

August

2011



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Mission Opportunity

Thrasher UMC will sponsor an adult-oriented mission trip to the Choctaw Indian Reservation where Steve and Robin Claris are serving in Philadelphia, Mississippi on September 6 –12. Cost is \$150 plus transportation costs—carpooling will be available. Missioners with a variety of gifts needed! Wanted: missioners with servant hearts who want to share the love of Christ with others and serve as Christ's hand and feet in a native American community. Contact Jim or Carol Bown at jimdown@cox.net or 890-2603.

From our District Superintendent

Dear friends,

It is with pleasure that I introduce to you Cindy Martin who will be our full time office manager in the fall. She will be our office assistant until that time. I am also pleased to celebrate the appointment of the Rev. Lynne Alley-Grant as our Director of Church Development for the Roanoke District. Here is the announcement about her role on the district.

Effective July 1st, The Reverend Lynne Alley-Grant has been appointed as the Roanoke District Director of Church Development. Lynne brings much experience to this new role as she has worked in a broad array of ministry challenges including serving as the founding pastor of Fieldstone

United Methodist in Christiansburg and most recently as the senior pastor at Thrasher Memorial United Methodist in Vinton. Lynne's challenge is to help us be more intentional as we strive to fully welcome and include all people into our communities of faith. With a conference-wide effort to create ministries that affect more people, more young people and more diverse people, Alley-Grant's vision is to help inspire, challenge and train (our) churches to be even more effective as we do relevant and life changing mission outside the walls of our buildings - making our faith communities more loving and just for God's people. Lynne and a number of people from congregations across the district are already working and focused on taking

ministry to the streets of the Roanoke district. To join or help initiate a project that pursues this vision, please contact Lynne at alleygrant@aol.com or call her at (540)250-5819.



We wish both of these servants well. Many thanks to all of you for your prayers for my recent hospitalization. I am doing well. And so that you might know, I am working on a reduced schedule for August and September. I can be reached through the district office.
Peace to all - Steve

Remember in Your Prayers:

- The family of **Mr. Bennie Lee Robbins**, father of Rev. Gary L. Robbins, who died June 30th. Rev. Robbins is pastor of Greene Memorial UMC.
- The family of **Rev. A. Benjamin Chidester, Jr.**, who died July 21st. Rev. Chidester was a retired minister on the Roanoke District.

Additions to District Directory

- **Rev. George Warner**, pastor of Asbury UMC, home address is: 1713 Lions Drive, Christiansburg, VA 24073 ; home phone is 540-382-2021.
- **Rev. Sandra McMillen**, pastor of Fincastle UMC, email address is: samcmillen@ntelos.net

District Events & News:**VIPCare opens new satellite**

Greene Memorial UMC in Roanoke has become the newest satellite center of the Virginia Institute of Pastoral Care (VIPCare). The church finished a \$2.5 million renovation and approached VIPCare through the Rev. David Mucha to explore the possibility of locating a counseling center there. Mucha will be offering individual care and some forms of group counseling primarily for clergy. To schedule an appointment, call (804)282-8332 or visit the Web site: www.vipcare.org. VIPCare was founded in 1967 to provide counseling, care and education inspired by faith.

Church Loans Made Simple

VUMCU Has A Wide Range Of Loan Products For Churches Of All Sizes

We've been lending to our conference churches for years and we understand how involved the loan process for churches can be. We will assist your church every step of the way and we offer loans for *renovations, repairs, lines of credit, refinancing of current debt, church vehicles and parsonages*. We offer unsecured and secured loans with variable and fixed rates. Additionally, we have pledge of share/certificate of deposit loans as well as those that are mortgage backed.

Contact Mike Haydon at: mhaydon@vumcu.org to request a loan packet. *All loans are subject to approval and rates are subject to change.*

District Apportionments PAID in full for 2011:

- Mt. Tabor UMC
- Mt. Elbert UMC
- Calvary UMC-Christiansburg
- Catawba UMC - Catawba
- Trinity UMC - Roanoke
- Lawrence Memorial UMC
- White Memorial UMC

Conference Apportionments PAID in full for 2011:

- Mt. Tabor UMC
- Mt. Elbert UMC
- Calvary UMC-Christiansburg

News from Camp Alta Mons

Alta Mons has 2011 packed with fun activities, events, volunteer days and opportunities for all ages. For a full description of events and to download a yearly calendar, visit www.altamons.org. Below are the next few events on the calendar. Check out our website, call or email for more information: www.altamons.org or office@altamons.org or call 540-268-2409.

