

Roanoke United Methodist District

E-News November 2018 (10-15-18)



District Conference November 18 @ 3 pm First UMC 125 West Main Street, 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. All are welcome!

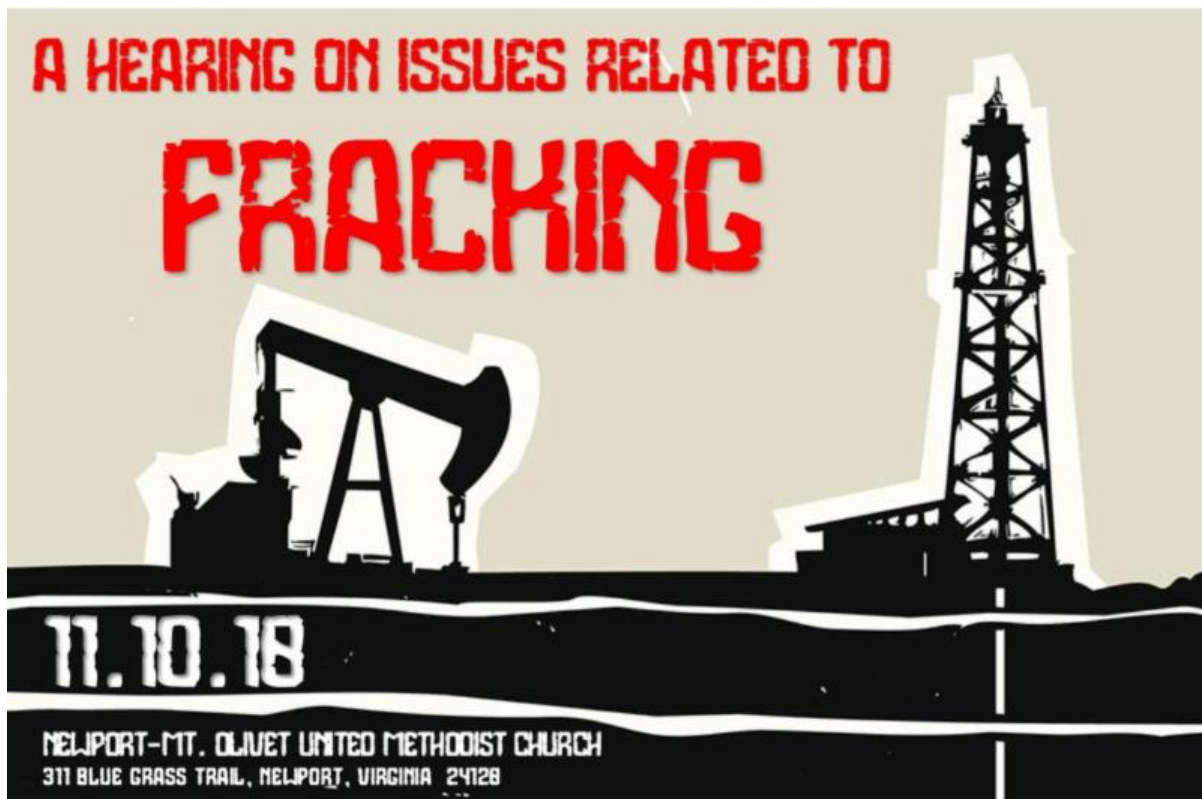
Sing at District Conference -- A Roanoke District Choir is organizing to participate in the worship service during District Conference. If you individually or as a church choir would like to participate please contact Josh O'dell at Jodell@thrasherumc.org for more information.

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.

2020 General Conference & Jurisdictional Nomination Forms -- The Roanoke District is now accepting lay nominations for the **2020 General Conference** (May 5-15, 2020 in Minneapolis, Minnesota) and **2020 Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference** (July 15-18, 2020 at Lake Junaluska). Lay nominees who wish to submit their names will be elected at our District Conference in November. If you are elected at District Conference, your name would be submitted to Annual Conference, where the final voting for delegates will take place. If you wish to be a delegate for these conferences, complete the [Lay Nomination](#) form. Click here for [Eligibility Guidelines](#) for the nominations.

