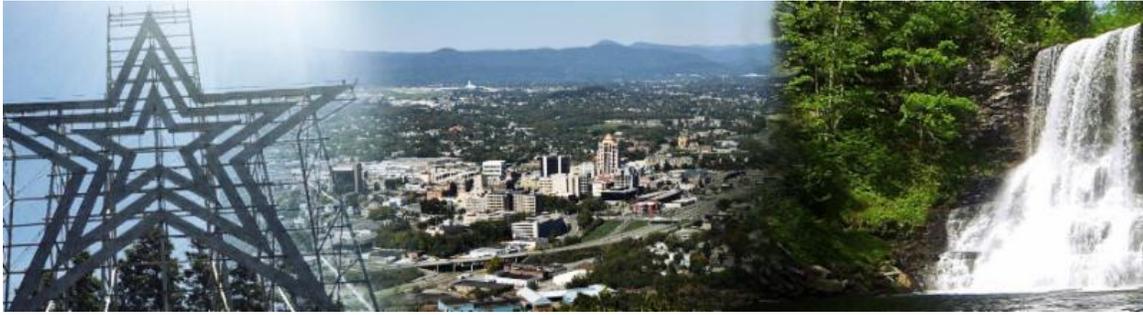


Roanoke United Methodist District

E-News October 2018 (9-14-18)



Regenerations Workshop Saturday September 29



Church is one of the only places where up to five generations converge on a regular basis. This poses a unique opportunity for faith transference, as well as a challenge to effectively communicate and to create a culture that engages all ages and stages in meaningful faith community.

Workshop leader, **Jessica Stollings**, is a national speaker, author, and the president of **Re-Generations** - an organization that bridges generational gaps to build a better future.

Stollings will explore each of the generations and offer insights into how we can relate across differences and integrate all people into a strong intergenerational faith community- within our church and the region that we serve. All lay leadership and clergy are invited.

8:30 am - 4:30 pm. Cost: \$10 and includes lunch 0.5 CEU available. Sponsored in partnership with the **Roanoke District Common Table** and **Greene Memorial UMC**, 402 Second St, SW, Roanoke.

Advance Registration by September 24. By mail with check payable to Roanoke District UMC to: 4502 Starkey Road, Suite 101 Roanoke, VA 24018. Include contact information, church and any special needs or [register online](#) with credit/debit card.



Commission on a Way Forward
Council of Bishops



**General Conference 2019 Briefing
Monday, Sept 17 with Martha Stokes**

Laity and Clergy are invited to join Martha Stokes, **Monday, September 17 at 6:30 - 8 pm** at Southview UMC, 3539 Peters Creek Rd, NW, Roanoke.

The Roanoke District invited Martha Stokes, the VAUMC General Conference delegation leader, for a laity-focused briefing to help participants understand the **Called General Conference** process as well as the plans being presented by the **Commission on a Way Forward** in this General Conference Briefing.

There is no cost to participate in this briefing, but registration is encouraged, so we can prepare materials. Register at: RoanokeDistrict@vaumc.org or call 989-3335 -- please include your name, contact info and church.

Sept 26 - Q&A with Bishop Lewis A Way Forward & General Conference

Wednesday, Sept 26 at 7 pm -- If you have questions about the Commission on a Way Forward, the Commission's reports going before General Conference (GC) 2019 or GC 2019 itself then save the date for **A Way Forward**: a 90-minute Q&A event with Bishop Sharma D. Lewis, the Rev. Tom Berlin and Ms. Martha Stokes. Bishop Lewis, who will share their thoughts as well as moderate questions on these topics.

The event will be at Reveille UMC in Richmond, but will be live-streamed in the **Roanoke District at Thrasher Memorial UMC**, 707 Washington St, Vinton. The event will be livestreamed and archived at <https://livestream.com/VAUMC/COWFQA>. No need to pre-register. You may also use this link to view it on your own computer, or at church, or with a small group! Questions for the event will be taken via email. You can submit your questions now and during the event at wayforward@vaumc.org.