Swimming Pool (Open Memorial Day to Labor Day) The pool is open to the public every Saturday 10am-5:30pm and Sunday 1pm-6pm (weather permitting). At all other times, the pool is available for rent by groups and for use by the Summer Camp Program. Swimming classes are offered for children and adults. *Look out for the special Dog Swim Day at the end of the season.

Swimming Lessons

Morning swim lessons (infant thru teen) will be offered through August 12th. Two courses, half-hour in length, will be offered each morning, Monday through Friday, beginning at 9:00 am and 9:45 am. Please see schedule for lesson level availability. Evening swim lessons for Adults as well as some abbreviated PCA and PSA lessons will meet on Tuesday and Thursday, rain or shine. Lessons and times are available on the

schedule.

The maximum enrollment for each class is eight (8) students. A parent OR guardian must be present for the duration of class time. The cost per week is \$40.00 per student and must be pre-paid. For Parent Child Aquatics and Preschool aquatics the parent and child together are considered one student and both parents are welcome to attend. Parental participation in the pool is required for the Parent Child Aquatics courses and is strongly encouraged for the Preschool Aquatics courses.

Aquatics Day Camp

Finally, we will be offering an Aquatics Day Camp for elementary aged children during the first week in August, 1st through 5th. The Aquatics Day Camp will meet daily from 8am-3pm, rain or shine. The camp programs include breakfast and lunch, Red Cross Learn To Swim lessons for levels 4 & 5, a variety of pool and non pool aquatic experiences, and other traditional camp activities. The cost for the Aquatics Day camp is \$60 per child and is all inclusive. Register online or by phone.

College Prep Event "Being wHoly prepared for College"

(August 10-12)

This 48 hour event is open for incoming College Freshmen and incoming High school Seniors and builds upon the advice of university academics and chaplains. It focuses on managing your resources to accomplish your Goals through Faith. Sessions highlight social, cooking, spiritual and academic skills needed to be a successful Christian college student. High school seniors will have discussions on what to look for in making the right college decision.



Voices of Youth will begin its 26th summer mission experience next week when the summer youth choir will travel to the Dominican Republic to work at Renewed Hope Missions. Once they return, Voices of Youth will begin a tour of the conference, singing in 13 districts. They will sing in the Roanoke District at **Raleigh Court UMC on Monday, August 1st at 7:00 PM**. Voices of Youth is a Virginia Conference program designed to connect high school youth with those in need through music and mission which started in 1985.

Roanoke District UMW

Lou Talbutt, District President



A discussion has been on-going all summer about the national budget with Congress and the Administration trying to reach agreement. Have you ever evaluated our national values reflected in the budget? How about your own values based on your personal budget each year? A recent article sent to me online from the UMW/Women's Division called attention to the national budget and reminded us to take action with our own representatives and, consequently, led to this article.

First, examine your own budget. At the end of each month and the end of the year, evaluate your check stubs or canceled checks. Where did the money go? Did you pay God first? How does your tithing and gifting balance with other spending? Did you tithe up front? Through my own experience, I have found that when I tithe first I have to pay more attention to my discretionary spending for

the rest of the month. This proves to be a good thing because I am forced to be more deliberate and careful. I have also found that when I give in a "hands on way", I get more involved and gain much satisfaction and pleasure from giving.

Now, back to our national values reflected in the proposed 2012 budget. Mandatory spending (keeping the government operation) accounts for 60% of the budget, and interest on our debt is 6%, this leaves 34% for the discretionary budget. Of the discretionary amount, the greatest amount requested thus far is for defense spending. The House proposed House Resolution (HR 1) which the Senate did not pass and Congress is now at a standstill. As I write this article, we are waiting for the talks to continue. According to the Coalition on Human Need, If HR 1 were to become law the following items are only a few of the many cuts which would

happen: 218,000 young children would not be able to receive Head Start services; 81,000 low-income citizens, mostly seniors, would no longer receive supplemental food packages; 8 million adults and youth would lose access to job training and other employment services; and 9.4 million low income college students would lose some or all of their Pell Grants.

