The Future of Christianity in America

JANUARY 13-15

2015 MINISTERS’ CONVOCATION

For all clergy, diaconal ministers, and professional church staff in the Virginia Conference of The United Methodist Church
The Rev. Joanna S. Dietz and The Rev. Lyndsie K. Blakely are serving as Worship Coordinators. Joanna, an ordained deacon in the VA Conference, is serving as Minister of Music at St. George’s UMC, Alexandria District. Lyndsie, a provisional deacon in the VA Conference, is serving as Minister of Discipleship at Farmville UMC, Farmville District.

The Rev. Leigh Ann Taylor will provide music leadership for this Convocation. Leigh Ann, an ordained deacon in the VA Conference, serves as Minister of Music at Blacksburg UMC, Roanoke District.

Dr. David F. Evans is Assistant Professor of History, Missions, Intercultural, and Interfaith Studies, at Eastern Mennonite University. In addition to his teaching role, David serves the seminary community as Director of Cross Cultural Programs and Interim Director of the Master of Arts in Religion. David has worked in various ministry contexts. While living in Washington, DC, David was the Junior/Senior High Director of an out-of-school time program on Capitol Hill. Later he served as Community Development Resource coordinator with MCC East Coast. Most recently he was co-pastor of Boonton United Methodist Church in New Jersey. He loves to spend time with his family. He finds joy in playing and coaching basketball and soccer. He is also an avid music enthusiast. Above all else, he would like to be known as someone who loves God with deep conviction and loves God’s people with a heart that is wide open.

Rev. Dr. Asa J. Lee currently serves as the associate dean for community life at Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, DC. Dr. Lee earned the Doctor of Ministry degree in Educational Leadership at Virginia Theological Seminary after having earned his Master of Divinity degree from Wesley Theological Seminary. He completed his Bachelor of Arts degree in Music Education from Hampton University. He is also a practicing Baptist minister serving the Mount Olive Baptist Church of Arlington, Virginia. Dr. Lee’s research interests include issues affecting clergy formation, efforts at reaching young adults for ministry, and challenges to church ministry in the 21st century. Dr. Lee is married to the Rev. Chenda Innis Lee, a provisional elder in the Virginia Annual Conference. Together they have three beautiful daughters.

Bishop Young Jin Cho will preach on Tuesday, January 13, 2015, for the afternoon opening service of Word and Table. Bishop Cho is serving in his third year of episcopal leadership. His ministry continues to focus on Christ’s vision for the conference of spiritual renewal and revitalization through transformational leadership. Bishop Cho emphasizes that Christ should be the Lord in our mission and ministries, and prayer should go first.

Rev. DJ del Rosario met his best friend and wife Elaine in seminary. They have three amazing daughters Sage, and twins Hazel and Scarlett. DJ attended the University of Washington (Go Huskies!) for his undergraduate degree and Princeton Theological Seminary for a Masters in Divinity. He was ordained as an elder in 2009 and is a member of the Pacific Northwest Annual Conference, serving as the Senior Pastor at Bothell UMC in Bothell, WA. Prior to this appointment he served as the Director of Young Adult Ministries, Discernment and Enlistment, at the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry. He continues to serve on the Board of Directors for the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry (GBHEM), relates to the National Plan for Hispanic/Latino Ministry (NHLPA), Relevance Lead (relevancelead.com) and chairs the Strategic Recruitment for Pacific Northwest Annual Conference through the Board of Ordained Ministry. He also served as the Executive Director of Spark12.org. DJ loves a great cup of coffee, social media and technology.

The Rev. Joanna S. Dietz and The Rev. Lyndsie K. Blakely are serving as Worship Coordinators. Joanna, an ordained deacon in the VA Conference, is serving as Minister of Music at St. George’s UMC, Alexandria District. Lyndsie, a provisional deacon in the VA Conference, is serving as Minister of Discipleship at Farmville UMC, Farmville District.

The Rev. Leigh Ann Taylor will provide music leadership for this Convocation. Leigh Ann, an ordained deacon in the VA Conference, serves as Minister of Music at Blacksburg UMC, Roanoke District.
Register on line with your credit card, at: www.vaumc.org/MinistersConvocation. Or mail a completed registration form with check made payable to “Ministers’ Convocation” to: Blackstone Conference and Retreat Center, 707 4th St., Blackstone, VA 23824. For daily commuters, select the meals you will eat on your registration form. Enclose the total amount due with your registration form.

COSTS

In-residence Registration
- Registration Fee for Tuesday-Thursday $50.00
- Lodging and Meals (2-3 per room) $150.00
  - Full-time Lodging & Meals Total: $200.00
- Lodging and Meals (single room, limited availability)
  - Add $24.00 to above cost. Total: $224.00

Commuter Registration
- Registration Fee for Tuesday-Thursday $50.00
- Meals (lunch and dinner only) $50.00
  - Full-time Commuter with Meals Total: $100.00
- Daily Commuter Registration Fee $35.00/day of attendance
- Meals selected individually on the registration form

COMMUTERS
Please check in at the office when you arrive.

CONTINUING EDUCATION FUNDS
You may be eligible for continuing education funding through the Board of Ordained Ministry. Details and the application for funding are available at www.vaumc.org/ClergyContinuingEducation.

