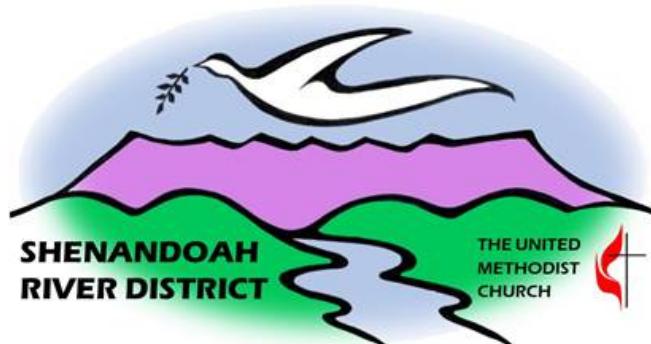


Welcome to the Shenandoah River District

(Formerly the Harrisonburg and Winchester Districts)



CLICK HERE TO DOWNLOAD THIS NEWSLETTER IN PDF FORMAT

**Physical address: 78 Brook Creek Road, Toms Brook, VA 22660
540-433-2382 District Office**

Our office hours are 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday
The District Administrator, Debbie, works remotely on Fridays and can be reached
at the office phone number

Our emails are:

Rev. Victor Gómez	ShenandoahRiverDS@vaumc.org	District Superintendent
Rev. Chad Hrbek	ChadHrbek@vaumc.org	Director of Connectional Ministries
Rev. Gordon Meriwether	GordonMeriwether@vaumc.org	Director of Connectional Ministries
Rev. Jim Joyner	JimJoyner@vaumc.org	Director of Information Technology
Debbie Creech	DebbieCreech@vaumc.org	District Administrator



A Message from your District Superintendent, Rev. Dr. Victor Gómez

"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. If anyone speaks, they should do so as one who speaks the very words of God. If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be

praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen."

– 1 Peter 4:10-11

(NIV)

When I was ordained an Elder in the United Methodist Church, I received two important documents; my Ordination Certificate, and a Genealogy of Ordination. The latter compiles a list of Bishops in chronological order reflecting their order of ordination which ends with my name, as Elder, on the bottom. What I find fascinating is that before my name there are only ten names listed and it goes all the way back to the birth of Methodism. The first two names are John Wesley and Francis Asbury. It is fascinating to me because there are ten very important people in the life of the Church, and the first two were the founders of what we know today as the United Methodist Church.

In addition, as I read all the names, which represent almost three centuries of Methodism, I am blessed that it was a woman who officiated my ordination and lay hands on me; Bishop Charlene Payne Kammerer. We know that women were not allowed to be ordained at one point. It wasn't until 1956 when the Methodist Church granted women full clergy rights. I am blessed because in all the names of men listed in my Genealogy, Bishop Kammerer is the only woman, which, to me, is a powerful demonstration of how God works as the ordination of women was very controversial.

I also find my Genealogy humbling. Just recently, I went to a church in the Shenandoah River District where Francis Asbury preached, whose name is in my Genealogy and was ordained by the very John Wesley. Whenever I am in a historical site, I close my eyes and I imagine what it could have been like at a particular time in history. So, I closed my eyes in this church, and I imagined Francis Asbury preaching in this very place. I asked myself, "How is it that Francis Asbury, a man of God, is only nine names before my own? How is it that I had the blessing that a woman of God laid hands on me and officiated my ordination, and I am standing right here in this church with such a rich Methodist history?" I paused, I had a tear rolling down my face and said to myself: "...and yet, our churches are no longer making disciples of Jesus Christ,and yet, we have been so distracted, and instead of going back to our roots, we are fostering divisions among ourselves."

Each day I pray for all the churches of the Shenandoah River District. Each day I pray for all the pastors and ministers of the Shenandoah River District. Call me naïve, but I continue to pray for the unity not only of the United Methodist Church, but especially for the unity of the local churches. I pray for those who perpetuate divisions, doubts, confusions, fears. And I pray for those who are ready to go back to our roots and make disciples of Jesus Christ.

