

Roanoke United Methodist District

E-News June 2019 *(sent 5-15-19)*



Walking the Journey Together Meet with Bishop Weaver June 1st

Bishop Weaver, Interim Bishop for our Virginia Conference, will gather with Clergy and Laity from the Roanoke and Lynchburg Districts at **Bethlehem UMC**, 13586 Old Moneta Rd, Moneta, 24121 Saturday, June 1, 3-5 pm. Bishop Weaver invites us to "journey together" as we meet, learn from each other and care for each other in EasterTide. We will share communion and discuss General Conference 2019, the Judicial Council decisions and our process going forward. Please [REGISTER ONLINE](#).



Follow up information on the **Special Session of the General Conference of The United Methodist Church** which was held Feb 23-26, 2019 in St. Louis, Missouri. [LINK to resources](#).

**GATHERING WITH
BISHOP WEAVER**

Saturday, June 1, 2019 3 pm- 5 pm
Bethlehem UMC 13586 S. Old Moneta Rd, Moneta, VA

Clergy and Laity from the Lynchburg and Roanoke Districts will join Bishop Weaver to discuss General Conference 2019, the Judicial Council decisions and our process going forward.

Roanoke District Prepares for Annual Conference - June 20-22

Virginia UMC Annual Conference is

returning to the Berglund Center



Annual Conference Orientation - AC

Orientation for all Roanoke District At-Large Lay Delegates, Local Church Lay Delegates, Clergy and Retired Clergy will be held on Sunday, June 9 at 3 PM at Huntington Court, 3333 Williamson Rd, Roanoke. Here is a [LINK to a video](#) explaining the voting devices that will be used by delegates.

Volunteers - From registration, ushers, collecting UMCOR kits, 5K, set up, clean up, and more, hundreds of volunteers will be needed to help the week of Annual Conference. [REGISTER ONLINE NOW](#), or you can contact Terri Urquart at terriu@rcumc.org.

5K Walk/Run/Bike & Chair Yoga - VA Annual Conference is sponsoring a 5K on **Saturday, June 22 at 6:15 am on the Lick Run Greenway** to raise money for **Kids Soar!** We will need lots of volunteers and participants. A prayer labyrinth, food trucks and water stations will be included. Chair yoga will be offered at the Blue Ridge Hotel, 2801 Hershberger Rd NW. If you would like to be part of the team or an event volunteer, please contact the District Office at 989-3335. [Register ONLINE](#). (includes 5K and Yoga)

Kits for Conference - While other types of kits have been collected in the past, UMCOR is currently focusing efforts on **Cleaning Kits, Hygiene Kits and School Kits**.

Cans 4 Conference - We 'CAN' Make a Difference - please bring 4 cans, or bags, of non-perishable food to Annual Conference, to support the Roanoke Rescue Mission and their food program, Manna Ministries. Please do NOT bring home-canned items out-of-date cans, or glass jars. Contact Herb Brynildsen at herbbrynildsen@vaumc.org.

Children's Mission July 25-26 in Roanoke

Helping Hands is an exciting two-day (July 25-26) mission experience for children (rising 4th through 6th Graders) for churches throughout Virginia. It will be hosted at: **Windsor Hills UMC**, Roanoke. [Click here to download](#) a registration and details for the Roanoke event (pdf). Deadline to register is July 19. Cost is only \$36 per person.



Possible Hands-On and Workshop Experiences Include:
Painting * Planting * Window Washing * Visiting Veterans Hospital * Loving Animals * Feeding People * Yard Work * Playing Games with Elderly * Washing Wheelchairs * Making Meal for First Responders * Singing * Sorting at Thrift Store * Playing with Kids

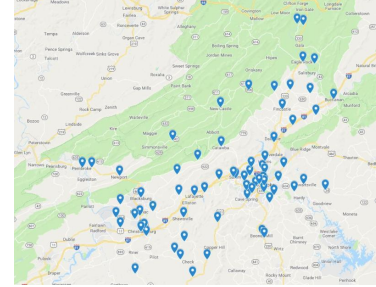
Each church is responsible for bringing their own chaperones. Contact: Heather Case 774-4730 or heathercase@whumc.roacoxmail.com.

