



District Conference is THIS Sunday, Nov 19 at Blacksburg UMC

Roanoke 150th District Conference Sunday, November 19, 2017 3:00 PM

Blacksburg United Methodist Church, 111 Church Street, Blacksburg, 24060

Rev. Kathleen Overby Webster, District Superintendent, will conduct the business of the district including highlights of district ministries, election of district leadership, committee reports, and election of district at large members to 2018 Annual Conference. Worship will follow and include special music offered by a **Roanoke District** choir. Everyone is welcome!



District Delegates to Annual

Conference are Still Needed -- Elections will be held at District Conference for **District Members At Large** to the June 15-17, 2018 Annual Conference Session in Hampton. Nominations are STILL being accepted and will be accepted FROM THE FLOOR at District Conference. New nominees MUST be present or have a completed form available or to submit. Youth and Young Adults are encouraged to participate. Click for the [Nomination Form](#).

S/PPRC & Finance/Treasurer Training

Tuesday, November 28 at 7:00 PM

St. Mark's UMC, 19 Cedar Ridge Drive, Daleville, VA 24083

Finance Chairs and Treasurers - Virginia Conference Treasurer, **David Domnisse**, will lead training for local church leaders involved in Finances including clergy, laity and church staff servings as treasurers, audit committees, finance committees, and financial secretaries. Includes: Internal Accounting Controls, Best Practices for handling church funds, Audits and Year End Statistics

Staff/Pastor Parrish Relations Committee (S/PPRC) - Roanoke District Superintendent, **Kathleen Overby Webster**, will present training for all members of local church Staff/Pastor Parish Relations Committees. The S/PPRC is the administrative unit in the local church where staff and congregational interests focus on the mission of the church. Includes: Committee Basics, Functions/Duties, Calendar Flow, Evaluations and more.

Registration encouraged phone: 540-989-3335 fax: 540-989-0672

by email to: RoanokeDistrict@vaumc.org

by mail to: UMC Roanoke District Office 4502 Starkey Road, Suite 101 Roanoke 24018

A Message from our District Superintendent

A Savior For a Troubled World

All Saints Sunday had been filled with rich worship, enjoyable table fellowship, and meaningful charge conferences. I was heading home from the last event of the day, through the fog that had rapidly descended as darkness fell. As I approached my dinner stop I was listening to a fascinating story on the radio. The interviewer was talking with law school students whose families had arrived in the US during the 1990's as refugees from political upheavals in places such as Bosnia and Haiti. The stories of hardship and danger were indeed captivating. But as my eyes scanned ahead for the entrance, I heard one young man say that from Haiti they had settled in Bristol, Tennessee because of a family connection with a **United Methodist missionary** who was a member of First United Methodist Church there. "And," he said, "We're still members there."

What a warm glow I had as I entered the restaurant, filled with thanksgiving for the witness of the **United Methodist Church**. Then, as my food was served, I glanced at an alert on my phone and saw the terrible news of the massacre during worship at First Baptist Church in Sutherland Springs, Texas. How quickly my heart and mind and spirit whiplashed from confident joy to deep sorrow.

We have seen again, in ways that tear at our hearts, the agony of this world. Families in shock planning multiple funerals, parents reeling with the awareness that their child is not coming home, all joining a company that stretches across every continent, war-torn regions, gang-controlled blocks, idyllic summer camp settings, movie theaters and shopping malls, grocery stores and political meet-and-greets, colleges and kindergartens, concerts and bars, synagogues, mosques, temples, and churches: Syria, Gaza, Norway, Chicago, Tucson, Portland, Blacksburg, Newtown, Charleston, Orlando, Las Vegas, Sutherland Springs.

As Peter Marty wrote in **The Christian Century** several years ago:

We still need a savior who has teeth for justice, spine for compassion, and heart for the trampled. A Savior who is up to the task of helping lost people find their way-one who can teach broken communities how to pull together. The Lord we need to meet is one unafraid to assist a troubled world.

May we journey with that Savior in faithful, active discipleship.