[Link to News on General Conference](#)



Influence: Worship Oct 30 9 am - 3 pm

The **Virginia Conference 5 Talent Academy** series offers opportunities for life-long learners to grow in their passion for Christ and for serving others. *Influence 2018: Worship* will look at the importance of dynamic worship and will feature Virginia Conference Bishop Sharma Lewis, Matt Miofsky (Lead Pastor of The Gathering UMC, St. Louis), Greg Moore (Executive Director of New Faith Communities, North Carolina Conference), and Jason Byassee (Professor of Preaching, Vancouver School of Theology). This event will be webcast live to **Thrasher Memorial UMC in Vinton on the Roanoke District Tuesday, October 30 from 9:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.** Early Bird Registration is \$30/person by Sept. 26 and will be \$40 thereafter through the registration deadline of Oct. 22. Register online with credit/debit card at www.vaumc.org/5talent.

District Conference November 18 @ 3 pm First UMC, Salem

The **Rev. Kathleen Overby**

Webster, District Superintendent, will conduct the business of the District including highlights of District ministries, election of District leadership, committee reports, election of District at large lay members to 2019 Annual Conference and nominations for 2020 General and Jurisdictional Conference lay delegates (see information below). Worship, refreshments and *Rise Against Hunger* meal packing event will follow. [CLICK HERE](#) for *Rise Against Hunger* release form.



Join a District Choir -- A Roanoke District Choir is organizing to participate in the worship service during District Conference. If you individually or as a church choir would like to participate please contact Josh O'dell at Jodell@thrasherumc.org for more information.

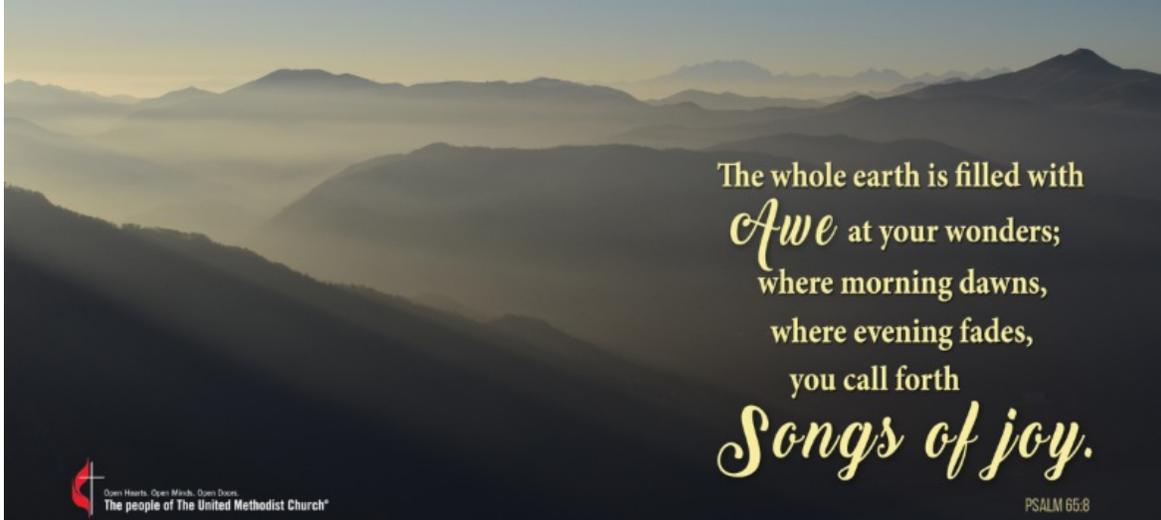
District At Large Lay Members to 2019 Annual Conference-- Nominations for At Large District Lay Members to 2019 Annual Conference will be received until **November 1st** to be included in the Book of Reports. Nominations may also be made from the floor if permission has been given by the nominee. **CLICK HERE** for Nomination's form and instructions.

