

# *DISTRICT DISPATCH*

January 2022



## *GREETINGS FROM THE D.S.*

May the grace and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you! I greet you in the name of Christ and pray that you are staying warm and well in this year of our Lord 2022! We continue to be faced with the challenges of COVID, Boy Scouts of America, and changes in leadership. However, we remain confident because our hope is in Jesus Christ. I commend each of you for all your efforts in ministry at your church and in your community. Now is the time to not give up hope, but to strive to share Christ's light in our world. I am committed to supporting you and your church in the mission of making disciples. To help you figure

out and do ministry in a new way, we are offering learning opportunities about Fresh Expressions (page two) and Both/And Hospitality (page three).

We in the Charlottesville and Richmond District Offices are here to help you in any way we can. Please do not hesitate to reach out to us if we can be of assistance. "Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen." - Ephesians 3:19-21

In the Lord,  
Hyo Joong Lee  
Charlottesville & Richmond D.S.

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# BI-DISTRICT TRAINING DAY

January 15, 2022

## FEATURING: Michael Beck

Director of Re-Missioning: Fresh Expressions

Author of **Contextual Intelligence: Unlocking the Ancient Secret to Mission on the Front Lines**



SPEAKERS

WORKSHOPS

TRAINING

BE  
THERE

Bi-District Training Day will take place **online** on January 15, 2022.

**REGISTRATION OPENS IN DECEMBER: [BDTD2022.HEYSUMMIT.COM](https://BDTD2022.HEYSUMMIT.COM)**

### DISTRICT TRAINING JAN. - MAR. 2022

All laity and clergy are invited to participate in District Training on "**New Faces in New Spaces**". If you are interested in learning ways to reach new people in your community, then this training will be invaluable to you and your church.

**Part One** will be hosted by the Alexandria & Arlington Districts on **Sat. Jan. 15** (see graphic above).

**Part Two: Sun. Feb. 27, 3-5pm**, Charlottesville & Richmond Districts will host a panel of churches with Fresh Expressions via Zoom webinar with livestreaming at Gum Spring and Aldersgate churches.

**Part Three: Sun. Mar. 27, 3-5pm**, churches discerning next steps with Fresh Expressions are invited to this Zoom meeting.

*Please note that you are welcome to participate in any or all three parts!*



### NEW DISTRICT TASK FORCE UPDATE

*In November, a task force of 6 elders and 8 laity began meeting for the Charlottesville and Richmond districts to develop a plan for a new district. Dr. Lee presented preliminary recommendations of the task force to the VA Conference Cabinet on December 11, inspired by Matthew 9:14-17, New wine new wineskins:*

*1.WHY we are doing this – rationale for a new Bi-District (Charlottesville & Richmond): a connected district with a simplified structure to engage a new era.*

*2.New District Name recommended – Three Notch'd District: also called Three Chopt Road, this colonial route ran from Richmond to the Shenandoah Valley. Many thanks to those who submitted names for the new district!*

*3.STRUCTURE and tentative budget –*

- Simplified Accountable Structure (SAS) for the new Bi-District – reduce the number of committees from 20 to 2.*
- Circuits - organize the 139 churches into 14 Circuits of 8 to 12 churches, each led by a Circuit Elder.*
- Budget – consolidate administrative support across the Bi-District, and provide a stipend for Circuit Elders to cover additional travel and administrative expenses.*

*No decisions were made by Cabinet, but the recommendations were well received. Next step is to communicate the plan with the churches and pastors in the Charlottesville and Richmond districts for further input in the upcoming months.*

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Both/And Hospitality Training with Jason Moore**

**Tuesday, January 18, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. EST**

Click [HERE](#) to register for this 90 minute training designed to help you to create an intentional BOTH/AND hospitality process. The Webinar link will be sent to the participants the day of the training. Each person must register individually.

The onset of the global pandemic changed so much of what we've known ministry to be inside and outside the church. Social distancing, and non-physical gatherings brought new challenges where connection and relationship building are concerned.

With so much ministry happening BOTH in the building AND online, how can we earn the second, third, and ongoing visits from those who are new to our faith communities? New strategies are required for living into what it means to be a hospitable church.

In a season where everything feels different, how can we claim or reclaim a passion for radical hospitality, making great first impressions and work toward being poised for guests before they arrive?

Join guest readiness and hybrid worship author and coach Jason Moore for an exploration of what it means to extend BOTH/AND Hospitality.

In addition to the training, participants will be invited to four 1-hour follow-up cohort conversations hosted by the Innovation Center's Sue Nilson Kibbey and Jason Moore. Please contact Maria Maxwell at 804-521-1125 or at [MariaMaxwell@vaumc.org](mailto:MariaMaxwell@vaumc.org) if you have any questions.



## **United Methodist Day at the General Assembly**

In the Virginia Conference we have been change makers in our great Commonwealth for 30 years. While we were excited to be back in person in Richmond for United Methodist Day at the General Assembly on January 27, 2022, we recognize the necessity of meeting again virtually. We will still arrange visits with our Delegates and Senators to discuss issues that are relevant to our faith with direction from our friends and partners at Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy (VICPP). One of the ways we put our faith in action is by advocating for the least, the last, and the lost at the General Assembly and this year we will spend time reflecting and celebrating all the ways our advocacy has changed the political landscape in our Commonwealth for the better. We hope that you will come and join us virtually in Richmond as we continue our legacy as change makers here in our Commonwealth. Registration is \$10 per person.

<https://na.eventscloud.com/ereg/index.php?eventid=646595&>



## **Administrative Leadership Training Offered**

Thanks to everyone who attended the Admin Leadership Training on Jan. 9. Resources from these sessions may be accessed at

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1ll9pQj7Q4KalcPwEccmvlf1N9hqjusjg?usp=sharing>

Should you want to attend additional training, the Roanoke District is holding their training Sat. Jan. 22. The morning will open with Bishop Will Willimon followed by breakout sessions on Finance, Trustees, Pastor/Parish Relations and much more! You may register for the training at:

<https://roanokeumc.org/page.php?pg=training>

## **Charlottesville & Richmond Districts**

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## **DISTRICT LEADERSHIP**

Sharma D. Lewis - Area Bishop  
Hyo J. Lee - District Superintendent  
MaryKaye Cochran - Executive Administrator,  
Richmond District  
Linda Truslow - Executive Administrator,  
Charlottesville District  
Maria Maxwell - Church Revitalizer