

# DISTRICT NEWS

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

*April 2013*

*Issue 40-4*

## From Our DS

Dear Friends,

This week while doing my morning devotions, I found a devotion about Sandi Patti from Larry Davies on our webpage. By the way if you are not using our webpage, you should. Simply put [harrisonburgdistrict.org](http://harrisonburgdistrict.org) into your computer and Robert Berghuis has our webpage filled with all kinds of things that will guide your day.

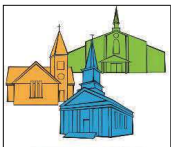


*Sophie & Cammie  
Herndon*

Larry told about listening to Sandi Patti when he was first becoming a Christian. Larry read her book, "Broken on the Back Row" and discovered that she did not attend church when her marriage broke up and when she decided she wanted to go back to church, she went into an unknown church and sat on the back row. Sandi looked down the row to make sure no one recognized her. The pastor said, "If you're visiting with us today, we're glad you're here. There are people all around you who would like to know your name, if you want to tell them. We want you to know that the God we serve lives within these walls and outside these walls, too. If you're visiting with us today and don't want to tell us your name, that's okay. We want you to know that the God we serve knows how to find you. He hasn't forgotten about you. We serve the God of second chances and new beginnings. We serve the God who sets his children free."

How we welcome others whether into our home, our work, or at church, says a lot about who we are: "This is a trustworthy saying, and everyone should accept it: "Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners" - and I am the worst of them. But God had mercy on me so that Christ Jesus could use me as a prime example of his great patience with even the worst sinners. Then others will realize that they, too, can believe in him and receive eternal life. All honor and glory to God forever and ever! He is the eternal King, the unseen one who never dies; he alone is God." (I Timothy 1:15-17)

Look around your worship service this Sunday morning. There may be some who want to tell you their name. There may be some who do not! Regardless - share with all that you meet that our God is a God of second chances and new beginnings. Share the love of Christ with all that you meet at work, at play and at church. This is Easter! Christ died for all our sins! Share the Good News!



Hope to see you in church this and every Sunday!

*Tommy Herndon*

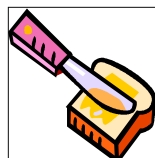


We extend belated sympathy to Assistant Pastor Rick Robertson of the Blue Ridge Charge and his family on the death of his grandmother, Darlene Steele, who passed away on January 28th.

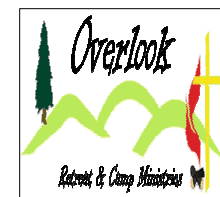
We extend sympathy to Rev. Robert Berghuis and his family on the death of his father, Freerk Berghuis, who passed away on March 12th. Rev. Berghuis is the pastor of the Columbia Furnace-Union Forge Charge. A memorial service for Mr. Berghuis will be held on Sunday, April 7, 4:00 p.m., at Columbia Furnace Church.



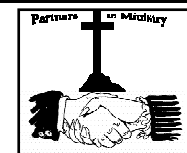
**Gleaning 2013** starts **April 2**, at the **Tuesday Harrisonburg Farmer's Market**. We look forward to an exciting second year. You are invited to come to the market from **12:30 to 1:30 p.m.** to gather produce from wonderful vendors and assist in taking it to local food pantries. Contact person: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



**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](http://www.riseharrisonburg.com) or call Melissa Fretwell at 540-271-2078.



We are excited to declare **Sunday, April 14th - Overlook Retreat and Camp Ministries Sunday** - in all our Harrisonburg District churches! Materials will be arriving for all pastors so every church will have this information. Please set aside a few minutes in every church to promote Overlook and all of its programs. We are very fortunate to have a facility like Overlook in our district. Overlook Retreat and Camp Ministries offers something for every age! It is a beautiful spot to take your church for a retreat, picnic, or learning event. Please use April 14th to share good news about Over-



Partners in Ministry (PiM) will meet on **Monday, April 15, at Mt. Jackson UMC, 9:00 a.m.** The program for the PiM meeting will be presented by Mr. Gary Locklear, a representative from the Lumbee Indians in Lumberton, N.C. Please come hear how you and your congregation may participate in the district's mission project in North Carolina this year.



