

APRIL 2023

# DISTRICT DISPATCH

A Newsletter of the Three Notch'd District

## How Was That Possible?

BY REV. HYO LEE, PH.D., DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT

As you have the Holy Week prior to Easter, I know you have many services and programs to best minister to your people through this season. When we have so many things to do, it is not easy to do them with joy. I too have been having an unusual amount of traveling and juggling different tasks. Then, as I was doing my morning devotional, Acts 5:40-42 made me pause and ask some questions.

*40 and when they [the Jewish religious authorities] had called in the apostles, **they had them flogged. Then they ordered them not to speak in the name of Jesus and let them go. 41 As they left the council, they rejoiced that they were considered worthy to suffer dishonor for the sake of the name. 42 And every day in the temple and at home, they did not cease to teach and proclaim Jesus as the Messiah.** (NRSVUE, bold added)*

The apostles, after the coming of the Holy Spirit, were powerful. They healed the sick, and boldly proclaimed that Jesus is the Christ. They declared the good news of his death and resurrection that brought us forgiveness and the Holy Spirit. And they had new professions of faith 3,000 and 5,000. At the same time, the established religious authorities could not contain them. Out of desperation they put them in prison, and even flogged them while warning them not to preach anymore in that name.

If I were the apostles, I would have been scared or complaining saying, "This is not fair. This is not what I signed up for. Or I am out of here!" But, the apostles, after having been beaten and threatened, "rejoiced that" they got to suffer for the sake of the Lord. Not only the disciples, the first followers likewise had the same joy.

Despite the violence and threats that they received, "everyday" they went to church and loved to meet at homes. This made me think:

1. Do I have the kind of joy that the first disciples had through beatings and imprisonments?
2. Where did they find that joy?
3. If I, by the help of the Holy Spirit, have the same joy, how will that change my daily walk with the Lord, and my ministry as a laity or a clergy today?

Reading and reflecting on this, I am convinced that, with the help of the Holy Spirit, even today, through Lent and beyond, we can live and serve the Lord in God's indescribable joy. The disciples did it, and so can we!

In this faith, let us continue to teach and proclaim that Jesus is the Messiah, the giver of new life.

## Blessed Holy Week!



## This issue:

Message from Our D.S.

PAGE 01

Update on Rose Park UMC Fire,  
Manna Ministry in Culpeper,  
Breakthrough Prayer Workshop

PAGE 02

2023 Annual Conference Updates,  
Mentors Needed,  
Holy Land Trips

PAGE 03

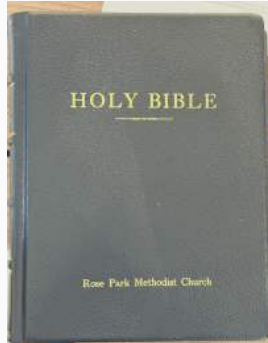
Community Outreach Youth Ministry,  
Healing Prayer & Revival,  
Upcoming Dates

PAGE 04

# Update on January Fire at Rose Park UMC

BY REV. ELIZABETH PETRY

Actual work began on the sanctuary on March 15. The congregation started back worshipping in the Rose Park Fellowship Hall, aka Little Rose Park, on March 26. The community continues to bless us in our restoration efforts with donations of services, needed items, and funds. I also wanted to share the journey of our Pulpit Bible. As its name implies, the Bible, printed in 1922, was sitting on the pulpit on the day of the fire, as it had done for 100 years. The Bible was severely damaged. We began the task to see if anyone could save this long-treasured Bible that was handed down by our ancestors. A wonderful restoration artisan was located in Rockville, Maryland. The before and after images below speak for themselves. God continues to bless our journey!



# Manna Ministry in Culpeper

BY REV. MIKE EVANS

The East Culpeper Charge and the Little Fork Circuit have teamed to serve meals with Manna Ministry in the town of Culpeper. We volunteer to serve the second Tuesday of every month. In addition, we serve the fifth Fridays when they occur. We have approximately twenty volunteers each meal split between the two charges. We serve an average of 120 meals each day we serve. We plan each meal one month in advance. The team members volunteer to prepare a menu item or purchase the required menu item. Other team members volunteer to pack the meals, sort donated items, or serve meals to guests that visit.

