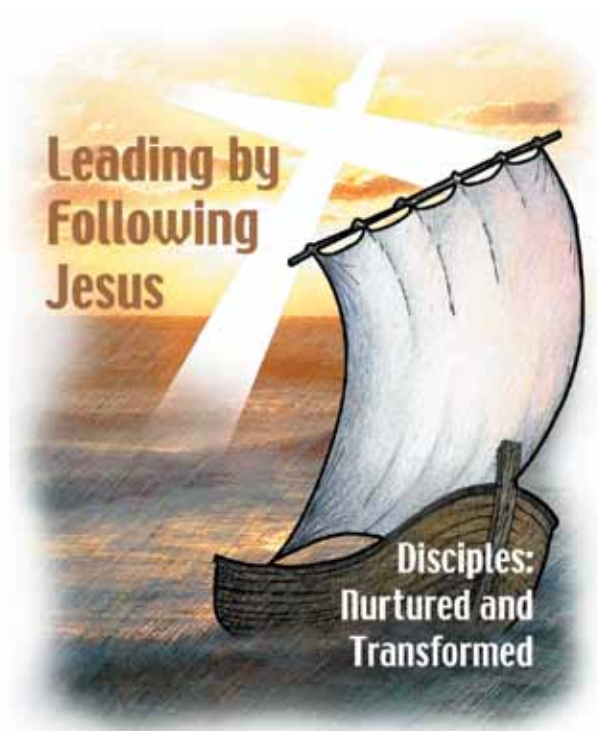


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228th Session

*Virginia Annual Conference
The United Methodist Church*

**June 13–16, 2010
Norfolk, Virginia**

IMPORTANT REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Please Read Carefully

If you are a clergy, diaconal, or lay member of the Virginia Annual Conference you should find enclosed, with your 2010 *Book of Reports*, your official name badge and registration card. To register, you must bring the registration card with you to the conference session. Name badges will be essential for voting privileges. If you forget your *Book of Reports*, you will need to purchase one at the information table at conference for \$2.00 per copy.

PLEASE FOLLOW THE PROCEDURE BELOW:

1. When you arrive at Norfolk Scope, go immediately to the registration area in the main entrance of Scope from the underground parking lot. All clergy, diaconal, and lay members will register in the same area.
2. Take the enclosed registration card to the registration area and exchange it for your official conference packet. **Please make sure in advance that you have made any necessary corrections to the information printed on the card.**
3. Persons who need special attention regarding registration will be asked to go to a special "Troubleshooting" area near the main registration tables. Here, name badge corrections, alternate/reserve registrations, and other such situations will be handled. **Do not surrender your registration card at the main registration tables if you need help from the troubleshooting area.** You will receive your updated name badge, if necessary, and official packet at the troubleshooting table.
4. At the conclusion of the conference, receptacles will be provided to collect the plastic holder of your name badge for reuse at future conference sessions, so please be gentle with its use.

ALTERNATES AND RESERVES should go to the troubleshooting area with the entire *Book of Reports* packet, including name badge and registration card of individuals they are replacing. A new badge and registration card will be provided there.

ATTENTION!

CLERGY AND DIACONAL MINISTERS

PLEASE NOTE that your registration card should indicate your **CURRENT** address, **BUT** you are asked to **correct the card** so it lists your **FUTURE MAILING ADDRESS**, appointment and phone number (i.e., that which will be in effect following this year's moving date). What appears on this card will become the conference's official record of your address, to be included in the 2010 *Journal* and 2010 *Directory of the Ministry*. E-mail addresses, if provided, will be included in both publications.

IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND CONFERENCE and have changes on the card, **please mail your corrected registration card** to the *Journal of the Virginia Annual Conference*, P.O. Box 5606, Glen Allen, VA, 23058, or e-mail to <Communications@vaumc.org>.

THE TWO HUNDRED AND TWENTY-EIGHTH SESSION
VIRGINIA ANNUAL CONFERENCE
The United Methodist Church

Norfolk, Virginia

June 13-16, 2010

BOOK OF REPORTS

Marc D. Brown, Director of Connectional Ministries

Edited by

The Office of Connectional Ministries and

Virginia United Methodist Communications, Inc.

The 2010 Virginia Annual Conference theme, “Leading by Following Jesus – Disciples: Nurtured and Transformed,” is based on the portion of the conference vision statement that focuses on God’s people being “nurtured and transformed” by conference faith communities. By using imagery from the first time Jesus called to his disciples and asked them to leave their fishing boats and follow him, we are reminded that this same Jesus continues to call disciples today and urges us to follow him. The logo was designed by Richard H. Jenkins, a freelance graphic designer and illustrator, who is a member of St. Luke’s UMC in Richmond.

GREETINGS FROM THE BISHOP

Warm greetings to you in the name of our Risen Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! I am looking forward to welcoming you to the Scope Center in Norfolk June 13–16. We will gather around the theme “LEADING BY FOLLOWING JESUS”. We have planned an exciting leadership team to invite us into an ever deeper life of discipleship.



Bishop Kammerer leads the Great Thanksgiving at 2009 Annual Conference

Our Conference Preacher will be Dr. Vance P. Ross, a member of the executive leadership team at the General Board of Discipleship in Nashville. He will inspire us and challenge us with his preaching. Our plenary speakers and Bible Study leaders are three leaders in the Virginia Conference. Marc Brown, Kathy Merry, and John Briggs, co-authors of the book *Does Your Church Have a Prayer?*, will work as a team for teaching and biblical reflection.

Special reports this year will include the Task Force on Redistricting and the *All Things New* Capital Campaign. Special celebrations will feature a Mission Recognition of the conference, and the Upper Room 75th Anniversary Recognition.

Another special guest who will join us is the Rev. Jim Gulley from the United Methodist Committee on Relief, who will speak to us about Haiti.

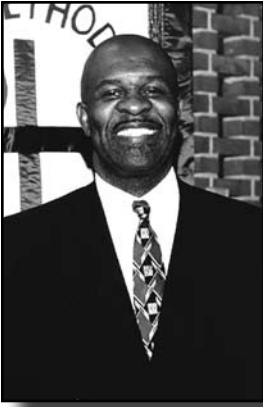
The Conference Offering will continue to be directed to specific sustainable projects of our Initiatives of Hope partnerships in Brazil and Mozambique. We will also focus on Gracia, a transformational ministry in the Alexandria District.

I look forward to greeting you and living in Christian community with you in Norfolk. May God bless you and prepare us for the work of the Holy Spirit among us.

In Christ,

Charlene Kammerer,
Bishop of the Virginia Conference

SPECIAL SPEAKERS



Ross

The Rev. Vance P. Ross is the guest preacher for our Annual Conference. Ross is the deputy general secretary for External Connectional Relations and Strategic Initiatives for the United Methodist General Board of Discipleship (GBOD) in Nashville. Bishop Kammerer currently serves as president of the GBOD.

Ross is a clergy member of the Baltimore-Washington Conference and from 1998-2004 served as the senior pastor of the First UMC of Hyattsville, Md. He is a native of Bluefield, W.Va.

He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Government/ Youth Services from West Virginia Wesleyan College and graduated with honors from Gammon Theological Seminary in Atlanta. From 1994 to 1998, Ross also served on the staff of the General Board of Discipleship.

Prior to that he was pastor at Simpson Memorial UMC in Charleston, W.Va., and Trinity Benton Ferry Charge, Fairmont, W.Va.

The team of Virginia Conference authors of the book *Does Your Church Have a Prayer?* – **Marc Brown, Kathy Merry** and **John Briggs** – will lead Bible Study on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings, and a plenary teaching session on Tuesday afternoon. Their sessions will focus on transformational leadership through the theme “Leading By Following Jesus.”



From left, Brown, Merry, Briggs

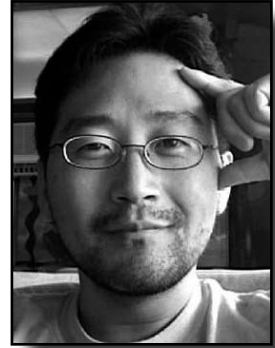
The Rev. Brown is currently the conference director of Connectional Ministries, and prior to that was the Richmond District Superintendent. He was ordained in 1977 and served at five churches before being appointed to the Cabinet. The Rev. Briggs is the pastor at Powhatan UMC, Farmville District, and prior to that was an associate at Good Shepherd UMC, Richmond District. He entered the ministry at age 49 after a career as a business executive. Merry is a former insurance executive who is a lay member at St. Mark’s UMC, Richmond District. In 2004 she stepped away from her position as senior vice president of Service Operations for Anthem to spend more time with her family. Merry also serves as an organizational consultant to non-profit groups.

Does Your Church Have a Prayer? is published by Discipleship Resources.

The Rev. Jung Pyo “J.P.” Hong, pastor of Culmore UMC in Falls Church, Arlington District, is preaching for the Service of Remembrance on Sunday night.

A native of Colorado, Hong also served four years at the Korean UMC of Greater Washington in McLean, five years teaching public elementary education in Baltimore and southeast Washington, D.C., and has been involved in numerous roles addressing matters of ethnicity, culture, urbanization, poverty, education and interfaith relations from a Christian perspective.

Hong has an undergraduate degree in Psychology from Harvard, and Masters degrees from the Johns Hopkins School of Business and Yale Divinity School.



Hong

The Rev. Jim Gulley, a United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) consultant who was trapped with colleagues in the rubble of the Hotel Montana in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, after the Jan. 12 earthquake, will speak on Tuesday.

Gulley was in Haiti as part of a three-member team from the General Board of Global Ministries (GBGM) on a quest to improve medical services and agricultural practices in Haiti, one of the world’s poorest countries. The other two were the Rev. Sam Dixon, head of UMCOR, and the Rev. Clint Rabb, who led the Volunteers In Mission area. Dixon and Rabb did not survive the ordeal.

Gulley is an ordained United Methodist minister who has been a pastor, missionary, teacher, trainer, program manager and evaluator within the church.

He currently serves as an advisor in Agriculture and Community Development with UMCOR and GBGM in Cambodia and Haiti.

Gulley, also a former missionary to Nigeria and Cambodia, has a Virginia Conference connection. He transferred into the conference in 1984 while pursuing studies at The American University and Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, D.C. “I was on leave of absence while I served in Nigeria with the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture in training and development work,” Gulley wrote in an e-mail. “I then served in an Extension Ministry role while with the General Board of Global Ministries. When my position was eliminated at GBGM, I moved to Colorado and transferred into the Rocky Mountain Conference.



Gulley

“It will be great to re-connect with the conference that supported me through years of my ‘mosaic ministry’.”

Gulley lives with his wife, Nancy, in Frisco, Colo. They have three sons, three daughters-in-law and two grandchildren.

2010 VIRGINIA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

June 13-16, 2010

The Scope, Norfolk

Bishop Charlene P. Kammerer, presiding

Leading by Following Jesus Disciples – Nurtured and Transformed

SUNDAY AFTERNOON, June 13

(Registration 3 – 7 p.m.)

- 3 p.m. Rehearsal for Service of Remembrance
4 p.m. Annual Conference Planning Committee meeting
5 p.m. Welcome dinner for first-time appointments

SUNDAY EVENING, June 13

- 7 p.m. A Service of Remembrance
and Holy Communion Rev. Jung Pyo Hong
(Families gather in Meeting Room 4 prior to the service.)
8 p.m. Rehearsal for the Service for the Ordering of Ministry
Boards and agencies will meet as necessary to consider resolutions.

Continuous free shuttles between Scope and downtown hotels are available daily through 10 p.m. You can board at the Charlotte Street entrance to the Scope Plaza.

MONDAY MORNING, June 14

(Registration 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.)

- 8:30 a.m. Clergy Session Chrysler Hall
8:30 a.m. Laity Session..... Scope Arena
10:30 a.m. Call to Order Bishop Charlene P. Kammerer
Prayer Rev. Raymond Fitzhugh Wrenn, Mr. Charlie Harless
Welcome Rev. John Vest, Rev. Bradford Phillips
Host District Superintendents
Organizing Motions Rev. John Vest
Election of Rev. Robert Blinn
Assistant Secretaries
Editor of the *Journal*
Annual Conference Committees
Rules Committee Rev. Stephen Bray
Commission on Religion and Race Rev. Gregory Duncan Sr.
and Commission on Status and Role of Women
Equitable Compensation..... Rev. James Sprouse Jr.
United Methodist Foundation Mr. James Bergdoll
Trustees Rev. Sallye Bowen
Board of Ordained Ministry Rev. Jeffrey Mickle
Cabinet Rev. Alan Reifsnnyder
Minute Questions
Noon Recess for Lunch

The Norfolk Electric Transit (NET) is a free transportation service which runs every 6 to 18 minutes through downtown Norfolk from 6:30 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. A NET stop is accessible one block southwest of the Scope, at the corner of Granby and Charlotte. See the NET route map on page 144.

“Stop Hunger Now” meals will be prepared in the Exhibition Center 11 a.m. to 7 p.m..

Conversations about the proposed Resolutions will be held in the Exhibition Center during lunch recess.

MONDAY AFTERNOON, June 14

- 1:45 p.m. Singing Our Faith
- 2 p.m. Worship Rev. Vance Ross
- Laity Address Ms. Shirley Cauffman
- United Methodist Women Ms. Addie Haynes
- United Methodist Men Mr. Lawrence Burian
- Ministries with Young People Mr. Charlie Harless, Rev. Alan Combs
- Recognitions
- Upper Room 75th Anniversary Recognition Ms. Sarah Wilke
- Professional Certification for Local Church Ministry Rev. Jeff Mickle
- Denman Awards Rev. Brian Sixbey
- Retired Clergy Housing Corp. Rev. Thomas Coffman
- Resolutions Rev. Beth Givens
- Bishop’s Book Recommendations Bishop Charlene Kammerer
- Cokesbury Report Ms. Susie Wolf
- 4:45 p.m. Recess for Dinner
- 5 p.m. Musicians’ Rehearsal for the Service for the Ordering of Ministry

“Stop Hunger Now” meals will be prepared in the Exhibition Center 11 a.m. to 7 p.m..

MONDAY EVENING, June 14

- 7:30 p.m. A Service for the Ordering of Ministry Bishop Charlene Kammerer
Preacher

TUESDAY MORNING, June 15

- 5:30 a.m. Potato Drop Mission Project Ghent United Methodist Church
- 7:30 a.m. Musician Sound Check
- 8:15 a.m. Singing our Faith
- 8:30 a.m. Bible Study Rev. Marc Brown, Ms. Kathy Merry, Rev. John Briggs
Leading by Following Jesus: Faithful Remembering
- 9:15 a.m. Report of Minutes Committee Mr. Howard Payne
- Common Table Report Rev. Marc Brown, Ms. Shirley Cauffman
- Election of Boards and Agencies Ms. Shirley Cauffman, Rev. Marc Brown
- Consecration of Conference Leadership Bishop Charlene Kammerer
- Report on “All Things New” Capital Campaign Mr. Carl Moravitz
- Recognition of Retirees Rev. C. Edward Pruitt
- Recognition of New Faith Communities Rev. Alan Reifsnnyder
- Recognition of Presidents of Educational Institutions Rev. Lee Sheaffer

11 a.m. Worship Rev. Vance Ross
 Dedication of Kits
 Conference Offering
 Noon Recess for Lunch

“Stop Hunger Now” meals will be prepared in the Exhibition Center from 8:30 a.m. until finished.

TUESDAY AFTERNOON, June 15

1:45 p.m. Singing Our Faith
 2 p.m. Teaching Plenary: Rev. Marc Brown, Ms. Kathy Merry, Rev. John Briggs
 Leading by Following Jesus: Faithful Equipping
 Recognition of Virginia Conference Mission Support Ms. Una Jones
 Redistricting Task Force Rev. Susan Garrett
 Site Selection Committee Rev. Douglas Gestwick
 Resolutions Rev. Beth Givens
 Historical Society meeting..... Mr. Stephen Mansfield
 5 p.m. Recess for Dinner

TUESDAY EVENING, June 15

7 p.m. Unfinished Conference Agenda Items Bishop Charlene Kammerer
 8 p.m. A Time of Witness Rev. James Gulley

WEDNESDAY MORNING, June 16

7:30 a.m. Musician Sound Check
 Youth Service Fund Offering (at doors)
 8:15 a.m. Singing Our Faith
 8:30 a.m. Bible Study Rev. Marc Brown, Ms. Kathy Merry, Rev. John Briggs
 Leading by Following Jesus: Faithful Encouraging
 9:15 a.m. Minutes Committee Mr. Howard Payne
 Board of Pensions Ms. Betty Forbes
 Statistician/Treasurer Mr. David Domnisse
 Council on Finance and Administration Mr. J.D. Berlin
 11:15 a.m. Worship Rev. Vance Ross
 Distribution of the Appointments edition of the *Advocate*
 Fixing of the Appointments Bishop Charlene Kammerer

ANNUAL CONFERENCE PROCEDURE

Speaking on a Motion and Making a Motion

Many motions important to the Annual Conference operation and program are functional and are voted on as a matter of course. Other motions invite much debate. You may find you desire to speak on a motion or even introduce a motion concerning an issue on the agenda.

The proper way to speak on the floor of Annual Conference is as follows:

- Be recognized by the presiding officer (usually the bishop) by standing at your seat, raising your hand, and holding up the neon-yellow back of the *Book of Reports*.
- When recognized, move to the microphone designated by the presiding officer.
- Give your name, identify your district, and give the name of your local church.
- If you are making a motion in regard to a report on the floor (being discussed), state the motion with no verbal introduction, state, "If seconded, I would like to speak on it," and then when seconded give your comments and supportive details.

(NOTE: Motions must be written out and turned in to the secretary, even if not passed or seconded.)

- If you are commenting on a report or motion on the floor (being discussed), then state if you speak in favor or opposition to the motion and make your comments (limit five minutes unless a shorter time has been established).
- If you desire to make a motion introducing a new issue or concept that is not part of a report presented to the conference, then you must write a "resolution." A resolution is a full statement of your motion written legibly, and submitted to the director of Connectional Ministries by the published deadline for publication in the *Book of Reports*, or for urgent resolutions (defined as those which deal with circumstances arising after the *Book of Reports* deadline) at least 14 days before the beginning of Annual Conference. In this case, you will follow steps 1, 2, and 3 when your resolution is brought to the floor by the Committee on Resolutions or board to which it was referred, if you wish to speak on the issue.

GUIDELINES FOR THE PARENTS' ROOM AT ANNUAL CONFERENCE

1. The Parents' Room is provided for parents who need a place to feed or change children while Annual Conference is in session.
2. The Parents' Room is also provided so that restless children may have a place to nap or play for short periods of time while Annual Conference is in session.
3. The facilities where Annual Conference is held are not equipped for child care and the Parents' Room does not meet the high standards of a licensed child care center. It is provided because parents have requested the convenience of a room on site.
4. The Parents' Room is not staffed. No child is to be left in the Parents' Room unattended by the parent or the designated baby-sitter.
5. The Virginia Conference has provided minimal furnishings for the Parents' Room (playpens, cribs, changing tables, rocking chairs, carpet, water). Parents must provide diapers, baby wipes, bottles, and other items as needed.

STANDING RULES

STANDING RULES OF ORDER AND PROCEDURE

As Approved by The Virginia Annual Conference at Its Latest Session

The Annual Conference shall elect a Rules Committee as allowed by ¶604 of the *Discipline* and as set forth in ¶V.B.19. of the Standing Rules.

The Virginia Annual Conference Rules and Policies shall be those published in the *Journal of The Virginia Annual Conference United Methodist Church* of the preceding Annual Conference and shall be published in the *Book of Reports* of each Annual Conference.

I. THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

A. PURPOSE OF THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The purpose of the annual conference is to make disciples for Jesus Christ by equipping its local churches for ministry and by providing a connection for ministry beyond the local church; all to the glory of God.

B. THE VISION OF THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

We envision churches where all God's people are welcomed at table, nurtured and transformed to be Christ to others in the world.

C. MEMBERSHIP

1. Clergy Membership. The clergy membership of the annual conference shall consist of deacons and elders in full connection, probationary members, associate members, affiliate members, and local pastors under full-time and part-time appointment to a pastoral charge.

2. Campus Ministries. Campus ministers, chaplains and Wesley Foundation directors shall be included in the annual conference composition. In districts where United Methodist laypersons serve as campus ministers/directors of Wesley Foundations, they shall be added as district-at-large lay members to the annual conference. In districts where United Methodist clergy who are members of the annual conference serve as chaplains, campus ministers, or directors of Wesley Foundations, the laypersons elected as their balancing counterpart shall be elected from and by either that campus ministry board of directors or the students from that ministry/foundation and their expenses paid by the district. Special consideration shall be given to the inclusion of United Methodist young adults who are active participants in campus ministry.

3. Lay Membership. The lay membership of the annual conference shall consist of the following (or designated alternate), if lay persons:

- a. a professing member elected by each charge; except that each charge served by more than one clergy member under appointment (including deacons in full connection for whom this is their primary appointment) shall be entitled to as many lay members as there are clergy members under appointment.
- b. diaconal ministers;
- c. the active deaconesses and home missionaries under episcopal appointment within the bounds of the annual conference;
- d. the conference president of United Methodist Women;
- e. the conference president of United Methodist Men;
- f. the conference lay leader;
- g. district lay leaders;
- h. the president of the conference young adult organization;
- i. the president of the conference youth organization;
- j. the chair of the annual conference college student organization;
- k. the conference secretary of global ministries;
- l. the conference director of lay speaking ministries;
- m. one young person between the ages of 12-17 and one young person between the

ages of 18-30 from each district, to be selected as set forth in ¶ n. below: And by annual conference formula to equalize the number of lay and clergy membership of the annual conference (¶32, *2008 Book of Discipline*) the following, if lay persons:

- n. one additional young person between the ages of 12 and 17 and one additional young person between the ages of 18 and 30 from each district, to be selected by the District Council on Ministries with nomination(s) for the youth members to be received from the District Council on Youth Ministries and nomination(s) for the young adults to be received from the District Coordinator of Higher Education Ministries, college chaplain(s) and campus minister(s) if such persons exist in the district;
- o. the conference Treasurer;
- p. the Chancellor(s) of the annual conference;
- q. the Director of Connectional Ministries;
- r. lay members of general boards, councils and commissions, and lay members who serve on agencies related to the general church and are mandated by the Discipline because of their office to serve on related annual conference agencies, who are members of such as of Aug. 31 of the previous year;
- s. district presidents of United Methodist Men;
- t. district presidents of United Methodist Women;
- u. the president or chairperson of the following annual conference agencies: Commission on Archives and History; Board of Church and Society; Church Development Team; Commission on Disabilities; Board of Discipleship; Commission on Equitable Compensation; Commission on Ethnic Local Church Concerns; Council on Finance and Administration; Board of Global Ministries; Board of Higher Education Ministries; Leadership Development Institute; Life Span Ministries; Board of Ordained Ministry; Commission on Religion and Race; Resolutions Committee; Rules Committee; Site Selection Committee; Commission on Status and Role of Women; Virginia United Methodist Pensions, Inc.; Trustees of the Virginia Annual Conference, Inc.; Virginia United Methodist Assembly Center, Inc.; Virginia United Methodist Communications, Inc.; and Virginia United Methodist Foundation.
- v. Additional lay members to be elected by the lay members of the district conference of each district in such numbers as to provide that the total number of lay members from that district shall bear the same ratio to the total lay membership of the annual conference as the church membership of that district bears to the total church membership of the annual conference. Each district conference shall also elect alternates to those elected under this paragraph in number to equal at least one-third of the numbers provided under this subparagraph. The computations that form the basis for the determination of the additional lay membership to be elected by each district hereunder shall be based on the various membership categories as of the adjournment of the preceding annual conference. In making these computations, a lay person shall not be counted in more than one membership position. The Director of Connectional Ministries shall furnish to the Bishop by September 1 of each year the totals of each category of members together with the number of additional lay members to be elected by each district.
- w. All lay members of the annual conference shall conform to the requirements for membership of the *2008 Book of Discipline* in ¶ 602.4.

4. Members of Next Succeeding Annual Conference. By the adoption of Paragraphs 3. d-u, all lay persons holding the positions enumerated in those subparagraphs are elected as lay members of the next succeeding annual conference. In the event of a change in the persons holding a position in ¶ I.C.3. between sessions of the annual conference, the person holding the position at the time of the next succeeding annual conference shall be the member of the annual conference.

5. Expenses. Expenses of attending annual conference shall be born as follows:

- a. By the districts:
 - i. two young persons between the ages of 12 and 17;
 - ii. two young persons between the ages of 18 and 30;
 - iii. the district lay leaders;
 - iv. the district president of the United Methodist Men;
 - v. the district president of the United Methodist Women;
 - vi. additional district members at large;
- b. By the annual conference:
 - i. the Director of Connectional Ministries
 - ii. the Conference Director of Lay Speaking Ministries;
 - iii. the president of the conference young adult organization;
 - iv. the president of the conference youth organization;
 - v. the conference Treasurer;
 - vi. the conference Chancellor(s);
 - vii. lay members of general boards, councils and commissions, and lay members who serve on agencies related to the general church and are mandated by the *Discipline* because of their office to serve on related annual conference agencies, who are members of such as of Aug. 31 of the previous year;
 - viii. the chair of the annual conference college student organization;
 - x. the chair of the Resolutions Committee
- c. By annual conference boards or agencies:
 - i. the Conference Lay Leader
 - ii. the conference president of the United Methodist Men;
 - iii. the conference president of the United Methodist Women;
 - iv. the Conference Secretary of Global Ministries;
 - v. the president or chairperson, of the following annual conference agencies: Commission on Archives and History; Board of Church and Society; Church Development Team; Commission on Disabilities; Board of Discipleship, Commission on Equitable Compensation; Commission on Ethnic Local Church Concerns; Council on Finance and Administration; United Methodist Foundation; Board of Global Ministries; Board of Higher Education Ministries; Leadership Development Institute; Life Span Ministries; Board of Ordained Ministry; Commission on Religion and Race; Rules Committee; Site Selection Committee; Commission on Status and Role of Women; Virginia United Methodist Pensions, Inc.; Trustees of the Virginia Annual Conference, Inc.; Virginia United Methodist Assembly Center, Inc.; and Virginia United Methodist Communications, Inc.

6. Right to Floor and Right to Vote. With the exception of probationary members, associate members, and local pastors serving full-time and part-time appointments, those members of the conference listed in ¶¶ I.C.1., 2., and 3. shall be full members of the conference with the right to the floor and the right to vote. Probationary members, associate members, and local pastors serving full-time and part-time appointments have the right to the floor and the right to vote on all matters except the following:

- a. Constitutional amendments.
- b. Election of delegates to the General Conference and the Jurisdictional Conference.
- c. Matters of ordination, character and conference relations of clergy. These shall be the sole responsibility of clergy members in full connection.

7. Roll of Conference. The roll of the conference shall be the official registration signed by the members of the conference.

8. Privilege of Floor Without Vote. The following shall be seated in the annual conference and shall be given the privilege of the floor without vote: official representatives from other denominations, especially from member churches of Churches Uniting In Christ,

invited by the annual conference; missionaries regularly assigned by the General Board of Global Ministries and serving within the bounds of the annual conference; lay missionaries regularly appointed by the General Board of Global Ministries in nations other than the United States and certified lay missionaries from nations other than the United States serving within the bounds of the annual conference (quoting *2008 Book of Discipline* ¶602.9).

D. ANNUAL CONFERENCE OFFICIALS

1. The Presiding Officer. The resident Bishop of the conference shall preside at all sessions of the conference but shall have the privilege of appointing a presiding officer to preside in his or her stead in the event of illness or temporary absence from the annual conference floor.

2. Annual Conference Secretary. The secretary of the annual conference shall be elected quadrennially by the annual conference upon nominations arising from the floor at annual conference following each regular General Conference of The United Methodist Church. In the event a vacancy occurs between sessions of the annual conference, the Bishop, after consultation with the District Superintendents, shall appoint a person to act until the next session.

3. Assistant Secretaries. The secretary shall annually nominate a sufficient number of assistant secretaries who shall be elected by the annual conference to handle properly the work of the annual conference.

4. Treasurer. The annual conference Treasurer shall be nominated by the Council on Finance and Administration. He or she shall be elected by the annual conference at the first session of the annual conference following the regular General Conference. He or she shall be elected for the quadrennium or until his or her successor has been elected and qualifies. If a vacancy should occur during the quadrennium, the Council on Finance and Administration shall fill the vacancy until the next session of the annual conference.

5. Statistician. The annual conference statistician shall be elected by the annual conference on nomination by the Cabinet at the annual conference following each regular General Conference of The United Methodist Church. In the event a vacancy occurs between sessions of the annual conference, the Bishop, after consultation with the District Superintendents, shall appoint a person to act until the next session of the annual conference.

6. Assistant Statisticians. The annual conference statistician shall annually nominate a sufficient number of assistant statisticians who shall be elected by the annual conference for the annual conference year.

7. Editor of the Conference *Journal*. The annual conference secretary shall nominate annually the editor of the conference *Journal*, who shall be elected by the annual conference for the next calendar year. He or she shall be responsible for editing and printing the *Journal* of the Virginia Conference and shall be amenable to the conference secretary.

8. Conference Parliamentarian. The Bishop may appoint a conference parliamentarian whose duty shall be to advise and counsel concerning rules of order and procedure.

E. NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF BOARDS, COUNCILS, COMMISSIONS, AND COMMITTEES

1. The Conference Leadership Discovery and Development Team: There shall be a Conference Leadership Discovery and Development Team. The team shall meet at least quarterly. The Director of Connectional Ministries and the Conference Lay Leader shall serve as co-chairs. The Conference Leadership Discovery and Development Team shall consist of 20 members in addition to the co-chairs. Two members (one clergy, one lay) shall be appointed by the Bishop to ensure appropriate age, ethnic and gender representation on the Conference Leadership Discovery and Development Team. As initial terms of these individuals expire, the Bishop will make replacement appointments in a manner that continues to ensure appropriate age, ethnic and gender representation and in a manner that maintains the clergy/laity balance on the Conference Leadership Discovery

and Development Team. Of the remaining 18 members, nine shall be clergy and nine shall be lay. Each district of the Virginia Conference shall be represented. Representatives of the Commission on the Status and Role of Women, the Commission on Disabilities, the Commission on Ethnic Local Church Concerns and the Commission on Religion and Race shall monitor and have voice at these meetings.

In order to form the initial Conference Leadership Discovery and Development Team, each District Nominations Facilitation Committee shall forward to the co-chairs two names (one clergy, one lay) for possible selection. The co-chairs shall select as an initial member of the Conference Leadership Discovery and Development Team one of the two persons whose names were forwarded from each of the District Nominations Facilitation Committees. As initial terms of these district representatives expire, each District Nominations Facilitation Committee will name one replacement individual to serve on the Conference Leadership Discovery and Development Team, clergy to replace lay, lay to replace clergy. In addition, the co-chairs will place the initial membership of the Conference Leadership Discovery and Development Team into four classes. Class I will consist of six district representatives, each of whom will serve a term of three years. Class II will consist of four district representatives and one Bishop-appointed representative, each of whom shall serve a term of four years. Class III will consist of four district representatives, each of whom will serve a term of five years. Class IV will consist of four district representatives and one Bishop-appointed representative, each of whom will serve a term of six years.

After initial terms are completed, all persons shall serve terms of four years, and no person shall serve for more than four consecutive years. In the event that a member moves from the district, resigns, or dies during his/her term, a replacement shall be selected in the manner which was applicable to the departing member, with the replacement only serving until the end of the original term.

Each District Nominations Facilitation Committee shall designate one of its members as an alternate to its District Representative on the Conference Leadership Discovery and Development Team.

2. District Nominations Facilitation Committee. There shall be on each district a Nominations Facilitation Committee composed of the District Superintendent as chair; the district lay leader; president of United Methodist Men; president of United Methodist Women; president of United Methodist Youth; a college chaplain or a campus minister (applies only to districts with Wesley Foundation or ecumenical campus ministry programs); the district representative to the Conference Leadership Discovery and Development Team; plus one to three persons (lay and clergy) elected by the district council on ministries. The committee shall meet on the call of the chair at least twice a year between annual conference and March 1. The committee shall develop and maintain a talent bank of lay and clergy persons from the district who could be qualified nominees for the various boards and agencies of the annual conference. The committee shall prepare a profile on each person nominated and upon having a person nominated to a board or agency of the conference, will provide a copy of that profile, including address and phone number, conference boards or agencies the individual is already serving, and the person's willingness to serve, to the co-chairs of the Conference Leadership Discovery and Development Team.

3. Information to Be Furnished to Each District Nominations Facilitation Committee. Each board, council, commission and committee of the annual conference shall furnish to the co-chairs of the Conference Leadership Discovery and Development Team on a timely basis for the use of the District Nominations Facilitation Committees:

- a. A summary of its responsibilities and the specific division/committee for which a vacancy exists;
- b. A list of the gifts and talents desired;
- c. Length of service expected;
- d. Demographic information about its current makeup (e.g., number of men, women, ethnic representation, district representation, etc.); and

- e. schedule of times and locations of its meetings during the year. It may also suggest names and profiles to the Conference Leadership Discovery and Development Team through its co-chairs.
4. When Conference Leadership Discovery and Development Team Should Make Nominations. The Conference Leadership Discovery and Development Team shall annually or quadrennially, as set forth by Disciplinary provision or Virginia Annual Conference Rules and Policies, nominate the membership of the boards, councils, commissions, and committees of the annual conference. Nominees for boards and other agencies shall be published in the *Book of Reports*.
5. Removal Due to Absences. Any member of any board, council, commission or committee who is absent from two meetings of such board, council, commission or committee without excuse, or from three consecutive agency meetings for any reason, shall automatically cease to be a member of such board, council, commission or committee. The secretary of each board, council, commission or committee shall notify the co-chairs of the Conference Leadership Discovery and Development Team of vacancies. Any vacancy shall be filled by action of the board, council, commission or committee until the next annual conference session, at which time the annual conference shall fill the vacancy.
6. Request at Annual Charge Conferences for Names to be Given to District Nominations Facilitation Committee. At each annual charge conference the elder presiding at the charge conference shall ask if the Lay Leadership Committee has any names to recommend for conference boards, councils, commissions or committees. Such names shall be given to the district Nominations Facilitation Committee.
7. Multicultural Inclusiveness. The Conference Leadership Discovery and Development Team shall strive to insure multicultural inclusiveness.
8. Normal Term Of Service Is Four Years. Unless otherwise specified in these rules or in the *Book of Discipline*, a person elected to a board, council, commission or committee of the annual conference is elected for a four-year term of service and is eligible for re-election to an additional four-year term. However, if one is first elected to fill an unexpired term of two years or less, that person is eligible for re-election to two full terms. A person completing two consecutive full terms is eligible for re-election to that agency after an interim of one year. In the case of a board or agency with an eight-year term, members elected to fill unexpired terms of three years or less shall be eligible for re-election to one full term of eight years. Program boards and agencies other than the Board of Ordained Ministry may co-opt specific persons for specific projects for short periods of time as consultants, without vote. Any combination of continuous service as either a regular or co-opted member shall count on the eight-year time limit for consecutive service. The term of office of members of conference boards and agencies shall begin with the adjournment of the annual conference at which said members are elected and shall extend until their successors are elected.
9. Members of general boards or agencies shall be members ex officio of the corresponding conference board or agency.
10. Nomination or Election to Only One Board, Council, Commission, or Standing Committee with Limited Exceptions. No person is eligible for nomination, election, or interim appointment to more than one board, council, commission, or standing committee, except where permitted by the Discipline and/or conference structure.
11. District Superintendent Not Eligible to be Chairperson or President of Board, Council, Commission, or Standing Committee. No District Superintendent shall be eligible to serve as a chairperson or president of any board, council, commission, or committee of the annual conference. The Bishop may appoint a representative of the Cabinet to any board, council, commission, or committee which is not program related of which a member of the Cabinet is not already an elected member. The appointment of District Superintendents to boards, councils, commissions, or committees which are program related shall be made annually.
12. Officers of Quadrennially Elected Boards, Councils, Commissions or Committees.

Officers of boards, councils, commissions, and committees whose members are required to be elected quadrennially shall be elected by the representative agency at the session of the annual conference at which new members are elected or within 90 days after adjournment. Nominations shall come from a nominating committee appointed by the outgoing president of the agency and/or from the floor. The organizational or first meeting of each agency shall be convened by a person designated by the Bishop.

13. Officers of Other Boards, Councils, Commissions and Committees. Officers of other boards, councils, commissions and committees shall be elected by the representative agency at the agency's last regular meeting prior to each annual conference. Nominations shall come from a nominating committee appointed by the outgoing president of the agency and/or from the floor.

14. Resolutions Committee. There shall be a Resolutions Committee of five persons elected annually by the annual conference upon nomination by the Conference Leadership Discovery and Development Team.

15. Tellers. For those sessions of the annual conference where there is no election of delegates to General Conference and the Jurisdictional Conference, the Conference Leadership Discovery and Development Team shall appoint a chief teller, who shall be ineligible to serve again for a quadrennium. It shall additionally appoint a team of tellers composed of two persons, one clergy and one lay, from each district. Each time a count vote is called for in the annual conference session, the chief teller shall have the tellers ready to count the vote, having previously trained them to accurately and efficiently perform their duties.

II. REPORTS, RESOLUTIONS AND PROPOSALS

A. REPORTS

1. Submission of Annual Reports and Mailing of *Book of Reports*. Agencies shall submit annual reports to the designated person before the date set annually by the Common Table for Church Vitality. The Director of Connectional Ministries shall mail the *Book of Reports* to each clergy and lay member of annual conference at least 30 days before the opening session of annual conference, printing and mailing at conference expense.

2. Reporting At Annual Conference. For reports printed in the *Book of Reports*, verbal introductions shall not exceed one minute, and there shall be no further reading of recommendations or resolutions, unless requested for clarification or requested by a majority vote of the annual conference.

3. Amendments to be Submitted in Writing. Persons proposing amendments to any report must submit them in writing to the secretary upon presentation to the annual conference.

4. Submission of New Reports, Changes, or Additions to Printed Report. Persons proposing new reports, changes or additions to the printed report of an agency in the *Book of Reports* must submit them in writing for delivery to members of the annual conference at the opening session, but not to be considered by the annual conference before the morning session of the second day of annual conference.

5. Presiding Officer of Agency giving Report has Privilege of Floor, without Vote, for that Report. When the annual conference has before it the report of any agency, or a matter concerning any agency, the presiding officer of that group, if not a member of the conference, shall have the privilege of the floor, without vote, for that report.

B. RESOLUTIONS

1. Resolutions. Resolutions to be presented to the annual conference shall be submitted to the Director of Connectional Ministries by the due date for the publication of the *Book of Reports*. The author or originating agency must be identified if other than the submitter(s) of the resolution.

2. Urgent Resolutions. Urgent resolutions regarding circumstances arising after the due date for publication of the *Book of Reports* shall be submitted at least 14 days prior to the opening session of annual conference to the Director of Connectional Ministries to be considered emergency resolutions and, if so considered, are to be distributed via all

conference e-mail groups and provided in writing to the members of the annual conference at the time of registration.

3. Referring Resolutions, Response of Agency, Addressing, and Voting on Resolutions.

The Director of Connectional Ministries shall refer resolutions related to the work of an annual conference agency to that agency for consideration and report at annual conference with that agency's scheduled report, or such other appropriate time as may be determined by the presiding officer or by the vote of the annual conference. The chair of such agency shall have a maximum of two minutes to present the recommendation of the agency to annual conference. The member of annual conference who has signed the resolution shall have a maximum of five minutes to address the resolution. The resolution shall then be subject to floor debate and action. Voting on resolutions will be on the resolution itself, not on a recommendation of concurrence or non-concurrence by the agency. After floor debate the chair of the conference agency shall have a maximum of two minutes to address the annual conference immediately prior to vote on a resolution. In the event the Director of Connectional Ministries has not referred a resolution to another agency for consideration, it shall be referred to the Resolutions Committee.

4. Annual Conference will Vote on Resolution, not Documentation. Persons proposing resolutions may submit documentation, rationale and support with the resolution, but the annual conference will vote only on the resolution, so that the "whereas" language of a resolution will not become part of the conference minutes or quoted in recitals of conference action, unless specifically requested and approved by majority vote of the annual conference after floor discussion.

C. PROPOSALS REQUIRING PUBLICATION OF MATERIALS

Proposed annual conference action that includes publication or dissemination of information in the *Virginia Advocate* or other media shall be referred to the Print Media Committee of Virginia United Methodist Communications, Inc., for its consideration and report on the proposed action, including the financial consequences, prior to conference action. The committee may act through its chairperson, the *Advocate* editor, or other representatives to make its report and recommendation.

D. PROPOSALS REQUIRING FUNDING

Proposals or amendments which may require expenditure of funds, which have not been considered by the Council on Finance and Administration (CFA), shall be referred to CFA for its consideration and recommendation prior to final annual conference action.

E. PROPOSALS REQUIRING ADDITION TO AGENDA

During the first business session of annual conference, the agenda shall include time to introduce items in addition to the printed agenda. Any such items not referred to conference agencies under the preceding paragraphs shall be referred to the Rules Committee for its consideration and recommendation prior to adjournment of annual conference.

III. ELECTION OF DELEGATES TO GENERAL CONFERENCE AND THE JURISDICTIONAL CONFERENCE

A. AN INCLUSIVE CHURCH

We are an inclusive church. We desire to have a delegation that will capably represent the annual conference. The delegation should be representative of the annual conference considering such factors as sex, age, race, disabling conditions, ethnic background, economic conditions and geographical locations.

B. ELECTION PROCEDURES

Clergy and lay delegates to General Conference and the Jurisdictional Conference shall be elected in a fair and open process (NOTE: to conform to Constitutional Amendment I ¶13) at the session of the annual conference held in the calendar year preceding the session of General Conference.

1. Special Sessions. Clergy and lay delegates elected to the preceding General Conference and the jurisdictional conference shall be the delegates to special sessions of the respective conferences.

2. Number of Delegates. The number of clergy and lay delegates to the General Conference and the Jurisdictional Conference shall be that number of delegates to such conferences respectively as furnished by the secretary of the General Conference.

3. Election of General Conference and Jurisdictional Conference Delegates. The number of General Conference delegates authorized by the secretary of the General Conference shall be first elected, followed by balloting on the authorized number of the jurisdictional conference delegates who shall be reserves to General Conference in the order of their election. After the authorized numbers of the Jurisdictional Conference delegates have been elected, 10 clergy and 10 lay reserve delegates to the jurisdictional conference shall be elected on a single ballot with the 10 persons receiving the greatest number of votes in each category being elected in the order of the number of votes received.

4. Speeches/Printed Materials. No speeches may be made or printed materials distributed at the site of the annual conference on behalf of any nominee or write-in candidate.

C. CLERGY NOMINATIONS

At the opening session of the annual conference, there shall be a nominating ballot for clergy nominees for election as delegates to General Conference and the Jurisdictional Conference. Each clergy member in full connection (active and retired) shall be entitled to vote for clergy delegates to General Conference and Jurisdictional Conference. Probationary and associate members and local pastors shall not vote. Each clergy member entitled to vote may nominate up to the total number of clergy delegates to General Conference and the Jurisdictional Conference to be elected, not including reserves to Jurisdictional Conference. This ballot shall be counted and the 200 persons receiving the most votes shall be the clergy nominees for General Conference and the Jurisdictional Conference, provided, however, in case of a tie vote for one of the last several places on the nominating list, if the names of those tied for a position when added to the names of those receiving more votes would increase the list to more than 200 names, then the list of nominees shall terminate with the name of the person immediately ahead of the position for which there was a tie. On all future ballots, balloting shall be restricted to the names of those clergy nominated by the nominating ballot.

D. LAY NOMINATIONS FROM DISTRICTS AND AGENCIES

1. Lay Nominations. Nominations for lay delegates to General Conference and the Jurisdictional Conference shall be made by the lay members of the district conference of each district from names submitted by the District Council on Ministries and/or from names of all persons given by any member of the United Methodist churches of the district to the District Superintendent. These names shall be submitted by the superintendent to the District Conference. Additional nominations at the district conference may be made from the floor, provided that no nomination may be made without the agreement of the nominee to serve if elected. In the event of a tie for the final nominee(s), the nominee(s) shall be selected by lot.

2. Number of Persons to be Nominated. Each district may nominate up to one person for each 2,000 members of the United Methodist Church or major fraction thereof in that district, based upon figures reported at the preceding annual conference. District nominees need not be from the district which nominates them.

3. Agency Nominations. The lay members of the following agencies of the annual conference may also nominate one additional lay delegate: Board of Church and Society; Commission on Disabilities; Board of Discipleship; Commission on Ethnic Local Churches; Council on Finance and Administration; Board of Global Ministries; Board of Higher Education Ministries; Board of Laity; Council on Life Span Ministries; Commission on Religion and Race; Commission on the Status and Role of Women; United Methodist Men; United Methodist Women; Virginia United Methodist Communications, Inc.; and Virginia United Methodist Pensions, Inc. In addition to the aforementioned nominees, the Conference Council on Youth Ministries, and the Virginia United Methodist Student Movement each may nominate one delegate.

4. Church Membership. All nominees shall have been professing members of The United

Methodist Church for at least two years preceding their nomination and must be members of churches in the Virginia Annual Conference and shall have been active participants in the United Methodist Church for at least four years preceding their election. They also must be active members within the United Methodist Church at the time of holding General Conference and Jurisdictional Conference. The four-year participation and two-year membership requirements may be waived for young persons under 25 years of age. Such persons must be members of the United Methodist Church and active participants at the time of election.

5. Nomination Forms. All nominations shall include the nominee's name, picture not to exceed 1½" x 2½", address, phone number, e-mail address if available, church, district, and a personal statement not to exceed 150 words in which the nominee may indicate his or her experience, qualifications and reasons for wanting to serve. The nominations shall be on a form or facsimile thereof furnished by the Director of Connectional Ministries. It is recommended that the nomination forms for persons to be voted upon by the district conference be circulated to the members of the district conference in advance of the district conference at which voting is to take place.

E. CONFERENCE COMMITTEE ON LAY DELEGATE NOMINATIONS

1. Membership. The committee shall be composed of two persons appointed by the Bishop plus one member of the Rules Committee designated by that committee.

2. Function. Each District Superintendent shall by Jan. 15 of the year of election submit to this committee in care of the Director of Connectional Ministries completed forms for all nominees from the district. The committee shall then forward a list of all nominees to the agencies named in ¶ III.D.3. Each agency of the annual conference shall be responsible for forwarding to the committee any completed nomination form no later than March 1. The committee shall then compile all nomination forms alphabetically according to the last name of the nominee. The nomination forms shall be printed in a booklet and mailed to each lay member at least two weeks prior to the annual conference.

3. List of Nominees. The lay nominees shall be those persons named on the nomination forms and contained in the materials furnished to each lay member of the annual conference. No additional nominations may be made from the floor, though lay members may cast write-in ballots for persons not included in the list of nominations.

F. BALLOTING PROCEDURES

1. Ballots Shall be Counted Electronically. The Rules Committee shall determine the electronic equipment and procedures to be used and shall do so in consultation with the chief lay and clergy tellers.

2. Preparation of Official Clergy and Lay Ballots. Following the completion of nominations, the chief tellers shall have official clergy and lay ballots prepared. The names of the persons nominated shall be listed alphabetically by surnames followed by Christian name and initial, or initials, of the person. In the event that the electronic means of balloting for any reason cannot be accomplished, then the electronic ballots shall be counted by hand.

3. Valid Ballots. To be valid, a ballot:

- (a) must be cast on the ballot bearing the number designated by the presiding officer for that particular ballot; and
- (b) must be voted for the number of delegates to be elected on that ballot, no more and no less.

4. Voting Area. The presiding officer shall designate the area of the annual conference floor in which clergy and lay members shall be seated during the balloting. Ballots shall be distributed to and collected from only those present and seated within the voting area of the annual conference and wearing the proper badge.

5. Distribution of Ballots. Immediately prior to the taking of a ballot, the presiding officer shall have all clergy and lay members eligible to vote stand (as they are able) and the tellers shall distribute ballots to and collect them from only those persons eligible to vote.

6. Ballot Reporting. After a ballot has been counted, the chief teller, either clergy or lay,

shall furnish a written report to the Bishop which shall contain (a) number of ballots cast; (b) number of ballots not valid; (c) number of ballots counted; (d) number of ballots necessary to elect; and (e) list of names of persons voted for, including the number of votes received by each, beginning with the largest number of votes.

7. Majority Required for Election. On every ballot, a majority of the valid votes cast shall be necessary for the election of a delegate, except on the ballot to elect reserve delegates to the jurisdictional conference.

8. Reading or Distributing Names. On the first ballot for both General Conference and the jurisdictional conference, the presiding officer shall read or distribute all names receiving 10 or more votes, together with the number of votes cast for each. Thereafter, the minimum number of votes received before a name shall be read or distributed from a ballot shall be increased by five for each delegate elected (that is, on the first ballot a minimum of 10 votes; after the election of the first delegate, a minimum of 15 votes; after the election of the second delegate, a minimum of 20 votes, etc.). An exception to this procedure shall be the ballot for the last delegate elected to General Conference and the ballot for the last delegate elected to the jurisdictional conference, when all names who have received 10 or more votes on the preceding ballot shall be read or distributed.

9. Handling of Ballots after Counting and Recording. Upon completion of the counting and recording of a ballot, the chief teller shall seal the ballots and deliver them to the annual conference secretary. The annual conference secretary shall retain all ballots until the adjournment of the annual conference after which they shall be destroyed.

G. TELLERS

1. Appointment of Chief Tellers, Assistant Chief Tellers, and Tellers. The Conference Leadership Discovery and Development Team shall appoint a chief teller and an assistant chief teller for the clergy tellers and a chief teller and an assistant chief teller for the lay tellers. The chief tellers shall not be eligible to serve in the year of the next election of delegates to General Conference and jurisdictional conference. The Conference Leadership Discovery and Development Team shall additionally appoint four (4) clergy and four (4) lay members of the annual conference from each district to form a pool of tellers from which as many teams shall be formed as the chief tellers deem advisable. One member of each team shall be designated as the captain for that team. Each time a ballot is to be distributed and collected, the chief teller for each order shall designate the team responsible for the distribution and collection of ballots.

2. Expenses for Balloting. All expenses incident to the balloting for and election of delegates to General Conference and the jurisdictional conference shall be borne by the annual conference.

H. EXPENSES OF CLERGY AND LAY ALTERNATES

The expenses of two clergy and two lay alternates to General Conference and to the jurisdictional conference shall be borne by the annual conference. Such expense allowances shall not exceed the expense allowances, per diem and travel, as are paid to the regular delegates.

IV. NOMINATIONS FOR EPISCOPAL ELECTION

At the annual conference immediately preceding the jurisdictional conference, nominations for the office of Bishop may be made by submitting the name of an elder and a biographical sketch of not more than 100 words to the secretary of the conference signed by not fewer than 50 members of the annual conference. To be eligible for nomination the person must not have attained his or her 66th birthday prior to the first day of the month in which the jurisdictional conference is held. Nominations shall cease at the close of the afternoon session of the first day of the annual conference.

The conference secretary shall cause copies of each sketch to be prepared and distributed to the members of the annual conference. Ballots shall be prepared containing the name of each nominee and, beside each name, a square followed by the word "yes." The ballots shall be distributed to the members of the annual conference immediately before they are to be cast. A

member of the annual conference may vote for one or more nominees, but not more than the number of episcopal vacancies to be filled, or may choose not to vote for any of the nominees. To be nominated to the jurisdictional conference, a nominee must receive an affirmative vote of not less than 60 percent of the total ballots cast.

V. ANNUAL CONFERENCE PROGRAM BOARDS AND AGENCIES

A. ANNUAL CONFERENCE PROGRAM BOARDS AND AGENCIES

The following are defined as program boards and agencies: The Board of Church and Society, the Church Development Team, the Board of Discipleship, the Board of Global Ministries, the Board of Higher Education Ministries, the Board of Laity, Leadership Development Institute, Life Span Ministries and the Board of Ordained Ministry. Each board and agency shall meet at least annually.

1. **Membership.** All program board and agency members shall be elected for a four-year term by the annual conference. So far as possible, board membership shall be composed of an equal number of clergy and laity. No elected member may serve more than eight consecutive years except as authorized by the *Discipline* or in ¶ I.E.8 of the Virginia Annual Conference Rules and Policies. The bishop shall annually appoint for one year terms at least one District Superintendent to each board, agency or commission. Except for the Board of Ordained Ministry, the presiding bishop and the Director of Connectional Ministries are members of all boards, agencies and commissions with vote unless otherwise provided for by the *Book of Discipline*.
2. **Organization.** The boards shall organize in the several divisions or equivalent structure listed below to carry out their respective functions. Each member of a board shall serve on one division or equivalent structure. There shall be an executive committee of each board whose duties and responsibilities shall be determined by the board. A board may develop such additional structure, including the election of division members at large, as it deems necessary to discharge its assigned responsibilities, provided, however, that where additional funding is required for such structure, prior approval of the Common Table for Church Vitality shall be obtained by the board. Division members at large are not members of the board.
3. **Function.** The conference boards will provide consultative services and resources to the local church, the District Councils on Ministries, the annual conference and the Common Table for Church Vitality. Each board will make program recommendations to the Common Table for Church Vitality, will be responsible for the essential functions of the area of concern assigned by the Common Table for Church Vitality, or by the *Book of Discipline*, and will be related to the objectives and scope of work set forth by its General Board. Each board is amenable to the Common Table for Church Vitality.
4. **Responsibilities.**
 - a. **Church and Society.** The Board of Church and Society, in cooperation with the General Board of Church and Society and the Common Table for Church Vitality, shall develop programs on Christian social concern within the bounds of the annual conference. The Board of Church and Society shall have forty (40) members. To discharge its responsibilities it shall divide its membership into three divisions, which so far as practical shall parallel the divisions of the General Board of Church and Society.
 - b. **Church Development Team.** There shall be a Church Development Team dedicated to working on strategies for and implementation of church development and new faith communities in the annual conference. This team/board will consist of a minimum of 12 and up to 16 persons: six nominated by the bishop and Cabinet, six nominated by the Conference Leadership Discovery and Development Team, and up to four additional persons who may be co-opted by the team for expertise and diversity. The membership of this team will be placed in four classes to ensure continuity. The team is amenable to the Common Table for Church Vitality.
 - c. **Discipleship.** The Board of Discipleship, in cooperation with the General Board of

Discipleship and the Common Table for Church Vitality, shall develop programs which will assist districts and local churches in their efforts to win persons as disciples of Jesus Christ. They will help these persons to grow in their understanding of God so that they may respond in faith and love, to the end that they may know who they are and what their human situation means, increasingly identifying themselves as children of God and members of the Christian community, to live in the Spirit of God in every relationship and to fulfill their common discipleship in the world. The Board of Discipleship shall have forty (40) members. To discharge its responsibilities the board shall divide its membership into four divisions: (1) Division of Education and the Local Church (including Camps and Conferences); (2) Division of Evangelism; (3) Division of Spiritual Formation; and (4) Division of Worship.

- d. Global Ministries. The Board of Global Ministries, in cooperation with the General Board of Global Ministries and the Common Table for Church Vitality shall develop programs to assist districts and local churches to carry out all phases of the work of the church in mission and of church extension within the annual conference. The Conference Director of Mission shall serve as the conference secretary of Global Ministries, fulfilling the responsibilities outlined in ¶633.3 of the *2008 Book of Discipline*. To discharge its responsibilities it shall divide into three (3) mission teams: (1) health and relief mission team; (2) mission interpretation team; and (3) mission relationship team. The position of Conference Coordinator of Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns (CUIC) shall be appointed by the Bishop and shall be an ex-officio member of the Mission Relationship Team of the Conference Board of Global Ministries.

In 2006 the annual conference shall elect six members (one-half lay and one-half clergy) to the class of 2010, making the total board membership 36. In 2007 the annual conference shall elect four members (one-half lay and one-half clergy) to the class of 2011, making the total board membership 30. In 2008 the annual conference shall elect 6 members (one-half lay and one-half clergy) to the class of 2012 making the total board membership 26. In 2009 the annual conference shall elect 4 members (one-half lay and one-half clergy) to the class of 2013, making the total membership of the board 20. Thereafter, the membership of the board shall be 20 with 6 or 4 persons (one-half lay and one-half clergy) elected each year to replace outgoing classes.

- e. Higher Education Ministries. The Board of Higher Education Ministries in cooperation with the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry and the Common Table for Church Vitality, shall develop programs to provide for higher education and ministry objectives as set forth in ¶1405 of the *2008 Book of Discipline*, and to perform the responsibilities in regard to education and professional campus ministries as set forth in ¶634 of the *2008 Book of Discipline*. The membership of the Board of Higher Education Ministries shall consist of twenty (20) members (half lay and half clergy) elected by the annual conference and up to ten (10) board-elected members nominated by the executive committee of the Board of Higher Education Ministries with regard to their professional relationship to higher education institutions and/or participation in board supported campus ministries. The board-elected members shall serve for one-year renewable terms and shall serve a maximum of four years in succession. Ex-officio members shall be: The Director of Connectional Ministries, a cabinet representative, the Director of Higher Education and Social Concerns, the conference treasurer, any member of the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, the director of the Association of Educational Institutions, and the chair of the conference board of property managers of the Wesley Foundation, Inc. Campus ministers and chaplains serve as advisory members without vote. There shall be a president, vice president and secretary. To discharge its responsibilities, the Board shall be organized in the

following manner: (1) The executive committee shall consist of the elected officers, chairpersons of the administrative and program committees and the president of the Campus Ministers Association. The board president shall act as chair of the executive committee. (2) The administrative committees of the board are personnel, finance and property, and nominations. (3) The incorporated entities of the board are the Wesley Foundation, Inc., and Francis Asbury Loan Fund, Inc. The conference board of property managers is a sub-group of the Wesley Foundation, Inc. (4) The ministry committees are emerging ministries, visitation and evaluation, interpretation and education, higher education issues and public policy, and campus ministry support. The Executive Committee of the Board shall function as the board of directors of both the Wesley Foundation, Inc., and Francis Asbury Loan Fund, Inc.

