

February  
2012



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



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From our District Superintendent

Cooperating with God

Dear church leaders,

Are you blessed? Are you blessed to be a blessing? Are you cooperative with God's will in your life? Leslie Weatherhead, long time pastor of City Temple in London, wrote in his book, *THE WILL OF GOD*, about us cooperating with the will of God. Sometimes it seems that we may believe in God and have sensed the redemption God has offered but then we have failed to "operate" as Christians while God is still "operating!" Then we wonder, what happened? Why did God do this or that? Crazyness!

I challenge all of you in this upcoming Lenten season to come to more fully cooperate with God and God's will. That means we must actively "operate" all the time in the will of God, not just in God's name. Cooperation with God brings a lifetime of blessing!

Blessed to be a blessing!

Steve Hundley



District Book  
Club

The next District Book Club will be Tuesday, **March 27th @3:00 pm** at the Roanoke United Methodist Home. The book we will be discussing is *Our Family Outing: A Memoir of Coming Out and Coming Through* by Joe Cobb and Leigh Anne Taylor. Leigh Anne is the Minister of Music at Blacksburg UMC and Joe is the minister at Metropolitan Community Church. Questions? Contact Becky Hundley at 904-2960.

Dr. Efirid Returns

For the fifth year Dr. Mickey Efirid from the Duke Divinity School will return to **Cave Spring UMC** to lead a bible study. His topic this year will be Paul's Letters to the Corinthians. The study will be held in Wesley Hall from 7:00-9:00 pm **Friday, March 16**, and from 9:00 am - noon on **Saturday, March 17**. Childcare will only be provided if requested. A \$10.00 registration fee will be charged to help defray the cost of having Dr. Efirid come to Roanoke. You may register by calling the church office at 540-989-3673 or online at [www.cavspringumc.org](http://www.cavspringumc.org).

District Youth Events

The Roanoke District Youth Council invites all Roanoke area youth groups to a night of "murder and mayhem." On **Sunday, February 19th at 5:00pm** come join us at **Thrasher Memorial UMC** for dinner and a "murder." There is no cost for your group! Just let us know about a week out how many you think may come.

Email Tim Craft at [craftytim@gmail.com](mailto:craftytim@gmail.com).

The District Youth Council is in the midst of planning an exciting retreat for your youth groups. This year we will hold an in-town retreat to make it more affordable for everyone. As part of the Conference's initiative of "making all things new" we will focus all of our weekend activities on revitalizing the neighborhoods around Huntington Court UMC. Mark your calendars now for the weekend of **April 20-22, 2012**. More information should be headed your way soon!

Also remember the next District Youth Council Meeting is **February, 7 @ 7:00 pm** at Thrasher Memorial UMC.

### District News

**Thrasher Memorial UMC** is planning a mission trip to the Choctaw Methodist Mission in Mississippi where Steve Claris is serving as church and community worker. Dates are **April 9-14**. There is space available. Cost is about \$200. A variety of gifts and talents are needed. For more information contact Jim and Carol Bown 890 2603 or [jimbown@verizon.net](mailto:jimbown@verizon.net)

**Bonsack UMC** is currently seeking to fill two part time position openings:

**ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT** responsible for managing administrative & secretarial functions -- church communications and congregational support, coordination of daily church activities, and office management. Requires professional and caring demeanor, 1-3 years related experience, good working knowledge of PC's, Microsoft Office and office equipment. Weekdays 30 hrs/wk.

**FINANCIAL SECRETARY** responsible for general support of church's financial processes including payroll and accounts payable, tax filing, financial reports and routine accounts maintenance. 1-3 years professional bookkeeping experience in nonprofit setting. Must be familiar with fund accounting procedures, general office equipment, computerized accounting systems and software including Microsoft Office. Preference given for experience with Church Windows, but not required. Approximately 20 hours per week.

Both positions offer competitive pay commensurate with experience and the opportunity to work and grow in a dynamic and caring church environment. Send your resume with compensation requirements to Pastor Tim Tate, c/o BUMC, 4493 Bonsack Rd, Roanoke, VA 24012, or to [sprc@bonsackumc.org](mailto:sprc@bonsackumc.org)

Visit the district website for other job opportunities in the Roanoke District.

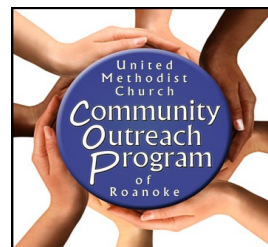


### 2012 District Volunteers in Mission

Doctors, dentists, nurses and non-medical persons are needed to participate in this medical mission trip to Mazatenango, Guatemala on June 9th-17th. Contact Jim Gooding [jjgooding@cox.net](mailto:jjgooding@cox.net) for more information. The Boca Costa Mission website is [www.bocacostamm.org](http://www.bocacostamm.org). Cost of the trip will be approx. \$1800.

