

THE CHANNEL MARKER

A Publication of the

ELIZABETH RIVER DISTRICT

Virginia Conference United Methodist Church

OCTOBER 2011



From our DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT

The writer of the book Ecclesiastes once wrote, "For everything there is a season." Right now we are in the season of Charge Conferences. This year we are looking at Vital Congregations: congregations that are not just busy with lots of programs and events, but congregations bearing fruit — resulting in changed lives by the work that they do.

The pastors of the Elizabeth River District, as a part of the clergy meetings each month, are reading and discussing the book, "Bearing Fruit" by Tom Berlin and Lovett Weems. This is a very good and concise book dealing with congregations that do more than just activities or stay busy, but in their work and visioning desire to produce fruit that transforms and changes lives for Jesus Christ. Very often churches feel that being busy with events, studies, and programs is all they need to do consider themselves fruitful and successful; however, the reality is, in many cases there is no fruit, no real results of changed lives and spiritual growth to show for it. It is just busy work.

I invite the laity of the district to ask their pastor(s) if they are reading this book, and I challenge the laity of our churches to get a copy of this book and perhaps read along with their pastor. It may be a great chance and opportunity together, to look at how the work that is being done really is fruitful and life changing for those in the church and in the community. Also, Tom Berlin will be speaking at an event on Oct. 29 at Aldersgate-New Creation from 9:30AM until 4 PM. The cost is \$25 and you can get more information by e-mailing John Shappell at Jshappell@cox.net. What a great opportunity to share with your pastor a vital opportunity to learn to be more fruitful in the ministry of your church.

God is calling for each of our congregations to be vital in worship, discipleship, and missions. In order to accomplish this each congregation needs to stop and ask the important questions on the fruitfulness of the vision and the work being done because of that vision.

Jesus once said, "I am the vine you are the branches. Those who remain in me, and I in them, will produce much fruit." (John 15:5). Blessings upon each of us as we go and find ways to be fruitful.

Brad



Bearing Fruit

Ministry with Real Results

Teaching with Tom Berlin

For LAITY & CLERGY

Elizabeth River Teaching Event

October 29, 2011

9:30 – 4:00

at

New Creation-Aldersgate,
Chesapeake

Cost: \$25.00 which includes lunch
.5 CEU's

For reservation send email or
registration by Oct. 21, 2011

to: **John Shappell**

1428 Huntington Crescent
Norfolk, VA 23509

or

JShappell@cox.net



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DISTRICT CLERGY SPOUSES

— SPOUSES' DINNER —

Elizabeth River Clergy Spouses
Dutch-treat dinner and time of fellowship
Tuesday, October 11, 2011, 6:30 PM
Janaf Olive Garden Restaurant
5920 East Virginia Beach Blvd, Norfolk

RSVP to Kay Phillips (464-5392) or
kphillips53@cox.net by no later
than Saturday, October 8.
Looking forward to our time together!

CHURCH POSITIONS AVAILABLE

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP LEADER, Grace Harbor
Church, a new U.M. faith community in northern Suffolk
and a campus of New Creation UMC, is actively seeking an
experienced leader to model authentic Christian worship,
lead and engage a diverse congregation. For more infor-
mation about this part-time position, to apply, or see full job
description go to www.graceharborva.org under
“Leadership, Employment Opportunity.”

ORGANIST/CHOIR DIRECTOR, Monumental UMC in
Portsmouth. This part-time position includes traditional Sun-
day worship with pipe organ and 30 member choir. Job
description and resume information found at
www.monumentalumc.org.

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP LEADER, Great Bridge
UMC in Chesapeake is hiring a new Worship Director for the
Connexions Service. This part time position is for someone
who is energetic, enthusiastic and strong in their own faith
and their understanding of worship. A background in music
and worship band dynamics is required, as well as experi-
ence with CCLI, Media Shout and PowerPoint. Please submit
resumes to Staff Parish thru gbumcassociate@verizon.net,
Fax: (757) 482-0432 or Mail: 201 Stadium Drive Ches-
apeake, VA 23322.

Please keep Job Announcements at 60-words or less. More
church jobs can be found at the conference webpage
Vaumc.org / select Resources / Job Opportunities
Or <http://vaumc.org/Page.aspx?pid=498>

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Elizabeth River District

HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Next meeting:

Thursday, October 20, 6:15 pm

FRANCIS ASBURY UMC

1871 N. Great Neck Road, VB 23454

Telephone: (757) 481-5016

Cost for meal: \$6.00

(All reservations must be paid.)