**The annual spring rally and dinner meeting of the District United Methodist Men will be held on April 16, at Dayton UMC.** Dinner will be served beginning at 6:30 p.m. The speaker for the evening will be Mr. Gary Locklear from Lumberton, NC. The program 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. Tickets must be secured by **Wednesday, April 10th** from Tom DeVore, 319 6th Street, Harrisonburg, VA 22802. The attendance and success of this event is dependent on the enthusiasm of the Local Church United Methodist Men Presidents, Church Lay Leaders, and Pastors. Each of these groups have been e-mailed a letter and ticket order form. If you would like to attend, please see one of these people in your church. Please remember to secure your ticket by Wednesday, April 10th.



The Lay Servant Ministry will be offering classes twice this year. The first date will be **April 20, at Asbury UMC in Harrisonburg**. Classes will include the **Basic Introductory** course for persons interested in exploring a call to Lay Servanthood. This course will be from 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. and taught by Rev. Bruce Johnson, pastor of Manor Memorial UMC in New Market. The second course will be an Advanced course, **Advanced Preaching**, from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon, taught by District Superintendent Tommy Herndon and assisted by Rev. Robert Berghuis, pastor of the Columbia Furnace-Union Forge Charge. A third course will also be an Advanced course, **Living Our United Methodist Beliefs**, taught by Rev. Ellen Martin, pastor of the Shenandoah Charge, and Rev. Carrie Talbott, pastor of the Massanutten Charge, from 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. The cost for taking any of the courses is \$15 which includes course materials, snacks, and lunch. Cost for the courses will be payable on the day of the event, **April 20th**.

Advanced registration is requested by contacting Dale Dodrill, Lay Servant Coordinator, at [hdumc.layservants@hotmail.com](mailto:hdumc.layservants@hotmail.com); Glen Langston, District Program Coordinator, at 476-4536 or [DGL7777@aol.com](mailto:DGL7777@aol.com); or Brenda Woods, District Administrative Assistant, at 433-2382.

If you have never been a Lay Servant, you will need to take the Basic course. If you are a Lay Servant, the Preaching or the Beliefs course is the Advanced course for you. Current Local Church and Certified Lay Servants are reminded of the necessity of taking courses and renewing your license every three years.



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](mailto:joel_robinette@hotmail.com)



The **Conference UMW 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](mailto:PhylFoltz@aol.com)

*Phyllis Foltz, District UMW President*



**Light the Fire Fest—A Modern Day Camp Meeting will be held at Overlook on Saturday, May 18, from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.** We will be inspired by praise bands from our own churches and inspirational speakers. Local churches and artisans are hosting a variety of booths offering food, crafts, games, and beverages. Proceeds from the event will provide scholarship funds for Overlook campers and local churches. Other activities will include an antique car rally, hamburger cook-off competition and more. Contact the camp office or Sherri Miles, LtFF Chairperson, [Sharon\\_miles@msn.com](mailto:Sharon_miles@msn.com), to arrange for a booth and raise funds for your church. Join us for a wonderful day of faith, food, fun and fellowship!



One year ago, an elementary school in Africa had an average attendance of 200. Then Stop Hunger Now promised daily luncheons for every student attending the school. Within two months, the attendance grew to 1200 because the parents wanted their children to get a good lunch. That is one thousand children getting an education that they were missing just because they were also getting a good lunch every day. Harrisonburg District churches are a part of this miraculous commitment to feed the world and End Hunger Now. On Sunday, April 21st, the members of Asbury Church in Harrisonburg will gather to assemble lunch bags and on Sunday, March 17, members and friends of Keezletown Church gathered and assembled 20,686 meals in two hours. (Please see pictures.) They also raised \$5,200 in two weeks to pay the costs of the endeavor.