1 Peter 4:10-11 reminds us that each of us have a gift to offer. Unfortunately, all these distractions have taken us away from using the gifts that God has bestowed to each one of us, but we still have a responsibility to be the Church that God wants us to be, and to share God's love to all, especially in a broken world that still needs Jesus. Let me say that again, **people still need Jesus!** When I see the names of those listed in my Genealogy I thank God for each one of them, even if I do not know much about some of them. Each one used their gifts God gave them. Each one became a faithful servant even in difficult times as they and the church faced divisions over slavery, ordination of women, etc. But they served with the strength that God provides, so that God may be praised through Jesus Christ to whom is all honor and glory.

My brethren, God has not given up on God's Church. You and I are blessed to be part of this Church that God has called us to serve and to share God's love to all. To God be the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

In God's Service,
Rev. Dr. Victor Gómez

A Message from the Director of Connectional Ministries - Rev. Chad Hrbek

Hello Shenandoah River District. I am Chad Hrbek, one of the Directors of Connectional Ministries for the district. At the end of the month it will be 5 years that I have worked in the Winchester, now

Shenandoah River, District Office. Below is an excerpt from an article written by Kay Kotan, who was the keynote speaker at the Laity Session at Annual Conference. She writes some timely information as we move into the season of Nominations and as we prepare for Charge Conferences and the New Year. She specifically speaks to moving into the Simplified, Accountable Structure (SAS) for leadership but her thoughts on Nominations is applicable regardless of your leadership model. If you are interested in learning more about the SAS model, don't hesitate to get in touch with me or Gordon here in the District Office.



- *The Committee on Nominations and Leadership Development will soon begin their annual work determining who they will place before the charge conference for election into leadership for the upcoming year. This is commonly referred to as the nominations process. Most Nominations Committees (as they are commonly called) meet a few times and peruse the latest church pictorial trying to identify people they can arm wrestle into saying yes – I mean – identify people to invite into serving in ministry.*
- *While we may have all chuckled imagining the first scenario described above, it is closer to reality than many of us want to admit. In the past couple of years, churches report finding people willing to serve is growing even more difficult. Some of that difficulty is due to shrinking congregations, but I believe the difficulty is more systemic. People are frustrated serving where no impact is made. Time and energy are some of people's most prized possessions. When time and energy are invested and no real impact is realized, people (especially younger generations) will not remain engaged. They will use their time and energy in other ways that are more meaningful.*
- *Because many churches have become so desperate to find people to serve and specially to find people to lead, the church has lowered their expectations thinking this is the solution. One being asked to serve might hear such promises as, "you won't have to do much," or "the committee hardly ever meets," or "I just need a name to place on this form." This type of messaging tells the congregation that these "jobs" aren't important, the person being asked has no special gifts or skills related to the request, and there are absolutely no expectations of service from the disciple being asked. The bar for serving the church – for serving Christ – has been set at virtually zero! And we wonder why there is a lack of commitment and accountability to serve the church.*
- *It is past time for the church to think about leadership with a fresh approach. In particular, the shift needs to begin with the Leadership Board. The Leadership Board is accountable to Christ for leading the church in its mission of making disciples. This shift is particularly effective in simplified, accountable structure when the church has moved away from a representative model (reps from all the ministry areas). Nominations shifts their focus away from secular experienced leaders (human resources, construction, finance) to spiritually mature disciples. It is imperative that first and foremost mature disciples lead the church. Those who have the secular experience can always be brought in to advise the Leadership Board when needed. In addition, the Nominations Committee brings potential leaders in for holy conversations inquiring about their spiritual journey, spiritual disciplines, their call to leadership, how they are living out their membership vows, etc. There is no guessing or assuming about one's spiritual maturity; there is holy conversation to discern it. Expectations about their leadership role are discussed such as meeting attendance, how the leaders will do their work together, being prepared for meetings, confidentiality, etc. The leader is informed upfront about expectations.*
- *While many churches are resistant to this leadership shift, most leaders appreciate it. Leaders understand what is expected. They know that they can now have tremendous, focused impact on not only their church, but also on their community.*

I hope you found what Kay wrote informative. Again, I can help you as you navigate the Nominations process in your existing model or if you want to explore the SAS model. We will plan to have a leadership training in January as individuals start into their new positions. I am also available to help, along with my district colleagues, with other areas of ministry in your local church and in the district. I look forward to getting to know the Southern half of the district as we continue our ministry together.