- f. Laity. The Board of Laity shall act as an advocate for the Virginia Annual Conference laity in all forums of the annual conference. The Board of Laity will develop those required programs which cannot be adequately developed within other boards and agencies of the annual conference. Membership of the Board of Laity shall be composed of the conference lay leader; three associate conference lay leaders (serving as chairpersons of the three areas); the presidents of the conference organizations of United Methodist Men, United Methodist Women, United Methodist Young Adult Ministry, and the Conference Council on Youth Ministry; eighteen (18) district lay leaders; and five (5) clergy and seven (7) other members elected by annual conference including two lay men, two lay women and two youth. To discharge its responsibilities, the Board of Laity shall divide its membership into three divisions: (1) Lay Life and Ministry (including leadership training, lay speaking, Scouting, and long range planning); (2) Retreats and District Coordination; and (3) Stewardship (including finance and stewardship of time, talent and possessions). This division will be composed of five clergy members, not less than five lay members, and one District Superintendent. The Board of Laity has specific responsibilities within the annual conference structure to: (1) mobilize the resources of the laity of the Virginia Annual Conference; (2) develop and promote lay activities and spiritual life; (3) enhance the stewardship activities of the Virginia Annual Conference laity through example, exhortation, training, and the education of United Methodist adults, youth and children; (4) develop appropriate retreat activities at the conference, cluster and district levels; (5) enhance the financial support of the conference through training directed toward a fuller understanding of the connectional system and requirements for adequate funding of this system; and (6) promote and support organizations of United Methodist Men, United Methodist Women, and United Methodist Young Adult Ministry in each local church in the Virginia Annual Conference. Beginning in 2006, the Board of Laity shall nominate to the annual conference for election a layperson to be the conference lay leader for the ensuing two years. Any person elected to the office of conference lay leader shall not be eligible to serve more than three consecutive terms, or a total of six (6) years.
- g. Leadership Development Institute. The Leadership Development Institute (LDI) shall coordinate and/or provide for training events, consultations, and other leadership development experiences and resources for clergy and laity which will enable local congregations to become more effective in their efforts at making disciples of Jesus Christ. It shall coordinate and/or provide for training events, consultations, and research which will enable the churches to address identified needs. The membership will include: six members nominated by the Conference Leadership Discovery and Development Team and elected by the annual conference; a member each from the Division of Stewardship, Board of Laity; the Division of Evangelism, Board of Discipleship; the Bishop's Cabinet; the Church Development Mission Team, Board of Global Ministries; Continuing Education Committee, Board of Ordained Ministry; one

youth; one college student; and six members elected by the Leadership Development Institute for special skills and expertise. The Dean of Leadership Development Institute shall be an ex-officio member.

h. Life Span Ministries. Life Span Ministries will consist of Life Span Ministry Councils (Children, Youth, Young Adult, Older Adult, Singles) to serve the local church, the District Councils on Ministries, and the other boards and agencies of the conference in: (1) interpreting the needs of individuals throughout the life span and the needs of churches in ministering to people throughout the life span; (2) promoting and assisting in the programming of the boards and agencies meeting those needs; and (3) initiating or offering programs, projects, and activities where appropriate, to meet the needs of persons throughout the life span.

i. Executive Committee of Life Span Ministries. There shall be an executive committee of Life Span Ministries that shall be made up of a chairperson (to be elected by vote from all five councils), the chairperson of each of the five councils (to be elected by vote of the individual council), related conference staff members, and the Director of Connectional Ministries. The executive committee chairperson and Director of Connectional Ministries shall be ex-officio members. Related conference staff persons shall serve as members with voice but no vote.

ii. Membership. The Youth Council, Young Adult Council, and Older Adult Council will consist of members as mandated in the *Book of Discipline* (§§648, 649 and 650 respectively). The Youth Council shall have one youth representative (grade 7-12) elected by each District Youth Council or equivalent. Six adults shall be elected to the Youth Council: three adults elected by the Youth Council or equivalent and three elected by the Annual Conference. The Single Adult Council shall have four members elected by the Annual Conference. The Young Adult Council shall have three additional young adult members at large elected by the annual conference. The Older Adult Council and Children's Council shall each have six members and the right to co-opt up to six more members. The chairpersons of the executive committee of each Council shall be ex-officio members. Related conference staff will serve as members with voice but no vote. Terms for chairpersons shall be four years, and terms for members shall also be four years and follow the provisions of section ¶I.E.8 of the Virginia Annual Conference Rules and Policies. Nominations and election of the chairpersons of the five Life Span Ministry Councils and the chairpersons of the Life Span Ministries executive committee shall follow the provisions of ¶I.E.11 of the Virginia Annual Conference Rules and Policies.

iii. Organization. Each council will meet individually and as many times throughout the year as deemed necessary by the individual council (but no less than once a year). The executive committee will meet no less than once a year. The executive committee will serve as the body of coordination between the five councils for the purpose of communication, accountability, and ensuring that the needs of family ministry (as all in any life span are part of a family by some definition) are being interpreted and addressed in each council.

i. Ordained Ministry. The Board of Ordained Ministry, in cooperation with the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry and the Common Table for Church Vitality, shall develop programs to assist districts and local churches in preparing and aiding persons to fulfill their ministry in Christ as this has been historically understood by United Methodism. The Board of Ordained Ministry shall perform all the duties and functions as set forth in the *Book of Discipline* and shall be directly amenable to the annual conference. The Board of Ordained Ministry shall have sixty-seven (67) persons nominated by the bishop (2008 *Book of Discipline* ¶635.1) and elected by the annual conference at the beginning of each quadrennium. The annual conference

registrar and at least one District Superintendent appointed by the bishop shall also serve on the Board of Ordained Ministry. At least one person from each district shall be included on the board. If during the course of the quadrennium a district should lose its representation on the board, an additional person shall be elected to the board to ensure representation from each district.

B. ADMINISTRATIVE AGENCIES

The following agencies having administrative responsibilities are grouped together under the general title “Administration” with duties and responsibilities as indicated.

1. Archives and History, Commission on. There shall be a Commission on Archives and History and a Virginia Conference Historical Society. The duties and responsibilities of the commission shall be as set forth in the *2008 Book of Discipline* (See ¶ 641). Members of the annual conference shall be members of the Virginia Conference Historical Society, which will elect 48 members to the commission who will also serve as the directors of the Virginia Conference Historical Society. The officers of the commission and the society shall be the same.
2. Assembly Center, Virginia United Methodist. The members of the board of directors of the Virginia United Methodist Assembly Center shall be nominated by the Conference Leadership Discovery and Development Team and elected by the annual conference. The board of directors shall have full responsibility for the operation of the conference assembly center directly under the annual conference trustees with a working relationship through the Common Table for Church Vitality for programming purposes.
3. Communications, Virginia United Methodist, Inc. There shall be a Board of Communications which is to serve all of the agencies of the annual conference in the area of communication. It shall be administratively related to and amenable to the Common Table for Church Vitality. The board and/or its subunits may be incorporated.
 - a. Function. To employ printed publications and other communications media to inform and nurture the church in the life of faith, to provide resources and support for the program of the General Church and the annual conference at local, district and conference levels, to witness to the Christian faith and to interpret the life and work of the church to the wider community through the public communications media. The board shall coordinate the use of the public media by all conference agencies and personnel.
 - b. Membership. Virginia United Methodist Communications, Inc., shall consist of 28 persons, 16 of whom (half lay and half clergy) shall be elected by the annual conference. The 16 members thus elected and ex officio members shall elect 12 additional members at large selected with regard to professional expertise, nonprofessional objectivity, and media representation. The ex officio members shall be the Director of Connectional Ministries, a Cabinet representative, director of Virginia United Methodist Communications, Inc., the conference information systems director, and any member of United Methodist Communications, the General Board of Publications, and any other general board or agency whose purpose or function is included with the purposes and functions of this organization, or their successors, who is a member of a local charge in the Virginia Annual Conference or a clergy member of the Virginia Annual Conference. There shall be a president, vice president and secretary.
 - c. Organization. There shall be the following committees:
 - i. Executive Committee shall consist of the elected officers of the corporation and the chairpersons of the program and standing committees. The president shall act as chair of the executive committee.
 - ii. Program Committees are the following: Communication Education, Print Media (including a United Methodist Publishing House liaison), Electronic Media, Interpretation, Media Center, Computer and Public Relations. Each member of the board shall serve on at least one of these committees.

- iii. Standing Committees. There shall be a Standing Committee on Nominations and Personnel composed of five members of the board who shall be appointed by the president, with the corporation vice president chairing the committee. There shall be a Standing Committee on Finance composed of the president and the vice president and a committee chairperson who shall be appointed by the president. There may be other standing committees as the board shall determine from time to time.
- iv. Special Committees may be appointed by the president from time to time to function on behalf of specific projects or activities of the corporation.
6. Conference Leadership Discovery and Development Team (CLDDT). (See ¶I.E.1. for composition and function of the Conference Leadership Discovery and Development Team.)
7. Disabilities, Commission on. The commission shall consist of 18 members, half clergy and half lay. Membership shall include persons with physical disabilities and persons with mental disabilities. The Bishop may appoint to the commission a District Superintendent to serve as Cabinet representative with voice but not vote.
8. Episcopacy, Committee on the. There shall be a Committee on the Episcopacy, the membership and duties of which shall be as prescribed in ¶637 of the *2008 Book of Discipline*.
9. Equitable Compensation, Commission on. The Commission on Equitable Compensation shall be composed of an equal number of lay and clergy persons including at least one lay and one clergy from churches of fewer than 200 members who are nominated by the Conference Leadership Discovery and Development Team and elected by the annual conference. In addition, one District Superintendent named by the Cabinet shall be a member. It shall perform the duties assigned to it by the *2008 Book of Discipline* (See ¶625). It shall receive all requests from or on behalf of all pastoral charges for aid to be used solely for clergy support. It shall administer the Equitable Compensation Fund and may employ money from other agencies, including those which may be granted by the Board of Global Ministries, as appropriate in each case, to meet these requests.
10. Ethnic Local Church Concerns, Commission on. There shall be a Commission on Ethnic Local Church Concerns to keep the vision of ethnic local church concerns before the annual conference; to provide guidance, training and resources to churches in the annual conference as they minister with and to ethnic constituencies; to provide a forum for dialogue among the ethnic constituencies, as well as with annual conference agencies; and to promote and interpret ethnic local church concerns to the annual conference. (*2008 Book of Discipline* ¶632) The membership of the commission will include eighteen (18) persons nominated by the CLDDT and shall be inclusive of race, gender, lay and clergy. A minimum of two-thirds of the membership shall represent racial and ethnic constituencies. The elected membership will be placed in four (4) classes to ensure continuity. The commission shall be amenable to the Common Table for Church Vitality.
11. Finance and Administration, Conference Council on. There shall be a Conference Council on Finance and Administration elected and organized with responsibilities as set forth in the *2008 Book of Discipline* (See ¶¶611-619), provided that membership of the council shall be composed of five clergy, five lay women, and five lay men nominated by the Conference Leadership Discovery and Development Team.
12. Foundation, United Methodist. The trustees of the United Methodist Foundation shall be elected and discharge their responsibilities pursuant to the charter heretofore approved by the annual conference.
13. Incapacity, Joint Committee on. There shall be a Joint Committee on Incapacity consisting of two representatives from the Board of Ordained Ministry, two representatives from the Virginia United Methodist Pensions, Inc., one representative from the Cabinet and one representative of the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits. Their duties shall be as prescribed by the *2008 Book of Discipline* (See ¶ 652).
14. Investigation, Committee on. There shall be a Committee on Investigation nominated,

elected, and with duties as set forth in the *2008 Book of Discipline* (See ¶2703).

15. Minutes, Committee on. There shall be a Committee on Minutes consisting of seven members nominated by the Cabinet for a term of eight years, provided that the terms of four members shall expire at the end of one quadrennium and terms of the other three shall expire at the end of the next quadrennium. At least three members shall be lay persons and at least three shall be clergy. The chair shall be designated by the Cabinet. The committee shall review the daily minutes of the annual conference proceedings and report at the next session. Within three weeks of the close of the annual conference session, the committee will meet with the conference secretary to review and correct the minutes of proceedings before submitting the same for printing in the conference *Journal*.

16. Pensions and Related Benefits, Virginia United Methodist, Inc. This agency, which is incorporated as Virginia United Methodist Pensions, Inc., shall be composed of 30 members nominated by the Conference Leadership Discovery and Development Team and elected by the annual conference for a term of eight years. In addition, any clergy member of the conference or lay member of a church within the conference who is a member of the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits shall also be a member of the agency (*2008 Book of Discipline*, ¶639.2a). If no District Superintendent is a member of this agency the Bishop may name one to represent the Cabinet. He or she shall have voice but not vote. In 2004, the Annual Conference selected 12 members to the class of 2012 making the total board membership 27. It is recommended that this class and all subsequent classes consist of one-third laywomen, one-third laymen and one-third clergy. In 2008, the annual conference shall elect 12 members to the class of 2016. Thereafter, the elected membership of the board shall be 24 with half being elected at the beginning of each quadrennium. This agency shall perform the duties set forth in the *2008 Book of Discipline* (see ¶639). In addition, it shall administer the conference program for participant supplemental benefits including the various insurance programs; shall study on a continuing basis the problems of participant disability, making recommendations relative to these problems as needed; and shall provide for a continuing pastoral ministry to disabled participants.

17. Preachers' Relief Society. This is an incorporated body with invested trust funds, the income from which is used from time to time for the relief of needy members of the clergy and their families.

18. Religion and Race, Commission on. Pursuant to ¶643 of the *2008 Book of Discipline*, there shall be a Virginia Annual Conference Commission on Religion and Race amenable to the Common Table for Church Vitality. The basic membership of the commission shall consist of eight clergy and eight laypersons elected at large upon nomination of the Conference Leadership Discovery and Development Team and/or from the floor of annual conference. The district coordinators for Religion and Race shall be members ex officio of the commission with both voice and vote. The Bishop may appoint to the commission a District Superintendent to serve as Cabinet representative with voice but not vote.

19. Rules Committee. There shall be a Rules Committee consisting of nine members elected by the annual conference on nomination of the Conference Leadership Discovery and Development Team or from the floor for a term of eight years. The terms of four members shall expire at the end of one quadrennium and the terms of the other five members shall expire at the end of the next quadrennium. Five members of the committee shall be lay and four members shall be clergy. The chancellor(s) of the annual conference shall be ex-officio members of the Rules Committee. The Rules Committee shall review the Virginia Annual Conference Rules and Policies between sessions of the annual conference, and make its recommendations to the annual conference. Proposed amendments to the Virginia Annual Conference Rules and Policies and any other matters of parliamentary order or procedure in the business of the annual conference shall be referred to the Rules Committee.

20. Site Selection, Committee on. There shall be a Committee on Site Selection consisting of four members, one half lay and one half clergy, elected on nomination of the Conference Leadership Discovery and Development Team for a term of eight years. The committee

shall be divided into two classes with the terms of one class to expire at the end of one quadrennium and the terms of the other class to expire at the end of the next quadrennium. This committee shall make arrangements for the meeting of the annual conference and shall recommend a location for the meeting of the annual conference a minimum of five years in advance.

21. Status and Role of Women in the Church, Commission on the. There shall be a Virginia Annual Conference Commission on the Status and Role of Women in The United Methodist Church amenable to the Common Table for Church Vitality. The membership shall consist of one representative from each district plus six persons at large elected by the annual conference. In addition the conference United Methodist Women shall name one member. The Bishop may appoint to the commission a District Superintendent to serve as Cabinet representative with voice but not vote. The majority of the commission, including both lay and clergy, shall be women. The chairperson shall be a woman.

22. Trustees, Board of. There shall be a Board of Trustees consisting of 12 members, elected by the annual conference, organized and with responsibilities as set forth in the *2008 Book of Discipline* (§§2512 and 2516).

C. TASK FORCES

A task force may be established to accomplish a specific objective. If it is organized by direction of the annual conference, the authorizing legislation shall contain a termination date for the task force. Such task force desiring continuation beyond its termination date shall seek and receive their established termination dates (June or December). Task forces should not as a general rule exist beyond a four-year term. Task forces may request funding for conference projects, but no task force shall disburse funds unless so directed by its parent board or requested to do so by the Common Table for Church Vitality and approved by the Council on Finance and Administration in its report to annual conference. A conference organized task force continuing beyond its first year shall annually request, in its report to annual conference, funding to cover operational costs in the succeeding year.

D. CHANGING STRUCTURE OF PROGRAM BOARD OR AGENCY

Any proposal to the annual conference to amend or change the structure of any program board or agency at the division level or above may originate (1) upon recommendation of the board or agency itself and shall be submitted to the Common Table for Church Vitality for its recommendation; (2) upon recommendation of the Common Table for Church Vitality, provided such proposal shall have been submitted to the board itself for its recommendation; or (3) on petition of a member or members of the annual conference if such a petition has been previously submitted to the Common Table for Church Vitality and the board or agency for their recommendations, or if not previously so submitted in time for consideration by these organizations, such petition shall be referred to the Common Table for Church Vitality and the board or agency for their recommendations prior to action by the annual conference. Internal change below the division level shall be the responsibility of each board.

VI. THE DISTRICT CONFERENCE

A. DISTRICT CONFERENCE SHALL MEET AT LEAST ONCE A YEAR

Each district within the Virginia Conference shall hold a session of the district conference at least once during the annual conference year (*2008 Book of Discipline*, §§657 and 658).

B. AGENDA

The district superintendent, in consultation with the district lay leader, shall set the agenda for the district conference. The agenda shall include a report from the district committee on ordained ministry.

Members of the district conference shall elect the district lay leader (§659.2) for a term of not less than four years and not more than six years. The district conference shall also elect the committee on the district superintendency (§668.1,2), the district trustees (§2517) and such other officers as it deems appropriate. The district committee on ordained ministry (§665.1) and the district board of church location and building (§2518) are approved or elected by the annual conference.

C. MEMBERSHIP

The membership of each district conference shall be composed of the following: all ordained and commissioned clergy, licensed local pastors, lay supply pastors, certified lay ministers, diaconal ministers, and deaconesses and home missioners related to that district; a church lay leader, chairperson of the church council or its equivalent body, church school superintendent, president of the United Methodist Women, and president of the chartered United Methodist Men from each local church in the district; the district steward from each charge; the lay member of the annual conference from each charge; and three members at large, one of whom shall be a youth, elected by each charge conference.

District officers who are members of the district conference include: the chairperson of the district Council on Ministries or equivalent body, the district trustees, the district treasurer, the district lay leader and associate lay leaders, the president of the district United Methodist Women, the president of the district United Methodist Men, the president of the district United Methodist Youth, the president of the district United Methodist Young Adults, the district coordinators of children, youth, young adult, adult, and family ministries, other district coordinators and directors, five youth members elected by the district youth council and five young adult members elected by the District Council on Ministries (or equivalent body). Special attention shall be given to inclusiveness.

D. ELECTION OF DISTRICT LAY MEMBERS AT LARGE OF ANNUAL CONFERENCE

District members at large of the annual conference shall be elected by the lay members of the district conference. Nominations may be made in whatever manner the district determines, but provision shall always be made for nomination from the floor. Election shall be by written ballot, and those nominees receiving the most votes shall be the members at large, and the rest shall be alternates in order of the votes received up to the number of members at large and alternates allotted to each district by the annual conference.

E. RECORD OF DISTRICT CONFERENCE

The secretary of the district conference shall keep an accurate record of the proceedings and send a copy to the secretary of the annual conference within 30 days following the district conference.

VII. RULES OF ORDER AND PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE

A. RULES THAT APPLY WHEN THE CHAIRPERSON STANDS

When the chairperson stands and calls the conference to order, no member shall speak, address the chair, or stand while the chairperson stands.

B. VOTING AREA

The Annual Conference shall fix the voting area of the conference at the opening business session and voting on all annual conference matters must take place within the prescribed area. The voting area of the conference shall be separated from other areas at the meeting site. All entrances to the voting area shall be staffed by ushers and admission shall be by official badge only. All members of the conference within the voting area when the vote is taken shall be entitled to vote except such persons as otherwise are ineligible to vote.

C. SUFFICIENT SEATS SHALL BE PROVIDED

Sufficient seats shall be provided for all lay, clergy, probationary, and associate members and all youth members, members on special assignment, and all other persons entitled by the Virginia Annual Conference Rules and Policies to be within the voting area of the conference.

D. VOTERS TO WEAR PROPER IDENTIFICATION BADGES

Members of the conference and others entitled to be seated within the voting area of the conference shall be furnished identification badges as set forth in Appendix "A" (attached). During balloting, ballots will be distributed to and collected from only those persons wearing proper identification badges.

E. METHOD OF VOTING

Method of voting shall be determined by the presiding officer. A count vote may be ordered on

call of any member supported by one third of the members present and voting, in which case the members shall arise as they are able from their seats and stand until counted.

F. EXCEPTIONS TO THE NO INTERRUPTION RULE

No member who has the floor may be interrupted except for a question on the matter under consideration, a breach of order, a misrepresentation, to direct the attention of the conference to the fact that the time has arrived for a special order, or to raise a very urgent question of high privilege.

G. LIMITS ON SPEAKING

No member shall speak: 1. More than once on the same question if any member who has not spoken desires the floor; 2. More than twice on the same subject under the same motion; 3. any longer than five minutes, unless this five-minute period may be limited or extended by a two-thirds vote of the conference.

H. HIGH PRIVILEGE

A member claiming the floor for a very urgent question of high privilege shall be allowed to indicate briefly the nature of the question, and if it be adjudged by the chair to be such, he or she may proceed until the chairperson judges that he or she has exhausted the privilege.

I. CALL FOR DIVISION OF ANY QUESTION

Before a vote is taken any member shall have the right to call for a division of any question, if it is subject to such division as he or she indicates. If no member objects, the division shall be made; but if there is objection, the chair shall put the question of division to vote, not waiting for a second.

J. MOTIONS TO BE PRESENTED IN WRITING

For the benefit of the secretary, and for the sake of clarification, motions, including amendments, shall be presented in writing.

K. SUSPENSION OF THE RULES

The operation of any of the provisions of the Virginia Annual Conference Rules and Policies or of these Rules of Order and Procedure may be suspended at any time by a two-thirds vote of the conference.

L. CHANGE OR AMENDMENT OF THE RULES

The Virginia Annual Conference Rules and Policies and these Rules of Order and Procedure may be amended or changed by a two-thirds vote of the conference; provided the proposed change or amendment has originated in the Rules Committee, or has been presented to the conference in writing and referred to this committee, which committee shall report thereon not later than the following day.

M. *ROBERTS RULES OF ORDER* APPLIES

The current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised* shall apply to any and all situations not covered elsewhere by these rules.

VOTING RIGHTS RELATED TO NAME BADGE COLORS

Green (lay vote with full lay voting rights, ¶602.4)

Lay Members

At-Large District Lay Members

District and Conference Lay Leaders

Conference President of United Methodist Men

Conference President of United Methodist Women

Conference Director of Lay Speaking Ministries

Conference Scouting Coordinator

President or equivalent of Conference Young Adult Organization

President of Conference Youth Organization

Chair, Conference College Student Organization

District Youth and Young Adult Members (one of each from each district)

Diaconal Ministers

Retired Diaconal Ministers

Deaconesses (see also ¶1314.5)

Home Missionaries

White (ordained deacons and elders in full connection with full voting rights, ¶602.1a)

FE Elder in Full Connection (¶334.1)

FD Deacon in Full Connection (¶329.2)

Note: Clergy on voluntary leaves of absence (personal, family, transitional) may vote for other clergy delegates to general or jurisdictional conferences and may be elected to serve as delegates themselves (¶354.7). Clergy on involuntary leave of absence may not vote on or be elected as delegates to general or jurisdictional conference (¶355.7).

RM & RD Retired Full Member (¶602.1a)

White (May vote on all matters except constitutional amendments, delegates to General and Jurisdictional Conference, and clergy matters)

AM Associate Members (¶602.1c)

PM Probationary Member under 1992 Discipline (¶413.2, *1992 Discipline*)

PD Provisional Deacon (¶327.2 and ¶602.1b)

PE Provisional Elder (¶327.2 and ¶602.1b)

EP Full member other denomination serving as Provisional Member (¶347.3b, ¶327.2)

DP Deacon from other denomination serving as Provisional Member (¶347.3b and ¶327.2)

OF Full member of another denomination (¶346.2)

FL Full-time Local Pastor (¶316.6 and ¶602.1d)

PL Part-time Local Pastor (¶316.6 and ¶602.1d)

RA Retired Associate Member (¶602.1c)

RP Retired Probationary/Provisional Member (¶327.2)

White (voice but no vote)

AF Affiliate Member, non-voting (¶334.5)

RL Retired Local Pastor (¶320.5)

OE Elder Member of other Annual Conference (¶346.1)

OD Deacon Member of other Annual Conference (¶346.1)

OA Associate Member of other Annual Conference (¶346.1)

OP Provisional Member of other Annual Conference (¶346.1)

RAF Retired Affiliate Member, non-voting (¶334.5)

Red (no voice or vote)

SY Lay Supply

HL Honorable Location (¶359)

RHL Retired – Honorable Location (¶359.3)

MOD Minister of Another Denomination Serving an Ecumenical Parish in Virginia

G Official Guest

ROC Retired full member, other Annual Conference

Brown (not official) All others

CHARTER OF THE COMMON TABLE FOR CHURCH VITALITY

I. PURPOSE

The Common Table for Church Vitality (“Common Table”) serves to coordinate and prioritize the ministries and resources of the Virginia Conference. It nurtures, interprets and promotes the vision of the conference, as well as the mandates of *The Book of Discipline* which relate to conference work. The Common Table lives out the values of the conference (stated below in I.B.) in its own work, and advocates for the presence and observance of those values in the work and ministry of the conference.

A. VISION

The Virginia Annual Conference has adopted the following vision statement: We envision churches where all God’s people are welcomed at table, nurtured and transformed to be Christ to others in the world.

B. VALUES

The conference shall embody the following values as it endeavors to assist all churches in the task of making disciples:

- Be led by the Holy Spirit.
- Grow spiritually and numerically.
- Serve the local church.
- Connect with and equip the local church for ministries of welcome, nurture and transformation.
- Develop and live out ministries to the poor.
- Strive for excellence.
- Model servant leadership at all levels.
- Honor diversity and teach inclusivity.
- Practice simplicity.
- Communicate effectively, that others might also.
- Focus on ministry.

II. MEMBERSHIP

The Common Table provides spiritual leadership for the conference to carry out the Purpose of this Charter. Each leader represents a broad spectrum of persons and groups who are in ministry in the Conference. The Common Table includes the following 19 positions:

- A. The presiding bishop, conference Lay Leader and the director of Connectional Ministries.
- B. Equipping the Local Church – Two persons (lay and clergy) representing:
 - Board of Discipleship
 - Board of Laity
 - Leadership Development Institute
 - Goodson Foundation
 - Stockton Academy of Evangelism
- C. Mission and New Churches – Two persons (lay and clergy) representing:
 - Board of Global Ministries
 - Commission on Ethnic Local Church Concerns
 - Inter-Agency Commission on Charge Boundaries
- D. Communications and Conferencing – One person representing:
 - Virginia United Methodist Communications, Inc.
 - Annual Conference Planning Committee
 - Site Selection Committee
- E. Equipping Beyond the Local Church – One person representing:
 - Board of Higher Education Ministries
 - Board of Church and Society
 - Heart Havens, Inc.
 - United Methodist Homes, Inc.
 - United Methodist Retired Clergy Housing, Inc.

- United Methodist Family Services, Inc.
 - Virginia United Methodist Assembly Center, Inc.
 - Commission on Archives and History
- F. Equipping for Inclusivity – One person representing:
- Commission on Status and Role of Women
 - Commission on Religion and Race
 - Commission on Disabilities
 - Division of Christian Unity and Inter-religious Concerns
- G. Human Resources Area – Two persons (lay and clergy) representing:
- Board of Ordained Ministry
 - Pension and Health Benefits
 - Commission on Equitable Compensation
- H. United Methodist Women – One person named by the conference United Methodist Women
- I. United Methodist Men – One person named by the conference United Methodist Men
- J. Ministries with Adults – One person representing:
- Higher Education and Campus Ministry
 - Singles Council and Older Adult Council, Life Span Ministries
- K. Ministries with Youth – One person representing:
- Youth Section, Council on Age Level and Family Ministries
 - Conference Council on Youth Ministry
- L. Ministries with Children – One person representing:
- Children’s Section, Council on Age Level and Family Ministries
 - Children’s Initiative Committee
- M. Cabinet Representative – One person
- N. Administration – One person representing:
- Council on Finance and Administration
 - Conference Trustees
 - Rules Committee
 - United Methodist Foundation, Inc.

The elected secretary of the Annual Conference will serve as secretary for the Common Table without vote.

It is both desirable and consistent with our conference values that the members of the Common Table represent the diversity of our conference.

Persons representing separately incorporated entities do so solely for the purpose of communication. Separately incorporated entities remain independent, autonomous, incorporated bodies.

III. SELECTION OF COMMON TABLE MEMBERS

Common Table members are nominated by the Conference Leadership Discovery and Development Team and elected by the Annual Conference. The bishop and existing Common Table members may make nomination recommendations to the Conference Leadership Discovery and Development Team. Alternates for Common Table members listed in paragraph II B, C, D, E, F, G, J, K, L and N are nominated by the Conference Leadership Discovery and Development Team and elected by the Annual Conference. Alternates for Common Table members listed in paragraph II H and I will be selected by the conference United Methodist Women and Men, respectively. The Cabinet alternate in Paragraph M will be named by the bishop.

IV. TERMS OF SERVICE

Common Table members serve four-year terms and are placed in annual classes. For the first two years, there will be no rotation. The bishop, conference Lay Leader and director of Connectional Ministries will place the initial membership into four classes. Class I will

consist of four members, each of whom will serve a term of three years. Class II will consist of three members, each of whom will serve a term of four years. Class III will consist of four persons, each of whom will serve a term of five years. Class IV will consist of three persons, each of whom will serve a term of six years. After initial terms are completed, all persons shall serve terms of four years, and no person shall serve more than four consecutive years. The Conference United Methodist Men's organization and the conference United Methodist Women's organization each will select its representative to serve a term not to exceed four years. Alternates are not elected to a term of service, but attend only when the Common Table members cannot be present.

In the event that a member resigns or dies during his/her term, a replacement shall be selected with the replacement serving until the end of the original term. Any member of the Common Table who is absent from two meetings without excuse or from three consecutive meetings for any reason shall automatically cease to be a member of the Common Table.

V. MEETINGS

The Common Table will meet at least quarterly, often in extended day format, to enhance the depth of its work and its own spiritual formation as a faith community. By invitation of the Common Table, others may meet with the Common Table to enhance its knowledge and understanding. Meetings shall be open, consistent with the provisions of *The Book of Discipline*.

VI. OFFICERS

The bishop, conference Lay Leader and director of Connectional Ministries will lead the Common Table in interpreting the conference vision. The director of Connectional Ministries is the chairperson. The conference Lay Leader is the vice chairperson. The secretary of the Annual Conference is the secretary of the Common Table, without vote.

VII. COMMITTEES

A. PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

The Common Table shall appoint a Personnel Committee annually from within its members to assist with the selection and employment of all conference program staff, both lay and clergy. The conference Lay Leader shall chair this committee. The director of Connectional Ministries shall serve as an ex-officio member of this committee without vote.

B. GRANTS COMMITTEE

The Common Table may appoint a Grants Committee annually from among the members of the conference to advise the Common Table on the following:

1. Grants for connectional ministries beyond the local level, funded through the Conference Benevolence apportionment, and
2. Program grants for local ministry projects funded through the Conference Benevolence apportionment, the United Methodist Women, and the Church Extension Fund.

C. OTHER COMMITTEES

The Common Table may designate such other committees as are necessary for its functioning.

D. ALTERNATES

Alternates will not serve on any committees.

VIII. SELECTION OF DIRECTOR OF CONNECTIONAL MINISTRIES AND STAFF

- A. The Annual Conference shall elect annually upon nomination of the bishop, and in consultation with the Common Table's Personnel Committee and the Cabinet, an executive officer to be known as the director of Connectional Ministries. The normal term for this officer shall be six years, but this may be extended to no more than eight

years at the discretion of the bishop. The responsibilities of the director of Connectional Ministries shall be but are not limited to the following:

1. To serve as the chair of the Common Table and co-chair, with the conference Lay Leader, of the Conference Leadership Development and Discovery Team.
 2. To be a communication link between the conference program agencies and Jurisdictional and General Conference program agencies.
 3. To facilitate communication among the conference program agencies and the local churches.
 4. To serve as a resource person for district programs and the Common Table in the program planning, implementation and evaluation process.
 5. To supervise the conference program staff persons.
 6. To serve on other conference agencies as determined by the Annual Conference, and/or by the Common Table.
- B. Each clergy staff person shall be nominated annually by the Personnel Committee of the Common Table with the request that the bishop would appoint him or her. Each lay staff person shall be nominated annually by the Personnel Committee of Common Table and employed by the Common Table. Nominations for staff members shall be presented to the Common Table after consultation with the appropriate boards and agencies.
- C. The director of United Methodist Communications shall carry out the policies and program of Virginia United Methodist Communications, Inc., and shall cooperate with all agencies of the conference in the use of the media to disseminate news that promotes the diverse work of the church's life.
- D. The business manager/treasurer of the Annual Conference shall serve the Common Table and all of the boards and agencies in direct support of their work and shall oversee the financial operations of the Common Table. In that capacity, the business manager/treasurer shall coordinate this work with the director of Connectional Ministries.
- E. All conference program staff shall be employed by and amenable to the Common Table. The director of Connectional Ministries shall be responsible for the administration and direction of the program staff.
- F. Administrative/technical/professional staff of the Common Table shall be employed by the director of Connectional Ministries in consultation with the appropriate elected staff member as may be requested and as provision for same is made by the Common Table.

IX. FINANCES

The Common Table shall present a budget to the Council on Finance and Administration to cover the expenses for the work of the Common Table and the boards and agencies, committees, commissions, task forces and other groups for which it is responsible. The right of the Annual Conference boards and agencies to be heard by the Council on Finance and Administration shall not be denied, as provided by *The Book of Discipline*.

X. AMENDMENTS

Amendments to the charter not in conflict with *The Book of Discipline* may be made by a majority vote of the Annual Conference and originate as follows:

- (1) upon recommendation of the Common Table, or
- (2) upon petition of a member of the Annual Conference at least 60 days prior to the next Annual Conference session.

The Common Table shall review the petition(s) and submit its recommendations to the Annual Conference together with the proposed amendment.

XI. EFFECTIVE DATE OF CHARTER

The Charter for the Common Table for Church Vitality shall become effective Jan. 1, 2006.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE COMMITTEES

Committee on Resolutions

Clergy:

Amanda Garber
Beth Givens, *Chair*
Larry Lenow
Robinson McAden

Lay:

N. L. Bishop

Committee on Memoirs

Doug Hill
John Peters, *Chair*
Roy White
Elizabeth Wright
Ed Wright

Tellers

Mike Kendall, *Head Teller*

Susan Petrey, *Assistant Head Teller*

Clergy:

Alexandria District Lorenzo Hill
Arlington District Bass Mitchell
Ashland District Kang Uk Lee
Charlottesville District Linda Crabbs
Danville District Wes Astin
Eastern Shore District Peter Surran
Farmville District Mike Davis
Harrisonburg District R. Douglas Gunsalus
Lynchburg District Paul Greer
Norfolk District Dan Abbott
Peninsula District Kay Gentry
Petersburg District Dan Armstrong
Portsmouth District Darwin Edwards
Rappahannock District Donna Blythe
Richmond District Amy Pannell
Roanoke District Danny Kesler
Staunton District John Choi
Winchester District Tim Rosenbach

Lay:

Leon Newbanks
Elton D. Minney
Frederick G. Martin III
Janet Wilson
Marjorie Bumstead
Mickey Merritt
John Morris
Monty Cox
Dodie Fauber
Wayne Kelly
Cindy Banek
Gene Mims
Pat Kessler
Jessie Blythe
Karen Albro
Karen Garrett
Jonathan Greer
Thomas Boley

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

The Rules Committee continues to update the conference's Standing Rules to comply with the *2008 Book of Discipline*. One of the changes recommended this year concerns changing the age limit for nominations for episcopal election from 66 to 68 (*Discipline* ¶408.1). Another deals with placing the president of the Board of Higher Education Ministries on the Common Table (*Discipline* ¶634.3). Following research with the General Council on Finance and Administration, it was determined that the Board of Ordained Ministry is an administrative agency rather than a program board, requiring a change in its classification in the Standing Rules.

Several requests for changes to the Rules were also received from conference boards and agencies. At the request of the Young Adult Council, the Rules Committee approved a change in the age parameters for young adults from 18–30 to 18–35 as allowed in the *Discipline* ¶650.2. The Rules were also amended to allow for a member of the conference and district youth organizations rather than the president to represent these organizations appropriately, since formal officers have been eliminated from these groups. The section of the Rules dealing

with the selection of the Conference Leadership Discovery and Development Team was revised to eliminate the “initial term” language, now that the initial cycle has been completed. The procedure for selecting members of the Common Table was refined to allow persons filling unexpired terms to serve an additional full term in certain instances.

The committee also reviewed possible changes to the Standing Rules which would result from proposed structural changes to the Board of Church and Society, the Board of Discipleship and Life Span Ministries, and the Commission on Ethnic Local Church Concerns and the Commission on Religion and Race. The Rules Committee will add the enabling legislation to the Rules if these proposals are approved by the Annual Conference.

Other recommended changes to the Rules are based on editorial changes and changes resulting from past Annual Conference actions, including the elimination of the Leadership Development Institute and the Interagency Commission on Charge Boundaries.

The recommended changes to the Standing Rules are:

- I.C.3.i. Substitute “a member” for “the president” of the conference youth organization. Do the same in I.C.5.b. In Appendix A at the end of the Rules under Green,” substitute “Designated Member” for “President” of Conference Youth Organization.
- I.E.2. Substitute “a representative” for “president” of United Methodist Youth. In VI.C., the second paragraph, substitute “a representative of the district youth council” for “the president of the district United Methodist Youth.”
- I.C.3.m. Change “30” to “35” so that it reads, “one young person between the ages of 12 and 17 and one young person between the ages of 18 and “35” from each district, to be selected as set forth in paragraph n below.” Also change “30” to “35” in I.C.3.n. and I.C.5.a.ii. In V.A.4.g.ii. Change the opening sentence to “The Youth Council and Older Adult Council will consist of members as mandated in the *Book of Discipline* (§§648 and 649, respectively).” Then add the following sentence: “The Young Adult Council will consist of members as mandated in the *Book of Discipline* (§650), except that the members shall be between the ages of 18 and 35.”
- I.C.3.u. Delete “Leadership Development Institute.” Do the same for I.C.5.c.v and V.A. For V.A.4.g. Leadership Development Institute, delete entire paragraph and renumber.
- I.E.1. The Conference Leadership and Discovery Team. In the first paragraph, sixth sentence, delete the words “As initial terms of these individuals expire,” so that the sentence begins “The Bishop will make replacement appointments ...” Delete the second paragraph. In the third paragraph, delete the words “After initial terms are completed.” Insert as the second sentence: “As terms of district representatives expire, each District Nominations Facilitation Committee will name one replacement individual to serve on the Conference Leadership Discovery and Development Team, clergy to replace lay, lay to replace clergy.”
- II.B.4. In the heading, replace the words “Resolution, not Documentation” with “the Action to be Taken in the Resolution” so that the heading reads: Annual Conference will Vote on the Action to be Taken in the Resolution. Add the words “or preamble” after “whereas.” At the end of the paragraph, delete the words “unless specifically requested and approved by majority vote of the annual conference after floor discussion.”
- III.A. AN INCLUSIVE CHURCH. Change “disabling condition” to “disability.”
- III.F.4. Voting Area. At the end of the second sentence replace “wearing the proper badge,” with “displaying the proper credentials.” Do the same in VII.D.
- IV. NOMINATIONS FOR EPISCOPAL ELECTION. In the second sentence, change “66” to “68” to conform to change in the *Discipline*.
- V.A. ANNUAL CONFERENCE PROGRAM BOARDS AND AGENCIES. Delete the words “and the Board of Ordained Ministry.” In V.A.4.i. Ordained Ministry. Move the entire section to V.B.14 and renumber.

The recommended changes to the Charter of the Common Table for Church Vitality:

- II.B. Equipping the Local Church. Delete “Leadership Development Institute.”

II.C. Mission and New Churches. Add “Church Development Team.” Remove “Interagency Commission on Charge Boundaries.”

Add “II. O. Other – one person.

- President of the Board of Higher Education Ministries (as required by the *Book of Discipline*)”

IV. In eighth sentence, change the second “four” to “six” so that the sentence reads, “After initial terms are completed, all persons shall serve terms of four years, and no person shall serve more than “six” consecutive years.” After that, add the following sentence: “If a person is elected to fill an unexpired term of two years or less, the person is eligible for reelection to a full four-year term.” Revise the first sentence of the second paragraph to read: “In the event that a member resigns or dies during his/her term and no alternate exists, a replacement shall be selected by the Conference Leadership Development and Discovery Team to serve until the next annual conference, and with the approval of the annual conference, to serve until the end of the original term.”

The Rules Committee experienced a great loss with the untimely death of committee member Rex Wolf. Rex had a passion for the Standing Rules of the Virginia Annual Conference and understood their structure and purpose. His expertise and leadership will be greatly missed in the work of the committee. On behalf of the committee, I want to express heartfelt appreciation to Beverly Myers in the conference Office of Connectional Ministries for the countless hours she has spent in providing support and guidance to our work.

Stephen G. Bray, *Chair*

REPORT OF THE STATISTICIAN

	Total Members at 12/31/08	Received and Restored on Profession of Christian Faith	Net Transferred in (out) from other United Methodist Churches	Net Transferred in (out) from non-United Methodist Churches	Removed by Charge Conference Action	Withdrawals from Professing Membership	Removed by Death	Total Professing Members at 12/31/09	Net Change in Membership	Percent Change	Average Weekly Attendance	Number of Persons Baptized
Alexandria	36,977	742	9	80	-	128	252	37,428	451	1.2%	11,206	439
Arlington	27,124	794	112	142	4	204	194	27,770	646	2.4%	10,912	453
Ashland	19,184	421	73	97	-	92	167	19,516	332	1.7%	7,221	261
Charlottesville	13,597	222	79	40	-	34	163	13,741	144	1.1%	4,784	154
Danville	12,436	131	39	(29)	5	133	189	12,250	(186)	-1.5%	4,741	123
Eastern Shore	7,458	146	38	25	119	51	114	7,383	(75)	-1.0%	2,759	65
Farmville	11,350	197	(5)	58	-	134	174	11,292	(58)	-0.5%	3,916	101
Harrisonburg	15,778	201	27	26	7	216	199	15,610	(168)	-1.1%	5,399	130
Lynchburg	17,747	233	32	(25)	3	300	265	17,419	(328)	-1.8%	5,973	129
Norfolk	24,822	541	34	63	-	193	276	24,991	169	0.7%	8,123	333
Peninsula	20,313	281	(11)	35	31	81	253	20,253	(60)	-0.3%	5,606	164
Petersburg	16,786	238	71	44	47	145	227	16,720	(66)	-0.4%	5,292	183
Portsmouth	14,609	277	99	(126)	-	110	225	14,524	(85)	-0.6%	4,296	193
Rappahannock	11,041	171	51	46	-	101	160	11,048	7	0.1%	3,678	112
Richmond	32,749	525	(6)	49	28	272	314	32,703	(46)	-0.1%	10,081	360
Roanoke	20,333	216	27	43	-	58	262	20,299	(34)	-0.2%	6,288	158
Staunton	14,105	205	23	4	17	91	209	14,020	(85)	-0.6%	4,400	136
Winchester	21,151	425	49	24	8	88	186	21,367	216	1.0%	7,949	221
	337,560	5,966	741	596	269	2,431	3,829	338,334	774	0.2%	112,624	3,715

	2009 Church Budget Receipts	2008 Church Budget Receipts	Percent Change	2009 Apportionment	Apportionment as % of Receipts	2009 Number of Households Giving to Church	2008 Number of Households Giving to Church	Percent Change	Average Giving per Household
Alexandria	26,392,451	25,910,629	1.9%	3,999,204	14.9%	12,501	12,617	-0.9%	2,111
Arlington	25,378,555	23,004,181	-12.8%	3,762,428	14.8%	11,617	11,576	0.8%	1,874
Ashland	11,061,388	12,499,398	-11.5%	1,675,184	15.1%	5,901	6,032	-2.2%	1,874
Charlottesville	7,472,567	7,850,000	-4.8%	1,134,060	15.2%	4,080	3,632	12.3%	1,832
Danville	7,471,853	7,746,000	-3.5%	1,286,489	17.2%	3,707	3,742	-0.9%	2,016
Eastern Shore	4,319,854	3,622,394	19.3%	611,315	14.2%	1,552	1,259	23.3%	2,783
Farmville	6,219,351	5,742,281	8.3%	915,029	14.7%	3,233	2,940	10.0%	1,924
Harrisonburg	7,506,674	7,991,420	-6.1%	1,284,803	17.1%	4,037	3,815	5.8%	1,859
Lynchburg	8,853,711	9,409,024	-6.3%	1,501,400	17.0%	4,882	4,486	8.8%	1,814
Norfolk	15,619,819	15,872,073	-1.6%	2,397,565	15.3%	8,477	8,709	-2.7%	1,843
Peninsula	10,996,081	11,876,718	-7.4%	1,693,808	15.4%	5,787	6,480	-10.7%	1,900
Petersburg	8,198,510	7,738,752	5.9%	1,238,558	15.1%	4,252	4,392	-3.2%	1,928
Portsmouth	7,848,726	8,061,898	-2.6%	1,235,599	15.7%	4,095	3,827	7.0%	1,917
Rappahannock	5,335,474	5,636,923	-5.3%	956,625	17.9%	3,978	3,073	29.5%	1,341
Richmond	18,076,777	19,001,258	-4.9%	2,929,258	16.2%	10,219	10,328	-1.1%	1,769
Roanoke	11,287,942	11,922,836	-5.3%	1,771,700	15.7%	6,331	5,960	6.2%	1,783
Staunton	6,898,799	7,213,874	-4.8%	1,240,231	18.0%	3,820	3,377	13.1%	1,806
Winchester	12,737,498	12,728,574	0.1%	1,892,207	14.9%	6,964	5,992	16.2%	1,823
	201,676,030	209,968,235	-3.9%	31,465,464	15.6%	105,433	102,237	3.1%	1,919

David Domnisse, *Statistician*

REPORT OF THE EQUITABLE COMPENSATION COMMISSION

The Equitable Compensation Commission continues to provide financial aid to those requiring supplementation to strengthen their ministries in the communities in which they are located and to provide the minimum salary for the pastors. Salary and Pension supplementation in the amount of \$805,411 (salary \$675,481, pension \$129,930) was provided to 68 charges in 2009. No Sustentation grants were made. A schedule of salary and pension supplementation appropriations for 2009 has been provided to the conference secretary for publication in the *Journal*.

Salary and pension supplementation has been provided for 53 charges during the first six months of 2010. Appropriations for the last six months of the year will be adjusted immediately following the annual conference session to reflect changes due to ordination and appointment actions. Ten new church starts are funded for a total of \$276,113.

There were 19 charges receiving salary and pension supplementation in 2009 that did not require assistance in 2010: Morrisville (Alexandria); Epicenter and Floris (Arlington); Eastland and Harvest (Ashland); Nelson and Rock Spring (Charlottesville); Guilford (Eastern Shore); West Buckingham, East Halifax, Boydtown and Burkeville (Farmville); Parnassus and Vision of Hope (Harrisonburg); Broadnax (Petersburg); Martin Luther King and Monumental-The Bridge (Portsmouth); Susanna Wesley (Rappahannock); and Cherryvale (Staunton). These charges and their superintendents are commended for their success in providing a ministry in the communities they serve that has enabled them to grow spiritually in their stewardship.

District superintendents and charges setting salaries for 2011 that may require supplementation are advised that the "floor" must come from sources other than the Commission on Equitable Compensation.

The Conference Average Compensation (CAC) for 2011 is \$62,029 which is an increase of 2 percent over 2010. The schedules for minimum salaries and the floor outlined in the recommendations provide no increase in minimum compensation. The Commission reviewed inflation information from the U.S. Department of Labor and the Blue Chip survey of economists.

The financial results and projections for 2008-2011 for the Equitable Compensation Fund are furnished below for information:

James C. Sprouse, *Chair*

	2008	2009	Projected 2010	Projected 2011
APPORTIONMENT INCOME				
Total Apportionment	900,000	1,040,000	1,144,000	500,000
Uncollected Apportionment	72,783	132,584	144,000	60,000
Apportionment receipts	<u>827,217</u>	<u>907,416</u>	<u>1,000,000</u>	<u>440,000</u>
EXPENSES				
Grants	826,458	675,480	644,000	400,000
Pension	157,634	129,931	105,000	65,000
Administrative	2,245	1,168	1,200	1,200
Total expenses	<u>986,337</u>	<u>806,579</u>	<u>750,200</u>	<u>466,200</u>
NET INCREASE (DECREASE)	(159,120)	100,837	249,800	(26,200)
BEGINNING BALANCE	<u>(131,342)</u>	<u>(290,462)</u>	<u>(189,625)</u>	<u>60,175</u>
ENDING BALANCE	<u>(290,462)</u>	<u>(189,625)</u>	<u>60,175</u>	<u>33,975</u>
Collection percentage	91.91%	87.25%	87.41%	88.00%

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The Equitable Compensation Fund apportionment for 2011 be \$500,000.
2. The Minimum Compensation Schedule for 2011 be:
 - a. Full Connection Pastors.....\$39,336
 - b. Probationers and Associate Members.....\$35,880
 - c. Local Pastors\$33,288
3. The Floor Schedule for 2011 be:
 - a. Full Connection Pastor.....\$27,552
 - b. Probationers and Associated Members.....\$25,128
 - c. Local Pastors\$23,280

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

During the past year, the conference Board of Trustees held its regular meetings in September and March.

The sale of St. John's United Methodist Church, Messongo (discontinued), was completed. The possible sale of two other discontinued or abandoned United Methodist church properties (Palmyra and Shiloh) are in process, as is the transfer of the former Redbud United Methodist Church (discontinued) property to the Winchester District.

The Trustees are in the process of amending their Articles of Incorporation to conform to new provisions in Par. 2506 of *The Book of Discipline*.

A file is being developed of previously discontinued or abandoned churches still under the care of the Conference Board of Trustees.

The Common Table for Church Vitality referred to the conference Board of Trustees a request from the Virginia United Methodist Assembly Center Corporation to consider the transfer of the title to the real estate at Blackstone from the conference Board of Trustees to the VUMAC Corp. In addressing this request, the conference Trustees took into consideration the following information: When the major capital campaign was conducted to renovate the Blackstone property into a conference assembly center, substantial support was received from the United Methodist Women and from local churches and parishioners in the Virginia Conference. In 1970, the title to the real estate was put in the name of the Virginia Conference Board of Trustees to give the Annual Conference the right, under *The Book of Discipline*, to decide on any future sale, mortgaging or transfer of this real estate. In view of this, the Trustees voted to deny the request.

The Trustees elected the following officers: Sallye E. H. Bowen, President; James E. Hedrick Sr., Vice President; John S. Brenneke, Secretary, David Domnisse, Treasurer.

Sallye E. H. Bowen, *President*

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF ORDAINED MINISTRY

The Board of Ordained Ministry is called to identify, examine, develop, and support those persons who would lead the Church in making disciples for the transformation of the world, in the orders of deacon and elder, the fellowships of diaconal ministers and local pastors, and the various fields of certified professionals. Our full report on those who are recommended for licensing, commissioning and ordination has been reported to the clergy executive session for its action.

God continues to summon spiritual leaders to meet the challenges and seize the opportunities to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. Persons who are interested in pursuing God's call to clergy leadership are encouraged to contact their local church pastor, district superintendent, or the Office of Ministerial Services.

We are working with the "All Things New" conference focus in the area of young adult leadership, particularly cultivating a culture where young persons are encouraged to hear the call of God in their lives and discern if God may be leading them toward a vocation of ordained service. In addition, we are cooperating with the new Young Adult Leadership Initiative to support young clergy leaders.

A new third level of ethics training concerning boundaries in pastoral counseling is being implemented for all clergy across the conference through district meetings. We are working on new guidelines around the use of social networking. A recommendation is printed below to provide for more regular training and re-training of clergy to stay abreast of emerging issues in clergy ethics.

The following persons have been approved for continuance in the active relationship as diaconal minister — Lynn M. Meeks, Karen Mills-Thomas, S. Annette Pomeroy, Bobbi A. Rowley. The following person has been approved for professional certification: Youth Ministry — Timothy Sean Craft. The following persons have been approved for re-certification for 2010-2012: Christian Education — Cynthia G. Banak, Candice A. Bennett, Kristin Bloodworth, Herbert Brynildsen, Mary Ellen Scott Campbell, Ellen Jane Clements, Susan D. Cutshaw, Ann Marie Davis, Leila W. Denton, Beth C. Downs, Judith R. Fender,

J. Stanley Hargraves, B. Arlene Hewitt, Catherine T. Hickman, Cynthia Anne Lee, Virginia Lee, Amy V. Lenow, Barbara Folts Miner, Leslie Oakes, Judith Clegg Oguich, S. Annette Pomeroy, C. Rives Priddy, Linda Driver Ray, Martha Trice Reynolds, Bobbi A. Rowley, T. Darlene Runaldue, Patricia Johnson Singhass, Sandra C. Stanley, Mary Sue Swann, Julie Ann Taylor, Janae Tschudi-Evatt, Carol Uzzle, Julia Kuhn Wallace; Evangelism — Hilary William “Pete” Costello Jr., Judith R. Fender, Timothy D. Hazlett, B. Arlene Hewitt, Cynthia C. Lopynski; Music — Laura B. Douglass, Roger Dowdy, Janet D. Hawkins, Lynn M. Meeks, Ralph Mills, Linda Driver Ray, Leigh Anne Taylor; Older Adult Ministry – Martha Ensley Stokes; Spiritual Formation — Ann Marie Davis; Youth — Kathryn J. Barton, Kristin Mills Bloodworth, James E. Harrington, Janis Harrod, Anthony Shawn Kiger, Jennifer Vestal Moore, John Wade Tindall, Mary Ellen Van Nederynen, Angela Seckler Williams.

Jeffrey P. Mickle, *Chair*

RECOMMENDATION

Ten years ago, the Board of Ordained Ministry offered our first Ethics training event for clergy. With the addition of the “Boundaries in Pastoral Care” workshop during this conference year, we now provide three levels of training: “Basic Ethics,” training for “Clergy Reporting of Suspected Child Abuse,” and “Boundaries in Pastoral Care-Counseling.” However, as issues change (social media and Internet issues, for example), the need for re-training becomes more important. We have noted that a number of our other annual conferences are requiring re-training every four years.

Another reason for re-training is that we have seen the energy that is generated when clergy dialogue with each other about the different aspects of ministry. Rare is the setting where clergy sit down together to talk about the significant ethical issues of ministry. Therefore, we recommend that the Virginia Conference require an ethics re-training seminar for all ordained and licensed clergy and certified professionals to be completed each quadrennium.

REPORT OF THE CABINET

For the Cabinet of the Virginia Conference, the year 2009/2010 will be remembered as the year where “All Things New” captivated our attention, challenged our creativity, involved us deeply in the first stage of a capital campaign, and filled us with a new sense of excitement for mission and ministry in the name of Christ. We were privileged to participate in the 5 Talent Academy teaching/learning experiences and we are currently busy with district teams working on a capital campaign intended to pave the way for 250 new faith communities in Virginia in the next 30 years.

As a Cabinet we are encouraged and excited by new faith communities begun in 2009 and those about to start in 2010. New starts in 2009 were:

- Dunn Loring became the conference’s first “Elijah” model, closing and reopening as The Vine United Methodist Church in the Arlington District;
- Crossroads at Brambleton is a second site of Crossroads UMC (Ashburn central campus in the Arlington District);
- Crossroads Hispanic, associated with Crossroads UMC, Arlington District;
- The Gathering, a multi-site congregation of Courthouse Community in Norfolk (Norfolk District);
- Emmaus Korean Second Generation (Richmond District).

New church starts scheduled for 2010:

- Montclair Site, Alexandria District;
- Lincolnia House Church for Sierra Leone Members (Alexandria District);
- Fort Lee, Petersburg District.

The challenge of our national economic health was certainly felt among Cabinet members as we joined with conference boards and agencies to cut expenditures wherever possible. This included making the Virginia United Methodist Assembly Center (VUMAC) facility our primary center for the appointment-making season. The great hospitality at a lower cost than other housing options made our work more efficient and more economically responsible.

