

JANUARY

2011



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



Inside this issue:

Prayer Request	1
Leadership Training	1
District News	2
Alta Mons News	2
Heart Havens	2
Camp Loud and Clear	2
UM Women	3
Prayer, Fasting, Discernment	3
District Events & News	3
Apportionments Paid	4

Remember in Your Prayers:

The family of **Dwayne Mason Washington**, son of Rev. and Mrs. Alton Washington, who died on November 30th. Rev. Washington is currently serving St. Paul UMC in Roanoke.

Please remember **Anne Finley**, daughter of Reverends Bill and Jeanne Finley. Rev. Jeanne Finley is Director of Collegial Communications in Blacksburg.

District Leadership Training Event

Saturday, January 8, 2011, 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Thrasher Memorial United Methodist Church
707 E. Washington Ave., Vinton, VA 24179
(Brochures are available online at www.roanokeumc.org)

CLASS OPPORTUNITIES:

- Lay Leadership - Led by: *Warner Bonderman*, District Lay Leader
- Stewardship - Led by: *Brenda Brooks*, District Stewardship Chairperson for the Common Table
- Endowment and Planned Giving - Led by: *Jim Bergdoll*, Conference UM Foundation
- Mission Opportunities Near and Far - Led by: *Larry Lance*, District UMVIM Chairperson
- Alta Mons - Led by: *Jason Masching*, Program Service Director
- Heart Havens: What's It All About? - Led by: *Pat Maehr & Kiki Nusbaumer*
- Congregation Care Team - Led by: *Margaret Riggs*, Certified Congregation Care Leader
- Pastor Parish Relations - Led by: *Stephen Hundley*, Roanoke District Superintendent
- Apportionments - Led by: *Stephen Hundley*, Roanoke District Superintendent
- Worship - Led by: *David Vaughan*, Associate Pastor Thrasher Memorial
- United Methodist Women - Led by: *Lou Talbutt*, District UMW President
- What Every Church Member Should Know About Poverty - Led by: *Sharon Michael & Don Edwards*
- Children's Ministry - Led by: *Susan Wagner*, District Children's Ministry Leader
- Youth Ministry - Led by: *Tim Craft*, District Youth Leader
- Spiritual Formation - Led by: *Tim Tate*, Pastor Bonsack UMC
- Prayer - Led by: *Gary Robbins*, Pastor Greene Memorial UMC

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, 2011 by phone, fax, email or mail registration form to the district office. For more information, call or email Debbie Brown at 540-344-6255 or DebbieB@gmumc.org.

District News:

✓ **The District Book Club** will meet **Tuesday, January 18**, at 3:00 pm at the Roanoke United Methodist Home. The book being discussed is *What Every Church Member Should Know About Poverty* by Bill Ehlig and Ruby K. Payne, Ph.D. Rev. Sharon Michael will lead the discussion. We hope many will participate because this is a study that Bridges Out of Poverty Task Force is going to offer all over the district. The district office has a couple of books that can be purchased for \$18.00. This study is very important to our ministry and we hope many ministers and laity will participate.

✓ **The Clergy Spouse Retreat: "Take Time to Laugh"** will be held March 3-5, 2011 at Blackstone Retreat Center. The retreat will feature Rev. Dr. Lynne Caldwell speaking of "Rx Laughter, the Best Medicine". Several interest groups will also be available. For more information contact Bill Moore at (540) 364-0027 or email wjmoorewi@gmail.com. Registration deadline is February 22.

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 is a brief outline of the major events, highlighting two upcoming events to put on your calendars.

Sunday Lenten Lunches

(February and March) Come and join us for a Lenten Study over lunch. Bring family and friends and enjoy great food, fellowship and live bluegrass/gospel music.

The Lenten lunches run every Sunday in February and March, beginning at 1:00pm and ending at 2:30pm. This buffet style

meal includes soup, salad, main course, dessert and drinks. Groups, families and individuals are welcome. Reservations required in advance. Spaces fill fast.

Paul Bunyan Day

(Saturday, March 12th) A full day of fellowship and preparation for spring. Bring chainsaws, wood-splitters and be ready to clear trails and haul wood. This is the first of the large group volunteer days of the year. Paul Bunyan day is intended as a preparation of Alta Mons for spring and the upcoming busy season, focused around chopping and stacking wood and clearing trails. Individuals and large groups can

come and volunteer time for this event. Lunch provided.