REV. JIM JOYNER JOINS THE STAFF OF THE SHENANDOAH RIVER DISTRICT AS DIRECTOR OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Happy August! I am Rev. Jim Joyner, the new Director of Information Technology for the new Shenandoah River District. I am an ordained elder and have served two congregations on the Harrisonburg District since 2010. My wife, two sons, two dogs, two cats, and I now live in Bridgewater. For the last several years I have served as the webmaster for the Harrisonburg District. Before entering the ministry, I studied electrical and computer engineering at Georgia Tech. As the Director of IT, I look forward to combining my experience in ministry and technology to serve the churches of the district as we engage in ministry in a rapidly changing world. It is my hope that we can empower our churches to take the next steps in growing their digital ministries.

Blessings on the journey!

DISTRICT CALENDAR

Wednesdays, August 3rd through the summer - Downriver Devotion at the Strasburg Town Park Board Ramp - 8:00 a.m.

Friday and Saturday, August 5th and 6th- Lay Servant Academy at the Conference Center

Saturday, August 6th - District Executive United Women in Faith Planning Meeting at Mission Central - 9:00 a.m.

Saturday, August 6th - Special Called District Conference 10:00 a.m. - via Zoom

Sunday through Friday, August 14th to 19th- Virginia Five-Day Spiritual Formation Academy at Roslyn Retreat Center

Monday, September 5th - District Office and Conference Office closed in observance of Labor Day

Tuesday, September 6th - Shenandoah River District Fall Retreat at Toms Brook UMC. (Worship and Planning for Charge Conferences) 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon

Saturday, September 10th - ERT (Early Response Team) training at Aldersgate UMC, Norfolk at 9:0 a.m.

Saturday, September 17th - District UMW Prayer Breakfast - held at Asbury UMC (Harrisonburg) with guest speaker - Pastor Yosvany Pereria - 9:00 a.m.

Saturday, September 24th - District Lay Servant Training at Grottoes UMC,

Grottoes, VA - beginning at 9:00 a.m.

Saturday, October 29th - Special Session of the Annual Conference via Zoom - 9:30 a.m. (ratify local churches seeking disaffiliation)

Sunday, November 6th - 3:00 p.m - Shenandoah River District Charge Conference and District Conference Palooza! -In person - place to be determined **SAVE THE DATE!**



DOWNRIVER DEVOTION

Downriver Devotion - every Wednesday morning in August

Bring your own kayak, canoe or inflatable or borrow one of ours.

Hosts: Rev. John Haynes, Jr., Strasburg UMC and Rev. Gary Heaton, Kernstown UMC

Email: johnhaynesjr@vaumc.org, garyheaton@vaumc.org

The Wednesday morning Downriver Devotion continues now that the morning temperatures are perfect and the water is flowing. Ministry Leaders are welcome to participate in a one hour devotional on the water. **We gather at 8:00 AM and are generally finished by 9:15**, If you do not have your own boat, one can be provided for you, but you must call ahead to arrange for life jacket, paddle and boat. Hats, sunglasses and closed toe shoes are advisable.

In a desire to strengthen collegial connection, offer grace and encouragement, and anticipate the renewing of our ministry, the Downriver Devotion is offered every week, rain or shine.



LAY SERVANT ACADEMY August 5th and 6th Held at the United Methodist Center - Glen Allen

The next Lay Servant Academy is August 5-6, with a special opening worship service online on August 4. If you wish to be certified as a lay servant, a certified lay minister, or a lay speaker, or if you simply want to learn more about how to be a faithful disciple, this event has something to offer you! This is a hybrid event, so you can participate online or in person. The in person courses meet at the Virginia United Methodist Center in Glen Allen. For online courses, the cost is \$15 for half-day and \$35 for full-day classes; for in person classes, the cost is \$20 for half-day and \$40 for full-day.

Here is the list of course offerings:

- Basic Course (10 hours, for LSM credit): Rev. Linda Ray, instructor
- Public Prayer (10 hours, for LSM credit): Rev. Nilse Furtado-Gilliam, instructor

- Called to Preach (10 hours, for LSM credit): Rev. Debbie Powell, instructor
- Certified Lay Minister Orientation (Half-day, not for credit):
 Rev Dr. Joanna Dietz and Jenn O'Brien, instructors
- The Gospels in Spanish (10 hours, for LSM credit, Spanish-language):
 Rev. Dr. David Jimenez-Cardenas, instructor
- Children's Ministry (Saturday course, not for credit): Rev. Renee Delgado, instructor
- Youth Ministry (Saturday course with Friday night optional gathering for in-person participants, not for credit): Rev. Nickie Moreno Howard, instructor

Please contact Tianna Durbin (tiannad@arcolachurch.org) for more information.

[Click here to view information about the Lay Servant Training on the conference website](#)

[Click here to register for Lay Servant Training on August 5th and 6th](#)

SPECIAL CALLED DISTRICT CONFERENCE for the Shenandoah River District SATURDAY, AUGUST 6th – 10:00 A.M. VIA ZOOM

1. The purpose of this conference is to formally dissolve THE HARRISONBURG BOARD OF MISSIONS LTD., a Virginia nonstock corporation (the "Harrisonburg Board of Missions"), the dissolution of NORTHWESTERN VIRGINIA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH BOARD OF MISSIONS, a Virginia nonstock corporation (the "Northwestern Virginia Board of Missions"), and, ultimately, the termination of the corporate existence of each of the Harrisonburg Board of Missions and the Northwestern Virginia Board of Missions.
2. To form the Shenandoah River District as a Virginia nonstock corporation to be called, "Shenandoah River District of the Virginia Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church" (the "Shenandoah River District"), to serve as successor to the Harrisonburg and Winchester Districts of the Virginia Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church,
3. To appoint and approve Rev. Victor Gomez, Kirk Nave, Andrew Harbick, and Wilma Jennings (the "Authorized Individuals") as initial District Trustees.

Those who are eligible to vote on the resolution:

- Ordained or commissioned clergy on the Shenandoah River District
- Licensed local pastor on the Shenandoah River District
- Certified Lay Minister on the Shenandoah River District
- Diaconal Minister on the Shenandoah River District
- Deaconess on the Shenandoah River District
- Home Missioner
- Church Lay Leader
- Chairperson of Church Council
- Church School Superintendent
- President of United Women in Faith (UMW)
- President of United Methodist Men
- District Steward
- Lay Member to Annual Conference
- District Members at Large as elected at District Conference
- Youth Delegate
- District Trustee
- District Treasurer
- District Lay Leader
- Associate District Lay Leader
- President of District United Women in Faith (UMW)

- President of District Men in Mission (UMM)

*eligibility based on Conference Rules

We will be using Zoom polls to conduct our voting. This will be made available with the Zoom link below at the time of the Zoom on the 6th.

Topic: Special District Conference
Time: Aug 6, 2022 10:00 a.m. Eastern Time (US and Canada)
Join Zoom Meeting
<https://zoom.us/j/96671843993>

Meeting ID: 966 7184 3993
Passcode: SRD
One tap mobile
+13017158592,,96671843993# US (Washington DC)
8558801246,,96671843993# US Toll-free

Dial by your location
+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)
855 880 1246 US Toll-free
Meeting ID: 966 7184 3993
Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/u/aegSb12y6h>



Register Today!!

**Virginia Five-Day Academy for
Spiritual Formation**
“Pilgrimage with the Psalms”
August 14-19, 2022
Roslyn Retreat Center, Richmond
Worship – Study – Rest – Renewal

Academy Faculty:
Rabbi Rachel Barenblat
Rev. Dale Clem

Limited Scholarship Assistance is Available

**Click here to learn more and
register**



SHENANDOAH RIVER DISTRICT PASTORS:

As we begin our planning for the 2022 Charge Conferences, you are requested to attend the PiM (Partners in Mission) meeting on Tuesday, September 6th from 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon in person

at Toms Brook UMC, 3263 South Main Street, Toms Brook,



**ERT TRAINING AT ALDERSGATE UMC,
NORFOLK
SEPTEMBER 10TH - BEGINNING
AT 9:00 A.M.**

Many may not be aware, but if there were a natural disaster tomorrow, we are not prepared to respond! Due to the COVID19 pandemic, we have not been able to recertify or train members for Early Response when disasters happen. ERT certifications are only valid for two years, therefore if you have been trained before and would like to recertify, or if you would like to be certified as an ERT for the first time, this is a great opportunity below!

ERT Training will be held Saturday, September 10, 2022 beginning at 9:00 a.m. at Aldersgate UMC, in Norfolk, VA.

Train to be ready to respond and know the first steps to help.

ERT teams respond during the first phase of disaster relief, providing a caring Christian presence. Your church and community could truly benefit if faced with a disaster. You are also trained to respond, when requested, to other conferences during a disaster. Registration fee is \$35.00

This event is sponsored by UMCOR and the Elizabeth River District UMC. For more information, contact District Disaster Response Coordinator, Rev. Bertrand Griffin: bertgriffin@vaumc.org or (757) 466-8999.

I will be coordinating an opportunity in the Shenandoah River District in the future as well.

Rev. Brian Posey, pastor of Grottoes UMC
brianposey@vaumc.org
540-249-4239 office

**SHENANDOAH RIVER DISTRICT LAY
SERVANT TRAINING
GROTTOES UMC - IN PERSON
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24TH**

Before the Harrisonburg and Winchester Districts became the Shenandoah River District, the (former) Harrisonburg District had already made plans for the **Fall 2022 Lay Servant Training. The scheduled date for this event is September 24, 2022. The classes will be held in person** at Grottoes UMC, located at 300 4th Street, Grottoes, VA 24441. The following courses are scheduled:

Basic Course (Linda Conrad, Lay Person, Otterbein UMC)
Leading Prayer (Rev. Brian Posey, Grottoes UMC)

The Leading Prayer Class will also be taught via Zoom. There is a possibility that the Basic Class could also be taught via Zoom if there is enough interest.



**All laity are
Lay Servants**
(see
Matthew
25:31-46)



These classes are open to the entire Shenandoah River District – and to anyone else who might be interested in taking them. You don't have to be a Lay Servant to take either class. Due to the geographic size of the new district, it may be advantageous to use Zoom.

The cost for the Classes is \$25 per student. This includes the cost of the textbook. If the class is taken in-person, this would also include a lunch meal. We need to have at least six people registered per class by September 12 for the classes to be presented. If you attend in-person, you can pay the registration fee at the class. Or you can mail the fee to the District Office: (Make

Debbie Creech
Shenandoah River District
78 Brook Creek Road
Toms Brook, VA 22660

If you want to register or have any questions, please contact Joe Amend
(joe.amend3@gmail.com. Cell – 301.741.7633)

"You will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."
(Acts 1:8)

Joe Amend
Lay Servant Committee



Virginia United Methodist Foundation's
2nd Annual Golf Classic
October 10, 2022 - starts at 12 noon
Independence Golf Club in Midlothian, VA

**Click Here to print Flyer and
Registration**

IT'S A DISTRICT PALOOZA!

SAVE THE DATE!
**FIRST ANNUAL CHARGE CONFERENCE AND
DISTRICT CONFERENCE PALOOZA!**

A one day event to conduct the business of the Shenandoah River District!

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 6TH - 3:00 P.M. IN PERSON
PLACE - TO BE DETERMINED**

Clergy and Lay Persons need to be present at this event to conduct the business of their church's Charge Conference.

Then, we will turn our attention to the business of the District Conference.

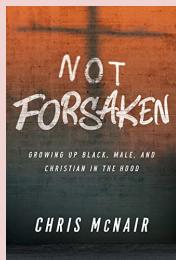
All Charge Conference materials will need to be completed and uploaded to your church's EVC website by the 10-Day deadline of October 27th.

More detailed information to follow soon!

CAMP OVERLOOK NEWS

Camp Overlook summer camps may be winding down, but don't forget this district sponsored camp is a year round opportunity for you!

[Click Here to take you to the Camp Overlook Website](#)



From Sue MacTavish, District Librarian
August 2022 featured item:

Not Forsaken: Growing Up Black, Male, and Christian in the Hood
by Chris McNair, 2021.

I selected this month's title because I think we all need to understand what the issues are and this book teaches how we can address social, emotional, physical and spiritual issues facing young black men in our American Society. It is about building a relational ministry among black youth, centered on instilling a sense of identity in Christ and provides a study curriculum to use with the young men themselves.

In addition to in-depth content from the Leader Guide, the study sessions contains everything needed to begin to equip leaders and guide a group through the study including session plans, activities, and discussion questions.

Not Forsaken is a 9-session study which addresses the social, emotional physical, and spiritual issues facing Black men. *Not Forsaken* book and DVD can be found in the **U. M. Men** section of the District Library.

Stop by the NEW Shenandoah River District Office and "check out" the Library. Please remember to check out library items by signing the book card in pocket with your name and church and date – you may keep as long as you need – but remember to return when finished so that others may borrow. Thanks, Sue

CUPCAKE THURSDAYS 2:00 p.m.



Hey Methodist! Are we connected or not? To renew this connection in ministry, in 2022 we initiated "Cupcake Thursday." During one of my SAS coaching sessions with Manor Memorial UMC's new governing board, I was cautioned that I was talking about "baking cakes" when we should be talking about baking "cupcakes;" same ingredients, smaller version. They were right, and Cupcake Thursday was born. I started visiting pastors and churches and talk about ideas on church, of church, in church, for church on Facebook Live. We talk about whatever the pastor or guest wants to talk about for no more than 15-20 minutes. I come to you, bring the camera, and ask the questions to get the discussion started, and we have a conversation. And then there are cupcakes....

Our new District Director of IT, Rev. Jim Joyner, will be working to get our district website and Facebook page up and running soon! Until that time, we will continue to post Cupcake Thursdays on Facebook @mttaborChurchVA (*the church I pastor part time*), the Harrisonburg District FB (*Chad puts it out on the Winchester FB page*), and my personal FB Page. The purpose is to talk about church, new ideas, pastoring, and introduce pastors to each other.

It's been a great opportunity to talk about the ministry and for folks to get to know you and your church. Let me know if you would like to participate.

Here's our schedule for August:

August 4th - Rev. Amanda Garber, pastor of RISE UMC - Harrisonburg

August 11th - Rev. Jim Joyner, new Director of IT for the Shenandoah River District

August 18th - not filled at this time

August 25th - Rev. Susan Reaves, pastor of Asbury UMC- Harrisonburg

I would love to buy you a cupcake.

Your Brother in Christ, Gordon Meriwether

Just Neighbors provides high-quality immigration legal services to low-income immigrants, asylees and refugees in Virginia, Maryland, and Washington, DC. We also provide community presentations about immigration law and current events. Just Neighbors serves clients in and around the valley from Winchester to Waynesboro through a partnership with the United Methodist Church and the Shenandoah River District.



Volunteers are vital to the work we do. We have need of the following types of volunteers:

Clinico volunteers

Just Neighbors holds a legal clinic the second Wednesday evenings of every month at Asbury United Methodist Church in Harrisonburg. Volunteers provide hospitality and assist staff attorneys to screen clients and prepare their immigration applications. Training for new volunteers is held thirty minutes before the clinic starts, and no additional time is required after the clinic concludes. No specialized experience or languages skills are required (though Spanish-speaking volunteers are always needed).

Translator volunteers

Because many of our cases require a written translation of client statements, official paperwork, and letters, we often need volunteers to translate documents from their home. When there is a need, we send out an email to our list of volunteers translations to see who is available.

Please contact Tori Andrea Babington at tori@justneighbors.org for more information about volunteering or requesting a presentation.

ANNANDALE OFFICE
7630 Little River Turnpike
Suite 900
Annandale, VA 22003

FAUQUIER OFFICE
34 Beckham Street
Warrenton, VA 20186

LITERACY VOLUNTEERS – WINCHESTER AREA PARTNERSHIP OFFICE
301 North Cameron Street
Suite 102
Winchester, VA 22601

SIN BARRERAS PARTNERSHIP OFFICE
932 Fir Street
Waynesboro, VA 22980

Tori Andrea Babington
Managing Attorney of Rural Programs
703-979-1240 x 131
Now Serving DC, MD and VA
www.justneighbors.org

MISSION TRAILER

Taking a team on mission this year and needing the equipment to take with you? The District has a trailer packed and ready to go for you to take. You do need a vehicle and experience pulling a large trailer to take it, but we'd love to see the trailer go out more this year! To reserve the trailer, please contact Joann Ballard, District Mission Chair at jballard1902@gmail.com.



NEEDED IMMEDIATELY! 40 HYGIENE KITS (for Charterhouse School in Edinburg)

Brian Posey, Co-District Disaster Coordinator is asking for your help. Charterhouse School is in need of Hygiene Kits. If your church or organization is interested in making and donating these kits, please let Brian know at [540-236-2472](tel:540-236-2472)

cell or brianposey@vaumc.org

These Kits were not requested this year for Annual Conference, but there is a need in our district.

Items needed to make these Kits: *One hand towel (15 x 25 to 17 x 27 inches), one washcloth, one comb (must be 6" of teeth), one toenail or fingernail clipper, bath sized soap (3 oz. or larger), one adult toothbrush and toothpaste, 10 adhesive bandages sealed in a two-gallon re-sealable bag.*

Shenandoah River District Mission Central

Physical location: 1704 Smithland Road, Harrisonburg, VA 22802

Mailing address: Post Office Box 2026, Harrisonburg, VA 22801

**Mission Central Mission Children's Closet is open to the public from
10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month; the 3rd Tuesday and the 2nd
and 4th Thursday evenings from 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.**

**Mission Central's Equipment for Caring is open Mondays from 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.
and Thursdays 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.**



At the time of this writing, there are 2 more client sessions still to go in July, and we have already welcomed more than 100 families and approximately 250 children! There are many new babies in the community, so we can always use new or gently used baby linens, such as crib sheet sets, hooded towels, soft blankets and soft stuffed toys. We put these in our baby bags for new parents. Used baby equipment that is clean and in good condition is also always needed, and we have a wonderful new shed in which to store it, and that makes us smile. So, please keep us in mind at those summer yard sales.

Also, as you and your family members are cleaning out the children's closets to prepare for a new season, remember that we are happy to have those items you no longer want or need. We take summer and winter clothing all year, so you can't go wrong! Thank you all for your donations and prayers. Our clients and volunteers are all very grateful recipients."

Donna Tinsley, 703-472-8101



EQUIPMENT FOR CARING

We remain busy as the summer months become hotter. We have provided multiple pieces of medical equipment and disposable supplies to over 70 people during the month of June. Needs are ongoing as person's health situations change and as changes occur with insurances and their coverage or what they provide. You who volunteer with your time, money or donations of equipment, make it possible to provide this mission to our local community. We serve Harrisonburg and the counties of Rockingham, Page, Shenandoah and Augusta. Thank you to each of you for making a difference.

I also want to thank Barbara Phillips for being available to answer calls and requests while I needed to take some time off for surgery. I am back and thank you for the well wishes and prayers. Our faithful volunteers continue to be available to help persons during the hours we are open as well as being involved in organizing, cleaning and checking equipment. If this would be something you would like to help with, please contact me.

**Remember our new hours:
Mondays 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. and
Thursdays 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.**

We are on Facebook and our websites are
www.missioncentralharrisonburgva.com or
<https://www.harrisonburgdistrictmc.org/mission-central>

Contact Delores Reid, 540-383-6112



The former Harrisonburg and Winchester District UMW executive committees continue to meet and develop nominations, budgets and special events.

District Prayer Breakfast - 9:00 a.m. - September 17th at Asbury UMC (Harrisonburg). The guest speaker will be Pastor Yosvany Pereria, Associate Pastor of Asbury.

Annual Meeting - Thursday, October 6th **SAVE THE DATE!**

Barbara Phillips, UWF President 540-896-7664 grannybp@gmail.com
Mary Preston, UMW President 540-338-4152 k4ljh@comcast.net

BOUNDARIES OF NEW DISTRICTS OUTLINED



by **Brenda Caren** |

Jul 8, 2022 | [AC 2022 News](#), [Districts](#), [News](#), [Virginia News](#)

Following the vote of the Annual Conference on Friday, June 17, 2022, that set the number of districts to eight effective July 1, 2022, in keeping with Paragraph 415.4 of the 2016 UMC Book of Discipline, and in consultation with the Cabinet, the boundaries of the new districts shall be as follows, effective July 1, 2022:

The exterior boundaries shall be the combined boundaries of their former constituent districts in their bi-district configurations (which were established July 1, 2021), with the dissolution of the interior boundary of the former paired districts, to form eight new districts as shown below both in table and map.

These districts shall be served by the eight district superintendents as listed below.

Coastal Virginia	Elizabeth River & Eastern Shore	Rev. Dr. Cecelia Brooks
Living Waters	Farmville & James River	Rev. Jay Carey
Mission Rivers	Rappahannock River & York River	Rev. Dr. Charles Ledum-Bates
Mountain View	Danville & Lynchburg	Rev. Denise Bates
Northern Virginia	Alexandria & Arlington	Rev. Dr. Sarah Calvert
Shenandoah River	Harrisonburg & Winchester	Rev. Dr. Victor Gómez
Three Notch'd	Charlottesville & Richmond	Rev. Dr. Hyo Lee

Valley Ridge	Roanoke & Staunton	Rev. Doug Forrester
NEW DISTRICT NAME	FORMER DISTRICT NAME	SUPERINTENDENT



Kingsway Prison and Family Outreach is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization that has been offering assistance to the incarcerated, ex-offenders, and their families since 1983. In addition to services provided within the prisons and jails, Kingsway provides a safe haven for released inmates to come for help at the office in Harrisonburg, Virginia.

Our Mission:

"Ministering through the heart of Jesus to the broken hearts of those impacted by the criminal justice system, both those incarcerated and re-entering and their families."

What We Do:

Kingsway Outreach is a hands-on service ministry reaching out in Christian love to inmates, ex-offenders, and their families. Kingsway serves in ministry to all people seeking assistance related to incarceration regardless of race, national or ethnic origin, gender, marital status, creed, religious denomination, disability, age, conviction, sexual orientation, or political affiliation or belief.

We accomplish this by:

Assisting individuals and churches in ministering to the physical needs of families of those incarcerated.

Providing training to individuals and churches, enabling them to work with those who have been affected by the criminal actions of others.

Encouraging individuals and churches to welcome returning citizens and their families to Christian fellowship and services to Christ.

Offering training and resources to individuals and churches to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ to those in prison and their families.

The ministry of Kingsway Outreach supports:

- Re-entry programs for released offenders and their families.
- Regular fellowship services inside the prisons and jails.
- The Apple Tree Project Christmas gifts for children of incarcerated parents.
- Christmas gift bags for currently incarcerated inmates.
- Office and fellowship space for volunteers and guests.

House of Restoration Fellowship Worship Services **2:00** pm every Sunday
Note time change beginning August 7, 2022

Kingsway Prison and Family Outreach is located at:
 2217 S. Main St.
 Harrisonburg VA. 22801

Hours:

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday
 10:00 am - 2:00 pm
 or by appointment

Phone: (540) 433-5658
 email: info@kingswayoutreach.org

**Pastors
Welcoming
Picnic
July 28th at
Toms Brook
UMC's Picnic
Shelter**



There were 70+ pastors and their families present for the first picnic with the two districts combined. Everyone enjoyed a meal together, followed by a tour of the new District Office and ice cream served by Victor and Heather Gómez on the back deck!



Sympathies

Nelsie Kiracofe, 93, wife of C. S. Kiracofe, died on July 16, 2022. C. S. has served as the Harrisonburg District Finance Chairperson for many years, was the District Treasurer and has a member of the District Board of Missions.

Sympathies may be sent to C.S. Kiracofe, 5677 Oak Villa Lane, Rockingham, VA 22801

Lieu Lewis, 84, widow of Rev. David B. Lewis, died on July 26, 2022. She was also the mother of Rev. Barbara Lewis and Rev. Robert Lewis and the aunt of Rev. Jim Smith, pastor of Duncan Memorial UMC on the former Winchester District.

Sympathies may be sent to Rev. Jim Smith at 240 Hermitage Blvd., Berryville, VA 22611



A challenge to Read the Bible in ONE YEAR Bible Readings for AUGUST 2022

Bishop Lewis has been encouraging the clergy and laity of the Virginia Conference to read the Bible in a year since 2017. There are 4 readings from the Old Testament, New Testament, Psalm and Proverbs.

[resource: <http://www.vaumc.org/2022biblechallenge>]



[Click Here to view the 2022 Bible Challenge](#)

**If you would like to have an article included in this newsletter,
please email Debbie Creech, District Administrator, at
debbiecreech@vaumc.org by the 15th of each month.**

Shenandoah River District of the United Methodist Church | 78 Brook Creek Road, Toms Brook, VA 22660

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