General Conference & Jurisdictional Nomination Forms -- District lay nominations for the 2020 General Conference (May 5-15 in Minneapolis, Minnesota) and 2020 Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference (July 15-18 at Lake Junaluska) will be voted upon at each **district conference**. Laity who wish to be nominees as delegates for these conferences shall complete the lay nomination form at www.evc.vaumc.org/open/GCNomination/Laity/. Upon completion, the form automatically will be submitted to the district office in which the lay nominee's church is located. Electronic submission is preferred but if a nominee is unable to complete an electronic nomination, he/she may contact the district office.

Willing to Serve on a District Team?

Since disciples of Jesus influence others, have you ever considered that your sphere of influence might include leadership in the **Roanoke District**? The **District Nominations Committee**, has begun the work of identifying members of our local churches who are gifted, called, and willing to serve on district boards and committees beginning in 2019. If you discern you are willing to be considered for leadership through **Common Table, Board of Trustees, Finance Committee, Superintendency Committee, or Nominations Committee**; or if you would like to know more about the commitment such leadership entails, please contact the district at: RoanokeDistrict@vaumc.org or 540-989-3335 by October 1. That contact will allow us to gather some additional information to be used by the Nominations Committee in their discernment.

Also, Roanoke will be hosting **Annual Conference**, June 20-22, 2019 -- email or call to let us know if you are interested in being a leader or volunteer.



A Message from our District Superintendent

“Write down three things you are thankful for this day”; that was the directive in worship. Rapid-fire the three things came to mind, clear, concise:

- family,
- my call and vocation, and
- the opportunity to serve as a leader in this challenging season.

As I held the purple post-it note that contained those 17 words, I realized I was holding the fruit of my recent renewal leave.

I am grateful beyond words for the gifts of family: breakfast and dinner together with Harold for 6 full weeks, the smiles and tears of sorting through boxes of family memorabilia, photos, letters (eighty years later hearing my mother’s 17 year old confident, articulate, even cheeky, voice in letters to father, and the records of his challenging job searches even as the Great Depression waned), and rejoicing with my sister as she described finding a church home as she settled into her new community (“It felt like they were waiting for me to arrive,” is what she said after attending her first worship service there, receiving personal invitations to join the choir, and the warm welcome to the women’s small group).

My own sense of call and vocation was renewed through reading, and rest, and space to see anew. We spent one week in Knoxville as we celebrated our son’s completion of his master’s degree at UT. I was especially delighted to finally take in the 360^o vista from atop the Sun Sphere. It was a magnificent view that I had hoped to see (but didn’t) 36 years ago when it was erected for the 1982 World’s Fair and I was a Duke Divinity School student. Perspective makes a difference whether along a city street, atop a high tower, or across a bridge. Though I, the church, even it seems, the whole world have certainly changed in those intervening years, that “high” view (along with Skyline Drive vistas) rekindled an expansive view of God’s call and claim on me.

This is undoubtedly a challenging season with the 2019 Called General Conference in February, harsh rhetoric and posturing in politics and on social media, fear and distrust rampant in all aspects of society. One of our home projects this year is replacing the “falling down” fence at the back of our property. New survey markers show the exact property boundary in a way the old farm fence did not, as it meandered left and right of the actual line. On my best days I hope that General Conference will result in a clearer understanding of who we are as the United Methodist Church when we are focused together on sharing in Jesus’ ministry in this broken world. I continue to pray for the gifts, will, and courage to be an effective servant leader today and tomorrow.

In Faith and Hope,
Kathleen

In August, while on Renewal Leave, I:

- Rested and read (completing 8 satisfying novels and 3 related to church leadership) and read/re-read portions of 9 others on discipleship, vocation,

- leadership, and the church
- Took in the view from the porch of grazing deer, racing squirrels, bathing birds, and even a strolling bear
- Enjoyed good meals with family and friends at home in our kitchen, along the Tennessee River, and atop the Skyline Drive
- Dreamed, discerned and prayed

Upcoming Dates

Monday, Sept 17 - [General Conference Briefing with Martha Stokes](#) - 6:30 pm, Southview UMC, Roanoke

Wednesday, Sept 26 - [Q&A with Bishop Lewis on General Conference](#) - 7 pm, live-streamed at Thrasher Memorial UMC, Vinton