Of course, the economic challenges also necessitated our work in consulting with churches struggling toward payment of full conference apportionments.

Along with the 5 Talent Academy, various Cabinet members sought to increase their effectiveness through continuing education events such as the School of Congregational Development, the conference Convocation at Blackstone, a conference for district superintendents from across the connection at Nashville in December, and a very practical hands-on learning/mission experience with members of the Voices of Youth making home repairs in Mississippi last summer.

Administratively, the Cabinet consulted with the task force responsible for recommendation on the possibility of reducing districts in the Virginia Conference; heard reports about wellness and health practices for clergy and their families; and conferred with Klote and Associates with how best to run the capital campaign for new church development and revitalization of existing churches. Several districts, led by their respective superintendents, also practiced group charge conferences for the major administrative meeting of their local churches.

Like Cabinets before us, this year's Cabinet experienced regular times of rich worship and fellowship, enjoyed a wonderful Christmas get-together (this year's experience on the Eastern Shore at Camp Occohannock was a culinary delight as well as a time to be on the receiving end of wonderful hospitality), benefited deeply from real sharing in covenant groups and made time for prayer for each other and the clergy and laity of the conference.

As a Cabinet, we grieved with the world through catastrophic events in Haiti and Chile. Our hearts and prayers went out to the thousands who experienced loss of family and friends. We, too, said goodbye to courageous committed leaders Sam Dixon (UMCOR) and Clint Rabb (UMVIM) who gave their lives in service to Christ, to The United Methodist Church and to the neediest in our world. We were uplifted in spirit by the outpouring of generosity by United Methodists through monetary gifts and health kits that began the healing, rebuilding process.

For the Cabinet it was a year of challenge, joy, sorrow, hope, loss and new beginning. Through all the experiences we rejoice that we are led by a person of incredible grace and wisdom in Bishop Charlene Kammerer. Her faith, commitment to Christian justice and mission, and great administrative ability guide every aspect of our work and life.

The Cabinet Covenant unites and connects us together in Christian community: "We the Cabinet of the Virginia Conference, covenant with each other to be a Holy Table; where Christ is our servant example and Lord; where we joyfully hold each other in disciplines of prayer, study, worship, service, and physical self-care; where the truth is told and honored; where trust is the rule, brokenness is received with mercy, pain is healed with grace, and forgiveness is sought, given, and accepted; where health of the whole Body of Christ is desired over any one part; where we seek perfection in love for God and for each other."

We consider it a joy and a sacred responsibility to be about the work of the Virginia Conference Cabinet.

Alan G. Reifsnnyder, *Dean*

REPORT OF THE COMMON TABLE FOR CHURCH VITALITY

"All Things New: Fruitful and Multiplying – The Virginia Conference" guides the direction of The Common Table for Church Vitality. Continuing a conference emphasis on leadership development as detailed in "All Things New," Common Table's program boards and agencies are structuring themselves toward this stated priority of our annual conference. Seeking to fulfill the goal of "All Things New," to change the culture of our conference from maintenance to mission, Common Table seeks to resource both the ministry of the local church and the connected ministries of Virginia Conference churches for transformational disciple-making of Jesus Christ. Examples of how our program boards and agencies are aligning themselves toward this goal are shared in their reports in this *Book of Reports*.

This process of alignment would not be possible without the leadership that is being modeled by the leaders and members of our boards and agencies and by our connectional ministries staff. Our board and agency chairs are in covenant with each other and with the Common Table to incorporate common themes of leadership and transformation. Our

Connectional Ministries staff works together as a team to help our annual conference live into “All Things New,” and to provide a vital connection to the ministry of The United Methodist Church both beyond and within the Virginia Conference. As the Common Table expresses its appreciation for the dedicated ministry of the Connectional Ministries staff, it is appropriate to note that 2011 will mark the second year in a row of no salary increases for all Connectional Ministries staff. For the many Connectional Ministries staff members who declined salary increases in 2009, this will mark the third consecutive year of no salary increases.

We also would like to express appreciation for the ministry of Denise Honeycutt as she leaves the office of director of Mission and Global Justice through appointment to a local church. Denise has served our conference through this appointment since 2000 and has led the Virginia Conference to be a global partner in ministry.

Responding to financial concerns, Common Table continues to make budget reductions in the conference benevolence apportionment (reductions of approximately \$500,000 in the combined 2010 and 2011 budgets) and in the joining of ministry structures. Two of the recommended ministry structure changes to this year’s annual conference are the inclusion of Life Span Ministries under the Board of Discipleship and the combining of the Commission on Religion and Race and the Commission on Ethnic Local Church Concerns into a Commission on Race and Ethnicity. If approved, these recommended changes will result in a downsizing from eight program boards in 2009 to six program boards in 2010, and from four commissions to three commissions in the same time span.

In assessing financial concerns for our conference, districts and congregations, Common Table has recommended that Bishop Kammerer consider reducing annual conference sessions by one day beginning in 2012. Since ¶603.2 of *The Book of Discipline* states that bishops shall appoint the times for holding the Annual Conference, it is understood that this is only a recommendation to our bishop. Included in this recommendation are a suggested Friday evening through Sunday afternoon schedule for non-election years and a Friday morning through Sunday afternoon schedule for years in which delegates are elected for General and Jurisdictional conferences. The annual financial savings projected in this recommendation are \$44,000 for the conference, \$43,200 for districts based on a \$100 daily per diem for 432 district members, and \$171,800 for local churches based on a \$100 daily per diem for clergy and lay members.

In the upcoming conference year, the Common Table will continue its focus on leadership development and cultural change for both individual disciples, local congregations, and our annual conference. Some of the areas in which this focus will be targeted are:

- The Young Adult Leadership Initiative by the Young Adult Council;
- Regional resourcing of congregations by the Board of Discipleship;
- Training of 100 Mission Mentors by the Board of Global Ministries;
- 5 Talent Academy, Hispanic Lay Missionary Academy and equipping of new faith communities by the Church Development Team;
- Training of transformative leaders by the African American Resource Team;
- Implementation of the Campus Ministry Discernment Team Report by the Board of Higher Education Ministries and other appointed groups;
- Development of educational and advocacy ministries for immigration coordinated by the Commission on Race and Ethnicity;
- Continued biblical advocacy for justice by the Board of Church and Society, with a growing understanding of how Caretakers of God’s Creation is able to intersect the biblical message with areas that have been identified as primary concerns of many young persons;
- Continued voice of laity in the partnership of conference ministries through the Board of Laity;
- Orientation and training of all persons holding office in the annual conference regarding the vision and goals of All Things New.

Marc Brown, *Chair*

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Approve the following recommendations by the following Conference Boards:
 - a) By the Board of Discipleship regarding the observance and special offering for Christian Education Sunday;
 - b) By the Board of Global Ministries regarding the continuation of Conference Relationship Agreements;
 - c) By the Board of Global Ministries regarding special offerings for Heart Havens, United Methodist Family Services, and Virginia United Methodist Homes.
2. Approve the following changes to the Standing Rules of the Virginia Annual Conference:
 - ¶ V.A.4.a shall read: a. Church and Society. The Board of Church and Society, in cooperation with the General Board of Church and Society and the Common Table for Church Vitality, shall develop programs on Christian social concern within the bounds of the annual conference. To discharge its responsibilities it shall divide its membership into committees, which so far as practical shall be patterned after the divisions of the General Board of Church and Society. In 2010 the Annual Conference shall elect six members (three clergy and three lay) to the class of 2014. In 2011 the Annual Conference shall elect four members (two clergy and two lay) to the class of 2015. In 2012 the Annual Conference shall elect six members (three clergy and three lay) to the class of 2016. In 2013 the Annual Conference shall elect four members (two clergy and two lay) to the class of 2017, making the total membership 20.
 - ¶ V.A.4.c shall read: c. Discipleship. The Board of Discipleship in cooperation with the General Board of Discipleship and the Common Table for Church Vitality shall create partnerships by providing a network of experience, knowledge and coaching through intentional connection to enhance or create effective disciple making processes. These partnerships are created by: (1) coaching at local levels and pulling in identified district and conference resources as needed, (2) training at district or regional levels, (3) drawing on best practices gathered locally, jurisdictionally, nationally and globally, (4) connecting mentor/resource churches with those who request assistance and information, (5) organizing in regional teams, and (6) raising vision, visibility and possibility during Annual Conference sessions and inviting people to connect with a congregational coach. The Board of Discipleship shall consist of a directing board to set the vision for disciple-making ministries in the annual conference and to support and monitor the work of five Regional Discipling Network Teams resourced by research on best practices, gathered and distributed by a Conference Awareness Team at events and through all other forms of communication.
 - The Directing Board will consist of the following ten (10) members: three officers (chair, vice-chair, and secretary), Conference Awareness Team – Best Practices Group Chair/Leader, Conference Awareness Team – Connecting Group Chair/Leader, and five (5) Regional Network Leaders. The officers will be elected by the Annual Conference. In addition, the Goodson Foundation and the Stockton Academy of Evangelism will each be represented by one person with voice but not vote. The Chair of the Life Span Ministries Council will serve on the directing board with voice and vote through 2012 to assist with the merger of the two boards. The officers and Conference Awareness Team Group chairs/leaders will select individuals to serve as leaders of the Regional Discipling Network Teams. The Regional Network Leaders will be ex-officio members of the Directing Board with voice and vote. Members of the Board of Discipleship as of July 1, 2010, will be transitioned into the new structure as members of the Directing Board, Conference Awareness Team, or Regional Discipling Network Teams to serve the remainder of their terms.
 - The Conference Awareness Team will consist of 12 members divided among two working groups: (a) Best Practices Group and (b) Connecting Group. Members of the Conference Awareness team will be nominated from the Conference Leadership Discovery and Development Team (CLDDT) and elected by the Annual Conference. The two working groups will annually elect a chair/leader from among its members.

The chairs will serve as representatives of the two working groups on the Directing Board.

- Members of the Regional Discipling Network Teams will be selected by the Network Lead/Mentor Coach, in consultation with the Directing Board, based upon best practices research. Each team member will serve a four-year term, with a maximum of two consecutive terms of service. However, if one is first elected to fill an unexpired term of two years or less, that person is eligible for re-election to two full terms.
- The individual members of each Regional Discipling Network Team representing children, youth, young adults, and older adults will meet together at least annually as the Conference Council for the respective ministry areas (with additional members as required by conference rules and *The Book of Discipline*, if any) for: (a) sharing of best practices in their regions, (b) training which will enhance their service to the faith communities within each region, and (c) coordinating of conference programs and initiatives as appropriate.
- The Youth Council and Young Adult Council (ages 18 – 35) will consist of members as mandated in the appropriate sections of *The Book of Discipline*.
- The Youth Council shall have one youth representative (grade 7-12) elected by each District Youth Council or equivalent. Six adults shall be elected to the Youth Council: Three adults elected by the Youth Council or equivalent and three elected by the Annual Conference.
- The Young Adult Council shall have three additional young adult members at-large elected by the Annual Conference.
- The Older Adult Council and Children’s Council shall each have one additional member at-large elected by the Annual Conference and the authority to co-opt up to six more members to meet short-term needs.
- Delete ¶ V.A.4.g, Life Span Ministries, in its entirety.
- Delete ¶ V.B.8, Ethnic Local Church Concerns, in its entirety.
- ¶ V.B.17, formerly Religion and Race, Commission on will now become Race and Ethnicity, Commission on and will read: There shall be a Virginia Conference Commission on Race and Ethnicity amenable to the Common Table for Church Vitality. The commission will provide for the functions as outlined in the current *Book of Discipline* for the Committee on Ethnic Local Church Concerns and Commission on Religion and Race. The basic membership of the commission shall consist of 10 clergy, 10 laypersons, and five members at-large elected upon nomination of the Conference Leadership Discovery and Development Team. A minimum of two members shall be youth and young adults between the ages of 12-35. The commission will be constituted so that two-thirds of the membership be representative of people from diverse racial and ethnic backgrounds. The district coordinators for Religion and Race shall be ex-officio members of the commission with both voice and vote. The presidents or chairs of conference caucuses, fellowships, or associations for racial and ethnic constituencies shall be ex-officio members of the commission with voice but not vote. The bishop may appoint to the commission a district superintendent to serve as Cabinet representative with voice but not vote.
- In 2010, The Annual Conference shall elect seven members to include one young person to the class of 2014, making the total commission membership 31. In 2011, the Annual Conference shall elect six members to include one young person to the class of 2015, making the total commission membership 29. In 2012, the Annual Conference shall elect six members to the class of 2016, making the total membership 29. In 2012, the Annual Conference shall elect six members to the class of 2016, making the total commission membership 27. In 2013, the Annual Conference shall elect six members to the class of 2017, making the total commission membership 25.

Conference Leadership Discovery and Development Team

Chairpersons:

Marc Brown, *director of Connectional Ministries*

Shirley Cauffman, *Conference Lay Leader*

Alexandria – Edwin Clever	Arlington – Richard Dawson
Ashland – Kang Uk Lee	Charlottesville – Richard McDowell
Danville – Carole Booth	Eastern Shore – Iris Gunter Smith
Farmville – Carol Sanger	Harrisonburg – Monty Cox
Lynchburg – James W. Martin	Norfolk – Danny J. Kesner
Peninsula – Nolan Reid	Petersburg – Amos S. Rideout Jr.
Portsmouth – Olivia Hinton	Rappahannock - Ed Andrews
Richmond – John Hall	Roanoke – Carol Gaston
Winchester – Mike Kendall	Staunton – Susan Allen
Bishop’s Appointees – TBD	

NOMINATIONS

Common Table for Church Vitality

Alison Carmack – *Ministries with Children*

Marshall Bailey – *Mission and New Churches (Laity)*

Lydia Rodriguez – *Equipping the Local Church (Clergy)*

John Briggs – *Equipping Beyond the Local Church*

Anita Jackson – *Human Resources (Laity)*

Brenda Brooks – *Alternate, Equipping Beyond the Local Church*

Board of Church and Society

Clergy

Morris Fleischer

Mochel Morris

Carl Ulrich

Lay

Karen Finch

Haniel Garibay

Jaydee Hanson

Natalie May

Nancy Randolph

Church Development Team

Beth Anderson

John McLain

Paulo Da Silva

Board of Discipleship

Clergy

Lay

Molly Wilmarth

Board of Global Ministries

Clergy

Lay

Gilbert Elder

Jordan Brown

John Hemming

Dale Childrey

Dennis Lipke

Michael Hertz

Todd Smith

Anita Mays

Erin McKenney

Board of Higher Education Ministries

Clergy

Lay

Robert Hauck

Aaron Kane

Milton Marks

Stephen Mansfield

Jean McDonald Walker

Board of Laity

Clergy
Charles Bates

Lay
Sandra Baker
Pamela Elder

Life Span Ministries

Children's Council
Sondra Evans
Joan Lynch
Linda Ray
Older Adult Council
Joan Tipton

Youth Council
Dallas Hancock

Board of Ordained Ministry

Clergy
Christina R. McLain
Matthew G. Smith

Lay

Virginia United Methodist Assembly Center

Clergy
Herndon Jeffreys
Jim Tongue
Gerould Ward

Lay
Donn Lee

Virginia United Methodist Communications

Clergy
Mike Browder
Bill McClung

Lay
Hartley Gaston
Juan Negron

Commission on Disabilities

Clergy
Ronnie Morris
Randall Williams
Art Wolz

Lay
Dorothy Crowder
Dorothy Payne
Vicki Poindexter

Equitable Compensation Commission

Clergy
Doug Gestwick

Lay
Jefferey Cribbs
Patricia Krukowski
Tom Neally

Council on Finance and Administration

Clergy
Steve Summers

Lay
N. L. Bishop
Martha Dodd-Slippy
Barry Grizzard
Marilyn Traynham

United Methodist Foundation

Clergy
Tom Barnard
Wayne Rickman
Bruce Tuttle

Lay
Robert Billingsley
Lori Roberts
Christine Williamson

Commission on Race and Ethnicity

Clergy

J. D. Daniely
Mark Deane
Liz Ecklund
Young Hwan Kim
Sung Woon Yoo

Lay

Bettina Butler
George Morrison
James Mott

Committee on Rules

Clergy

Lay

John Hill
Sue Lewis

Committee on Site Selection

Clergy

Lay

David Bailey

Commission on the Status and Role of Women

Clergy

Debbie Carey

Lay

Claire Adams

Conference Trustees

Clergy

Clyde Nelson
Patricia Riggs

Lay

James Hedrick
Sue Lewis

Committee on Resolutions

Clergy

Larry Lenow
Doris Byrd Madison
Lynda Moore
Robinson McAden

Lay

N. L. Bishop

Goodson Foundation

Clergy

Bill Davidson
David Rash

Lay

Larry Broomall

Virginia United Methodist Housing Development Corp.

Clergy

Clyde D. Nuckols
James G. O'Quinn

Lay

Larry Dickenson
Willard H. Douglas
Ray Ergenbright
James Tripodi

Randolph College

Marian Phillips Mancini
Barbara Niedland McCarthy
Alison Keller Townsend

Randolph-Macon Academy

Suzanne M. Broyhill
Carol S. Dodson
George L. McIntyre Jr.
Alonzo A. Neese

Randolph-Macon College

Whitney K. Forstner
Charles P. Moncure Jr.
Frank J. Murphy III
Allison M. O'Brien
George A. Trivette

Shenandoah University

Anne-Marie Dunn
Mary Bruce Glaize
Nick Nerangis
Sharon Hill Price

Virginia Wesleyan College

George K. Tsantes

REPORT OF THE 'ALL THINGS NEW' CAPITAL CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE

The 2009 Annual Conference approved an initiative to undertake an "All Things New" Capital Campaign in support of the Virginia Conference goal to launch 250 new faith communities in the next 30 years and invest in strengthening existing churches who want to reach beyond their walls to make disciples of Jesus Christ.

"All Things New" invites our conference to make a commitment to renewal that will be necessary if 250 new faith communities are to be established in 30 years. As a result of conference action and to implement the campaign to fund costs associated with "All Things New," the Annual Conference authorized the establishment of a Campaign Steering Committee composed of members across our conference. The new committee coordinated directly with the Conference Council on Finance and Administration (CFA) and the Church Development Team (CDT). The cost of the campaign was underwritten through the Church Development Fund, with full repayment of the actual cost to be derived from proceeds received through the Capital Campaign.

A full report of the results of the campaign will be made during 2010 Annual Conference.

In accordance with the Annual Conference approval, a Campaign Steering Committee was established in July 2009 with following members: Darlene Amon, Tom Berlin, James Branscome, Marc Brown, Shirley Cauffman, David Dommissie, Bishop Charlene Kammerer, Barbara Mason, Gary Miller, Carl Moravitz (chair), Linda Rhodes, Linda Rodriguez, Bryson Smith, Wayne Snead, Tom Thompson and Anna Gail Workman.

The Campaign Steering Committee contracted with James D. Klote & Associates, Inc. in the overall management of the campaign, with Adrian Schoonmaker of J.D. Klote and Associates as the campaign director. The campaign, set out by James D. Klote Associates, provided essential direction for the conference-wide campaign and has engaged a wide and inclusive spectrum of conference and church leaders, informing them further on the "All Things New" strategy and funding needs, and undertaking a broad visitation plan for subscribing the funding needed to support "All Things New."

The campaign, funded at \$550,000, consisted of a 52-week period (July 2009 through July 2010) and included a focus of stewardship workshops in each of the 18 districts on behalf of local churches across the conference to assist the ministry of existing local churches. The campaign used the individual donor visitation approach, and did not employ any use of apportionments or quotas in local churches or districts to achieve results. The campaign was structured to support estimated needs of the "All Things New" vision totaling \$15 million and included up to 10 percent to be dedicated to a global mission component in support of "All Things New" goals.

Carl Moravitz, *Chair*

REPORT OF THE CHURCH DEVELOPMENT TEAM

Since the 227th Virginia Annual Conference met in Norfolk in 2009, the Church Development Team (CDT) has focused on the two invitations of the “All Things New” plan: The Invitation to Plant and the Invitation to Harvest. In addition, we have worked cooperatively with the All Things New Capital Campaign committee to interpret the vision for 250 new faith communities in the next 30 years in order to raise \$15 million.

The 5 Talent Academy has been organized; it provides an opportunity for local churches, which choose to join, to be resourced in five areas: ministry with the poor, worship, faith development, stewardship and evangelism. These churches anticipate growth in these five areas through an accountable relationship with peer churches.

Invitation to Plant – Invest First in Leadership:

The Lay Missionary Planting Network (LMPN) began this year in partnership with the Baltimore-Washington Conference, Wesley Theological Seminary and the National Path One team. In October we launched the first event, with 48 Hispanic laypersons being equipped for local church ministry. Some may eventually serve as church planters. All classes and curriculum are in Spanish.

This year 70 persons from all over the east coast attended the New Church Leadership Institute in Virginia. Ten of those persons were members of the Virginia Conference. This experience introduces persons to church planting and assists them to discern whether they may be called to be a church planter. Following completion of the institute, persons who are interested in continuing on the church-planting track go through an exit interview process. Newly appointed church planters are resourced by the CDT through the Church Planter Boot Camp. Once begun, church planting projects are also equipped with coach/mentors to accompany them in the process. Each project establishes benchmarks for accountability and continued conference support is determined in consultation with district, new plant, CDT and the Office of Congregational Development around these benchmarks. Currently there are six persons in the conference working toward completion of the Path One Coach Certification process.

We continue to work with district Discernment Teams or Boards of Missions as they discern their needs related to establishing new faith communities. Research shows 63 percent of all new faith communities that are connected to a healthy anchor church grow larger and become stronger than non-anchor churches. The Church Plant sub-team is collaborating with the National Path One team to assemble assessment tools, training and guidelines for churches seeking to become an Anchor Church. On May 20, the first national United Methodist event for Anchor/Partner churches will be held in Virginia.

The year 2009 saw two “Elijah” new church starts: Dunn Loring in Arlington District closed and has a new church start called The Vine meeting in its former facility, and Bloxom in the Eastern Shore District closed in order to develop a new type of ministry in that community.

There are several anchor churches that have engaged during this year in the process of starting new faith communities: Courthouse Community UMC in Norfolk (young adult focus); Emmaus Korean UMC in Richmond (second generation, English speaking); Crossroads UMC in Ashburn (new site in a movie theater in Brambleton and a Hispanic/Latino community).

Since its formation, the CDT has developed a formal discernment and assessment process for potential planters, established a peer learning group for “planters on the ground,” developed a grassroots-oriented discernment process for determining where new faith communities might be established, begun the development of resources for potential Elijah and anchor churches, conducted yearly academies and boot camps, participated in leadership for the National School of Congregational Development, underwritten the cost of the All Things New campaign feasibility study, guaranteed payment for the up-front costs of the capital campaign and developed and implemented the 5 Talent Academy.

Invitation to Harvest:

The 5 Talent Academy has had a wonderful opening year. In accordance with the familiar parable, each congregation is given to us by our Lord with the expectation and opportunity

to invest and multiply this precious resource. In this first year, Christ has done exactly that. We have been amazed at the response. More than 110 churches have joined the academy. These churches have had the privilege of participating in two inspirational events on ministry with the poor and on worship. Attendance has been outstanding, with more than 500 at each gathering. Peer groups have been formed for the purpose of refining ministry plans and many stories have arisen of new ministry and worship opportunities for many congregations.

In the next year, we anticipate even greater things. We will be gathering our churches around the areas of discipleship and stewardship and continue to look to some great speakers and other gatherings. In addition, the 5 Talent Academy will be refining its work on helping participating churches to plant or partner in planting new faith communities. As always, the 5 Talent Academy covets your prayers as we strive to invest our congregations in new life and opportunities to serve our risen Lord that he might say to all of us, “Well done, good and faithful servant”!

We would like to extend a special thanks to Anna Workman and Pat Hickman for all the ways they assist our team. They both work tirelessly to make All Things New in our conference.

Wayne Snead, *Chair*

BOARD OF DISCIPLESHIP AND LIFE SPAN MINISTRIES

This has been a year of transition for the Board of Discipleship and for the Life Span Ministries Council. As the Life Span Ministries Council continues to live faithfully into “All Things New,” we have discerned a call to new life as part of the Board of Discipleship. We remember that in our United Methodist tradition the age level ministries which are today the Life Span Council were ministries of the Board of Discipleship at the conference and general church levels.

The Board of Discipleship took a sabbatical from divisional work and programming and instead worked as a full group and looked at how we could fully live into the conference cultural shift of “All Things New.” Budget constraints, staff changes and new challenges facing our local churches gave us an opportunity to look at many alternatives. Through working with a consultant from the General Board of Discipleship and with much discussion and prayer, we have discerned that it is time to completely restructure the board. One clear partnership connection is with the Life Span Ministries Council; we have worked with Life Span leadership throughout this discernment process.

There is a wealth of talent and desire to serve from the members of both boards who want to offer innovative, relevant and transformational opportunities for faith development and discipleship in our local churches. We know we can best do this work by reaching out to churches and districts and offer resources closer to our local churches and faith communities. The new Board of Discipleship structure positions our leadership and resource people in regional areas. In addition to the regional teams, we will also have a Best Practices team and a Conference Connection team. We will look for ways to partner with other boards, agencies and districts to offer effective ministry tools and programs.

One outcome of rethinking how we connect with each other was at a meeting of the Life Span Children’s Council early in the fall. Because of various factors, a new team needed to come together. Through our network of churches and boards we brought together 13 children’s ministry experts to discuss and plan for the future of children’s ministries of our conference. We see a bright future for innovation and support through this connectional model.

As we move forward, we realize it will take a couple of years to fully grow into our full potential. With a step-by-step process we will build our regional networks, connect with the local churches, seek out best practices in ministry and evaluate our own progress as a board. This is an effective way for our ministries to continue working successfully to carry out the mission of Christ. The full details of this proposal may be found in the Common Table Report on page 41.

Although the main focus of the year has been on casting a new vision for the future, some activities and events that have taken place are:

- An event focused on Aging in the 21st Century led by Dr. Richard Gentzler of the Center on Aging of the General Board of Discipleship held in October 2009;
- The third offering of an Advanced Lay Speaking Ministry Course on developing Older Adult Ministries;
- An “Extreme Makeover: Worship Edition” event held for local churches in May with the leadership of Chris Hughes and Midnight Oil;
- A “School for Children’s Ministry” training event in May.

Beth Christian, *Chair, Board of Discipleship*, and Mike Mayton, *Chair, Life Span Ministries*

RECOMMENDATION

The Board of Discipleship recommends that each church in the Virginia Conference shall observe a Christian Education Sunday in the fall of 2010, and shall promote and receive a Christian Education offering (50 percent of which will remain in the district for teaching ministries while the other 50 percent will support teaching ministries through the conference).

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF GLOBAL MINISTRIES

Many changes have been made to the Board of Global Ministries over the past year. The board continues to educate, encourage, resource and empower the people in local churches to be actively involved in God’s mission at local, national, and international levels. Now, three smaller mission teams do this task from many new and different perspectives. The board is moving forward to 2011 and beyond with new goals, a clear vision /purpose statement and inspired mission leaders.

Exciting things have been happening in 2010 in the Virginia Conference. In February, 147 persons attended the Bishop’s Convocation on “God’s Renewed Creation.” This event highlighted the need to encourage and support the mission project Caretakers of God’s Creation. General Board of Global Ministries (GBGM) Church and Community worker the Rev. Pat Watkins leads this project, which is the only “green” mission ministry in the denomination.

Four other GBGM Church and Community workers are doing amazing mission work. At Shalom Zone: Grace Ministries, Donald Edwards in Roanoke is planning to launch the Bridges Out of Poverty program, which will involve whole families from the inner city area; at Community Outreach Program of Roanoke, Bev Keeny and Becky Parsons celebrated 20 years of ministry to children and youth in the inner city; in the Doe Run area of rural Franklin County, Lisa Nichols and Henry Fork Service Center continue to grow in service to impoverished children and youth through Christian education, pre-school and after school programming.

Four Virginia candidates for mission service were commissioned at the fall GBGM meeting: Pat Watkins and Steve Claris, Church and Community workers; Charles Tran, Missionary; Susan Lewandowski, Deaconess.

Please read how the Voices of Youth will be celebrating its 25th anniversary in 2010. Find out all about the best-kept mission secret in the conference, the School of Christian Mission. Check out the Health and Relief report to learn about the work being done to educate and advocate for persons with handicaps, immigration issues and military personnel and their families suffering from Prolonged Duress Stress Disorder.

Take time to look over the Advance Specials for 2010-11. The Virginia Conference ranked second in Advance Giving with a total of \$1,679,183, and first in Missionary Support giving of \$526,782. When you give through the Advance, 100 percent of what you give goes to the designated project or missionary. Find information on national, international and Virginia projects in the Mission Opportunities resource booklet.

A special thank you goes to the Rev. Denise Honeycutt, staff/director assigned to the Board of Global Ministries for the last 10 years. She has worked tirelessly to expand our passion for mission. Best wishes to Denise as she continues her mission ministry as pastor to a local congregation.

This will be my last report as president of the board. It has been a privilege and a joy

to work with so many individuals, missionaries, board members and congregations as we partnered in mission to show Christian love and compassion to others. “Work at everything you do with all your heart.” - Col. 3:23

Carol A. Gaston, *President*

MISSION INTERPRETATION TEAM

The Virginia Conference School of Christian Mission is scheduled for July 22-25 and 26-29, at the Virginia United Methodist Assembly Center (VUMAC) in Blackstone. The studies this year are “Sudan;” “Joy to the World: Mission and Evangelism;” and “For the Love of God: John’s Letters.” The school features a bonus this year: Everyone attending will have the opportunity to take the Spiritual Growth Study, John’s Letters. It will be taught in the auditorium to all adults and youth by the Rev. Clarence Brown. The school will include sessions for children and youth as well as providing a special class for our Korean sisters and brothers. All persons attending will select one of the two other studies which will be taught in the traditional classroom settings. Mark your calendar now, you don’t want to miss this very educational and enriching mission experience.

Voices of Youth (VOY) is celebrating its 25th anniversary in 2010. VOY is a summer youth vocal choir that participates in mission work in the United States and abroad, and then shares their mission experiences via music and testimonies. Each year 30-40 high school youth travel to a mission site for approximately one week, followed by vocal concerts at a dozen or more Virginia UMC churches over the following two weeks. The choir, led by the Rev. Jim Perry, began in 1985 as a project of the Youth Service Fund of the conference Council on Youth Ministries and was such an effective tool for mission education that it is now sponsored each year by the Board of Global Ministries’ Mission Interpretation Team. More than 850 youth have been trained in the scriptural imperative for mission and the basics of The United Methodist Church’s organization for mission. VOY not only educates congregations about what The United Methodist Church is doing in mission, it also challenges local congregations to get involved in mission work. This year VOY will spend time doing mission work and offering concerts in each of the 18 districts in the conference. The tour will start on July 1 and end on July 23. For information, visit the Web site, <www.voicesofyouth-va.org>, or contact Coordinator Rachel Hundley at: <Coordinator@VoicesofYouth-VA.org>.

MISSION RELATIONSHIP TEAM

The Mission Relationship Team of the Board of Global Ministries is tasked with educating and encouraging local congregations to find ways to be active partners in the mission programs offered across the Commonwealth of Virginia, the country, and around the world. The Rev. Keith Mottley coordinates United Methodist Volunteer In Mission (UMVIM) trainings and provides information regarding opportunities for individuals and congregations to be involved in fulfilling God’s mission nationally and globally.

Beyond our apportioned giving, congregations are encouraged to go the “second mile,” thereby supporting a varied array of mission projects and the missionaries serving God through The United Methodist Church on mission fields far and near. Under the umbrella of the conference Board of Global Ministries, the Mission Relationship Team prayerfully discerns and compiles the Advance Projects that are listed in the *Mission Opportunities* booklet, which is annually included in the August issue of the *Virginia United Methodist Advocate* magazine. The Advance Specials include projects in Virginia, around the country, internationally, those specific to the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR), UMVIM information and tools, the conference Initiatives of Hope and missionaries. This booklet also provides tools to develop and strengthen already existing covenant relationships. Encouraging congregations to become involved in these transformational relationships is an exciting element of our work. It is our hope that you will each acquaint yourselves and your congregations with the Advance Specials listed below. The *Mission Opportunities* booklet is an educational tool for laity and clergy alike.

Rebecca Rumburg, *Chair*

RECOMMENDATIONS
Advance Specials for 2010-2011

MISSIONARIES

Adding: Rebecca Parsons-Roanoke, Advance #3021143
Charles Tran-Southeast Asia, Advance #3021133

INTERNATIONAL

Community-Based Wholistic Health, Advance #3020620
Ghana Water Projects, Advance #3020588
Macedonia: Macedonia in Mission Together, Advance #00220A
Chile: Family Center, Advance #14800A
Colombia: Church Buildings for the Colombian Methodist Church, Advance #3020764
Brazil: Ministry with Children, Shade and Fresh Water Project, Advance #11580A
Russia Initiative, Conference #660
Uganda: The Humble Place Program, Advance #14191A
Sierra Leone: Child Rescue Program, Advance #14377A
Cuba: Methodist Christian Home, Havana, Advance #11635A
Congo: Diengenga Trade School, Scholarships, Advance #15106B
Sudan: Sudan Emergency, Advance #184385
Aviation, Advance #3019626
Children, Poverty, and Violence, Advance #14680A
Anti-Human Trafficking, Advance #333615
The Medicine Box, Advance #982630
AIDS Orphans Trust, Advance #982842
Sustainable Agriculture, Advance #982188
Haiti: Solar Oven Project, Advance #418812
Highland Support Project, Advance #15022A
ZOE (Orphans in Zambia, Zimbabwe, Kenya), Advance #982023
Mexico: Give Ye Them To Eat, Advance #07629A
Mozambique: Evangelization and Church Expansion Ministry, Advance #12580A

NATIONAL

North Carolina: Robeson County Church and Community Center, Advance #791742
District of Columbia: Christ House, Advance #381215
Kentucky: Red Bird Mission, Inc., Beverly, Advance #773726
Tennessee: Jubilee Project, Inc., Sneedville, Advance #781350
North Carolina: Hinton Rural Life Center, Hayesville, Advance #731372
Kentucky: Henderson Settlement, Frakes, Advance #773365
National Challenge Fund for Hispanic/Latino Ministries, Advance #982620
South Dakota: Tree of Life Ministry, Advance #123615
Alaska: Parish Partners, Alaska Missionary Conference, Advance #931027
Justice for Our Neighbors Immigration Ministry, Advance #901285
United Methodist Volunteers In Mission, Southeastern Jurisdiction, Advance #901875
USA: Response and Recovery to Natural Disaster, Advance #90167
Farming for Churches, Advance #3021060

VIRGINIA

Henry Fork Service Center
United Methodist Community Outreach Program of Roanoke
Virginia Conference Disaster Response and Recovery
Caretakers of God's Creation
Agape Christian Children's Community Center, Inc.
GRACE Ministries of The United Methodist Church
ESL and Immigrant Ministries Childcare Support

Just Neighbors Ministry
United Methodist Urban Ministries of Richmond
Teens Opposing Poverty, Inc. (TOPS)
Rising Hope United Methodist Mission Church
Society of St. Andrew
Project Crossroads, Inc., Marian
Embrace Richmond, SPY, Crossroads College Ministry, Lexington

VIRGINIA CONFERENCE COMMITTEE ON MISSION PERSONNEL

The Virginia Conference Committee on Mission Personnel (CCMP) is a committee of local church clergy and laity within the Virginia Conference that is committed to mission service and whose members guide and mentor interested persons through the application and discernment process for mission service and assist them in identifying, within the conference, congregations for missionary financial support. The committee has interviewed two applicants this year, both of whom were recommended to the General Board of Global Ministries for mission service.

There are five Church and Community Workers now assigned within the Virginia Conference: Deb Keeney and Rebecca Parsons to the Roanoke Community Outreach Program, Don Edwards to the Shalom Zone: Grace Ministries in Roanoke, Lisa Nichols to Henry Fork Center in Rocky Mount, and Pat Watkins to Caretakers of God's Creation, a conference-wide project.

Each local congregation can help guide, encourage and support persons to whom God has given the abilities and passion to make disciples of Jesus Christ and to serve others. Each local church pastor can be instrumental in leading persons within the local congregation to acknowledge the call of God upon their lives and to guide them through the appropriate channels.

There is a specific process by which the Mission Personnel Unit of GBGM receives applications for persons interested in full-time missionary service. Applicants should request the Personnel Information Form (PIF–Application for Missionary Service) and other application materials from the CCMP, which meets twice a year, in the spring and fall, to interview applicants. Future meeting dates are Sept. 16, April 14 and Sept. 15, 2011. For missionary application information, e-mail <jmaughlin@yahoo.com> or call (703) 536-4153. To receive information regarding missionary support or Covenant Relationships, contact Dale Childrey, the conference coordinator, at <dchildrey@comcast.net> or (804) 275-7560.

Joanne Maughlin, *Chair*

HEALTH AND RELIEF TEAM

The conference Health and Relief Team has continued to work on the “Sorrow Bearing” Resolution which was approved at 2008 Annual Conference. Two goals have been identified: 1) Help local church to offer meaningful services to military families, and 2) provide resources which the local church may use. The team has compiled a list of resources for local church use that is available on the conference Web site, <www.vaumc.org>.

The Health and Relief Team continues to be involved in direct ministries to human need and to work with seven ministries and conference-related agencies. We spent time this year talking about new ways that we can share the stories of the amazing work that is being done by these ministries and agencies. Truly God is working to transform the world through the disciples who lead faithfully in these ministries.

Kristin Holbrook and Donna Mott, *Co-Chairs*

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the relationship agreements as presented to the Health and Relief Team between the Virginia Conference and Heart Havens, Inc., UMFS (United Methodist Family Services of Virginia), Virginia United Methodist Homes, Inc., and Wesley Housing Development Corp., be continued.

2. That the three following special offerings be designated: February, Heart Havens month; December, UMFS; and the weeks between Mother's Day and Father's Day, Virginia United Methodist Homes – Samaritan Fund.

DISASTER RESPONSE TEAM

This year has been an active one for the Disaster Response Team (DRT) of the Virginia Conference. The DRT has undergone some personnel changes this year and currently is understaffed by six volunteers. This leadership shortage, and the cancellation of the annual training event, underscore the requirement that there be constant attention brought to the disaster response ministry through communication and connectional support across the conference. The current core members of the DRT have responded to and have met every need and request made of it from across the conference as well as across the country. We currently have a loaned disaster response equipment trailer in Texas assisting in the ongoing recovery efforts following Hurricane Ike, and a disaster response shower trailer is in Louisiana supporting the recovery efforts following Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

This year Early Response Team (ERT) training has resulted in an additional five new ERT teams being available to deploy across the conference if needed to support disaster response operations. One team from Courthouse Community UMC was called up twice during the year to assist and support disaster operations in the Norfolk District following two nor'easters which caused significant flooding and damage to the downtown Norfolk area as well as the Ocean View area of the district. Assisting our Volunteer Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD) partners, the ERT distributed more than 250 cleaning buckets and provided much needed support to the victims of these events. There were also two Case Management training events held across the conference where participants were trained to provide assistance to victims of disasters. In addition, a member of the DRT travelled at UMCOR's request to Pierce County in Washington State and taught Case Management in conjunction with an UMCOR training event.

This past winter we saw a significant increase in weather-related events across the conference. The DRT has been an active participant in the response to and the coordination of the response efforts of the Virginia Department of Emergency Management as a member of the Virginia Emergency Response Team/ESF17. DRT members provided real-time information which assisted the coordinated response of the various federal, state, local and volunteer agencies.

The most significant effort of the conference DRT was the response to the UMCOR request for Health Kits following the earthquake in Haiti. Thirty days following the call for help from UMCOR, the Virginia Conference provided an estimated 40,000 health kits, which were delivered to the Sager-Brown UMCOR depot in Louisiana. In addition to the kits themselves, \$36,927 was collected to complete the assembly of the kits and to fund the transportation from UMCOR to their final destination in Haiti. The congregations of the Virginia Conference are to be commended for their efforts and their response to this disaster mission.

The DRT stands ready to assist and respond as needed across the conference, across the country and around the world with the continued connectional support of the Virginia Conference.

Bob Pihlcrantz, *Coordinator*

HEART HAVENS

Heart Havens helps our fellow brothers and sisters achieve a full and meaningful life by offering homes and supports for people with intellectual disabilities in communities throughout the Virginia Conference.

Expansion:

- Completed construction on a four-bed accessible home, which opened in December.
- A land transfer deal with Hanover County for another home was completed. On Jan. 3 there was a ground-breaking.
- The Lynchburg District has submitted plans and is set to build this year. Several other

districts have expressed interest in building in the next few years.

- We are exploring alternate ways of providing support. This includes sponsored placement, ICFs, positive behavioral support facilitation and in-home supports.
- Organizational Re-structuring
- Administrative positions were upgraded to support the growth of the organization. We have a new chief financial officer and chief operating officer, and added the position of director of Development. We will be enlisting the support of Capital Development Services in establishing our development department.
- We are currently recruiting for a new office manager, are completing an overhaul of the Human Resources department and will be recruiting a new human resource manager soon.

Other:

- Implemented an employee database system and a training management system.
- Held first statewide training for all employees.
- Created a new DVD about getting involved with Heart Havens. The intent was that this DVD will have some shelf life.
- Multiple United Methodist Men's groups in several districts held golf tournaments to support Heart Havens.
- Staff attended the United Methodist Men's Spiritual Retreat in November, where there was a golf and horseshoe tournament that supported Heart Havens.

Jennifer Boyden-Barrett, *Executive Director*

UMFS

UMFS (formerly United Methodist Family Services Inc. of Virginia) continues to thrive, guided by our mission: "Touch a life. Create a future." We envision a world where children and families are empowered to reach their full potential and see ourselves as one piece of that vision. UMFS uses a "wraparound philosophy" based on the Circle of Courage to offer a diversified network of formal and informal services to children and their families. Our goals are permanency and lifelong connections for every child. UMFS continues to provide services in locations around the Commonwealth, with regional centers in Richmond, northern Virginia, Tidewater, Fredericksburg, and Lacrosse; with Intensive Treatment Centers in Richmond and Centreville; and offices in Farmville, Lynchburg, Charlottesville, Roanoke, Tazewell and Loudon. Our network of services include Family CARE (Collaboration, Advocacy, Resources and Empowerment) services, treatment foster care, adoption services which includes Adoptive Family Preservation, providing support networks for adoptive families across the Commonwealth, intensive treatment services and school-based services.

Our newest service this year includes providing therapeutic services to selected Title One schools in the Richmond area and the expansion of our Charterhouse Day Treatment services on our Richmond campus. UMFS continues its partnership with Fairfax County and other localities in the northern Virginia area through the operation of Leland House, a short-term crisis intervention center for youth, its partnership with the Dave Thomas Foundation as a facilitator for the Wendy's Wonderful Kids grant, and a new partnership this year is with the Department of Social Services to administer the Project LIFE grant, which connects older teens in foster care throughout the state helping them to form permanent connections and develop independent living skills. UMFS is accredited through the Council on Accreditation.

Sheryl Bryan, *Board of Directors Chair* and Greg Peters, *Chief Executive Officer*

VIRGINIA UNITED METHODIST HOMES, INC.

As has been the case for many organizations, the past year has been filled with ups and downs. Fortunately, with strong fiduciary oversight by the Board of Directors, Virginia United Methodist Homes (VUMH) has experienced more ups than downs. VUMH's operating year ended on a positive note, which included positive investment gains and a positive bottom line for the organization. The economy has caused many elders to delay moves to retirement communities, so the overall occupancy in the VUMH communities has dropped slightly,

but the community management teams have adjusted expenditures to meet the slight census decline.

Benevolent care needs continue to grow and VUMH is appreciative of those who have given to the Samaritan Program. Their gifts have made it possible for VUMH to provide facilities, services and programs to elders who have outlived their own personal financial resources.

As always, VUMH is especially appreciative of the dedicated staff and amazing volunteers who work every day to improve the lives of our residents. VUMH communities are brighter, happier places to be because of their warm smiling faces.

Christopher P. Henderson, *President and CEO*

WESLEY HOUSING DEVELOPMENT CORP.

Wesley Housing Development Corp. seeks to develop, own, operate, preserve and maintain housing and sustain quality northern Virginia communities for low- and moderate-income families, seniors and individuals, including those with chronic diseases or disabilities. Thank you for celebrating our 35 years of service during 2009, including our 23 communities in six northern Virginia and the more than 20,000 residents that have lived in stable, quality housing in these communities.

Current Real Estate Activities and Pipeline Projects:

- Strawbridge Square (Fairfax): Wesley Housing purchased and is renovating these 128-units, providing large families with three and four bedrooms. Community Resource Center expansion here will include a new computer lab. Completion: Summer 2010.
- Pierce Queen Apartments (Arlington): Working with Arlington County Board on plan to raze 50 units to create 200 units. Construction start projected for Summer 2011.
- Colonial Village (Courthouse/Arlington): Planning to renovate 162-units with site work, roofing, new kitchens/baths and energy saving upgrades/replacements. Construction start projected for December 2010.

Resident Services/Special Projects:

- Educational programs and supportive services for residents and neighbors at three Community Resource Centers (CRCs) and social/recreational activities, needs counseling, and linkage to community resources at our three special needs Resident Services Centers (RSCs).
- Wesley Housing provided school supplies to children in our communities and Plummer Elementary School.
- Operation Warm-Up! collected 1,362 winter clothing items for children at our CRCs and Plummer Elementary School and for adults at Rising Hope UMC.
- Our Adopt-A-Family Program partnered with businesses, churches and individuals to offer holiday help for 92 of the neediest residents.

Shelley S. Murphy, *President/CEO*

VOLUNTEERS IN MISSION

During 2009, the conference had five Team Leader training event across the conference: Dranesville UMC, Fox Hill Central UMC, Kenbridge UMC, Manor Memorial UMC and Lakeside UMC. There have been four Team Leader trainings in 2010: March 13: Market Street UMC, Eastern Shore; April 10: Sterling UMC, Arlington District; April 24: New Market UMC, Harrisonburg District; May 8: at Windsor Hills UMC, Roanoke District; with two more remaining: Oct. 9 Old Bridge UMC, Arlington District; Nov. 20: Lakeside UMC, Ashland District.

Denise Honeycutt and I organized a conference UVMIM Leadership Team formational meeting in March. The purpose of this team will be helping lead our conference in the ministry of UVMIM into the future. There is more than what one person can do. I hope to have the team assist in several areas such as but not limited to: keeping data of all team leaders and team members, Team Leader training, Web information and communication, the annual Mission Opportunity booklet, the New Pastors/ New Passion scholarship fund,

UMVIM Awareness Sunday, the annual conference gathering, and resourcing and utilizing UMVIM team members in a strategic way.

The Southeastern Jurisdiction UMVIM is looking into setting up teams that can go “turn key,” where all the arrangements of what to do, where to stay, travel and cost is already determined. This will change team leaders’ responsibilities, but we will work with that blessing as we get to it. There will be more information about this process later.

My future plan is to lead a conference team of young adults (18-35) in 2011 or 2012 and then lead a team made up of half unchurched persons, having those involved in church invite an unchurched person to go along and experience the work of the church.

Great things are happening in the Virginia Conference with and through UMVIM and even greater things will be happening in the future. Thank you for letting me be the conference UMVIM coordinator. It is great serving our great Lord in this ministry.

Keith A. Mottley, *Conference Coordinator*

INITIATIVES OF HOPE

In places near and far, Initiatives of Hope (IOH) is leading by following Jesus. In partnership with the people of the Methodist Church of Brazil and the United Methodist Church of Mozambique, IOH is working to nurture and transform disciples for Jesus Christ. IOH focuses on mission that empowers schools, medical facilities, and children’s centers where we work toward a future of self-sufficiency and sustainability.

MOZAMBIQUE: In August 2009, representatives from Germany, Missouri, Mozambique, New York, Sweden and Virginia annual conferences, along with staff from the General Board of Global Ministries, met in Germany to set priorities for a coordinated mission between Mozambique and partnering conferences. The primary focus was mission initiatives that can be sustained into the future by the Mozambique Conference. Areas of collaboration include: leadership training – to train church leaders to serve in hundreds of new churches being established across Mozambique – and health and development projects. Virginia was encouraged to continue the support of existing projects such as the elementary school and the women’s training center in Bungane and a vocational school in Cambine.

In June 2009, the Virginia Conference was part of the first-ever medical symposium at Chicouque Rural Methodist Hospital, with attendance by medical staff from five of the province’s hospitals and medical clinics. Another medical symposium was planned for May. An Eastern Shore District team, a young adult team, and a clergywomen’s team are providing leadership training in February, July and August, respectively, to United Methodist pastors and laity of Mozambique.

BRAZIL: Brazil continues its long-standing focus on reaching out to “street children” in urban areas by working to build and strengthen Shade and Fresh Water centers. These centers are safe havens in impoverished areas of Brazil where children can come, have fun and learn about the love of Jesus Christ. In 2009 a new Shade and Fresh Water center was completed to serve indigenous children in a remote region of the Amazon. More than 3,000 children and teenagers are served through these centers, and UMVIM teams continue to be a vital link in developing and supporting them.

In 2009 the Virginia Conference also partnered with the Brazil Methodist Church to translate into English the Brazilian curriculum, *Celebrating Our Differences* – a diversity curriculum for use in Vacation Bible schools and summer Sunday schools. *Celebrating Our Differences* is available for use by churches by visiting the IOH page on the conference Web site, <www.vaumc.org>.

In early 2011, plans are to send a medical team on the John Wesley Medical boat on the Amazon River.

Judy Worthington, *Co-Chair*

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF CHURCH AND SOCIETY

The conference Board of Church and Society seeks to help congregations appreciate and live into our Wesleyan heritage by being a justice people. We equip leaders by nurturing a

sense of partnership with God in the transformation of the world and by helping congregations remember that discipleship in the Wesleyan tradition includes both individual faith formation and social witness. We organize our ministries into these work groups:

Conference Legislative Network (CLN): The Conference Legislative Network and United Methodist Women sponsored United Methodist Day at the General Assembly on Feb. 4. Nearly 300 United Methodists gathered at Bon Air UMC for a breakfast hosted by the Bon Air United Methodist Men before traveling to the General Assembly. Participants met with their legislators and attended committee meetings. We focused on the state budget as a moral document and the need for health care coverage for all of Virginia's children.

Speakers at United Methodist Day included the Rev. Doug Smith of the Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy, and General Board of Global Ministries (GBGM)' missionary to God's Creation, the Rev. Pat Watkins. Bishop Charlene Kammerer closed the day speaking about the importance of advocacy to our faith.

The next United Methodist Day at the General Assembly is scheduled for Feb. 3, 2011, and the committee chair is Natalie May.

Caretakers of God's Creation: Caretakers of God's Creation continues to be a vital presence in the Virginia Conference and is making the church relevant for many people "out there" for whom the church has lost its relevance. Thanks to this group, many of our congregations are engaged in ministries to heal and restore God's creation. Thus far in 2010, the Green Church Initiative was revised and the Bishop's Convocation on Caring for God's Creation was offered. We thank Bishop Kammerer for her leadership in the production of the recent document "God's Renewed Creation" from the Council of Bishops. Our future will involve making the connections between issues affecting God's creation and other social justice issues like poverty, globalization, immigration, food and health care.

Caretakers' director the Rev. Pat Watkins was commissioned by GBGM in 2009 to be the first missionary to God's creation in The United Methodist Church. He and the Caretakers program are providing a model of ministry that can be replicated throughout the United States.

Criminal Justice and Mercy Ministries:

We are charged to minister to all persons involved with the Criminal Justice system. Crime, its victims, and its aftermath touch us all. As persons of faith we are called in ministry "to the least of these" in the name of Jesus Christ. Our programs include:

- Enabling Faith Communities – a program to engage congregations in prison ministry;
- Gangs, Drugs and Youth at Risk – an effort to raise awareness about local gang activity;
- Redemption Church – an exploration of the viability of a new faith community in Richmond;
- Restoration of Voting Rights – an expansion of our previous work into all districts;
- Prison Video Visitation Conferencing – a program of Norfolk UMC to connect families of the incarcerated.

James Templeton and Elfie Finn-McKenzie are co-chairs of Criminal Justice and Mercy Ministries.

Economic Justice Workgroup: In partnership with the Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy, we are developing workshops for churches and their communities on unemployment insurance, living wage and predatory lending. We held a training session for facilitators for the first workshops. These facilitators will offer regional workshops in urban settings and will work with local church leadership to plan future workshops. Content of these workshop include the teaching of our Social Principles to help congregations address poverty and to become effective advocates for the most vulnerable people in their own communities. Co-chairs are Marilyn Heckstall and Gretchen Simpson Nelson.

Education for Social Action: To help congregations learn about our United Methodist Social Principles and our Wesleyan heritage of social concerns, we plan to train individuals to lead district workshops. Co-chairs are Nancy Randolph and Haniel Garibay.

Peace with Justice Committee: This committee oversees grants from the Peace with Justice Fund and sponsors the Peace with Justice Forum at Annual Conference. The committee chair is Tobias Stalter.

Jeanne Torrence Finley and John Haynes, *Co-chairs*

REPORT OF VIRGINIA UNITED METHODIST COMMUNICATIONS, INC.

Virginia United Methodist Communications, Inc., strives to provide the people of the Virginia Conference with information and resources that are beneficial to the ministry of Christ in the world. These resources include written materials, online resources, and training.

The *Virginia United Methodist Advocate* continues its long history of bringing timely news and information to its subscribers. We invite everyone to take full advantage of this resource. Additionally the *Sunday Advocate* is available free to any church to use in Sunday bulletins as a supplement. It is offered in three languages, Korean, Spanish and English. More information can be found on the conference Web site. Additionally the conference staff has begun sending out an electronic newsletter, the *e-Advocate*.

The *Neighbors* direct mail piece continues to be made available for local churches to use as one of many resources to assist in outreach ministry. It is available as a free download from the conference Web site to any church or individual who wants to use the newsletter to share the good news with friends and neighbors. It is produced three times a year: at back-to-school time, Christmas and Easter.

The Communications board and staff continue to partner with the conference Board of Global Ministries and the Council on Finance and Administration to publish *Mission Opportunities*. This publication provides valuable information about the mission work of The United Methodist Church in Virginia and around the world. Those who worked on it are to be commended for their excellent work.

The board's Digital Technology Committee has provided training to districts of the Virginia Conference this past year. Each year this group offers to provide training in use of the Internet, technology tools for worship and education, and other ways to utilize electronic technology in the church.

This year the *Advocate* won five awards at the 2009 United Methodist Association of Communicators' meeting in Nashville (Class B is work by/for an annual conference):

- Magazine, Best in Class B: Neill Caldwell, Debbie Duty, Linda Rhodes, staff of the *Virginia United Methodist Advocate*
- Print Design, Best in Class B: Neill Caldwell, Debbie Duty, Linda Rhodes, staff of the *Virginia United Methodist Advocate*
- Print Design: Best in Division: Neill Caldwell, Debbie Duty, Linda Rhodes, staff of the *Virginia United Methodist Advocate*
- Artwork, Best in Division: the Rev. Jim Harris and Neill Caldwell, "Rethink Church" magazine cover, May 2009
- Artwork, Best in Class B: the Rev. Jim Harris and Neill Caldwell, "Rethink Church" magazine cover, May 2009

The conference benefits from the work of the talented staff of Virginia United Methodist Communications. The staff includes Linda Rhodes, director; Neill Caldwell, editor of publications; Brenda Capen, Webmaster and database coordinator; Debbie Duty, production coordinator; Bryan Compton, Information Technology; Pheath Ram, video production; and Peggy Cribbs, administrative assistant. You may contact the communications staff at 1-800-768-6040, ext. 110; or (804) 521-1100; or visit the conference Web site at <www.vaumc.org>.

Stan Hargraves, *President*

REPORT OF THE COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES

The goal of the Commission on Disabilities is to function as a resource group to conference boards and agencies to enable persons with all types of disabilities and challenging conditions to participate to the fullest extent possible as members of the Body of Christ on the local, district and conference levels. This is accomplished through: 1) the provision of technical assistance and educational awareness; 2) promoting accessibility of buildings, churches, and other facilities; and 3) encouraging and modeling active involvement and full inclusiveness in worship, fellowship, and all other programs of the church. As evidence of this work, the following activities took place during the 2009-2010 conference year:

- Camp Rainbow Connection 2009 provided a week of fun and fellowship for 119 campers

between the ages of 16-81. The week of camp provides a much needed respite for the families and care givers of the campers who all have some level of intellectual disability. Eighty-four volunteer staff members, ages 17 to well into the 80s, offered unconditional love to the campers as buddies. Camp Rainbow Connection remains in need of volunteers. If you can give of your time and talents to touch the life of these very special campers, visit the conference Web site <www.vaumc.org> for details and an application.

- On Oct. 23, 2009, the Commission on Disabilities and SEMAR (Southeastern United Methodist Agency on Rehabilitation) co-sponsored a day of learning on autism and the local church. The workshop described the challenges of understanding autism, being in ministry with those with autism and their families, providing support, and advocating for positive changes in our churches and communities.
- Worship suggestions and materials for Disability Awareness Sunday – the first Sunday in February – were made available electronically to all churches and programs in the conference.
- Grants were distributed to local churches for accessibility, specialized programs for persons with disabilities, and respite care initiatives. Funds for these grants come from local churches, United Methodist Men’s fellowships, and individuals. Applications for grants can be found on the conference Web site. Also, the United Methodist Committee on Ministry with the Deaf, Late-Deafened, Hard of Hearing and Deaf-Blind has grant money available to churches specifically seeking to either establish ministry programs for the aforementioned population or to assist and encourage churches to provide quality assistive listening technology. Applications for these grants can be found at <www.signsofsolidarity.org>.