Who is asking "See Me"?

A Message from our District Superintendent

"See me" is the catch phrase for a current TV

commercial. One after another, looking straight into the camera, those who use the advertised skin medication implore, “See me.” See who I am, really; see what I do, lead, perform; see me, not just the visible illness of my skin.



“See me”—isn’t that the cry of each of our hearts? My prayer time is often shaped by seeing the needs, desires, hopes, realities, dreams, view, and vision of the congregations, clergy, neighbors, family entrusted to me. Sometimes I pray through the contact list on my phone; sometimes I pray using the district directory listings of churches, clergy and their families, leaders to focus my prayer; sometimes I use the church pictures on the district website to guide me as I pray for each congregation and its community.

This spring I printed out a google map of the district with each church marked. I’ve placed this 11x17" sheet on my office desk, I’ve folded it up and tucked it away in my briefcase during cabinet meetings, opening it up in the hotel at night. On the weekends I have laid it across my kitchen island. Wherever I have been I have implored, “Let me see the possibilities, the connections, God, which you see.”

Who in your congregation and community is imploring “See me”? Who is overlooked, pushed aside, unrecognized, unheard, not valued? Who do we not see because they are not me or not we?

As the Apostle Paul wrote:

17 *I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, will give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation that makes God known to you.* **18** *I pray that the eyes of your heart will have enough light to see what is the hope of God’s call, what is the richness of God’s glorious inheritance among believers,* **19** *and what is the overwhelming greatness of God’s power that is working among us believers.* (Ephesians 1:17-19a, CEB)

In the hope and peace of Christ,
Kathleen

In April, I:

- Worshiped with Mt Lebanon UMC, Pembroke First UMC, St, Mark’s UMC and Woodlawn UMC
- Attended Fresh Expressions Vision day
- Participated in the April Cabinet Meeting which focused on appointment-making
- Attended Bishop’s Strategic Visioning Steering Team meeting, Bishop’s VITAL team meeting, and Annual Conference Planning Team meeting
- Participated in VT Wesley Board Meeting
- Attended Carilion CPE Advisory PAG Meeting
- Conducted *Meet Your Pastor* with two Staff/Pastor-Parish Committees
- Honored our District Office Team during Administrative Professionals Week
- Celebrated Easter with family
- Consulted with laity and clergy in person, by phone, and through email

Upcoming Dates

May 19 - **District Youth Skating**, 5:30 pm, Skate Center, 4121 Brandon Ave SW, Roanoke

May 22 - **District Common Table**, 10 am, Alta Mons, Shawsville

May 23 - **Clergy Farewell Dinner**, 6 pm, St. Mark's, Daleville (*note date change*)

May 24 - **District Office** starts summer hours -- closing at noon every Friday until September.

June 1 - [UMW Day at Ferrum](#) - 9:30 am, Ferrum College

June 1 - [Bishop Weaver Gathering](#) - 3 pm, Bethlehem UMC, Moneta

June 9 - [Annual Conference Orientation](#) - 3 pm, Huntington Court UMC, Roanoke

June 20-22 - [Annual Conference](#) at Berglund Center in Roanoke

June 22 - [5K Walk/Run/Bike & Yoga](#) - 5K - 6:15 am, Lick Run Greenway, Roanoke.
Chair Yoga 6:15 am at Blue Ridge Hotel, 2801 Hershberger Rd NW, Roanoke.

