Conference special offering, nearly \$82,000 shy of the goal of \$200,000. The offering was designated as follows:

- ◆ \$50,000 Cambodia
  - ◆ \$25,000 Brazil
  - ◆ \$25,000 Mozambique
  - ◆ \$50,000 Virginia Long Term Disaster Recovery
  - ◆ \$25,000 Ethnic Minority Missional Ministries
  - ◆ \$25,000 Virginia Volunteers in Mission
- Contributions may still be sent to the Conference Treasurer's office, P.O. Box 5605, Glen Allen, VA 23058. Designate "Annual Conference Offering" on your check or at the bottom of your apportionment statement. If the check is from a church, indicate the church GCF number on the check. ◆

## UM Center Closings

Effective July 1 the District Office and the Conference Center will close at 1 p.m. on Fridays through Labor Day. Please call before you come to assure that someone is here to greet you. ◆

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## Richmond District

The Virginia Conference • United Methodist Church  
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July 2017

Friends,

As parents of five children, Lynn and I have spent a lot of time at the fields and the bleachers watching sports. When it comes to raising teenagers, my go to adage has always been to keep my kids “busy, tired, and broke.” Sports has helped us to do that!

This interest has also put us in front of many of those great, but sometimes cheesy sports movies. We grew up with “Bad News Bears,” and made our way through “Field of Dreams” and “The Rookie.” The list could go on, but last week, after our Bishop’s Sunday morning sermon at Annual Conference, another movie and key line came to my mind.

In the movie “For the Love of the Game,” Kevin Costner plays an aging baseball player in the last game of a losing season. He and the team have endured disappointment regularly, but now, something new is happening. He is close to pitching a perfect game. As the final innings approach “Chappy” isn’t sure that he has anything left to finish the game. But then, Gus, the somewhat frumpy catcher approaches the mound. Gus has had his share of struggles, but he says to the tired pitcher:

“(We) are all here for ya, we’ll back you up, we’ll be there, cause, Billy, we don’t stink right now. We’re the best team in baseball, right now, right this minute... Just throw.”

At the risk of pushing a baseball movie illustration, I found my spirits lifted at Annual Conference this year. We have had a losing season. Every report and statistic has a downward trend. We have a commission that is trying to keep our denomination together. We are facing a culture that seems to have less and less interest in the things we United Methodist offer. It kind of feels like that last game of a losing season.

But then, at the end of Annual Conference, our Bishop stood on a chair.

With passion, Bishop Lewis spoke about a new thing, about leaving the former things behind, about making disciples. She spoke to all of us from our youth to our senior adults. She made her pitches with passion and energy. Suddenly, to a very tired team, there seemed to be a glimmer of hope, that God can and will really do a new thing. Suddenly, it feels like we don’t stink anymore. If our Bishop believes in us, maybe, just maybe our God does too.

As for me and my house, I am going for the new thing. We are going to be speaking more to this at our upcoming Charge Conferences. This year, we will be working from this Annual Conference theme of new things, hope, and discipleship, so stay tuned. I am looking forward to seeing what our living Lord has in store for us in this fall and beyond!

In Christ,

  
 Pete



### Pete Moon Receives Award

Pete Moon graduated from Union Theological Seminary and Presbyterian School of Christian Education (Union PSCE) with an M. Div. in 1991. On Tuesday, May 9, Richmond District Superintendent Rev. Dr. Peter M. Moon received the 2017 Distinguished Alumnus Award from Rev. Dr. Brian K. Blount, president of the, now named, Union Presbyterian Seminary (UPS).

Pete was born in Nashville Tennessee, raised in Rockville, MD, graduated from the University of Washington in Seattle with a degree in Aeronautical and Astronautical Engineering, and served as a Naval Flight Officer. In 1988, he left the U.S Navy to attend Union PSCE. Since then, he has served multiple pastoral appointments in Richmond, Fairfax, Farmville, and thirteen years at Woodlake UMC. He has also completed a DMIN at Wesley Theological Seminary.

Pete has served in Conference leadership on the Board of Ordained Ministry and as chair of the Five Talent Academy. He has served as a delegate to General and Jurisdictional Conferences and in 2015 he was appointed as the Richmond District Superintendent.

Pete began his remarks with the admission that he entered Union PSCE as a “cocky young navy flier” but he “didn’t know what he didn’t know.” He continued, “God used this school to bring humility into that life.” He thanked Union for helping him to find that humility.

Rev. Dr. Brian Blount acknowledged with thanks the presence of Bishop Sharma D. Lewis, then presented a certificate and offered his appreciation to Rev. Dr. Moon for his “devotion and service to the church.”