Program will be given by

JEFF LAWSON

“Growing Up in a Family of Ministers”

EVERYONE

INTERESTED IN HISTORY

WELCOME

District Resource Center

Questions, 464-6034

Open

Monday thru Thursday

Mornings 9am—1pm



NOW AVAILABLE:

UMW Reading Program

List 2007-2011

(Please submit no later than October 7, 2011)

**Elizabeth River District
LAY SPEAKING TRAINING**

**When: Friday, October 14th ~ 6:00-10:00 PM
Saturday, October 15th ~ 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM
Where: Community United Methodist Church
1072 Old Kempsville Rd, Virginia Beach 23464
Cost: \$12 Registration**



Here's your opportunity to attend a Lay Speaking Ministries Training Event without having to leave town, and with a minimal investment. All interested lay persons, Local Church Lay Speakers, and Certified Lay Speakers are encouraged to take advantage of this opportunity. **Certified Lay Speakers must take an advance course every three years to maintain certification.**

Basic Course: The Basic Course is for certification to become a Local Lay Speaker. The local church lay speaker may serve his/her local church in which membership is held, by witness of the spoken work, vital leadership service, and care-giving ministry. All Lay Leaders should take this course to enhance knowledge of the ministry of the baptized, leading, caring, communicating, and into the world. Will need to purchase the participant book *Lay Speaking Ministries*, bring to class along with your Bible. Taught by Betty Marshall

Advance Courses: (For description of advanced courses and any materials you need before October 14th, go to ElizabethRiverDistrict.org and check out **FORMS**)

1. *Spiritual Gifts and Our Call to Be the Church:* ~ Taught by Janet Moore
2. *Survey of Apologetics for Lay Speakers:* ~ Taught by C. G. Miller
3. *United Methodist Heritage* ~ Taught by Rev. Tom Strohecker
4. *Go Preach: A Primer for Beginning Preachers* ~ Taught by: Arnold Lindblad
5. *This Holy Mystery* ~ Taught by Rev. Bert Cloud



Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ Zip _____
 Phone: () _____
 Email: _____
 Church: _____ U M C

(Please submit no later than October 7, 2011)

Lay Speaking Training

October 14-15, 2011

Please return registration to:

ELIZABETH RIVER DISTRICT OFFICE

Lay Speaking

P.O.Box 12654

Norfolk, Va 23541-0654

Basic Course - *(Pastor's Approval Signature required for 1st time attendees – Basic Course)*

Pastor's Signature _____

Advance Course: (Indicate preference: 1-2-3-4-5)

___ Spiritual Gifts ___ Go Preach
 ___ Apologetics ___ This Holy Mystery
 ___ UM Heritage

\$12.00 Enclosed (check# _____;
payable to Elizabeth River District)

Signature _____



Society For
Wesleyan Studies

*"Unite the two
so long disjoined:
knowledge and
vital piety."*

"I am not afraid that the people called Methodists should ever cease to exist either in Europe or America. But I am afraid lest they should only exist as a dead sect, having the form of religion without the power. And this undoubtedly will be the case unless they hold fast both the doctrine, spirit, and discipline with which they first set out."

-John Wesley

*The Society for Wesleyan Studies fall event,
"Reclaiming the Class Meeting,"
will be held October 23,-24, 2011,
at Roslyn Retreat Center in Richmond.*

Rev. Kevin Watson, PhD. candidate at Perkins School of Theology and professor of historical theology at Seattle Pacific University, will share how we can better claim our heritage of the class meeting, and what it might mean for small group ministry in the 21st century.

Watson is the author of *A Blueprint for Discipleship: Wesley's General Rules as a Guide for Christian Living.*

SCHEDULE:

Sunday, October 23, 6-9pm
Monday, October 24, 8am-3pm.

COST:

\$115/person (includes lodging and 2 meals on Monday) or \$45 for commuters (registration and lunch).
CEU credit available.

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO:

Society for Wesleyan Studies

AND SEND TO:

Rev. Myron Simmons
5 Johnson Rd
Hampton, VA 23664



ELIZABETH RIVER DISTRICT UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

The Purpose of United Methodist Women

The organized unit of United Methodist Women shall be a community of women whose purpose is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.

