

December 2011



A Newsletter of the Roanoke District Virginia Conference - The United Methodist Church



Inside this issue:

District Superintendent	1
Apportionments Paid	1
District News	2
District Training Events	2
Community Outreach Program	2
Conference News	3
United Methodist Women	3
Director of Church Development	3
District Mission Trip	3
Prayer Concerns	3
CLDDT	4

From Our District Superintendent



Dear leaders,

Luke 1:41 *"When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit."*

Advent is about moments. Moments when everything seems right, filled with hope and a sense of goodness and mercy. Moments when otherwise crazy people "settle down" and "settled down" people go crazy! Moments when we see people we do not see often and then we see those whom we see all the time in a different light.

Just imagine the moment when Elizabeth felt her child, John, leap in her

womb at the mere presence of Mary when she visits.

Like the saying goes – "We all have our moments." Advent is a time when we have our moments together and we celebrate the breakthrough moment when a savior comes to have an eternal moment with us all!

Peace to all –

Steve Hundley



Apportionments Paid for Year 2011

District Apportionments 100% PAID

Mt. Lebanon –Pembroke	Thrasher Memorial UMC	Asbury UMC
Calvary UMC - Christiansburg	Catawba UMC—Catawba	Ebenezer UMC
Trinity UMC-Roanoke	Lawrence Memorial UMC	Andrew Chapel
Crockett Springs UMC	White Memorial UMC	Mt. Elbert UMC
Mt. Pleasant UMC-Roanoke	Lithia- Buchanan Charge	Lafayette UMC
Three Oaks Fellowship UMC	Trinity-Buchanan Charge	Mt. Tabor UMC
Catawba –Shiloh	Boones Mill UMC	

Conference Apportionments 100% PAID

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

The District Office will close at noon on Friday, December 23rd, for the Christmas Holiday and will reopen Thursday, December 29th. The office will also close at noon on Friday, December 30th, for the New Year's Holiday and reopen Tuesday, January 3, 2012.



The District Staff wishes you and your family a blessed Advent and Christmas season.
Steve, Carole, and Cindy

District News



We encourage all to come and enjoy the beauty of Camp Alta Mons in the winter.

Decorate Alta Mons for

Christmas on December 2nd @ 10:00 am. Bring garland, old Christmas items and lights to help decorate our dining hall, Christmas tree and buildings. Holiday music and hot apple cider provided.

Winter Camp takes place December 27th thru 29th. We just keep having FUN! See past campers and staff while having a great time in the winter at Alta Mons. Come enjoy wagon rides, arts and crafts, nature tracking, campfires, Geocache and orienteering, songs and other winter games. Grades 3rd-8th. Cost is \$80. Call or register on online.

Holiday Meals are offered at Alta Mons in the form of our popular holiday buffet menus for groups to enjoy in our beautiful wooden dining hall with a rural feel. Guests can gather around the fireplace, enjoy great food and fellowship.

Sunday Lenten Lunches will begin February 5 thru March 25. Watch for more information in future newsletters.



Did you know that The Wesley Foundation at Virginia Tech collected **950** cake mixes during a recent food drive for the Montgomery County Christmas Store. Great job Hokies!

Rockingham Court UMC would like to invite you to join us in celebrating the Christmas Holiday with a live, outdoor, drive-through Nativity Scene. This is a free, beautiful event you and your family can share to start your holiday season. The drive-through will be held **December 10 and 11** from 6:00 to 9:00 PM, weather permitting. Our Church is located at 4615 Bryan Road, just off Yellow Mountain Road, in the southeast Roanoke / Mount Pleasant area. If you have questions, please call us at 427-0112.

Youth Council Meeting will be Tuesday, December 13th at South Roanoke UMC at 7:00

District PPR and Finance Training Event

Saturday, December 3, 2011
Windsor Hills United Methodist Church
3591 Windsor Road, SW, Roanoke, VA

10:00-12:00 PPR Training
12:00-12:30 Lunch
12:30 –2:00 Finance Training

For more information contact the district office @ 989-3335 or cmartin@roanokeumc.org or the district website: www.roanokeumc.org

District Leadership Training Event

Saturday, January 7, 2012

Greene Memorial United Methodist Church

402 Second Street SW, Roanoke, VA

9:00 a.m. –12:30 p.m.

