

November
2011



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



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The District Office will close at noon on Wednesday, November 23rd, for the Thanksgiving Holiday And will reopen Monday, November 28th.



From Our District Superintendent

Dear church leaders,
One of the interesting words, now little used, in our language is dash. I don't mean the punctuation but the word. I remember hearing the word more when I was younger probably from reading books from that era. You would hear or read that someone was about to "dash out" to go somewhere. And of course, I often had people refer to me as "dashing". Well, not really. But I am going to be "dashing" real soon!

On Thanksgiving morning, my family will join me in the

DRUMSTICK DASH to benefit the *Roanoke Rescue Mission*. I like to get there early just to visit with the many people who mill around before the dash. Some have rightfully called it the "Roanoke family reunion" because you see so many of your friends and neighbors. I would encourage you to come out and walk or walk wherever you are. And while you walk, offer prayers for the many volunteers and staff who take care of people every day in this holy ministry.

The Roanoke District is a proud sponsor of the event.

So why don't you join me in being "dashing". I hope to see you there!

Peace – 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		

Conference Apportionments 100% PAID

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

District News and Events:

At the **Roanoke District Conference** held October 9, a Builder's Club check was presented to **First UMC, Pembroke** to be used toward the purchase of an adjoining property. This was the second call of 2011, the first being for Crockett Springs UMC. We encourage you to consider becoming a Builder's Club member. The goal of the Club is to help build, expand and renovate church facilities in our district. Each member will receive a letter to contribute \$50 or more for designated projects in the Roanoke district. There will be two calls in each calendar year. A brochure/commitment form may be found on our website www.roanokeumc.org under Ministries.

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The next **District Book Club** will be in November. The book is **Outcasts United** by Warren St. John. There will be a couple of opportunities to participate because it is the Big Read Roanoke Valley selection for this year. **Monday, November 21st** at the Roanoke United Methodist Home at 3:00 there will be a discussion about the book. **Tuesday, November 29th** at 12:00 at Bonsack UMC, the discussion will be led by Pastor Tim Tate. Bring a sandwich and Bonsack UMC will provide the drinks and dessert. The book is enlightening, informative, and can make a significant impact on our Christian journey. I hope you can participate. For further information Google The Big Read Roanoke Valley. Or call me, Becky Hundley - 904-2960.

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If you are receiving the newsletter by USPS mail and would like to save our resources and receive the newsletter by email, please contact Cindy Martin at the district office: cmartin@roanokeumc.org

Camp Alta Mons News

We encourage all to come and enjoy the beauty of Camp Alta Mons in the Fall. Keep in mind the upcoming dates:

Volunteer help is always appreciated particularly in food service, office assistance and grounds keeping/wood splitting. If you are able, contact the office at 540-268-2409.



Alta Mons offers popular holiday buffet menus for groups to enjoy in our beautiful wooden dining hall with a rural feel. Guests can gather round the fireplace, enjoy great food and fellowship.

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. Sign up online www.altamons.org or call 540-268-2409 for an application form.

RV season at Alta Mons came to a close at the end of October. You can still dry camp with electric hook-up only. Bathhouse is available during this time also.

District Training Events

Saturday, December 3, 2011
Windsor Hills United Methodist Church
 10:00-12:00 PPR Training
 12:00-12:30 Lunch
 12:30 -2:00 Finance Training

All PPR chairpersons and committee members, all Finance chairpersons and committee members including Treasurers, all Pastors, and anyone interested in learning more about these areas of the church are encouraged to attend.

David Dommissiee, Conference Treasurer, will be participating in the training sessions.

RSVP to the district office: 989-3335 or

cmartin@roanokeumc.org

Lunch will be provide for a minimal fee

Please indicate if you will be joining us for lunch.