Oct 22 (Sat) District UMWomen's Prayer Breakfast, West End UMC, 1800 Rodman Ave, Portsmouth

Oct 29-30 (Sat-Sun) Conference UMW Annual Meeting, VUMAC



ELIZABETH RIVER DISTRICT YOUTH

Meet every month
On the 2nd Monday

7:00-8:30 pm at St. Paul's UMC
(437 W Providence Rd, Chesapeake)

The Elizabeth River District Youth Coordinator is Betsy Parsons. If you have any questions about what's going on, you may email her at

ElizabethRiverDYC@gmail.com

Other Youth Opportunities include:

Tabernacle UMC is having an **Area Wide Youth Rally on October 1st**. Rain or Shine! There are going to be Praise Bands, free food and prizes. It is from 3:00- 6:00p. Bring lawn chairs and blankets.

The Conference Retreats

Nov. 11-13 for Middle School and
Dec. 2-4 for High School.

The Retreats are at **Eagle Eyrie**.
The total cost is going to be **\$115**.

Would you like to be a part of the
Conference Council on Youth Ministries (CCYM)?

If so, contact Betsy or
Katie Wax, butterbeanwax@aol.com

"Let's Roll!"



Calling all Youth of the Elizabeth River District!

Please join us for a night of Fun & Fellowship

Where: Greenbrier Family Skate Center

Date: Sunday, November 6th

Time: 5:30 - 7:30

Cost: \$5.00 Each, includes skate rental



Concession will be open.

Bring money for snacks & drinks.

Please RSVP as soon as possible
so we can know how many to expect.

Email: youth@ncum.org

Phone: Bill Canady 615-6451

Hosted by, New Creation UMC Youth

Annual Fall **BRUNSWICK STEW** Sale

Community UMM (VB)

1072 Old Kempsville Rd, Va Beach

The UMM will be making their homemade Brunswick stew again this year.

One quart will feed two people.

The cost is \$6.00 a quart again this year.

All orders placed prior to September 11th will be available at \$5.50 per quart.

Orders can be placed via the church web site at www.cumcvb.org or by email to douglasmillsjr@gmail.com.

ORDER EARLY and SAVE!

Regular sales begin on Sunday September 11 through October 30 and we will be taking deliveries every Sunday.

All proceeds are used for UMM supported missions.



Join Us!

United Methodist Women & United Methodist Men as they sponsor the...



**All proceeds to benefit local and district missions.*

**Saturday,
November 12th, 2011**
9:00AM to 3:00PM

Something for the whole family.

Fun, Food, and Thousands of Unique Craft Items.

Bring a non-perishable food item & receive an additional chance to win a door prize.

Courthouse Community United Methodist Church

2708 Princess Anne Road, Virginia Beach

Located between the Virginia Beach Municipal Center and Landstown Commons or 3.6 miles from the intersection of

Lynnhaven Pkwy., and Princess Anne Rd.

For more info call 421-2102 or 971-3390



DISCIPLESHIP WEEKEND

October 22nd & 23rd

Community UMC

1072 Old Kempsville Rd, Va Beach

Ph: 495-1021; www.cumcvb.org

Guest Speaker: Pastor Rick Williams, host of the Renewed Strength radio ministry, broadcast M-F on FM 89.1

Oct. 22nd: Free Brunswick stew supper at 5:30 PM, followed by worship at 7:00 PM.

Oct. 23rd: Sunday worship at 8:30, 9:45 & 11:00 AM, followed by a catered, fried chicken lunch. Bring a side dish to share! Reservations required for the church nursery and the supper on Sat., Oct. 22nd.

THE FEAR OF THE
LORD IS THE
BEGINNING OF
WISDOM.

Proverbs 9:10

BAR-B-QUE, BBQ, & more Bar-B-Que...

Heritage UMC, Virginia Beach
 Saturday, October 22
 11:30am to 6:00pm

MENU:

Pork Bar-B-Q (smoked onsite)
 Baked beans, Coleslaw, Sandwich bun,
 Beverage

\$8.00 plate Carryout available
 *Homemade desserts will be sold from
 11:30am to 6pm at the Bake Sale

Sponsored by

United Methodist Women & United Methodist Men
 of Heritage United Methodist Church

815 Baker Rd. Virginia Beach
 Phone: (757) 497-3943

*Advanced Tickets for sale

Community Celebration

&

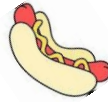


When: Saturday October 15th
 Time: 7 am – 2 pm

Where: Saint Luke's United Methodist Church
 3396 Stoneshore Road, Virginia Beach 23452
 (757) 468-3511

Menu

Combo plate: Pork Bar-BQ sandwich
 Baked Beans, Coleslaw, Beverage
 — \$6.00



Hot dog, Chips, Beverage \$3.00



Available for eat in or take out.