Pete is married to wife Lynn and they have five grown children. In his spare time, he enjoys running, cycling, woodworking, and car restoration. ♦



The Richmond District United Methodist Women invite you to come with us and see what the joy surrounding the new Shalom Farms is all about. If you haven't been to the farm yet, come join us on our half day trip to the Shalom Farms gardening location in Chesterfield just off Route 288 on Huguenot Trail Road. Mark your calendar now for Saturday, August 12, 9 a.m.- 12 noon.

Women, men and children are welcome to join us for this trip with hands on experience at the Farm. Wear comfortable shoes, bring a hat, gardening gloves and your water bottle. Several church bus pickup stops will be identified in the coming month. Contact Ruth Wilkinson 218-0627 for more information.

In His Service,  
Scotty Doyle, president  
Richmond District UMW

### Prayers for...

- ◆ Janet Davis, Conference Treasurer's Office, on the death of her daughter Suzanne on June 28.
- ◆ Rev. Bill Brown, retired deacon other conference, and family on the death of his wife, Rev. Judy Brown, retired deacon other conference, on June 28.
- ◆ The family of Rev. Charlene Beethoven, retired, who died June 29.
- ◆ The family of Rev. James H. Durrett, retired, who passed away June 28.
- ◆ Rev. Lee Sheaffer, retired, who is still in Healthcare but recovering well from a January stroke.
- ◆ The family of Rev. Ted E. David, retired, who died June 23.
- ◆ Rev. Barbara Lewis, Greenwood-Laurel Park, and father Rev. David Lewis who is hospitalized following abdominal surgery June 20. David's wife is Lieu Lewis, longtime Conference Christian educator.
- ◆ Rev. Marilyn Heckstall, Asbury (Church Hill) on the death of her brother, Clifton Lee Amstead on June 15.
- ◆ Rev. Jim Lavender, retired, who is being treated in Charlottesville for acute leukemia. ◆

### Helping Hands

Join us for Helping Hands, an exciting two day Virginia Conference Children's Mission Experience (rising 4th through 6th Graders) offered to all member churches of the Virginia Conference of the United Methodist Church.

The Richmond area event will be held July 27-28 at Woodlake UMC, 15640 Hampton Park Drive, Chesterfield. Contact MaryKaye Cochran at <MCochran@woodlakeumc.org>.

Come and learn about mission opportunities and the importance of being a caring Christian. The cost is only \$36 per person. This includes a t-shirt, meals, snacks, and an overnight stay. We will be sleeping on the floor and do not have shower facilities.

Possible Hands-On and Workshop Experiences Include painting, planting, window washing, visiting a veterans hospital, loving animals, feeding people, yard work, playing games with the elderly, washing wheelchairs, delivering needed supplies, making a meal for first responders, singing, sorting at a thrift store, playing with kids, worship and making new friends!

Registration for church groups and information about other dates/locations is at <<http://www.vaumc.org/Children>>.

Get your team together and learn what it is to be a United Methodist Kid in Mission! ◆

### Mission Encounter

Mission Encounter 2017, July 28-29, is a cooperative event sponsored by the Virginia Conference Missional Ministries Board (formerly the Board of Global Ministry) and the Virginia Conference United Methodist Women. The event will be held at Bon Air UMC in Chesterfield. This event offers a wonderful opportunity for your whole congregation to come alive to mission, by participating in an exciting weekend mission education experience. There are classes for adults where men, women, clergy and laity alike come to learn and be involved in mission groups by choosing one class out of three choices—a spiritual growth study, geographical study or social issue. This year the classes offered will be climate justice, living as a covenant community and the missionary conference of The UMC in the United States (Red Bird, Oklahoma and Alaska). Contact Gail Sutcliffe with questions at (703) 490-3381. See <[vaumc.org/events](http://vaumc.org/events)> for more



### UMFS High Tea

The UMFS Women's Auxiliary sponsored their annual High Tea for 40 residential students at UMFS Sunday, June 4 in the dining room. Students learned Tea traditions from Sheelagh Davis of Reveille and enjoyed traditional refreshments of scones, tea sandwiches, and fruit. The Women's Auxiliary meets the third Thursday at 3900 West Broad Street and includes representatives from forty United Methodist Churches. ◆

### Man, It's Really Going to Rain

Join us for a "fun-for-the-whole-family" play, Man, It's Really Going to Rain - The Story of Noah. You will laugh, but also learn God's message: "We are going to do what's right, even if it's hard." Wednesday, July 12, at 6:30 pm at Discovery UMC, 13000 Gayton Road. No charge—just come and join the Discovery Drama Troupe for a not-to-be-missed fun night! For more information, contact Kay Shreve at 303-5365 or <[kay@winningthetraininggame.com](mailto:kay@winningthetraininggame.com)>. ◆

### Summer Book Reviews

Reveille UMC, 4200 Cary Street Road, Richmond, invites you to their Summer Book Review Series. Reception begins at 10:30 a.m. in the welcome center, and book review at 11:00 a.m. in the chapel, with a book signing following each talk. The reviews are free and open to the public.