Even so, *Come, Lord Jesus, Come.*

Kathleen

In October, I:

- Worshiped with the Foothills Charge at Mt. Pleasant UMC, Parrish Chapel UMC, Mays Memorial UMC, Mt. Elbert UMC, Belview UMC, and the Catawba Circuit at Catawba UMC
- Conducted a Meet Your Pastor Session with one Staff/Pastor-Parish-Relations Committee
- Participated in Peer Covenant Group
- Participated in the October Cabinet Meeting and the Bishop's Strategic Visioning Steering Committee Meeting
- Attended the Goodson Academy for Preaching and the 5-Talent Academy
- Served on the Board of Ordained Ministry Seminary Visitation Team to Duke Divinity School
- Participated in Conference Common Table Personnel Committee Meetings
- Met with Bishop Lewis for my annual evaluation and consultation
- Participated in the District Common Table Meeting
- Participated in the September District Committee on Ordained Ministry meeting
- Convened 19 Annual Charge Conferences with 32 participating churches



- Consulted with laity and clergy in person, by phone, and through email

Upcoming Events

- Sunday, **Nov 19** - Alta Mons Annual Meeting, [Atla Mons](#), Shawsville 1 pm
- Sunday, **Nov 19** - District Conference, [Blacksburg UMC](#), Blacksburg, 3 pm
- Sunday, **Nov 26** - [United Methodist Student Day](#)
- Tuesday, **Nov 28** - [Giving Tuesday](#)
- Tuesday, **Nov 28** - SPRC & Finance/Treasurer Training, [St. Marks UMC](#), Daleville, 7 pm
- Thursday, **Nov 30** - [Clergy Day Apart](#), Cave Spring UMC, Roanoke, 9:30 am -3:30 pm
- Thursday, **Dec 14** - District Office Christmas Open House - 11 am - 2 pm
- Saturday, **Jan 6** - [Chat N Chew 2.0 with Bishop Lewis](#) -- Bethlehem UMC, Moneta
- Feb 9-11** - Roanoke District Youth Retreat at Wesley at VA Tech
- Saturday, **Feb 17** - [Leadership Training](#), 9 am - 12:30 pm - Greene Memorial UMC, Roanoke
- Saturday, **April 28** -- [Leading on the Edge](#), 9 am - 3 pm -- Fieldstone UMC, Christiansburg

Details and future dates are at www.roanokeumc.org.

Meet with Bishop Lewis on January 6 in Moneta

Guided by God's Spirit, **Bishop Lewis** has discerned that the emphasis for the **Chat and Chew 2.0**, on Saturday, January 6, at Bethlehem UMC in Moneta, will focus on the work of **The Commission on the Way Forward**. This will focus on unity and human sexuality, allowing lay and clergy voices across the conference to engage directly in this conversation. All lay and clergy are invited from four Districts -- Roanoke, Danville, Farmville and Lynchburg, for this time on Jan 6, from 9 am and concluding with lunch at 12:30 pm.



Registration is FREE, but due to space and planning for lunch, pre-registration is required. You can register [online](#) or by phone 989-3335 (with name, status clergy/laity, address, home and cell phone, church and district). Bethlehem UMC, 13586 Old Moneta Rd, Moneta. [More.](#)

Please Pray For



Congratulations to **Rev. Roy Miller**, in his retirement as chaplain from Hermitage - Roanoke. He is pictured (left) with Mike Kearney, Executive Director of Hermitage -Roanoke.

Rev. Dan Purdom, and his wife Amy, as Dan begins serving as the pastor at Wesley Memorial UMC in Christiansburg. Dan will continue to serve as pastor of Mount Elbert UMC.

The family of **Elaine Nuckols** a retired Diaconal Minister in our district, who passed away Nov 10. Her services were yesterday followed by a committal at Ferrum.

Congratulations to [David Johns](#), who has been named the new President of Ferrum College and will begin January 2018. Johns currently serves as Vice-President of Academic Affairs at

Union College, a United Methodist school in Barbourville, Kentucky.

GBGM Missionary **Becky Parsons**, as she leaves Roanoke's Community Outreach Program (COP) to be the Mission Interpreter for the NE Jurisdiction. (see article below)

Missionary Leaves for NE Jurisdiction



Dear Friends,

It is with a heavy heart that I write my last letter as missionary of the Community Outreach Program. Over the last 8 years, I am most amazed by the commitment of you to support, volunteer, and lay down your time to serve others at Community Outreach Program. The Lord works in mysterious ways, and there has not been one day of my 2,920 that I have not been witness to miracles. Come and see!

My new assignment, as of November 2017, is to be the Mission Advocate for the Northeast Jurisdiction -10 Annual Conferences. I will be traveling, speaking, coordinating and resourcing the Jurisdiction in all aspects of Global Ministries. From UMCOR to Global Health to mission service abroad and local.

I have loved Roanoke and the way all of you cared for me, a stranger in a strange land. As I leave for new lands, I will take you with me, pray for you often, and hope that the Community Outreach Program continues to be a beacon of light wondering into the dark places of the world singing, "Welcome, Welcome to this place, you're invited to come and know God's grace.... Cause all of us are welcome here."