Brochures are available online at www.roanokeumc.org

CLASS OPPORTUNITIES:

The United Methodist Connection: Understanding the Jargon

Lay Leadership

New Ideas for Children's Ministry

Resources for Youth Ministry and The Leadership Lab

What Every Church Should Know About Missions

Board of Discipleship, How Can We Help You, The Local Church

Poverty and the Church

Care of Creation

Camp Alta Mons: Experiencing God through Hospitality, Programs and Facilities

Reaching Young Adults

Contextual Ministry: Putting the Gospel in New Containers

The Roanoke District Leadership Training Event is for both clergy and laity. Our goal is to equip and support those in leadership in the local church. This workshop is for both new leaders and veteran leaders. Please register by January 5, 2012 by phone, fax, email or mail registration form to the district office. For more information contact Debbie Brown at 540-344-6625 or DebbieB@gmumc.org.

Community Outreach Program News

Consider honoring your loved ones at Christmas by supporting a child in need. Acknowledgement cards are available. Examples include:

\$20 = one week of COP for a child

\$50 = one month of COP for a child

\$100 = a week of summer camp for a child

\$500 = a one year of COP for a child

Also remember that food items are always needed at COP for our weekend meal program. Each week takes 30 cans of 10 oz. Raviolis, 60 nature bars, 60 breakfast bars, 60 juice boxes, 60 peanut butter cracker packages. A great way to contribute is to get together in groups or families and work together to gather the food items. It takes about \$115 at Sam's Club to purchase the items necessary for one week.

We are also looking for volunteers to help at the Barnes and Noble (Valley View) book fair on December 17th. Storytellers and face painters are needed. Please be on the lookout for information in churches to support the book fair. Just use the code we will send you and on December 17th a percentage of all the purchases using that code will come to COP to buy books for the library. You can redeem the code at any Barnes and Noble and on-line. If you are going to buy books this Christmas please consider buying them December 17th.

Also, COP will provide transportation for the Old Southwest Parlor tour December 3-4th. Please come out and see the beautiful homes of Old Southwest at Christmas time!

For additional information contact Becky Parsons at 342-3103 or umcopr@roacoxmail.com

Roanoke District UMW

Lou Talbutt, District President



I hope your Holiday decorations are in progress as you ready your home for the Holiday Season. I extend Holiday greetings to each of you.

I appreciate your attendance at the 39th Annual Roanoke District meeting on October 2nd at Raleigh Court UMC. Many units received awards and I appreciate your hard work and dedication to our purpose. Two new members were elected and installed on the nomination committee, Louise Miller (Raleigh Court UMC) and Jane Burks (Northview UMC). They are replacing two retiring members, Peggy Huffman (New Castle, Virginia) and Ann Rhudy (Christiansburg, Virginia). We extend our appreciation to both Peggy and Ann for their dedicated service. Also, Bobby Rust

(Cave Spring UMC) was installed as Membership, Nurture and Outreach Chairperson. We extend congratulations and best wishes to our new officers.

As we move into the holidays, I hope all of us will remember to welcome our "non-English" speaking friends and show kindness to our neighbors from other countries.

Many international students are unable to return home for the holidays and, consequently, would welcome an invitation for a meal or event in someone's home. The same is true for church families new to our country. As we walk with wholeness, let us open our hearts and homes to those in need of love and support.

By the time you receive this

newsletter our UMW Annual Breakfast will be over at First Salem UMC on November 5th which only leaves me with a big "thank you" to all of you who came and those who helped with the event.

Our UMW District calendar is free until after the New Year. New dates will be posted in the December UMW Newsletter. This gives UMW time to plan for the New Year and participate in their local church events for the Christmas Season. You can tag your calendar early for the Executive Committee Meeting on **January 16th**. St Paul UMC, Christiansburg; General Assembly Day Bon Air UMC Richmond, **February. 2;** and, UMW Training Event at Cave Spring UMC, **February 4** at 9:00 AM.

Conference News Voices of Youth

Applications are now available at www.voyva.org. **December 9th** is the deadline for Adult and College Staff and **January 6th** for Youth applications. Tour dates for 2012 are June 27th-July 20. For additional information contact Jennifer Dixon at 757-348-7084 for at coordinator@voyva.org.

Got Projects?

The Virginia United Methodist Credit Union has a solution. Our Project Loans can be used by churches to fund roof repair, kitchen upgrade, parking lot improvements, heating/ac systems, painting or parsonage repairs. Project Loans are unsecured, for amounts up to \$50,000 with rates as low as 4.75% APR. Call 866-657-0004 for applications and details.