If the previous mentioned items were to become law, the values reflected would not be consistent with Christian values of love and concern for children, education, and senior citizens. Money for wars and Wall Street has not helped lives of the poor. So far, Congress has only focused on the discretionary spending aspect of the budget. Thus, the cuts mentioned may not come to pass. As Christians, we must keep up with our budget process and keep in touch with our representatives. Jesus served the poor, women and children. Let us do likewise.

- September 11 Open UMW District Executive Meeting Unit Presidents –3 pm St. Paul UMC, Christiansburg
- September 24 – 25 Conference UMW Young Women's Weekend, VUMAC
- October 2 District UMW Annual Meeting – 3 pm Raleigh Court UMC, Roanoke
- October 29 – 30 Conference UMW Annual Meeting, VUMAC

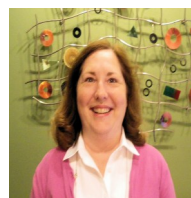
District Office Staff

Thank You, Fran Burgess

Fran Burgess, Roanoke District Office Assistant for the past four years, retired July 12th. Fran published the district newsletter, maintained the database and capably assisted in many ways in the office. We will miss her and are grateful for her dedicated service to the Roanoke District.

Welcome, Cindy Martin

The Roanoke District welcomes Cindy Martin to the district office. Cindy and her husband, Tom, attend Cave Spring UMC where she has enjoyed teaching children's Sunday school for many years. Her son and daughter are students at Virginia Tech. You may reach her at cmartin@roanokeumc.org. Cindy will be working part-time as office assistant for a couple of months and will become office manager in October.



District Events & News:

The next **District Book Club** will be in September and we will read *The Soloist* by Steve Lopez. I found the book and ordered it off of Amazon for \$4.49. Marianne Bird will lead the discussion and we have plans to see parts of the movie. We will meet at the Roanoke UM Home. Questions? Call Becky Hundley at 904-2960.

Cave Spring UMC is seeking a part-time Business Manager. This candidate should have computer skills (ACS technology preferred) with financial and bookkeeping experience. Monday, Wednesday and Friday hours negotiable. Submit cover letter and resume to Staff Parish Relations Committee, CSUMC, 4505 Hazel Drive, SW, Roanoke, VA 24018 or admin@cavespringumc.org.



Three Oaks Fellowship in Vinton needs a pianist for Sunday services and special services. Please contact Barbara Perdue at: b1perdue@aol.com or Pastor Tina Cox at tcx61@gmail.com. You may also call the church office: 540-890-8300.



Save the date, for **The Roanoke Hermitage Guild Annual Bazaar** will be on FRIDAY, October 7, 2011. Please plan to contribute to the "Attic Treasures", Plants, Christmas Booth and Books and also buy a ticket or SEVERAL for the delicious luncheon! Watch for the September issue of the District Newsletter for more details!!

It's that wonderful time of the year, once again! The children of the Roanoke Valley will soon be heading back to school. Each year, we try to provide basic school supplies to our COP children and youth, both at the start of the school year and throughout the school year as needed. The following items are needed individually or assembled into schoolbags for Distributions (immediate needs are shown in red):



Elementary School Supplies:

Back pack	Elmer's glue
Yellow #2 pencils	Glue sticks
Pencil sharpener	Pink "pearl" eraser
School box	Pocket folders
8 pack of Crayola markers	3 single-subject notebooks
wide-ruled paper	1 1/2" 3-ring binder

Middle School and High School Supplies:

Back pack	Graphing paper
3 single-subject notebooks	Box of colored pencils
1 pkg. subject dividers	#2 pencils
Composition books	2 black or blue pens
1 1/2" 3-ring binder	markers and ruler
College-ruled paper	Pencil sharpener

If you or your church would like to contribute to this cause, please call Becky Parsons at 540-342-3103 or email them at beck12_98@yahoo.com, or simply drop them off at COP (305 Mountain Ave., SW, Roanoke, VA 24016).

Our aim is to provide each of the children with these supplies before school begins in the fall. We will be putting together book bags mid-August and will continue restocking our school supplies for the year.

COP also needs volunteers for reading, homework helpers, cooking, and van drivers (minimum age 25). All help is appreciated!

Thank you for your continued support of the Community Outreach Program.

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www.roanokeumc.org

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