As the Virginia Conference seeks to live into All Things New, remember those persons with disabilities whose needs have yet to be met in many of our congregations. Radical hospitality must become a non-negotiable effort to welcome “All God’s Children” at table.

Elizabeth (Tizzy) von Trapp Walker, *Chair*

REPORTS OF THE COMMISSION ON ETHNIC LOCAL CHURCH CONCERNS AND THE COMMISSION ON RELIGION AND RACE

A joint meeting of the Commission on Ethnic Local Church Concerns and Commission on Religion and Race was held on Feb. 4. Both commissions have responsibility for working with annual conference boards and agencies, districts, and local churches as they seek to develop programs and policies of racial and ethnic inclusiveness, advocacy, and ministry support. The two groups are charged with keeping the vision of racial and ethnic local church concerns before the annual conference, promoting and interpreting these concerns, and identifying and nurturing lay and clergy leaders of racial and ethnic communities. Members of the commissions were challenged at the joint meeting to explore old and new models of working.

Discussions resulted in the understanding that the groups must: (1) become a stronger, more prophetic voice for diversity in our conference, (2) address accountability for inclusivity across all levels of our church, and (3) identify ways to address the necessity of relationship building with diverse people. In order to do this in a unified manner, members voted to merge the two commissions into one body to be called the Commission on Race and Ethnicity (CORE). This new commission will have the responsibilities for disciplinary mandates for the two current commissions. If agreed upon by the Annual Conference, this new structure will take effect as of July 1.

Highlights of work for the commissions, in partnership with other conference boards and ministry areas, during the 2009-2010 conference year include the following:

- The Asian-American Ministers’ Association (AAMA) was officially formed July 13, 2009. The AAMA has two purposes: (1) to meet and share fellowship and ministry ideas among the Asian-American ministers and (2) to be the body for planning, resourcing, decision-making, and implementation that relates to the Asian-American ministers and ministries. As a result of the formation of the AAMA, the first Asian Pastors’ Family Retreat was held in Virginia Beach on Dec. 27-29, 2009. Thirty-one pastors’ families from Korean-American, Filipino-American and Vietnamese-American churches came together for fellowship and learning. While the AAMA

was holding the Pastors' Family Retreat, a joint winter retreat for the youth and college students of the Korean United Methodist churches in Virginia, Maryland, New Jersey and North Carolina was held in Maryland. This year saw an increase in the number of participants and participating churches, with approximately 500 youth and young adults attending.

- The Leadership Transformation event was held Sept. 17-19, 2009, at Regester Chapel United Methodist Church in Stafford. A multicultural and varied Leadership Transformation planning/design team, led by the African-American Church Resource Team, was responsible for the successful event. Worship leaders and keynote presenters included the Rev. Dorothy Watson Tatem, Bishop Robert Schnase and the Rev. Rudy Rasmus. While the majority of participants were from the Virginia Conference, attendees came from as far away as Alabama to receive the training and spiritual renewal that were offered.

- The Lay Ministry Planting Network, designed to equip gifted and called lay people to engage in planting new Latino faith communities, began in October and will meet through November. Individuals from many of our Hispanic/Latino faith communities are participating in this program, which is being offered jointly with the Baltimore-Washington Conference through Wesley Theological Seminary and Path1 of the General Board of Discipleship. This network, as the first of its type in the country, is leading the way for other annual conferences. Four members of the Hispanic/Latino Ministries Task Force participated in the Ecumenical Advocacy Days on March 19-22. The theme of this year's event was "A Place to Call Home: Immigrants, Refugees, and Displaced Peoples." Bishop Minerva Carcaño of the Desert Southwest Conference was a keynote speaker.

- Numerous presentations at churches and districts were made throughout the year to provide education and awareness about Native American Ministries. Grants totaling \$6,525 were given from the Native American Ministries fund to support work with Native American ministries across the conference. This included support for the Indians in Need agency, which meets emergency medical needs such as prescriptions, diabetic supplies and cancer treatment co-payments and helps with utility payments and home repairs. Additionally, we continue to support the Mattaponi Children's Cultural School, which has made it possible for the children to appear before the governor of Virginia in their own handmade regalia and to dance in powwows for the first time.

Larry Jent, *Chair, ELCC*, George Morrison, *Co-Chair, CORR*, Iris Smith, *Co-Chair, CORR*

REPORT OF THE COMMISSION ON THE STATUS AND ROLE OF WOMEN

The mission of the Commission on the Status and Role of Women (COSROW) is to challenge The United Methodist Church at all levels to work for full and equal participation of women in the total life of the denomination, including ordination of women, equal access to policy-making and recognition that Jesus Christ calls men and women alike to salvation, liberation, discipleship and service in church and society. The Virginia Conference COSROW advocates for the full participation of lay and clergy women and girls at every level of church life. We also monitor all sessions of Annual Conference and all conference committee meetings throughout the year to ensure that women are represented, heard and given opportunities to serve.

During the past year, the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women (GCSRW) "went green" by producing only an electronic version of *The Flyer* newsletter. COSROW had been mailing a print copy of *The Flyer* to all female clergy. While we will continue to send announcements when each electronic version is available, we encourage all the women of the conference to subscribe through the GCSRW web site, <www.gcsrw.org>. Along with a variety of awareness and training information, *The Flyer* offers updates on women's issues and provides suggestions for relevant resources.

After two years of planning and the significant workshop in April 2009, the 2009 Virginia Conference COSROW display highlighted the domestic violence awareness emphasis in an engaging and interactive way that was meaningful to many who participated. Resources are available for districts or local churches to use to bring the message of advocacy for victims to their communities.

As part of the COSROW role of monitoring the presence of women in all aspects of the church, we have noticed a disturbing trend. In 2007, 46 percent of the speakers at Annual Conference were women; in 2008 this number was 47 percent. But in 2009, the percentage of women speaking was only 32 percent. This included women speaking from the stage, from the pulpit, and from the floor. We hope that this is not a major slip in where the Virginia Conference has been, and that we will continue to be known as a conference, as districts, and as local churches where all people are able to be fully accepted, and all voices have the chance to be heard and respected as we live our lives as a “full an equal part of God’s human family” (*The Book of Discipline*).

Claire Adams, *Laity Co-Chair*

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION MINISTRIES

The Board of Higher Education Ministries (BHEM) is in place to oversee the effectiveness of ministry serving college students in a variety of settings across the Commonwealth. The BHEM is directly involved with the partial funding of seven Wesley Foundations at major public universities and six ecumenical ministries, which includes ministry to community college students. In the current season of restricted budgets, the local units of these supported ministries have taken on more of the fundraising responsibility and have been encouraged to be creative in reaching out to the local community and alumnae of the ministries. The BHEM also currently provides non-financial support for the campus ministry programs and chaplains at our six United Methodist-affiliated schools and for two campus ministries sponsored by local churches and districts.

The BHEM has been responding to exciting but major leadership and visionary shifts in the past year! New leadership includes a new conference staff director, Angie Williams. Angie has proven to be up for the challenge and won the love of the campus ministers by streamlining the reporting process by updating all reports to an online format. Recent new leadership (less than two years) also includes campus ministers and pastors at Virginia Tech, the PACE Center at VCU, Christopher Newport, Virginia State and Virginia Wesleyan.

Campus ministry continues to impact the lives of college students through creating possibilities for students to explore the relevance of faith in real life decision making and in engaging the local community and the world through mission and service. As a result, students around our commonwealth have offered the love of Christ to one another and to others in their realm of influence. This year, Student Forum 2010 was held May 27–30 at Shenandoah University in Winchester. The Student Forum of the United Methodist Student Movement is an annual spiritual development and leadership training conference for college and university students. God is using campus ministry to make a difference in the world of academics in a way that most folks in the pew cannot even begin to imagine!

As part of the opportunity of “All Things New,” the report of the Campus Ministry Discernment Team and the recommendations of the Common Table for Campus Ministry, the BHEM looks forward to continuing to redefine how we function. We are determining viable ways to appropriately measure effectiveness of campus ministry and look forward to implementing a means to embrace new ministry proposals that respond to the changing needs of today’s traditional and nontraditional students and academic communities.

As you read the variety of reports from the campus ministers in this *Book of Reports*, remember to keep each and all they represent in prayer. Celebrate the diverse ministry, worship and mission opportunities that are created through the faithful response of United Methodist campus ministry in the Virginia Conference!

Julie Haushalter, *President*

REPORT OF THE CAMPUS MINISTRY DISCERNMENT TEAM

Our Charge: In response to “All Things New,” boards and agencies related to the Common Table for Church Vitality (Common Table) have engaged in a process of evaluation and alignment to the stated conference priority of leadership development, fruitfulness and multiplication. As part of this process, the Common Table reported to the 2009 Annual

Conference about the “formation of a working group that is reviewing our conference’s current model of campus ministry with a report being presented to the 2010 Annual conference.” The Campus Ministry Discernment Team (CMDT) was formed with the goal of evaluating “current models of campus ministry as practiced in the Virginia Conference in light of the conference emphasis on leadership development as detailed in ‘All Things New’.” The desired outcome of this team’s work was for recommendations “to be presented to the conference Board of Higher Education Ministries (BHEM) and the Common Table for a report to the 2010 Annual Conference.”

Our Team: The following persons were members of the CMDT: Brenda Biler, Marc Brown, J.D. Daniely, Steve Darr, Jim Driscoll, Julie Haushalter, John Haynes, Christie Latona (consultant), Deborah Lewis, Stephen Mansfield, Kathleen Overby Webster, Derrick Parson, Joe Torrence, Reggie Tuck, Rhonda Van Dyke Colby, Angie Williams, and Rex Wolf, with support from Bridgette Young, assistant General Secretary, Division of Higher Education. These team members were selected to represent the following ministry areas related to campus ministry:

1. Three directors of Wesley foundations;
2. One director of ecumenical campus ministry;
3. Two members of the BHEM;
4. Two members of Common Table;
5. Two district superintendents;
6. Two lead pastors from churches that are located with schools from campus ministry settings;
7. Two at-large members;
8. Ex-officio staff support – director of Children, Youth, Young Adult, and Higher Education Ministries and director of Connectional Ministries;
9. Consultant.

Our Process: The CMDT met for four day-long meetings, with additional meetings by subgroups related to specific areas of focus. A survey was submitted to members of the BHEM for their input prior to the first meeting by the CMDT. The process was designed to present an initial draft report to the BHEM for its response. Following response by the board, the report was then presented to Common Table for its response, interaction with the board, and ultimately resulting in a report from the Common Table to the 2010 annual conference.

MISSION AND DEFINITION OF CAMPUS MINISTRY

The discernment team based its work on the understanding that the mission of campus ministry in the Virginia Conference is the same as the mission of The United Methodist Church: “to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.” (§120, *Book of Discipline*)

The current Virginia Conference BHEM Handbook provided some important perspective for the team’s work: The Church is the Body of Christ with but one mission: to witness to the presence of Christ in the world. What distinguishes campus ministry is that it is called to witness to God’s graceful activity in the world of higher education. For this reason, campus ministry understands its role in the educational process as a partner that seeks to shape the quality of individual and community life and to foster a more just and humane society.

Campus ministry is both similar to and distinct from the ministries of other faith communities. Like other faith communities campus ministries proclaim and celebrate the good news of Jesus Christ, provide opportunities for persons to understand and experience Christian community, provide nurture for persons in their spiritual journey, equip the whole people of God for ministry in the world, and serve as a prophetic community to demonstrate God’s love through acts of justice and mercy. In addition to these roles it shares in common with other faith communities, campus ministry has a unique responsibility to help the academic community integrate its intellectual endeavors with the Christian faith and to help those on our campuses discover and respond to God’s call in their lives.

Effective and faithful campus ministry will require openness to a variety of forms and expressions which are shaped in part by the particular college or university setting, by the theological vision and sense of identity of the local campus ministry unit, by the partnerships with other denominations, by available resources, and by the action of the Holy Spirit.

VISION FOR CAMPUS MINISTRY

As the discernment team considered the mission of the United Methodist Church, operational definitions in the BHEM Handbook, the vision statement of the Virginia Conference, and the core principles from “All Things New,” a campus ministry vision emerged: To call, form and send principled Christian leaders for the transformation of church and world in ways that value our connectional strength and demonstrate faithful stewardship.

RECOMMENDATIONS

In writing this report, the discernment team acknowledges the following areas of need are present in the current reality of campus ministry in the Virginia Conference:

1. The need for a closer and more clearly defined working relationship of the BHEM with the Common Table. (Note: This will occur with the addition of the chair of Board of Higher Education Ministries as a voting member of Common Table in accordance with the Discipline.);
2. The need to improve our quantitative and qualitative assessment for effectiveness and fruitfulness;
3. The need for a defined process that establishes criteria for determining when new campus ministries should begin and existing campus ministries should end;
4. The need for a process to assess the best stewardship of campus ministry property and property value including the role and responsibility of Wesley Foundation Inc. and the Conference Trustees. The process should include guidelines for determining upkeep, improvement, unique partnerships, purchase, sale, and dissolution. (Note: The BHEM has voted to have a legal review of the need for Wesley Foundation Incorporated. The BHEM increasingly wonders if it might be best for the conference to allow the Conference Trustees to hold legal ownership and administration of Wesley Foundation properties. If this were to occur, BHEM asks that the chair of the property managers committee be in consultation with the Conference Board of Trustees.);
5. The need to simplify our reporting process. BHEM has 10 different reports for ministry, program and property assessment. The discernment team recommends that these reporting methods be reviewed and, where possible, combined. It is recommended that assessment tools be standardized to assist in establishing measures that provide consistent base lines for effectiveness and fruitfulness of ministry. Each campus ministry will need to respond to established measures, supplemented as needed, to reflect the context of its ministry setting. These methods of assessment should address the following:
 1. Assessment tool for determining effectiveness and fruitfulness;
 2. Developing process for action when ineffectiveness is determined;
 3. Process/criteria for beginning new ministries;
 4. Process/criteria for ending existing ministries;
 5. Assessment for best stewardship of campus ministry property and property value, including:
 - a. The role and responsibility of Wesley Foundation, Inc., with the Conference Trustees;
 - b. A clear process for the sale or dissolution, upkeep, improvement, or purchase of Wesley Foundation properties;
 - c. A process for evaluating creative partnerships for the use of Wesley Foundation properties. (Note: This process of evaluation by BHEM has begun. The BHEM would

like to acknowledge that Angie Williams has helped to streamline the reporting process and continues to question the process and make suggestions based on thoughtful questioning of practice and research of *The Book of Discipline*. In addition to this, a new Evaluation Committee was selected as part of the BHEM restructuring that was already occurring under the leadership of the current Executive Committee when the CMDT was developed. BHEM believes it is closely aligned with many of the recommendations in this section of the CMDT and in fact had made similar recommendations to its board from the Evaluation Committee work.)

The discernment team recommends that a set of helpful measures be created for the following:

MINISTRY ASSESSMENT

Assess effectiveness/fruitfulness of ministry for Wesley Foundations, ecumenical ministries, schools that receive funding from the Educational Fund apportionment, local church and district partnership with campus ministries.

1. We recommend a common/shared rubric similar to a charge conference and year end reporting. (Note: The BHEM highly encourages the supervision of all campus ministry programs be moved to the district level with evaluative input from the BHEM on an annual basis as part of the more comprehensive evaluation conducted by the district superintendent.)
2. We recommend an individualized quadrennial ministry plan for each campus ministry with annual goals and desired outcomes (similar to charge conference setting of goals).
3. Consider how to include assessment of local boards, student groups, etc. in ministry assessment. Local units will need two academic years to write a new vision, be trained in an assessment tool, implement assessments and create a four year plan for ministry fruitfulness. The BHEM would like to see a four-year ministry plan with annual goals moving toward the desired outcomes. The assessment that would occur as outlined in one year by this report would be a “snapshot” of the current ministry to begin with a baseline. The full four year MAP would not be required this year as it would be a result of new training and assessment methods.
4. Describe process for addressing ineffectiveness or deficits in a timely manner.
5. Identify process and criteria for beginning and/or funding new campus ministries (variety of models).
6. Identify process and criteria for ending and/or defunding existing campus ministries.
7. Develop a process that recognizes and includes non-funded campus ministries/ministers (remember ministers with United Methodist connections, e.g. Eastern Mennonite University, Sweet Briar, University of Richmond, etc.)

FINANCIAL ASSESSMENT

Report financial stewardship (annually/regularly) Wesley Foundation, ecumenical ministries, schools that receive funding from the Educational Fund apportionment, local church and district partnership with campus ministries.

1. Proposed budget .
2. Report of prior year’s spending.

PERSONNEL ASSESSMENT

Wesley Foundation, ecumenical ministries when the campus minister is serving an extension appointment, schools when campus chaplain is serving an extension appointment, campus setting when campus ministry is partnered with a local church or a district.

1. Align extension ministry report with other personnel reports required by Board of Higher Education Ministries.
2. Critically consider supervisory relationships, including supervisory role of district superintendent.

PROPERTY ASSESSMENT

1. Property assessment which can point toward upkeep, improvement, sale, or purchase.

2. Assess the stewardship of properties and property values and ministry needs/uses.
3. Clarify the responsibility of Wesley Foundation, Inc. with Conference Board of Trustees.
4. Explore property partnerships with entities outside the Church.

The following non-assessment outcomes were included as part of the discernment team's work:

NON-ASSESSMENT OUTCOMES

1. A need was identified for developing and strengthening local campus ministry boards in the following areas:
 - a. How to better address the unique situation of ecumenical ministries;
 - b. How to address the use of conference staff attention/time for local board needs;
 - c. How to address the reality that a local campus ministry board is both a programming committee as well as a personnel committee;
2. A need was identified for continuing conversations related to:
 - a. core values that would align campus ministry with the circles of focus in the conference vision statement: Welcome – Welcomed at Table, Nurture – Nurtured and Transformed, Send – Christ to others in the world;
 - b. the importance of campus ministry being measured in terms of fruitfulness and multiplication;
 - c. the possibility of incorporating and connecting campus ministry into the life of neighboring congregations;
 - d. any reorganization that will align the BHEM with mission of The United Methodist Church, the vision of the Virginia Conference, and the emphasis upon leadership, fruitfulness and multiplication in “All Things New.”

Appendix A

CURRENT SETTINGS FOR CAMPUS MINISTRY IN THE CONFERENCE

The following campus ministries define the current settings for campus ministry in the Virginia Conference:

Wesley Foundations

(Evaluated and funded through the Board of Higher Education Ministries)

- The College of William and Mary
- James Madison University
- Longwood University/Hampden Sydney College
- Old Dominion University
- University of Virginia
- Virginia Commonwealth University-PACE
- Virginia Tech

Ministries at United Methodist-related schools, colleges, and universities

(Evaluated and funded through the local institution)

- Ferrum College
- Randolph College
- Randolph-Macon Academy
- Randolph-Macon College
- Shenandoah University
- Virginia Wesleyan College

Ecumenical Ministries

(Evaluated by local board and funded by the Board of Higher Education Ministry in partnership with other sponsoring entities)

- Campus Christian Community at the University of Mary Washington
- Community College Ministries in Southwest Virginia
- Norfolk State University Wesley-Westminster Foundation
- United Campus Ministries at Christopher Newport University
- United Campus Ministries at Virginia State University

- United College Ministries in Northern Virginia (George Mason University and Northern VA Community College)

United Methodist Clergy appointed to non UM Institutions
(Evaluated and funded through the local institution)

- Eastern Mennonite University
- Sweet Briar College
- University of Richmond

Church/District Based Campus Ministry

(Evaluated and funded through local church/district)

- Washington & Lee/Virginia Military Institute – Trinity UMC (Lexington) and Staunton District
- University of Richmond – River Road UMC

Appendix B

CHURCHES LOCATED WITHIN FIVE MILES OF CAMPUS MINISTRY/SCHOOL

Ferrum College -Within same Zip Code: Bethany UMC, Maple Grove UMC, Saint James UMC

Randolph-Macon Academy - Within same Zip Code: Asbury UMC, Bennett's Chapel UMC, Bethel UMC, Front Royal UMC, Happy Creek UMC, Howellsville UMC, John Wesley UMC, Limeton UMC, Riverton UMC.

Randolph-Macon College - Within same Zip Code: Duncan Memorial UMC, Forest Grove UMC, Kenwood UMC, Mount Hermon UMC.

Randolph College - Within same Zip Code: (Lynchburg): Centenary UMC, Peakland UMC. Within 5 miles/ other Zip Codes (Lynchburg): Boonesboro UMC, Chestnut Hill UMC, Court Street UMC, Forest Road UMC, Fort Hill UMC, Jackson Street UMC, Park View UMC, SouthView UMC, Shiloh UMC, Trinity UMC.

Shenandoah University - Within same Zip Code: Amor y Paz UMC, Braddock Street UMC, First UMC, John Mann UMC, Market Street UMC, Montague UMC, Mountain View UMC, Wesley UMC.

Virginia Wesleyan College - Within same Zip Code: Aldersgate UMC. Within 5 miles/other Zip Codes: Chesapeake Avenue UMC (Chesapeake), Community UMC (Virginia Beach), Epworth UMC (Norfolk), Fairmount Park UMC (Norfolk), First UMC (Norfolk), Haygood UMC (Virginia Beach), Heritage UMC (Virginia Beach), McKendree UMC (Norfolk), Memorial UMC (Virginia Beach), Norview UMC (Norfolk), Oaklette UMC (Chesapeake), Portlock UMC (Chesapeake), Saint Andrews UMC (Virginia Beach), St Paul's UMC (Chesapeake), Thalia UMC (Virginia Beach).

Wesley Foundation at Longwood and Hampden-Sydney colleges - Within same Zip Code/ within 5 miles: Antioch UMC, Centenary UMC, Farmville UMC.

United Campus Ministries Virginia State University - Within same Zip Code: Petersburg UMC Mission. Within 5 miles/different Zip Codes: Blandford UMC (Petersburg), Ettrick UMC (Ettrick), Highland UMC (Colonial Heights), Kenwood UMC (Petersburg), Matoaca UMC (Petersburg), Saint Marks UMC (Petersburg), Trinity UMC (Petersburg), Washington Street UMC (Petersburg), Wesley UMC (Colonial Heights).

Wesley Foundation at James Madison University - With same Zip Code: Asbury UMC, Otterbein UMC, Vision of Hope UMC. Within 5 miles/different Zip Codes: Cedar Grove UMC (Harrisonburg), Dayton UMC (Dayton), John Wesley UMC (Harrisonburg), Keezletown UMC (Keezletown), Saint James UMC (Mount Crawford).

Community College Ministries (Southwestern Virginia) - Central Virginia Community College (Lynchburg): With same Zip Code: Chestnut Hill UMC, Fort Hill UMC, Heritage UMC, Marsh Memorial UMC, Shiloh UMC. Within 5 miles/different Zip Codes: Big Island UMC (Big Island), Boonsboro (Lynchburg), Cove UMC (Big Island), Forest Road UMC (Lynchburg); Forest UMC (Forest), Mount Zion UMC (Forest), Mountain View UMC (Forest), New Ridgeway UMC (Forest), Parkview UMC (Lynchburg), Peakland UMC (Lynchburg), Poplar UMC (Amherst).

Dabney Lancaster Community College (Clifton Forge) - With same Zip Code: Central UMC, Mountain Valley UMC, Walton Memorial UMC. Within 5 miles/different zip codes: Iron Gate UMC (Iron Gate), Epworth UMC (Selma).

Danville Community College - With same Zip Code: Brosville UMC, Fairview UMC, Harmony UMC, Mosley Memorial UMC, Mount Vernon UMC, Stokesland UMC, Westover Hills UMC.

New River Community College - Blacksburg/Christiansburg site: Within Blacksburg Zip Code: Blacksburg UMC, McDonald's Mill UMC, Prices Fork UMC, Trinity UMC. With Christiansburg Zip Code: Asbury UMC, Fieldstone UMC, Mount Tabor UMC, Park UMC, Saint Paul UMC, Wesley Memorial UMC.

Patrick Henry Community College (Martinsville) - Within 5 miles/different Zip Codes: Chatham Heights UMC (Martinsville), Fieldale UMC (Fieldale), Smith Memorial UMC (Collinsville), Wesley Memorial UMC (Martinsville).

Virginia Western Community College (Roanoke) - Within 5 miles/different Zip Codes: Calvary UMC (Salem), Cave Spring UMC (Roanoke), Fairview UMC (Roanoke), Grace UMC (Roanoke), Greene Memorial UMC (Roanoke), Hispanos Unidos UMC (Roanoke), Huntington Court UMC (Roanoke), Mount Pleasant UMC (Roanoke), Northview UMC (Roanoke), Raleigh Court UMC (Roanoke), Rockingham Court (Roanoke), Saint Paul UMC (Roanoke), Southview UMC (Roanoke), South Roanoke UMC (Roanoke), Trinity UMC (Roanoke), West End UMC (Roanoke), Windsor Hills UMC (Roanoke), Woodlawn UMC (Roanoke), Mount Pleasant UMC (Cedar Bluff), Steelsburg UMC (Cedar Bluff), Thrasher Memorial UMC (Vinton).

Tidewater Wesley Foundation (Norfolk) - Within same Zip Code: Larchmont UMC, Park Place UMC. Within 5 miles/different Zip Codes: Broad Street UMC (Portsmouth), Chesapeake Ave UMC (Chesapeake), Colonial Ave UMC (Norfolk), Cottage Place-MLK Jr. UMC (Portsmouth), Epworth UMC (Norfolk), Fairmont Park UMC (Norfolk), First UMC (Norfolk), Ghent UMC (Norfolk), McKendree UMC (Norfolk), Monumental (Portsmouth), Norfolk UMC (Norfolk), Norview UMC (Norfolk), Oaklette UMC (Chesapeake), Wesley Memorial UMC (Norfolk), West End UMC (Portsmouth), Zion-Grace UMC (Norfolk).

United College Ministries in Northern Virginia - Within same Zip Code: (Annandale): Annandale UMC, Immanuel UMC, St Matthew's UMC. Within 5 miles/different Zip Codes: Bruen Chapel (Fairfax), Burke UMC (Burke), The Vine (Dunn Loring), Fairfax UMC (Fairfax), First Korean UMC (Falls Church), Friendship UMC (Falls Church), Galloway UMC (Falls Church), Gracia UMC Mission (Falls Church), Graham Road UMC (Falls Church), Messiah UMC (Springfield), New Light UMC (Fairfax), Oakton UMC (Oakton), St Johns UMC (Springfield), St Stephens' UMC (Burke), Sleepy Hollow UMC (Falls Church), St George's UMC (Fairfax), Wesley UMC (Vienna).

United Campus Ministries at Christopher Newport - Within same Zip Code: (Newport News): Christ UMC, Grace UMC. Within 5 miles/different Zip Codes: Bethany UMC (Hampton), Chestnut Memorial UMC (Newport News), First UMC (Newport News), Morrison UMC (Newport News).

Wesley Foundation at the College of William and Mary - Within same Zip Code: (Williamsburg): Williamsburg UMC. Within 5 miles/different Zip Codes: New Town UMC (Williamsburg), Wellspring UMC (Williamsburg).

Wesley-Westminster House at Norfolk State - Within 5 miles/different Zip Codes: Aldersgate UMC (Norfolk), Asbury/Cradock UMC (Portsmouth), Broad Street UMC (Portsmouth), Chesapeake Ave UMC (Chesapeake), Colonial Ave UMC (Norfolk), Community UMC (Portsmouth), Cottage Place-MLK Jr. UMC (Portsmouth), Epworth UMC (Norfolk), Fairmont Park UMC (Norfolk), First UMC (Norfolk), Ghent UMC (Norfolk), Larchmont UMC (Norfolk), Memorial UMC (Virginia Beach), Monumental (Portsmouth), Norfolk UMC (Norfolk), Norview UMC (Norfolk), Oaklette UMC (Chesapeake), Park Place UMC (Norfolk), Portlock UMC (Chesapeake), St Pauls UMC (Chesapeake), West End UMC (Portsmouth), Zion-Grace UMC (Norfolk).

Wesley Foundation at the University of Virginia - Within same Zip Code: (Charlottesville):

Wesley Memorial UMC . Within 5 miles/different Zip Codes: Aldersgate UMC (Charlottesville), First UMC (Charlottesville), Hinton Ave UMC (Charlottesville).

Wesley Foundation at Virginia Tech - Within 5 miles/different Zip Codes: Blacksburg UMC (Blacksburg), Fieldstone UMC (Christiansburg), Prices Fork UMC (Blacksburg), Trinity UMC (Blacksburg), Wesley Memorial UMC (Christiansburg).

Pace Student Center (United Methodist Campus Ministry at VCU) - Within same Zip Code: (Richmond): Boulevard UMC. Within 5 miles/different Zip Codes: Aldersgate UMC (Richmond), Asbury Church Hill UMC (Richmond), Brookland UMC (Richmond), Centenary UMC (Richmond), Central UMC (Richmond), Christ UMC (Richmond), Ginter Park UMC (Richmond), Lakeside UMC (Richmond), Reveille UMC (Richmond), Trinity UMC (Richmond), Wesley Memorial UMC (Richmond), Westhampton UMC (Richmond), Westover Hills UMC (Richmond).

Campus Christian Community of the University of Mary Washington - Within same Zip Code: (Fredericksburg): Fredericksburg UMC, Hillcrest UMC. Within 5 miles/different Zip Codes: Eastland UMC (Fredericksburg), Falmouth UMC (Fredericksburg), New Season UMC (Fredericksburg), Peace UMC (Fredericksburg), Saint Matthias UMC (Fredericksburg).

Crossroads (UMC Campus Ministry in Lexington) - Sponsoring congregations: Randolph Street UMC, Trinity UMC. With same Zip Codes: Collierstown UMC, Elliotts Hill UMC, Mount Horeb UMC.

UMC Campus Ministry at the University of Richmond - Sponsoring congregations: River Road UMC, Trinity UMC. Within same Zip Code: Saint Andrew UMC, Welborne UMC. Within 5 miles/different Zip Codes: Brookland UMC (Richmond), Christ UMC (Richmond), Discovery UMC (Richmond), Emmaus UMC of Stratford Hills (Richmond), Good Shepherd UMC (Richmond), Huguenot UMC (Richmond), Laurel Park UMC (Richmond), Skipwith UMC (Richmond), Westhampton UMC (Richmond).

Appendix C

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER IN CREATING ASSESSMENT PROCESS

The discernment team recognizes that effective assessment (both quantitative and qualitative) is essential to helping all campus ministries move toward the shared vision:

To call, form and send principled Christian leaders for the transformation of church and world in ways that value our connectional strength and demonstrate faithful stewardship.

As the Board of Higher Education Ministries and other stakeholders develop assessment instruments, the discernment team offers the following list of brainstormed measures and questions. The list is not intended to be prescriptive but suggestive and even provocative for those working together to develop effective assessment processes. Just as in the church, there is no such thing as a perfect campus ministry. The measures to be developed need to value the uniqueness of various campus ministries while at the same time clearly articulate expectations and standards.

We envision an assessment instrument/process to be used to with local boards to assess current reality of the campus ministry and to create individualized plans to increase fruitfulness in all aspects of campus ministry. The district superintendent would receive completed evaluations annually and make needed adjustments to the tool, process and investments as needed to ensure that we are faithfully growing campus ministries across the conference.

Call

1. Number of first-timers involved in any aspect of your ministry?
2. Number of professions of faith decided upon in consultation with Wesley Foundation community? Number of reaffirmations of faith? (While many campus ministries do not have formal transfers and it is not typical to offer baptism except in the local church, we believe this is data that will help us to gain an understanding of how these faith commitments are impacted by a campus ministry.)
3. Describe the event/ministry that had the broadest impact on the entire campus community this year.

Form

1. Briefly describe your philosophy of formation and include a description of your regularly offered formational activities (e.g. outreach, worship, Bible study, practice and reflection on spiritual disciplines, etc.).

a. What is the average number of people in each type of formational activity?

b. What is the composition (socio-economic, racial/ethnic, social status, sexual orientation, etc.) of those people? How does that fit with the demographics of your campus setting?

c. What are you spending on each type of activity? Is this per person or overall budget per activity category?

d. What are the representative stories or quotes by students within each of these areas? (or could include essays written by 3-5 students involved in the campus ministry responding to the question “How has involvement in this campus ministry contributed toward my spiritual formation this year?”)

2. What bridges have been or are being intentionally extended across lines of race, culture, language, sexual orientation, economics, lifestyle, or social standing that people? Provide an account/story (first person student account preferred) that illustrates campus ministry as a Matthew 25 ministry.

Send

1. Describe the advocacy and social justice issues relevant to the community. How many students are engaged in addressing these issues through your campus ministry?

2. How many students are involved in radical ways of living, intentional communities, etc.? Describe the ways your campus ministry encourages the campus to embrace the idea of Christian community.

3. What percentage of campus ministry students actively invite others into the life of your campus ministry?

Leadership Development

1. Describe the leadership development process you have for student leaders and your local board.

2. How many students are currently in leadership through campus ministry? Describe the roles and responsibilities of these leaders.

3. Identify the 3-5 most engaged and effective ministry leaders (students). List their specific leadership responsibilities and roles.

4. What percentage of new ministries is student-initiated? Describe one innovation in ministry this year that was student-initiated.

5. How many students are planning to go on to seminary and pursue ordained ministry or professional lay ministry?

Connectionalism

1. What percentage of the churches in your district or region is involved in your campus ministry? Describe the range of their involvement.

2. How many students participated this year in denominational or ecumenical movements/gatherings?

3. Provide essays/testimonies about connectionalism. Ask alum to offer written testimony to their continued involvement and leadership in the UMC. Have a current student provide an essay about the distinctively United Methodist or Wesleyan concept, practice, or value that means the most to them.

4. How are you introducing Wesleyan concepts to students who are not United Methodist?

Stewardship

1. Attach an annotated copy of your budget that is organized according to the areas above. Identify income streams, including student fundraising efforts.

2. Describe how your expenditure of funds demonstrates what you value most.

3. Please answer the set of questions most relevant to your context:

a. For United Methodist schools – How much money did you receive from denominational sources? What percentage of that money is used for scholarships? What

percentage is used for spiritual life on campus? How are additional denominational funds used?

b. For campus ministers – provide a pie graph of the typical stewardship of your time in any given week/month.

Appendix D CREATING A SET OF HELPFUL SYSTEMS

The discernment team sees the intentional strengthening of campus ministry as a vital part of the body of Christ in the Virginia Conference. When implemented effectively, campus ministry responds to the conference challenge of reaching more people, more young people and more diverse people in a population that many of our local churches are not reaching.

The following set of helpful systems was part of conversations by the discernment team and by subgroups. Many of these measures are reflected in additional sections of the report. While there is not clear consensus among the discernment team regarding all of the below, these systems and steps are offered in this appendix form for consideration by BHEM and Common Table.

Clear Assessment and Planning Toward Unified Vision:

1. By the end of 2010/2011 school year:

- Every campus ministry (Wesley Foundation, ecumenical ministry, chaplaincy and/or other BHEM funded ministry) makes any needed adjustment in their vision statement to incorporate the spirit of the vision statement above and creates an annual plan that includes training for assessment in your local context;

- Shares new vision and current “snapshot” assessment with the BHEM representative and district superintendent (as appropriate) at an annual meeting that includes local board, student leaders;

2. By the end of 2011/2012 school year:

Every campus ministry’s local board or other responsible body:

- Assesses their ministry’s current reality in light of the vision—using a standardized assessment tool that includes qualitative and quantitative measures in each of the six areas described in the bold words from the vision statement (see Appendix C)

- Creates a four year Ministry Action Plan (MAP) for improving effectiveness in each of the six areas and a one year set of goals to implement the MAP

- Shares current assessment and MAP with the BHEM representative and district superintendent (as appropriate) at an annual meeting that includes Local Board, student leaders.

An Invitation to Harvest of “All Things New” states that conference program ministries should transition from multiple visions of ministry to a shared vision of transformation. The intention of clear assessment and planning toward unified vision is to improve our shared understanding about trends, best practices and clarity about what is happening on our campuses so that we might continue to improve and align our activities. We strongly believe that one size doesn’t fit all — especially in campus ministry. The contextualized ministry action plan allows each ministry to be very intentional about translating the shared vision to their particular reality while measuring along the same categories. Any campus ministry which does not complete this process will not be funded for the subsequent year.

Clarify Accountability Structure:

For those ministries that are funded 100 percent by the annual conference (through BHEM/Common Table):

1. Local Board is responsible for ministry.

2. BHEM:

a. trains and resources local boards;

b. oversees the creation of a pool of campus ministry advocates and potential leaders (e.g., something akin to finding, equipping and recommending process used by Church Development Team for new church starts);

3. Annual meeting, presided by district superintendent, is the place where reports and

ministry action plans are shared.

4. Appointment of campus minister is by the cabinet with consultation of local board and BHEM.

Next steps for BHEM:

1. BHEM defines accountability process for non-100 percent funded entities to be given to the district superintendent in which the ministry resides.

2. The BHEM and the residing district superintendent confer with partners of other denominations regarding evaluations, planning and funding of ecumenical campus ministries.

3. Non-BHEM funded campus ministries can receive professional information and resources offered about Campus Ministry and may receive referrals for support by BHEM.

4. BHEM develops local board training curriculum.

5. BHEM continues to research and discuss “best practices” for campus ministry and help local units determine these practices in light of their context.

6. BHEM develops a multiple year plan to restructure in order to transform into a board that effectively offers information, advocacy, support, training and a pool of identified leadership for growing campus ministry in the Virginia Conference.

Standardize Process for Determining Continued and New Financial Support:

1. Standardized financial reporting plan for all campus ministries that receive funding through the BHEM and Common Table.

2. Standardized annual financial reporting plan for educational institutions receiving Education Fund apportionments.

3. Standardized evaluation process for current and potential campus ministries that will provide guidance in determining continued and new financial support.

4. The BHEM shall confer with partners of other denominations regarding evaluations, planning, and funding of ecumenical campus ministries.

5. Property evaluation and strategic use evaluation of current Wesley Foundation properties and other campus properties owned by the conference.

Equip and Empower Local Boards to Grow and Coordinate Ministry

1. BHEM board training to increase ownership, oversight and innovation at the local board level.

2. Connect congregations and campuses.

a. BHEM outlines a process for encouraging connection between local congregations and campus ministry (to include district boards and new Board of Discipleship regional resourcing groups).

b. Make available a list of congregations near all campuses within the Virginia Conference (see Appendix B for those congregations near existing campus ministries and schools).

c. Provides multiple strategies for congregations to engage with campus ministries.

d. Encourage all our local churches to get invested (time, talent, treasure) in campus ministry.

e. District superintendent intentionally works to create a team of local church leadership to serve on local boards of neighboring campus ministries.

f. Include campus ministry awareness in Board of Discipleship regional resourcing.

3. Evaluate the best use of campus ministry assets.

a. Consider creative partnerships that might help fund ministry and leverage assets (e.g., corporate sponsorship to update and build out space).

b. Consider whether given the trends of ministry and projections about what might be needed to resource the next generation of student and the projected growth rate of the campus; whether having a physical space is required.

d. Create bridges to and from the campus.

i. Strategically facilitate bridge-building from United Methodist youth into campus ministry.

ii. Intentionally create bridges from campus ministry into new church starts and/or other ministry within The United Methodist Church.

Share Viable Campus Ministry Models, Best Practices and Resources

1. BHEM builds a pool of strategies, models and approaches that campus ministers, donors, congregations might draw and learn from.
2. BHEM examines who is equipped for effective campus ministry. (Local pastor/elder/ deacon/lay ministers?)
3. BHEM provides resources based upon campus ministry best practices for intentional faith development for young/new leaders to local churches in the conference
4. BHEM designs Web pages that allow Web-savvy youth to get excited about ministries and all to see what Virginia Conference campus ministry looks and feels like.

Clarify Expectations for United Methodist Schools

1. BHEM's role is to evaluate relationship between institution of higher education and conference. It is also responsible for giving voice/support for chaplains.
2. Need to clarify who is responsible for interpreting conference initiatives and visions to the Association of Educational Institutions.

CLOSING STATEMENT

1. An Implementation Team will be convened immediately. An implementation plan will be due by Annual Conference 2011. Members of the Implementation Team are to be determined by Julie Haushalter (current BHEM chair), Jeff Harlow (incoming BHEM chair), Angie Williams (conference staff for BHEM), and Marc Brown (director of Connectional Ministries). Membership should include representation from the Cabinet, Common Table and Campus Ministers' Association. Final composition of the Implementation Team must be approved by the Common Table.

2. At Annual Conference 2010 the body will celebrate the importance of vibrant campus ministry as part of the Ministries with Young People report. In addition, the Common Table report will announce that an implementation team will be tasked with converting the CMDT recommendations into a strategic plan.

More specifics on what the BHEM would like to see the Implementation Team accomplish:

1. Recommend a means for the evaluation and administration of campus ministry units through the local District in conjunction with BHEM. Sort out how to have the most positive effect on campus ministry with new structures for administration and disbursement of funds. (How can and cannot the campus ministry be treated similarly as a local church in the district.)
2. Recommend the role of BHEM in evaluation, disbursement of funds and the development of new ministries.
3. Design and recommend to BHEM a structure to provide training for local boards of all campus ministries that receive any United Methodist funds. (May need to look different for ecumenical boards, new ministries and Wesley Foundations)
4. Determine the role of AEI in conjunction with BHEM. Recommend action to provide clarity of the role of BHEM with UM Schools in adherence to the Discipline.
5. Clarify the role of the director of Children, Youth, Young Adults, Higher Ed and Campus Ministry in conjunction with BHEM and local units.
6. Review all recommendations in light of *Book of Discipline* requirements.
7. Recommend ways for the conference and/or BHEM to implement all recommendations from the CMDT report.

REPORTS FROM UNITED METHODIST-AFFILIATED SCHOOLS

FERRUM COLLEGE

The faculty, staff, and students at Ferrum College would like to express their sincere gratitude to our United Methodist friends who have supported Ferrum and its programs for so many years. We are grateful for each and every person who gives of their time, talent, and resources to help provide a college education for our deserving students. Our institution is

proud of its heritage and greatly values our connection with The United Methodist Church. The need for scholarships increases annually so many students who want to come to Ferrum cannot do so without ongoing support.

Our students were busy in multiple ways during the past year collecting funds and essential supplies for Haiti relief as well as raising money for other worthy causes such as Relay for Life. During spring break, our dean of the Chapel, Wes Astin, led a mission group to the Choctaw Reservation in Mississippi. The group included students as well as members from Redwood UMC. They gave volunteer assistance to individuals needing home repair, and they gathered valuable insight into the enormous struggles many people face within our own country.

Ferrum is a vibrant campus serving over 1,400 students. Our theme for the 2009-2010 academic year was “Sustainability: Becoming the Change You Want to See in the World.” This was most appropriate since sustainability and change have long been hallmarks of Ferrum College and have always been a part of “the Ferrum way.” We now have a sustainability coordinator, and the College Garden is providing fresh produce for use in our dining hall. We have focused on the ABCs of sustainability: Academics, Buildings and Community, so that we may continue to provide students a welcoming and challenging atmosphere in which to pursue their educational goals. We have protected and preserved our land and historic buildings; we have been good stewards of our endowment; and we have been frugal in our budget planning. We will continue to strive for the best and most sustainable ways to provide the best education for the most students.

In order to enhance the opportunities available for our students, we have added programs as well as amenities. Men’s lacrosse will begin this fall under the guidance of a talented coach. We also created the Learning Opportunities Program (LOP) to provide extra assistance to students who need more personalized help in becoming academically successful as they adjust to the complexities of college life. Our students have benefitted from living in “themed housing” this year, and they have enjoyed the new Papa John’s Pizza restaurant located beside our Subway restaurant in Franklin Hall. We opened a Welcome Center, which also houses the offices of our director of Campus Safety and the College Police. The Christian Ministries Center has moved to a wonderful facility more centrally located on campus. Students consider this a “faith-safe” area to discuss issues relating to their lives and the move has provided even more opportunities than before for our students to gather in both structured and informal ways. Monday night worship services continue to see an increase in numbers with attendance averaging 85 students. Students from every faith background are welcome to participate in this relaxed and informal experience of contemporary worship.

Bishop Will Willimon of The United Methodist Church, former Dean of the Chapel at Duke Divinity School and one of America’s best known preachers, was the guest lecturer in our Vaughn Chapel for the Rev. Wasena “Buddy” Wright Lecture in March. He spoke on the topic of “What About Them? A Christian Looks at Those of Other Faiths.” His lecture was moving, inspiring, and thought-provoking.

We are delighted that Ferrum College will serve as the host site in June for the South Atlantic Regional School of Christian Mission. We look forward to the opportunity to welcome this special group as they come together for fellowship on the beautiful Ferrum campus. Our Methodist heritage embodies so much that we hold dear, and we once again want to say “thank you” to all those treasured individuals who sustain us through their continued generous support in so many ways.

Jennifer L. Braaten, *President*

RANDOLPH COLLEGE

Randolph College welcomed the Rev. Rachel May, associate pastor at Peakland UMC in Lynchburg, as our part-time chaplain this year. Rachel has deeply enriched campus spiritual life through such activities as holding a weekly Sunday evening chapel service that has enjoyed a loyal and enthusiastic student following and serving as advisor to student groups on campus. She provides pastoral counseling, helps students find church homes in the

community, and shares invocations and benedictions for the college at important assemblies. We are grateful for Rachel’s nourishing spiritual leadership on campus, and to Peakland UMC for its support.

This year, the college introduced Randolph’s Innovative Student Experience (RISE) program for juniors and seniors. RISE awards \$2,000 grants for students to use over their junior and senior years for research, scholarly, or creative pursuits. We are enthusiastic about this tangible commitment to student experiential learning accompanied by students’ real experience in grant writing. The College has also hosted a series of workshops this year about enhancing and encouraging experiential learning, funded by a grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

In striving with the Virginia Conference toward “Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.” Randolph College students this year represent 35 states and 29 foreign countries. In our third year of coeducation, a healthy 27 percent of students are male. We are proud of our diversity that includes 11 percent international students and 22 percent domestic students of color.

I was grateful to meet with Bishop Charlene Kammerer and the heads of the other United Methodist-affiliated institutions for a good discussion about the church’s historic support for education and its status in current times, and I appreciated the opportunity to speak at Court Street UMC at the invitation of District Superintendent Larry Davies. The Rev. Lee Sheaffer is a welcome participant at our Board of Trustees’ meetings. The Virginia Conference, and certainly the affiliated educational institutions, are challenged with so many demands for scarce financial resources, which makes the church’s prayerful and financial support for Randolph all the more appreciated.

Randolph College will award almost \$7 million in institutional grants to our students this year, with an average financial aid package of \$24,000 for students with financial need. We are strongly committed to access for every student who wants to study at Randolph College.

John E. Klein, *President*

RANDOLPH-MACON ACADEMY

This has been an excellent year for Randolph-Macon Academy (R-MA). We have continued to benefit significantly from the affiliation with the Virginia Conference and are most appreciative of the financial support during a difficult economy.

Enrollment is always an issue during tight financial times. We have good news! Our enrollment this year is 2.5 percent above last year and about 12.5 percent better than the national boarding school average. We have accomplished this by: remaining a quality institution, doubling scholarship assistance and aggressive marketing. Our school is not 100 percent full, but enrollment is steady and we are meeting our budget. Thus, while times are challenging, R-MA is financially sound.

Improved diversity has been a long standing goal of The United Methodist Church and the Virginia Conference, and R-MA supports this goal in words and deeds and we are proud of our student community, which is very diverse. Here are a few statistics for the 2009-10 student body:

African American	12 percent
International	20 percent
Other (Non-Caucasian)	16 percent
Caucasian	51 percent

R-MA has focused on improving academic excellence for 10 plus years and our efforts are paying off. As with any good college-prep school, 100 percent of our graduates are being accepted to colleges and universities. This has become “routine” for us and more than 90 percent of our students are going to four-year colleges and universities. We also have graduates attending the top schools in the country including MIT, UCLA, University of Virginia, Cornell, etc. About 5 percent of the graduates go to military service academies and other military schools. We are proud to produce graduates who wish to serve our nation through the military. However, most of our graduates are headed to civilian schools and we trust will be leaders in all walks of our society.

R-MA is also focused on character development. We know that knowledge is essential, but character defines the person and makes the difference in life. Thus, “character” is one of the foundational principles of R-MA – Character, Leadership and Knowledge. It has been that way since 1892 and it remains that way today. It is my personal belief that the time and effort we devote to character development is critical to the success of our graduates. That is why we spend time in the dorms, the classrooms, the athletic fields and in the church, modeling and teaching students about the components of character.

Thank you for your support and for your prayers. I invite you to come to our campus and see the excellence of the culture and meet our teachers and students.

Maj. Gen. Henry M. Hobgood, USAF (Ret.), *President*

RANDOLPH-MACON COLLEGE

Randolph-Macon College (R-MC) is a selective, co-educational, nationally recognized liberal arts college located in Ashland, just minutes north of Richmond and 90 miles south of Washington, D.C. The college achieves its mission of “developing the minds and character of its students” by balancing a demanding academic program with individualized attention or “moments of connection” between its exceptional faculty and students. The student-faculty ratio is 11:1 and the average class size is 15 students. The college has an outstanding reputation for its national and international internships, study abroad programs, undergraduate research opportunities and unique “First-Year Experience” program.

In 2009, R-MC produced the largest freshmen applicant pool in history and achieved its highest overall enrollment with more than 1,240 students starting the 2009-2010 academic year. The freshmen class represents Virginia, 13 other states, the District of Columbia and four foreign nations, with 20 percent representing an ethnic minority group.

At the end of the 2009 fiscal year, Randolph-Macon College received more than \$7.7 million in private support from alumni, parents and friends of the college, an increase of more than \$1.2 million compared to the previous year. Also, 33 percent of R-MC alumni made a contribution to the college, which is the highest alumni giving participation rate in nearly a decade at Randolph-Macon.

The A. Purnell Bailey Pre-Ministerial Scholarship Program for Ordained Ministry, a program designed to support students who express an interest in a Christian vocation in ordained ministry, continues to meet with success on campus. The Bailey Scholars program established its first class in 2004; 15 students are currently enrolled in the program, including six seniors. This scholarship is awarded to a limited number of selected students each year based on several criteria. These students receive half-tuition scholarships for the first two years and full tuition, room and board for the next two years; mentoring, meetings and activities with other Bailey Scholars; and assistance in fulfilling the requirements leading to acceptance in seminary in The United Methodist Church. Two internships in a ministry setting are also provided during the students’ college careers. One is academically focused with a faculty member serving as an advisor which offers academic credit and the other provides a stipend.

R-MC’s dynamic First-Year Experience (FYE) program engages students from the moment they arrive on campus. FYE is an immersion program for all first-year and eligible transfer students. Courses, known as first-year colloquia, are offered in two seemingly unrelated academic disciplines and students utilize what they learn from both areas to analyze complex issues. The program also challenges students to develop creative thinking strategies and explore alternative solutions to challenges. The FYE also includes a writing and speaking component and many include a community service project. One previous course, “Gauging the Randolph-Macon Footprint: Steps Toward Environmental Sustainability,” focused on determining the college’s carbon footprint. The outcome of this FYE class has helped define key college conservation and recycling initiatives and shaped college environmental policies.

Our January Term (J-Term) continues to be successful, with 91 percent of students participating in this optional semester. J-Term is a four-week session between the fall and spring semesters when students immerse themselves in other cultures and are provided with

unique educational and social experiences, including the opportunity to mentor and teach. In January, 184 students studied abroad in one of 19 destinations: Italy, France, Belgium, Ecuador, Ghana, Australia, China, Ethiopia, England, the Czech Republic, Romania, Japan, Germany, Austria, Hungary, Switzerland, London, Paris and Berlin. In addition, many students took on-campus courses or participated in internships.

Student outreach through community service continues to be an important aspect of a R-MC education. Students are actively engaged in Habitat for Humanity and Macon-A-Difference Day, which is held annually in conjunction with Earth Day. Students are also engaged with the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life, also held each April. Fraternities and sororities volunteer more than 10,000 service hours each year and, in the last several years, raised more than \$15,000 for various community organizations.

Randolph-Macon's Phi Beta Kappa chapter received the Triennial Award for the most outstanding chapter at a liberal arts college in the United States. The college also welcomed its first Fulbright Scholar-in-Residence, Dr. Tang Hao, an associate professor of Economics at South China Normal University. Dr. Tan is teaching courses at R-MC and is giving public lectures on campus and in the greater Richmond area.

Classics Professor Dr. John Camp II was named the Niarchos Professor of Classics at the college by the Stavros S. Niarchos Foundation, an international philanthropic organization that supports charitable activities in four primary areas: arts and culture, education, health and medicine and social welfare.

Randolph-Macon also developed a new Strategic Plan which focuses on enriching the liberal arts educational experience for students, faculty and staff by adding new facilities, programs and services to increase the size of the student body, while preserving R-MC's unique character and tradition. The college has also begun implementation of a new Campus Master Plan designed to incorporate the college's long history of utilizing classic architecture and open pedestrian vistas in new and innovative designs. It also addresses the use of existing facilities and infrastructure as well as new additions that will improve the delivery of the college's academic program and enhance the Randolph-Macon experience for students. Each of these plans has provided the foundation for the college's Capital Campaign.

Robert R. Lindgren, *President*

SHENANDOAH UNIVERSITY

Shenandoah University (SU) is proud of its United Methodist heritage. The university has more than 3,600 students at the undergraduate and graduate levels. A Shenandoah education incorporates scholarship, experiential learning and sophisticated technologies as well as practical wisdom. We provide students with the academic content and analytical skills they will need to launch successful careers, and harness technologies that will enable them to create new ideas, products or services that impact a global society.

In 2009, SU concluded a \$65 million capital campaign, admitted the largest undergraduate class in institutional history, and launched an aggressive five-year strategic plan. That plan includes: iMLearning, Going Global (a first-year seminar for incoming freshmen), outdoor recreational programs and service projects (both locally and globally).

Shenandoah has responded quickly to the disaster in Haiti. On March 5, President Fitzsimmons led an assessment team (including SU Haitian students, structural engineers and health professionals) to Haiti to see first-hand the extensive damage from the Jan. 12 earthquake. Shenandoah is committed to refurbishing a K-12 school in Port-au-Prince (where the father of the SU students is the principal) and restoring education to the surrounding community. President Fitzsimmons, who has lived, studied and taught in Haiti (and has written extensively about the country, its political system and its people), is passionate about future United Methodist Volunteer In Mission trips to Haiti by members of the SU community. In other responses to the devastation, students and staff assembled hundreds of health kits on each of SU's campuses, and student athletes raised money for the United Methodist Committee on Relief. All of this is a reminder of what it means to be a part of a United Methodist-related university where mission equals relationship.

The University Senate of The United Methodist Church, at its meeting on Jan. 21, approved Shenandoah University for continued listing, without qualification, as a United Methodist-related academic institution. The Review Committee reported to the University Senate stated, “Shenandoah consistently represents itself as an institution of The United Methodist Church.” The committee’s review also highlighted the initiative to restructure and revitalize the approach to religious life on campus and the church connection. “The result is an impressive effort emanating from the Spiritual Life Team, including The Institute for Church Professions (a program designed for calling, forming and sending leaders for tomorrow’s church and world), the “JustFaith” Christian leadership program (a cohort-based academic minor), “Mission Possible” (students involved in community service and outreach), and Spiritual Life programs (student-led worship, mission trips, pastoral support and counseling).”

In late May Shenandoah University was the host site for Student Forum 2010, the annual leadership conference of the United Methodist Student Movement. During the conference, hundreds of students from across the nation engaged in education and dialogue around topics relevant to the experiences and issues concerning United Methodist college and university students around the world. A leadership team of students prepared for this event by spending the spring semester learning about radical hospitality in a small group and study they called “The RH Factor” (for Radical Hospitality). They explored the Bible for insight into God’s welcome and developing practical skills for sharing hospitality with others.

Shenandoah University is ranked 31st among master’s level institutions in the south region on *U.S. News & World Report’s* list of America’s Best Colleges for 2010. SU is also on the magazine’s list of “Top Up-and-Coming Schools” of 77 colleges and universities nationwide, and one of only five Virginia institutions on the list.

Shenandoah EcoVenture 2009 sent three students and one faculty member on a month-long trek where more than 200 miles of the Appalachian Trail and the Shenandoah River became a classroom. The group learned from experts in a wide range of fields. Accompanied by a field crew of *The Downstream Project*, EcoVenture 2009 was launched to help raise public awareness and conduct research on the environmental problems and public health issues facing the region. Carl Chapman, SU student and member of Crum’s UMC, and Dr. John Copenhaver, Virginia Conference clergy and Religion professor at SU, participated in this immersion experience gaining additional insight into what it means to be God’s stewards of creation

Our dean of Spiritual Life, the Rev. Rhonda VanDyke Colby, will lead a team of young adults to Mozambique this summer, as part of the Virginia Conference’s Initiatives of Hope. Bishop Joaquina Nhanala of Mozambique issued the call for a group of young adults to come to her country and teach Christian leadership with young adults in Mozambique. These young leaders from two continents will meet and teach one another as they are mutually and relationally formed for Christian leadership in the global church. The team includes students from four universities and one seminary, plus three Virginia Conference clergy (Carl Perez, Hyo Lee and VanDyke Colby). Among them are five SU students of the JustFaith program. The result of this grassroots gathering will be a new leadership curriculum for United Methodist young adults to be used in Mozambique and across Virginia.