This year we have added a table of donated clothes that our guests can browse through and take items they need. Our clothes table is usually empty when we leave for the day. We also changed our serving material this last year to more ecological friendly-packaging. We want each ministry day to be a small worship service. After our meal planning session, our team leader leads us in a hymn of praise, and we end each session with a prayer of blessing over the guests that will be served, the team of volunteers, and the food. We are all blessed by loving our neighbors who need to see the glory of God at work in their lives.



# Breakthrough Prayer Workshop at CUMC

DISTRICT EVENT MAR. 11

On Sat. March 11, fifty-plus clergy and laity from the Three Notch'd District gathered at Culpeper UMC for a day-long workshop led by the Rev. Sue Nilson Kibbey, author of "The Open Road", and Director of Missional Church Initiatives in the Western Ohio Conference. Rev. Kibbey shared that the bottom line of any prayer initiative is whether or not we truly believe that prayer makes a difference. She stated that adding a breakthrough prayer component helps churches to look up and out and is saying "yes" to God's plan.

There are different types of breakthrough prayer as well as things to do to remove roadblocks to this type of prayer. Many breakthrough prayers are based in a scripture verse that speaks to an individual and/or church. When writing a breakthrough prayer, it is important to make it a team effort. Also, once a breakthrough prayer is written, a church may share it along with a symbol that will help people to remember to pray, e.g. a key, Lego block, puzzle piece, flashlight, or bracelet. For more information about breakthrough prayer, please refer to any of Rev. Kibbey's books or contact Maria Maxwell, District Revitalizer, [marimaxwell@vaumc.org](mailto:marimaxwell@vaumc.org).





**United as One in MISSION**  
2023 VAUMC ANNUAL CONFERENCE



## Annual Conference, Roanoke, VA, June 15-17

KITS, BOOK OF REPORTS & MORE!

### #COLLECTING TOGETHER:

Churches are encouraged to assemble kits for Conference, specifically feminine hygiene kits, hygiene kits, and cleaning kits (aka flood buckets). Please visit the [UMCOR website](#) for a list of what goes in the kits. The Three Notch'd District will have two collection sites on Sat. June 3:

10:00am-12:00noon at Culpeper UMC, 1233 Oaklawn Drive, Culpeper at the HUB shed in the upper parking lot

9:00am-12:00noon at Lakeside UMC, 2333 Hilliard Road, Richmond

NOTE: The collection sites are receiving kits only. Any canned goods that your church collects should be donated directly to a local food pantry. Any school kits that are assembled should be given directly to a local elementary school.

### 2023 BOOK OF REPORTS:

The Book of Reports will be available **online** in early May. You can request a physical copy until April 28 to be delivered by mid-May. [Fill out this form to get a physical copy.](#) Limited printed copies will be available at the June AC in Roanoke for purchase.

### DISTRICT ORIENTATION;

The District Orientation session for Annual Conference will be held by Zoom on Tues. June 6, 7:00pm. To register, [please use this form.](#)

## Christian Travel Ministry

BY REV. JUSTIN WHITE

Have you always wanted to visit the Holy Land? What about a pilgrimage walking in Paul's footsteps in Greece, or John Wesley's footsteps in England? For 50 years, Educational Opportunities (EO) has been helping Christians take the trips of a lifetime to grow in faith and add a powerful dimension to ministry.

If you'd like to learn more about EO and travel ministry, please feel free to contact Rev. Justin White, Lead Pastor at St. Mark's in Midlothian. I serve as the EO's Director of Travel Ministry in Virginia, and I would be glad to help get you started! <https://www.eo.travelwithus.com/#eotours>

## All God's Children Camp

MENTORS NEEDED

All God's Children Camp begins in less than three months and we need your help to make it possible! Camper applications are coming in and we need you to help mentor them! So grab a group from your church and come join me and a bunch of amazing kids this summer! For more details, visit the website at <https://vaumc.org/agcc/> or email Lori Smith at [agcc@vaumc.org](mailto:agcc@vaumc.org) or [lttlelori@gmail.com](mailto:lttlelori@gmail.com).



## Trip to Holy Land Oct. 23-Nov. 2, 2023

BY REV. GORDON PRUITT

Join Woodlake UMC and Pastor Gordon Pruitt on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land from October 23-November 2, 2023. We will visit many Biblical sites including the Sea of Galilee, Jordan Valley, Via Dolorosa in Jerusalem, and more. Plus, we will have an optional extension to Egypt. Pastor Gordon has made this trip before and it is life-changing to walk where Jesus walked and see the places you read about in the Bible. If you have not gone, you need to go! To find out more details about the trip agenda and cost, visit the [trip website](#). You can also reach out to the trip administrator Heather Kinkead at [hkinkead@woodlakeumc.org](mailto:hkinkead@woodlakeumc.org).





