

DISTRICT NEWS

A Newsletter of The Harrisonburg District • Virginia Conference of The United Methodist Church

March 2013

Issue 40-3

From Our DS



Dear Friends,

In seminary I very rarely missed a class but if I did, I could count on it being the best class of the year. I haven't missed very many of the 5 Talent Academies and I went Saturday and I'm so glad I did. Mindy Caliguire, Founder and President of *Soul Care*; Transformation Ministry Director, *Willow Creek Association*; and author of "Soul Care Resources" was the presenter. The Academy was held in five locations and our location was at Bridgewater UMC. Rev. Jim Tongue and his church did a wonderful job of "radical hospitality."

Mindy told us that the Greek word for soul is "psuche" and it means soul or life. Matthew 16:26 says, "What good will it be to be given the world and forfeit our soul." Many of us think we are saved and that's all that is needed. She used the example of the Boston Marathon and that about the 21st mile there are hills called Heartbreak Hill. Sometimes we get to the 21st mile and we think we're okay and then realized we still have to go over Heartbreak Hill. She told of a runner who almost died on this hill and did not finish the race. Without being "grafted" into God (The Life source) we can do nothing - we cannot finish the race. We, of the church, suffer "soul neglect".

When we are disconnected from our soul we have all kinds of symptoms. We are short-fused, full of resentment, overly critical of others, full of anger, more prone to comparing ourselves with others, have a lack of energy and blame everyone else - and the list goes on. We want to be at peace, full of grace, fruitful and humble but many times we just can't move from "soul neglect" to "soul health." It's only when we connect with God that we find health.

The question then is: "How do I connect with God?" The answer is "Prayer." Prayer is our relationship with God. There are two levels: one is to touch, to see and feel. This is the one we use most of the time. We pray when our world is falling apart. The second is Deeper Prayer. This is prayer when you don't need anything or want anything. This is prayer with a friend or group and prayer for others.

Are you a member of a group where you trust one another? John Wesley called these Class Meetings. If there are no Class Meetings in your church, talk to your pastor. Let's learn to take care of our "souls" and to become "grafted" to God. Let's learn how to trust one another and pray with our friends.

Are you part of Bishop Cho's challenge to pray for one hour a day. You can read the Bible, pray with others and practice a spiritual discipline. How is it with your soul?

Tommy Herndon

5 Talent Academy

Soul Care, Prayer, & Spiritual Friendships

was a presentation and conversation for clergy, laity, small group leaders,
and those seeking to deepen and strengthen their faith



From Our Lay Leader : Laity,

1. Please check out Chuck Knows Church, www.chuckknowschurch.com. This is a series of videos produced by the General Board of Discipleship (GBOD) about 3 minutes long that explains the terms we use and the stuff we do in the church in a fun but informative way. There are 16 videos so far and they are great to use in confirmation classes, Sunday school, and even Worship. Ever heard of Sacristy? Take a look, Chuck explains it in his own unique way!
2. The GBOD has also produced a video featuring Sandy Jackson, the Director of Lay Ministry at the GBOD. This 8 minute video describes our laity at every level. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9dQ5uTmuVRO&sns=em>
3. Anticipation is a Lenten Devotional written by the Older Adult Council and Young Adult Council of the Conference. This devotional can be found on the home page of the Virginia Conference website: www.vaumc.org

Rodney Bussard, Harrisonburg District Lay Leader



With Deepest Sympathy

The Harrisonburg District Office staff extends sympathy to the family of William F. “Lee” Edwards, III, who died unexpectedly at his home in Elkton on Saturday, February 2nd. Lee was employed as an accountant at RR Donnelly and also owned and operated PC Techs, a computer consulting and repair business. Lee had been the district office’s computer consultant for over 12 years. Funeral services were held on Friday, February 8th at Kyger Funeral Home in Harrisonburg.

Sympathy is extended to the family of retired pastor, the Reverend Donald N. Fridinger, who passed away on Monday, February 4, at Emeritus of Harrisonburg. A funeral service was held on Thursday, February 7, at Otterbein UMC.

District Treasurer JoAnn Liskey’s brother, Robert J. Sullivan, Jr. passed away unexpectedly on Monday, February 4, at his home in Harrisonburg. Mr. Sullivan was the City Planner for Harrisonburg from 1965 until 1991 and he taught as an adjunct professor of Political Science for JMU from 1970-2006. He was known as the ‘unofficial’ historian for the City and spoke to numerous civic groups about Harrisonburg history. He inaugurated walking tours of Harrisonburg first with his JMU classes and then with the community at large. A funeral mass was conducted at Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church in Harrisonburg on Feb. 9th. Thoughts and prayers are extended to JoAnn and her family.