Tracy Fitzsimmons, *President*

VIRGINIA WESLEYAN COLLEGE

After serving Virginia Wesleyan for 12 years, Chaplain Rev. Robert “Chappy” Chapman ‘79 has taken an appointment at Market Street United Methodist in Onancock, Virginia, on the Eastern Shore District. Everyone at VWC wishes Chappy the very best in his new ministry. On August 1, 2009, Reverend Florence Brooks took over the Chaplain’s Office and has impacted the College in many positive ways. Rev. Brooks has instituted SOAR, an opportunity for worship held in the newly renovated Monumental Chapel on the VWC campus.

On October 4, 2009, the Chapel was re-dedicated. Originally dedicated in 1975, Monumental Chapel, built with a gift from Monumental United Methodist Church in

Portsmouth, Virginia and a matching gift from Portsmouth's Beazley Foundation, the Monumental Chapel has served many functions over the years. Besides worship services, weddings and memorial services, the Chapel has served as theater, book store and classroom. The renovations to the Chapel have made it a much more inviting place to worship, the purpose for which it is now solely dedicated.

Virginia Wesleyan College, in partnership with the Norfolk District of the United Methodist Church, hosted a food packaging event for Stop Hunger Now on Saturday, Sept. 19, 2009, in the Convocation Center of the Jane P. Batten Student Center. More than 800 volunteers from the Norfolk District, working side-by-side with 400 volunteers from the Virginia Wesleyan College community, funneled, weighed, sealed and boxed rice and other food staples. The goal, to package 285,120 meals to be sent overseas to educational institutions in developing countries, was exceeded by more than 20,000.

During Winter Homeless Shelter Four, Virginia Wesleyan College once again partnered with the Portsmouth Volunteers for the Homeless and opened its doors to the homeless for a week of shelter services that included hot meals, a warm place to sleep and fellowship. This year more than 90 guests were accommodated and 75 VWC students participated. This event provides a transformative experience for students and guests alike. For the students, an academic component consisting of a three-week class built around the Shelter supplies the necessary training to prepare for dealing with the complex issues surrounding the homeless and homelessness. At the end of the course, students reflect on their experiences and brainstorm ways to improve the process.

William Greer, *President*

REPORTS FROM UNITED METHODIST CAMPUS MINISTRIES

CAMPUS CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MARY WASHINGTON

This has been another amazing and successful year at the Campus Christian Community (CCC). We are an ecumenical campus ministry on the campus of Mary Washington College in Fredericksburg. It is supported by Presbyterians, United Methodists, Episcopalians and Lutherans. The motto of the CCC is: "Welcoming all people, the Campus Christian Community witnesses to the love and power of God in Jesus Christ. The CCC ministers with students, faculty, and staff of Mary Washington College and the surrounding community through worship, study, fellowship, and service, and provides a forum to explore and question issues of faith and life." This motto continues to serve as a guide for all we do together as a Christian community and reflects our ultimate objective to incarnate God's love and mercy to all people.

Our primary weekly meeting continues to be our "Table Talk" program, where each Thursday from 5-7 p.m., 30-50 students gather to enjoy a meal provided by one of our supporting churches and engage in conversation about a topic of interest and concern. Often we will welcome guest speakers from the college community who will speak from their experience and academic expertise. We also have a variety of off-campus guests as well. Some of our guests this year included Dr. Greg Stanton of the American Studies program at UMW who is sadly leaving us this year. He is a leader in the fight against genocide and speaks worldwide on the topic. We also welcomed Dr. Humphrey from the Economics department speaking to us about economic development in third-world countries, as well as the micro-finance program he started in Honduras. Students also led discussions on topics such as Honduras missions, diversity, Earth Day and Passover. Each week a major part of our Thursday evenings is our time of sharing and prayer. Students will open their lives up to one another and listen to stories of joy and prayers of concern.

We continued with our Wednesday afternoon Eucharist service. Not long back we built a small prayer room just off our main meeting room that is now set up for worship. Again we used the Common Lectionary to read through the stories of scripture and listen to each other's observations and reflections. We continued to use Taize-style music and enjoyed the quiet and peaceful atmosphere. The prayer room is also available during the day for students to spend a few moments of meditation.

We had 12 students plan and implement the program for this past year at the CCC. Every Monday evening, these leaders meet to brainstorm ministry ideas and plan the details of the CCC events. It was exciting to watch these students learn how to work together and listen to each other's opinions. This was the second and third year on the ministry team for many of them and it was gratifying to see their deepening level of maturity and concerns. Seven of them are graduating this year and their leadership and participation will be missed.

In September we began planning our seventh short-term mission trip scheduled for January. We again went to Honduras, where we volunteered at Siete de Abril, a poor village in El Progreso where are continuing to build the new village of Villa Soleada.

Several small groups met this year including a men's group and a women's group. These are mainly support groups that focus on relationship building, discussion, and prayer. We also had a Friday afternoon tea time group, which is a casual gathering of college students spending an hour or two together at the end of a busy week.

This past year I was able to visit many of our area churches and sometimes preach a sermon about our work with students. Each time the congregations are eager to hear about what students are thinking and doing. They are happy to participate in campus ministry. Our mission trips are not possible without the involvement of our congregations. Not only did they give money to help students go on the trip, but then they opened their doors to listen to the students' stories of their experience.

Young adulthood is a very dynamic time in life. These young people are moving out of adolescence and beginning their final move into full adulthood. It is not an easy time as they begin to make their own decisions about what they will believe and how they will live. It is so important that the church has a presence among students as they make this often bewildering transition. It is my hope that the church will continue to increase its sense of commitment toward this next generation of church and community leaders. The college years are an in-between time. As Henri Nouwen has said, they are moving out of their parents home but have yet to establish a home of their own. I continue to feel lucky to be called to the task of creating a network of support for these students who are having experiences and making choices that can influence the rest of their lives. It is a great privilege to minister in a place that has had such a long tradition of faithful service to the community of this fine university. I look forward to the enthusiasm, ministry, relationships and new experiences in the year to come.

Robert G. Azzarito, *Campus Minister*

COMMUNITY COLLEGE MINISTRIES IN SOUTHWEST VIRGINIA

Community College Ministries is your exciting, thriving campus ministry with community colleges in southwestern and central Virginia, where more than 50,000 students deal with family, jobs, and career choices every single day. Colleges include Virginia Western Community College in Roanoke, Blue Ridge Community College in Weyers Cave, Dabney Lancaster Community College in Clifton Forge, Central Virginia Community College in Lynchburg, Danville Community College in Danville, New River Community College in Dublin, Patrick Henry Community College in Martinsville, Wytheville Community College in Wytheville, Virginia Highlands Community College in Abingdon, Southwest Virginia Community College in Richlands and Mountain Empire Community College in Big Stone Gap. Denominational partners are the Presbyterian Church USA and the Virginia Conference of The United Methodist Church.

Community College Ministries sponsors Servant Leader teams and Alliance for Excellence involving hundreds of students. Alliance for Excellence is a partnership of community colleges with African American congregations designed to support students in their educational pursuits. With support from the United Methodist Self-Development Fund, Alliance for Excellence provides vital programs for African American students through fellowship, motivational seminars, choirs and academic awards. Servant Leader teams are groups of students, faculty, and church leaders using their talents in local mission.

Community College Ministries also supports veterans in our community colleges under the leadership of the Rev. Don MacNicol and with support of the Virginia Community College System and VOCAL.

A completely new and exciting program this year is the virtual mission project. Students at Patrick Henry Community College conducted a mission event completely over the Internet with school children in Belize, providing mentoring and tutoring to children in the Queens Square region of Belize City with an exchange of letters, photos, videos and other resources.

My e-mail address is <steve@peacework.org> and the office is located at 209 Otey Street in Blacksburg. Our phone number is (540) 953-3904. Gloria Lindsay at Virginia Western Community College is president. Sandy Saunders serves as coordinator at Danville Community College. Jean Wilson serves as coordinator at Patrick Henry Community College. Katherine Brown serves as coordinator at Central Virginia Community College. The virtual mission coordinator is Susan Christian. The fellowship advisor at Blue Ridge Community College is Jim Wright. Visit <www.ccmva.org>, where you can find links to supporting churches, participating colleges and financial aid, as well as opportunities for participating and giving. We welcome your involvement in this exciting ministry with community colleges!

Stephen Darr, *Campus Minister*

CROSSROADS AT VIRGINIA MILITARY INSTITUTE AND WASHINGTON & LEE UNIVERSITY

One translation of Proverbs 3:5-6 reads, “Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will direct your paths.” These verses have been both comfort and inspiration to the students and leadership of our campus ministry to the Virginia Military Institute and Washington and Lee University. Student leaders chose these verses as our “heart verses” as they gave our ministry its new name last fall.

CrossRoads is a partnership of the Staunton District with two United Methodist churches in Lexington, Trinity and Randolph Street. Based at Trinity UMC, CrossRoads exists to connect students to God, to each other in Christian community, to the church and to the world. In the process of making these connections, students are loved and nurtured as they deepen their relationship to God. In the program, we make disciples, and hearts and lives are transformed.

Our ministry model differs from many campus ministries in the conference by being based in the local church and funded outside the realm of the Board of Higher Education Ministries. Students are active in the life of the two sponsoring churches. The churches pour out Christ’s love on the students through a student “adoption” program, by inviting the students into their homes, and by feeding the students both lunch and dinner on Sundays. The bonds of love and relationship keep students connected to the church throughout their college experience.

These two colleges couldn’t be more different, and this diversity is reflected in our ministry. Small groups meet during the week on both campuses for Bible study, discussion and prayer. Then on Sunday, students have many options, depending on their schedules: attend Sunday school, go to worship at either church, visit with their adopted families Sunday afternoon, and attend our Sunday evening large group session. The Sunday evening program brings everyone together in community for worship with live music, dinner, fellowship and disciple-building activities. We often meet outside these scheduled times for mission and service work: participation in W&L’s Service League and Campus Kitchens project, donating to local Angel Tree project at Christmas, or packing kits for UMCOR.

Our ministry has a special opportunity to reach first-year students at VMI, whose only freedom is to leave campus on Sunday for religious activities. Many “unchurched” cadets visit our program and this presents us with a special mission opportunity to share the good news of Christ with these students. One first-year commented “This is the first place I ever felt like I belonged.”

We must never doubt that campus ministry impacts the lives of students. Our fall retreat allowed 21 students to have a mountaintop experience as they took an inventory of their spiritual gifts. Prayer and discernment followed. Two students came down the mountain interested in pastoral ministry and two more interested in pursuing careers as youth pastors.

Caitlin Myers, W&L’s Class of 2012, describes her college ministry experience like this: “This college ministry is a huge part of my life here at school; this is my family, my friends, my support group. Without them, I would not be as strong in my faith as I am now. This

college ministry... and the friends I have made through it have allowed me to cope with very difficult things in my life, things I could not deal with on my own. This college ministry, and Trinity itself, have become my family away from home, and for that I am eternally grateful.”

In many ways, college students stand at a crossroads in their lives. Decisions about faith, career, relationships, and lifestyle are often dramatically impacted during this stage of life. Through CrossRoads, The United Methodist church is helping students trust in the Lord as they make these decisions. Our prayer is that as we help students learn to trust God, that God will direct their paths.

James A. Bollinger, *Associate for College Ministry at Trinity UMC*

NORFOLK STATE UNIVERSITY WESLEY-WESTMINSTER FOUNDATION

Campus ministry proclaims and celebrates the good news of Jesus Christ by providing opportunities for persons to understand and experience Christian community, nurture for those in their spiritual walk, and offers a unique setting to the academic community to include its intellectual activity with the Christian faith, thereby creating an atmosphere for solemn discovery to respond to God’s call in their lives. Our ministry is unique in that it serves students from various denominations keeping in mind the core principle of “All Things New,” a vision of transformation that is shared by The United Methodist Church.

The university is surrounded by different denominations and churches that have been involved with the Norfolk State campus for many years. Wesley-Westminster Foundation is distinctive as an ecumenical ministry, in that we provide leadership and direction with emphasis on engaging the community and participate in activities that include, but are not limited to, the Norfolk State Gospel Choir, Campus Christian Athletes, the Baptist Bible Study Group and the United Campus Christian Ministries. There are more than 75 students in the Gospel Choir, 15 to 20 students in the Bible study group, 17 students in the Christian Athletes, and around 20 active students in the Wesley-Westminster Student Fellowship, with a core group of student officer leaders of seven strong who reach out to 5,000 students on campus.

Recently I received a letter from the Rev. Dr. Helen Bessent Byrd, pastor of Covenant Presbyterian Church, located near campus and our campus ministry, stating “As in the past, our sanctuary remains open to you for your worship services... We pray for your continued work and success in ministry to young adults enrolled at Norfolk State University and remain in partnership with you for this shared commitment.”

We are available to students for regular times of support, counseling and spiritual direction. This commitment is recognized and embraced by the university administration, which we also serve in a chaplaincy capacity. We provide representation as a spiritual ambassador for the Norfolk State family and an emissary for The United Methodist Church. The Wesley-Westminster Foundation at Norfolk State continues to host opportunities for fellowship, service, worship and hospitality. This semester the students enjoyed participating in the Stop Hunger Now event sponsored by the Norfolk District. The students are committed to worship at local churches, focus on feeding the homeless and participate in visiting elderly centers. The students are dedicated to completing the Campus Ministry House with the continued assistance from the Norfolk and Portsmouth districts, and through the leadership of Lois Simons, Wesley-Westminster Board chairperson, and the help and volunteer service of George Williams and other United Methodist volunteers.

The church must continue its investment in the minds and lives of young adults. We yearn for your prayers and continued support to a cause greater than ourselves. Thank you for the opportunity to walk in faith and in partnership with the vision of The United Methodist Church.

Larry Smith, *Director/Campus Minister*

THE WESLEY FOUNDATION AT THE COLLEGE OF WILLIAM AND MARY

“A lot of really great things come out of that little building on Jamestown Road.” So said a departing Wesley Foundation Board of Directors member to a newly recruited member taking her place. But what is done is no more than what is expected of any faith community. We are

the church of Jesus Christ at William and Mary, doing many of the same things done in any local church – except at really strange hours.

We gather for worship – at mid-week Eucharist services, on Sunday mornings with members of local congregations, at the beginning and end of each academic year, at the 19th annual Festival of Lessons and Carols, which brings together hundreds of students and community members each December, and occasionally as part of our weekly Sunday night programs and dinners. This year highlights would include a bluegrass service, a reggae worship celebration and an evening of prayer, song, silence and Eucharist with Stefan Waligur.

We meet for study – around a lunchtime table of food, friendship and faith as faculty, staff and grad students study the Psalms; by examining the complexities of the Israel-Palestine situation in-depth with others from Williamsburg UMC and hearing first-hand from World Methodist Peace Prize recipient Elias Chacour as a part of our ongoing speaker series; as students watch and discuss films or reflect on how their faith is being stretched, challenged, and transformed by religion courses they take; through student-led Bible study groups; during an overnight retreat exploring spiritual journeys; as an intentional Christian community of Wesley House residents wrestle with topics like the nature and authority of scripture or evangelism or the identity and meaning of Christ; and especially through our weekly Sunday night programs. Memorable programs would include W&M President Reveley reflecting on maintaining faith in an academic world, scientist/priest John Kerr talking about happiness, alumnae Meghan Roth reporting her experiences at the Copenhagen Climate Conference, or learning about the Brazil Shade and Fresh Water project from Teca and Gordon Greathouse.

We have fun – in an alcohol-free and safe setting for friendships and relaxation. Whether it is our first-ever “Keg Party” (five gallons of Bruster’s ice cream in a barrel) or intramural sports, enjoying pancakes at late night pancake exam breaks, playing miniature golf or bowling to raise funds for Haiti relief, eating pizza while watching TV, Wesley knows how to have a good time!

We serve our neighbors in need – distributing hundreds of cups of lemonade and thousands of cookies as new students move into campus or providing 500 tacos on the last day of classes; ripping China-made drywall out of a local home; providing an Iftaar meal at the of a day of Ramadan fasting for our Muslim cousins in faith; coordinating the 12th annual W&M Potato Drop, partnering with Williamsburg and Wellspring UMCs for a Stop Hunger Now event; or traveling to Atlanta and Eleuthera Island for national and international mission trips – we are the hands, heart and feet of Jesus doing what he asks of all of us.

We develop church leaders. Currently six of our alumni are studying at seminaries up and down the East Coast; countless others serve local congregations as pastors or lay leaders or in other capacities. New leadership is nurtured in student-led Bible studies or by the shared responsibilities of our Young Adult Council, or attendance at the United Methodist Student Forum or Relevance X conference.

And through it all, lives are changed, the gospel of Christ is made flesh and we are the church of Jesus. Thanks be to God for the privilege and challenge of being the Body of Christ in the mission field young adults who live and study at William and Mary!

David M. Hindman, *Campus Minister*

WESLEY FOUNDATION AT JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY

As it is in many communities around the country, things are changing in Harrisonburg – home of the Wesley Foundation at James Madison University. Here, a group of 15 bold and courageous leaders have taken a deep breath and a step back – away from the typical Thursday night fellowship dinners and social events to ask some hard questions: Who are we? More importantly, who are we called to be? And are we living that call? The answer? A resounding, “No!”

JMU’s Wesley Foundation has a rich history filled with incredible people who have touched countless lives and made a meaningful impact in our community. But a rich history risks a stagnant future – a comfortable, “OK-with-the-status-quo” way of living. And we refuse to let that happen.

Because we see brokenness in us and all around us. We see tens of thousands of students in our community looking for meaning and purpose and hope and love. We see young adults

searching for a place to fit in, a place where they belong, a place where it's OK to come and just be. And we see a deep yearning for grace – when we're walking to class, peering outside office windows, and, perhaps most of all, when we look in the mirror.

There's a need for Jesus. And that's who we're trying to be. These 15 individuals believe that "greater things are still to be done here..." as the powerful worship song "God of this City" proclaims. And these "greater things" won't happen if we just sit comfortably inside our cozy building.

So we've set out to launch a new faith community. And on this journey together, we are honoring our rich history, but taking steps toward a broader, more powerful mission. What is this mission? It's a mission of passion where hope rises from pain. Where beauty rises from brokenness. And grace rises from sin and suffering. It's a mission to create a place for all of God's children. A place of welcoming that is free from masks, hypocrisy, and judgment. We're seeking to create a place filled with grace – where out-of-control honesty meets out-of-control love.

Jesus came so that life could rise from death. And that's what we're seeking to do in Harrisonburg.

We're not delusional. We know this journey will not be easy. It's already had its share of speed bumps. But through it all, we're learning about what it means to be a passionate, authentic community where God works in us and through us to bring amazing life-giving transformation.

We would like to offer our sincere appreciation to the Virginia Conference for its long-standing and faithful support of our ministry. As we move ahead with this mission, we covet the prayers of our partners in ministry and are comforted knowing that we are not alone. God is with us, as are the saints. Thanks be to God!

David Brent Levy, *JMU Wesley Foundation Board Member*

WESLEY FOUNDATION AT LONGWOOD UNIVERSITY/HAMPDEN-SYDNEY COLLEGE

In faithful response to God's love for all creation, the Wesley Foundation in Farmville exists in order to be an expression of this love, primarily to and with the students. We seek to enable students to commit their lives to Jesus Christ and to live out that commitment in a life of love and service. In addition, we seek to be in ministry to and with the faculty and staff, larger college community, and local United Methodist Churches.

As always, missions have been a big part of our faith community at the Wesley Foundation. We have planned and taken part in local and national mission events. Our mission efforts have included Health Kits for Haiti, Nothing But Nets in conjunction with Farmville UMC Children's Sunday School and FACES food pantry. These local mission events have made it possible for students not interested in a weeklong trip to experience the transformation that can take place through service to others. We also did a Spring Break Mission Trip from March 7-13, 2010. We returned to Ridgeville, SC and worked with the people known as the Edisto Indians. The team included 12 students and 8 non-students. This was an ecumenical trip. We had students from three campus ministries (Baptist, United Methodist and Episcopal campus ministries). Also, the Catholic and Baptist campus ministers were on the trip. We stayed at SC state park cabins on the Edisto River and the United Methodist parsonage for the three point charge in the Ridgeville area. These local mission events and our trip to Ridgeville, SC were a time of service and personal spiritual growth for all who participated.

Here is a statement from a student that participated in this year's trip. "One of my biggest worries in coming to college was not feeling at home or finding a place I belong. The Wesley Foundation made those worries completely disappear. Wesley has become home to me and is the high point of each and every week. No matter how good or bad a week has been going, Wesley gives me hope that everything is going to be okay and has provided an awesome support system of people to pick me up when I fall down. I could not even begin to imagine what life would be like without the Wesley Foundation." This statement is from Lauren Mioduszewski, she is a freshmen at Longwood and is a part of our Student leadership Council.

The heart and soul of our full-time program of Campus Ministry continues to be our weekly

Tuesday Fellowship Dinner and Program. Farmville District churches, groups and individuals provide meals that are followed by meaningful programs on a variety of topics given by different speakers. These speakers include pastors, college professors and administrators, and students. It is a time of community building and fellowship that serves as the base of our ministry. This year our Tuesday night gatherings have centered on the Sermon on the Mount in the Gospel of Matthew. It has challenged us to reexamine our commitment to Christ and our Discipleship. We also offer Bible studies and other small group ministries that are designed to challenge and support students. We have a “Round Table Discussion Group” meeting on the campus of Hampden-Sydney. This has become a “guy’s group” and provides an opportunity for discussions that range from deep theological issues to dealing with stress and peer pressure. There is also a “Ladies Lunch” that is facilitated by the Wesley Foundation Student Leadership Council president. It meets on Wednesday in the Dining Hall on Longwood’s campus. We schedule at least one Tuesday night a month on Hampden-Sydney’s campus and try to include the faculty and staff of the college.

The doors of the building are left open most of the time, for study, prayer, relaxation, movies and TV, pool and ping-pong, and many fellowship opportunities. Many groups use the Wesley Foundation Student Center. These groups include AA, the Catholic Campus Ministry of Longwood and Hampden-Sydney, the Farmville District Youth program, the Farmville UMC Senior High Youth, other community and church organizations, the Farmville District Pastors, and the District Committee on Ordained Ministry. It is our hope and prayer that the Wesley Foundation continues to be “a place where hearts are warmed.”

Richard Meiser, *Director/Campus Minister*

TIDEWATER FOUNDATION AT OLD DOMINION UNIVERSITY

The idea of Methodism began on a campus in the 1700s with Charles and John Wesley and others forming a “Holy Club” where the spiritual life was examined and works of social holiness were conducted.

Not much has changed in campus ministry nearly three hundred years later.

The Tidewater Wesley Foundation exists not only as a building on 49th Street among the other faith traditions on “religious row,” but as a unique faith community that unites students, faculty and staff from a variety of backgrounds in exploring their faith, building community, exercising leadership, and developing a sense of God’s call in their lives and their pursuit of self-identity and purpose.

As I entered my second year here, I knew that we had to make several changes to the culture of this particular campus ministry. The board, student leadership, and I have worked diligently to remember the roots of the Methodist tradition as we have rebuilt our student base and outreach to the campus community. We’ve worked to increase our visibility on campus by providing relevant studies and ample fellowship opportunities.

The Tidewater Wesley Foundation continues to host several opportunities for fellowship, service, study, hospitality and worship. Our most successful programs include a Monday morning Bible Study and book group, Tuesday Table Talk and lunch program and Friday evening fellowship meals. We have partnered with Park Place UMC, Habitat for Humanity, and sent students to speak at area churches. This Spring, we’ve spoken about the theology of community as presented by Dietrich Bonhoeffer and have explored relationships and marriage through the words of Adam Hamilton.

We are not only committed to the student body. My involvement in the University Chaplain’s Association as well as my participation in the Student Affairs division has enabled me to be an emissary for the United Methodist Church. I have been able to demonstrate that the United Methodist Church cares about the spiritual needs of faculty and staff. I am excited by the ways that University chaplains are included in the life of the University. This includes our participation in threat assessment teams, housing services, and hosting joint programs with counseling services.

In November 2009, we offered a Thanksgiving lunch to the campus safety personnel, counseling services and the Student Affairs Division at ODU. Nearly ninety students, faculty

and staff joined us. The Tidewater Wesley Foundation building has also hosted the planning retreat for the Student Affairs Division and meeting space for Alcoholics Anonymous, Narcotics Anonymous and other student groups. Our space is utilized seven days a week during the academic year, and five days a week during the summer.

The goals for the Tidewater Wesley Foundation include improving our relationships with the local churches that support our mission outpost and faith community, to be financially faithful as we improve our funding streams, to make improvements to the building that reduce our environmental impact, and to make our building fully accessible to students with disabilities.

We covet your prayers and support. Your investment in the young adults of our church is an incubator for future clergy and lay leaders in our church.

John Haynes Jr., *Director*

WESLEY FOUNDATION AT THE UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA

Writer, artist and United Methodist pastor Jan Richardson visited the Wesley Foundation in February and reflected on the “blessed waste” of the woman who anoints Jesus with expensive nard (Mark 14). Others around the table are shocked at her wastefulness but Jesus doesn’t scold her. Jesus receives her blessing graciously and with praise. Sometimes what we think makes sense is not what God has in mind.

Like the woman, we know that the money, personnel, resources, and prayer we spend on campus ministry could be spent someplace else. But this is where God is calling us, to pour out our finest oils here in the lives of students. Listen to the voices of students you have helped “anoint” through the Wesley Foundation at the University of Virginia (UVA).

Matt Henderson, a first-year student who initiated a new program in his first semester, says, “The Wesley Foundation has been a defining aspect of my college life... The fact that two first-years were able to start something on their own like this is a testament to the openness of the foundation. Anyone who wants to contribute is able to do so.”

At the other end of experience, Joelle Portzer says “It is easy, I think, for fourth-years to either get overly nostalgic or superior and aloof (or both) in their final year at the university, but I have found that the foundation is preventing me from falling into either trap. Having a “multi-generational” faith family has kept me energized and connected to everything that is wonderful about the foundation. It is one of the greatest aspects of the foundation – we capitalize on the diversity of perspective and experience offered by members of each class.”

Third year student Rebecca Worley says “When I started my first year at UVA, I never anticipated that the Wesley Foundation would have such a profound impact on me. During high school, I attended church every week with my family, but never took time to think about my faith or reflect on what it meant to me... Deborah held a study in the fall of my second year called Restless Hearts. It was focused on helping young adults decipher God’s call in their lives, whether that is through ministry or not. This study helped me to see how important it is for me to witness to others. I was still unclear, though, about how I could connect my civil engineering major to showing Christ’s love to other people. Last spring, a Restless Hearts retreat was held at William and Mary, and a few Wesley friends and I decided to venture down for the weekend. After this retreat, I began to make some connections between my major and my desire to serve God. I have started to seriously consider mission work with The United Methodist Church after graduation. I’ve talked to Deborah, my parents, roommates, and friends about my concerns for leaving my comfort zone and taking this type of risk. Deborah has helped me to understand that being uncomfortable is sometimes a good thing. The Wesley Foundation has played an essential role in challenging me to break out of my comfort zone and discover the person God is calling me to be and to become.”

Melissa Holmes, also a third-year student, says, “I have been a United Methodist my whole life, was baptized as a baby, participated in all of the children’s Christmas plays, was a faithful member of my church’s youth group, confirmed freshman year of high school, but nothing has done more for my spiritual growth than the Wesley Foundation.”

We are thankful for these fruits of our ministry, for the opportunity to engage young people

in the life of the church, and for this mission field where the church meets the academy and the world in real, everyday ways. We are thankful that the Virginia Conference knows how to “waste” itself in campus ministry. Thanks be to God!

Deborah Lewis, *Campus Minister*

WESLEY FOUNDATION AT VIRGINIA COMMONWEALTH UNIVERSITY

- “Back-2-School” welcoming event began our year with board members and student leaders welcoming new and returning students. This was also an opportunity to introduce Pace Campus Ministry and provide brochures telling who we are and what we have to offer. Excellent reception and four new students joined our team.
- Two concerts as fund-raisers to meet the expenses of the building and provide resources for new equipment (drum set procured!).
- New chair campaign was successful and now we have 200 new chairs for the sanctuary, along with new carpeting!
- Kitchen renovation project is underway: replacement of countertops, refurbishing old cabinets, new stove, insulation of kitchen and new floors in the kitchen.
- Worship has stabilized with a new band in place.
- Participated in an Interfaith Prayer Vigil on the VCU’s main campus emphasizing the need to assist Haiti in particular and other emerging concerns as they occur.
- Held a Stop Hunger Now packaging event which was very well received by the VCU community and one of our partner churches: 10,000 meals were packaged!
- Opened our doors to other groups that they may share their offerings: Milpa Club (Highland Support Project), Buddhist Ritual Celebration (Department of Art History) and hosted Dr. Norma Cruz, 2009 winner Women of Courage Award given by the U.S. State Department.
- Continue to be a United Methodist presence of this campus offering weekly fellowship and worship opportunities.
- Partnered with Boulevard United Methodist Church to assist their efforts with Caritas! Our students were moved by this act of love.

James G. Daniely, *Director*

WESLEY FOUNDATION AT VIRGINIA TECH

Our students are embracing their call to be faithful witnesses as our campus ministry seeks to be an authentic, relevant, and transformational faith community in the midst of our University, community, and world. Leaving the brick walls of our Wesley Foundation building and being sent into ministry is a difficult reality for not only our Wesley Foundation, but all Christians. However, as we seek to “call, form, and send principled Christian leaders for the transformation of church and world” our students are embracing the opportunities to be faithful witnesses to the presence of Christ in the world.

Kate Andrukonis, one of our student leaders, proclaimed this truth in her message to Mount Pleasant UMC, where we had the wonderful opportunity to lead and join together in worship with our connection. Here is her message about what it means to be a witness at the Wesley Foundation at Virginia Tech:

“The concept of acting as a witness for Christ is something that is mentioned repeatedly in the Bible and other religious texts. However, it is a concept that many of us unconsciously shy away from; we hesitate to accept our roles as witnesses. We may be uncomfortable to admit that we don’t even know what it means to be a witness for Christ. The *Merriam Webster Dictionary* supplies ‘testify’ as an unhelpful synonym and uses ‘to bear witness to one’s religious convictions’ as their example. Women ‘bear’ children, we ‘bear’ burdens, and “bear” ourselves at the doctor’s office. Nobody really wants to ‘bear’ anything. It’s awkward. It’s painful. It exposes parts of us that we’d rather not expose, and it’s hard. Acting as a witness for Christ can be much the same.

“However, the word “bear” also has other definitions. I’d like to share a few of those, but at the risk of providing story time with Merriam Webster, I’d like to share the ways in which we

‘bear it’ at the Wesley Foundation.

“Bear - ‘to be equipped or furnished with’: A strong example of how we, as students, are equipped to witness to the grace of God is evident as we lead worship at local churches and participate in various mission opportunities. Whether we are spending time constructing homes with Habitat for Humanity and Appalachia Service Project, tutoring local kids, or filling a sanctuary with melodies of praise, we find ourselves in the roles of witnesses. However, I don’t believe you could send college students around winding Appalachian roads or have them sit week after week encouraging a fourth grader to invent a hypothesis about a volcano without some extra equipment. Thankfully we find ourselves strengthened and equipped by God to act as witnesses in our various mission, worship, and other experiences.

“Bear - ‘to move while holding up and supporting’: This definition is particularly significant to me because it means that bearing witness to Christ doesn’t have to be still. If you ask anyone who knows me, they will emphatically confirm that I don’t do still well. True, stillness and solitude with God is powerful and crucial to Christian growth, but in our fluid mosaic that is college life, movement has power too. Whether that movement looks like a campus-wide scavenger hunt, a Hokie football game, or dinner together, we move. One of my favorite ways to avoid being still is playing intramural sports with Wesley. While it sounds unconventional, sports are easily our most visible form of witnessing. Visible means much more than having our opponents read the words ‘Wesley Foundation’ on our t-shirts as they run past us. Visible means that we’re out there winning and losing and inviting everyone we know to join us. Visible is gathering together after every game to pray. I could try and say everything we do at Wesley is done in the attitude of holding God ‘up,’ but I think the bigger point is that God holds us up: in our broken bones from intramural sports and in our brokenness when we turn from Christ. In that, we are witnesses to God in our movement.

“Bear - ‘to have as an identification’: I think this last definition is the hardest for many of us, myself included, to accept. We’ve all heard that college is a time for discovery, for ‘finding yourself.’ It is a time of self identification and a Christian identity is too infrequently part of that identification. Four and a half years ago I was an awkward high school senior embarrassed that my mom had dragged me to a College of Science student panel and that she insisted on asking a ton of questions. When she asked one of the students what he did for fun, he responded that he played sports for the Wesley Foundation. He took the time in that crowded panel to explain what Wesley was and why he liked going. Mike and I have played sports together for four years now and I am thankful that he was strong enough to share his identification as a follower of Christ so that I could have the opportunity to come into this wonderful faith community. After four years, I identify strongly with the people and the community of witnesses we’ve built at the Wesley Foundation. Truthfully, it is still frustrating, awkward and hard to be witnesses, but we ‘bear it.’ We are a faith community that moves to identify ourselves as witnesses equipped to extend God’s love to others at Virginia Tech and in our broader local and global communities.”

Bret-Ashton Gresham, *Director/Campus Minister*

UNITED CAMPUS MINISTRIES AT CHRISTOPHER NEWPORT UNIVERSITY

United Campus Ministries (UCM) began its ministry on the campus of Christopher Newport 27 years ago, when it was a commuter college of mostly non-traditional students. In the past 17 years, President Paul Tribble has transformed the institution into an academically challenging liberal arts university, with a population of approximately 5,000 traditional students housed on campus.

Suzy Cothran (a Presbyterian minister) was called to this ecumenical, half-time position in August, 2009. As the university has grown, many of the services previously provided by UCM has been taken on by the university (e.g., service learning, Listening Post). Much of this year has been spent in reestablishing a presence on campus and discovering opportunities for future ministries.

Activities have included small group discussions on topics connecting faith and social issues; one-on-one conversations with students and the campus minister; providing worship

on campus; and ministry with and to administrative personnel through a Bible study / support group. The campus minister has been able to connect with several faculty members and student organizations to provide resources from the faith community to further their objectives. (e.g., provide a speaker from Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy to speak to a class on Social Justice)

The relationship between local congregations and the campus ministry is reciprocal: prospective contacts' information is shared when appropriate; congregational resources are offered on campus; students are encouraged to participate in local congregations' activities. A favorite event for both students and congregations has been providing exam snacks on campus during exam weeks. This allows direct interaction between congregations and students.

UCM is moving into the most significant opportunity of its life to date, with the expectation of opening a ministry center adjacent to campus August, 2010. This is the former District office of The United Methodist Church's Peninsula District, located at 75 Shoe Lane. This will provide many more opportunities for hosting church-supported activities for students, providing an ongoing visible presence and a much greater sense of stability for the ministry. The building will be provided rent-free, with UCM being required to provide monthly expenses as well as maintenance, repairs and improvements. Funding and volunteer labor are being sought from local congregations and individuals.

Suzy Cothran, *Campus Minister*

UNITED CAMPUS MINISTRIES AT VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY

God blessed United Campus Ministries (UCM) at Virginia State University during the Fall 2009 Semester! United Campus Ministries provides opportunities to learn and practice Christianity through Christian worship and education, fellowship and community service. These elements are instilled within the spiritual consciousness of students so that they may manifest faith in their lives and walk as witnesses to the Gospel during and beyond college years.

Through Christian Worship and Education, students hear the gospel message, explore the Christian tradition in depth and receive guidance for practicing the faith. Campus worship services are each Sunday at 2 p.m.; Bible study sessions are held Wednesdays at 6 p.m. Worship services were relocated from the 100-seat chapel in Foster Hall to the 200+ capacity Colson Auditorium in Harris Hall due to an increased attendance. The latest technology and communication devices were employed to share the gospel message. Power Point presentations replaced the use of paper bulletins. A UCM Facebook page was established to chronicle the ministry to the campus and beyond. Students and student organizations assumed positions of leadership serving as praise team members, liturgists, lay readers, ushers, guest speakers, special performers and praise dancers. Special guests from outside the campus community were also invited. Holy Communion is celebrated every first Sunday of each month. Bible study lessons plans address the spiritual needs and concerns of college students and young adults. Attendees are encouraged and invited to ask questions and think critically about their understandings of scripture and faith related to their lives.

Students share their time and presence with others to uplift and enlighten the soul and to create community. UCM creates a positive, inviting, accessible and safe atmosphere for students searching for connection away from home. Fellowship events included Freshmen Week "Meet and Greet," where more than 1,000 students move onto campus and are given an opportunity to meet the new campus minister, UCM Board of Directors and Gideons International. Students were welcomed and given refreshments, New Testaments and bookmarks with campus ministry information. Fellowship meals were hosted to minister to the physical and emotional needs of students during the mid-term and final exam periods. The event provided the students a chance to relax and nourish their bodies in warm and welcoming atmosphere, with various student organizations assisting in providing items for and serving the meal. In November, Friday night events were held from 11 p.m. to 1 a.m. providing students with wholesome fun activities on the college campus, including a gospel music jam, game night and an open mic poetry/spoken word slam.

Community service offers believers the chance to share with others the joy that resides in

their hearts as a result of being impacted by the inspirational and transformational power of the gospel. UMC engages in community service to share the love of Christ in ways that are reciprocally inspirational and transformational. We initiated a literacy promotion project at Ettrick Elementary School entitled “Team Trojan.” The program was designed to encourage elementary students to improve reading. SU volunteers partnered with elementary students reading below grade level in small groups during lunch to practice oral reading skills. Volunteers also read to entire classrooms in grades K-5 one half hour before dismissal to foster a love of reading. UCM interfaced with the Professional Educational Program at VSU and Communities In Schools at Ettrick Elementary School to launch this project. Twenty-one students were involved with this program. Students also participated in the 33rd Annual Downtown Churches United Walk Against Hunger on Nov. 21. This was a 10K trek through downtown Petersburg to raise funds for needy citizens of the city. Campus ministry collected \$187.30 from faculty and staff members of VSU. We look forward to continued growth!

Delano Douglas, *Campus Minister*

UNITED COLLEGE MINISTRIES IN NORTHERN VIRGINIA

Changing lives... Connecting People to God and to Each Other

Virginia Conference support makes it possible for ecumenical campus ministry at George Mason University and Northern Virginia Community College (NVCC). Lives are being transformed:

- A student with a call to ordained United Methodist ministry finds leadership opportunities;
- A student going through an unwelcomed divorce finds pastoral support, Christian community and a faith that holds in tough times;
- A student with physical challenges finds support and encouragement to use his gifts;
- A staff member with multiple family members in crisis finds in campus ministry both a place to share her talents and to receive pastoral care.

After a campus shooting at NVCC—Woodbridge, where thankfully no one was physically injured, college administrators were grateful for the support of United College Ministries in Northern Virginia (UCMNV) in being present the next day, speaking to, listening to, and praying with dozens of students, faculty and staff as they returned to claim possessions they had to abandon during the incident.

Our campus faith community holds weekly Wednesday night creative student-led worship called “747” in partnership with Lutheran Campus Ministry); go to <www.gmu747.org> to learn more. And UCMNV holds “Table Talk,” our weekly Thursday night fellowship at nearby St. George’s UMC. Here is what student Crystal Barber said: “I love Table Talk because it gives me a chance to relax and get away from the stress of school. It also gives me a chance to be around positive people who make me feel welcomed and loved. I enjoy the fellowship and (Wesley Seminarian/UCMNV Chaplain) Elizabeth Baird! She is awesome!!”

UCMNV Campus Ministry Intern Anna Jones said “campus ministry matters because it provides a place for like-minded students to gather in order to learn about God and faith and to enjoy each other’s company.”

UCMNV held a spiritual campus retreat on the theme of “Community,” real community in a world which substitutes social networking for face-to-face fellowship and a real knowing of one another. We laughed, prayed, studied the Bible, walked the labyrinth and experienced the beauty of nature. For NVCC student Bobby Barnes it was his first chance to see the stars and experience a campfire. “I can’t wait for another retreat,” he said.

New this year, “50 Ways to Pray and More” meets every other week and focuses on a different Christian prayer tradition each time. Also new, is twice a month Feminist Theology Coffee Hour which meets in the new campus Starbucks and is led by a local pastor.

We again held a very festive Advent celebration at the Mathy House (the home of GMU President Merten), where 19 of us enjoyed *Lessons and Carols* for our final “747” of the semester.

Wesley Seminarian and UCMNV Social Justice coordinator Pete Fontneau (who also was involved with Hunger and Homelessness Week and World AIDS Day) organized a Spring

Break mission ‘trip’ for students to serve at Rising Hope UMC. Elizabeth Baird will assist and de-brief students daily.

We continue to connect international students with local church families for holiday dinners and Rev. Daeshik Shim offered Bible studies at NVCC—Annandale and Alexandria but more support is needed for those to continue. Emmett W. Coker Social Justice scholarship awards will be given in the fall at a Nov. 6 free fund-raising brunch to be held at St. Matthews. We would like all churches to participate. If you can help, please let us know. And please give on-line to increase our vital ministries. Thank you, Virginia Conference. You are transforming lives.

Denise Giacomozzi May, *Campus Minister/Director*

REPORT OF THE YOUNG ADULT LEADERSHIP INITIATIVE

The Virginia Conference Council on Youth Ministries and the Young Adult Council are extremely excited to share about a new initiative in our conference! Understanding that often times even when a young person has been a vital part of a faith community as a youth, this same person can sometimes struggle to assimilate themselves in a faith community as a young adult, we are energized by a new opportunity to focus on young adults in our Conference.

At the close of 2009, we began to explore ways to focus on young adult leadership in particular. In November, three regional focus groups were held with young people throughout the conference with intentional efforts made to include diverse voices. The three regional focus groups were followed by several meetings of the Young Adult Council, and a Conference Young Adult Leadership Initiative emerged. This initiative was approved by the Common Table in February. The vision of the Initiative states, “As leadership development is the primary focus of All Things New, the Virginia Conference will intentionally engage in the calling, forming, and sending of Christian Young Adult leaders for the transformation of the church and world.” This initiative is a strategic plan that incorporates comprehensive involvement of almost every Conference board!

The Conference Council on Youth Ministries and the Young Adult Council see our role in this initiative as assisting, resourcing, and partnering with other Conference Boards as they implement the actions necessary to live out this initiative. We look forward to the journey with you as the initiative grows!

As leadership development is the primary focus of All Things New, the Virginia Conference will intentionally engage in the calling, forming, and sending of Christian Young Adult leaders for the transformation of the church and world.

Focus Area: Young Adult Clergy and Laity:

- At least two Young Adult members on every Conference Board or Agency – these persons should be assigned mentors who already have experience with the board/agency. [Implementing agencies: CLDDT, Annual Conference Rules Committee, every board/agency]
- An element of training at our future Conference Board Orientation sessions on how to mentor members of a young age and/or diverse background and actively solicit collaboration. [Connectional Ministries staff, Common Table]
- Continue intentional leadership roles for young adults at Conference youth events and intentionally include young adults in leadership roles in the Annual Conference and Jurisdictional and General conferences. [Youth Council, Board of Higher Education, Annual Conference Planning Committee, every board/agency]
- Identify new methods and expand existing means of using technology to support young adults in their leadership roles. [Board of Communications]
- Create more mission opportunities (including long-term) for young adults and develop a comprehensive resource list of mission opportunities for young adults. [Board of Global Ministries, Board of Communications]
- Develop visual communications about our Conference that are more appealing to young people and provide opportunities for Young Adults to participate in Rethink Church. [Board of Communications]

- With the understanding that Church leadership is grounded in the practices of worship and spiritual disciplines, create and facilitate opportunities for spiritual nourishment for Young Adults. [Board of Discipleship, Young Adult Council, Board of Higher Education]

Focus Area: Young Adult Laity:

- A quadrennial (minimum) Young Adult Leadership event. Young Adults will have a covenant with their local church to fill a leadership position following completion. Local churches strategically identified and invited to participate in this initiative and recruit at least one young adult to attend. This event could also include elements of exploring call in the church and community. [Connectional Ministries staff, Young Adult Council, Board of Laity, Board of Ordained Ministry, Board of Higher Education, participating local churches]
- A charge to local churches made at Annual Conference to elect at least one young adult to a leadership role in the church that will place that young adult on the church council. Request this information on charge conference leadership forms. [Common Table, Cabinet, Board of Laity, Young Adult Council, local churches]
- Encourage intentional strategic visioning by the Board of Laity around visible leadership roles for young adults. Options might include revision of position expectations to support and encourage young adult participation, selection of young adult District Lay Leaders, filling an existing Associate Conference Lay Leader position with a young adult, or identification of potential future young adult nominees for Conference Lay Leader or co-Conference Lay Leader. [Annual Conference Rules Committee, Board of Laity]
- Resource local churches on ways to incorporate young adults in leadership, including mutual mentoring.
- Gather information about internships available to young adults in areas of ministry across the Conference and the denomination and publicize these opportunities. [Young Adult Council]
- Understanding that young lay people often work full-time jobs and cannot take time off for weekday meetings, all boards should make every effort to schedule meetings during the weekend. [Every board/agency]

Focus Area: Young Adult Clergy:

- A focused effort to educate and inform young adult certified candidates about the appointment process and the associate's list. A challenge to think more strategically about the appointments of young adult clergy. [Bishop and Cabinet]
- Support systems for lead pastors in working with associate pastors (who are often young adult clergy). [Board of Ordained Ministry]
- Strategic support and networking of Young Adult clergy. [Board of Ordained Ministry]
- Encourage a minimum of one annual opportunity for clergy to take intentional Sabbath time focused on spiritual renewal and clearly inform local churches of this necessity. This Sabbath opportunity should only be consider as fulfilling the requirement if it is in a setting where the clergyperson has no leadership responsibilities. [Board of Ordained Ministry, Bishop, Cabinet]
- The Young Adult Council is listed as an implementing group where the council is directly involved in implementation. However, the Young Adult Council understands its role as assisting, resourcing, and partnering with all conference Boards as they implement the actions necessary to live out this initiative.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF LAITY

The Board of Laity is in the process of writing a purpose statement for our work and looking at new ways of equipping the laity of our conference to accept their call to be in ministry. Methodism began as a lay-led movement and we need to recapture our heritage so we can be in ministry in whatever way God calls us. We strive to be advocates for all the laity and to help them in their journey to be disciples as we grow spiritually together. Watch for

more information about the Board of Laity as we align our work under “All Things New.”

We celebrate with you all the many ways you are in ministry:

Retreats and Conferences

This year, under the leadership of Sandra Baker, this division has re-evaluated the programs being offered. Our committee is likened to a puzzle — we saw all the pieces scattered across the floor and then we began to piece together a picture of what works and what isn't working. We began by looking at all our strengths and weaknesses. Our strength was to maintain the 2009 Annual Conference laity display table, lifting up all the work areas of ministry being done within our Board of Laity. This afforded people the opportunity not only to browse through the materials, but also to take copies back to their local churches. During this year we will be open to wherever God leads us as we may discover new opportunities not yet ventured into and perhaps emerging into a spiritual awakening!

Lay Life and Ministry

The Division of Lay Life and Ministry, under the leadership of associate conference lay leader Janet Bracey, co-chair Darlene Amon and Leadership coordinator Becky Breeding, has sought to equip church laity for more effective ministry through leadership development and training opportunities. This has been a year of transition and discernment. While some of our efforts and programs have ceased, the following have continued:

Believing that laity are called to share their faith with one another and through their ministries in the church, home, workplace, community and world in achieving the mission of the church to make disciples of Jesus Christ, an evangelism training program called “Authentic Outreach” was sponsored for the third year by the division, but through a new venue. Following two years of offering this program as a “train the trainer” event, the program was offered in February as part of the Lay Ministries Academy. This program helped laity learn to share their faith with confidence and gentleness in a non-confrontational way that respects and builds bridges with people who need Christ. Stuart Holt, founder of The Evangelism Institute, led the training.

The Division of Lay Life and Ministry continues to coordinate the annual Laity Sunday Celebration on the third Sunday in October. Resources for planning this observance in the local church will be included on the conference Web site and distributed to local churches/lay leaders through LaityNet.

Training was provided to new district lay leaders at the March meeting. The training/resource manual for local church lay leaders of the conference was updated for the quadrennium and made available to districts for district leadership training events. Materials, including the manual, have been prepared to assist the local church lay leader and can now be found on the conference Web site <www.vaumc.org> by clicking under “Ministries,” then “Laity” and “Local Church Lay Leader.”

Stewardship

The Stewardship Division is co-chaired by the Rev. Bob Parks and Jim Branscome, the associate conference lay leader for stewardship. A new opportunity for stewardship education is planned for all our local churches in 2010 through *Living for Giving: A Wesleyan View of Stewardship*, a resource produced by United Methodist Bishop Ken Carder. It is a Bible study especially designed for small groups in a format similar to Disciple Bible study. A resource booklet, *Stewardship and Capital Campaign Resources, Programs and Packages*, is available on the conference Web site and is updated periodically to provide highlights and contact information for a wide variety of local church stewardship programs. The Stewardship Division has opted to develop stewardship resources and make them available to local congregations in lieu of providing conference-wide events that are traditionally poorly attended. In addition, the process is underway to identify four to six regional volunteers to serve as stewardship consultants for local congregations.

Scouting

Charles Carpenter coordinates the conference scouting program. Boy Scouting celebrates its first 100 years in 2010. The United Methodist Church's affiliation with Scouting began about 10 years later. Both have expanded dramatically. This year saw another Bishop's Scouting

Dinner, hosted by the Norfolk/Portsmouth districts, with a good response. In November, there was a good turnout for the Scouting Retreat at Blackstone with United Methodist Men. Scouting coordinators, along with many volunteers, made this a possibility. We still need coordinators in several districts but with hope and prayer, these will soon be filled. Many volunteers, who support our efforts, were recognized and space does not allow me to name them all.

Lay Ministries Academy

District directors of Lay Speaking Ministries, under the direction of David Talley, conference director of Lay Speaking Ministries, continue to set the guidelines for the program. During 2009 the committee held its annual meeting in September, where the rules for the 2010 Lay Ministries Academy were set. The academy was held from Feb. 26-28. Three Basic Lay Speaking classes produced 28 new local church lay speakers for our conference. In addition, 186 lay speakers were certified or re-certified. This year we had permission to issue CEU credits to authorized persons who took the Authentic Outreach course led by Stuart Holt. This was a first-time event for the academy. Our thanks go to Rev. C. Steven Melester for teaching the "Lay Speakers Are Servant Leaders" course with just 10 days notice. We also thank the leaders of the other 15 courses for jobs well done. We realize that our course leaders put in many hours of preparation time to be able to deliver such high quality presentations. Our thanks also go to the Rev. Steven Jones, Richmond District Superintendent, for leading us in worship and communion on Sunday. We want to thank the AWE Band from the North Amelia Charge for bringing great music to us on Friday night and Sunday morning. The group is led by the Rev. Michael Davis and comprised of members from the Jetersville and Salem United Methodist churches.

Our heartfelt thanks go to the Virginia United Methodist Assembly Center management and staff for outstanding support and service.

The 2011 Academy is scheduled for Feb. 25-27. There will be several new courses, so watch for the information to be published on the conference Web site in late September.

Special Recognitions

This year we will have five new district lay leaders with one yet to be named. District lay leader pins were presented to Keith Willyard, Norfolk; Gene Mims, Petersburg; Larry Creamer, Staunton; and Janie Nuttall, Richmond. We sent a gift to these outgoing district lay leaders: Janet Bracey, Norfolk; Sally McGrath, Petersburg; Carl Mann, Staunton; Charles Clements, Rappahannock; and Garth Griffith, Richmond.

Shirley Cauffman, *Conference Lay Leader*

RECOMMENDATION

The conference Board of Laity nominates Shirley Cauffman of the Arlington District to be re-elected as Conference ay Leader for 2010-2012.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

United Methodist Women (UMW) have been working hard this last year to answer God's call to participate in his mission to women, children and youth. We have not only raised money, we have done hands-on mission work and have carried carloads of supplies to many of the projects in the Virginia Conference. We provide education and information about mission work, social action and material for spiritual growth. For many years we have partnered with the Baltimore-Washington Conference in the Wesley Learning Center and have provided information for the New Clergy Orientation event.

Each year the conference UMW and the Mission Interpretation Team of the conference Board of Global Ministers join together to sponsor the School of Mission. Each year in June the study leaders, staff and the UMW officers participate in the South Atlantic Regional School of Mission. Last year we went to Kentucky Wesleyan College; this year we are privileged to be going to Ferrum College for regional school. This year the School of Mission will have a new format where our participants will be able to attend two studies. The school dates will be July 22-25 and July 26-29 at the Virginia United Methodist Assembly Center (VUMAC) in Blackstone.

The annual meeting at VUMAC was a celebration of 140 years of being blessed to participate in God's mission. We have focused not only on funding but building relationships over the years, as we have reached out to help make the lives of women, children and youth better in our conference, nation, and the world. Today we are still in relationship with the first two projects that began when Dr. Clara Swain and Isabella Thoburn went to India. Dr. Swain started a hospital in India that we continue to support and Thoburn started a School for Girls that is also still in operation.

We also looked to the future, to where we believe God is calling us as United Methodist Women. We have adapted material from the book *Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations* by Bishop Robert Schnase and encouraged our district teams and local units to study and use this material as we move forward living into our purpose.

In December we made a milestone in our Pledge to Mission. For several years we had not been able to reach our pledge, but this year we were very close and we invited 100 people to give \$65. Because of the generosity of many of our women, some of our pastors and district superintendents we were able to meet and exceed our pledge. We sent \$762,000 to the Women's Division, plus \$108,654. Supplemental giving by our local units, for a total of \$870,654, was sent to Mission Giving. Some of this money goes to the General Board of Global Ministries' for mission projects in this country and around the world. Beyond that we gave \$149,879 to Virginia projects where our women spent time volunteering and taking carloads of supplies to make up for the loss of some funding many of these projects had experienced. We began this year celebrating all the United Methodist Women of the Virginia Conference were able, with God's help, to accomplish, but we know that this blessing comes with obligation. So we go into this year still believing that to whom much is given, much is expected. We welcome the call to continue to live into our purpose to help fund and advocate for women, children, and youth around the world.

The UMW have been planning and preparing to go to 2010 Assembly in St. Louis. Every four years United Methodist Women from around the world come together for a time of celebration, worship, learning experiences and fellowship to continue to build our supportive community. This year we are privileged to be able to bring two women from Mozambique to the assembly. After the assembly these women will travel to the Virginia Conference and be at several events for a week. This is part of continuing our sister relationship with the women of Mozambique.

Following assembly we will hold our annual Spiritual Life Retreat at VUMAC in May. About 300 women from the conference assemble each spring at this event to spend time on their spiritual growth and to spend time in community.

We end the year with our United Methodist Women's Day at Ferrum College. Ferrum invites us to a wonderful day of fellowship on the campus of our beloved school. Ferrum College began as a partnership of the UMW and the Conference, as the women saw a need in the region for education of the young people.

This is the last time I will be writing the UMW report. My term will end Dec. 31, so I want to close this report by sharing with you that this part of my spiritual journey has had many challenges and serendipities. I can never thank the UMW, my mission team, our Bishop and my district superintendent enough for all their prayers and support.

When I leave I will continue to pray for our organization and its continued journey as it fulfills God's call to us to participate in his mission. I hope we will always head the words of Isaiah 6:8, "We have heard the voice of the Lord and have answered 'Here we are Lord, send us'."

Addie Haynes, *President*

UNITED METHODIST MEN

Virginia Conference United Methodist Men (UMMen) are putting their words and plans to action many times every day. Each of the 18 districts that comprise the conference have a story to tell and all are a part of the big picture. UMMen are engaged in Christian activities as servant leaders, doing those things that Jesus would have them do.

A detailed account of UMMen’s ministry at work, or “MENistry” as we often refer to it, would require a great deal more space than what has been allocated for this report. Instead, please allow this summary of activities to create a vivid mental picture of UMMen engaged in MENistry across our large, beneficent conference.

- After its formal introduction to Virginia Conference UMMen and clergy, the Wesleyan Building Brothers process is now 17 months “young” and going strong. And just recently, UMMen participants have begun Phase IV, the final step of the 44-week training process, which constitutes not the end nor the beginning, but rather the end of the beginning. This process has provided men an environment to experience the beginning of their personal and spiritual transformation alongside other men in small group settings in their respective churches, and on to a unique pathway leading to spiritual maturity.
- Financial assistance to help support the operation of 11 existing Heart Havens residences, with another to open soon, for people who are intellectually challenged.
- Ongoing fund-raising to provide Heart Havens’ homes with additional operating capital.
- Adoption of Heart Havens homes by UMMen fellowships to provide routine, and sometimes, major maintenance.
- Underwriting the \$400 cost for a one-week stay in July or August at Camp Rainbow for campers, many of who are Heart Havens residents.
- Serve as volunteer counselors for Camp Rainbow campers.
- Prepare and serve the supper meal for Camp Rainbow campers on each “UMMen Day,” July 16 and Aug. 13.
- Hunger relief advocacy through programs such as Society of St. Andrew.
- Listening and praying with people who call *The Upper Room’s* Living Prayer Line Center remote sites seeking help.
- Support for All God’s Children summer camp program for children of incarcerated mothers, ages 7-12, held at United Methodist-related camps around the conference.
- Prison ministry and parolee mentoring.
- Covenant prayer and faith sharing groups.
- Sponsor and support Scouting programs.
- Mentoring children of promise as Big Brothers through the Amachi Big Brothers and Big Sisters alliance sponsored by the General Commission on United Methodist Men.
- Provided funds to purchase many of more than a half-million copies of Strength for Service daily devotion books that have been distributed to men and women of the armed forces.
- Promote widespread membership in “EMS” — Every Man Shares in Evangelism, Mission and Spiritual Life — to set hearts of men afire for Christ, and to equip United Methodist congregations for ministry to and through men.