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Saturday, January 7, 2012
Cave Spring United Methodist Church
 District Leadership Training Event
 8:30 AM

District UMYouth News

The fall rally was a great success. **350** people attended representing **14** churches! We look forward to the next District Youth event:

February 19th-Murder Mystery Dinner @Thrasher Memorial UMC

District Youth Council Meeting
7:00 pm

November 15 at Trinity UMC
 Any questions: please contact
 Tim Craft

craftytim@gmail.com or
 540-819-9386.



UMC YOUNG
 PEOPLE
 MINISTRY

Upcoming Charge Conferences 2011

Date	Time	Church (Host church in bold)
November 1	7:00 p.m.	Raleigh Court
November 6	11:30 a.m.	West End
	3:00 p.m.	Greene Memorial , Saint Paul (Roanoke), South Roanoke, Trinity
November 9	7:00 p.m.	First (Salem) , Calvary, Central, Fairview, Locust Grove
November 10	7:00 p.m.	Windsor Hills , Cave Spring, Woodlawn

BISHOPS' FORUM: "Living into the LARCUM Covenant"

LARCUM conference to look at community involvement: "Living into the LARCUM Covenant" will be held **Dec. 2-3 in Waynesboro**. A panel of Lutheran, Anglican, Roman Catholic and United Methodist bishops will discuss plans for cooperative efforts. Bishops will ask pastors, "What are you committing to do in the community as parishes?" Reflection and discussion will follow in this open forum. Virginia Conference Bishop Charlene Kammerer will be one of the participating bishops, and Main Street UMC is one of the host churches. For more information, contact the Rev. Don Rooney at (540) 373-6491 or frooney@stmaryfred.org or contact the district office for a registration brochure.

Roanoke District UMW

Lou Talbutt, District President



This lovely fall season is leaving us too quickly as we move ahead to winter. We are having a good 2011-year so far. We had a successful 39th annual District UMW meeting at Raleigh Court UMC on October 2 and rejoiced together about a number of successes in the district. The units in the Roanoke District received many outstanding awards. Twenty-two units received five and six star awards. Five units were granted Social Action awards and 27 units received "Mission Today" awards including 11 silver and 5 gold awards. The reading program also produced excellent results. The total number of books read in the District for 2011 was 853. The awards are not the important thing but are the results of what we do well.

Walking With Wholeness is our theme this year and defines who and what we are. If we do the right things together, the end results are excellence".

The other thing we should be proud of in our district is the fact that our pledge to missions has been kept the same for 2012 in these stressful economic times. Our annual pledge remains at \$53,800. The Roanoke District also raised \$4,735 for the candle burning service at the annual District Meeting. This avenue of giving is unique to the Virginia Conference and is one of our six ways of giving to mission. This event allows our members to donate money in honor or in memory of another. The "memorial" service was also conducted at the annual

meeting.

The May RESPONSE Magazine called our attention to the fact that organizations like the United Nations are beginning to acknowledge that supporting the leadership of women in impoverished nations is critical for nation development. This is a reality that our foremothers learned over 140 years ago when the Methodist Women began their mission giving for women, children, and youth. We must continue the work of our past United Methodist Women. I continue to thank the District Women for their continued generosity in mission giving.

Lou Talbutt

Roanoke District UMW
President

District News and Events:

Raleigh Court UMC's Young UMW Fall Fundraiser

The Young Women of Eden, the high school UMW group at Raleigh Court UMC, are hosting an **Alternative Gifts Fair on Saturday, November 5**, from **10am – 2pm** at the church. The Gift Fair will provide a Christmas shopping experience for folks who are looking for a more rewarding alternative to commercial gift buying. Vendors will include craftspeople and local and international missions, including Interfaith Hospitality Network, Shalom Zone, Community Outreach Project, Society of St. Andrew, and Heifer International. Shoppers may make donations to the mission organizations and receive a handmade gift card announcing the gift for the recipient. All craft vendors are donating 15% of their receipts to the Young Women of Eden to support their mission efforts. Bring your friends and talk to the mission representatives, support local crafters, enjoy live music, and know that your Christmas gift giving is making a difference!
Cash and checks only, please.