Fracking Hearing - November 10

Hearing on Fracking - Sat, Nov 10, Co-sponsored by the VA Conference Board of Church and Society and Caretakers of God's Creation, 10 am - 3 pm, at Newport-Mt Olivet UMC, Newport. Speakers include university professors and industry professionals on both sides of the fracking option. No registration fee and lunch will be available at cost. First of three hearing events in the VA Conference of the UMC. For information, contact Morris Fleischer at Morrisfleischer@vaumc.org. To register, contact JaydeeHanson@gmail.com.



Begins with Worship @ 10:00 a.m.

Presentations/Presenters include:

- ◆ United Methodist Policy on Fracking & Fossil Fuel Use
- ◆ Lars Hanson, Water Resources Engineer, author of a study on Marcellus Shale in Pennsylvania for the Delaware Water Keepers
- ◆ Dr. Colleen Earp, University of Mary Washington
- ◆ Dr. Emily Satterwhite, Associate Professor of Humanities in the Department of Religion & Culture at Virginia Tech
- ◆ Representatives from the Mountain Valley Watch pipeline construction monitoring team
- ◆ Invited representatives from the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
- ◆ The Green Church Initiative and more!

Lunch will be available at cost.

Contact Jaydee Hanson at jaydeehanson@gmail.com to register.



The Virginia Conference Board of Church & Society
Caretakers of God's Creation

District Youth Sponsor a Haunted House for Missions

The Roanoke District Youth will hold it's 7th Annual Haunted House on October 31, 2017 from 6:30 - 9:00 p.m. at South Roanoke UMC (2330 South Jefferson St). The District Youth Haunted House is held to raise money for the Youth Service Fund.



We need *youth groups to commit* to provide help with set up, tear down and haunting for this Roanoke District Youth Haunted House to take place. There will be three set up days Oct 28, 29 and 30 from 4 - 8 pm. Please contact Paula at paula@srumc.com to sign up to help with this event.

Want to know more about the Youth Service Fund? Go to: <https://www.vaumc.org/YSF>

Communications Grants Offered



Roanoke District Common Table has \$300 grants for local churches to use in their communications for the Advent season. Each church may use the grant to enhance the church's effort to invite the community.

To be considered for a [Common Table Communication Advent Grant](#) fill out the google form by November 5.

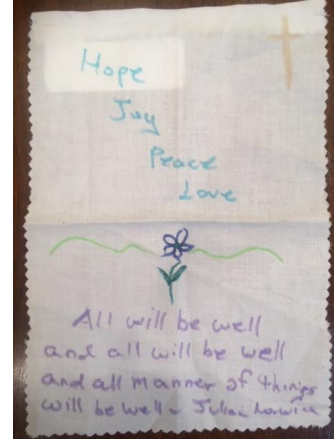
The Roanoke District Common Table Communications Team is thrilled to announce the upcoming release of a district-wide church promotional resource. The Communications Team is working with a professional videographer to film a short video (between 1-2 minutes) focusing on finding community and a home at church. This video will be released in early December just in time for the holidays! Be on the lookout for this great, free resource!

A Message from our District Superintendent

All will be well and all will be well and all manner of things will be well ~ (Julian of Norwich, Showings or Revelations of Divine Love)

Those favorite words were written in purple fabric marker on the prayer flag I chose to take home as I left the recent Virginia Conference Clergywomen's retreat. Like the one I

created, which someone else now has, the flag also included the words *hope, joy, peace, and love*. The small flag now graces my desk, a daily reminder of God's intention for wholeness and completion.



Julian, mystic and theologian, received these words from God as a revelation on May 13, 1373 when she was 30 and a half years old. Precious little else is known of her life beyond her solitary life as an anchoress in a small room or cell next to the church of St Julian on Conisford at Norwich, located about 100 miles northeast of London. The assurance she receives again and again in the vision has resonated in my spirit ever since I first encountered her writings in seminary.