July 25-26 - [Helping Hands Children's Mission Program](#) - Windsor Hills UMC

July 26-28 - [Mission Encounter](#) - Smith Mountain Lake 4H Camp, Wirtz

August 14 - [Vision Day Roundtable](#), 6 pm, Cave Spring UMC

August 26 - **Annual District Cook Out** at Alta Mons

[Details and Future Events on Website](#)

Prayer Celebrations & Requests

For **Rev. Carrie Moffitt** (Crockett Springs UMC) and **Rev. Jesse Moffitt** (Thrasher Memorial UMC - Associate) on the birth of their healthy baby boy, Asher Ray, on April 29.

For **Rev. Bryan Buckles** (Central UMC in Salem) who recently had surgery for a detached retina.

For **Rev. Rick Geoghegan** (retired elder), who will be having back surgery on June 4. Please keep Rick, and his wife Phyllis, (District UMW President).

For **Nick Maxey**, who has worked at Alta Mons since 2001 and was recently hospitalized with health problems.

For **First UMC in Salem**, who held a Note Burning service on Sunday, May 5 to commemorate paying off \$2.6 million of building debt over the past 12 years. By paying off the debts of our past they are now more fully able to focus on the needs of their future!

For **Bishop Sharma Lewis** -- who is recovering at home. Please continue to keep her in your prayers. Cards and well wishes may be sent to: Bishop Sharma D. Lewis, c/o Terri Biggins, PO Box 5606, Glen Allen, VA 23058-5606.

Puerto Rico Initiative - Solar Panels

Special thanks to the District UM Youth, Arthur & Shirley Grant, and the congregations of Bethel UMC - New Castle, Central UMC, and Blacksburg UMC, for their recent donations for these Solar Panel kits!

The Roanoke District Common Table is working

SHARE THE LIGHT



to assist families devastated by Hurricane Maria in Vieques, an island off of the coast of Puerto Rico where 9,000 persons are still without access to power.

Our challenge is to raise \$50,000, enough to provide 400-watt Solar Panel Kits for 50 homes in Vieques.

Each church or small group in the Roanoke District can be part of our effort to share the light of Jesus with our sisters and brothers in Puerto Rico by raising funds to purchase the solar panel emergency power systems which offer a clean, renewable energy source without the need for expensive generators. Mission teams to help with installation of the panels may also be needed. Rev. Seungsoo 'RJ' Jun from Raleigh Court UMC and his team can help, with resources or presenters to share this mission opportunity with your congregation. [Click HERE](#) for info or contact Rev. Jun at seungsoojun@vaumc.org.

Youth Invited to Skate Center on May 19

The Roanoke District Youth will be ending the school year with our District Youth Event at the Skate Center, 4121 Brandon Ave SW, Roanoke, Sunday, May 19 from 5:30 - 8:30 pm. We will have Pizza on site for dinner. Please let me know if your group will be attending on the 19th.



Paula Coker-Jones, District Youth Coordinator
pcjesj01@gmail.com 540-529-9901

Register for Summer Camps



Register for Summer Camp! -- We have camp programs for children and youth ages 4-17. Day Camp options (3 different weeks this year!) Mini Camp (3 days / 2 nights), and week-long (Sunday through Friday) camps. Backpacking Camp is July 7-12 - this trip spends 3 days and 2 nights in Grayson Highlands State Park (Tuesday & Wednesday night) and then the rest of their time at Alta Mons! No prior backpacking experience needed; just a willingness

to learn! Check our [website](#) and [Facebook](#) page for more information, including [online registration](#) or call 540-268-2409 to request a brochure! See a [recent video](#) about Alta Mons!

Summer Staff Needed -- Are you looking for a fun and rewarding job this summer? We are still looking for a Trips Coordinator (21+ years old, experience leading trips, and WFR certified) as well as summer camp counselors and kitchen staff! More information (job descriptions & staff application) can be found online at www.altamons.org/summer-staff

Check-in Volunteers Needed -- We are also seeking volunteers to help at check-ins: June 23, June 30, July 7, and July 14. Check-in begins at 4 PM and volunteers are welcome to stay for dinner at 5:30 PM. Call Meredith at 540-268-2409 with questions and to sign up!