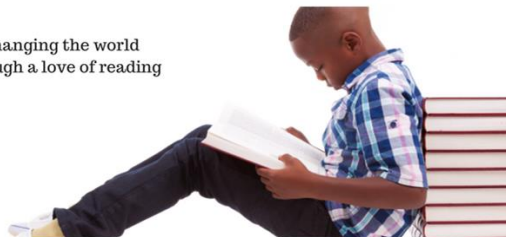
Your Missionary, **Becky Parsons**

Former Exec Director Community Outreach Program

Book Fair to Benefit Community Outreach Program

Community Outreach Program (COP) is partnering with Barnes and Noble for this year's Book Fair! A percentage of the purchases made in-store and online (BN.COM/bookfairs) will go towards the COP program! Our ID/Code is 12240792. There will have activities throughout December 2 - 8 at Barnes and Noble, so come and support this Mission program!

Changing the world
through a love of reading



Nov 28 is GIVING TUESDAY -- Join COP and organizations around the world in doing good this #GivingTuesday! Each dollar we raise, through **Facebook**, that day will be matched by the Gates Foundation (up to \$1000). Everything helps! Mark your calendars!

Community Outreach Program (COP) is a United Methodist mission in Roanoke. For more information, check out www.communityoutreachroanoke.org or their Facebook page at Community Outreach Program of Roanoke.

Upcoming Youth Retreats!

District Youth Retreat with Wesley at VA Tech February 9-11, 2018

SAVE THE DATE! Registration information will be available soon

District Youth raised \$1,275 for the **Youth Service Fund** at the Haunted House! Special thanks to the youth of Cave Spring UMC and South Roanoke UMC for all their hard work!

**NEXTGEN - Called
2017 Virginia Conference Youth
Retreats @ Eagle Eyrie
High School Retreat - Dec 1-3
(registration closes Nov 18)**



Speaker-Brock Morgan Music-360 Collective
Missions-Learning-Fun Learn more
register at <https://www.vaumc.org/NextGen>

District Youth Coordinators:
Paula Coker-Jones Paula@srumc.com
Michelle West michelle@stpaulvaumc.org

College Students Can Intern at Churches Next Summer

Calling 21 is a Young Adult, Local Church Internship Program. It is a partnership ministry among the Virginia Conference Center for Clergy Excellence, the Cabinet, and Shenandoah University. This internship for college students lasts from mid-June to mid-August, the interns are housed with a host family in local congregations, and receive a \$3000 stipend. The purpose of the program is for college students to explore their calling. Next year, Calling 21 is from June 3 to August 7. Applications are due by February 1. Details are at [Calling 21](#).

UMW are Advocates - General Assembly Day is Feb 1



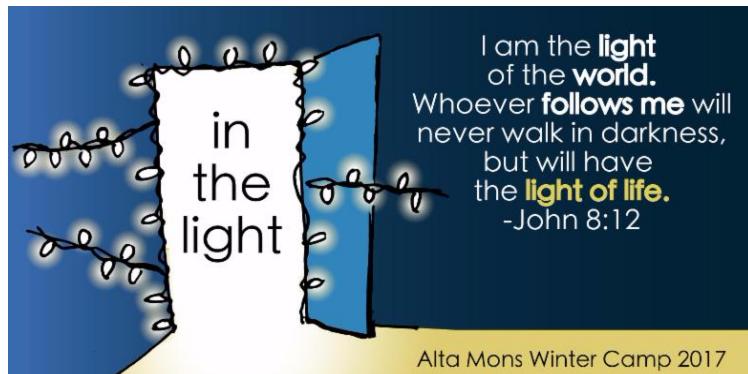
**"Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves,
for the rights of all who are destitute. Speak up and judge fairly;
defend the rights of the poor and needy." Proverbs 31:8-9**

This Bible Passage on Advocacy was provided by the Virginia Interfaith Center, as UMW members are challenged to be advocates. Register early for **United Methodist Day at [General Assembly in Richmond](#)**. It will be held on February 1, 2018. Let's work on having a large group represent the concerns of our area, SW Virginia. If you're unable to attend, maybe you could organize a prayer vigil of support.