- ◆ Wednesday, July 19—Golf is My Life: Glorifying God through the Game, by Jon Decker.
- ◆ Wednesday, August 30—Flight: Of Butterflies and Robins and Other Winged Dreams, by Anne Poarch. Learn more at <[www.reveilleumc.org/book-reviews](http://www.reveilleumc.org/book-reviews)>. ◆

### Lay Servant Schedule

Donna Seward, director, Lay Servant Ministries: <donna\_t\_seward@yahoo.com>, 897-3309. Richmond District Certified Lay Servants lead worship regularly at the following care centers:

Date	Place	Speaker
7/2	Beth Sholom	A Henderson
7/9	Elmcroft	G Stephens
7/9	University Park	Bob Stephens
7/16	Beth Sholom	A Henderson
7/23	Elmcroft	TBD

### Holy Land Tour

Bishop Sharma D. Lewis invites you to join her on a 10 day Holy Land tour, February 26-March 7, 2018, that will expand your knowledge of the Bible and this sacred land. A journey following in the footsteps of Jesus will change the way you read the Bible, and you will learn why scholars refer to it as the "Fifth Gospel." The all inclusive cost from Richmond is \$3,398. Contact <tomjoyce@vaumc.org> for an information brochure.

Please consider this a personal invitation to be a part of this adventure in faith and join Bishop Lewis in experiencing a once in a lifetime journey as you walk where Jesus walked! ♦



### How to Structure Your Church for Evangelism

Featuring: *Jacob Armstrong*

**Thursday, October 19, 2017/ 9:00-3:00PM\***

\*Please plan to arrive by 8:30 AM for Registration, the event will begin promptly at 9.

*How to Structure Your Church for Evangelism* will explore key principles for evangelism in the local church including, crafting a vision that fits your mission field, rethinking worship and leadership development and structure.

To be held at 10 locations around the VAUMC, including

#### Woodlake UMC

15640 Hampton Park Drive  
Chesterfield VA 23832

#### WHO SHOULD COME?

Everyone who has a heart and desire for reaching people who feel disconnected to God. Bring a team from your church who want to learn about and participate in adaptive change.  
CEU: .5 Lunch Provided

**Event Cost: \$35/PERSON**

Registration deadline: **10/6**

**Early Bird: \$25/PERSON**

Must Register by: **9/14**

#### Group Pricing:

Team pricing discounts are available

**REGISTER: [vaumc.org/5talent](http://vaumc.org/5talent)**



## DISTRICT DISPATCH

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Sharma D. Lewis	Area Bishop
Peter M. Moon	District Superintendent
Susan Petrey	Administrative Assistant, Web Administrator
Cindy Payne-Ingroff	District Treasurer
Ron White	District Lay Leader
Scotty Doyle	District President, UMW
Claude Stocky	District President, UMM
Bill Chaffin	District Ministry of Scouting Coord.
Donna Seward	Director, Lay Servant Ministries

We're on the web at:  
[www.richmonddistrictumc.org](http://www.richmonddistrictumc.org)

The DEADLINE for the NEXT ISSUE is the 15th of the month.

### District Opportunities

- ◆ July 7-8-Candidacy Summit, Roslyn Retreat Center, 521-1126. Your Conference Connection, VAUMC Center, 521-1124.
- ◆ July 9-14-Counselor in Training Camp, Westview on the James, 457-4210. ◆ October 19-5 Talent Academy, Woodlake UMC, 521-1156.
- ◆ July 12-Man, It's Really Going to Rain, Discovery UMC, 303-5365. ◆ February 16-March 7, 2018-Holy Land Tour with Bishop Lewis, 521-1103. ◆
- ◆ July 19-Summer Book Review, Reveille UMC, 359-6041.
- ◆ July 27-28-Helping Hands, Woodlake UMC, 739-4535.
- ◆ July 28-29-Mission Encounter, Bon Air UMC, 703/490-3381.
- ◆ August 12-UMW trip to Shalom Farms, 218-0627.
- ◆ August 30-Summer Book Review, Reveille UMC, 359-6041.
- ◆ September 5-A Book and a Bag, Reveille UMC, 359-6041.
- ◆ October 11-VA PAUMCS, Experience