Volunteer Service Day - March 27

Green Up Day - April 30

Memorial Day Weekend - May 28-29

Swimming Pool - open Memorial Day to Labor Day

Summer Camp - runs every week in July

And more.....

We wish you a bright and fruitful new year and look forward to seeing you at Alta Mons!

February is Heart Havens Month

Heart Havens provides residential services for men and women with intellectual disabilities through the development and operation of group homes across Virginia. With your help, we are able to support 55 adults in 12 Christ-centered homes, offering individuals supported independence and providing their families with peace of mind. Your



financial gift, or a gift of your time, talent or service at one of our homes, can make a profound difference in the life of your neighbor living in a Heart Havens' home.

This February, Heart Havens will send materials to your United Methodist Church. If you would like a Heart Havens representative to speak

to your church group or congregation, please call Heart Havens at 804-237-6097, or toll free at 1-877-442-8368. Speaking points will be included in the materials being sent to your church. If you are able, we ask that someone in your church speak for Heart Havens. One Sunday out of the year is all it takes to change a life.

2011 Camp Loud and Clear

Camp Loud and Clear is a summer camp for children who are deaf/hard of hearing that will be held for the first time July 15-17, 2011, at Holiday Lake in Appomattox County. Currently there is no camp in Virginia that is specifically designed to meet the needs of children who are deaf and hard of hearing regardless of their degree of hearing loss or their chosen communication mode. Camp Loud and Clear will change that. All the counselors at the camp will have experience working with children with hearing loss. There will be

nationally certified interpreters present for the children who are deaf. The Virginia Department of Deaf and Hard of Hearing is providing specialized equipment necessary for this camp. It is important to establish such a camp as socializing is exceedingly difficult for individuals who are deaf and hard of hearing and often results in isolation. Our hope is that by establishing Camp Loud and Clear and by facilitating the interactions between these children not only will they develop friendships but their social and coping skills will be strengthened.

Camp Loud and Clear is being supported by the Virginia Conference of The United Methodist Church's Common Table and Commission on Disabilities as well as Longwood University and the Holiday Lake 4-H Educational Center. For additional information about volunteering, camper applications, or ways to assist with Camp Loud and Clear, contact Jennifer Kingsley at jkingsley@hotmail.com or 434-391-3679 or Dr. Lissa Power-deFur at powerdefurea@longwood.edu or 434-395-2972.

Roanoke District UMW

Lou Talbutt, District President



Congratulations to all United Methodist Women of the Roanoke District. We have met our district pledge for 2010, and have gone over the pledge by \$2,900. Joy and Thanks!! I received an email from Sara McConchie, our Treasurer, who indicated that our final pledge for the year of 2010 was \$56,698. What a wonderful way to start the New Year!! As you know, we also met the conference pledge for 2010, \$762,000.07. Here, again we were over the pledge. What's going on with UMW? Is God working among us? We still have a lot of work to do. Most of all let's start by meeting our pledges for 2011. Let's stay in prayer, work hard, and give God the glory.

As we plan for the New Year, please mark your cal-

endars for the upcoming meetings. The Executive Team will meet at 10:00 on Jan. 15th at Central UMC, Salem. The new team will plan our meetings for 2011 and we will "work on the work".

General Assembly Day is February 3rd at Bon Air UMC in Richmond. The next deadline for the March issue of the newsletter is February 15th. The Spiritual Life Retreat is scheduled on April 16th at Crockett Springs/Camp Alta Mons (registration 9:00 am with lunch).

It has been my pleasure to visit a number of churches and provide programs in my role as vice-president. I look forward to getting calls from others. I extend a special "thanks" to Nancy Sasser, our past president,

and all of the outgoing officers for jobs well done. Let us continue to help each other and please let me know how the team can assist you. My phone is 540-552-8909 and my email is lpt.3@warmheartva.org.

As we move into 2011, remember we Methodists are practical Christians. We are called by God to be his hands and feet in missions at home and around the world. Our Goals for 2011 are simple but require a lot of work: Continue and expand our financial support for missions. Continue and expand our "hands on" work in missions. Continue to grow in knowledge and understanding as we seek to know God. Knowledge is power. Continue to develop a creative and supportive community for all women.

Blessings to each of you.