Many days (whether we look at our lives, our communities, our church, or across our nation and world) so much seems hopeless, impossible to change, lacking justice, devoid of kindness, unfair, sad, broken, and divisive.

It is exactly in those heartbreak moments and seasons of despair I find I need to hold on tightly to the assurance that God is at work when I cannot see it when the visible evidence of such activity is sparse, when a "future with hope" seems a wisp of a dream rather than a viable path forward. It is then I need for Julian's words to echo in my heart.

For my mouth to utter the plea of the psalmist, *Fill us full every morning with your faithful love so we can rejoice and celebrate our whole life long* (Psalm 90:14).

For my prayer to be, *As I start this day, God, I ask that you fill me with your love. With love that radiates hope. With love that forgives the things I cannot seem to forgive. With love that leads to purpose* (Gina Yeager-Buckley, d365 Devotion). Amen and amen.

In Faith and Hope,
Kathleen

In September I:

- Worshiped with Windsor Hills UMC, Southview UMC, Northview UMC, and jointly with Price's Fork UMC and Trinity (Christiansburg) UMC
- Conducted 10 annual cluster Charge Conferences with 30 churches
- Led the District Clergy Summit
- Participated in District Committee on Ordained Ministry and Superintendency Committee meetings
- Attended General Conference 2019 district presentation by Martha Stokes and live-streamed Q&A with Bishop Lewis, Martha Stokes, and Tom Berlin
- Participated in the September Cabinet Meeting, which included the annual joint meeting with the Conference Board of Ordained Ministry Executive Ctte, and Conference Common Table meeting
- Attended the Virginia Conference Clergywomen's Retreat
- Attended District Regenerations Workshop
- Consulted with laity and clergy in person, by phone, and through email

Upcoming Dates

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

Wednesday, Oct 31 - **District Youth Haunted House** - 6:30 - 9 pm, [South Roanoke UMC](#), Roanoke (set up Oct 28, 29, 30 from 4- 8 pm)

Monday, Nov 5 - **Deadline for District Advent Communication Grants.**

Saturday, Nov 10 - **Hearing on Fracking/ Conf Bd of Church & Society and**

Caretakers of God's Creation - 10 am - 3 pm, Newport-Mt Olivet UMC, Newport

Wednesday, Nov 14 - **Hermitage Guild Mtg**, 10:30 am, [Hermitage Roanoke](#)

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

Tuesday, Dec 11 - **District Youth Leaders Mtg** - 6:30 pm, [South Roanoke UMC](#), Roanoke

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

March 1-3 - **District Youth Retreat** with Wesley at VT, Blacksburg

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

[Charge Conferences - District Schedule](#)

Details and Future Events on Website

Prayer Celebrations & Requests



For **Goodwin Memorial UMC**, in Salem, who celebrated their 100th anniversary of ministry on September 21.

For **Parrish Chapel UMC**, in Vinton, who will celebrate 125 years of ministry on Oct 21.

For **Rev. Ryan Schaeffer**, his wife Erin, and their family on the death of Erin's grandmother, Margaret Johnson. Ryan is a Provisional Elder serving at Fieldstone UMC in Christiansburg.

For **Bishop Sharma Lewis** (photo above), as she prays over the Roanoke Valley, after a recent Annual Conference planning meeting.

For **Rev. Wes Arthur** who is in the hospital. Wes is a retired Elder living in Roanoke.

For **Rev. Lynne Alley Grant** and her husband, **Herb**, and their family on the death of Herb's mother, Ganet Caudle Grant, in Greenwood, SC. Lynne is an Elder in the Virginia Conference currently working in Extension Ministry.

For **Rev. Morris Bennett** and his wife **Ann**, as he continues medical tests. Morris is a retired Elder serving Andrew Chapel UMC in Buchanan.

For **Rev. Mickey White** and his wife **Norma**, as he continues more significant chemotherapy treatments. Mickey is a retired Licensed Local Pastor serving Parrish Chapel UMC in Vinton.

For **Rev. Roy Miller** as he recovers from recent knee replacement surgery. Roy is a retired Elder on the District. His wife Louise is a retired Diaconal Minister.

For **Rev. Don Baldwin** and his wife Jackie, as Don is scheduled for heart bypass surgery on Nov 8 at Duke University Hospital. Don is a full-time Local Pastor, serving Fairview UMC in Roanoke.

For all those affected by recent Hurricanes 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**, from 2:23 - 2:26 am or pm, with the Council of Bishops," said Bishop Al Gwinn, the Prayer Team Coordinator. 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).

General Conference 2019

Bishop Sharma D. Lewis, of the [Virginia Conference of The United Methodist Church](#), shares a video message regarding "Guiding Principles" as we anticipate General Conference 2019. This can be downloaded and shared.

Guiding Principles [video](#). Guiding Principles [PDF version](#).

Watch the archived Q & A at <https://livestream.com/VAUMC/COWFQA>.

Downloads of the plans, Virginia delegates and more are available at <https://www.vaumc.org/GC2019>.

[Link to News on General Conference](#)



Influence: Worship
Oct 30 9 am - 3 pm

The **Virginia Conference 5 Talent Academy** series offers *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.** Registration is \$40/person until registration deadline of Oct. 22. Register online with credit/debit card at www.vaumc.org/5talent.

Register now for Winter Camp

Register is open for [Winter Camp](#), December 14-16 for children and youth in grades 2-12. Just \$99. Spots are limited so register early!

Now hiring a Full-time, **Facilities Coordinator**. [Click here](#) for a job description. For more info/or to apply, contact Ronda Wimmer at 268-2409 or office@altamons.org.



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

Alta Mons website



After 30 Years, COP has a New Name!

We are pleased and proud to announce **Community Outreach Program (COP)** is rebranding to **Kids Soar!**

We have been part of the Roanoke community for almost 30 years and have changed our name in celebration of this anniversary! In June we asked the community to suggest new a new name that would convey our mission of working with children and their families. A huge thank you to a member of Raleigh Court UMC, who wished not to have their name published, submitted the winning name Kids Soar and won \$140.00 gift card basket!

We would not be here today if it wasn't for the United Methodist Women of Trinity United Methodist Church who founded our organization in 1989.

Thank you to the hundreds of volunteers that gave countless hours to make a difference in a children's lives, the donors who have given so generously of their money, time and talents and the board members and staff that continued to have a vision and the courage and determination to see the potential realized.

Thanks also to the families we have worked with through the years and for all the prayers that have been made for the program's mission and the people we serve. We are looking forward to the next 30 years!

New Website - <http://www.kidsoar.org/> New Email address - chess@kidsoar.org

Candace Hess, Kids Soar, Executive Director
chess@kidsoar.org 540-342-3103



convergence

Convergence Youth Program -Nov 4

District Youth -- Have you ever wondered about the relationship between your Christian faith and science? Science is not typically discussed in churches, and faith is not typically discussed in science classrooms. Join at **Southview UMC** on Sunday, November 4 at 4 pm to learn more about this important relationship from leaders of **Convergence: A High School Youth Theology Institute at Randolph-Macon College** in Ashland, VA. Convergence is a summer program for current 9th, 10th, and 11th grade students to deeply explore the convergence of faith and science through both classroom and hands-on experiences on campus at Randolph-Macon College, and in day trips throughout Virginia. The **3rd Annual Convergence** program will be held June 22-30, 2019. Information about the Convergence program will be available, and you will have the opportunity to hear from Roanoke District program alumni about their experience.

Conference Youth 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 begins at 6 pm Friday and retreats will end at noon on Sunday. [CLICK HERE](#) for a flyer.