According to figures obtained from the conference *Journal* and other reliable sources of information, Virginia’s United Methodist Men contributed well in excess of \$1 million toward the components of ministry mentioned above. However, the accrual of dollars alone does not provide an accurate total; it is the added value of personal involvement of men’s time and talent in MENistry that constitutes the true, full measure of service to our brothers and sisters in Christ in need.

United Methodist Men are involved in the ministry of helping men grow in Christ, so others will know Christ. This, too, is what United Methodist men do.

Lawrence L. Burian, *President*

REPORT OF THE VIRGINIA CHAPTER OF PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION OF UNITED METHODIST CHURCH SECRETARIES

The purpose of Professional Association of United Methodist Church Secretaries (PAUMCS) is to provide a supportive base for the unity and fellowship of its members in order to provide

individual growth, professional development, continuous education and spiritual enrichment. PAUMCS promotes and encourages the training and support of United Methodist Church secretaries; serves as an advocate for emerging concerns that affect church secretaries; encourages and assists in the establishment of chapters of church secretaries, within or across jurisdictional and annual conference boundaries, and assists in coordinating the program and work of these chapters.

PAUMCS was organized in 1982 in Dallas. Since that first meeting, conferences have been held annually, by-laws and a logo were adopted, working committees were formed, a quarterly newsletter was established and chapters were organized across the connection. Legislation was adopted at the 1988 General Conference which states that the General Conference of Finance and Administration (GCFA) has the authority and responsibility to provide guidance and consultation for continuing education of church secretaries, including establishment of professional standards, training and certification programs and to provide assistance to PAUMCS (*2004 Book of Discipline*).

The Virginia Chapter of PAUMCS was established in 1999 at the Virginia United Methodist Conference Center in Blackstone. Since that time the membership of the Virginia chapter has grown to as many as 90 members and an all time high of 130 attendees at a fall event at the Virginia Conference Center in Glen Allen. The chapter sponsors two meetings each year: normally, a one-day fall training event and a two-day spring spiritual growth retreat.

Members are persons presently or previously, full-time or part-time, paid or volunteer, engaged in administrative work in any local church or agency of the United Methodist church. For a member to be in good standing, annual dues must be paid. Membership advantages include reduced rates on workshop registration fees, a bi-annual chapter newsletter and networking with other church secretaries throughout the Virginia Conference.

During the past year, PAUMCS:

- Had one member attend the Certification Institute at Emory University in Atlanta in July. Mary Schramm from Perry Hall UMC in Baltimore received her certification at the national PAUMCS conference in April in Orlando;
- Distributed a six-page mailing, including a letter of invitation from Bishop Charlene Kammerer, to the administrative staff of the 1,200 charges of the Virginia Conference, and a second two-page mailing to the mission chairs of each church;
- Held our "Experience Your Conference Connection" fall event featuring the Rev. Denise Honeycutt, conference Mission and Global Justice director, and the Rev. Pat Watkins, a Church and Community missionary who serves as executive director of Caretakers of God's Creation, a Virginia Conference ministry, and had 52 in attendance;
- Held our Virginia chapter spring retreat, "Living Abundantly in Times of Scarcity," led by Rev. Dr. Rhonda VanDyke Colby, May 23-24 at Shrine Mont in Orkney Springs;
- Had seven Virginia PAUMCS members attend the 2010 national conference in Orlando;
- Has accepted the invitation from the National PAUMCS executive committee to host the 2012 National PAUMCS Conference in Virginia Beach in 2012.

As Bishop Kammerer has said, "United Methodist Church secretaries are called to ministry as surely as any pastor. Our administrative staff persons are a part of the ministry teams of our local churches and other United Methodist agencies. It is critically important that we work to develop effectiveness and vitality in the life of these teams. To that end the Virginia PAUMCS is committed to providing a supportive base for the training and fellowship of its members. Through the efforts of Virginia PAUMCS, opportunities continue to be provided for individual growth, professional development, continuing education and spiritual enrichment of Virginia United Methodist Church secretaries."

Susan Mundell Petrey, *President*

REPORT OF THE UNITED METHODIST FOUNDATION, INC.

This year was a challenging one for the Virginia Conference Foundation following the significant investment market decline in 2008.

A total of \$1,407,222 in new accounts was added to the Foundation's assets in 2009, plus \$718,070 in deposits added to existing accounts. This, combined with investment gains, brought the assets to \$28,611,000 at the end of December, including \$19,517,734 invested by local churches, districts and agencies.

All of our investment options have shown very positive returns in 2009. Our primary Institutional Composite Fund was up 25.9 percent at the end of December; the Equity portfolio was up 32 percent; and the Institutional Fixed Income Fund gained 17 percent. A Conservative Fixed Income Fund was added in 2009. A Money Market Fund is also available.

The foundation has presented a number of programs in local churches on endowment and estate planning and planned giving. Two new charitable gift annuities were established during the year to benefit two of the conference camps. Distribution was made to UMFS (formerly United Methodist Family Services) from a charitable gift annuity in 2009. Our charitable gift annuity assets total \$901,368. The foundation is administering 35 charitable gift annuities and one charitable remainder trust. The foundation is a partial remainder beneficiary in two of the charitable gift annuities and the full remainder beneficiary in four of the annuities and the trust. We welcome the referral of persons who might be interested in establishing charitable gift annuities or charitable trusts with the foundation to benefit local churches or some other United Methodist cause or causes.

More than \$177,000 was distributed as income at the end of 2009 to United Methodist-related causes from some 50 permanent endowment funds now being administered by the conference foundation. Some of these distributed funds went for ministerial scholarships and training, missions, evangelism, education, community service agencies, Virginia United Methodist Homes, UMFS, United Methodist Women's programs, world hunger, UMCOR, Retired Clergy Housing Corp., Wesley Service Center and camping programs. More than 30 of these permanent endowment funds have been established with the foundation in the past ten years. Other endowment funds are held and invested by the conference foundation for local churches.

The foundation was represented at ten of the district training events in late 2009 and early 2010. We would like to be invited to more of those events.

James R. Bergdoll, *President and Executive Director*

REPORT OF RETIRED CLERGY HOUSING CORP.

In 1932, during the worst financial crisis in the history of our country, when survival was difficult and money scarce, ministers and laypersons of the Virginia Conference established the Home Corporation. At that time, the conference boundaries were far different than today, covering a much larger territory. Travel was less convenient, many areas were without electricity. Indoor plumbing for many was not available. People listened to battery power radios. Yet those men and women had a special concern for each other and put into effect a program that would help needy clergy, perhaps not realizing the importance this program would encompass in the years ahead.

Those involved in developing this concern did not want to burden the conference with support. Thus funds for the corporation came only from the gifts of money or property.

And so, after 78 years we still carry on the traditions set by those early pioneers.

To be sure some changes have been made. We are now the Retired Clergy Housing Corp. and have been approved by the Virginia State Corporation and the IRS as tax exempt, so that anyone who contributes money or property can declare their gift tax free. This certainly benefits anyone making such gifts. True to the decision of those founders, we have been fortunate enough to operate without requesting any fund from the conference.

To care for those who serve the causes of Christ in our day, but come to retirement in need of a home, regardless of circumstances, deserve our help. Of course you can say "if I have my own home and sufficient funds, why should I care?" Not to help makes us callous to the concept of "fellowship of clergy." Thus our dependency on each clergyperson and layperson in our conference is foremost in our work of providing sufficient housing for persons requesting help. Requests from retiring elders, local pastors, associate pastor, deacons and missionaries are always accepted and reviewed carefully for assignment by the Admissions Committee.

Our board invites you to become a “Covenanter” by joining the “Covenant of Gratitude” that originated in the early 1970s. Just \$1 per person who is ordained as a commissioned provisional member at each Annual Conference session is something that every clergy and layperson can afford. Very seldom do we have more than 30 ordinations at any Annual Conference. These covenant gifts are extremely important, so when you have an opportunity, stop by our display, pick up this document and become a Covenant Member.

Thomas L. Coffman, *President*

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution 1

A Call for 2012 GBPHB-authored Petitions to Be Sent to the Annual Conferences

Be it resolved, the Association of Retired Ministers and Spouses of the Virginia Conference of the United Methodist Church (ARMS), requests the board of directors of the Virginia United Methodist Pensions, Inc. (VUMPI) and the 2010 Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church direct the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits (GBPHB) of The United Methodist Church to provide all GBPHB 2012 General Conference petitions, including full-disclosure of the applicable funding and implementation plans for all church pension and benefit plans, to all the annual conferences of The United Methodist Church by March 1, 2011.

Submitted by the Rev. Ronald R. Jones, president, Board of Directors, Association of Retired Ministers and Spouses of the Virginia Conference

Resolution 2

A Call to Prayer and Ministry for Military Families

Whereas the 2008 General Conference of the United Methodist Church reflected upon Resolution 268, which states that “the General Conference honors, supports, and upholds in prayer those men and women who serve in our armed services and, in addition, honors and supports those United Methodist clergy who serve as chaplains,” and;

Whereas the 2008 General Conference then added these words:

“Be it further resolved, that the church commits itself to extend its pastoral ministry to members of the armed forces and their families during their time of service and after their return, and

“Be it further resolved, that we call upon our churches to extend a welcome home to persons who return from service in the armed forces, to respect their stories and interpretations of their experiences, and to value and encourage expression of their potential contributions to the ministry of our churches, and

“Be it further resolved that we call upon our churches and members to pray for persons serving in the armed forces and their families, to pray for persons whom circumstances have caused us to relate to as enemies, to pray for other persons for whom war has caused suffering, and to pray for peace.”

Whereas the suffering of military personnel and their families is desperate: 67 percent of military marriages require counseling; 49 percent of returning veterans report symptoms of combat trauma; suicides are at all time highs; 33 percent of children with a deployed parent suffer psychologically; and horrific combat injuries, although often survivable, require extensive rehabilitation and major life style changes;

Whereas the troop surge in Afghanistan will exacerbate these alarming trends among military families, and demand a supporting surge in our prayers;

Whereas many military families find their spiritual support in local United Methodist churches, particularly National Guard and Reserve personnel not located near a military chaplain, making the local church best positioned to minister to the growing needs of military families, and

Whereas the stated purpose of the Virginia Conference is to “make disciples for Jesus Christ by equipping local churches for ministry and providing a connection for ministry beyond the

local church; all to the glory of God,” a purpose in which military families play a unique role, in that they move every two to three years and thus provide a vital connection for ministry beyond their home church,

Be it resolved that the Virginia Conference:

1. Commits to implementing Resolution 268, as amended, throughout the conference;
2. Calls for prayer to sustain military families as they sacrifice on our behalf in both the current and future conflicts. This might include incorporating prayer for military families in weekly services, publicizing prayer-for-the military activities both in church publications and from the pulpit and participating in National Day of Prayer activities;
3. Suggests that churches with military members establish a Military Ministry. Such ministries can help prepare military families spiritually for the challenges of deployment, support them as they serve to protect our freedoms, and help them heal the wounds of combat trauma upon their return;
4. Encourages recognition for military families on such occasions as Armed Forces Day, Memorial Day, the Fourth of July and Veterans Day, with services of blessing and welcome for deploying and returning troops;
5. Proposes periodic designated offerings to support the United Methodist Endorsing Agency (UMEA) in such ministries as phone cards for deployed troops, which help United Methodist chaplains cope with the needs of military families;
6. Seeks partnerships with other military ministry entities such as churches, military chaplains and para-church military ministries for mutual benefit and encouragement;
7. Authorizes the Director of Director of Leadership and Inclusivity to facilitate this call to prayer by sharing information about Military Ministry efforts within the conference, and bringing a progress report to the 2011 Annual Conference;
8. Submits this call to prayer and ministry for military families to the 2012 General Conference as a petition from the Virginia Conference

Submitted by Peter Prindle, Military Ministry Chair, St. Luke's UMC, Yorktown

Resolution 3 Coping with Crime

Background:

The United States is the world's leader in incarceration with 2.3 million persons in its prisons and jails. This is an increase of 500 percent over the past thirty years. U.S. prisons now hold 25 percent of all prisoners worldwide, even though the country has only 6 percent of the world's population, and 1 out of every 31 adults in the U.S. is in prison, jail or on supervised release.¹

Virginia has a similar profile with 31,000 persons in prison, 26,500 in jail, and 59,000 under community supervision for a total of 116,500.² This is an increase in its prison and jail population of 424 percent over the past thirty years,³ with one out of every 51 adults in Virginia now either in prison, jail or on supervised release.⁴

Over the past 15 years changes such as truth-in-sentencing legislation, elimination of discretionary parole, and enhanced sentencing guidelines providing for longer sentences for violent offenders, have led to a larger proportion of prison inmates being violent offenders. Currently, 74 percent are classified as violent. However, approximately half of all new admissions are nonviolent offenders — 66 percent of whom were convicted for larceny, fraud or drug possession. Additionally, nearly half of all new prison admissions are for 'technical violations' — violation of terms of probation or parole by such actions as failure to follow instructions, failure to report to a probation officer and abuse of a controlled substance.⁵

Compared to other states, Virginia makes greater use of incarceration and less use of community supervision. Currently, 52 percent of Virginia's correctional population is in its prisons — the fourth highest in the nation. But this high incarceration rate comes with a price. In 2009 the average annual cost per inmate was \$24,667. This is almost 20 times more per year than what it costs to supervise offenders in the community and does not include the

over \$100 million it costs to build each 1,000-bed Department of Corrections facility. The Department of Corrections is now the largest state agency with over 13,000 employees and a budget of approximately \$1 billion.⁶

Under current policies it is expected that the number of offenders given a prison sentence will continue to grow. However, confronting these projections is the hard reality of recent budget reductions that have led to the closure of eight correctional centers, closure of all 12-day reporting centers for offenders under community supervision, closure of 5 out of 12 detention and diversion centers, and reduced funding for treatment options for offenders.⁷

During recent years Virginia has begun to explore the use of alternatives to prison for low-risk nonviolent offenders, and some judges have begun to use alternative sentencing such as probation, shorter incarceration (jail) sentences, and restitution. In view of continuing budget reductions, we can expect increased attention to alternative sentencing as a means of coping with reduced incarceration capacity.

Looking Forward

As people of faith, we support wise stewardship of our limited resources to control crime and provide for public safety. But fiscal prudence alone will not be a sufficient guide. Here we draw attention to and affirm the Social Principles of The United Methodist Church which declare that “In the love of Christ, who came to save those who are lost and most vulnerable, we urge the creation of genuinely new systems for the care and restoration of victims, offenders, criminal justice officials, and the community as a whole,” based on restorative justice which seeks to bring healing to all involved — in contrast to current retributive justice systems that are concerned primarily with punishing the offender without much attention to the victims of crime or the disrupted communities.⁸

In this context, we welcome the Report and Recommendations from the state appointed Task Force on Alternatives for Nonviolent Offenders as a healthy step forward.⁹ We have been pleased to find that the Task Force was guided by “evidence-based principles and practices” and that its recommendations deal with a wide range of issues that include alternative sanctions.

These include:

- Short jail stays for minor or technical violations by persons on probation or parole (instead of automatic imprisonment);
- Expanded use of detention and diversion centers by providing a wider range of services, including mental and health services;
- Incentives for probationers to earn their way off of supervision through compliance with certain guidelines and programs;
- Pilot projects based on the highly successful HOPE (Hawaii’s Opportunity Probation with Enforcement) program which emphasizes swift and certain but graduated sanctions for noncompliance with the conditions of probation, and which has reduced positive drug tests by “91 percent and cut both revocations and new arrests by two-thirds”;¹⁰
- Expanded drug courts and improved mental health services;
- Expanded use of electronic monitoring “as an alternative sanction for some nonviolent, low-risk offenders who can safely remain in the community on electronic home detention”¹¹
- Renewed funding for day reporting centers;
- Expanded evidence-based practices;
- An extension and expansion of the Task Force so it can undertake study of some of the other identified issues and develop additional recommendations.

Among the issues not addressed in the Report by the Task Force are three concerns needing study and recommendations on the way forward:

- Mental Health Courts as an alternative route to sentencing for mentally ill offenders. Currently over 18 percent of the inmates in Virginia’s jails, and over 20 percent of the inmates in Virginia’s prisons, are classified as mentally ill.¹² Many of these are nonviolent offenders, incarcerated at state expenses, but not necessarily receiving the mental health treatment they need, are without a supportive community environment, and many therefore deteriorate further while in prison. Both the state and such offenders might benefit from the service of

mental health courts where low-risk mentally ill offenders are given the option of a structured treatment and rehabilitation program in the community, under strict supervision, to be satisfactorily completed while on probation for a fixed period of time.

- Sanctions for simple possession of drugs. For example, we read and hear about law enforcement resources being used to arrest and prosecute persons for possession of marijuana. Under Virginia law, simple possession of marijuana is classified as a misdemeanor and can result in a fine, time in jail and loss of one's driver's license.¹³

While The United Methodist Church does not support the use of illegal drugs, we do pose these concerns: (1) Would prioritizing use of law enforcement resources toward dealing with more serious crime provide more cost-effective public safety than trying to enforce a zero-tolerance policy for possession of a drug such as marijuana, and (2) Would options like drug courts better serve society and offenders charged with simple possession of a drug such as marijuana?

- Greater use of restorative justice policies and practices in Virginia's criminal justice system. Our current criminal justice system is oriented primarily toward retributive justice. A restorative justice approach draws attention not only to the offender but also to the harm suffered by the victims of both nonviolent and violent offenders — damaged persons and disrupted communities — and the need for healing the damage caused by an offense.

Advocates of restorative justice hold that there are policies and practices of restorative justice that can be both more humane and more cost-effective than a retributive approach. It will be helpful if the Task Force can study restorative justice options and bring recommendations.

We also welcome the National Criminal Justice Commission Act of 2009 (S.714), introduced by U.S. Sen. Jim Webb in March, 2009, and now in the Senate Committee on the Judiciary with 35 co-sponsors. This bill mandates the creation of a commission to undertake a comprehensive review of the criminal justice system in the United States and bring recommendations for legislative action to address needed reforms. We look forward to the commission being established, following the progress of its work, and supporting needed reforms.

Finally, for a helpful in-depth discussion of many of the above issues and reforms that work, we strongly recommend the recently published *When Brute Force Fails: How to Have Less Crime and Less Punishment* by Mark A.R. Kleiman (Princeton, 2009). It has received exceptionally good reviews as being “one of the most innovative and original contributions to the crime-control debate in a decade or more.”

Call to Action:

In view of the above, the Virginia Annual Conference hereby resolves to:

1. Urge our state legislators to give the Report and Recommendations from the state-appointed Task Force on Alternatives for Nonviolent Offenders their serious attention and take steps as may be needed to help implement the recommendations as soon as possible.

2. Urge that the state-appointed task force be extended and authorized, as may be needed, to undertake study and bring recommendations on other identified issues not addressed in its December 2009 Report, including mental health courts as an alternative route to sentencing for mentally ill offenders, sanctions for simple possession of drugs, and greater use of restorative justice policies and practices in Virginia's criminal justice system.

3. Call upon United Methodists from across the Virginia Conference to stay informed on the above concerns and provide support through such means as writing letters to the editor of their news sources, organizing educational events in their communities, and communicating their concerns to representatives from their districts in the Virginia House of Delegates and the Virginia Senate.

4. Authorize United Methodists in the Virginia Conference to use the material above under “Background” and “Looking Forward” along with points 1-3 above for educational and advocacy purposes.

Submitted by the Board of Church and Society, and co-sponsored by the Virginia Chapter of the Methodist Federation for Social Action.

Endnotes:

1. Total U.S. correctional population, 2008: Probation - 4,270,917; Jail - 785,556; Prison - 1,518,559; Parole - 828,169; Total - 7,308,200. U.S. Bureau of Justice Statistics, <http://bjs.ojp.usdoc.gov> (Jan. 6, 2010); The Sentencing Project, www.sentencingproject.org (Jan. 6, 2010); “Why We Must Fix Our Prisons,” by U.S. Sen. Jim Webb, *Parade* (March 19, 2009), 4.
2. Letter from Gary L. Bass, Chief of Operations, Virginia Department of Corrections (Feb. 22, 2010), and “Alternatives for Nonviolent Offenders Task Force: Report and Recommendations, December 2009,” 2. [http://leg2.state.va.us/dhs/h&sdocs.nsf/By+Year/RD4302009/\\$file/RD430.pdf](http://leg2.state.va.us/dhs/h&sdocs.nsf/By+Year/RD4302009/$file/RD430.pdf) (Jan. 5, 2010).
3. For the number of persons in Virginia’s prisons and jails in 2009, see Note 2 above. In 1980 there were 8,700 persons in Virginia’s prisons, and in 1983 there were 4,854 persons in Virginia’s jails. “Census Boon?” www.prisonpolicy.org (Jan. 11, 2010); U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Census of Local Jails, 1983, Vol. III, The South*, 16-17, 80-81.
4. There were 5,943,353 persons 18 years of age and older in Virginia in 2008. U.S. Bureau of Census, “Quick Facts” (Jan. 11, 2010).
5. “Alternatives for Nonviolent Offenders Task Force: Report and Recommendations, December, 2009, 5-6. “Violent” offenders are those convicted for such crimes as murder, abduction, rape/sexual assault, robbery, assault, weapons, burglary, and sex offenses. Among new prison admissions there was some overlap between those who were nonviolent offenders and those who had ‘technical violations’.
6. “Alternatives for Nonviolent Offenders ...,” 7-8.
7. “Alternatives ...,” 8-9.
8. ¶ 163H. *The Book of Resolutions of The United Methodist Church* 2008, 638.
9. The Task Force was formed in response to action by the 2009 General Assembly: “G.1. The Secretary of Public Safety, in cooperation with the Supreme Court of Virginia, the Virginia Sheriff’s Association, the Virginia Association of Regional Jails, the Virginia Association of Commonwealth Attorneys, the Virginia Criminal Sentencing Commission, shall form a task force to develop recommendations to expand utilization of alternative methods of punishment for non-violent, lower-risk offenders who have been sentenced by a court to a term of incarceration. The Departments of Planning and Budget, Corrections, and Criminal Justice Services, the Compensation Board, and the Virginia Criminal Sentencing Commission shall provide such assistance as may be necessary.” 2009 Acts of the General Assembly, Item 387: G-1-2 of Chapter 781, as cited in Appendix A of the Task Force Report.
10. “Alternatives ...,” 19.
11. “Alternatives ...,” 20-21.
12. “Adult Corrections,” Senate Finance Committee, Nov. 19-20, 2009. <http://sfc.virginia.gov/pdf/retreat/2009Portsmouth/No.4AdultCorrections.pdf> (Jan. 11, 2010); Department of Corrections, “Quarterly Report to the General Assembly: Inmate Demographic, Offense and Health Statistics for the Calendar Year 2008.” <http://legis.state.va.us>, “Studies and Commissions” (11Jan2010).
13. Virginia Code §18.2-250.1.

**Resolution 4
Tobacco Policy in Virginia**

Whereas a major tenet of every faith is spiritual well-being and the promotion of good physical and mental health, and tobacco use undermines both;

Whereas The United Methodist *Book of Discipline* (¶162.M) states: “In light of the overwhelming evidence that tobacco smoking and the use of smokeless tobacco are hazardous to the health of persons of all ages, we recommend total abstinence from the use of tobacco. ... Further we recognize the harmful effects of passive smoke and support the restriction of smoking in public areas and workplaces.”

Whereas every year, more than 9,200 Virginians die horrible but preventable deaths caused by tobacco addiction, due to both smoking and other forms of tobacco use, and thousands more suffer from tobacco-caused disability and disease;

Whereas 66,400 high-school aged youth in Virginia are current smokers (15.5 percent); and another 9,300 Virginia children become addicted smokers every year; in addition nearly 13 percent of high school boys use spit or smokeless tobacco;

Whereas exposure to secondhand smoke in workplaces and homes kills and harms thousands of Virginians every year;

Whereas Virginia's health care expenditures caused by tobacco use total over \$2.8 billion each year, including more than \$401 million in annual tobacco-caused expenditures by the State Medicaid program;

Whereas only 4 percent of the \$310 million Virginia receives from the tobacco settlement and tobacco taxes each year is used for prevention, and that is less than 13 percent of the amount recommended by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC).

Whereas the public health community has worked with agricultural leaders for more than a decade to secure and maintain significant funding to assist tobacco farmers with diversification (50 percent of the Virginia tobacco settlement revenue), to support our tobacco-dependent communities and family farms, and to promote and continue our rich farming heritage;

Be it resolved that the undersigned Virginia faith organization endorses comprehensive and effective public policy measures recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and other experts to prevent and reduce smoking and other tobacco use in the state particularly among children and pregnant women, including:

- Increasing Virginia's tobacco tax rates to at least the nationwide state average to reduce teen smoking and help fund Virginia's health care needs;
- Prohibiting smoking in all workplaces, including all restaurants and bars;
- Full funding of Virginia's tobacco prevention and cessation programs at a level as close as possible to the \$103.2 million per year as suggested by the CDC;
- Ensuring no state government preemption of local efforts to prevent and reduce tobacco use or its harms.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy for use in advocacy with the General Assembly.

Submitted by the Virginia Conference Board of Church and Society

REPORT OF THE TASK FORCE ON REDISTRICTING

I. AUTHORIZATION

At the 2009 Annual Conference, the following motion was passed as amended:

CFA recommends the formation of a task force, appointed by the bishop, to review the current number of districts in the Virginia Conference and to present a recommendation to the 2010 Annual Conference regarding the reduction of districts from 18 districts to not fewer than 16 districts.

In response to this motion, Bishop Kammerer appointed a task force of 12 members: Darlene Amon, Benham Black, Warner Bonderman, Sallye Bowen, Clarence Brown, Robert Cofield, Thelma Crowder, Susan Garrett, Beth Givens, Maureen McKay, Kirk Nave, and M.J. Kim (who was unable to serve and was replaced by Raymond Wrenn). David Dommissie and Anna Workman were asked to staff the task force.

II. PROCESS

The task force spent the fall and early winter in a discovery process, collecting and processing information. Before the first meeting of the task force, questions were collected from all task force members on the subject: "What information would you need before you could make a decision on recommending a specific number of districts?" The following information was collected and discussed:

- Reports from 17 other annual conferences across the U.S. which had redistricted or were in the process;
- Virginia Conference financial and statistical data;
- Financial and statistical data from other SEJ annual conferences;
- Demographic data on the present 18 districts, including Lovett Weems' "Four Virginias"

presentation, the location of churches with more than 350 in worship attendance and the location of new faith communities;

- The 2008 *Book of Discipline*'s paragraphs related to the Duties of District Superintendents [¶¶419-425] and District Structure [¶¶657-670];

- Individual reports from the 18 District Superintendents on the unique qualities of their districts and boundary issues;

- Survey related to district superintendent time structuring;

- Articles from church leaders — especially helpful were Dr. Donald W. Haynes for the *United Methodist Reporter* entitled “Wesleyan Wisdom: Creatively Rethinking the Smaller Membership Church” and “District Superintendency: A Reconsideration” by Dr. Russell E. Richey of the Candler School of Theology

- Information on recent past Virginia redistricting proposals — the 1969-1973 conversation, and the 1993-1995 conversation;

- A presentation by Peter Vaughn, former conference director of Church Extension, of an 18 district boundary proposal he completed in 2005 related to growth areas of the conference as an illustration of possible change;

- A presentation by Raymond Wrenn, also a former conference director of Church Extension, on possible 16- and 17- district proposals based on population changes and church relocations, with information about early redistricting plans from the early to middle 20th century.

Following this extensive discovery process, the Task Force spent a full day in January looking at its options. The following criteria had been adopted by the task force for this discernment process:

The Task Force, by direction of the 2009 Annual Conference, was to offer a vision for no fewer than 16 districts.

The proposed plan should include sufficient districts to permit every district superintendent to perform efficiently the Disciplinary requirements related to leadership, supervision, legal matters, appointment-making, and administrative duties.

The proposed plan should take into account the changes in the Virginia Conference since 1972 when the district lines were last changed substantially and attempt to equalize the differing duties and workloads related to each district — including responsibilities for revitalizing existing faith communities, new church starts, supervisory needs, and other variables.

(NOTE: The task force was very clear, from the start of its work, that district lines are, by *Discipline*, set by the Bishop after consultation with the Cabinet. ¶415.4 under “Presidential Duties of Bishops” reads: “To form the districts after consultation with the district superintendents and after the number of the same has been determined by vote of the annual conference.”)

The plan proposed by the Task Force should be guided by the stated goals of the Virginia Annual Conference as expressed in its adoption of the Conference Vision Statement, the Conference Challenge, and the strategic “All Things New” plan.

The Task Force agreed to use a consensus model of decision making.

In all that the Task Force does, it would strive to be faithful to God’s direction.

At the end of the process, the task force, by consensus, agreed to present a 16-district proposal to the annual conference.

III. RATIONALE FOR 16 DISTRICTS

The following reasons are offered for the 16 district recommendation:

- The 16-district structure change has the possibility of taking into account new demographic patterns and strategic groupings; there have been no major changes in district boundaries since 1972, almost 40 years ago, and yet Virginia has changed substantially since that time.

- Before 1972, the conference had 390,000 members served by a 16 district structure. If this task force’s recommendation is passed by the annual conference, approximately 340,000 members would be served by a 16-district structure.

- A 16-district plan like the one presented in this report has the possibility of creating more balance in the number of charges on each district and the workload of district superintendents. The number of charges on a district in the Virginia Conference varies from 33 and 34 charges per district for the two smallest districts to 63 and 70 charges per district for the two largest districts.

- The 16-district plan is in line with the average number of charges and churches per district in the Southeastern Jurisdiction (SEJ). A 16 district Virginia Conference would have an average of 57 charges and 75 churches per district; the SEJ average is 58 charges and 77 churches per district. (Presently the Virginia Conference average is 51 charges and 67 churches per district, or 7 charges and 10 churches fewer than the SEJ average.)

- The 16-district plan is more in line with the number of districts per conference in Virginia’s Southeastern Jurisdiction peers. Virginia has 18 districts, more than any other conference. Other than Western North Carolina at 15, no other annual conference has more than 12 districts, even though they may have close to the same number of total churches or number of members that the Virginia Conference does (*see table of Southeastern Jurisdiction Statistics below*).

	Districts	Churches	Average per District	Charges	Average per District	Conference Members
Alabama-West Florida	8	644	81	461	58	190,656
Florida	9	701	78	676	75	421,983
Holston	12	909	76	591	49	197,595
Kentucky	12	813	68	642	54	179,250
Memphis	7	443	63	277	40	98,535
Mississippi	11	1,131	103	716	65	206,537
North Alabama	8	788	99	661	83	178,144
North Carolina	12	811	68	657	55	280,494
North Georgia	12	904	75	806	67	448,755
South Carolina	12	1,023	85	677	56	277,678
South Georgia	9	643	71	444	49	161,310
Tennessee	7	615	88	399	57	140,581
Virginia	18	1,199	67	911	51	429,967
Western North Carolina	15	1,123	75	879	59	383,391
Southeastern Jurisdiction	152	11,747	77	8,797	58	3,594,876
<i>Reduced Districts as Proposed</i>						
Virginia	16	1,199	75	911	57	429,967

- The 16-district plan achieves short- and long-term cost savings. According to the conference Treasurer’s Office, on the conference level the average cost in 2009 for two (2) district superintendents’ salaries, pension, insurance, continuing education, travel and meeting expenses would be approximately \$235,000. On the district level, the average cost for maintaining two (2) district offices and a district parsonage or housing allowance in 2009 was approximately \$205,000.

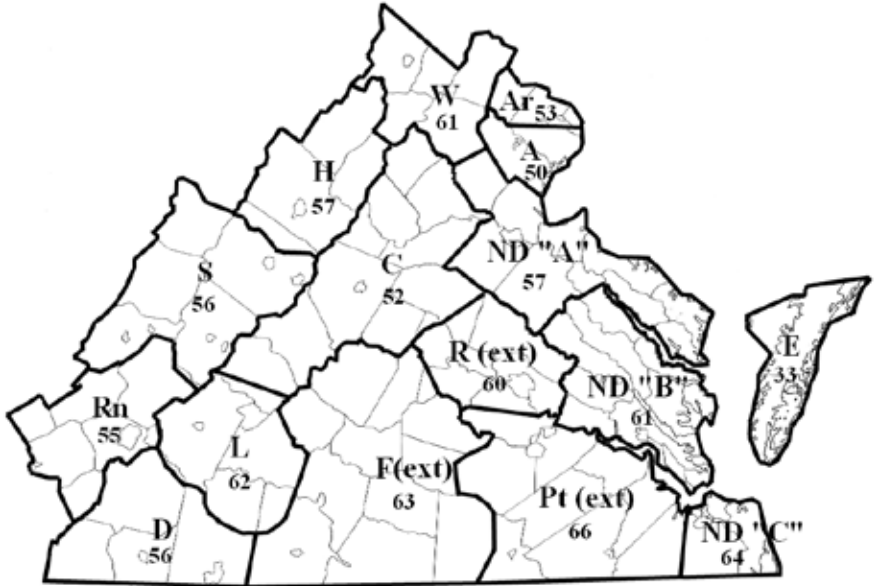
- The 16-district plan allows more strategic use of lay and clergy in leadership positions by having fewer positions that need to be filled.

- The 16-district plan allows more strategic use of resources by moderately increasing the number of charges per district for a good number of our districts and thus giving districts more resources.

- Division of district property if new boundaries are set is not a major problem, as direction is given by ¶2517.3 of the *2008 Book of Discipline*.

IV. FEASIBILITY OF 16 DISTRICTS

As stated earlier in this report, the Task Force is aware that district boundaries are set by the Bishop with the district superintendents. However, the Task Force felt it needed to develop a scenario for a 16-district plan to make sure that our criteria could be met by 16 districts. We therefore present the following plan.



(The number next to the district abbreviation on the map indicates the proposed number of charges.)

- Alexandria: Cities: Alexandria, Manassas, Manassas Park
Counties: Fairfax (southern part, including Centreville), Prince William
- Arlington: Cities: Fairfax, Falls Church
Counties: Arlington, Fairfax (northern part), Loudoun (part east of Catoctin Mountain, including Leesburg)
- Charlottesville: City: Charlottesville
Counties: Albemarle, Amherst (northern part), Culpeper, Fluvanna, Greene, Louisa (except Gum Spring), Madison, Nelson, Orange, Rappahannock
- Danville: Cities: Danville, Martinsville
Counties: Franklin (except Boones Mill area), Henry, Patrick, Pittsylvania (southern and central part)
- Eastern Shore: Counties: Accomack, Northampton
- Farmville (extended): Counties: Amelia, Appomattox, Brunswick, Buckingham, Charlotte, Cumberland, Halifax, Lunenburg, Mecklenburg, Nottoway, Prince Edward
- Harrisonburg: City: Harrisonburg
Counties: Augusta (northern part), Page, Rockingham, Shenandoah

Lynchburg: Cities: Bedford, Lynchburg
 Counties: Amherst (Southern part), Bedford (except southwest corner), Campbell, Pittsylvania (northern part)
 Petersburg (extended): Cities: Colonial Heights, Emporia, Franklin, Hopewell, Petersburg, Suffolk
 Counties: Chesterfield (southern part), Dinwiddie, Greensville, Isle of Wight, Prince George, Southampton, Surry, Sussex
 Richmond (extended): City: Richmond
 Counties: Chesterfield (northern part), Goochland, Hanover, Henrico, Louisa (Gum Spring only), Powhatan
 Roanoke: Cities: Roanoke, Salem
 Counties: Bedford (southwest corner) Botetourt (except Mt. Olivet), Craig, Floyd, Franklin (Boones Mill area only), Giles, Montgomery, Roanoke
 Staunton: Cities: Buena Vista, Covington, Lexington, Staunton, Waynesboro
 Counties: Alleghany, Augusta (except northern part), Bath, Botetourt (Mount Olivet only), Highland, Rockbridge
 Winchester: City: Winchester
 Counties: Clarke, Fauquier (northern part), Frederick, Loudoun (part west of Catoctin Mountain), Warren
 New District "A": City: Fredericksburg
 Counties: Caroline, Fauquier (southern part), King George, Lancaster, Northumberland, Richmond, Spotsylvania, Stafford, Westmoreland
 New District "B": Cities: Hampton, Newport News, Poquoson, Williamsburg
 Counties: Charles City: Essex, Gloucester, James City, King and Queen, King William, Mathews, Middlesex, New Kent, York
 New District "C": Cities: Chesapeake, Norfolk, Portsmouth, Virginia Beach, Knotts Island, N.C.

Under this plan, three new districts are formed by merger and are listed as Districts "A", "B", and "C". Three other districts would have their boundaries changed by the addition of a substantial number of charges; they are listed as "(extended)".

Under the task force's proposal, the major changes have taken place in the districts which have the fewest charges presently, that is, districts with between 34 and 51 charges. Those districts with between 52 and 70 charges have either had their numbers reduced or have stayed substantially the same. The one exception is the Eastern Shore; like other task forces before us, we bowed to the geographic issue.

It should be noted again that neither district names nor final district boundaries would be officially presented to the Annual Conference until the Bishop and Cabinet set the boundaries of the districts over the coming year. The Task Force respectfully asks that if the Annual Conference approves the reduction to 16 districts, that the Bishop, after consultation with the districts superintendents, set the district boundaries.

It should also be noted that this plan has been shared with the Bishop and Cabinet, and on March 9, the following motion was approved unanimously and recorded in the Cabinet minutes: "The Virginia Cabinet recommends both the 16 districts and the plan as presented to this date."

Susan S. Garrett, *Chair*

RECOMMENDATION

The Task Force recommends that the Virginia Annual Conference reduce the number of districts to 16, the reduction to take place following the 2011 Annual Conference.

REPORT OF THE SITE SELECTION COMMITTEE

Previous Annual Conference action has approved the following dates for conference:

Roanoke	June 16-19, 2011
Roanoke	June 21-24, 2012
Hampton	June 20-23, 2013
Hampton	June 19-22, 2014

The Site Selection Committee is charged with finding a location for Annual Conference which is set at least 5 to 6 years in advance. According to the *Book of Discipline* (§603.2), it is the responsibility of the Resident Bishop to set the dates for Annual Conference. With the recommendation coming from Common Table to move to a shortened Conference, with a Friday through Sunday afternoon format, the Site Selection Committee recommends to the Bishop that Annual Conference be held as follows:

Roanoke	June 22-24, 2012
Hampton	June 21-23, 2013
Hampton	June 20-22, 2014
Hampton	June 19-21, 2015
Hampton	June 17-19, 2016

There has also been much discussion about where Annual Conference is held. In recommending a site for Annual Conference, the following criteria have guided the work of the Site Selection Committee:

- Meeting space and restaurants for 4,000 people;
- Parking spaces for 2,000 to 3,000 cars;
- 1,500 hotel rooms;
- Meeting space for Clergy Executive Session for 1,000 people;
- Meeting space for Laity Session for 1,000 people;
- Two banquet areas for 500 people;
- Break-out areas and display area of 30,000 square feet;
- Ease of moving participants between the various areas.

In addition to these site location criteria, our committee sought ways to save money for the conference, districts and churches. It is our finding that the Hampton Convention Center does the best job of meeting the established criteria as a site for Annual Conference. In addition to meeting all established criteria, we have discovered that there is a significant advantage to using this same facility on an ongoing basis rather than moving between sites. The savings and benefits include:

- Complimentary parking, with 3,800 parking spaces;
- Complimentary shuttles between conference hotels, restaurants, banquets;
- Banquet facilities are available at the Convention Center;
- Many hotels and restaurants are within a short drive or walking distance;
- Discounted base rates for use of Convention Center;
- Discounted base rates for hotel rooms;
- Special healthy meals at modest prices each day in the Convention Center;
- With so many chain restaurants, meals will be equally priced.

Kirk McNeill, our conference planner, tells us that the Virginia Annual Conference generates \$2 million for a host city. Over a ten-year period, the impact of this revenue generation in one location will translate to savings for the conference through lower rental costs for the Convention Center, audio visual recording suppliers, hotels, food and shuttles.

Factors that guided the committee in its recommendation of the Hampton Convention Center were:

- Only site and facility to meet all of the stated criteria;
- Booking the Hampton site for an extended period guarantees that the site will be available each year at the desired time. When sites are alternated and thus rented for only 2-3 years at a time, the conference stands to have another vendor rent the facility thus blocking its availability for the desired Annual Conference date;
- Savings for the conference, districts and local churches.

In addition to these factors, the Site Selection Committee communicated with district superintendents in the districts that are in geographical proximity of the Hampton Convention Center. All of these district superintendents were in agreement that their districts would assist with the local responsibilities for hosting Annual Conference. This means that responsibility for hosting Annual Conference would not have to be borne by one district.

By making this recommendation for 2015 and 2016, the committee acknowledges the Virginia Conference tradition of rotating Annual Conference sites between eastern and western parts of the conference. As the committee conducted its study, it found that many annual conferences do not have this tradition as they use the same site each year. We acknowledge the grace and hospitality that the Roanoke District has extended as a host site, but we also must acknowledge that the Roanoke Civic Center's available 1,200 parking spaces do not meet the criteria of parking space for 2,000 to 3,000 cars. In addition, the committee recognized the location of most of the hotels and restaurants in Roanoke require persons to drive to them with a daily shuttle being provided for lunches.

The committee also considered Richmond as a possible site, but found that it could not match the advantages or conveniences of meeting in Hampton.

By recommending the Hampton Convention Center as the 2015 and 2016 conference site, the committee acknowledges there will be both longer and shorter travel distance for Annual Conference members because of this recommendation. In calculating travel distance, it was determined that approximately 58 percent of Annual Conference members would have a shorter travel distance and approximately 42 percent of Annual Conference members would have a longer travel distance. While acknowledging the longer travel distance for some, the Committee determined that the benefits and cost savings to the conference warranted this recommendation.

Doug Geeting, *President*

REPORT OF THE VIRGINIA CONFERENCE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Under the auspices of the Historical Society, Stephanie Davis has completed her first year as Virginia Conference archivist, and the increase in requests for information to which she has responded is a positive indication of the degree to which local congregations are celebrating their histories. Local congregations and members also are urged to subscribe to *Heritage*, the twice-yearly Society publication which, under the editorship of Boyd Lucas, continues to provide helpful and engaging insight into the legacy upon which current Conference initiatives are building. Sixteen persons will serve as Virginia Conference delegates to the July 2010 SEJ Historical Society meeting in Madison, Miss. Dr. Betty Whitehurst will speak on the history of the Volunteers in Mission initiative at the Society's Oct. 7 meeting. The Society continues to celebrate and support the preservation efforts of its three affiliated foundations.

The following lay and clergy Virginia Historical Society Trustees are submitted for election by the 2010 Annual Conference:

Clergy: Ira Lee Andrews III, Roger C. Balcom, Paul Allen Beighley III, Brenda Biler, Stephen E. Bradley Jr., Carlton D. Casey, Robert T. Casey, James R. Cooke Sr., James T. Hall, H. Hasbrouck Hughes Jr., Margaret T. Kutz, John T. Martin Jr., Robinson H. McAden, Reginald H. Potts III, Henry Riley, Karen Sandoval, Lee B. Sheaffer, Cheryl Simmons, Carl O. Stewart, Elizabeth W. Taylor, Raymond F. Wrenn, Elizabeth A. S. Wright and Gary A. Ziegler.

Lay: Marcella Bullock, Neill Caldwell, Pat Compton, T. Harold Crowder Jr., Thelma Crowder, James DeVal, Jesse H. Fanshaw III, Melissa Flaherty, Emily B. Gallup, Queen Green, Henry Hulme, Jr., Deedie Kagey, L. Boyd Lucas, Stephen S. Mansfield, John

Maravich, Harold McKee, Catherine D. Morgan, Brenda NeSmith, William Olson, Patti B. Russell, Ann P. Shappell, Judee Showalter, Ethel T. Turner, and Charles Williams.

Stephen S. Mansfield, *President*

The Conference Historical Society has three affiliated foundations which provide preservation and interpretation of sites and structures significant for Virginia and American Methodism. The foundations and the scope of their efforts are reported as follows:

OLD BRUNSWICK CIRCUIT FOUNDATION

The Old Brunswick Circuit Foundation Board of Directors continues to “make plain the vision” of our early Methodist heritage in Southside Virginia. The Foundation includes three properties: Ebenezer Academy site, the Edward Dromgoole house and site, and the main building of the old Randolph Macon College in Boydton.

The Ebenezer Academy site, owned by the Virginia Conference Historical Society, is the site of the first Methodist School in Virginia and possibly in America. A historical marker is located on Route 1 in Brunswick County and an access right of way has been established recently. The board is grateful to the late Buck Johnson of Victoria for keeping the property cleaned and maintained.

The 18th Century home of Edward Dromgoole has been covered with OBC board and wrapped to prevent further deterioration. The house sits on 15 acres of land off Route 46 near Valentine. The adjacent family cemetery has been cleared and the Petersburg District clergy had a field trip to the site, where a visit from Robert Strawbridge was reenacted. The Dromgoole home was a place where Francis Asbury often went to preach, to rest and recuperate. We have a \$25,000 matching grant to help raise funds to repay the loan and eventually restore the house.

The main building of the original Randolph Macon College in Boydton is our third property. It has been purchased along with 14 acres of land adjacent to the site. The local Ruritan Club is interested in this property being used as a satellite campus for a four-year college. Our Annual Meeting in September was held in Boydton and featured the early history of the school through a video presentation by Walter Bailes and Jack Russell. Funds are needed to repay the loan for the purchase of this site.

For additional information, please contact me at: 1303 North Main Street, South Boston, VA 24592, or call (434) 572-4001.

Thelma B. Crowder, *President*

OLD STONE CHURCH FOUNDATION

The Old Stone Church Foundation was incorporated in 1974 for the purpose of care and preservation of Methodism’s Old Stone Church site in Leesburg, the first Methodist owned property in America. Members of the foundation contribute to support this mission.

The Old Stone Church Foundation annual membership/dinner meeting was held on Sept. 15, 2009 at Leesburg UMC. At the beginning of the meeting, a moment of remembrance was held for three members of the foundation who passed away this year: Eugene Barber, George Titus and Georgia Bange. Special recognition was also given to the following groups for their support of the foundation and its preservation of the Old Stone Church site: the Virginia Historical Society (parent organization for the foundation), Mount Zion UMC, Leesburg UMC, the Winchester District and the Arlington/Alexandria districts. The Rev. Lee B. Sheaffer was guest speaker, who spoke on the topic: “Forty years of the United Methodist Church” recounting the history of the merger between the United Brethren Church and the Methodist Church.

Garrett Pierce selected The Old Stone Church Site for his Eagle Scout project. He presented a report at the meeting on his project, which was to survey and to develop a master list of the marked headstones (15) in the Old Stone Church cemetery. Garrett also presented to the foundation a copy of the brochure he developed.

We are grateful for the support of those who maintain their membership in the Old Stone

Church Foundation year after year. We invite you to continue your membership and invite others to join us as a member in telling the story of Methodist beginnings in America. Membership is open to all who share its purposes and who make a tax-deductible contribution for its work. For additional information, write to: P.O. Box 426, Leesburg, VA, 20178-0426.
Charles E. Williams, *President*

WILLIAM WATERS FOUNDATION

The William Watters Foundation was established by the Virginia Conference Historical Society in 1996 to protect and preserve the site where William Watters was buried and better interpret the role and legacy of Watters, the first American-born itinerant Methodist minister. The cemetery, a circular plot 90 feet in diameter and one-quarter acre in area with access to Linway Terrace (off Old Dominion Drive) in McLean, has been registered as United Methodist Historical Site No. 7 since 1970. His grave is a very small part of the old Adams-Wren-Watters cemetery.

The foundation’s Annual Meeting was held on Sept. 26 at Trinity UMC in McLean. Earnest McGee, a descendant of William Watters, gave an informative talk on his genealogy research. For additional information, write: P.O. Box 6144, McLean, VA 22106-6144.

E. Jean Balcom, *President*

**REPORT OF VIRGINIA UNITED METHODIST PENSIONS, Inc.
Section I: Reports**

1. Role and Responsibilities:

The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church directs each annual conference to establish a conference board of pension, auxiliary to the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits (GBPHB), to have charge of the interests and work of providing for and contributing to the support, relief, assistance, and pensioning of clergy and their families, other church workers, and lay employees of The United Methodist Church, its institutions, organizations and agencies within each annual conference except as otherwise provided for by the GBPHB.

On June 22, 1965, the Virginia Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church established and incorporated Virginia Methodist Pensions, Inc. (subsequently renamed on Feb. 2, 1971, as Virginia United Methodist Pensions, Inc.), or “VUMPI”, as its conference Board of Pensions.

VUMPI, in conjunction with the GBPHB, develops and administers the numerous employee pension and benefit plans sponsored by the Virginia Conference. Some plans are employer paid, while others are voluntary and 100 percent participant paid:

<p><u>VUMPI Plans</u> Health Prescription Dental Supplemental Life Voluntary Life Long Term Care Medical Spending Account Daycare Spending Account</p>	<p><u>GBPHB Plans</u> Ministers Reserve Pension Fund (Pre-82) Ministerial Pension Plan (MPP) Clergy Retirement Security Plan – Defined Benefit (CRSP-DB) Clergy Retirement Security Plan – Defined Contribution (CRSP-DC) United Methodist Personal investment Plan (UMPIP) Comprehensive Protection Plan (CPP)</p>
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2. Financial Commitment to Sustain Collective Plans:

Looking at providing pension and benefits from a short-term perspective, VUMPI’s annual budget is nearly \$30 million and is funded by local church apportionments, direct bills to local churches and VUMPI’s Pension, Health and Welfare Reserve Fund (PHWRF). VUMPI’s annual expenses are approximately as follows:

Annual Expenditures – Clergy Plans

Health Plans	\$16 million
Pension Plans	\$12 million
Welfare Plans	<u>\$2 million</u>
Total	\$30 million

Given that the total apportionment for the Pre-1982 Defined Pension Plan has been only \$563,106 for each year during the past decade, despite the actual cost being as much as \$3.2 million in a given year, and that our health care costs have fluctuated by as much as \$1.5 million from one conference year to the next based upon utilization, most individuals understand the need for VUMPI to maintain a reserve fund to provide short-term cash management, or more precisely, to normalize local church budgets from one year to the next. Otherwise, without such a reserve, local church apportionments and bills for pension, health and welfare would have varied as much as 25 percent or more per year, or \$3–\$4 million more per year, above what was paid to VUMPI during the past decade.

Few individuals, however, consider the long-term commitment required to sustain these plans. Fluctuations in total liabilities due to actual versus projected investment returns, deaths, number of retirements each year, along with changes in actuarial assumptions are normal events that cause variations in pension and benefit work. Therefore, it is impossible to ever literally “pay-off” a particular plan unless it is actually terminated or until the last surviving plan beneficiary dies; conversely, it must be managed throughout the life cycle of the plan. For example, though the *Discipline* requires that each annual conference amortize its Pre-82 pension liability over no more than 40 years, by Dec. 31, 2021, it is a fact that the liabilities and assets of the plan remain for each annual conference well after Dec. 31, 2021. If, after 2021, the assets of the plan were to fall short of the amount needed to fund the then-current liabilities of the plan, it may be necessary to make additional payments to support the Pre-82 Pension Plan well beyond 2021 – until the plan is either terminated or the last benefit payment is made.

A critical component to long-term plan management is to quantify the total liability, or financial commitment associated with each plan. Then, the amount of funds required to pay each of these future plan obligations must be determined. This requires ongoing plan valuations which are conducted by the GBPHB and VUMPI’s own benefit consultants. It is vital to know the net present value of all of the promises contained in each plan, and determine if there is sufficient assets on-hand and/or sufficient future income from apportionments or billings to cover these promises.

As of Jan. 1, 2010, total current liabilities for all pension, health and welfare obligations were nearly \$400 million:

Liabilities

Retiree Clergy Health Plan	\$74 million
Pre-1982 Pension	\$81 million
MPP	\$225 million
CRSP-DB	\$6 million

These total liabilities will fluctuate annually, thus cause variations in our annual funding obligations for each of these plans.

3. Increase Pension Plan Cost for 2011:

There are four components to the Clergy Retirement Security Program (CRSP):

A. Ministers Reserve Pension Fund (Pre-82) for service and benefits accrued on and/or prior to Dec. 31, 1981.

B. Ministerial Pension Plan (MPP) for service and benefits accrued on and/or after Jan. 1, 1982 through Dec. 31, 2006.

C. Clergy Retirement Security Program – Defined Benefit Plan (CRSP–DB) for service and benefits accrued on and/or after Jan. 1, 2007.

D. Clergy Retirement Security Program - Defined Contribution Plan (CRSP-DC) for service and benefits accrued on and/or after Jan. 1, 2007.

The GBPHB refers to plans A – C above as “defined benefit” pension plans. That is, each year an eligible clergy member of the Virginia Conference served/serves and received/receives pension credit, the applicable plan will pay a certain benefit, or “defined” monthly income during retirement. Hence, the term “defined benefit”. Defined benefit plans do not maintain participant account balances since the employer, or in our case, the GBPHB, has the responsibility to manage the funds in a manner sufficient to pay the monthly defined benefit.

Simultaneous to the GBPHB calculating each participant’s defined benefit, it calculates each annual conference’s cost to provide these defined benefits. The GBPHB bills each annual conference the amount due. Each annual conference, or in our case, VUMPI, then in turn bills and apportionments our local churches for the cost of these plans.

The GBPHB calculated the 2011 Defined Benefit pension costs as follows:

	2010	2011
Pre-82	\$396,692	\$3,071,107
MPP	n/a	\$1,170,359
CRSP-DB	<u>\$5,625,207</u>	<u>\$6,135,054</u>
Total Defined Benefit Pension Cost	\$6,021,899	\$10,376,520

The 2011 defined benefit pension costs calculated by the GBPHB represent an approximate increase of \$4,354,621, or 72 percent, as compared to 2010.

In addition to these “defined benefit” plans, annual conferences provide their clergy pension benefits from the CRSP-DC, a “defined contribution” plan. Each year an eligible clergy member of the Virginia Conference serves and receives pension credit, the Virginia Conference determines how much pension contribution each clergy participant will receive in his/her pension account. Hence, the term “defined contribution.” VUMPI bills local churches for the required amount of pension contribution, then in turn, makes monthly contributions into the clergy CRSP-DC accounts equal to 3 percent of salary and housing.

The GBPHB calculated the 2011 Defined Contribution pension cost as follows:

	2010	2011
CRSP-DC	<u>\$1,599,000</u>	<u>\$1,610,000</u>
Total Defined Contribution Pension Cost	\$1,599,000	\$1,610,000

The 2011 defined contribution pension costs calculated by the GBOPHB represent an approximate increase of \$11,000, or less than 1 percent, as compared to 2010. Since clergy salary and housing costs were relatively flat, so too were the Defined Contributions.

4. Purpose and Amount of VUMPI Reserves

In the 1970s, the GBPHB made a check payable to the Virginia Conference in the amount of approximately \$750,000. Rather than deposit it in general funds, the Virginia Conference disclaimed this distribution, and instead directed this amount to be turned over to VUMPI.

With these funds, VUMPI established a reserve fund for its pension and health and welfare plans. This reserve fund is currently referred to as the Pension, Health and Welfare Reserve Fund (PHWRF) and its assets have been published ever since annually in the *Journal of the Virginia Conference*, within VUMPI’s audit.

The PHWRF was, and still is, designed to offset the total costs associated with all pension, health and welfare plans made available to the clergy members of the Virginia Conference and their families. VUMPI developed and adhered to a disciplined investment policy that allowed it to grow the PHWRF while simultaneously subsidizing the cost of our plans for our local churches and our clergy and their families.

Since inception, the Virginia Conference has not made any additional contributions to the PHWRF, either from apportionments or direct billing. Conversely, the PHWRF has paid out over \$31 million just since 2000 to subsidize the cost of our collective clergy plans. Without the PHWRF, an average of \$3 million annually would have been allocated to local church apportionments/bills and clergy personal contributions.

After bottoming-out in March 2009, assets held by both the GBPHB and VUMPI rebounded

in 2009 to recoup a large portion of the 30-plus percent losses we experienced in the preceding 12 months. By year-end 2009, VUMPI's PHWRF recorded a 26.2 percent total return and totaled just over \$30 million. However, the PHWRF is still nearly \$10 million below its high recorded in 2008.

As stated before, these PHWRF subsidizes the cost of our collective pension, health and welfare plans for the benefit of Virginia Conference clergy participants and their families.

5. Disposition of Judicial Council Petition

During the 2009 session of the Virginia Annual Conference, on a motion from a clergy member, the conference approved a petition to request a declaratory decision from The United Methodist Church's Judicial Council with respect to the following questions:

A. What legal authority an individual annual conference, its board of pension and its individual board members have, or should have, acting as plan sponsor in relation to denominational pension and benefit plans;

B. What legal authority the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits, its board of pension and its individual board members have, or should have, acting as plan administrator in relation to denominational pension and benefit plans; and

C. What basis exists, if any, to contravene secular law pertaining to the role of plan sponsors and the plan administrator relative to our denominational pension and benefit plans.