Saturday, Sept 29 - [Regenerations Workshop](#) - 8:30 am, Greene Mem UMC, Roanoke

Tuesday, Oct 2 - **District Nominations Ctte Mtg** - 3 pm, District Office, Roanoke

Wednesday, Oct 3 - **District Common Table** - 10 am, Asbury UMC, Christiansburg

Thursday, Oct 11 - **District Clergy Hike** - 10 am, Cascades Falls parking lot

Saturday, Oct 13 - [District UMW Day](#) - 9 am, Southview UMC, Roanoke

Tuesday, Oct 30 - [5 Talent Academy](#) - Thrasher Memorial UMC, Vinton

Sunday, Nov 18 - [District Conference](#) - 3 pm, First UMC, Salem

Tuesday, Nov 27 - [Training](#) - Finance/Treasurers & SPRC - 7 pm, St Paul UMC, C'burg

Thursday, Nov 29 - **District Clergy Day Apart** - 9:30 am, Cave Spring UMC, Roanoke

Feb 23-26, 2019 - Special Session of **General Conference**, St. Louis, MO

Saturday, April 6, 2019 - **Chat and Chew 3.0 with Bishop Lewis**, SW Cluster—TBA

[Charge Conferences - District Schedule](#)

Details and Future Events on Website

Prayer Celebrations & Requests

Price's Fork UMC, in Blackburg, celebrated their 140th anniversary of ministry on August 26. (*see photo*).

For **Rev. Mickey White** and his wife Norma, as Mickey is undergoing new rounds of chemotherapy. Rev. White is serving Parrish Chapel UMC in Vinton.



For **Rev. Morris Bennett**, pastor of Andrew Chapel UMC, Buchanan, and his wife Ann, as Morris navigates through health issues affecting his kidneys.

For **Rev. Jason Byrant's** mother, Sue Bryant, who has been hospitalized. Rev.

Bryant serves Calvary UMC in Salem.

For **Shelby and Rev. Bob McAden** on the death of Shelby's sister, Ann Lipps Doster in Indiana. Shelby is a retired Diaconal Minister.

For all those affected by **Hurricane Florence, Hurricane Helene** and **TS Isaac** as well as those responding locally and globally. Ways to help via UMCOR - United Methodist Committee On Relief: <http://ow.ly/dOem30IMsGI>.

For **General Conference** in February 2019 -- "We are encouraging every **United Methodist** to **fast weekly** and to **pray daily** with the Council of Bishops," said Bishop Al Gwinn, the Prayer Team Coordinator. More details at www.UMCPrays.org. Also pray for two Roanoke District lay members who will be delegates -- Dr. Nathaniel L. Bishop (Asbury UMC, Christiansburg) and Jacob Paysour (Cave Spring UMC, Roanoke).

District UM Women Day



Oct 13: **District UMW Day** - 8:30 am --Prayer Breakfast, Annual Meeting, Training and Mission Project at Southview UMC, Roanoke (3539 Peters Creek Rd). **Registration flyer**. Sarah Stephens from Raleigh Court UMC will be our speaker. District officers will be elected. All are welcome.

Happy 150th Birthday United Methodist Women!

To celebrate this historical occasion, a UMW Legacy Fund has been established to make sure that we continue to enrich lives. Since we serve as "the hands and feet" of our Lord, all are invited to participate at the **Roanoke District UMW Day** on October 13 by donating \$1.50 (150 years) for each pair of shoes and/or each pair of gloves we own. A fun way to be grateful for what we have and be able to continue our ministry. Bring your donations to the **District UMW Day Event at Southview UMC** and place them in the Legacy shoe box on the registration table.

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

Winter Camp News & Job Opening



Mark your calendars now! **Winter Camp** is December 14-16 for children and youth in grades 2-12. Registration will open on October 1 and we'll also be announcing the theme then! Spots are limited so register early!