Rev. James W. Joyner’s mother, Barbara Joyner, died Sunday, February 10, in Georgia after a brief illness. Rev. Joyner is the pastor of Mt. Clinton UMC. Condolences to the Joyner family.

Retired Pastor William C. Taylor of Strasburg died Thursday, February 14, at Greenfield Senior Living in Strasburg. He began his ministerial career in 1947 and retired in 1997. He is survived by his wife Delores K. Taylor. Sympathy is conveyed to the family.

Retired Pastor Jim Mahaffey’s sister Libby, died with courageous faith after years of struggle against kidney failure in Kansas City. Sympathy is offered to Rev. Mahaffey and his family.



Congratulations to Revs. Jim and Courtney Joyner on the birth of Seth Joyner, Sunday, February 17th. Rev. Jim Joyner is the pastor of Mt. Clinton UMC and Rev. Courtney Joyner is Minister of Music at New Hope UMC. Seth has two older brothers, Zachary and Hunter.



Retired pastor, the Rev. James “Jerry” John, is pictured receiving the L.J. McConnell Award for his ‘unwavering belief and outstanding service’ to ICM at the National Industrial and Commercial Ministries Board Meeting on January 18, 2013. Rev. John was the speaker for the meeting and he is the founder of Industrial & Commercial Ministries. ICM is a non-profit organization who places volunteer chaplains in work facilities. Trained ICM chaplains are “a caring presence in the work place.” Pictured with Rev. John is his wife, Mary, and Rev. Wayne Wright, National ICM Executive Director.



March 4 (Monday) - Partners in Ministry, Woodfire Grill Restaurant, 12:00 noon*

March 5 (Tuesday) - Lay Servants Committee Meeting, Manor Memorial UMC-New Market, 7:00 p.m.

March 7 (Thursday) - District Superintendency Committee & District Trustees Joint Meeting, Dayton UMC, 7:00 p.m.

March 10 (Sunday) - One Great Hour of Sharing

March 10 (Sunday) - Youth Rap Event, Bridgewater UMC, 6:30 p.m.*

March 20-22 (Wed-Fri) - Faith Community Nursing Part I, Shenandoah University*

March 21 (Thursday) - District Council on Ministries, Asbury UMC, 7:00 p.m.*

March 23 (Saturday) - District UMW Spiritual Life Retreat, Bridgewater UMC, 8:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.*

March 28 (Thursday) - VUMCenter-Glen Allen & District Office close at 1:00 p.m.

March 29 (Good Friday) - VUMCenter-Glen Allen &

District Office closed

March 31 (Sunday) - Easter Sunday

April 7 (Sunday) PB&J 5K, JMU Festival Lawn, 3:00 p.m.*

April 15 (Monday) - Partners in Ministry (PiM), Mt. Jackson UMC, 9:00 a.m. [Note: change of date!]

April 16 (Tuesday) - District UMM Spring Rally & Dinner, Dayton UMC, 6:30 p.m.*

April 20 (Saturday) - Lay Servants Training

April 24 (Wednesday) - DCOM Mission & Outreach Ministry Team, Vision of Hope UMC, 7:00 p.m.*

April 25 (Thursday) - District Committee on the Ordained Ministry, Asbury UMC, 9:30 a.m.

April 27 (Saturday) - District Council on Ministries Retreat*

April 27-28 (Sat-Sun) - District Youth Retreat, Overlook Retreat & Camp Ministries*

May 26 (Sunday) - District Pulpit Exchange [Note: change of previously announced date!]*

**Related article elsewhere in this newsletter*

The Harrisonburg District Council on Ministries Executive Committee meetings for 2013 are **March 21, April 27 - DCOM Retreat, August 22, November 14, 7:00 p.m.**, at **Asbury UMC**. A May meeting held at Camp Overlook will be set by the Camp. Ministry Team Members and Executive Committee are expected to attend the April Retreat and May meeting at Camp Overlook. Please see information on the 3 DCOM Ministry Teams below.

Bob Talbott, DCOM Chairperson



Faith Development Ministry Team: Our meeting schedule for the upcoming year is as follows: **April 25; July 18; September 19; and October 17**. All meetings begin at **7:00 p.m.** and will be held at **Asbury UMC in Harrisonburg**. Team members are: Linda Conrad, Dale Dodrill, Becky Downey, Susan Michie-Bent, Tom Murphy, Kevin Poeckert, Ron Robey, and Carrie Talbott.

Overlook Retreat and Camp Ministries has a new webpage: www.CampOverlook.org. Please take a look.

Attention District Clergy: The 2nd Harrisonburg District Pulpit Exchange will take place on **Sunday, May 26, 2013**. [Note change of previously announced date!] The first Pulpit Exchange was held on September 25, 2011 and was a big success. We hope each of our district pastors will look forward to this opportunity to meet and preach to a new congregation. Assignments will be forthcoming, but please put this date on your calendar now as our district pulpit exchange.



Carrie Talbott, Team Leader



Mission and Outreach Ministry Team: The Mission and Outreach Ministry Team of the DCOM announces the selection of Lydia Weeks as the Team Leader.

Meeting dates for 2013 will be held at Vision of Hope UMC, on April 25; August 19; and November 11. Team members are: Sandra Burks, Melissa Fretwell, Louise Jennings, Bill Lalla, Sheila Orndorff, Mary Jane Rawley, Valerie Ritter, Delores Reid and Lydia Weeks.

Lydia Weeks, Team Leader

A **Foundation of Faith Community Nursing** is being offered at **Shenandoah University** on **March 20-22, 2013 Part I** and **May 16-18, Part II**. This course offers 36 contact hours and is based on updated curriculum through the International Parish Nurse Resource Center. Faith Community Nursing is an opportunity for nurses to be involved in health ministry and mission within their church and community. For more information you may visit: www.su.edu/nursing/FCN or contact Faculty Coordinator Lisa Zerull, Ph.D., RN, FCN, at 540-678-4374 or e-mail: faith_nursing@su.edu. You may also contact Delores Reid, BSN, RN, FCN, Harrisonburg District Health and Welfare coordinator at dreid515@aol.com or 540-896-1207.



Delores Reid



Partners in Ministry (PiM) will meet on **Monday, March 4**, for a Lenten Luncheon at the **Woodfire Grill Restaurant, 1711 Reservoir Street, in Harrisonburg at 12:00 noon**. Every pastor is responsible for the cost of his or her meal. Following lunch, District Program Director Glen Langston, will present a reflection on Lenten practices. Please join your colleagues in ministry for lunch.



An Outreach for all youth in the Harrisonburg District (and anyone else who would like to attend) to gather in fellowship: Bridgewater United Methodist Youth is sponsoring an “Awakening “ event and you are invited! Please join us on Sunday, **March 10, at Bridgewater United Methodist Church, 6:30 p.m.** for a Rapping evening of Praise and Worship! Our speaker will be Briar Lam. Briar is the 20 year old Youth Pastor at IMPACT Ministries in Elkton, VA. Briar was called to ministry at age 14 and has spent 6 years preaching. Briar attended Emmanuel College in Georgia. He was officially ordained in 2012. Briar has been heavily involved in the FCA at East Rock High School. In addition to his preaching and counseling youth, he has branched his ministry out to Christian music. Briar has been rapping and performing the past two years. He has released several mix tapes and is currently working on an album. Briar’s calling is to reach others for Jesus Christ. Reception immediately following! There is no cost for attendance, however, please RSVP to Bridgewater UMC at (540) 828-0890 or e-mail: lmccammon@bridgewaterumc.com to ensure enough snacks for the reception. *Liz McCammon*



The Youth of Toms Brook UMC have scheduled a Salad and Baked Potato Bar for **Saturday, March 16, at 6:15 p.m. at Toms Brook UMC in Toms Brook Virginia**, on the northern end of the district. There will be hot fresh potatoes and all the fixins' you could want, from homemade chili and bacon, to salsa and nacho cheese. A free-will offering will be received. This will be combined with a Youth Auction. Youth will volunteer their time or will do a specific job on which participants can bid. All Proceeds from the dinner and auction will go toward Toms Brook Youth's mission project this summer with REACH. If you have questions, contact Ben Berghuis (804-456-0602). *Ben Berghuis*



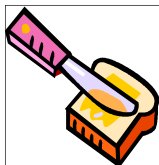
The United Methodist Women were well represented at the General Assembly Day on February 7th. A lot of interesting topics were covered. We held our evening together at Manor Memorial on February 21st. Thanks to the ladies there for hosting the event. Our **District Spiritual Life Retreat** will be held on **Saturday, March 23, 8:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. at Bridgewater UMC**. The guest speaker will be Rev. Amanda Garber, pastor at RISE. Registration forms have been mailed to all presidents. The **Conference Spiritual Life Retreat** will be at **Blackstone May 3-5**. The leader will be Rev. Dawn-Marie Singleton, former minister at Keezletown UMC. For more information and/or registration forms for either event, please contact Phyllis Foltz at 540-289-5045 or e-mail: PhylFoltz@aol.com *Phyllis Foltz, DUMW President*



District Youth Planning Lunch at Jalisco Restaurant in New Market on March 18, at 12:00 noon. If you would like to help with planning district youth ministry, please attend and let Joel Robinette, 269-8531, or joel_robinette@hotmail.com know you are coming so we have plenty of table space.

Asbury UMC youth invites District Youth to the 3rd annual Dodgeball tournament on **Sunday, April 21, 5:30 - 8:00 p.m. at Asbury Church in Harrisonburg**. This event is open to all church youth groups and a pizza supper is provided. Mark your calendars now!