## Healing Prayer & Revival at Restoration Church

BY JOHN GLASS, DISTRICT ASSOCIATE LAY LEADER

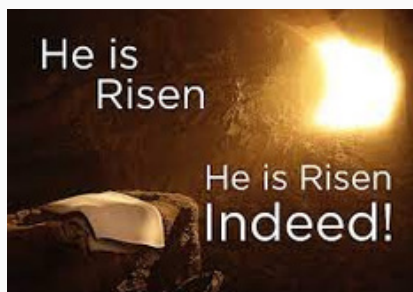
Barriers--physical, mental, race, sexuality, gender, and anything else that the world sends our way intending to divide us--will be broken down at the upcoming Healing Prayer and Revival at Restoration Church, 5145 Dickerson Road, Charlottesville, Friday, April 14th, at 7:00pm. [Click here for a flyer.](#) Pastor Greg Miller is trained in and specializes in the ministry of healing, so participants should come with an expectation of being healed of their maladies, or even those of their families and friends. God's healing is not limited to those present as we can see from Jesus' ministry in Luke 7:1-10 where Jesus healed a Centurion's servant because the Centurion's faith was strong enough to know Jesus would heal his servant with just a word or command from afar. All are invited to come and be healed. Come Holy Spirit, come!!!

## Upcoming Events and Important Dates

ALL DATES ARE INCLUDED ON THE DISTRICT CALENDAR  
[HTTPS://THREENOTCHD.ORG/CALENDAR/](https://threenotchd.org/calendar/)

- Apr. 6 - 12noon SAS Roundtable Zoom Meeting
- Apr. 6 - Maundy Thursday
- Apr. 7 - Good Friday
- Apr. 7 - District Office closed for Good Friday
- Apr. 9 - Easter
- Apr. 13 - District Board of Church Location & Building Meeting
- Apr. 23 - Announcement Sunday for July 2023 pastoral moves
- Apr. 27 - District Leadership Board Meeting
- May 2 - Cluster Leaders & Laity Zoom Meeting
- May 11 - District Board of Church Location & Building Meeting
- May 17 - Youth Ministers Lunch
- May 25 - District Leadership Board Meeting
- May 29 - Office Closed for Memorial Day

**Three Notch'd District  
Virginia Conference  
The United Methodist Church  
10300 Staples Mill Road  
PO Box 5606  
Glen Allen, VA 23058  
804.521.1124  
website: [www.threenotchd.org](http://www.threenotchd.org)**



## Community Outreach

BY REV. PAM ANDERSON

"Community Outreach Youth Ministry Coordinator (formerly Scouting Ministry)"-- What does that mean? Been wondering that myself!

We've all been getting use to different as we heal from the communal trauma of COVID lock down. Change is all around and can be good. It is at the heart of our mission after all -- transformation of the world!

True community transformation is not about numbers, it's about influence. Making better humans and better citizens can have a profound, soul-nurturing impact on the world. This coordinator roll is moving to a broader focus in collaboration with local churches and the community. Getting used to different, it is a mash-up of Christian Influencer, Fresh Expressions, Youth Advocacy, Intergenerational Ministry, Missions, and Fun!

As a family centered Christ community, see how we may help strengthen district influence on our community, reach out for more information, request training for your teams, and participate in this survey: [Comm Outreach Survey](#)

Those responding by April 28th will be entered into a drawing for a \$50 Wawa gift card! Winner announced in the next District Newsletter -- stay tuned!

### DISTRICT LEADERSHIP

- Rev. Sue Hauptert-Johnson - Area Bishop
- Rev. Hyo J. Lee, Ph.D. - District Superintendent
- MaryKaye Cochran - Executive Administrator
- Maria Maxwell - Church Revitalizer
- Rev. Jim Chandler - Strategic Consultant
- Lay Leader - Elizabeth Farrell
- Associate Lay Leaders - Susan Custer, John Glass, Dian McNaught, William & Linda Stead
- Treasurer - Jennifer Honeycutt
- Pamela Anderson - District Community Outreach Youth Ministry Coordinator (formerly Scouting Ministry)
- Andy Glascott - Youth Coordinator (Richmond area)
- Rebecca Wagner - Youth Coordinator (Charlottesville area)