The impetus behind the Keezletown Church project is a church member named Tanya Dawn Eppard who was moved by the Stop Hunger lunch-a-thon one year at Annual Conference. Since then she has led one at Keezletown each year for the past three years during which over 70,000 meals were assembled.



I attended the Keezletown event this year and was very impressed by a number of things, primarily the number and wide range of ages among the people involved, the organization system established by Stop Hunger Now, and the energy and camaraderie of the folks while they worked.

It would be a wonderful mission activity for your church and I commend it to you.

*Glen Langston, District Program Coordinator*



**Stop Hunger Now** is an international hunger relief organization that coordinates the distribution of food and other life-saving aid around the world. The organization is driven by a vision of a world without hunger and a mission to end hunger in our lifetime by providing food and life-saving aid to the world's most vulnerable and by creating a global commitment to mobilize the necessary resources. Stop Hunger Now's meal packaging program provides volunteers the opportunity to package dehydrated, high protein, and highly nutritious meals that are used in crisis situations and in school feeding programs for schools and orphanages in developing countries around the world.





**April 2** (Tuesday) - Gleaning 2013, Harrisonburg Farmer's Market, 12:30 - 1:30 p.m.\*

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

**April 14** (Sunday) - Overlook Retreat and Camp Ministries Sunday\*

**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, Asbury UMC, 9:00 a.m.\*

**April 21** (Sunday) - District Youth Dodgeball Tournament, Asbury UMC, 5:30 - 8:00 p.m.\*

**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 25** (Thursday) - DCOM Faith Development

Ministry Team, Asbury UMC, 7:00 p.m.\*

**April 27** (Saturday) - District Council on Ministries Retreat, Asbury UMC, 9:00 a.m.\*

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

**May 18** (Saturday) - Bishop's Convocation on Prayer, Bon Air UMC-Richmond, 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

**May 18** (Saturday) - Light the Fire Fest, Overlook Retreat and Camp Ministries, 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.\*

**May 24** (Friday) - VUMCenter-Glen Allen & District Office close at 1:00 p.m. for Memorial Day Observance

**May 27** (Monday) - VUMCenter-Glen Allen & District Office closed for Memorial Day Observance

**June 21-23** (Fri-Sun) - Virginia Annual Conference, Hampton Roads Convocation Center; Friday 1:00 p.m. - Sunday noon.

*\*Denotes related article elsewhere in this newsletter*  
**The Pulpit Exchange announced in last month's newsletter has been postponed until fall 2013.**

The Harrisonburg District Council on Ministries Executive Committee meetings for 2013 are **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.

Please note: The 2nd Harrisonburg District Pulpit Exchange has been postponed until fall 2013.

*Carrie Talbott, Team Leader*



MISSIONS

**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 24; 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, Part II** is being offered at **Shenandoah University** on **May 16-18**. This course 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](http://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](mailto:faith_nursing@su.edu). You may also contact Delores Reid, BSN, RN, FCN, Harrisonburg District Health and Welfare coordinator at [dreid515@aol.com](mailto:dreid515@aol.com) or 540-896-1207.



Rev. Peggy Packard, pastor of the Weyers Cave UMC, is pictured at the Philipsburg Methodist Church on St. Maarten's. Rev. Packard visited the Methodist Church during her vacation cruise.





Kingsway Prison and Family Outreach is looking for a Church, Sunday School class or several individuals that would like to help with our Children's Birthday Card Project. These children love to get cards. It can get rather costly with the price of stamps. Cards are not cheap either and then there is the time that it takes to address them. Maybe one group could do stamps, another cards and an older group could address them. Please pray about this and give Pat or Paula a call at 540-433-5658 or e-mail: [kingswayoutreach@hotmail.com](mailto:kingswayoutreach@hotmail.com)

*Louise Jennings, Director*



Please take a look at our website:

[www.harrisonburgdistrict.org](http://www.harrisonburgdistrict.org) for the latest events around the district.