CONTINUING EDUCATION UNIT
To receive 1.0 CEUs, you must attend 10 hours of the events in bold on the schedule. If you attend at least 5 hours, you can receive 0.5 CEU. For questions, changes, or if you forget to pick up your CEU certificate, contact the registrar, Rev. Debbie Marion, P.O. Box 527, Gloucester Point, VA 23062, (804) 642-2110, E-mail: bethanyumc2@verizon.net.

REFUNDS
If an emergency prevents or limits your attendance, contact the Retreat Center at (434) 292-5308 as soon as possible. Until Monday, January 5, 2015, full refunds will be given for emergencies. On or after January 5, your registration fee only may be refunded, but you must notify the Retreat Center office and provide a reason for your cancellation or registration change. No refunds will be granted after the beginning of Ministers’ Convocation.

LODGING
All rooms will be assigned in the order requests are received. Registrants will be notified only in the event that the rooms are filled; otherwise, assume you are housed. You may designate a roommate on your registration form. Please check with each other before sending in your registration. Single rooms are available in Goodson Lodge (and a few in the main building) for an additional $24.00. Nearby motels are available as well and are listed on the Events web site.

On Wednesday morning and afternoon, participants will spend time in small dialogue groups – staying with the same group both sessions. Participants will be engaged in dialogue with campus ministers, chaplains, and fresh student voices from across the conference. We will be challenged in our thinking as we take a look at the Future of Christianity in America. As you prepare for convocation, we invite you to imagine what Christianity might look like for you in the future.

TRAINING FOR CLERGY REPORTING OF CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT
Training to equip clergy and lay professionals with skills to understand our Virginia Conference policy regarding the reporting of suspected child abuse and neglect. Required for all new clergy.

Tuesday, January 13, 2015
10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. (includes lunch)
Blackstone Conference and Retreat Center, Blackstone, VA
Cost is $10. Register on line or download the brochure at www.vaumc.org/ClergyExcellence.
### 2015 VIRGINIA CONFERENCE MINISTERS’ CONVOCATION SCHEDULE

“The Future of Christianity in America: Fresh Voices”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tuesday, January 13</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1:00 pm</td>
<td>Registration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:00-3:00 pm</td>
<td>Opening Worship/Eucharist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bishop Young Jin Cho, preaching (Auditorium)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:45 pm</td>
<td>Welcome and Introductions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:00-5:00 pm</td>
<td>Keynote Presentation: Dr. David F. Evans (Auditorium)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00 pm</td>
<td>Dinner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:00-8:00 pm</td>
<td>Keynote Presentation: Rev. Dr. Asa J. Lee (Auditorium)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:15 pm</td>
<td>Ice Cream Social (Dining Hall)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Wednesday, January 14

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:00 am</td>
<td>Morning Eucharist (Carroll Room)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:30-8:15 am</td>
<td>Breakfast Buffet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30-9:30 am</td>
<td>Keynote Presentation: Dr. David F. Evans (Auditorium)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00-11:30 am</td>
<td>Dialogue Groups with College Students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00 pm</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:00-3:30 pm</td>
<td>Dialogue Groups with College Students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:00-5:00 pm</td>
<td>Conversation with the Bishop and Cabinet (Auditorium)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00 pm</td>
<td>Dinner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:00-8:00 pm</td>
<td>Worship: Rev. DJ del Rosario (Auditorium)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:15 pm</td>
<td>Taize Service (Carroll Room)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Thursday, January 15</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:00 am</td>
<td>Morning Eucharist (Carroll Room)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:30-8:15 am</td>
<td>Breakfast Buffet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30-9:30 am</td>
<td>Keynote Presentation: Rev. Dr. Asa J. Lee (Auditorium)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:45-10:45 am</td>
<td>Worship: Rev. DJ del Rosario (Auditorium)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00 am</td>
<td>Depart</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Events in bold are for CEU credit
- Attend 10 contact hours for 1.0 CEU
- Attend 5 contact hours for .5 CEU
- Attend 5 contact hours for .5 CEU

### REGISTRATION FORM

2015 MINISTERS’ CONVOCATION

Make check payable to: “Ministers’ Convocation” and mail to: Blackstone Conference & Retreat Center, 707 4th St., Blackstone, VA 23824 or register online at www.vaumc.org/MinistersConvocation

Name _____________________________________________________
Address ___________________________________________________
City______________________________ State______ Zip ___________
Phone (_____)_______________ Church  ________________________
E-mail___________________________________ District___________
___Male ___Female  Special Diet Needs ________________________
Roommate Choices __________________________________________
__________________________________________________________

I wish to register for:
___ Full-time lodging & meals (shared room) – $200
___ Full-time lodging & meals (single room) – $224 (limited availability)
___ Full-time commuter with meals – $100
___ Daily commuter registration fee only – $35/day
(select meals below and include cost with your registration fee)
___ Tuesday dinner ($8)
___ Wednesday breakfast ($7)
___ Wednesday lunch ($10)
___ Wednesday dinner ($8)
___ Thursday breakfast ($7)

Total amount enclosed: $___________
2015 MINISTERS’ CONVOCATION
JANUARY 13-15, 2015