

MARCH 2024

DISTRICT DISPATCH

A Newsletter of the Three Notch'd District

Bishop's Visit to the Three Notch'd District

By Rev. Hyo J. Lee, Ph.D., District Superintendent

During this busy Lenten season, I want to express my gratitude to all of you who took the time to attend the events welcoming Bishop Sue Hauptert-Johnson to the Three Notch'd District. Your presence, dedication, and efforts did not go unnoticed. From those who helped organize worship services, ministry sharing sessions, and guided tours of various ministry sites, I extend my heartfelt thanks.

As the Bishop concluded her two-day visit to our district and we headed back to Richmond, I took the opportunity to inquire if she had any questions about our churches and their missions. Her response was, "It was good. None." She then went on to share her enjoyment of the visit and even mentioned how she appreciated our cluster presentations. Drawing from her experiences as a District Superintendent in the Florida Conference, she highlighted the varying levels of enthusiasm and collaboration existing within the different clusters.

Reflecting on her insights, I acknowledged that, much like in other areas, some clusters in our district are thriving while others are still finding their way. We have not yet discovered a perfect formula for successful cluster collaboration. However, the presentations by cluster leaders reinforced the idea that by coming together in the spirit of Christ's disciples and following the examples of John Wesley's Class and Band meetings, through cluster gatherings we can experience mutual encouragement, shared learning, and impactful ministry—especially in the areas of Youth, Children's ministry, and Missions.

Therefore, I invite each of you to join our cluster gatherings and experience the blessings that come from working and worshiping together. Please inform me of your next meeting time and place so that I may join you, to share in fellowship and ministry as the early disciples did in Acts 2:37-47.

Blessings, Hyo Lee

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THREE NOTCH'D
DISTRICT
VIRGINIA CONFERENCE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



2024 District Youth Retreat at Westview

BY ANDY GLASGOTT, DISTRICT YOUTH CO-COORDINATOR

During the last weekend in February, over 100 youth and adults gathered at Westview on the James for this year's Three Notch'd District youth retreat. Ten churches took part, and overall numbers doubled from 2023's event. While the weather was definitely warmer than last year, it was also wetter, which put a dampener on the Saturday afternoon outdoor activities. That said, it didn't stop people using the climbing wall or archery range at Westview. Over the weekend, a team from Randolph Macon College led a workshop on "Convergence", the meeting of science and faith, and groups from New Life and Aldersgate UMC's led worship on Saturday evening, including Communion, and Sunday morning. Huge thanks to everyone who participated, brought a youth group, or simply came along and added to the atmosphere.

"Because
He lives,
I can face
tomorrow!"

GLORIA & WILLIAM
GAITHER



Bishop Sue's Visit to Three Notch'd District

FEBRUARY 25-26

We are grateful to the following groups and individuals who helped make Bishop Sue's visit such a success:

Rev. Chad Herndon, Rev. Jeremy Vest, Brandon Zobel, and staff of New Song UMC; Rev. Larry Cochran, Rev. Gwen Andrews, Marie Coone, and staff of Belmont UMC; Helen Trevey of Belmont Community Resource Services; Rev. David McWilliams and hospitality committee of Zion UMC; Rev. Amy Grant of Cunningham UMC; Rev. Devon Earle and Suzanne Joyner of Wesley Foundation at UVA; Rev. Alex Joyner of Charlottesville First UMC; Rev. Chip Giessler and Rev. Julie Nitzsche and staff of Aldersgate UMC.



Healing Service March 17

BY JOHN GLASS

Do you need healing? Physical, mental, emotional, spiritual? All are welcome and invited to a Healing Service, Sunday, March 17, 3:00pm, led by Pastor Greg Miller at Restoration Church, 5145 Dickerson Road, Charlottesville, VA 22911.

Do you need healing from pain inflicted by the church? You are welcome also. We have testimonies of miracles. Will you be one of them?

Love God, Love each other, Change the World.



“Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here; he has risen!”

Matthew 28:5-6

Director of Children's Ministry

BY WILL FLYNN

Ramsey Memorial UMC in Richmond is searching for a Director of Children's Ministry. If you or someone you know is interested in a 20-30 hour per week position, please contact me by email, wflynn@franklinstreet.com, or phone 804-402-0778, or Pastor Claudia, 804-276-4628. For a complete job posting, please also email me.



General Conference 2024

APRIL 23-MAY 3

After a four-year delay, the 2020 General Conference will take place April 23 - May 3 in Charlotte, NC. The General Conference of the United Methodist Church is the only body that can set official policy and speak for the international denomination. It has the authority to make revisions to the denomination's Book of Discipline. The General Conference will bring together 862 voting lay and clergy delegates from four continents. For more information, visit <https://vaumc.org/gc2024/>.