Seeking Small Instruments -- for use during music and worship times at camp. Great instruments would be bongo drums, tambourines, maracas, etc. Please contact Meredith about donations to ensure camp doesn't get overloaded with instruments!

Save the date for our **7th Annual District Cookout**: Saturday August 24. **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!

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

Alta Mons website



ERT Training

United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) Early Response Teams (ERT) respond during the first phase of disaster relief, providing Christian presence. Your church and community could also be faced with a disaster. Train to be ready to respond and know the first steps to help. Registration fee is \$55, which includes training manual. UMCOR ERT badge, T-shirt and background check fee (forms will be handed out at training). Checks should be made out to the Virginia Conference and brought the day of training.

June 7: Early Response Team RECERTIFICATION Training Friday June 7, 5:00-9:00 pm

Location: Bethlehem UMC 13586 Old Moneta Rd Moneta VA
Cost of training is \$35. Steve Cass is the instructor.
Contact Carolyn Koontz koontz77@aol.com for more information or to register.

June 8: Early Response Team INITIAL CERTIFICATION Training

Saturday June 8, 8:00 am - 4:00 pm
Location: Bethlehem UMC 13586 Old Moneta Rd Moneta VA
Cost of training is \$35. Steve Cass is the instructor.
Contact Carolyn Koontz 540-719-0555 or koontz77@aol.com to sign up.

All Invited to a Vision Day Roundtable on August 14



If you attended Fresh Expressions' recent **Roanoke Vision Day** and want to explore the next steps OR if you are new to **Fresh Expressions** and want to learn how your church can implement Fresh Expressions into your congregation and community join us on

Wednesday, August 14 at 6 PM at Cave Spring UMC, 4505 Hazel Dr, Roanoke. The event is free but registration is encouraged at:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/roundtable-roanoke-va-tickets-60800007459#tickets>

Why attend a Roundtable?

- To ask in-depth questions about the concepts, theological foundations, and the developmental process of fresh expressions
- To envision the implications of fresh expressions for their specific congregation and community
- To gain some experience with fresh expressions to get up close and personal guidance on how they take next steps on this journey

Thanks from Kids Soar (formerly COP)

The school year is ending, and we have seen so much growth with our children. They start out so small in the fall and it seems like they have grown a foot by spring. They have also grown in their faith as we have spent a year talking to God through prayer, listening to stories about God and encouraging each other to love one another as Jesus wanted us to. We have learned that prayer takes practice and encouragement. We have a prayer circle each day, each child is encouraged to share a joy or concern or just give thanks. In the beginning, the children were quiet and most gave thanks, but as the days went on, they started expressing thanks for others, concerns for family and friends and even started to share their joys. Prayer brings us closer to God. (*prayer circle pictured above*).



With the close of school in June, we will again take 10 children from the program to Philadelphia Pennsylvania. Check out what we are up to on social media, so Like us on [Facebook](#) and follow us on [Instagram](#). We will be leaving on June 6th and will be returning on June 10.

This summer **Kids Soar** is themed “**Digging**” the Earth! We would love to hear of any natural science or earth filled field trips you can think of! If anyone has any materials involving the earth such as books, hands on materials, or posters you would like to donate... we will put them to great use!

Also, don't forget our 30-year anniversary is coming up and we want to hear your stories! So please pass the word around and drop any pictures or stories at...stories@kidsoar.org. Stay tuned we are planning a celebration in the fall.

Did you know **Kids Soar** has volunteer opportunities? We are always happy to see smiling faces with hearts that want to help! Or you can donate - currently we need: paper products, paper bowls, tissues, wipes, size 5,6, 7 gently worn boys and girls clothing, and beach towels.

Please participate in the [5K Walk/Run/Bike](#) on Saturday, June 22 at 6:15 am (part of Annual Conference), that will help support **Kids Soar**!