District Tornado Recovery Mission Trip a Success

Sixteen District laity and clergy representing 7 District churches spent a wonderful day of mission helping our near neighbors in Pulaski with Tornado Recovery. The team painted house trim, cleared away building refuse, shoveled soil in place around a new home, and provided tornado office computer support. The site was about one hour from Roanoke and together we gave many hours of service and were still home for dinner. Even one day's work helps. If you would like to set up your own group, contact Janet Jonas. She's a Pulaski United Methodist and head of the Pulaski County Tornado Recovery Center (590-994-2602 or jonas@pulaskicounty.org). For more info contact Pastor Liz Mortlock (427-3064).

From Our Director Of Church Development

Rev. Lynne Alley-Grant



I've been thinking about Jesus and how he met people. The Gospels provide us colorful stories of the places you could find him. Jesus was in the marketplace, at the well, outside with children, beside the lake, on the road, at the edge of town, in the crowd, at the base of a sycamore tree. Jesus ate and drank with sinners. Jesus makes an intentional choice to meet people where they are.

United Methodist new church planters are now coached to avoid acquiring and setting up a church office. These pastors can be found just about anywhere people are. You might see them at Starbuck's, Panera Bread, at the mall, on the soccer sidelines, in a park, in the local's favorite pub, school functions. These pastors are making an intentional choice to meet people where they are.

For a long time we church folk believed that we could grow our churches and build the kingdom of God if our worship and our programs were excellent in every way. We used to believe that "if we build it, they will come." We fully believed that people would come and meet *us* at the thresholds of our church doors. How we came to this belief can be explained but does not support the model Jesus so clearly lived out for us.

Today's challenge is for us to meet more people, more young people and more diverse people. These people are outside, in the marketplace, on the lake, at the edge of town, in the crowd. Jesus invites you and me to meet people where *they* are. Let's do it.

Virginia Reconciling United Methodists Free Workshop

Cave Spring UMC, Saturday, November 12th 10:30 am-3:30 pm (free lunch provided)

- Learn how to tell your personal story about why having our church be totally welcoming to ALL persons—gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender-is important to you and your family.
- Learn about efforts to personally engage Virginia delegates going to next spring's General Conference about why an inclusive UMC matters to you.
- Learn how to listen to others and handle conversations where others may disagree.
- Volunteer to lead, organize, support, teach, speak, write and pray.

RSVP to virginiarums@gmail.com or call Laura at (615) 766-4928.

District Lay Members At-Large to Annual Conference 2012

Sarah Beach (Woodlawn)
 Josh Berry (Wesley Foundation)
 Nathaniel Bishop (Asbury)
 Sylvia Bishop (Ashbury)
 Andree Brooks (West End)
 Brenda Brooks (Bonsack)
 Gennie Bowles (Wesley Foundation)
 Carole Click (Cave Spring)
 Frances Chubb (St. Paul)
 Bob Collins (Southview)
 Sandra Collins (Southview)
 Carol A. Gaston (Frist, Salem & Trinity)
 Hartley R. Gaston (Trinity & First, Salem)

Mary Alice Hancock (Haven's Chapel)
 Sarah Hundley (Cave Spring)
 Alan S. Johnson (Asbury)
 Rubijean Jones (St. Paul)
 LaNora King (Haven's Chapel)
 Brian Myers (Blacksburg)
 Bernelle Rich (Grace)
 Rhonda M. Rogers (Asbury)
 Lori Valentine Segovia (Blacksburg)
 Lori Smith (Fieldstone)
 Sue Speed (St. Paul, Christiansburg)
 Samantha Torgersen (Blacksburg)

Thank You

I have been truly blessed to have served as office manager in the Roanoke District office for the past 10 1/2 years. I have gotten to know the most wonderful people, both clergy and lay. Thank you to all who organized and attended the lovely reception following District Conference and for the beautiful cards and letters which were presented to me. I will treasure them forever. It has been a pleasure to work with you all, and I look forward to working with you in my position as office assistant/bookkeeper.
 Carole Click

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

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