“With every breath, with every thought, we strive to focus on Jesus.”

#BeUMC

2024 Annual Conference

JUNE 20-22

The 242nd session of the Virginia Annual Conference will be held June 20-22 at the Hampton Roads Convention Center in Hampton, VA. As we prepare to gather in June, we hope that members of the Annual Conference will consider the role of three movements in their lives - theological, historical and missional. For more info, visit <https://vaumc.org/ac2024/>.



Reaching New People in New Places in New Ways

BY REV. JIM CHANDLER, INNOVATIONS
COORDINATOR



It's been said, "If we are serious about reaching new people, we have to be willing do things differently and to do different things." One of the values the Three Notch'd District is committed to is experimenting with new ways to engage with people in our communities.

Some examples of initiatives some of our churches on the District are exploring are:

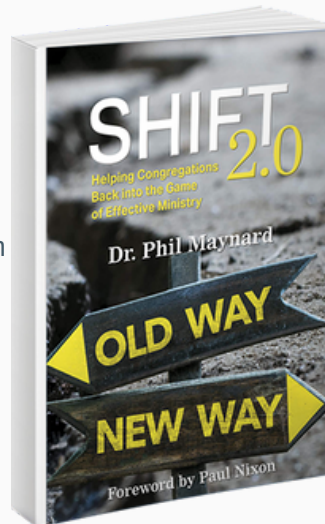
- Establishing a new ministry presence in the neighboring county in order to build relationships and share Christ's love with more people
- Experimenting with Dinner Church, "Messy Church", house churches and other forms of Fresh Expressions
- Launching a monthly "Beer and Hymns" night at a local restaurant

If you would like to talk about ways your church can try some new things to reach new people in your community, please contact Jim Chandler at jimchandler@vaumc.org.

A Guide to Vitality!

BY REV. PAM ANDERSON, VITALITY
COORDINATOR

That is what Phil Maynard's book Shift 2.0 has been called by experts. I am so excited to share that I am almost finished with coach training! I am working with EMC3 Coaching and Phil as an instructor. We are deep diving into Shift 2.0 and I can't wait to share what I have learned. Let me know if you are interested in assessing where your church is in one of five key ministry areas.



Consider if you are strong in Hospitality or too much into Fellowship. Do you want to take Worship from an Event to a Lifestyle? Want to know how to help folks transition from membership to discipleship? Or maybe you want to lead from survival mentality to generosity? Reach out and I can share information and tools, and coach you through it! Please connect with me through emailing pamelaanderson@vaumc.org.

Upcoming Dates

[HTTPS://THREENOTCHD.ORG/CALENDAR/](https://threenotchd.org/calendar/)

March 9 - District UWF Lenten Prayer Breakfast
March 14 - District Board of Church Location and Building Zoom meeting
March 28 - Maundy Thursday
March 29 - Good Friday
March 31 - Easter Sunday

2024 Cluster Leaders

We currently have 10 outstanding clergy serving as Cluster Leaders for our district churches. For a listing of what churches are in each cluster, please visit

<https://threenotchd.org/three-notchd-clusters/> :

Rev. Dan Albrant,
danalbrant@vaumc.org
Rev. Amy Grant,
amygrant@vaumc.org
Rev. Alex Joyner,
alexjoyner@vaumc.org
Rev. Michael Kendall,
michaelkendall@vaumc.org
Rev. Won Lee,
wonlee@vaumc.org
Rev. Mike Maxwell,
mikemaxwell@vaumc.org
Rev. Pete Moon,
petemoon@vaumc.org
Rev. Bob Parks,
bobparks@vaumc.org
Rev. Gordon Pruitt,
gordonpruitt@vaumc.org
Rev. Adam Sowder,
adamsowder@vaumc.org

District Leadership

Three Notch'd District Office
10330 Staples Mill Road
Glen Allen, VA 23060
Mail: PO Box 5606
Glen Allen, VA 23058
PHONE: 804.521.1124
EMAIL: TNDistrict@vaumc.org

Area Bishop - Rev. Sue Hauptert-Johnson
District Superintendent - Rev. Hyo J. Lee, Ph.D.
Innovations Coordinator - Rev. Jim Chandler
Vitality Coordinator - Rev. Pam Anderson
Executive Administrator - MaryKaye Cochran
Lay Leader - Elizabeth Farrell
Associate Lay Leaders - George Batten, Susan Custer, Dian McNaught, William & Linda Stead
Treasurer - Tina Gudgel
Youth Coordinator (Richmond area) - Andy Glascott
Youth Coordinator (Charlottesville area) - Rebecca Wagner
UWF President - Linda Porter