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

[Kids Soar \(formerly COP\) website](#)

United Methodist Women - Annual Conference Breakfast - June 21



Virginia UMW Annual Conference Breakfast Friday, June 21, 2019 6:45 am

Holiday Inn - Valley View, 3315 Ordway Drive, NW Roanoke, VA 24017
Includes a breakfast buffet and featured speaker, Darlene Amon, former Conference UMW President and member of the 2019 General Conference Virginia Delegation. The cost is \$18.00. Tickets may be purchased with a check/debit card at: <https://www.eiseverywhere.com/406158> or ordered

from me by June 12, 2019. All are welcome.

Mission Encounter 2019: Radical Discipleship SML 4-H Center July 26-28

This mission/training event is for all the church, not just UMW. We all need to learn how to be better disciples for transformation of the world. Our Spiritual Growth Study is **Practicing Resurrection: The Gospel of Mark and Radical Discipleship** by Janet Wolf. The children's study is also on Mark. The Anniversary Study is **Women United for Change: 150 Years in Mission** by Ellen Blue and the Issue Study is **What About Our Money? A Faith Response** by Susan K. Taylor. The books cost \$10.00 (less on Kindle).

Please use [THIS LINK](#) to register online or [DOWNLOAD a PDF](#) of the brochure/registration form, complete it and register by July 15. Come and celebrate mission in a beautiful Virginia lake setting. "Be still and know that I am God" Ps. 46:10

Phyllis Geoghegan, District UMW President
phyllisg9@verizon.net 804-896-6297

Local Churches & Organizations

May 19 - [98th Anniversary Celebration at Raleigh Court UMC](#): 10:30 am.
[Raleigh Court UMC](#), 1706 Grandin Rd SW, Roanoke

May 26 - [Voices of Appalachia Concert](#): 7 pm, Jefferson Center - Shaftman Performance Hall, 541 Lick Ave. 40-Voice choir featuring a variety of music from classical to contemporary, the choirs of Greene Memorial UMC and Thrasher Memorial UMC. Part of the Greene Memorial Fine Arts Series. Admission is free - no ticket required.

June 6 - [CROP Walk 50th Anniversary Celebration](#): 6 pm, Our Lady of Nazareth Catholic Church, 2505 Electric Rd, Roanoke RSVP by June 4 to rkevalleycropwalk@gmail.com. [2019 CROP Walk](#) will be October 13.

June 29 - [LOA \(Local Office on Aging\) Meeting](#): 2-4 pm, [Woodlawn UMC](#) (2922 Corbieshaw Rd) will host. The event is free with light refreshments. RSVP to the church office - 774-812. Topics include: Promoting Independence, Transportation Services, Knowing Your Rights, Meals on Wheels, and Assistance in Selecting a Care Facility.

July 6, 7, 8, 9 - [Voices of Youth Seeks Host Churches](#): [Voices of Youth](#), a VA Conference youth mission choir, is seeking churches to host concerts and provide host families for these youth after they return from mission work in Poland. For details, contact Director Mary Letson at VoicesofYouth@vaumc.org or 757-581-7250.

Bishop's Daily Bible Reading

For 2019, Bishop Sharma Lewis created, [the Bible Challenge](#), a mixture of Old Testament readings and New Testament each day. In this new year, challenge yourself to study the Bible daily and strengthen your faith in the process.



Apportionment Information

District and Conference - 100% for 2019 (as of 4/30/19)
Calvary, Christiansburg; Mount Elbert; Mount Pleasant, (Foothills Charge); and
Three Oaks Fellowship

District - 100% for 2019

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



Peter (Pete) D. Weaver - Area Interim Bishop
Sharma D. Lewis - Area Bishop (on medical leave)
Kathleen Overby Webster - District Superintendent
Gary Morris - District Lay Leader
Shirley Brown & Denise Pappas - Associate District Lay Leaders
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 1010, Roanoke 24018-8538 540-989-3335
Email RoanokeDistrict@vaumc.org Website www.RoanokeUMC.org