### Community Outreach Program

The Community Outreach Program (COP) is sponsoring their second annual Golf Tournament May 12, 2012 at Hanging Rock Golf Club. This event is to raise funds for COP, a mission project in the Roanoke District, that strives to improve the quality of life of children and their families in the inner-city by providing a safe and nurturing environment where children are mentored academically, spiritually, emotionally and physically. Individual golfers and teams can register by completing a registration form available on the district website: [www.roanoke.umd.org](http://www.roanoke.umd.org). Sponsorship opportunities are available at many levels and all will be recognized in the UMC District newsletter. Contributions of items that can be used as prizes or sold at silent auctions would be appreciated. Volunteers will be needed to work the tournament. Please help make this event successful. Contact Hartley Gaston at (540) 580-0412 or [Lchepo@aol.com](mailto:Lchepo@aol.com) if you wish to be a sponsor, donate items, volunteer or play.



Also, a special thanks to all the churches who purchased Christmas Angels. The children were so excited to have gifts this year. Also, to Trinity UMC for putting on a wonderful dinner for 145 children, youth and family members of UMCOPR. For those folks who brought gifts at Barnes and Noble, we raised \$215 for books for the children of C.O. P.

Special needs at this time include:

Weekend Meal Program, Clothes Closet, office supplies and much more. Go to the district website under *Ministries* for a complete list of specific items needed.

### Cokesbury 2012 VBS Preview

Save 20% PLUS 3.95 Shipping on your order of any of the Programs featured in our VBS Showcase Catalog EXCEPT Group VBS Program SAVE 10%

Special Offer available January 23 to February 12, 2012

Contact Susan Simmons / Cokesbury Representative at 540-989-2037 or [ssimmons@cokesbury.com](mailto:ssimmons@cokesbury.com)



Here is a word cloud that was made at a recent Sunday evening worship service. The question was asked, "As we are renewed coming together for a new semester, what are we looking to get out of Wesley or what are your hopes and dreams for Wesley this year?" A word cloud is a grouping of words that are sized based on frequency of use....pretty awesome results!!



## Roanoke District UMW

Lou Talbutt, District President



Greetings From the President's Desk

As the Roanoke District UMW move into the New Year, we need to review our 2011 goals, evaluate our successes and adjust accordingly. Last year our goals were to:

- Continue and expand our financial support for missions.
- Continue and expand our "Hands On" missions.
- Continue to grow in knowledge and understanding as we seek to know God.
- Continue to develop a creative and supportive environment for all women.

Well, how did we do? We met our District Pledge to Missions for 2011, \$52,800 and we were able to donate an additional \$1,200 to Missions. Thanks to each of you for participating in

our giving programs. Unit Presidents are reminded to talk about and provide Candle Burning Services in their Churches and to encourage members to become Rainbow Givers. Many UMW attended Mission Trips, visited and worked in Community Programs, Food Pantries, Clothing Banks and other settings too numerous to mention. The Spiritual Life Retreat was a highlight for all of us where women shared together and "Celebrated Peace Through Music." The Annual Meeting provided an opportunity for women to celebrate together through the Award Ceremony and Candle Burning Service. The spiritual message was on the book of Ruth as we learned how she was an example of a Woman Who Walked in Wholeness. The Annual District Prayer Breakfast allowed us to unify under the theme, A Journey for

Justice. For 2012 let us add membership growth to our goals and encourage local units to increase membership.

We have a District Doll who travels with me. Her name is Jaz Gomaz from South America. She helps raise money for missions and the more she travels, the better she does. All donations are accepted.

Mark your calendars for the **Spiritual Life Retreat** at Crockett Spring/Camp Alta Mons on **April 21**, 9:00 AM Registration.

Blessings to each of you.

Lou Talbutt, Roanoke District UMW President

### Conference News

#### Caring for Creation 2012

Consider attending this experience for laity and clergy addressing how the faith community can promote justice for Earth and all living things.

Discover your residential and faith communities' role in environmental care, March 14-18, 2012 at Lake Junaluska Conference and Retreat Center. Brochures are available in the district office and at

[www.lakejunaluska.com/caring-for-creation](http://www.lakejunaluska.com/caring-for-creation).