Seeking a Full-time, year round **Facilities Coordinator**. Management duties include: manage the delivery of operations and systems oversight; manage resources within

budget guidelines according to current laws and regulations; maintain natural environmental quality while keeping in compliance with all codes and regulations; insure operations meet relevant guidelines for the health, wellness, and safety of clients and staff; schedule and provide preventative maintenance. **Click here** for a detailed job description. For more info and/or to apply for this position, please contact Ronda Wimmer at 540-268-2409 or office@altamons.org

Thanks to everyone that came to the Open House in August (*photo above*). Don't forget that **Alta Mons** is open year round and has a wide variety of retreat spaces available for use. Whether you're looking to plan a retreat for 5 or 50, we can help! Call our office

Alta Mons website

Community Outreach Program (COP) Volunteers & Scavenger Hunt



Fall program is in full swing and we are off to a wonderful start! We want to thank each and every person who gave, prayed, and donated to our "Back to School Event". The generosity and support from the community gave each child in our program a book bag filled with school supplies that their school requested. We can still use paper plates, 8-9 oz cups, Lysol wipes, Baby wipes, Plastic forks and Copy paper!

Since we are back in session and it's a new school year, now is the perfect time to volunteer with us! Everyone has something to offer and if you feel led to serve we have plenty of ways your hands and hearts can lead our children. We also welcome fun events, classes, crafts, or any other talent you feel our children would enjoy!

Volunteer Opportunities (please call Candace if interested at 342-3103)

2:30-4:00 – Homework help: Work one on one with a child completing homework or letting them read to you for out loud reading practice. (you may stop by anytime to help)

5:30-5:50 – Story time Readers: this is where we all gather in the evening to hear a story and wind down our program before dinner.

6:00-6:30 – This is our dinner time and we love having our groups come in and serve our children and provide a warm meal each night!

Youth group for COP kicks off September 17th and WE ARE RECRUITING! It is such a blessing to be able to grow and if you know any teens in 8th-12th grade please send them our way! **Candace Hess**, COP Executive Director

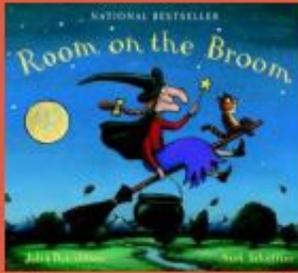
communityoutreachroanoke@gmail.com 540-342-3103

Community Outreach Program website

Community Outreach Program

#andWhoosh

A spooky fun photo scavenger hunt
inspired by the book:



Gather up your friends, family or co-workers and scavenge the city looking for the witches lost items. But don't worry you won't have to carry the items around with you, all you need is a cell phone that can take pictures and send them. As a team you must go around downtown Roanoke and take photos and solve clues to find the Witches lost items including her bow, wand, and hat!

Email in photos as you go. Judges will score photos for originality, number of elements, timeliness. **GET CREATIVE & DRESS UP!** Fun for your co-workers or a great family fun activity.

When: Saturday, October 20, 2018 4:00-6:00pm
Pre registration starts at 3:30

Where: 305 Mountain Ave SW Roanoke, VA 24016

Questions: 540-342-3103 Communityoutreachroanoke@gmail.com

Register at Eventbrite

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/andwhoosh-tickets-49914820572>

All proceeds support the literacy after school program
of the Community Outreach Program

UM Men Invited to Weekend

Interest and excitement is building for the October 26-27 [Men's Spiritual Weekend -- Go and Make Disciples](#) in Virginia Beach. Speakers and workshops begin at 6 pm at Baylake UMC. **UMMen Early Bird \$80.00** – until Sept 17, with special rates for spouses and clergy.



David Bates, UMM contact
dbatescpa@gmail.com 703-967-7063

Youth Invited to Fall Retreats



Middle School - November 9-11 - [Click here to register](#)

High School - Nov 30 - Dec 2 - [Click here to register](#)

Both retreats will be held at Eagle Eyrie Retreat Center in Lynchburg. Registration is from 6 to 8 p.m. on Friday and the retreats will end at noon on Sunday.