*Rev. Robert Berghuis, Webmaster*



**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!**



**DISTRICT NEWS**  
Harrisonburg District  
Virginia Annual Conference  
The United Methodist Church

32 South Gate Court ♦ Suite 102  
Harrisonburg, VA 22801

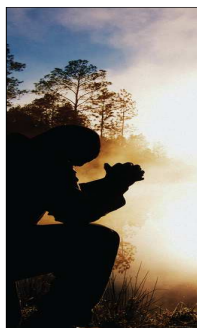
Phone: (540) 433-2382 Fax: (540) 433-7587

Ernest T. (Tommy) Herndon, Jr.  
District Superintendent  
[HarrisonburgDS@vaumc.org](mailto:HarrisonburgDS@vaumc.org)

D. Glen Langston, District Program Director  
[glenlangston0@gmail.com](mailto:glenlangston0@gmail.com)

Brenda P. Woods, Administrative Assistant  
[brenda.woods@verizon.net](mailto:brenda.woods@verizon.net)

Harrisonburg District on the web at  
[harrisonburgdistrict.org](http://harrisonburgdistrict.org)  
Virginia Conference on the web at  
[www.vaumc.org](http://www.vaumc.org)



**A Bishop's Convocation on Prayer will be held on May 18, from 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. at Bon Air UMC** (1645

Buford Road, Richmond). Dr. Dwight H. Judy (Professor Emeritus of Spiritual Formation at Garrett-Evangelical Seminary) will be the keynote speaker on "A Quiet Pentecost: Inviting the Spirit into Congregational Life." Workshops will be offered on *Prayer Discernment in Making Congregational Decision*, *Prayer 101*, *Spiritual Disciplines*, *Contemplative Prayer*, and *Congregational Prayer*. There will be time for regional groups that are designed to inform about the variety of ways that congregations and individuals can continue to develop the practice of spiritual disciplines. Information will also be shared about resources offered by the Virginia Conference. Registration cost is \$10 and will be received at [www.vaumc.org](http://www.vaumc.org).



**The 2013 session of the Virginia Annual Conference is being held at the Hampton Roads Convention Center in Hampton, VA, Friday, June 21, to Sunday, June 23.**

Laity and Clergy sessions will begin at 1:00 p.m. on Friday. Ending time should be around noon on Sunday.

**Offering goal is \$200,000** and is focused on children's mission work internationally and locally.

- BRAZIL - Shade and Fresh Water programs for at-risk "street" children: \$50,000
- MOZAMBIQUE - Classroom construction and building repairs for Janene Pennel Secondary School: \$50,000
- CAMBODIA - Christian education materials, scholarships and other projects with children focused on growing the young church: \$50,000
- VIRGINIA - \$50,000 divided among three children's ministries: One Family "Una Familia," a new Eastern Shore District tutoring ministry for Hispanic children; The Henry Fork Center in rural Franklin County, and All God's Children Camps for children of incarcerated parents.

**4 Cans 4 Conference collection!** For the fifth year, each clergy and lay member of Annual Conference is encouraged to bring '4 Cans 4 Conference,' canned goods or boxed dry foods to benefit local area food banks. This year, the food will go to the Peninsula Food Bank. Please visit [www.vaumc.org](http://www.vaumc.org) > Annual Conference > scroll down & click on '4 Cans 4 Conference' to see how you can help feed the hungry.

**Kits for Conference:** The 2013 Virginia Conference kit collection is being conducted to replenish the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) supply. UMCOR's Sager Brown Depot reports there is a need for all types of kits. Local churches are encouraged to collect items and bring them to Annual Conference. Go to [www.vaumc.org](http://www.vaumc.org) > Annual Conference > scroll down & click on 'Kits for Conference' for individual kit items.