#### February is Heart Havens Month

February is Heart Havens Month in the Virginia Conference, a time when churches are asked to make financial contributions to this agency that provides residential services for men and women with intellectual disabilities by building and operating 12 group homes throughout Virginia. This February, help support this mission in your own backyard by donating, volunteering or advocating for Heart Havens ([www.hearthavens.org](http://www.hearthavens.org)).

#### Clergy Spouse

##### 50th Anniversary Retreat

will take place March 15 thru 17 in Blackstone. Call Becky Hundley @ 904-2960 if you are interested in carpooling opportunities.

## From Our Director Of Church Development

Rev. Lynne Alley-Grant



### On Being "Othered"- Take 2!

Several of our readers called me up to talk about being othered. It seems we have all experienced the pain of being left out and excluded. It seems that being "othered"- setting people aside because they appear to be different leaves a nasty mark of pain on us. Being othered hurts us in a way that is difficult to forget.

One of the persons who called me is a retired United Methodist pastor. When he called he asked me if I knew the song named "Others". I told him I had never heard of the song. Then right there, over the phone as my Mazda and I rolled down interstate 66, he sang to me.

The song can be found in the 1923 Cokesbury Hymnal, page 177. The words were written by C.D. Meigs and the music copyright is dated 1917, by the Presbyterian Committee of Publication.

#### OTHERS

Lord, help me live from day to day  
In such a self forgetful way  
That even when I kneel to pray  
My prayer shall be for- Others.

Help me in all the work I do,  
To ever be sincere and true  
And know that all I'd do for You  
Must needs be done for- Others.

**Others, Lord, yes, others,  
Let this my motto be,  
Help me to live for others,  
That I may live like Thee.**

Let self be crucified and slain  
And buried deep: and all in vain  
May efforts be to rise again,  
Unless to live for -Others.

And when my work on earth is done,  
And my new work in heaven's begun,  
May I forget the crown I've won,  
While thinking still of- Others.

### Old Age Ain't for Sissies

The Roanoke United Methodist Home is working with Good Samaritan Hospice to host a series of presentations at the Roanoke United Methodist Home. Our first presentation will be held on Tuesday **February 28th** at 7:00 pm and the topic will be "Old Age Ain't For Sissies." The speaker will discuss some of the ups and downs of the biological, emotional, and spiritual changes that occur as people age. The speaker will also help participants distinguish between grief and depression and explore effective ways of managing stress. Seating will be limited, so please RSVP by Friday, February 24th. If you would like to attend or have questions please contact Mike Gartland, at [MGartland@VUHM.org](mailto:MGartland@VUHM.org) or 540-767-6803.



# Apportionments Paid for the Year 2011

## District and Conference Apportionments 100% PAID

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| • Andrew Chapel   | • Fieldstone  | • Mount Tabor                               |
| • Asbury  | • Fincastle   | • Newport - Mt. Olivet                      |
| • Belview   | • First Salem   | • Park                                      |
| • Bethel, Eagle Rock, Glen Wilton, Shiloh<br>(Eagle Rock Charge)      | • Goodwin Memorial  | • Prices Fork, Trinity (Prices Fork Charge) |
| • Bethel, New Castle (New Castle Charge)                              | • Grace   | • Raleigh Court                             |
| • Blacksburg  | • Green Memorial  | • Rockingham Court                          |
| • Bonsack   | • Hebron, Mt. Pleasant, Pierce Chapel<br>(Foothills Charge) | • Saint Marks                               |
| • Boones Mill   | • Huntington Court  | • Saint Paul—Christiansburg                 |
| • Calvary-Christiansburg  | • Lafayette   | • Saint Paul—Roanoke                        |
| • Calvary-Salem   | • Lawrence Memorial   | • South Roanoke                             |
| • Catawba, McDonald's Mill, Shiloh<br>(Catawba Charge)                | • Lithia, Trinity (Buchanan Charge)                         | • Southview                                 |
| • Cave Spring   | • Locust Grove  | • Thrasher Memorial                         |
| • Central   | • Mays Memorial, Parrish Chapel (Mt. View<br>Charge)        | • Three Oaks Fellowship                     |
| • Copper Hill, Haven's Chapel, Huffville,<br>Stonewall (Floyd Parish) | • Mount Elbert  | • Trinity-Roanoke                           |
| • Crockett Springs  | • Mount Lebanon, First Pembroke<br>(Pembroke Charge)        | • Wesley Memorial                           |
| • Ebenezer  | • Mt. Olivet  | • West End                                  |
| • Fairview  | • Mount Pleasant-Roanoke                                    | • White Memorial                            |
|   |   | • Windsor Hills                             |

### District Apportionments 100% Paid for 2011

- Woodlawn

### Conference Apportionments 100% Paid for 2011

- Northview

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