Sincerely, Phyllis Geoghegan, District UMW President phyllisg9@verizon.net 382-1545

Winter Camp is December 20-22

Register NOW for **Winter Camp 2017** (Dec 20-22)! Winter Camp is open to children in grades 2 through 12 and is only \$99 (camperships available making the cost as low as \$33/camper). Our theme is **"In The Light"** and campers will be learning about how Christ brought light to this world and how we can live "in the light" as



Christians. Activities will include making crafts, attending worship, hiking to the (frozen?) falls, and maybe even zipping down the zipline (weather permitting), as well as much more. Campers will be sleeping in our **heated retreat facilities!** Register online at www.altamons.org/winter-camp or call 540-268-2409 for more information.

Summer Staff Applications are available and ready to be filled out! Do you know someone who would be interested in spending a summer in ministry at Alta Mons? If so, tell them to check out www.altamons.org/summer-staff for more information. You can apply online now!

Annual Meeting - Sunday, Nov 19 @ 1 pm -- The Alta Mons Annual Meeting will take place Sunday November 19th at 1 PM. We hope to see Lay Leaders, Alta Mons Reps, Board Members, and District Clergy there for this important meeting. Anyone is welcome to attend to learn more about Alta Mons! The meeting will take place in the Dining Hall.

Help Alta Mons Win -- Help Alta Mons win FREE MONEY for printing! Simply go to <https://www.conquestgraphics.com/news/nonprofit-partners-2017/alta-mons> while you are logged on to your Facebook account and click the blue "like" button. Last year Alta Mons received \$500 in free printing through this program. Can we win \$1000 for 2018?

Hiring Year-Round Guest Services -- Alta Mons is seeking a full-time Guest Services Coordinator to join our year-round staff. Do you enjoy connecting with people and have a passion for outdoor ministry? If so, learn more about this position on our [website](#).

Meredith Simmons, Program Director office 540-268-2409 or www.altamons.org

100% Apportionments Paid for 2017

100% Conference and District

Andrew Chapel	Locust Grove
Buchanan Charge (Lithia and Trinity)	Mt. Elbert
Calvary, Christiansburg	Mt. Tabor
Ebenezer	New Castle Charge (Bethel)
Fairview	Three Oaks Fellowship
Foothills Charge (Mt. Pleasant, Pierce Chapel)	White Memorial
Goodwin Memorial	

100% Conference

Halls

100% District

Asbury	Mt. Olivet
Catawba	Pembroke Charge (Mt. Lebanon)
Crockett Springs	Trinity, Roanoke
Lawrence Memorial	

(as of October 31, 2017)

The **Virginia Conference Treasurer's** office prepares a short newsletter, [Dollars and Sense](#), each month with helpful information about your church finances.

Local Churches and Organizations Invite You ...

Gleaning - Sat, Nov 18 -- From the **Society of St. Andrew**.....This Saturday Nov 18, we have a gleaning event in Riner, VA . We could use all the help we can get to gather turnips for the Thanksgiving Holiday to give out to people who would need it We will be at 1540 Creekside Ln, Riner VA 24149 starting at 9 AM on Saturday. For more info, Rachael Lee, Director, Harvest of Hope, Society of St. Andrew; 800-333-4597 * EndHunger.org.

Journey of Dementia Workshop - Nov 27 & 28, by the [Alzheimer's Association](#).

A Wiley and Matheson Family Christmas - Sun, Dec.3, 3 pm, [South Roanoke UMC](#), 2330 South Jefferson St, Roanoke. Two talented musical families -- featuring David & Leah Wiley, piano and soprano, Bryan and Kevin Matheson, viola and violin, and Mara & Misha Wiley, violin & cello, with Christmas favorites and a sing-a-long.



This November 28
CONNECT YOUR PASSION
WITH GOD'S MISSION
UMC #GIVINGTUESDAY™

 GLOBAL MINISTRIES
The United Methodist Church

 The Advance

Local Churches are Hiring

Job Opportunities - at local churches are posted on the District Website;
www.roanokeumc.org. Please check them out!



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Phone: 540-989-3335 Fax: 989-0672

Sharma D. Lewis Area Bishop

Kathleen Overby Webster District Superintendent RoanokeDS@vaumc.org

Brenda Brooks District Lay Leader

Judy Job & Gary Morris Associate District Lay Leaders

Cynthia T. Martin Office Manager/Bookkeeper RoanokeDistrict@vaumc.org

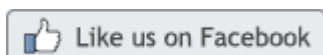
Jan McCall Failes Office Assistant RoanokeOA@vaumc.org

Please submit newsletter articles by the 1st of the month

Email: RoanokeDistrict@vaumc.org Web: www.roanokeumc.org

Facebook:

[Roanoke District United Methodist Church](#)



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