2012 Lay Servants Academy

All laity are invited to the Lay Servants Academy to be held at the Blackstone Conference and Retreat Center on February 24-26, 2012. The Academy will include the 35th Annual Conference Lay Speakers Training; however, you do not need to be on track to become a Local Lay Speaker or Certified Lay Speaker to attend. Every chairperson, committee member, teacher, or congregational leader is encouraged to take the introductory Lay Speaking course and overview of United Methodism. The information and skills you will be introduced to will serve you well within your local congregations. A variety of 10-hour courses will be offered for Advanced Lay Speaking. New in 2012 will be the offering of introductory 2-hour classes. The brochure for the Academy is available on the Conference website (www.vaumc.org). You can find it by searching the February dates on the event calendar or under the "Laity" section of the "Ministries" tab.

From Our Director Of Church Development

Rev. Lynne Alley-Grant

Tell me your story . . .

I have been reading, writing and praying mightily about the church we love. I have been asking God to show me what I need to see. I am excited about what I am calling the "advent adventure" God has placed on my heart. I have heard God say, "*listen to the stories of my people.*" I know it sounds different and hopefully adventuresome but I invite you to join me this Advent for a time to talk about the church we love!

I want to hear your most cherished stories about the church we love. I want to listen to you share your hopes, dreams and challenges about the future of the church we love. I want to provide us with the opportunity to talk about what we do best in the Roanoke district and how we can use our shared talents to grow more God opportunities in our region!

Beginning December 1, the times and locations of my advent adventure stops will be posted on our district website. (roanokeumc.org). You can also learn where to meet by calling Cindy Martin in the district office at 540-989-3335.

I have no idea what all God has in store for us but I do know that I love the church, the season of Advent and the surprise of a God-ordained adventure! Hope to see you soon!



2012 District Volunteers in Mission

Preparations have begun for a medical mission trip to Mazatenango, Guatemala on June 9th-17th. Doctors, dentists, nurses as well as non-medical persons are need to participate. Contact Jim Gooding jjgooding@cox.net for more information. The Boca Costa Mission website is www.bacostamm.org. Cost of the trip will be approximately \$1800. Prayerfully consider becoming part of this remarkable mission.

The Roanoke District will have a potato drop **Saturday, December 3, 2011** at **Southview UMC** beginning at 8:00 a.m. Please come and bag potatoes. Many hands make light work! If you have any questions please contact Becky Hundley, 904-2960. See you there!



Remember In Your Prayers

Rev. Tom Lee, pastor of Windsor Hills UMC, as he recovers from recent surgery.

Carole Kesler, wife of Rev. Danny Kessler, Foothills Charge, as she undergoes surgery.

Opportunities to Connect and Serve in the VA UMC

You may be exactly the one we need! The Conference Leadership Discovery and Development Team is looking for Transformational leaders who will help both influence and shape present and future opinion by faithful remembering of our heritage as a missionary movement of God’s Holy Spirit. Throughout the Body of Christ, we need persons invested in equipping local churches and disciples for the many facets of ministry in our community and world. Following is a preliminary list of openings for the conference leadership in these areas.

- Common Table: Administration and Ministries with Adults
- Church and Society 1 lay and 1 clergy
- Board of Discipleship 1 clergy
- Children’s Council – one vacancy
- Young Adult Council – one vacancy
- Board of Higher Education Ministries: 3 clergy and 5 lay
- Board of Laity: 1 clergy and 1 lay
- Virginia United Methodist Communications: 1 clergy and 2 lay
- Commission on Disabilities: 1 lay
- Equitable Compensation Commission: 1 clergy
- Commission on Ethnic Minority Concerns and Advocacy: 1 vacancy (clergy or lay)
- Council on Finance and Administration: 2 clergy
- United Methodist Foundation: 1 lay
- UM Housing Development Corporation: 1 lay

To be considered in a pool of nominees for one of these positions, you must fill out a Nomination Profile Form available from the District Office or the Conference website and have it signed by the District Superintendent. Profile forms and descriptions of the various Boards or Agencies, as well as the kinds of skills/gifts needed, can be found on the home page of the conference website under “**Want to Serve**”. The form must be returned to the District Office before **December 15th** to be signed by the District Superintendent and forwarded to the Conference.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
ROANOKE, VA
PERMIT #316

Roanoke District Office
Virginia Conference
The United Methodist Church
4502 Starkey Rd., SW, Suite 101
Roanoke, VA 24018
Charlene Payne Kammerer
Area Bishop
Stephen C. Hundley
District Superintendent
Warner Bonderman,
District Lay Leader
Carole P. Click, Bookkeeper
Cindy Martin, Office Manager
Phone: 540-989-3335
Fax: 540-989-0672
E-mail: shundley@roanokeumc.org
click@roanokeumc.org
cmartin@roanokeumc.org
We're on the web at:
www.roanokeumc.org
The DEADLINE for the NEXT
ISSUE
is the 15th of the month