The Judicial Council, in issuing Memorandum No. 1129, indicated that it has no jurisdiction in this specific motion submitted by the Virginia Conference.

6. Comprehensive Protection Plan (CCP)

In August 2009, the GBPHB announced a 3-year suspension of CPP premiums due from annual conferences, beginning January 1, 2010. The purpose of this action is to provide cash flow relief for annual conferences so that we can use these funds to pay the additional pension payments required by the GBPHB, beginning in 2011, as stated in "3. Increased Pension Plan Contributions for 2011" above.

In September 2009, Bishop Kammerer met with representatives from CFA and VUMPI, and collectively we determined that VUMPI had to continue to collect the CPP premiums from local churches until the 2010 Annual Conference based upon action taken at the 2009 Annual Conference.

In January 2010, VUMPI established a separate account to receive and account for CPP premiums until the 2010 Annual Conference.

VUMPI will report this accumulated account balance at the 2010 Annual Conference and seek permission to apply this balance to our increased pension obligations payable to the GBPHB beginning in 2011. At that time, VUMPI will also seek Annual Conference permission to continue billing local churches (for the remainder of 2010, all of 2011 and 2012) the CPP premiums, but apply these premiums to the pension obligations as stated in "3. Increased Pension Plan Contributions for 2011" above.

7. Health and Wellness Initiative

In 2007, VUMPI began a process to re-examine how it could positively influence the factors affecting the health and wellness of our clergy health plan participants, and their families. As a significant first step, VUMPI sponsored the development of the Health and Wellness questionnaire to solicit input from over 60 conference leaders, both lay and clergy. Input from this questionnaire led to the further development of The Virginia Conference Wellness Survey for use among all of our clergy and their spouses. This survey was offered to all clergy members of the Virginia Conference and their spouses. More than 1,000 participated – well above all expectations.

Both the questionnaire and the survey were jointly developed and administered by Mindy S. Reynolds, MCM, MSN, RN, Wellness research consultant, Southeastern Institute of Research, Inc. and VUMPI.

VUMPI distributed a summary of the survey to the Virginia Conference Cabinet, Virginia

Conference Wellness Ministries, Ltd., the Board of Ordained Ministry, and is available to other boards and agencies that wish to participate in a collaborative effort to develop a plan that will increase the overall health and wellness of our clergy and their families. The Virginia Conference Wellness Ministries, Ltd. will lead this collaborative effort and begin making its recommendations at the 2010 Annual Conference.

In the years ahead, VUMPI will periodically re-administer this survey to clergy and their spouses in order to monitor and evaluate the success of future Health and Wellness Initiatives. VUMPI also plans to survey lay employees and their spouses that participate in the lay employee health plans.

VUMPI would like to publically recognize Anna MacIntosh, Karen Smith and Elizabeth McLaughlin of the Southeastern Institute of Research, Inc. in addition to Mindy Reynolds for their exceptional service and dedication to this project as evidenced by each of them far exceeding their contractual obligations, and our expectations, in order to provide the highest quality outcome given our limited financial resources. A sincere “thank you” to each of you, and your firms! For a copy of the Health and Wellness Questionnaire and/or the Virginia Conference Wellness Survey, go to <www.vaumc.org/wellnessministries>.

8. Consumer-driven Health Plans

On Jan. 1, 2007, VUMPI rolled out a new health plan option for active clergy. This plan, referred to as the Clergy Managed Care Plan (CMCP), is commonly referred to as a consumer-driven health plan. Specifically, it is a Health Reimbursement Arrangement (HRA). The CMCP was offered in addition to existing plans, therefore, it did not replace the Participating Provider Organization (PPO) or Health Maintenance Organization (HMO) plans.

The plan continues to operate as expected and has played a valuable role in fulfilling its original purpose – to educate our clergy participants and their dependents on the cost of health care, and with this information, encourage them to assist VUMPI in a collective attempt to “bend the trend” in our overall health care costs. However, VUMPI postponed plans to convert this plan to a qualified Health Savings Account (HSA) until further analysis of the new national health care insurance plan can be completed.

9. Medicare Part D

In 2009, VUMPI received its third government subsidy for continuing to offer prescription drug coverage as part of our Retiree Health Plan (RHP). The subsidy totaled \$443,845. This payment was based upon our 2008 prescription utilization. This subsidy will always be based upon our previous year’s prescription drug utilization. VUMPI anticipated this subsidy and incorporated it into our two-year medical trend factors to reduce church apportionments and personal contribution rates for the 2011 RHP. This will continue to be our annual practice as long as the subsidy is made available to us.

10. Retiree Health Plan (RHP) Eligibility

VUMPI updated the Virginia Conference Retiree Health Plan (RHP) Eligibility to reflect the change in years of service required for early retirement from 35 years of service to 30 years of service under ¶358.2.b) *2008 Book of Discipline*, and will restate this mandated change accordingly in the Conference Rules and Policies of the *2010 Journal of the Virginia Annual Conference*.

Section II: Recommendations

1.) 2011 Health Plan Recommendations

From time to time, our health plans may be required to comply with changes in state law as mandated by the Commonwealth of Virginia and all other states that have jurisdiction over our plans. It is our policy to review these changes in a timely manner, typically between sessions of the annual conference, and include changes that expand coverage as long as it can be done so without material increase in healthcare cost paid by our annual conference.

Virginia Conference clergy members will earn a year of service towards his/her total

Virginia Conference Years of Service as indicated in the Retiree Health Plan Vesting and Contribution Schedule found in Participant Contribution Recommendations below as long as they meet the Virginia Conference's Retiree Health Plan eligibility.

Beginning Jan. 1, 2011, all eligible clergy must be enrolled in the conference Health Plan unless proof of other coverage is submitted to VUMPI.

If you do not enroll during the open enrollment in the fall of 2010 for health coverage in Plan year 2011, you will automatically be enrolled as a single employee subject to the single person contribution rates in a "default plan." The "default plan" is the \$750/\$2,000 PPO Plan without Dental coverage.

Therefore, you are strongly encourage to participate in the electronic open enrollment period in the fall of 2010. Details will be distributed throughout normal open enrollment means.

For 2011, VUMPI recommends the Virginia Annual Conference adopt the following changes to its plans:

Retiree Health Plan (RHP):

Under Age 65

Changes in 2011 benefits offered under the Retiree Health Plan (RHP) are as follows:

- \$500 PPO
 - Increase deductible from \$500/\$1,500 to \$750/\$2,000 for Single/Family, respectively

Over Age 65

There are no changes in 2011 benefits offered under the Retiree Health Plan (RHP).

Conference Health Plan (CHP):

Changes in 2011 benefits offered under the Conference Health Plan (CHP) are as follows:

- \$500 PPO
 - Increased deductible from \$500/\$1500 to \$750/\$2000 for Single/ Family, respectively
- HMO Only
 - Implement deductible of \$250/\$500 for Single/Family respectively
- Clergy Managed Care Plan (CMCP)
 - Increase deductible from \$750/\$1,500 to \$1,000/\$2,000 for Single/Family respectively

Incapacitated:

Under Age 65

Changes in 2011 benefits offered under the \$250 Deductible PPO Plan are as follows:

- \$250 PPO
 - Increase deductible from \$250/\$750 to \$500/\$1,000 for Single/ Family, respectively

Over Age 65

Changes in 2011 benefits offered under the \$250 Deductible PPO Plan are as follows:

- \$250 PPO
 - Increase deductible from \$250/\$750 to \$500/\$1,000 for Single/ Family, respectively

Widowed Spouses of Active Clergy:

Under Age 65

Changes in 2011 benefits offered under the \$250 Deductible PPO Plan are as follows:

- \$250 PPO
 - Increase Deductible from \$250/\$750 to \$500/\$1,000 for Single/ Family, respectively

Over Age 65

Widowed Spouses of Active Clergy Over Age 65 receive their coverage under the Retiree Health Plan.

2.) 2011 Pension and Health Plan Apportionment Recommendations

Total Apportionment Summary:

VUMPI recommends the total pension and health apportionment of \$14,449,725 for 2011, comprised of the following components: Pre-1982 Pension – \$563,500; Conference

Health Plan (CHP) – \$7,859,174; Retiree Health Plan (RHP) – \$5,434,412; Incapacitated and Widowed Spouses of Active Pastors – \$592,639.

[NOTE: VUMPI will continue to bill conference-responsible salary-paying-units (such as extension ministry or new start appointments) in 2011. This billed amount will be \$10,476 for each eligible clergyperson, plus their applicable Participant Contributions for active clergy as noted in Participant Contribution Recommendations.]

VUMPI’s Pension, Health and Welfare Reserve Fund may be used to subsidize related apportionments as needed.

Pre-1982 Pension Plan — Past Service Rate (PSR) & Apportionment Components:

VUMPI recommends the 2011 Pre-1982 Apportionment of \$563,500. VUMPI recommends the 2011 PSR of \$559, up from \$548.

The Virginia Conference provides a retirement pension benefit to all eligible clergy who have served in the conference prior to 1982. This pension plan pays the greater of: (1) an annual benefit equal to the PSR times years of pre-1982 service; or (2) an annuity amount based upon the participant’s cash balance in his/her Defined Benefit Service Money (DBSM) Account.

The Virginia Conference establishes the PSR rate each year based on a formula established by the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits. The PSR rate is equal to .9 percent of the Conference Average Compensation (CAC). The PSR reflects the annual increases in salaries for active clergy.

The 2010 Denominational Average Compensation (DAC) is \$60,341; the Virginia Conference Average Compensation (CAC) is \$60,839. The General Board of Pension and Health Benefits calculated and released the 2011 DAC as \$61,716 and the CAC as \$62,029.

Health Plan Apportionment Components:

Retired Clergy: VUMPI recommends a RHP apportionment of \$5,434,412. In future years, VUMPI will continue to recommend increases in the RHP apportionment at a rate that, when combined with commensurate increases in Participant Contributions, are sufficient to fully fund the RHP’s operating cost.

Active Clergy: VUMPI recommends a CHP apportionment of \$7,859,174. In future years, VUMPI will continue to recommend increases in the CHP apportionment at a rate that, when combined with commensurate increases in Participant Contributions, are sufficient to fully fund the CHP’s operating cost.

Incapacitated and Widowed Spouses of Active Pastors: VUMPI recommends an Incapacitated and Widowed Spouses of Active Pastors apportionment of \$592,639.

3.) Participant Contribution Recommendations:

Recommended Participant Contribution Rates for all health plans are as follows. In future years, VUMPI will continue to recommend increases in Participant Contribution Rates that, when combined with commensurate increases in health plan apportionments, are sufficient to fully fund the operating cost of all the health plans.

2011 MONTHLY PERSONAL CONTRIBUTIONS*
INCAPACITATED / SURVIVING SPOUSES UNDER AGE 65

\$250 PPO Medical & Rx Plan

Individual	\$96
Family	\$154

<u>Dental</u>	<u>CORE</u>	<u>MAJOR</u>
Individual	\$13	\$33
Family	\$54	\$102

ACTIVE CLERGY

Medical & Rx Plan	HMO	PPO 500	CMCP
Individual	\$176	\$71	\$61
Family	\$461	\$237	\$216

Dental	CORE	MAJOR
Individual	\$13	\$33
Family	\$54	\$102

CLERGY ON VOLUNTARY LEAVE OF ABSENCE and SABBATICAL

Medical & Rx Plan	HMO	PPO 500	CMCP
Individual	\$538	\$490	N/A
Family	\$1,450	\$1,299	N/A

Dental	CORE	MAJOR
Individual	\$29	\$56
Family	\$54	\$123

*CLERGY RETIRED under ¶358.2a (with 20 years of service) or
¶358.3 (prior to Age 62 with less than 30 Years of Service)*

Medical & Rx Plan	PPO 500
Individual	\$490
Family	\$1,299

Dental	CORE	MAJOR
Individual	\$29	\$56
Family	\$54	\$123

CLERGY RETIRED under ¶358.1; ¶358.2b; ¶358.2c or ¶358.3

Retiree Health Plan Vesting & Monthly Contribution Schedule for Clergy

<u>Total VAUMC Years of Service</u>	<u>Who is Covered?</u>	<u>Retirees > Age 65**</u>	<u>Retirees < Age 65</u>		
			<u>PPO 500</u>	<u>Dental Core</u>	<u>Dental Major</u>
0-9	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
10-14	Individual	\$419	\$598	\$37	\$55
	Family	\$700	\$1,151	\$54	\$126
15-19	Individual	\$340	\$485	\$37	\$55
	Family	\$565	\$932	\$54	\$126
20-24	Individual	\$259	\$370	\$37	\$55
	Family	\$430	\$713	\$54	\$126
25-29	Individual	\$180	\$257	\$37	\$55
	Family	\$300	\$494	\$54	\$126
30+	Individual	\$ 100	\$143	\$37	\$55
	Family	\$167	\$273	\$54	\$126

* Includes Deacons-in-Full-Connection enrolled in the Clergy Conference Health Plan (CHP).

** Medicare Supplement & Prescription Drug Plan

CLERGY RETIREE HEALTH PLAN MONTHLY ACCESS FEE

Individual	\$20
Family	\$20

4. 2011 CRSP/ CPP/Virginia Conference Plans Clergy Retirement Security Program (CRSP)

The 2011 CRSP Contribution from the local churches and/or salary-paying-units for each appointed eligible clergy member under Episcopal appointment at that location shall be:

Plan Compensation (base salary plus housing allowance or parsonage rate in accordance with the Internal Revenue Service, up to the Denominational Average Compensation) times 12 percent

$$CRSP\ Contribution = (Plan\ Compensation) \times (12.0\ percent)$$

Local churches and salary-paying units are to make their monthly CRSP payments to VUMPI.

Comprehensive Protection Plan (CPP)

The 2011 CPP Contribution from the local churches and/or salary-paying-units for each appointed eligible clergy member under episcopal appointment at that location shall be:

Plan Compensation (base salary plus housing allowance or parsonage rate in accordance with the Internal Revenue Service, up to 200 percent of the Denominational Average Compensation) times 4.4 percent.

$$CPP\ Contribution = (Plan\ Compensation) \times (4.4\%)$$

Local churches and salary-paying units are to make their monthly CPP payments to VUMPI. If, for any reason, CPP contributions are more than 30 days in arrears, participation in the CPP is suspended. If contributions are more than six consecutive months in arrears, participation in the CPP is terminated. For terminated participants, readmission into the CPP requires payment of seven months of contributions and submission of medical statement of good health.

Erroneously enrolled clergy who are ineligible to participate in the CPP have no right to benefits under the CPP.

Eligible clergy who have not been properly enrolled in the CPP have no rights under the CPP until after proper enrollment.

A. Disability Benefits

1. For those clergy disabled on or after Jan. 1, 2002, the 2011 CPP disability benefit equals 70 percent of Plan Compensation, with compensation capped at 200 percent of the DAC. For further details, refer to the CPP Summary Plan Document provided by the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits.
2. For those clergy disabled prior to Jan. 1, 2002, they will continue to receive the same CPP disability benefit and conference disability supplement per the plan document in-force at the time their disability claim originated. For further details, contact the VUMPI office at (804) 521-1100 or 1-800-768-6040.

B. Death Benefits

1. The CPP death benefit for all active full-time clergy under episcopal appointment is \$50,000. The beneficiary may choose to have the death benefit paid in 12 equal monthly installments or as one lump sum. Upon retirement, death benefits are reduced to equal 30 percent of the DAC and are payable in a lump sum.
2. The Conference Supplemental Death Benefit for all active full-time clergy under Episcopal appointment is \$25,000. This Conference Supplemental Death Benefit is payable in addition to the CPP death benefit. During retirement, a \$5,000 Conference Supplemental Death Benefit will be payable to CPP participants, in addition to the CPP

death benefit. The beneficiary will receive the Conference Supplemental Death Benefit payable in one lump sum. The Conference pays the entire cost of this Supplemental Death Benefit.

3. In combination, the CPP and Conference Supplemental Death Benefit provide total death benefits of:

- a) \$75,000 to beneficiaries of active clergy participants;
- b) 30 percent of the DAC + \$5,000 to beneficiaries of retired clergy participants.

Gift Benefit

A \$1,500 gift is given at the time of retirement or disability (once awarded disability benefits under the Comprehensive Protection Plan) to each clergyperson who has served at least 10 years of service in a full-time Virginia Conference episcopal appointment in the Virginia Conference with pension credit. Further, a gift to the families of each clergyperson who dies in active service is paid in the same amount as the gift to retired or disabled clergypersons.

5.) 2010 and 2011 PRE-1982 FUNDING PLANS

Virginia Annual Conference Funding Plan For Supplement One to the Clergy Retirement Security Program

Calculated Using Data as of Jan. 1, 2008, Effective Jan. 1, 2010

The Virginia Annual Conference Past Service Rate (PSR) is \$548, or 0.9% of our Conference Average Compensation (CAC) which is \$60,839. For the past decade, our CAC has increased by an average of approximately 3.0% per year, and we expect that pattern to continue.

Before Jan. 1, 1982 and as part of the rollout of the Ministerial Pension Plan (MPP), the General Board of Pension communicated to the denomination that each conference would be required to amortize its unfunded liability within the Pre-1982 Pension Plan over 40 years, or by Dec. 31, 2021.

The Virginia United Methodist Pensions, Inc. (VUMPI), on behalf of the Virginia Annual Conference, will make an annual contribution to Supplement One to the Clergy Retirement Security Program of \$414,038, based on 2.0 percent PSR increases and amortized over the period ending Dec. 31, 2021.

VUMPI will fund these benefits through a single annual contribution to the Supplement One to the Clergy Retirement Security Program administered by the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits (GBPHB), and made typically during the fourth week of December for the year in which it is due.

This payment, and all subsequent payments will be made from Virginia Annual Conference Pre-1982 apportionments and distributions from VUMPI's Pension & Health and Welfare Reserve Fund, which contains approximately \$26 million as of Jan. 1, 2009, that is invested in accordance with the Investment Policy Statement adopted by VUMPI's Board of Directors. This fund is maintained for the express purpose of maintaining the long-term viability of the Virginia Conference's overall pension and benefit plans.

The Pre-1982 Pension Valuation and subsequent required funding, calculated using data as of Jan. 1, 2008, effective Jan. 1, 2010, is calculated by the General Board of Pension and Health Benefit using 7 percent interest, 3 percent benefit increases, and the RP-2000 Mortality Table and summarized below:

Total Commitment	\$80,505,393
Funded Portion	\$74,690,137
Un-funded Portion	\$5,815,256
Annual Contribution	\$414,038
Amortization period (years)	12
Past Service Rate (\$)	548
Contingent Annuitant (%)	70
Interest Rate Assumption (%)	7.0
COLA Increase Assumption (%)	3.0

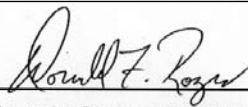
The GBPHB maintains all necessary record keeping and reporting related to covered participants and is available upon request.

The General Board of Pension and Health Benefits deems the valuation reasonable and prudent and that it upholds the standards set forth by the American Academy of Actuaries.

The Virginia Annual Conference reserves the right to modify this Funding Plan.


 Bishop 4-26-2010


 Chairperson, Virginia United Methodist Pensions, Inc. 4-26-2010


 Executive Director, Virginia United Methodist Pensions, Inc. 4-26-2010

**Virginia Annual Conference
 Funding Plan
 For Supplement One to the Clergy Retirement Security Program**

Calculated Using Data as of Jan. 1, 2009, Effective Jan. 1, 2011

The Virginia Annual Conference Past Service Rate (PSR) is \$559, or 0.9% of our Conference Average Compensation (CAC) which is \$62,029. For the past decade, our CAC has increased by an average of approximately 3.0% per year, and we expect that pattern to continue.

Before Jan. 1, 1982 and as part of the rollout of the Ministerial Pension Plan (MPP), the General Board of Pension communicated to the denomination that each conference would be required to amortize its unfunded liability within the Pre-1982 Pension Plan over 40 years, or by Dec. 31, 2021.

The Virginia United Methodist Pensions, Inc. (VUMPI), on behalf of the Virginia Annual Conference, will make an annual contribution to Supplement One to the Clergy Retirement Security Program of \$3,071,107, based on 2.0% PSR increases and amortized over the period ending Dec. 31, 2021.

VUMPI will fund these benefits through a single annual contribution to the Supplement One to the Clergy Retirement Security Program administered by the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits (GBPHB), and made typically during the fourth week of December for the year in which it is due.

This payment, and all subsequent payments will be made from Virginia Annual Conference Pre-1982 apportionments and distributions from VUMPI's Pension & Health and Welfare Reserve Fund, which contains approximately \$30 million as of Jan. 1, 2010, that is invested in accordance with the Investment Policy Statement adopted by VUMPI's Board of Directors. This fund is maintained for the express purpose of maintaining the long-term viability of the Virginia Conference's overall pension and benefit plans.

The Pre-1982 Pension Valuation and subsequent required funding, calculated using data as of Jan. 1, 2009, effective Jan. 1, 2011, is calculated by the General Board of Pension and Health Benefit using 7 percent interest, 3 percent benefit increases, and the RP-2000 Mortality Table and summarized below:

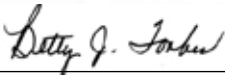
Total Commitment	\$ 73,269,252
Funded Portion	\$ 50,530,675
Un-funded Portion	\$ 22,738,577
Annual Contribution	\$ 3,071,107
Amortization period (years)	11
Past Service Rate (\$)	559
Contingent Annuitant (%)	70
Interest Rate Assumption (%)	7.0
COLA Increase Assumption (%)	3.0

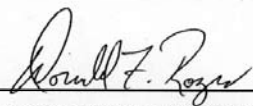
The GBPHB maintains all necessary record keeping and reporting related to covered participants and is available upon request.

The General Board of Pension and Health Benefits deems the valuation reasonable and prudent and that it upholds the standards set forth by the American Academy of Actuaries.

The Virginia Annual Conference reserves the right to modify this Funding Plan.


 Bishop 4-26-2010


 Chairperson, Virginia United Methodist Pensions, Inc. 4-26-2010


 Executive Director, Virginia United Methodist Pensions, Inc. 4-26-2010

2011 Housing Allowance Exclusion

Housing allowance and exclusion for retired and/or disabled clergy:

Whereas, the religious denomination known as The United Methodist Church has and functions through ministers of the Gospel who are duly ordained or licensed; and

Whereas, the practice of The United Methodist Church is to provide a parsonage or rental exclusion as part of the gross compensation for each of its active ordained or licensed clergy; and

Whereas, pensions paid to retired ordained or licensed clergy of The United Methodist Church are considered as deferred compensation and are paid to said retired ordained or licensed pastors in consideration of previous, active service; and

Whereas, the Internal Revenue Service has recognized that the Virginia Annual Conference is the appropriate organization to designate a housing/rental exclusion for retired ordained or licensed pastors who are members of this conference; and

Whereas, the disabled pastor has the same legal relationship to an annual conference as does the retired pastor and, thus, this annual conference is also the appropriate organization to designate a housing/rental exclusion for a disabled ordained or licensed pastor who is a member of this conference;

Be it resolved:

1. An amount equal to 100 percent of the pension payments received by a retired clergy, or 100 percent of the disability benefit payments received by a disabled clergy, during the year of 2011 be and is hereby designated as a housing allowance and exclusion respectively for each retired or disabled, ordained or licensed clergy of The United Methodist Church who is or was a member of the Virginia Conference at the time of his or her retirement or disability; and

2. The pension or disability payment to which this housing allowance and exclusion applies shall be the pension or disability payment resulting from all service of such retired or disabled, ordained or licensed clergy from all employment by any local church, annual conference, general agency or institution of The United Methodist Church or of any former denomination that is now a part of The United Methodist Church, or from any other employer who employed the clergy to perform duties related to the ministry and who elected to make contributions to the pension or benefit funds for such retired clergy's pension or disabled clergy's benefits.

Notes:

1. The housing exclusion which may be excluded from a clergy's gross income is limited to the lesser of (1) the amount of the housing allowance designated by the clergy's employer or other appropriate body, (2) the amount actually expended by the clergy to provide his or her housing, or (3) the legally determined fair rental value of the parsonage or other housing provided.

2. Per the Internal Revenue Service, the housing allowance and exclusion is available to clergy, not the clergy person's spouse or surviving spouse.

Betty J. Forbes, *Chair*

REPORT OF THE TREASURER

Cash Receipts for the Year Ending December 31, 2009

Apportioned Funds	YTD 2009	YTD 2008	Increase (Decrease)	Pct. Inc.\Dec.
<i>Conference Retained Funds</i>				
401 World Service & Conf. Benevolences	6,025,347	6,399,407	(374,060)	-5.85%
407 Conference Services	1,355,819	1,405,570	(49,751)	-3.54%
408 Educational Fund	1,276,910	1,380,947	(104,037)	-7.53%
411 Ministerial Education	862,967	915,287	(52,320)	-5.72%
409 Church Extension & Development	980,153	1,048,608	(68,455)	-6.53%
403 Equitable Compensation	907,422	827,217	80,205	9.70%
406 District Superintendents	2,112,490	2,087,113	25,377	1.22%
Subtotal	13,521,108	14,064,149	(543,041)	-3.86%
<i>Pass-through Funds</i>				
402 Episcopal	774,117	807,918	(33,801)	-4.18%
412 General Connectional	470,206	454,760	15,446	3.40%
413 Interdenominational Coop.	67,870	73,476	(5,606)	-7.63%
404 Retiree, Disab., Widow & Health	11,774,027	11,704,568	69,459	0.59%
414 Black College	346,378	367,043	(20,665)	-5.63%
415 Africa University	80,639	84,719	(4,080)	-4.82%
Subtotal	13,513,237	13,492,484	20,753	0.15%
Total Apportioned Funds	27,034,345	27,556,633	(522,288)	-1.90%
Special Days				
Human Relations Day	12,994	12,449	545	4.38%
One Great Hour of Sharing	92,299	93,308	(1,009)	-1.08%
World Communion Sunday	24,902	30,143	(5,241)	-17.39%
United Methodist Student Day	14,115	17,211	(3,096)	-17.99%
Peace with Justice Sunday	10,398	10,488	(90)	-0.86%
Native American Awareness	23,328	23,897	(569)	-2.38%
General Advance Specials				
World Missions	760,931	826,522	(65,591)	-7.94%
U.M.C.O.R.	374,059	582,748	(208,689)	-35.81%
Va. Conference Advance Specials	470,714	548,978	(78,264)	-14.26%
Other Funds				
Christian Education Fund	4,827	8,382	(3,555)	-42.41%
Youth Service	19,503	29,618	(10,115)	-34.15%
Samaritan Fund - VA Homes	58,544	60,979	(2,435)	-3.99%
UMFS	113,172	140,094	(26,922)	-19.22%
Comm. on Disab.\Camp Rainbow	66,678	53,977	12,701	23.53%
All Things New	5,933	-	5,933	n/a
Other	24,580	94,213	(69,633)	-73.91%
Total Non-Apportioned Funds	2,076,977	2,533,007	(456,030)	-18.00%
Total Church Receipts	29,111,322	30,089,640	(978,318)	-3.25%

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL ON FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

The Council of Finance and Administration (CFA) submits for 2011 the following reports and recommendations for approval of the Virginia Annual Conference.

SECTION I - Summary of Conference Budget for 2011

	2009 Rev.	2010	2011	Budget	Inc.\(Dec.)	% Chg.
401 - World Service & Conference Benevolences						
A. World Service Fund**^	3,221,392	3,239,244	3,247,078	10.24%	7,834	0.24%
B. Benevolence Grants (see Schedule A)	364,995	369,545	353,565	1.12%	(15,980)	-4.32%
C. Conference Programs	215,511	244,750	244,750	0.77%	-	0.00%
D. Administrative exp. (see Schedule A)	1,660,906	1,568,736	1,544,000	4.87%	(24,736)	-1.58%
E. New Church Start Salary Support	-	-	400,000	1.26%	400,000	
F. Campus Ministries	935,000	881,100	881,100	2.78%	-	0.00%
G. Contingency Funds - Conference Budget Shortfall	409,776	337,054	401,507	1.27%	64,453	19.12%
Total 401 - World Service & Conf. Benevolences	6,807,580	6,640,429	7,072,000	22.31%	431,571	6.50%
402 - Episcopal*	875,023	890,987	911,326	2.87%	20,339	2.28%
403 - Equitable Compensation	1,040,000	1,144,000	500,000	1.58%	(644,000)	-56.29%
404 - Active Clergy Health Benefits						
A. Health Benefits	6,931,395	7,630,266	7,859,174	24.79%	228,908	3.00%
B. Incapacitated (Disabled) and Widowed Spouses	550,601	575,378	592,639	1.87%	17,261	3.00%
Total 404 - Active Clergy Health Benefits	7,481,996	8,205,644	8,451,813	26.66%	246,169	3.00%
405 - Retired Clergy Health & Pensions						
A. Health Benefits	5,048,926	5,276,128	5,434,412	17.14%	158,284	3.00%
B. Pre-82 Pension Fund Liability	563,106	563,106	563,500	1.78%	394	0.07%
Total 405 - Retired Clergy Health & Pensions	5,612,032	5,839,234	5,997,912	18.92%	158,678	2.72%
406 - District Superintendents Fund						
A. District Superintendents	2,405,914	2,203,365	2,250,000	7.10%	46,635	2.12%
B. Contingency Funds - Conference Budget Shortfall	-	220,336	290,000	0.91%	69,664	31.62%
Total 406 - District Superintendents Fund	2,405,914	2,423,701	2,540,000	8.01%	116,299	4.80%
407 - Conference Services						
A. Board of Ordained Ministry (see Schedule B)	273,970	275,078	276,720	0.88%	1,642	0.60%
B. Bishop's Assistant	150,000	216,000	213,310	0.67%	(2,690)	-1.25%
C. Pastor Relocation & Transition	17,000	17,000	17,000	0.05%	-	0.00%
D. Annual Conference Session	215,000	219,300	210,000	0.66%	(9,300)	-4.24%
E. Mortgage Payments	265,000	265,000	265,000	0.84%	-	0.00%
F. Treasurer's Office	448,800	450,000	365,000	1.15%	(85,000)	-18.89%
G. Computer Services	60,000	60,000	80,000	0.25%	20,000	33.33%
H. Wesley Foundation Property Maint	50,000	50,000	50,000	0.16%	-	0.00%
I. Richmond Area Episcopal Expense	25,000	25,000	26,500	0.08%	1,500	6.00%
J. Replenish Reserves	80,000	300,000	-	0.00%	(300,000)	-100.00%
K. Other (see Schedule B)	198,434	192,183	214,333	0.69%	22,150	11.53%
L. Contingency Funds - Conference Budget Shortfall	203,527	285,030	301,383	0.95%	16,353	5.74%
Total 407 - Conference Services	1,986,731	2,354,591	2,019,246	6.38%	(335,345)	-14.24%
408 - Virginia Education Fund	1,650,000	1,072,500	1,072,500	3.38%	-	0.00%
409 - Church Extension & Development	1,250,000	812,500	812,500	2.56%	-	0.00%
411 - Ministerial Education*	1,114,167	1,108,882	1,096,942	3.46%	(11,940)	-1.08%
412 - General & Jurisdictional Connectional Fund						
A. General Administration Fund*	358,952	350,976	354,323	1.12%	3,347	0.95%
B. SEJ General Admin. Fund	250,482	250,482	250,482	0.79%	-	0.00%
Total 412 - General & Jurisdictional Fund	609,434	601,458	604,805	1.91%	3,347	0.56%
413 - Interdenominational Cooperation Fund*	86,833	86,303	85,478	0.27%	(825)	-0.96%
414 - Black College Fund*	444,485	442,376	437,551	1.38%	(4,825)	-1.09%
415 - Africa University*	99,479	99,007	97,927	0.31%	(1,080)	-1.09%
Total Apportionments	31,463,674	31,721,612	31,700,000	100.00%	(21,612)	-0.07%

* Indicates a General Church Apportionment

^ Not included in Contingency Funds for Conf. Budget Shortfall

SECTION I - Supporting Schedule A

	2009 Rev.	2010	2011	Budget	Inc.\(Dec.)	% Chg.
401 - WORLD SERVICE & CONFERENCE BENEVOLENCES, Line B - Benevolence Grants						
1. Chaplain Service of Churches	151,300	151,300	149,000	0.47%	(2,300)	-1.52%
2. Virginia Council of Churches	84,550	84,550	80,000	0.25%	(4,550)	-5.38%
3. Va. UM Assembly Center	80,000	93,450	73,550	0.23%	(19,900)	-21.29%
4. Committee on Mission Personnel	22,000	22,000	35,335	0.11%	13,335	60.61%
5. Virginia Interfaith Center	8,010	8,010	8,010	0.03%	-	0.00%
6. Society of St. Andrew	6,675	6,675	5,000	0.02%	(1,675)	-25.09%
7. Appalachian Ministry Network	1,780	1,780	1,780	0.01%	-	0.00%
8. Industrial & Commercial Ministries	890	890	890	0.00%	-	0.00%
9. Other	9,790	890		0.00%	(890)	
	364,995	369,545	353,565	1.12%	(15,980)	-4.32%

401 - WORLD SERVICE & CONFERENCE BENEVOLENCES, Line D - Administrative Expenses

1. Common Table	10,600	10,600	10,200	0.03%	(400)	-3.77%
2. Departmental administration (See below)	98,655	86,722	71,847	0.23%	(14,875)	-17.15%
3. Agency administration (See below)	117,308	116,003	106,685	0.34%	(9,318)	-8.03%
4. Personnel costs	1,251,343	1,135,411	911,500	2.86%	(223,911)	-19.72%
5. Office rent	165,000	165,000	165,000	0.52%	-	0.00%
6. Regional Ministry Teams	-	30,000	20,000	0.06%	(10,000)	-33.33%
7. Information Technologies	5,000	5,000	150,000	0.47%	145,000	> 100%
8. Advocate Support	-	-	71,500	0.23%	71,500	
9. Postage			6,500	0.02%	6,500	
10. Printing			17,768	0.06%	17,768	
11. Telephone			8,000	0.03%	8,000	
12. Contingency	10,000	17,000	5,000	0.02%	(12,000)	-70.59%
13. Moving expense	3,000	3,000	-	0.00%	(3,000)	-100.00%
	1,660,906	1,568,736	1,544,000	4.87%	(24,736)	-1.58%

Supporting Schedule, Line 2 - Departmental Administration

1. Connectional Ministries	11,030	11,030	10,030	0.03%	(1,000)	-9.07%
2. Communications	10,947	11,340	9,315	0.03%	(2,025)	-17.86%
3. Higher Ed & Social Concerns	3,800	-	-	0.00%	-	
4. Director/Church Planter	13,706	13,906	11,706	0.04%	(2,200)	-15.82%
5. Leadership Development Institute	2,698	-	-	0.00%	-	
6. Youth, Young Adult, Singles *	12,770	16,995	12,945	0.04%	(4,050)	-23.83%
7. Children's Ministries	7,365	-	-	0.00%	-	
8. Lay Life & Work, Disabilities ^	15,500	18,475	14,425	0.05%	(4,050)	-21.92%
9. Mission Office	13,976	14,976	13,426	0.04%	(1,550)	-10.35%
10. Stewardship	3,863	-	-	0.00%	-	
11. Hispanic Ministries	3,000	-	-	0.00%	-	
	98,655	86,722	71,847	0.23%	(14,875)	-17.15%

Supporting Schedule, Line 3 - Agency Administration

1. Church & Society	11,700	11,700	11,150	0.04%	(550)	-4.70%
2. Discipleship	10,900	10,900	20,200	0.06%	9,300	85.32%
3. Global Ministries	22,850	22,850	19,900	0.06%	(2,950)	-12.91%
4. Communications	8,500	8,500	8,200	0.03%	(300)	-3.53%
5. LifeSpan	10,800	10,800	-	0.00%	(10,800)	-100.00%
6. Higher Education	10,700	10,700	10,000	0.03%	(700)	-6.54%
7. Laity	14,050	12,825	12,375	0.04%	(450)	-3.51%
8. Commission on Race & Ethnicity	8,898	8,818	6,800	0.02%	(2,018)	-22.89%
9. COSROW	6,230	6,230	5,630	0.02%	(600)	-9.63%
10. Commission on Disabilities	8,675	8,675	8,425	0.03%	(250)	-2.88%
11. Church Development Team	4,005	4,005	4,005	0.01%	-	0.00%
	117,308	116,003	106,685	0.34%	(9,318)	-8.03%

SECTION I - Supporting Schedule B

	2009 Rev.	2010	2011	Budget	Inc.\(Dec.)	% Chg.
407 - Conference Services, Line A, Board of Ordained Ministry						
1. Minister's Family Counseling	15,000	15,000	15,000	0.05%	-	0.00%
2. Candidates' Evaluation	20,000	20,000	20,000	0.06%	-	0.00%
3. Sexual Ethics Response Team	1,780	1,780	1,780	0.01%	-	0.00%
4. Clergy Families in Transition	20,000	20,000	20,000	0.06%	-	0.00%
5. Departmental Administration	15,200	15,400	15,400	0.05%	-	0.00%
6. Personnel Costs	142,450	143,358	145,000	0.46%	1,642	1.15%
7. Agency Administration	59,540	59,540	59,540	0.19%	-	0.00%
	273,970	275,078	276,720	0.88%	1,642	0.60%
407 - Conference Services, Line K, Other						
1. Archives	15,000	10,550	15,000	0.05%	4,450	42.18%
2. Council on Finance and Administration	8,500	8,500	8,500	0.03%	-	0.00%
3. Historical Society	9,800	8,000	8,700	0.03%	700	8.75%
4. Board of Trustees	2,000	2,000	2,000	0.01%	-	0.00%
5. Telephone Service	18,000	18,000	20,000	0.06%	2,000	11.11%
6. Insurance	32,000	32,000	32,000	0.10%	-	0.00%
7. Postage & Printing	-	-	25,000	0.08%	25,000	
8. Conference Publications	20,000	20,000	20,000	0.06%	-	0.00%
9. Bishop's auto allowance	5,000	5,000	5,000	0.02%	-	0.00%
10. Contingency Funds for Unforeseen Expenses	10,000	10,000	10,000	0.03%	-	0.00%
11. Legal	35,000	35,000	25,000	0.08%	(10,000)	-28.57%
12. Lake Junaluska Dam Project	33,334	33,333	33,333	0.11%	-	0.00%
13. 2012 General Conf. Hosting costs	9,800	9,800	9,800	0.03%	-	0.00%
	198,434	192,183	214,333	0.69%	22,150	11.53%

SECTION II - Conference Reserve Schedule (Unaudited)

Status of Undesignated Conference Reserves:	2007	2008	2009
Beginning balance, January 1st	1,353,131	1,254,489	54,804
A. Income:			
Conference apportionment, budgeted	100,000	100,000	71,872
Investment income (loss)	247,038	(857,650)	326,157
Other income	-	9,642	10,300
Subtotal A	347,038	(748,008)	408,329
B. Expenses, Administrative Issues & Grants:			
Legal expenses recovered	(29,984)	-	-
Grants and transfers:			
Forgiveness of VUMAC Debt	40,000		
SEJ Bethea Welcome Center	8,000	8,000	-
Subtotal B	18,016	8,000	-
C. Budget Surpluses (Overruns) and Adjustments:			
Apportionment shortfall	(490,247)	(533,634)	(1,415,190)
Program administration budget	(35,412)	83,443	1,054,955
Emerging Funds closeout		(38,789)	-
Conference services budget surplus	106,603	44,583	369,044
Other miscellaneous	-	720	51,297
Budget shortfall	(419,056)	(443,677)	60,106
Audit adjustment	(8,608)	-	-
Subtotal C	(427,664)	(443,677)	60,106
Net Change in Reserves (A-B+C)	(98,642)	(1,199,685)	468,435
Ending balance, December 31st	1,254,489	54,804	523,239
Reserve balance required to fund program deficits			
District Superintendents Fund	(391,129)	(484,734)	(500,053)
UM Building Fund/Debt Service	(288,186)	(284,414)	(300,688)
Equitable Compensation Fund	(131,342)	(290,462)	(189,625)
	(810,657)	(1,059,610)	(990,366)
Net Conference Reserves, December 31st	443,832	(1,004,806)	(467,127)
Breakdown of Conference Net Assets	2007	2008	2009
Temporarily restricted			
Church Extension Fund	2,386,792	2,276,893	2,334,720
Francis Asbury Scholarship Fund	513,692	518,248	523,239
Ministerial Education Fund	356,733	361,303	348,921
UM Communications/Operations	288,978	322,444	284,984
All God's Children Camp	265,897	232,070	226,794
Legal Expense Fund	75,463	176,063	194,251
Various Mission Office Projects	175,750	209,281	182,719
Revealing Christ Campaign	158,762	156,257	140,681
Bd of Trustees' Repair & Replacement Fund	-	-	100,000
Other	930,451	823,348	702,424
	5,152,518	5,075,907	5,038,733
Unrestricted			
Property and equipment	2,441,739	2,371,950	2,319,128
Conference reserves (Detailed above)	1,254,489	54,804	523,239
District Superintendents Fund	(391,129)	(484,734)	(500,053)
UM Building Fund/Debt Service	(288,186)	(284,414)	(300,688)
Equitable Compensation Fund	(131,342)	(290,462)	(189,625)
	2,885,571	1,367,144	1,852,001
	8,038,089	6,443,051	6,890,734

SECTION III - Recommended Apportionments to Districts and Local Churches

A. Total Recommended Apportionment Levels:

The Council of Finance and Administration (CFA) recommends that the amounts apportioned from the General, Jurisdictional, and Annual Conference be apportioned to the districts as follows:

	Fund #	2009	2010	2011	Inc.\(Dec.)	% Chg.
1. World Service & Conference Bene.	401	6,807,580	6,640,429	7,072,000	431,571	6.50%
2. Episcopal	402	875,023	890,987	911,326	20,339	2.28%
3. Equitable Compensation	403	1,040,000	1,144,000	500,000	(644,000)	-56.29%
4. Active Clergy Health Benefits	404	7,481,996	8,205,644	8,451,813	246,169	3.00%
5. Retired Clergy Health & Pensions	405	5,612,032	5,839,234	5,997,912	158,678	2.72%
6. District Superintendents	406	2,405,914	2,423,701	2,540,000	116,299	4.80%
7. Conference Services	407	1,986,731	2,354,591	2,019,246	(335,345)	-14.24%
8. Virginia Education Fund	408	1,650,000	1,072,500	1,072,500	-	0.00%
9. Church Extension & Development	409	1,250,000	812,500	812,500	-	0.00%
10. Ministerial Education	411	1,114,167	1,108,882	1,096,942	(11,940)	-1.08%
11. General & Juris. Connectional	412	609,434	601,458	604,805	3,347	0.56%
12. Interdenominational Coop.	413	86,833	86,303	85,478	(825)	-0.96%
13. Black College	414	444,485	442,376	437,551	(4,825)	-1.09%
14. Africa University	415	99,479	99,007	97,927	(1,080)	-1.09%
		31,463,674	31,721,612	31,700,000	(21,612)	-0.07%

B. APPORTIONMENT RECOMMENDATION SPECIFICS

Report on 2009:

As set out in Annual Conference procedures, the Annual Conference is informed, through this report, of shortfalls in World Service and Conference Benevolences and Conference Services. For 2009, the shortfalls for Conference Benevolences and Conference Services were \$1,413,145. These shortfalls were managed through budget cuts, contingency funds and Conference reserves in accordance with Annual Conference-approved policy.

Education Fund:

The Education Fund is apportioned to the districts at \$1,072,500 for 2011. CFA strongly urges the churches to accept and pay this Fund amount in full. Based on recommendations of the Common Table, the following percentage distribution of the Fund is proposed for 2011:

- Ferrum College 19.5%
- Randolph-Macon College 18.5%
- Randolph College 16.0%
- Randolph-Macon Academy 10.0%
- Shenandoah University 18.0%
- Virginia Wesleyan College 18.0%

Pensions and Conference Health:

CFA recommends the cost of health, pensions and other clergy benefits be apportioned in two separate apportionments. The first apportionment for active clergy health and benefits costs and the second apportionment for retired clergy health and pension costs. These costs were combined into one apportionment in prior years.

The apportionments are to be apportioned on the formula basis described in Section IV of this report.

Church Extension and Development Fund (CEF):

This Fund is apportioned to the districts at \$812,500 for 2011, and is based on recommendations of the Common Table. The recommended formula for the distribution of receipts to the Fund is as follows:

(1) 65 percent of the amounts raised are to be directed to Board of Global Ministries for conference-wide grants and loans to new and existing churches.

- (2) 25 percent of amounts raised by districts are to be returned to the district; and,
- (3) 10 percent of amounts raised are to be directed to a joint committee of the Commission on Ethnic Local Church Concerns and the Grants Committee of the Common Table.

SECTION IV — Apportionment Procedures

A. APPORTIONMENT FORMULA:

Apportionments are calculated on the average of the last three years of available statistics of each local church (i.e., 2011 apportionments are calculated using 2007-2009 statistics). The formula is based on total net paid expenses which are the total expenditures of the church minus expenditures for benevolent causes, apportionments, capital improvements, and payments on loans and mortgages. The apportionments for each church are sent to each district based on decimal calculations from the formula below:

$$\left(\frac{\text{3-yr. avg. church net paid}}{\text{3-yr. avg. conference net paid}} \right) = \text{Church Decimal}$$

The district then passes the apportionments on to the local church according to recommendations developed by the district superintendents and the district stewards.

B. REPORTING GUIDELINES:

District Superintendents will report the apportioned amounts for each church to the Conference treasurer and the apportioned amounts will be shown on the monthly Treasurer’s report sent to each church (§15.1 of *2008 Book of Discipline*).

Apportionments are to be calculated and distributed annually rather than on a quadrennial basis.

The Annual Conference will raise World Service funds only through contributions from the local churches. CFA urges that District Superintendents, pastors, and local church leaders seek to fully implement ¶812 of the *2008 Book of Discipline*.

C. IMPORTANCE OF WORLD SERVICE:

The importance of World Service to the life of the Church is lifted up to the Annual Conference. “The World Service Fund is basic in the financial program of The United Methodist Church. The World Service apportionment represents the minimum needs of the general agencies of the Church. Payment in full of these apportionments by local churches and annual conferences is the first benevolent responsibility of the Church.” (§812 of the *2008 Book of Discipline*).

SECTION V — Annual Conference Special Offerings

Annual Conference offerings provide important and life-giving support for key conference programs. The following are recommended for approval for 2011:

- **UMFS (formerly United Methodist Family Services):** It is recommended that December be designated as United Methodist Family Services Month and that each church promote an offering during this time for this purpose.
- **Christian Education:** It is recommended that each church designate a week in September for the observance of Christian Education and that an offering be taken. The offering is to be forwarded to the Conference Treasurer and will be allocated as follows: (a) 50% for Conference Division on Education; and (b) 50 percent back to the districts for education and leadership development.
- **Industrial and Commercial Ministries:** It is recommended that Labor Day Sunday be designated for Industrial and Commercial Ministries and that churches receive an offering at that time in support of this Virginia Conference program.
- **Virginia United Methodist Homes Samaritan Fund:** It is recommended that the period

between Mother’s Day and Father’s Day be designated in support of the Virginia United Methodist Homes Samaritan Fund, and that local church offerings collected during that period be dedicated to this Virginia Conference program.

- Heart Havens: It is recommended that February be designated as Heart Havens Month and that each church promote an offering during this time for this purpose.
- Annual Conference Offering: CFA recommends continued support for this important offering.

SECTION VI — Recommended Policies

A. DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT’S FUND

Overall Policies for the Fund:

It is recommended that, in compliance with the *Book of Discipline*, the salaries and expenses for District Superintendents, and those under special appointment, be published in the conference *Journal* with each superintendent’s salary individually calculated and assigned each year as part of the appointive process, using the following formula.

- The starting salary for each newly appointed District Superintendents shall: (a) not exceed 95 percent of the Bishop’s annual salary (maximum); or (b) not be less than twice the minimum salary of an Elder (minimum).
- The salary is to be set at an amount equal to the person’s most recent annual salary, plus a fixed dollar amount set by the Annual Conference (upon recommendation of CFA), but not to exceed \$4,000 (except that such increase must conform to the upper and lower salary limitations set out above).
- Each year, the annual salaries of District Superintendents are to be adjusted by a percentage or an amount to be set by the Annual Conference (upon recommendation of CFA), but not to exceed in aggregate the latest five-year average percentage change in the Conference Average Salary, with the total annual salary not to exceed 95 percent of Bishop’s annual salary. CFA also administers salary-related expenses, to include such items as pensions, supplemental benefits, travel by voucher, continuing education, and other Cabinet-related expenses. The total cost of salaries and related expenses apportioned to districts are to be based on the current approved decimal system (upon recommendation of CFA). All other District Superintendents costs, such as housing, district office expenses and staff, are to be paid at the district level.

Authorizations for 2010:

The District Superintendents requested that their salaries for the second half of 2009 and for 2010 be the same as the 2008 salaries. This change is reflected in the 2010 budget and it does not change the formula.

B. TRAVEL AND MEETING EXPENSES

for Board and Agency members and staff engaged in conference business are provided and are to be managed as follows:

- The mileage reimbursement rate is set at 35 cents for conference staff and the IRS reimbursement rate for volunteers (currently 14 cents) serving boards and agencies of the conference.
- Meals are to be reimbursed at actual costs, but not to exceed \$20 per 24-hour period. (Breakfast on the date of departure from home/office is not accepted; dinner on the date of return is not accepted, except when the arrival to home/office is after 7 p.m.). A receipt is required.
- Reimbursement for daily room charges is set at \$85, if the travel incurred extends to a period over three hours prior to the starting time of 10 a.m. on the day of the meeting. A receipt is required.
- Spouse expenses are not part of allowable expenses.
- To encourage stewardship in this area, CFA suggests: (1) that advance reading materials be provided for study prior to meetings; and (2) that there be use of teleconferencing, where feasible.

C. INDIVIDUAL EXPENSES FOR ANNUAL CONFERENCE

are provided for and managed as follows:

Each charge is responsible for the expenses of both the clergy and lay members (including diaconal ministers) from that charge to the Annual Conference, working out its own plan of compensating for actual expenses.

Persons not covered through local church appointment shall receive annual conference reimbursement not to exceed \$100 a day for mileage, meals and lodging; the conference Treasurer shall reimburse the claimant through voucher of approved expenses. Coverage under this section extends to:

- (a) retired clergy, who retired with pension under one of the Disciplinary options and who are not serving full-time;
- (b) disabled clergy;
- (c) clergy on sabbatical leave, who are members of the Virginia Conference;
- (d) retired diaconal ministers, who served at least eight years in the Virginia Conference and who are granted a retired relationship by the conference;
- (e) persons expecting their first appointment;
- (f) members of the conference, who have been appointed to attend a theological school;
- (g) those serving as chaplains in armed forces;
- (h) deaconesses under appointment;
- (i) furloughed missionary members of the Virginia Conference; and
- (j) those on loan to other annual conferences, whose expenses are not otherwise provided for;
- (k) clergy returning from an approved leave of absence receiving local church pastoral appointments.

Each district is responsible for the expenses of its District Superintendent, youth members and members-at-large.

Each board, agency or committee is responsible for the expenses of its chairpersons. Boards and other agencies and institutions served by clergy under appointment will be responsible for said clergy's expenses to the Annual Conference.

D. CONFERENCE RESERVE FUNDS

Policies on the Maintenance of Reserve Fund Levels:

- The council is reviewing the Reserve policies in light of the current economic situation. The following policies are unchanged from the past; however, they represent targets that at present are not realities.
- Reserve funds in the amount of \$200,000 are available for emergencies and catastrophic needs related to the maintenance of conference property held by the Conference trustees, and include: (1) Virginia United Methodist Center; (2) Wesley Foundation buildings; (3) VUMAC; and (4) the episcopal residence. (The total value of these properties is estimated at more than \$15 million.)
- Reserve funds in the amount of \$300,000 are available to maintain orderly cash flow during the Conference year, with such activity to cover salaries, grants, etc.
- Reserve funds in the amount of \$300,000 are available to cover actions emerging from Annual Conference vote, emergencies, support of advances for campaigns, and potential liabilities of the conference. Of the amounts reserved: (1) up to \$50,000 is available for emergency needs of the Common Table, with the approval of CFA; and (2) up to \$100,000 may be allocated by CFA between sessions of Annual Conference, as deemed necessary.
- Consistent with approved Annual Conference policies (effective January 1992), the use of investment income is authorized to maintain reserve levels. (At the discretion of CFA, excesses may be used to: (1) meet shortfalls in conference benevolences; (2) meet shortfalls in conference services; and/or (3) reduce apportionments from the annual conference to local churches.
- The status of conference reserves at the end of the prior actual year is to be reviewed

each year by CFA and included in the report to the Annual Conference session. See the Conference Undesignated Reserve report in Section II.

E. PASTOR RELOCATION TRANSITION FUND:

1. By action of the June 2003 Annual Conference, CFA has established Pastor Relocation Transition Fund and has provided funding through the Conference Services apportionment.
2. Churches/charges which are served by full-time clergy appointed to their charge as pastor may request reimbursement on the following schedule for an incoming pastor, if the previous pastor served two years or less in the appointment to their charge:
 - One-year appointment – 75 percent of the verified moving expenses up to a maximum of \$3,000 reimbursement.
 - Two-year appointment – 50 percent of the verified moving expenses up to a maximum of \$2,000 reimbursement.
3. No moving expenses will be reimbursed that are not in compliance with the Virginia Conference Guidelines for Moving Expenses as printed in the *Journal of the Virginia Conference*.
4. Payment will be made at the end of the year based on a pro-rata share of the apportionment receipts from the churches.

F. CONFERENCE JOURNAL

In an effort to exercise good stewardship, to deliver information in a more timely manner, and to offer flexibility of services to clergy and laity, changes in the ways that the conference *Journal* is distributed were approved by action of the 2007 Annual Conference session:

The 2010 *Journal* is to be made available in the following ways:

- Posted on the Virginia Conference Web site <www.vaumc.org> in both PDF and Word/Excel formats.
- Provided as a printed copy (one per local church) at no cost.
- Provided as a CD (one per active clergy) at no cost.
- Provided as a CD at no cost to retired clergy and spouses of deceased clergy. The cost for a printed copy of the *Journal* requested by retired clergy and spouses of deceased clergy will be \$25. Requests for printed copies must be made by Aug. 1 and payment must be made at the time the order is placed.
- Provided as a CD or printed copy upon request by other interested parties at a cost of \$10 for the CD and \$25 for the print version. Requests for printed copies must be made by Aug. 1 and payment must be made at the time the order is placed.

Because many other conferences across the connection are finding great success with delivery of their conference *Journal* by CD and Web site and because it is imperative that the conference continues to find ways to reduce costs, the conference Publications Committee believes this new policy will serve the Virginia Conference well.

A request form is provided at Annual Conference for churches to elect to receive a CD in lieu of a printed copy. A request form is provided in the back of this *Book of Reports* for pre-paid orders for CD and printed copies, with an order deadline of Aug. 1, so that accurate numbers can be established before production.

G. CONFERENCE PUBLICATIONS:

It is recommended that the conference Publications Committee be continued, composed of the following: (1) the Director of the Common Table for Church Vitality; (2) Conference Business Manager; (3) the *Journal* Editor; and (4) the Conference Director of Communications, who will serve as the convener of the committee. The committee may convene at any time at the request of any committee member as long as a majority of the committee members are present. The committee oversees the production and publication of the conference *Journal* and other such publications and mailing that are appropriate to keeping the conference members linked to the business of the conference.

H. CLERGY DIRECTORY:

One copy of the *Directory of the Ministry* is to be mailed to each clergy authorized to receive the conference *Journal* and upon request, one to each church on a multi-point charge. Additional copies are available.

I. AUDIT REPORTS:

CFA stresses the requirement that all agencies, institutions, and District Superintendents submit a copy of their audit report to the Conference Treasurer by June 1 of each year. Audits should be conducted by independent, professional auditors.

J. IRS REGULATIONS:

CFA recommends that all church and/or charge treasurers comply with the IRS regulations.

K. REQUESTS FOR BUDGET FUNDING:

CFA recommends that all groups requesting funding from CFA submit requests for budget funding to CFA by Feb. 15 of the year the request is being made. This will allow the requests to be reviewed by CFA in sufficient time for consideration at the Annual Conference session the following June.

SECTION VII – A Church in Mission

We are a Church in Mission and a three-pronged focus of teaching, communication and recognition enriches us as a conference and as Christians. With it, we are able to share and learn further what it means to enter into the vision and share concerns with many people. But more importantly, it sets out a focus throughout our conference on the value and importance of the unique connective relationship we have as United Methodists.

Our charter has already been defined for us and it is set out in Scripture: “Just as in the human body, though it is made up of many parts, is a single unit, because of these parts, though many, make one body, so it is with Christ.” (1 Corinthians 12:12). And that body is composed of all of God’s children, including the rich and poor, found and lost, and secure and dispossessed. For as Jesus said, “Truly, I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.” (Matthew 25:40).

As part of that body, we are called to serve our brothers and sisters in mission throughout the connection. Because of our covenant with God and with each other, it is our goal to fund the basic missional witness of The United Methodist Church.

We have much to be proud of as a conference, as we live out the full meaning of the stewardship of the Gospel. Our connective giving — the important life blood of the work we all do together — is a reflection of the great commitment that Virginia United Methodists have to the mission and ministry work of our Lord. The budgets we draw up, while important, are more than a series of numbers. They reveal the very character of the people who build them, support them, and act through them. They are Christ’s work in the world, put into a plan for receiving and spending — collective understandings of commitments to fulfilling ministries and mission priorities. It’s no small thing we do individually, when collectively we are making such big impacts beyond our church doors.