District Events & News:

A new PraiseMoves Exercise Program, a Christian alternative to Yoga, will begin January 8th at Huntington Court UMC. This class includes deep stretching, gentle movement, and strong scripture combined for weight loss, stress relief, flexibility and strength. For more information contact Nancy Harvey, Certified PraiseMoves Instructor at 540-366-5636, nsharvey@cox.net or www.praisemoves.com.

The District UM Youth Council will meet January 10th at Trinity UMC at 7:00 pm.

The Theme for the 2011 Virginia Annual Conference will be "Being Christ to Others: Snapshots of the Kingdom". The scripture is Matthew 10:7-8. Annual Conference will be held June 15-19, 2011 at the Roanoke Civic Center in Roanoke and will include voting for General and Jurisdictional Conference delegates. Annual Conference will begin with the Clergy Session and Laity Session at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, June 15.

Prayer, Fasting and Discernment

A time of prayer, fasting and discernment! This fall, Bishop Charlene Kammerer invited us to join her in a weekly time of fasting and prayer through Dec. 31, to ask God to work within us for the future of the church. This invitation came following a motion adopted by the 2010 Annual Conference that calls on all Virginia Conference United Methodists to "fast, wait before the Lord, confess our sins related to sharing our faith with those not connected with any faith community, and repent of all that has kept our faith communities from being as fruitful as God desires." This request from Bishop Kammerer could not have come at a more perfect time, a time of change. We are experiencing re-alignment of our dis-

tribut boundaries, reforming of some of our boards and agencies, and a renewal within the mission of many of our churches. What better time to seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit for our church and in our lives.

Some may have some trouble with this way of thinking. First of all that nasty word "change" is being said again. We hope that all can see that our God the Creator, is continually at work in this world, and with every new creation there is a change. A new baby changes a family forever, new inventions change how we live. Change is one of the signs that we live in a world alive and full of God's grace and love.

As we look toward the beginning of a new year, resolve to

set aside a block of time to think and dream. During this time, think about your church, the people, and the future it holds. What do you think that your church will look like in five years? Do you think it will look the same? Most likely not, change comes. Will there be more people? Less people? Will your church be alive and vibrant, or possibly closed? During this continued time of prayer and fasting, ask the Holy Spirit to lead your thoughts to a vision of your church in five years, God's vision for a vital faith community. Don't be afraid of the changes that you see. Let your faith in God be stronger than your fear of change.

NEEDED: Housing and Transportation for District Mission Celebration Missioners

Housing and transportation are needed for some of our missioner speakers for the District Mission Celebration March 25-27, 2011. If you or others in your church can help or need more information, please contact Carol Gaston at 540-989-7685 or cagaston@aol.com, or Jean Broyles at 540-366-9065 or



Mission Celebration

Apportionments Paid for Year 2010

District Apportionments 100% Paid:		Conference Apportionments 100% Paid:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Andrew Chapel • Asbury • Belview • Bethel, New Castle (New Castle Charge) • Bethel, Eagle Rock, Glen Wilton, Shiloh (Eagle Rock Charge) • Bonsack • Boones Mill • Calvary (Calvary/Halls Charge) • Calvary, Park (Christiansburg) • Catawba, McDonald's Mill, Shiloh (Catawba Charge) • Cave Spring • Central • Copper Hill, Havens Chapel, Huffville, Stonewall (Floyd Parish) • Crockett Springs • Ebenezer • Fairview • Fincastle • First UMC, Mt. Lebanon (Pembroke) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Goodwin Memorial • Grace • Hebron, Mt. Pleasant (Foothills Charge) • Lafayette • Lawrence Memorial • Lithia & Trinity (Buchanan Charge) • Locust Grove • Mt. Elbert UMC • Mt. Pleasant (Roanoke) • Mt. Tabor • Newport/Mt. Olivet • Prices Fork, Trinity (Prices Fork Charge) • Raleigh Court • Rockingham Court • South Roanoke • Southview • St. Marks • St. Paul (Roanoke) • Trinity (Roanoke) • Wesley Memorial • West End • White Memorial 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Windsor Hills • Woodlawn

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, Office Manager
Fran Burgess, Office Assistant

Phone: 540-989-3335
Fax: 540-989-0672

E-mail: shundley@roanokeumc.org
cclick@roanokeumc.org
fburgess@roanokeumc.org

We're on the web at:
www.roanokeumc.org

The **DEADLINE** for the **NEXT**
ISSUE
is the 15th of the month

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED