

SHENANDOAH RIVER DISTRICT NEWSLETTER



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Download the District Newsletter in
PDF Format

A Message from Rev. Dr. Kyungsuk Cho

Watch this month's video from our District
Superintendent.



DISTRICT NEWS

Office On The Move

We continue to offer our services to the churches in our district. Please note the days of the week our staff are available to serve you in your area.

[Kyungsuk](#) - Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday

[Tommy](#) - Monday, Friday

[Debbie](#) - Monday through Thursday

[Kim](#) - Availability varies weekly

Staff members' calendars are linked to their names above. Click the name to schedule an appointment.

NOTE: Debbie is working on a special assignment from the conference office and will not be able to answer emails or phone calls on Wednesdays for the foreseeable future. Please feel free to call or email on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Friday until 1 pm.

Register for Training Day!

Shenandoah River District is offering a training day on **Saturday, April 25, 2026.**

Offered at **Bridgewater UMC** and **Macedonia UMC**, we will learn from Tim Ward and his keynote presentation and offer breakout groups for other ministries.

This event costs \$20/person and lunch is provided.

[Register Today!](#)



[Register](#)

Kits for Conference

The Annual Conference is once again collecting Kits. We will collect them at TWO locations on our District Between April 27-June 5. Kits will be picked up from those locations on June 6.

Macedonia United Methodist Church

Address: 1941 Macedonia Church Road, White Post, VA 22663
Drop Off Hours: Tuesday-Thursday, 10:00AM-12:00PM
Phone Number: 540-869-4874

Vision of Hope United Methodist Church

Address: 1723 Port Republic Road, Harrisonburg, VA 22801
Drop Off Hours: Tuesday-Thursday, 10:00AM-12:00PM
Phone Number: 540-433-3854

What Kind of Kits We Are Collecting this year?

- Cleaning Kits (formerly known as Flood Buckets)
- Hygiene Kits
- Feminine Hygiene Kits ("Period Packs")

Learn more about Kits [HERE](#).



[LEARN MORE](#)



IMPORTANT DATES

- March 7: [Cultivating Generous Congregations](#)
- March 14: [Lay Servant Training Day](#)
- March 21: [Discernment Day](#)
- April 25: [District Training](#)
- April 27-June 5 Kit Collection

[Full Calendar](#)

[Submit Events](#)



CELEBRATIONS

UMM Dinner & Rally

Shenandoah River District United Methodist Men held a dinner and rally at Manor Memorial United Methodist Church on March 2nd with approximately 64 in attendance. Special guests included Conference President, David Collins and Former Conference Vice President, Bob Longworth. DS Kyungsuk Cho was the guest speaker. **\$1,040 was collected for Camp Overlook.**



VAUMC NEWS

Find links and information from the Virginia Conference below.

Annual Conference 2026: June 17-20, 2026

[Find AC '26 Details at vaumc.org/AC2026](https://vaumc.org/AC2026)

- WE are hosting Annual Conference this year! Volunteer sign-ups will be released **around April 1**, so get ready to volunteer! The Shenandoah River District **needs your help** as we welcome the Annual Conference to Harrisonburg this June!
- See Kits for Conference collection information above.
- Clergy who need to report their Annual Conference absence can do so [HERE](#).

Additional Links and Resources:

- [United Methodist Bishops Call for Prayer and Peace in the New Middle East War](#)
- [Join the upcoming racial justice webinar](#)
- [Discernment Day](#)

- [NEW Ministry Toolbox: Resources for Churches](#)
- [UMHEF extends its scholarship application deadline!](#)
- [2026 Francis Asbury Award Nomination](#)
- [United Methodists lead witness for immigrants](#)
- [New Q Source Released](#)



MINISTRY PARTNERS

Find the latest news and information from our [Ministry Partners](#) using the links below!

- [Lay Servant News -- It's Almost Training Day](#)
- [Camp Overlook News -- Summer Camp Registration is Open!](#)
- [Reconciling Ministries -- Stories of Becoming](#)
- [UWF News: March Updates & More!](#)
- [Equipment For Caring -- January Recap](#)

Spring at Mission Central

Greetings from the Children's Clothes Closet as we soon head into spring! 2025 was a busy and productive year supporting our community. We served 735 families (200 of those were new registrants!) and almost 1700 children. We gave out 121,000 diapers! Our clients are our neighbors who come from all over the world, giving us a wonderful opportunity to be missionaries sharing Christ's love without ever leaving home.

March will be our last month until fall to provide winter clothes. We will be closed in April to transition to summer clothes and will reopen to clients in April. As in the winter months with pants, boys' shorts will no doubt be our biggest need as they always are, all sizes from toddler through teen XL. We run out of the larger sizes – 7 and up – quickly. We are so grateful for your support, as our mission is funded entirely by donations and run by volunteers. Many thanks to all who support us! We appreciate so much Keezletown UMC's Jesus' Birthday celebration where they provided many items needed to fill the baby bags we provide to expectant mothers, such as baby wipes, baby washcloths, blankets and sleepers, as a few examples.

Our client sessions each month remain the same **(WE WILL BE CLOSED THE MONTH OF APRIL TO CLIENTS TO TRANSITION TO SPRING; DIAPERS WILL STILL BE PROVIDED.)**

- 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. (March 11 and 25; May 13 and 27).
- Thursday evenings following the above 2nd and 4th Wednesday sessions, from 4-7 p.m. (March 12 and 26; May 14 and 28)
- Third Tuesday evening of the month, from 4-7 p.m. (March 17, and May 19).

We are also open each Wednesday for workdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. if you would like to come by at that time – we welcome you and will show you around!

Please consider us for a local mission trip for your youth groups, men or women's groups, or any organization that would be willing to serve. We always have plenty to do behind the scenes, be it sorting and/or tagging clothes, working on the building, cleaning and organizing, hosting a diaper drive or socks and undies drive, or whatever needs to be done. Our regular volunteers will love you for it! It is such a rewarding way to serve the Lord.

[See additional photos online.](#)



The Shenandoah River District

Office Phone: 540-433-2382

Our Mailing Address: PO Box 1995
Harrisonburg, VA 22801

Website: ShenandoahRiverDistrict.org

Facebook: facebook.com/ShenandoahRiverDistrict



District Staff

Rev. Dr. Kyungsuk Cho - District Superintendent - ShenandoahRiverDS@vaumc.org

Rev. Tommy Stelzl - Developer of Congregational Innovation -
[Tommy Stelzl@vaumc.org](mailto:TommyStelzl@vaumc.org)

Mrs. Debbie Creech - District Administrator - DebbieCreech@vaumc.org

Kim Johnson - VAUMC Director of Resourcing, SRD Communications -
kimjohnson@vaumc.org

**Do you have any changes, errors, or additions to the District Website?
[Click here to complete the form.](#)**

If you would like to include an article in this newsletter, please email Debbie Creech, District Administrator, at DebbieCreech@vaumc.org by the 20th of each month.



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