The **Harrisonburg District Youth Retreat** will be held at **Overlook Retreat and Camp Ministries, April 27-28, 2013** for middle and high school youth. The Rev. Derrick Parson will be the speaker. The retreat theme is “Faith Works” relating to missions. Registration is \$45 per person. Registration deadline is **April 18**. Please include adult leaders in your group’s attendance. (a male leader for male youth and a female leader for female youth). To register please contact Joel Robinette at 269-8531 or joel_robinette@hotmail.com



PB&J 5K. . . Hunger abounds in community. . . 80% of the children in Harrisonburg City Schools receive free or reduced lunch. Join us as we seek to share God’s love with our friends who are hungry. On **April 7 at 3:00 p.m. on JMU Festival Lawn** we will run, skip and spread love. Help us spread love as we make 200 PB & J sandwiches and raise funds to add at least 5 more children to the LOVE Pack ministry. For more information visit: www.riseharrisonburg.com or call Melissa Fretwell at 540-271-2078.



Kingsway Prison and Family Outreach is looking for facilitators to help with groups beginning in March on Anger Management (Uprooting Anger) a 31 week program and also a couple of facilitators to start a financial Management group. These are Life Skills type programs for our returning citizens. Some of those trying to re-unite into society have never used a computer or cell phone. They can't find jobs. A person that went to prison at age 18 and spent 5 to 10 years of their life inside prison have not learned how to live in freedom. They need the help that only Jesus through you, the Church, can give them. They don't need handouts, they need mentors and training. To find out more, contact Pat or Louise at 540-433-5658 or e-mail: kingswayoutreach@hotmail.com Speakers are available to do programs.

Louise Jennings, Director



Pastors, please make copies of the monthly issues of the district newsletter and have them available to your parishioners who do not receive the newsletter by electronic mail.

Thank you!



Gleaning 2013 starts **April 2**, at the **Tuesday Harrisonburg Farmer's Market**. We look forward to an exciting second year. You are invited to come to the market from **12:30 to 1:30 p.m.** to gather produce from wonderful vendors and assist in taking it to local food pantries. Contact person: Melissa Fretwell, melissa-fretwell@gmail.com or 540-271-2078.



There are several events coming up in April, May and June that should be of interest to every man in the district. In chronological order:

Spring Training Round Tables on April 6, 2013, at Good Shepherd UMC, Richmond, VA: Facilitators include Gil Hanke, GC UMMen General Secretary; Brad Philips, DS & Clergy Liaison to UMMen; Larry Davies, DS Lynchburg District; and Clarence Brown, Pastor and former DS. The event begins at **9:30 a.m.** with Bishop Cho's devotions and keynote address. The only charge is \$5 for lunch. [I am scheduled to judge the Virginia State Science and Engineering Fair in Lexington on April 6, I will appreciate if someone could represent me and the Harrisonburg District at this event.]

Harrisonburg District Spring Rally, Tuesday, April 16, at Dayton UMC: The speaker will be Gary Locklear from Lumberton, NC. The meeting will feature the mission opportunities with the Lumbee Indians this summer. Cost of the meal will be \$12.00, but we are also requesting a \$3.00 donation to help pay the costs of Mr. Locklear's expenses.

Tri-District Retreat, Camp Overlook, May 10 & 11, 2013: Details to follow.

UMM National Gathering, July 12-14, 2013, Belmont University, Nashville, TN: Men who register before March 15, pay only \$239 for the three-day event, including two dinners, a lunch and a free tee-shirt!

Tom DeVore, District UMM President



Welcome Justin Hicks! In January, RISE welcomed Justin Hicks to the community! Justin is serving as the Coordinator of Campus Outreach, spending much of his time at JMU, Bridgewater College and EMU. Justin comes to RISE most recently from River Road UMC in Richmond where he served in youth ministry for nine years. As the RISE community continues to grow, we are thankful to have Justin joining with Amanda Garber and the rest of our core leadership team to better serve the young adults and youth at heart among us.

Donald Miller is coming to JMU! On **March 21st**, Donald Miller will be speaking at JMU! Join us at **7:00 p.m. at Memorial Hall** to hear A Story Worth Telling. Admission is FREE and everyone is invited!



Please take a look at our website, www.harrisonburgdistrict.org, for the latest events around the district. One of the most noteworthy features of the website is the Mission section. The quickest and the best way to encounter Jesus and grow as a disciple is to get involved in a mission trip or project. Hands-on mission projects change the lives of volunteers. No one returns from such service and looks at his or her own life in the same way. Please visit the website and if you have any suggestions on how to improve the site, please let me know by e-mailing revrides@yahoo.com *Rev. Robert Berghuis, District Webmaster*



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