*Desserts may be purchased at the Bake Sale.

There will be a flea market, BBQ, a bake sale, cake raffle,
 face painting, alpacas, crafts and children's games.

If you are interested in a 14x14 flea market space for
 \$15.00 or two for \$25.00 call 468-3511 Mon. thru Thurs.
 9am-2 pm or leave a message and someone will get back
 to you as soon as possible.

Covenant United Methodist Church Men's BBQ
 October 15, 2011

10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
 (or until we run out)

BBQ by the pound - \$7.00
 BBQ Plates - \$7.00 consisting of BBQ, Baked Beans,
 Cole Slaw and Hushpuppies
 BBQ Sandwiches - \$3.00

Also, we sell the following by the container:

Cole Slaw - \$3.00
 Baked Beans - \$3.00
 Hushpuppies- \$3.00 @dozen – limit 2 dozen

We take presales for BBQ only at the church prior to
 October 13th - \$7.00 pound.

For further information, please call Covenant UMC
 office – 757-488-8968

Annual



October 22,

2011 ~

11:30 am until 2 pm
 Scott Memorial UMC

(409 First Colonial Road, Virginia Beach)

Grandma's Attic (gently used items);
 Craft & Christmas Shoppe (handcrafted items);
 Bake Shoppe (homemade goodies);
 And Individual vendors.

Luncheon: 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Homemade BBQ, roll,
 cole slaw, baked beans, coffee/tea \$8.00
 Or Hot dog and Chips - \$2.50 - Soda \$0.75,
 Desserts extra

For more information, please
 call the Church office @ 428-3720

**The United Methodist Women of
 Nimmo United Methodist Church**

Invite All ladies, ages 18-180,
 of the Elizabeth River District

To SAVE THE DATE

For a day of

*Renewal and Reflection on
 our purpose in God's glory and design*

Saturday, February 25, 2012

(specific times to be announced)

Please plan to attend.

Further information will be available on our web-
 site www.nimnochurch.org or
 through the office at 757.427.1765



Virginia Conference
 United Methodist Church
 P.O. Box 12654
 Norfolk, VA 23541-0654

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VA Conference Bishop Charlene P. Kammerer
 District Superintendent Bradford L. Phillips
 District Secretary Deborah L. Hanson
 District Finance Secretary Tammy A. Waters
 District Treasurer Mary R. Stroh
 District Lay Leaders Keith E. Willyard

Office Location:

815 Baker Rd. Suite 301, Virginia Beach
 Phone: 757.473.1592 Fax: 757.473.1790
 Email: ElizabethRiverDistrict@vaumc.org
 District Website: ElizabethRiverDistrict.org
 Conference Website: vaumc.org

DISTRICT CALENDAR

Newsletter Articles Deadline

is the **15th** of every month

All articles should be submitted by email
 to address above

Job Announcements should be 60-words or less

Events 100-words or less or 1/4 page flyer-format

District Officers try to limit a half-page



Send your request to

ElizabethRiverDistrict@vaumc.org

UPCOMING DATES:

2011 DISTRICT CONFERENCE

Nov. 19th ~ Oaklette UMC—10a.m.

2012 DISTRICT TRAINING

Jan. 21st ~ Centenary UMC



- 5 PAUMCS Fall Event, Conference Center
- 6 5 Talent Academy, Oak Grove 10am-3pm
- 10 District Youth, St. Paul's, Chesapeake, 7pm
- 11 Clergy Spouses' Dinner, Olive Garden at Janaf, 6:30 p.m.
- 12 District Clergy Meeting, Portlock UMC, Chesapeake 9am
- 14-15 Lay Speaker Training, Community UMC VB
- 20 District Historical Society, Francis Asbury, Va Beach 6:15pm
- 22 (Sat.) UMW Prayer Breakfast, West End UMC,
- 26 District Board of Missions, 10am at district office
- 27 District Committee on Ministry, 9am at district office
- 29 Bearing Fruit Seminar-Tom Berlin, New Creation-Aldersgate, 9:30



- 9 District Clergy Meeting, Ghent UMC, Norfolk 9am
- 14 District Youth, St Paul's UMC, Chesapeake, 7pm
- 19 District Conference, Oaklette UMC, Chesapeake 10am