This year's theme, based on Ephesians 3:19, is "[Extra. Ordinary. Love](#)" with Rev. Joe Varner, pastor of Thalia UMC in Virginia Beach. Sponsored by VA Conference Next Generation Ministries. [CLICK HERE](#) for a PDF flyer.

Local Churches & Organizations

Sept 21: 7 pm [South Roanoke UMC](#) -- Cenovia Cummins, violin; Stephanie Cummins, cello; and Judy Clark, piano: in a program of music by Beethoven, Greshwin and others. No admission charge. 2330 South Jefferson St, Roanoke.

Sept 22: 10:30 am - 1:30 pm: **Hermitage Hoedown** -- This is a [Hermitage Guild](#) fundraiser. \$10 per person includes bbq lunch, miniature ponies and live entertainment with Hill City Cloggers and Eastern Divide. To register contact: Louise Miller, 525-9792 or email rolmiller119@gmail.com. 1009 Old Country Club Rd, Roanoke.

Sept 27: 5:30 pm **Dinner at the Black Lantern Inn:** Hosted by [Greene Memorial UMC](#) Women's group. Fundraiser for Crib Ministry and Roanoke City Homeless Fund. Tickets are \$40 per person or \$75 per couple.

Oct 7-10: Revival at [Southview UMC](#), featuring Rev. Lyle Morton and special music. Sunday at 8:30 & 11 am and 6 pm, Mon - Wed at 7 pm. 3539 Peters Creek Rd, Roanoke.

Oct 10: 6:30 pm **Guiding Good & Healthy Choices with our Kids** (inc social media). Roanoke Prevention Council shares evidence-based parenting practices geared toward parents of 4th - 8th grade children, [Windsor Hills UMC](#), 3591 Windsor Rd, Roanoke.

Voices of Youth -- [VA Conference Youth Mission Choir](#) accepting applications for mission to Poland, June 19 - July 10, 2019. Must be 14 or older.

Lake Junaluska -- Marriage Enrichment Retreats. We are created for a lifetime of love and intimacy, but relationships can be hard, even for the happiest couples. Learn more at www.lakejunaluska.com/marriage or call 800-222-4930. **Cost:** \$669 per couple. Includes two nights lodging, five meals and sessions.

Tour Invitation from Bishop Lewis

Wesley Heritage Tour, April 23 - May 1, 2019

"I invite you, clergy and laity, 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



[Click here to download a detailed brochure \(pdf\)](#)
[Click here for more information and to pay online](#)

Information Links

Visit our website - Job Openings

Do you want to see videos of Bishop Lewis, Tom Berlin speaking on The Commission on a Way Forward, and other topics? Click on the VIMEO button for access!

Conference Videos at Vimeo

100% of 2018 Apportionments

Thanks to the Roanoke District Churches who have paid **100% of Conference and District apportionments**: Bethel, New Castle Charge; Calvary, Christiansburg; Fairview, Mount Elbert; Mount Pleasant, Foothills Charge; and Three Oaks Fellowship.

Thanks to Andrew Chapel, Lawrence Memorial, Locust Grove, and White Memorial, who have paid 100% of the **District apportionments**, *(as of August 31, 2018)*.

Training for **Finance Committees, Treasurers and Staff/Pastor Parish Relations Committees** will be held on Tues, Nov 27 at 7 pm at St. Paul UMC in Christiansburg. [Click here](#) for registration information.

The VAUMC Treasurer's office newsletter, [Dollars and Sense](#), has helpful information on your church finances, including IMPORTANT updates affecting moving and taxes.



Sharma D. Lewis - Area Bishop
Kathleen Overby Webster - District Superintendent
Brenda Brooks & Gary Morris - District Co-Lay Leaders
Judy Job - Associate District Lay Leader
Cynthia T. Martin - Office Manager/ Bookkeeper
Jan McCall Failes - Office Assistant

Please submit newsletter articles by the first of each month. RoanokeDistrict@vaumc.org

Roanoke District of the United Methodist Church
4502 Starkey Rd, Ste 101, Roanoke 24018-8538 540-989-3335
Email RoanokeDistrict@vaumc.org Website www.Roanokeumc.org