The stewardship of our conference is part of our response to the needs we know about, as well as those not yet seen. Seeing the need, then doing what Jesus would do. That’s true Stewardship! It’s our faith in action!

SECTION VIII — Special Reports

The Council on Finance and Administration will continue an internal committee to monitor activities of agencies of the Virginia Conference to assure compliance with ¶¶612.2 and 612.16 of the *2008 Book of Discipline*.

J.D. Berlin, *President*

RECOMMENDATION

The Council on Finance and Administration recommends that the Annual Conference transfer the real estate assets currently being leased to the Virginia United Methodist Assembly Center (VUMAC) to the Virginia United Methodist Assembly Center, Inc. and to forgive the \$80,570 loan that VUMAC owes the Annual Conference. The transfer is subject to the following restrictions:

1. The transfer meets the requirements in ¶2503.5 of the *2008 Book of Discipline*.
2. The deed states that the property cannot be pledged as collateral on a loan.
3. The Virginia United Methodist Assembly Center, Inc.'s Article of Incorporation includes the necessary wording that upon dissolution, all assets are transferred to the Board of Trustees of the Virginia Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church, Inc.

This transfer should take place as soon as possible, but no later than the 2011 session of the Annual Conference.

REPORT OF THE ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED MINISTERS AND SPOUSES

The Association of Retired Ministers and Spouses, Widows and Widowers (ARMS) continues to strive to reach its missional goal to “provide a voice and fellowship for persons retired from ministry while maintaining a vital connection with the conference.” It is formed to maintain a sense of continued value for those in the retired relationship by providing opportunities to utilize time, talents and abilities to pursue common interests.

Founded in 2003 with the support and encouragement of the Board of Pensions, the ARMS board is working to strengthen its annual retreat, which will be held Oct. 7-8 at the Virginia United Methodist Assembly Center (VUMAC). The retreat this year was well done by the coordinators, and had an attendance of more than 100, the best ever. One of the greatest values of the retreat is the rich fellowship it affords retirees and spouses as they “catch up” with all that is taking place in the lives of each other and in the life of the conference. This year there will be an increased opportunity for retirees to go to VUMAC on Wednesday for additional opportunities of fellowship and relaxation.

The ARMS board, elected each year at the ARMS annual meeting, continues to be grateful to Don Rogers, executive director of Virginia United Methodist Pensions, Inc. (VUMPI), and the dedicated staff of VUMPI: Patricia Hutchinson, Nancy Blair and Judy Astrella, who are always available to provide counsel whenever we call upon them. The board is grateful as well for the financial support provided to help cover the ARMS operating expenses.

One of the significant events for ARMS members is the banquet sponsored by the Board of Pensions. This special afternoon together continues to grow and provides ARMS with the opportunity to honor our new retirees. All ARMS members are grateful to the members of the Board of Pensions for sponsoring this banquet at Annual Conference making this opportunity available as one more opportunity for retiree gathering.

To ARMS, a quarterly newsletter, written, edited and published by Judy and David Smith, is sent to all retirees/spouses/widows/widowers for whom addresses are available. To ARMS is designed to maintain contact with ARMS members and provide an opportunity to share news of and for members. We encourage all members to consider writing short items for consideration by the editors for publication. Such things as poems, stories, recollections, etc., are welcome.

The ARMS' Board of Directors solicits all suggestions and thoughts for consideration in future planning. Remember, all retirees/spouses/widows/widowers automatically are members. However, to help ARMS provide a broader range of opportunities, you are encouraged to contribute a membership fee of \$7.50 each.

We continue to be grateful to the Virginia Conference Board of Pensions for the increased financial support for the retreat each year.

Lois and Ron Jones, *Co-Presidents*

REPORT OF CHAPLAIN SERVICE OF THE CHURCHES OF VIRGINIA, INC.

Imagine that you are serving a sentence at Keen Mountain Correctional Center for writing bad checks. You are scared, lonely, ashamed and homesick for your family. You attend a worship service and meet the chaplain. You are blessed and uplifted by the hymn singing, by hearing the prison choir perform a special number, by listening to fellow offenders as they read the scriptures and give their testimonies. And then you hear the chaplain preach a sermon about the love and mercy of Jesus Christ. It is then that you realize that by His grace you can change – you can begin again! From this point forward instead of counting the time you are

making time count as you participate in a Bible study class, attend choir practice, and even sign your child up for the Prison Fellowship “Angel Tree” program (so they will receive the presents at Christmas that you cannot afford to buy them).

Imagine you are serving time at Augusta Correctional Center. You are selected to participate in a four-day Kairos spiritual retreat weekend. A large group of caring volunteers come to the prison and share their testimonies, provide instruction, lead in singing, and spend time with you in one-on-one counseling and prayer. You have never experienced such a feeling of unconditional love, and you realize that your life will never be the same again. These Kairos retreats take place at Augusta Correctional Center, at Keen Mountain Correctional Center and at Wallens Ridge State Prison.

Chaplains are prison pastors who preach the gospel, teach the Bible, counsel the offenders and recruit volunteers to come into the prisons to offer various ministries.

This year Chaplain Service is celebrating its 90th year of ministry. We have 32 chaplains serving at 32 adult state prisons across the Commonwealth, as well as chaplains at three juvenile correctional centers. To learn more, visit our Web site at <www.chaplainservice.org> or call us at (804) 358-7650.

God is good – all the time!

Cecil E. McFarland, *President*, and J. Randy Myers, *Vice President/Religious Advisor*

REPORT OF INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL MINISTRIES

Since 1972, Industrial and Commercial Ministries (ICM) has trained volunteer chaplains, lay and clergy, who have been “a caring presence” in the workplace reaching thousands of working men and women with God’s love.

ICM Chaplain Training Seminars are two-day sessions that equip ICM chaplains to help working men and women with a multitude of problems including financial, drug/alcohol abuse, family relations or dealing with grief. The chaplain is there to listen, not to judge the employee’s situation and provide referral to appropriate agencies and organizations. Many lives have been changed.

You may want to consider attending a seminar and become a ICM chaplain, remembering ICM chaplains in your prayers, hosting a seminar, sharing the ICM story in your local church, or becoming a financial partner through our \$50-a-month Caring Presence Club.

We invite you to visit our Web site at <www.icmAmerica.org>, or call 1-800 659-1928 to learn how being “a caring presence” in the lives of working men and women might be one way you can serve the Lord and your local church.

Wayne Wright, *Executive Director*

REPORT OF THE GOODSON FOUNDATION

The Goodson Foundation honors the late Bishop W. Kenneth Goodson and his gifts as a preacher by helping clergy in the Virginia Conference effectively proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ.

As the costs of providing quality events have increased, and the number of participants have decreased, the foundation is exploring new avenues of enhancing the proclamation of the Word in and through the clergy and congregations of the Virginia Conference.

M. Mochel H. Morris, *President*

REPORT OF THE JOSEPHUS DANIELS PELL FOUNDATION

The Josephus Daniels Pell Foundation continues to award grants to individuals who are attending United Methodist-related seminaries in preparation for the ordained ministry through the Virginia Conference. Over the past years the Pell Foundation has distributed more than \$850,000 to students to help defray the cost of seminary education. The cost of a seminary education continues to rise even as salaries of clergy fail to keep pace even with inflationary increases. During the upcoming year we will distribute \$60,000 to students preparing for the ministry. It is amazing what Mr. Pell accomplished through his one-time enduring gift.

I want to thank our current Board of Directors for their diligent attention to the management of this gift from Mr. Pell. The board includes: Roger L. Amole, Jim Branscome, Betty Forbes, the Rev. Tom Joyce (vice president), the Rev. Sylvia Shepherd Meadows and William Young Jr. (secretary/treasurer).

Gregory L. Adkins, *President*

REPORT OF THE PREACHERS' RELIEF SOCIETY

The Preachers' Relief Society of the Virginia Conference continues in its mission of assisting clergy and clergy families in times of financial crisis. For well over a century, the society has been able to make modest grants to meet emergency situations such as illness and accident. These grants are made possible through funds contributed as memorial gifts and other contributions. Such gifts are welcomed to meet needs as they arise.

When need arises the clergy member contacts the district superintendent who, upon determining the extent and nature of the need, conveys the information with an endorsement to the society. Every effort is made to protect the confidentiality of any action, and any amount provided is understood to be a grant and not a loan.

The Annual Meeting of the Preachers' Relief Society is held on the second Tuesday in November. The society is registered with the State Corporation Commission, and annual reports to that organization are filed as required.

Malcolm L. Yaple, *President*

REPORT OF THE SOCIETY FOR WESLEYAN STUDIES

The Society for Wesleyan Studies (SWS) was established in 1983 to renew Wesleyan themes in the life of the Virginia Conference and in the church at large. The society sponsors events devoted to the study of issues related to the history, theology, practice and mission of John and Charles Wesley and the Wesleyan tradition. While we seek to understand more thoroughly the richness of our unique heritage, we do so always with an eye toward applying those resources in the service of The United Methodist Church in our ongoing mission and ministries. Events and membership are open to all interested persons, lay and clergy, in The United Methodist Church and otherwise.

Typically the SWS sponsors a major fall seminar in October and a spring event in March. In April we hosted Dr. Ted Campbell, who spoke with us about Wesleyan understandings of Holy Communion, and their significance for our relationship with other Christian communions. This is the first of four projected events to be offered jointly with the Virginia Conference Order of the Elder focused around the themes presented at its fall treetop (Word, Sacrament, Order and Service). In March, three society members presented "John Wesley for a New Day" at the monthly gathering of the Ashland District pastors, where we engaged in lively discussion about the continuing contribution of our shared Wesleyan tradition for the life of the UMC and for pastoral ministry. We concluded the morning by celebrating together a "Wesleyan Service of Covenant Renewal."

In 2011 we plan to present the second joint SWS/Order of Elders event on the theme of "Order," specifically focusing on the new General Board of Higher Education's Ministry Study. Information about upcoming events will be made available through ClergyNet and LaityNet.

R. Bruce Johnson, *President*

REPORT OF WELLNESS MINISTRIES

Since its establishment in 2008, Virginia Conference Wellness Ministries has worked diligently to investigate, document, research and address issues related to the overall wellness of clergy, lay employees and their families.

A significant tool in these efforts is the comprehensive conference Health and Wellness Assessment. The assessment was conducted in two phases: a questionnaire completed by 131 lay and clergy leaders from across the conference, and 73 personal interviews. During the questionnaire and interview processes, respondents were asked to identify issues they felt

most significantly impact the wellness of our clergy and their families. The second phase of the assessment involved the administration of a detailed electronic survey, completed in the spring of 2009. Some 1,105 active and retired clergy and their spouses participated in this survey – a return rate of approximately 32 percent. The survey, results of which were released in January of this year, captured a wealth of information on matters pertaining to the physical, mental/emotional, spiritual, and relational health of respondents.

The entire Health and Wellness Assessment report, and additional information on the topic of wellness, may be found at <www.vaumc.org/wellnessministries>.

In March, a preliminary report on the most pressing issues identified through the assessment was provided to Bishop Kammerer, along with recommendations from the ministry's Board of Directors on how best to address those issues. A second report, identifying issues most appropriately referred to various boards and agencies, was distributed to appropriate conference staff and other denominational ministries. Detailed analysis continues; portions of the Assessment Report have been shared with a select group of researchers at various institutions, including Drew Theological School, Duke Divinity School, George Mason University, Loyola University, Pennsylvania State University, the denominational Church Systems Task Force (CSTF), CREDO, Inc., and the United Methodist General Board of Pensions and Health Benefits.

Wellness Ministries' Executive Director, the Rev. Charles Reynolds, regularly works with districts to provide health and wellness-related information to clergy and their spouses. Additionally, he has counseled with clergy, provided referrals to a variety of clinical and mental health professionals, and helped to facilitate relationships between clergy and personal spiritual directors. Reynolds serves as a member of the CSTF, whose work during the current quadrennium includes research and recommendations on four issues of critical importance to our denomination: itinerancy, district superintendency, work-life boundaries and processes for entering and exiting ministry.

Virginia Conference Wellness Ministries seeks to identify resources and programs which have the potential to foster improved health and wellness. One such program is the CREDO Institute <www.EpiscopalCredo.org>, a program developed by the Episcopal Church and now shared by the Presbyterian Church USA. Our board worked with the conference Board of Ordained Ministry to identify five clergy sent to evaluate this program in November 2009, and we will continue to collaborate closely with BOM as we offer additional clergy an opportunity to participate in this proven and well-documented program of clergy renewal.

We are fortunate to be led by a highly qualified Board of Directors from a variety of disciplines. Our founding board members were: Dr. Jennifer Braaten, Boyd Brown, William Craddock, the Rev. Tom Joyce, the Rev. Arthur Pressley, Donald Yesukaitis and myself. As we expand our board and continue this vitally important work, we remain committed to improving health and wellness, looking to the future with hope and enthusiasm.

James A. Davis, *Board of Directors Chair*

REPORT OF THE SOCIETY OF ST. ANDREW

In 2009 the Society of St. Andrew (SoSA) marked the 30th anniversary of an amazing ministry. No one expected that SoSA's 30th year would be one where the need for this ministry would grow significantly.

Started by the Virginia Conference using just a sheep shed for an office, the Society of St. Andrew (SoSA) has grown into the largest hunger relief organization of its kind in the nation. SoSA has remained true to and focused on its ministry of using the biblical practice of gleaning to save hundreds of millions of pounds of fresh produce from going to waste and using it to feed the hungry right here in the United States. All this has been done in a manner of good stewardship which is reflected by extremely low overhead costs of less than 7 percent.

This was a year of actually doing more with less. With the recession in full swing the need for the fresh produce provided by this ministry grew tremendously. While other non-profits were doing less because of the economy, SoSA was doing more. The last 12 months have been marked by huge successes and challenges met.

- All three programs – the Potato and Produce Project, the Gleaning Network and Harvest of Hope – experienced strong program growth in 2009.
- SoSA increased food distribution by more than 12.8 percent over the previous year and accomplished this while reducing expenses.
- More than 34,500 volunteers put their faith into action by volunteering in SoSA’s Gleaning Network, up 9 percent over the previous year.
- More than 3,790 separate gleaning events were conducted, up 25.8 percent.
- Nearly 26,500,000 pounds of highly nutritious produce that otherwise would have gone to waste went to feed the hungry among us, all across the country, up 12.8 percent.
- The ministry touched the lives of millions of people all across the country.
- More than 400 churches across the country joined in SoSA’s ministry for the first time.
- SoSA’s influence has played a key role in national associations such as the Alliance to End Hunger, NAHO (National Anti-Hunger Organization), the Congressional Hunger Center and others. SoSA’s voice is now heard in national hunger policy discussions.
- A new Harvest of Hope event was added for college students as an “Alternative Spring Break.” An international group of college students worshiped, gleaned and studied about hunger while also getting a little beach time.
- SoSA increased its food distribution and program activities throughout the Southeastern Jurisdiction of The United Methodist Church.
- More than 73 million servings of fresh produce provided at a cost of about two cents a serving. For most of the hungry, SoSA is their only access to fresh fruits and vegetables.

In the coming year, SoSA will continue to do all that the Lord empowers us to do to meet the increasing need and demand for highly nutritious food for the poor among us. We are called to love “in deed and in truth” and that has been SoSA’s ministry for more than 30 years. That ministry happens because many others take that calling to heart. Volunteers, churches, individuals, farmers, feeding agencies, transporters, board members, staff and financial partners comprise a thriving network to feed the hungry in our land. The leadership demonstrated by the Virginia Conference continues to be a blessing to this ministry and to all those in need of food.

Steven M. Waldmann, *Executive Director*

REPORT OF THE VIRGINIA UNITED METHODIST CREDIT UNION

John Wesley was among the first to organize financial cooperatives among the faithful in the Methodist movement and it is in the spirit of Wesley that in 1952 the Virginia United Methodist Credit Union was established by a group of clergy who pooled their financial resources to help each other. Today our membership has grown to include United Methodist churches, church members, clergy, organizations, agencies and institutions within the Virginia Annual Conference.

We are a full service financial institution and we operate solely to serve the financial needs of our member owners. Our all volunteer board of directors is comprised of a cross section of lay and clergy. We help our members by providing quality products and services, higher interest on savings and lower rates and fees on loans. We offer savings and checking accounts, loans, online services and resources to assist our members with managing their finances effectively. We sponsor scholarships for college bound students and have partnered with several conference churches to establish Jubilee Assistance Funds; a program that assists churches with providing their needy members short term help during a financial crisis and financial management tools to guide them toward long term financial stability.

Our church loan program helps conference churches with the refinancing of current loans, loans for parsonages, renovations, new church construction and vans and buses. We also offer lines of credit (up to \$50,000 with no liens) and VISA credit cards for church business.

Our goal is to be the premier financial institution and primary resource for encouraging sound stewardship principles and helping Virginia United Methodist churches, individuals

and institutions “to earn all they can and save all they can so they can give all they can” as servants of Christ in the world.

Wayne Moore, *Chair of the Board*

REPORT OF THE VIRGINIA UNITED METHODIST ASSEMBLY CENTER

Generations of Virginia United Methodists have found a place of quiet rest, spiritual growth and energizing fellowship at Blackstone, nestled in the beautiful and relaxing setting of rural Southside Virginia. Blackstone: The Virginia United Methodist Assembly Center continues to offer the hospitality of Christ to each and every guest. During 2009, your assembly center provided more than 51,280 meals, and provided lodging and meeting space for nearly 20,000 guests. The outstanding, dedicated staff of Blackstone works diligently to meet and exceed each guest’s expectation for service, while also supporting each group’s programming agenda during their time at the assembly center.

The continuing economic doldrums provided another challenging year for your assembly center. While we did see a decrease in both the number and participants of United Methodist events, there was an increase in both number and participants of non-United Methodist events. Both United Methodist and non-United Methodist income increased, each by more than 8 percent. Along with all other conference agencies and businesses in general, your assembly center has been diligent in the “belt tightening” department. We keep a keen eye on costs and actively pursue income. Although our Common Table grant (which serves to cover the discount given to United Methodist groups) was reduced this year, and health insurance and other costs rose, your staff continues to be good stewards of the operational and donation income we receive. The staff, with Executive Director Cammie Armstrong at the helm, has worked hard to hold down expenses, while not sacrificing service. Our staffing has remained relatively stable throughout the year. Cammie has strengthened the staff organization, developing both supervisory and line personnel. Our outstanding business office staff, Carol Sanger and Cyndi Schnell, continues to provide excellent accounting and administrative support for your assembly center and its guests.

To support future growth in operations at your assembly center in Blackstone, the “Growing Faith Campaign” has continued in its efforts to make the renovation and expansion of this gem of the Virginia Conference a reality. At the 2008 Annual Conference, we were pleased to ‘share the vision’ of the master plan for the renovation and expansion with you. Since then, the Campaign Committee, chaired by Ron Hardman and Jerry Callis, and supported by our Campaign Coordinator Virginia Watson, has been engaged in bringing this opportunity before many of you in the Conference, and the communities that your assembly center serves.

While we have had many successes with this ‘conventional’ strategy, the Growing Faith Campaign Committee, with the support of the VUMAC Board of Directors, is also launching an innovative grass roots arm of the campaign, that will give all of the people in the conference an opportunity to participate, whether their gifts are \$100 or \$1,000,000. The “Growing Faith Campaign” will identify “Blackstone: VUMAC Champions” in each district who will serve as local “boots on the ground” organizers for the Growing Faith Campaign in their community. Perhaps God is calling you to be one of those champions in your community. If you love the Virginia United Methodist Assembly Center, are committed to its future and would like to serve in this way, or to make a donation, contact Armstrong at <cammiearmstrong@vaumc.org>.

In order to achieve progress in pace with commitments, the Building Committee has recommended a “work zone” approach to begin the renovations of the center as soon as possible. Because God is to be first in our lives — the Chapel renovation will be first in our project. The new Chapel, located on the first floor, will bring elements of the old Chapel into a bigger, brighter, more flexible space, which will greatly increase its capacity and visibility. The subsequent zones will include a model bedroom and classroom, and foundation for the Welcome Center. Construction will proceed based on the generosity and commitment of the people of the Virginia Conference — and on the generosity of the many other folks and foundations who are interested in supporting God’s dream for your assembly center.

To facilitate this, and to support future operational fund-raising efforts, the Board of Directors, as its fall meeting, approved the establishment of the Blackstone Assembly Center Foundation, with Jerry Callis, Ron Hardman, Jim Tongue and myself serving as founding directors. This foundation, as is common with other foundations supporting a non-profit organization, will receive and disburse gifts to the “Growing Faith Campaign” in accordance with donor direction and its by-laws.

In the midst of all God is doing in the Virginia Conference — to make “All Things New,” by strengthening our existing churches and establishing 250 new faith communities in 30 years — God’s people in the Virginia Conference need to have a place where they can come to be equipped for the God-work that lies ahead. The Virginia United Methodist Assembly Center is one of those places and has been for generations. As we toil together, laboring in the field to be fruitful in Jesus’ name, we need to have a place to come where we can be refreshed, renewed and re-created. Blackstone is that place. People of all ages and stages — all in different places in their own spiritual journey — have found a place of quiet rest and a place of energizing fellowship at your assembly center. On behalf of the staff and Board of Directors, I thank you for your continuing love and commitment to this essential tool for disciple-making and disciple-shaping in the Virginia Conference. Together we all go forward into the future as good stewards of the wonderful gift from God that the Virginia United Methodist Assembly Center is to the Virginia Conference.

Denise P. Bates, *President, Board of Directors.*

Several options available for transportation


Installation of track for Norfolk's \$338 million starter light-rail line continues, and means that several streets around the Scope are closed.

The Norfolk Electric Transit (NET) is a free transportation service which runs every 6 to 18 minutes through downtown Norfolk from 6:30 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. A NET stop is accessible one block southwest of the Scope, at the corner of Granby and Charlotte (see Route Map at right). NET buses run every six to 18 minutes. During peak hours, additional buses are added.




There will also be continuous free shuttles between Scope and downtown hotels which are available daily through 10 p.m. You can board at the Charlotte Street entrance to the Scope Plaza.

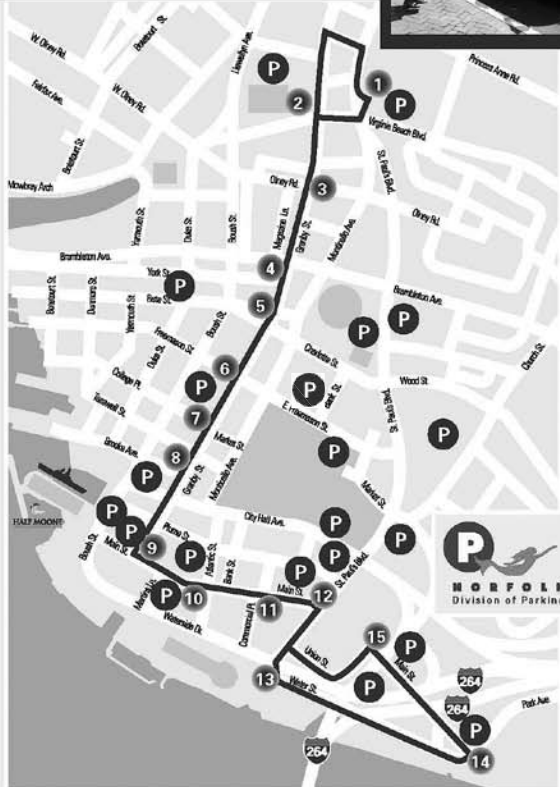
The city's new Bank Street Parking Garage opened on March 1, adding 1,372 parking spaces near the Scope. The entrance is at located at 441 Bank Street, across Charlotte Street near Chrysler Hall.



Weekday Stops

Monday thru Friday • 6:30 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.





- 1 Cedar Grove**
Satellite Parking
- 2 Opera**
Harrison Opera House
Ghent
- 3 Olney**
Chrysler Museum
Ghent
- 4 Brambleton**
Upper Granby District
Federal Court House
- 5 Scope**
Scope/Chrysler Hall
- 6 Freemason**
Freemason Historic
Districts

- 7 College**
MacArthur Center
Wells Theatre
Tidewater Community
College
Roper Theater
The NorVa
- 8 Federal Plaza**
Federal Building
Granby District
- 9 Nauticus**
Nauticus
USS Wisconsin
Hampton Roads Naval
Museum
Half Moore Cruise and
Celebration Center
Town Point Park
- 10 Waterside**
Waterside Festival
Marketplace

- 11 Commercial Place**
MacArthur Memorial
Financial District
- 12 Courthouse**
Circuit and General
District Courts
- 13 St. Paul's Landing**
Waterside Festival
Marketplace
Elizabeth River Ferry
- 14 Harbor Park**
Satellite Parking
Harbor Park Baseball
Stadium
- 15 Civic Complex**
City Hall
Courthouse

P = Parking Facilities www.norfolk.gov/parking • 757-664-6222

A REPORTING GUIDE FOR LAY MEMBERS OF THE 2010 VIRGINIA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

June 13-16, 2010

Bishop Charlene P. Kammerer, *presiding*
Shirley M. Cauffman, *Lay Leader*

*All God's People in
All Places,
And in
All Times,
Are Called to Love
And to Serve.*
— Ministry of the Laity

The Purpose of Annual Conference

The *2008 Book of Discipline*, ¶601, Section IX, THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE. “The purpose of the Annual Conference is to make disciples for Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world by equipping its local churches for ministry and by providing a connection for ministry beyond the local church; all to the glory of God.”

The *2008 Book of Discipline*, ¶130, Section II, THE UNITY OF MINISTRY IN CHRIST. There is but one ministry in Christ, but there are diverse gifts and evidences of God’s grace in the body of Christ (Ephesians 4:4-16). The ministry of all Christians is complementary. No ministry is subservient to another. All United Methodists are summoned and sent by Christ to live and work together in mutual interdependence and to be guided by the Spirit into the truth that frees and the love that reconciles.

Dear Lay Member of the Virginia Annual Conference:

Welcome to the 2010 Virginia Annual Conference. In The United Methodist Church we often speak of the church’s “connectional system.” As the lay member of Annual Conference, YOU ARE THE CONNECTION from your church/district/agency to the Annual Conference and from the Annual Conference to your church/district/agency.

AS A LAY MEMBER OF ANNUAL CONFERENCE YOU SHOULD:

Attend all sessions and participate in all sessions of the Annual Conference: “The lay members of the Annual Conference shall participate in all deliberations and vote upon all measures..” ¶602.6 *2008 Book of Discipline*,

“Connect” with your local church when you return: “The lay member of the Annual Conference, along with the pastor, shall serve as an interpreter of the actions of the Annual Conference session. These persons shall report to the local church council on actions of the Annual Conference as soon as possible, but not later than three months after the close of the conference.” ¶251.2 *2008 Book of Discipline*,

THIS GUIDE IS OFFERED TO:

- aid lay members in recording their experiences and feelings about the events of this Annual Conference session;
- encourage lay members to interpret the mission and ministry we have together through our Annual Conference;
- assist lay members in preparing their report and interpretation of the actions and business of the 2010 Annual Conference session for sharing back in their local church.

You make a difference by your attendance and participation in the Annual Conference session, and by reporting back to your local church or agency represented!

SPEAKING ON THE FLOOR DURING ANNUAL CONFERENCE:

You have the right to speak and vote on all issues except those that have to do with clergy and ministerial orders. If you wish to speak:

Take a few moments to think about what you want to say. Make some notes; keep your comments direct and to the point.

Stand and raise the yellow back of your *Book of Reports* so that the bishop can recognize you. Then, addressing the chair, identify yourself. For example: "Bishop Kammerer, I am _____, a lay member from (name of your local church and district.)"

State the reason for seeking recognition and wait for a response from the bishop before continuing. If recognized, then ask your question, call for some clarification of parliamentary procedure, or make a statement in support of or opposition to the matter under discussion. Be brief and to the point!

If you have a motion you wish to present, introduce yourself and declare that you have a motion you would like to have considered. When action is complete, write the motion on the approved form and take it to the conference secretary. The blank forms can be found near the secretary's desk on the stage.

REMEMBER...

Lay members of the Annual Conference traditionally sit in the section to the left of the center aisle as you face Bishop Kammerer;

There is an equal number of lay and clergy making the decisions;

Standing Rules govern the session (see Order and Procedure and Standing Rules starting on Page 9 of this *Book of Reports*);

Items to be voted on come from this *Book of Reports* and from issues raised by members of the conference.

GENERAL INFORMATION

To help you while at Annual Conference, please follow the agenda as printed in this *Book of Reports*. Be on time for all scheduled events, including Singing Our Faith, Bible study and worship.

You are representing the approximately 342,000 United Methodists in more than 1,200 churches which are divided into 18 districts across the conference. It is important that we be faithful to this responsibility.

PEOPLE YOU NEED TO KNOW

- Presiding Bishop: Bishop Charlene Kammerer
- Director of Connectional Ministries: The Rev. Marc Brown
- Conference Secretary: The Rev. Bob Blinn
- Conference Lay Leader: Shirley Cauffman
- Conference President of United Methodist Women: Addie Haynes
- Conference President of United Methodist Men: Larry Burian
- Youth Chair of United Methodist Youth: Charlie Harless
- Conference Director of Lay Speaking Ministries: Dave Talley

SELECT, OBSERVE, CONSIDER while at Annual Conference.

A balanced and interesting report interpreting the work of Annual Conference should include "facts," "feelings," and "flavors." We suggest that you:

Select significant happenings and impressions, and then make notes.

Observe the diversity and unity of our conference and identify some of the challenges this creates and some of the benefits this brings.

Consider the importance of what is happening here for you, for your local church, district and your conference.

HOW, WHEN, WHAT will you share of the Annual Conference session?

HOW:

- A panel with members presenting different aspects of conference.
- A dialogue between clergy and lay members.
- Be interviewed by someone in the congregation.
- Write an article(s) for your church newsletter.
- Display pictures, resource material, etc.

WHEN:

- Sunday morning during worship.
- Administrative Board/Church Council meeting.
- United Methodist Women/United Methodist Men/Youth meetings.
- Adult church school.
- Conversation with others.
- Special all-church dinner, picnic, etc.

WHAT:

- Write notes in the margins of your *Book of Reports*
- Materials received in your packet, as well as handouts.
- Resources found for programs in your church (people, ideas, materials).
- Information obtained from display areas. Be certain to visit the displays and the Cokesbury book store during free time.

LAITY SESSION — In addition to the regular agenda, all lay members of Annual Conference will gather at 8:30 a.m. Monday, June 14, in the Scope for worship and information related to conference issues.

LAITY BANQUET — The Laity Banquet is scheduled for Monday, June 14, at 5 p.m. The Rev. Jim Gulley will be the speaker. Contact your district lay leader for ticket information. No tickets will be sold at Annual Conference.

This guide is prepared by the Board of Laity, Virginia Conference of The United Methodist Church. Any comments, questions or suggestions should be directed to Virginia Conference Lay Leader Shirley Cauffman, 4613 41st. Street N., Arlington, VA 22207. For more information, e-mail <shirley.cauffman@comcast.net>; or call (703) 241-1948.

DISTRICT ABBREVIATIONS USED IN THE *BOOK OF REPORTS*

A-Alexandria	F-Farmville	Pr-Portsmouth
Ar-Arlington	H-Harrisonburg	Rp-Rappahannock
Ad-Ashland	L-Lynchburg	Rd-Richmond
C-Charlottesville	N-Norfolk	Rn-Roanoke
D-Danville	Pn-Peninsula	S-Staunton
E-Eastern Shore	Pt-Petersburg	W-Winchester

CONFERENCE CALENDAR

JUNE 2010

- 13-16 Annual Conference, Norfolk
- 14 BGM Mission Breakfast, 6:45 a.m. Oaklette UMC, Chesapeake
- 14 Board of Communications luncheon, 12:30 p.m., Marriott Waterside, Norfolk
- 20-26 SoSA Harvest of Hope - Phase II, Washington, D.C.
- 28 Randolph-Macon Academy Trustees

JULY 2010

- 1-23 Voices of Youth - Awakening the Church to Mission — 25th Anniversary (concert tour and mission work)
- 2 UM Center closes at 1 p.m.
- 2-4 SoSA Harvest of Hope - Junior High, Exmore
- 4-10 SoSA Harvest of Hope - Senior High, Exmore
- 5 UM Center closed, Independence Day observance
- 8-9 Helping Hands Children's Mission event, 10:30 a.m., Main Street UMC, Waynesboro
- 11-17 SoSA Harvest of Hope - Senior High, Ashland
- 11-16 Camp Rainbow Connection, VUMAC
- 15 UMMen Day at Camp Rainbow Connection, VUMAC
- 20-21 Provisional Members Residency event, VUMAC
- 22-23 Helping Hands Children's Mission event, 10:30 a.m., Woodlake UMC, Midlothian
- 22-25 School of Christian Mission – Weekend Session, VUMAC
- 22 - Aug 5 Young Adult Mission Team to Mozambique
- 25 Mission Interpretation Team meeting (BGM), VUMAC
- 26-29 School of Christian Mission – Week Session, VUMAC
- 27-31 United Nations Seminar for Youth, New York
- 30 - Aug 1 SoSA Harvest of Hope - Junior High, Shawsville

AUGUST 2010

- 6-8 YAC and VUMDYLA, 1 p.m., VUMAC
- 8-13 Camp Rainbow Connection, VUMAC
- 10 Mission Relationships Team meeting (BGM)
- 12 UMMen Day at Camp Rainbow Connection, VUMAC
- 13-14 Lay Supply Pastors' Orientation, VUMAC
- 13-15 "Stretch Out Your Hand" Retreat, Camp Overlook
- 20 Older Adult Council meeting, 10 a.m., UM Center
- 20-21 Board of Church and Society meeting, VUMAC
- 24-26 Church Planter Training - Boot Camp, UM Center
- 27-29 Middle School Mission Weekend, Westview on the James, Goochland

SEPTEMBER 2010

- 3 UM Center closes at 1 p.m.
- 6 UM Center closed, Labor Day Observance
- 8 BOM Executive Committee, UM Center

- 9 Board of Communications meeting (Exec. Comm.), 9:30 a.m., UM Center
- 9 Board of Communications meeting (Full Board), 10:30 a.m., UM Center
- 9 Common Table for Church Vitality meeting, 9:30 a.m., Good Shepherd UMC, Richmond
- 10 SoSA Executive Committee meeting, Big Island
- 11 Board of Laity, 9:30 a.m., UM Center
- 13 Orientation for those applying for Provisional Membership, UM Center
- 16 CCMP meeting, 10:30 a.m., UM Center
- 18 COSROW, 10 a.m., UM Center
- 18 Commission on Disabilities, 10 a.m., UM Center
- 18 Hispanic Latino Lay Missionary Project, Wesley Seminary, Washington, D.C.
- 23 5 Talent Academy Teaching event on Faith Development, Location TBA
- 23-24 BGM Fall Board meeting
- 24-25 UMW Young Women's event, VUMAC
- 24-26 SoSA Harvest of Hope - Intergenerational event, Fincastle
- 25 "Real Change for Real People: Moving Beyond Broke" - Regional Workshop, 10 a.m., St. Paul UMC, Woodbridge
- 28 Clergy Sexual Ethics Training, UM Center

OCTOBER 2010

- 1-2 SoSA Harvest of Hope - College and Young Adult, Keezletown
- 5-7 Older Adult Retreat, VUMAC
- 7 Conference Historical Society Board meeting, 10:30 a.m., UM Center
- 7-9 Randolph College Trustees meeting
- 9 UMW Budget meeting, 10:30 a.m., UM Center
- 9 UMWIM Team Leader Training, Old Bridge UMC, Woodbridge
- 14 Midsize Church Lead Pastor Annual Gathering, River Road UMC, Richmond
- 14 CLDDT meeting, 10 a.m., UM Center
- 14 Mid-size Church Lead Pastor Annual Gathering, River Road UMC, Richmond
- 15-16 SoSA Board meeting, Big Island
- 15-17 Middle School Mission Weekend, Westview on the James, Goochland
- 16 Clergy Sexual Ethics Training, UM Center
- 16 Hispanic Latino Lay Missionary Project, Wesley Seminary, Washington, D.C.
- 19 Mentor Covenant Group Retreat for First Year Provisional Members & Mentors, VUMAC
- 19-20 First-Year Provisional Members and Mentors Retreat, VUMAC
- 20 Virginia Wesleyan College Trustees meeting, 10:45 a.m.
- 21 Common Table for Church Vitality meeting, 9:30 a.m. UM Center
- 21 UMW Mission Team meeting, VUMAC
- 22 UMW Executive Committee meeting, VUMAC
- 22-23 Randolph-Macon College Trustees, 9 a.m.
- 23 Ferrum College Folklife Festival
- 23-24 38th Annual UMW meeting/Officer Training, VUMAC
- 25 Randolph-Macon Academy Trustees meeting
- 26 Large Church Lead Pastor Annual Gathering, Woodlake UMC, 10 a.m. Midlothian

NOVEMBER 2010

- 3 Board of Ordained Ministry, UM Center
- 5 Ferrum College Board of Trustees Fall meeting
- 5-7 33rd Annual UMMen Spiritual Retreat, VUMAC
- 8-11 New Church Leadership Institute, UM Center
- 10 Board of Laity Executive Committee meeting, 10 a.m., UM Center
- 12-14 Middle School Retreat, Eagle Eyrie Conference Center, Lynchburg
- 20 Hispanic Latino Lay Missionary Project, Wesley Seminary, Washington, D.C.
- 20 UMVIM Team Leader Training, Lakeside UMC, Richmond
- 20-22 Women's Division LTE, St. Louis, Mo.
- 24 UM Center closes 1 p.m.
- 25-26 UM Center closed, Thanksgiving Observance
- 30 Equitable Compensation Commission meeting, 10 a.m., UM Center

DECEMBER 2010

- 3-5 High School Retreat, Eagle Eyrie Conference Center, Lynchburg
- 3-5 "Single Again" Retreat, Camp Overlook
- 12 Virginia Wesleyan College Trustees meeting, 10:45 a.m.
- 23 UM Center closes 1 p.m.
- 24-28 UM Center closed for Christmas Observance

JANUARY 2011

- 3 UM Center closed, New Year's Day
- 7-8 Mission Team Goal Setting
- 8 Board of Church and Society meeting, 9:30 a.m., UM Center
- 11 Mission Relationships Team (BGM)
- 17 UM Center Closed, Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- 18 Clergy Reporting of Child Abuse and Neglect Training, VUMAC
- 18-20 Ministers Convocation, VUMAC
- 19 Virginia Wesleyan College Trustees meeting, 10:45 a.m.
- 30-Feb. 2 Board of Ordained Ministry, VUMAC

FEBRUARY 2011

- 3 UM Day at the General Assembly, Richmond
- 5 COSROW, 10 a.m., UM Center
- 9 Common Table for Church Vitality meeting, 9:30 a.m., UM Center
- 10 Board of Communications meeting (Exec. Comm.), 9:30 a.m., UM Center
- 10 Board of Communications meeting (Full Board), 10:30 a.m., UM Center
- 10-12 Randolph College Trustees meeting
- 11-12 Randolph-Macon College Board of Trustees meeting, 9 a.m.
- 17 CLDDT meeting, 10 a.m., UM Center
- 18 Older Adult Council meeting, 10 a.m., UM Center
- 25-27 Lay Servant Academy, VUMAC
- 27-Mar. 2 Board of Ordained Ministry meeting, VUMAC
- 28 Randolph-Macon Academy Trustees meeting

MARCH 2011

- 3-5 Clergy Spouses' Retreat, VUMAC
- 4 Deadline for material for 2011 *Book of Reports*
- 5 Conference Historical Society Board meeting, 10:30 a.m., UM Center
- 10 CLDDT meeting, 10 a.m., UM Center
- 12 Board of Laity, 9:30 a.m., UM Center
- 17 UMW Mission Team meeting, TBA
- 18-19 UMW Executive Committee meeting, TBA
- 18-19 Fellowship of Local Pastors and Associate Members Retreat, VUMAC
- 24 Common Table for Church Vitality meeting, 9:30 a.m., UM Center
- 25-27 Roanoke District Mission Celebration, Location TBA
- 26 2011 UMMen Spring Training, Discovery UMC, Richmond

APRIL 2011

- 8 SoSA Executive Committee meeting, Big Island
- 8 Older Adult Council meeting, 10 a.m., UM Center
- 9 COSROW, 10 a.m., UM Center
- 15 Camp Rainbow Connection staff training, VUMAC
- 21 UM Center closes at 1 p.m.
- 22 UM Center closed for Good Friday
- 29-30 Randolph-Macon College Board of Trustees

MAY 2011

- 4 Board of Laity Executive Committee, 10 a.m., VUMAC
- 5-7 Randolph College Trustees meeting
- 6 Ferrum College Board of Trustees Spring meeting
- 7 Commencement, Ferrum College
- 13 SoSA Board meeting., Big Island
- 13-15 UMW Spiritual Life Retreat, VUMAC
- 15 Commencement, Randolph College
- 16 Virginia Wesleyan College Trustees meeting, 10:45 a.m.
- 18 Board of Ordained Ministry Executive Committee, UM Center
- 19 Commencement, Virginia Wesleyan College, 11 a.m.
- 19-27 Licensing School, Virginia Wesleyan College, Norfolk
- 27 UM Center Closes at 1 p.m.
- 28 Commencement, Randolph-Macon Academy
- 28 Commencement, Randolph-Macon College
- 30 UM Center Closed, Memorial Day Observance

JUNE 2011

- 4 UMW Day at Ferrum College
- 14 UMMen Annual Conference Breakfast
- 16-19 Virginia Annual Conference, Roanoke
- 16 Board of Communications meeting, 12:30 p.m., Roanoke (tentative)
- 18 UMW Breakfast at Annual Conference, Roanoke
- 25-28 UMW South Atlantic Regional School, Ferrum College
- 27 Randolph-Macon Academy Trustees meeting

JULY 2011

- 1 UM Center closes at 1 p.m.
- 4 UM Center closed, Independence Day observance
- 10-15 Camp Rainbow Connection, VUMAC
- 21-24 School of Christian Mission – Weekend Session, VUMAC
- 25-28 School of Christian Mission – Week Session, VUMAC

AUGUST 2011

- 7-12 Camp Rainbow Connection, VUMAC

SEPTEMBER 2011

- 2 UM Center closes at 1 p.m.
- 5 UM Center closed, Labor Day Observance
- 8 Board of Communications meeting (Exec. Comm.), 9:30 a.m., UM Center
- 8 Board of Communications meeting (Full Board), 10:30 a.m., UM Center
- 9 SoSA Executive Committee meeting, Big Island
- 10 Board of Laity, 9:30 a.m., UM Center
- 17 COSROW, 10 a.m., UM Center
- 23 Winchester District Mission Celebration, Location TBA
- 24-25 UMW Young Women’s event, VUMAC

OCTOBER 2011

- 6 Conference Historical Society Board meeting, 10:30 a.m., UM Center
- 8 UMW Budget meeting, UM Center
- 14-15 Randolph-Macon College Board of Trustees, 9 a.m.
- 21-22 SoSA Board meeting, Big Island
- 24 Randolph-Macon Academy Trustees meeting
- 27 UMW Mission Team meeting, VUMAC
- 28 UMW Executive Committee meeting, VUMAC
- 29-30 39th Annual UMW meeting, VUMAC

NOVEMBER 2011

- 4-6 34th Annual UMMen Spiritual Retreat, VUMAC
- 18-20 Women’s Division LTE, St. Louis, Mo.
- 23 UM Center closes 1 p.m.
- 24-25 UM Center closed, Thanksgiving observance

DECEMBER 2011

- 23 UM Center closes 1 p.m.
- 24-28 UM Center closed for Christmas observance

ABBREVIATIONS USED IN CALENDAR

ARMS	Association of Retired Ministers and Spouses
BGM	Board of Global Ministries
BHEM	Board of Higher Education Ministries
BOL	Board of Laity
BOM	Board of Ordained Ministry
CCMP	Conference Committee on Mission Personnel
CLDDT	Conference Leadership Discovery and Development Team
COD	Commission on Disabilities
CORR	Commission on Religion and Race
COSROW	Commission on the Status and Role of Women
ELCC	Ethnic Local Church Concerns
GBGM	General Board of Global Ministries
LTE	Leadership Training Event
PAUMCS	Professional Association of United Methodist Church Secretaries
R-MA	Randolph-Macon Academy
R-MC	Randolph-Macon College
SEJ	Southeastern Jurisdiction
SoSA	Society of St. Andrew
TBA	To Be Announced
UMC	United Methodist Church
UM Center	Virginia United Methodist Center in Glen Allen
UMFS	United Methodist Family Services
UMMen	United Methodist Men
UMVIM	United Methodist Volunteers In Mission
UMW	United Methodist Women
VCC	Virginia Council of Churches
VUMAC	Virginia United Methodist Assembly Center in Blackstone
VUMDYLA	Virginia United Methodist District Youth Leadership Assembly
YAC	Youth Advocates for Christ

MISSION OPPORTUNITIES DURING ANNUAL CONFERENCE

2010 ANNUAL CONFERENCE OFFERING

Each year members of local churches are encouraged to help raise money for global mission projects designated by the bishop. The pastor or lay representative of each church will take that money to Annual Conference, where it will be collected during a special time of the session. This year's offering goal is \$300,000 and will benefit the following projects:

Brazil: \$100,000 — curriculum and teacher training materials for “Shade and Fresh Water” centers and other children’s centers sponsored by the Brazil Methodist Church;

Mozambique: \$100,000 — education and training for Sunday school teachers, lay preachers and pastors in the United Methodist Church in Mozambique, which is growing rapidly and needs leadership for the hundreds of new United Methodist churches being established throughout this southeastern African nation;

Virginia: \$100,000 — job training programs at Grace Ministries, a community outreach program of the Arlington District that addresses the most pressing material and spiritual needs of low-income immigrants in northern Virginia and empowers immigrants to become community leaders.

Promotional materials and more information about these projects can be found on the conference Web site at <www.vaumc.org> under “Resources” and “2010 Annual Conference.” Or contact the conference Mission office at 1-800-768-6040, ext. 144 or (804) 521-1144, or <Mission@vaumc.org>.

POTATO DROP

The Virginia Conference Board of Global Ministries (BGM) and the Society of St. Andrew (SoSA) are co-sponsoring a Potato Drop on Tuesday, June 15, at 5:30 a.m.

The potatoes will provide 120,000-135,000 servings of food to the region’s poor and hungry. SoSA is delivering a tractor-trailer filled with more than 20 tons of donated sweet potatoes to Norfolk and the BGM is helping to cover the cost of shipping. The truck will arrive in the predawn hours and the potatoes will be dumped at Ghent United Methodist Church, 531 Raleigh Avenue.

Leaving the Scope, go west on East Brambleton, and turn right on Duke Street. Turn left on West Olney and right on Colonial Avenue. The church is two blocks on the left on Raleigh Avenue.

Volunteers are needed to help bag and load the potatoes for pickup by regional food banks, church pantries, soup kitchens and other local feeding agencies. Bagging is expected to be completed before 7:30 a.m.

For more information about SoSA or about the Potato Drop, contact Sarah Ramey at 1-800-333-4597.

UMCOR KITS

The 2010 Virginia Conference kit collection is being conducted to replenish the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) supply. UMCOR’s Sager Brown Depot reports there is a need for all types of kits. *With the situation in Haiti there is more of a demand for Health Kits.* Local churches are encouraged to collect items for any of the following most requested UMCOR kits and bring them to Annual Conference for delivery:

Health Kits: 1 hand towel (15”x25” up to 17”x27”, no kitchen towels); 1 washcloth; 1 comb (large and sturdy, not pocket-sized); 1 metal nail file or fingernail clippers (no emery

boards or toenail clippers); 1 bath-sized bar of soap (3 oz. and up); 1 toothbrush (single brushes only in original wrapper, no child-size brushes); 6 adhesive plastic strip sterile bandages (Band-Aids). (NOTE: DO NOT INCLUDE TOOTHPASTE! UMCOR Sager Brown is now purchasing toothpaste in bulk to be added to health kits before shipping to ensure that the product does not expire before they are sent.) Seal all items in a one-gallon plastic bag.

School Kits: 1 pair blunt scissors (rounded tip); 3 pads (or loose leaf) of 8 1/2" x 11" ruled paper (approx. 250 sheets total); 1 30-centimeter ruler; 1 hand-held pencil sharpener; 6 unsharpened pencils with erasers; 1 large eraser, 2 1/2"; 1 box of 24 crayons (only 24). Prepare a 14" x 16" (finished size) cloth bag with handles and one of these three closures (Velcro, snap or button) and place items in the bag. Pattern available on the Web at <<http://new.gbgbm-umc.org/umcor/media/reliefsupplypdfsimages/schoolbagpattern.gif>>.

Baby/Layette Kits: 6 cloth diapers; 2 shirts or 2 one-piece body suits; 2 baby washcloths; 2 gowns or sleepers; 2 diaper pins; 1 sweater open in the front; 2 receiving blankets. Bundle the items inside one of the receiving blankets and secure with the diaper pins.

Sewing Kits: 3 yards of cotton or cotton-blend, solid color or print fabric (must be 3 yards of uncut fabric); 1 pair sewing scissors; 1 package of needles; 1 spool of thread; 5-8 matching buttons. Wrap sewing notions in the fabric and place in a sealed one-gallon plastic bag.

IMPORTANT Packing Instructions: All items included in kits must be NEW items. All emergency kits are carefully planned to make them usable in the greatest number of situations. Since strict rules often govern product entry into international countries, it is important that kits contain only the requested items — nothing more.

Do NOT include any personal notes, money or additional materials in the kits. These things must be removed and will delay the shipment. Kits should be packed in boxes with only one type of kit in each box, with the contents clearly written on the outside of the box.

Monetary donations include: \$1 per kit for processing and shipping; \$1 for UMCOR to purchase toothpaste.

If you prefer UMCOR to provide kits for you, include: \$12 for UMCOR to provide a health kit; \$11 for UMCOR to provide a school kit; \$35 for UMCOR to provide a baby/layette kit; \$18 for UMCOR to provide a sewing kit.

Include ALL monetary donations on one check, payable to "Virginia Conference UMC," earmarked for "Kits" and brought to the collection site. Do not place checks inside the boxes.

IF your church already has collected other kits not mentioned here, they will be accepted.

Kits may be brought to the Norfolk Scope and dropped off across from the Scope at the intersection of Brambleton and St. Paul's (same as last year). Receiving station hours are: Sunday, 3-7:30 p.m.; Monday, 7:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m.; Tuesday, 7:30 a.m.-2 p.m.

Questions regarding *kit contents* should go to the conference Mission office at 1-800-768-6040, ext. 144, or (804) 521-1144, and by e-mail to <Mission@vaumc.org>.

Questions about the *kit collection site* should be addressed to Kits for Conference coordinator, the Rev. David Cunningham, at (252) 429-3544 or by e-mail to <hisdisciple@cox.net>.

‘STOP HUNGER NOW’ MEAL PREPARATION

Members of the 2010 Annual Conference will be invited to participate in the preparation of 100,000 meals through Stop Hunger Now. Meal preparation will take place in the exhibit hall on Monday and Tuesday. Stop Hunger Now meals are filled with dried vegetables, a chicken broth tablet, soy, rice and 21 nutrients. Each packaged and sealed meal, able to feed six people, is shipped to those in need around the globe. The cost of the meals will be \$25,000. Churches and individuals wishing to assist with the cost of preparing the meals are invited to contact Marc Brown, director of Connectional Ministries, at <MarcBrown@vaumc.org>

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Order Form for 2010 JOURNAL and 2010 DIRECTORY OF THE MINISTRY

Name _____
Daytime Phone (_____) _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

(CLERGY: Please enter your NEW address if you are moving)

2010 DIRECTORY OF THE MINISTRY ORDERS

One free copy of the *Directory of the Ministry* is sent to all Virginia Conference clergy (active and retired, including lay pastors and diaconal ministers; widows/widowers of clergy are also entitled to a free copy upon request.) Lay members attending Annual Conference do NOT receive a free copy of the *Directory of the Ministry*. Anyone wishing to purchase a directory in addition to what is automatically sent should fill out this form and drop it off at the Virginia United Methodist Communications display, or mail it to the Communications Office at: P.O. Box 5606, Glen Allen, VA, 23058. Payment is requested at the time of purchase. Make checks payable to: "Virginia Conference United Methodist Church" (earmark for "2010 Directory of the Ministry"). For credit card orders, call (804) 521-1110 or 1-800-768-6040, ext. 110.

I would like _____ copy(ies) of the *2010 Directory of the Ministry* at \$4 each (includes shipping/handling).

Widow/Widower of Clergy: Check here to request a FREE printed copy of the *2010 Directory of the Ministry*: _____

2010 CONFERENCE JOURNAL ORDERS

Following the 2007 Annual Conference's approval of a cost-saving proposal from Virginia Conference Council on Finance and Administration, the 2010 *Journal* will be made available in the following ways:

- Posted on the Virginia Conference Web site <www.vaumc.org> in both pdf and Word/Excel formats.
- Provided as a printed copy (one per local church) at no cost.
- Provided as a CD (one per active or retired clergy) at no cost. **(If you do not wish to receive your CD, call (804) 521-1110.) If you prefer a printed copy of the *Journal*, the cost is \$25. Requests for printed copies must be made by Aug. 1, 2010.** Payment must be made at the time the order is placed.
- Provided as a CD upon request at no cost to spouses of deceased clergy. **If you prefer a printed copy of the *Journal*, the cost is \$25. Requests for printed copies must be made by Aug. 1, 2010.** Payment must be made at the time the order is placed.
- Provided as a CD or printed copy upon request by other interested parties at a cost of **\$10 for the CD and \$25 for the print version. Requests for printed copies must be made by Aug. 1, 2010.** Payment must be made at the time the order is placed.

Make checks payable to: Virginia Conference United Methodist Church (earmark for "2010 Journal"). For credit card orders, call (804) 521-1110 or 1-800-768-6040, ext. 110.

Widow/Widower of Clergy: Check here to request a FREE CD of the *Journal*: _____

I would like _____ regular-bound *Journals* at \$25 each (includes shipping/handling).

I would like _____ spiral-bound *Journals* at \$25 each (includes shipping/handling).

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

REGISTRATION HOURS —

Sunday, June 13: 3-7 p.m., Laity and Clergy Registration at Scope.

Registration is closed during worship times.

Monday, June 14: 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

After these hours, check at the information desk for conference packet materials.

EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBER — (757) 664-6404. This phone is for incoming emergency messages only. Calls must be returned at other phones.

NEWS MEDIA PHONE NUMBER — (804) 517-8147. This phone is the director of Communications mobile phone, to be used for press and news media inquiries. No emergency calls can be taken at this number.

PER DIEM — By conference action, retirees, persons receiving their first appointment and selected others (see Page 134 of this *Book of Reports* for the list) are authorized to receive reimbursement for expenses to attend Annual Conference. This reimbursement is not to exceed \$100/day and is subject to the limitations of conference approved rates. Payment will be made by check after a voucher, with appropriate receipts attached, has been submitted to the Conference Treasurer's Office. Vouchers can be obtained at the Information desk or the Conference Treasurer's desk.

MESSAGE BOARD RULES — Persons needing to page someone at the conference must go to the pages' desk. The pages will see that the name of the person being paged is put on the electronic message board. *This message will run twice only; however, they will not be shown during worship or major program presentations.* The individual will be asked to come to the pages' desk for his or her message. If the message is not retrieved from the pages' desk during that session, the message will be placed on a bulletin board at the information booth. The bulletin board will be cleared of unclaimed messages at the end of each day.

PRAYER ROOM — A Prayer Room will be provided.

BANQUETS — A list of banquets is included with the mailing of this *Book of Reports*. Other information may be obtained from the banquet host or from the information desk at the Scope.

FOOD SERVICE — Scope Food and Beverage Services will provide several concession stands with new menu options as compared to last year. These will include healthy items for snack and meal options as well as a variety of beverages.

BLOODMOBILE — The Red Cross will be at the Scope for a blood drive on Tuesday, June 15, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

WHEELCHAIR SEATING SECTION — Reserved areas for those who use wheelchairs or scooters will be available within the bar of the conference on both the main arena floor of the Scope and on the ring around the arena between the 100 Level and 200 Level seats (Upper Concourse level). The easiest access into the Scope for those with mobility challenges who are staying downtown is on the Upper Concourse (plaza) level. There is access to the arena floor, registration area, and exhibit hall from the Upper Concourse by elevator.

ACCESS FOR THOSE WITH HEARING AND VISUAL CHALLENGES — A television monitor will be situated in a designated seating section on the floor of the arena to provide Computer Assisted Notetaking (CAN) of the proceedings for persons with vision and hearing challenges. FM assisted listening devices also will be available at the CAN table on the floor of the Scope arena. American Sign Language interpreters will be available for all sessions. Braille materials must be requested in advance. Large print materials for the Memorial and Ordination Services will be available at the CAN table. For more information, contact Martha Stokes, 1-800-768-6040 or (804) 521-1100, ext. 153 or 154.

TO ORDER JOURNALS OR DIRECTORIES OF THE MINISTRY — An order form is available on Page 158 of this *Book of Reports*. Order forms also will be available at the information desk and at the Communications display table in the Scope; or call the Communications office at 1-800-768-6040 or (804) 521-1100, ext. 110.