New Update on Hurricane Relief Efforts and ERT Response



United Methodist Church

Hurricane Michael -- As search-and-rescue teams deploy across the panhandle, Disaster Response Coordinators have begun assessing needs across the affected areas. Our UMCOR network is working around the clock to lead response efforts! Learn how you can help at <https://umcor.org/response>. Hurricane Michael [News & photos](#) from UM News.

Hurricane Florence -The Rev. Bob Pihlcrantz, Virginia Conference disaster response coordinator, has confirmed with the North Carolina Conference Disaster Response staff that teams can begin to deploy to the state from the Southeastern Jurisdiction. Early Response Teams (ERTs) are being asked to come in many areas in North Carolina and ERTs need to go through the operation center in the North Carolina Conference by contacting them at 888-440-9167 or disasterresponse@nccumc.org.

Pihlcrantz emphasized that all ERTs must notify the VAUMC ERT Coordinator Kirk Culpepper when they register with the North Carolina Conference (NCCUMC) and before they deploy in support of Hurricane Florence Response.

You can contact Culpepper at kirkculpepper@vaumc.org or 757-434-0078. At this time only UMCOR ERT teams may deploy and must first register with the NCCUMC Disaster operations center. Later on UVMIM teams will be able to respond as well.

New Resources

Religious Exempt Child Care Programs - State of Virginia law now allows surprise inspections on religious exempt child care programs. Their purpose is to check records, safety or anything related to being in compliance with [Virginia State Code](#). (see highlighted section on page 40)

#METOO Toolkit -- This [resource](#) has been developed by the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women (GCSRW) which joins others around the world in addressing the prevalence and problem of sexual misconduct throughout our Church and society. The toolkit offers resources of printed materials, links to important websites, as well as suggestions for participatory conversations designed to encourage dialogue to help people identify, understand, and respond to the reality of sexual misconduct.

Conference UMW Annual Mtg



Oct 26-27: Sacred Spaces: Encounters with God and Neighbor -- the 46th Annual Meeting of the VA Conference UMW will be Saturday, Oct 27 at Chestnut Memorial UMC in Newport News. Shannon Priddy, the President of the Board of the UMW from Indianapolis, will be the keynote speaker. [Click here for details.](#)

General Assembly Day, will be Jan 31, 2019 in Richmond, co-sponsored by UMW and Church & Society. [Click here.](#)

Make plans to celebrate the **150th Birthday of United Methodist Women**, March 23, 2019 at your church -- be sure to celebrate all the ways you've made life better for women, children and youth.

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

Men Invited to Weekend

Come receive God's grace on the 26th and 27th of October at Baylake UMC in Virginia Beach at the [Men's Spiritual Weekend -- Go and Make Disciples](#). with speakers and workshops beginning at 6 pm. Come in humility, go in grace! The Spirit calls you!



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

Local Churches & Organizations

Oct 21: 11 am Worship, 12:30 lunch, 2 pm Special Music [Parrish Chapel UMC](#) will be celebrating their **125th Anniversary & Homecoming**. Rev. Russ Gresham will be the speaker at 11 am worship. 10000 Stewartsville Rd, Vinton.

Oct 21: 4 pm [Huntington Court UMC](#)-- Musical Afternoon with Judith Cline & Bill Krause, including music of the Appalachian composer, John Jacob Hiles, traditional spirituals and some new compositions. 3333 Williamson Rd, Roanoke, 366-3465. No admission charge.

Oct 21: 6 pm [Blacksburg UMC](#)-- Over in Gloryland: Songs of our Faith -- A concert of Gospel music favorites featuring choirs and orchestras from Blacksburg UMC and Thrasher Memorial UMC. No admission charge. 111 Church St, Blacksburg.

Nov 4: 4 pm, [Southview UMC](#) - Information about the Convergence program at Randolph Macon will be available, and you will hear from Roanoke District program alumni about their experience. 3539 Peters Creek 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.

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 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](#)

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, Mt Elbert; Mt Olivet; Mt 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 September 30, 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 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

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