
PAUMCS POST

*A Newsletter for and about the Virginia Chapter
Professional Administrators of the United Methodist Connectional Structure*

August 2017

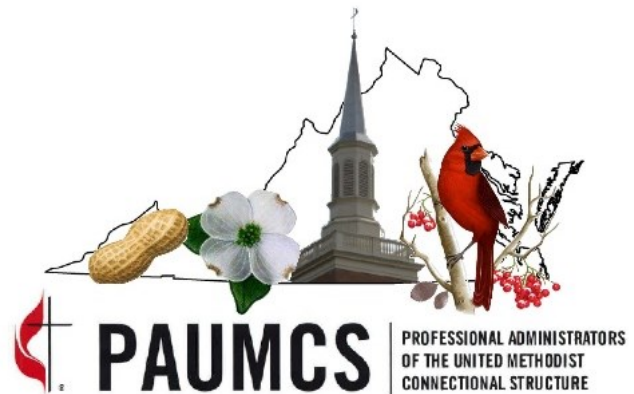


PAUMCS Name Change

Karen Albro

Throughout the years, the title of “secretary” changed within the church office but did not change within PAUMCS. At the PAUMCS National Conference this year in Chicago, a vote was taken of the membership and a new name was chosen. Our acronym will stay the same, but it will now signify our new name: Professional Administrators of the United Methodist Connectional Structure. This name change allows for inclusiveness for all office administrators, assistants, managers, and secretaries.

In addition to the new name a new logo was chosen which affirms the official UMC status of PAUMCS. Once the national vote was taken, the Virginia PAUMCS name changed as well. To the right are the new national and VA PAUMCS logos.



VA PAUMCS Experience Your Conference Connection 2017

Susan Petrey

At their National Conference in Chicago in May, the Professional Association of United Methodist Church Secretaries voted to change their name to the Professional Administrators of the United Methodist Connectional Structure, thereby broadening their vision while retaining their acronym, PAUMCS.

Your VA PAUMCS invites you to our fall event: Experience Your Conference Connection 2017, Wednesday, October 11, 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Virginia United Methodist Center, 10330 Staples Mill Road, Glen Allen, VA 23058.

Our speaker for the event, David Dommissie, Virginia Conference Treasurer and Business Administrator, will cover the annual statistical data required for end-of-year tables.

Mr. Dommissie became treasurer of the Virginia Conference on April 1, 2008. He also currently serves as Statistician of the Virginia Conference, Treasurer of the Southeastern Jurisdiction of the United Methodist Church, and Treasurer of Archives and History of the Southeastern Jurisdiction.

David has a BS in Accounting from Virginia Commonwealth University, is married, and father of twin boys. He lives in Richmond, VA and attends Saint Matthew’s UMC. His pastimes include woodworking, sports, fishing, and vacationing at his cottage in Wisconsin.

In this workshop, David will cover the annual statistical data required by the General Church. This includes changes in membership, ethnic diversity, small group participation, community outreach, etc. Also included are assets and liabilities of the local church. Income and expenses are also reported in statistics. He will provide line by line detail for you to take back to your church.

Find registration information at www.vaumc.org/paumcs, or use the flyer included in this mailing.



What Fun We Had in the Windy City— National PAUMCS Conference in Chicago

Sandra S. Fulcher

I took my long-time friend, Barbara, with me to the National PAUMCS Conference in Chicago this past May. What a great time! Our theme was “Diversity” and our speakers included the Reverend Grace Inathiu on Diversity in Ministry, the Reverend Young-Mee Park on Cross Cultural Ministry, the Reverend James Preston on Radical Hospitality, and a session on Office Ergonomics with Seema Bhagwakar.

Some of us took an architectural tour of Chicago and about 35 of us attended a Chicago Cubs game at Wrigley Field. There were opportunities to fellowship, to share stories, to solve problems, and to try a new thing with focus groups. We spent time in worship, we remembered others during our memorial service, and we celebrated our mission with Justice For Our Neighbors (JFON). From the PAUMCS.org website: JFON is a “faith-driven ministry, welcoming immigrants into our churches and communities by providing free, high-quality immigration legal services, education and advocacy.”

National PAUMCS members voted on a new name and logo during our annual business session. The official name is now the Professional Administrators of The United Methodist Connectional Structure. The new logo can be found at www.paumcs.org, or on the front page of this newsletter.

Barbara and I had dinner at the famous Gene & Georgetti restaurant; what a fabulous meal! On our last night in Chicago, we took a Uber ride to Riva Restaurant at the Navy Pier and enjoyed another wonderful meal!

Next year’s annual conference, “Make a Joyful Noise” will be held April 12-14, 2018 in Nashville, Tennessee at the Nashville Airport Marriott.

“Make a Joyful Noise” in Nashville 2018 National PAUMCS Conference Bev Myers

YEE-HAW!

Be sure to save the date for the 2018 PAUMCS National Conference, to be held in Nashville next year! The Middle Tennessee Chapter of PAUMCS invites you to “Make a Joyful Noise,” which will run April 12-14, 2018. There will be a pre-conference event (to be announced) on the Wednesday prior to the conference – it’s Nashville, imagine the possibilities! The conference itself will begin Thursday morning and end Saturday afternoon, so you can still be home in time to spend Sunday with your family. Check the PAUMCS website at www.paumcs.org for more information as it becomes available.

Now’s the time to ask for continuing education funds in your 2018 budget, and find other groups in your church willing to help sponsor you. Scholarships for half of the registration fee are also available through the national PAUMCS organization. Look for more information about scholarships soon at www.paumcs.org.





Online Certification Training Evonne Dickey & Donna Grannan

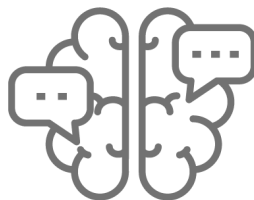
Last year, Donna and I had the opportunity to participate in the first online certification program through what was then called the Professional Association of United Methodist Church Secretaries. We have both been in our respective positions for a while and felt this was the time to take this next step in our journey. We found the online opportunity had both positive and negative impact on the training.

The information provided during the course is helpful and informative. For those who were not raised in the United Methodist Church and even those who were, portions of this course really helps explain our connectional-ism, our history, and even information on finances. At the end of the course you will also do a group project using the information you have learned throughout this course. This does sometimes test your patience as your group members could be in different time zones and also have busy schedules. It really challenges how well you can work with others.



Following the class and after processing all that took place, we found a few areas that could be improved upon. One area would be the release of course materials for all the lessons. However, since this was the first online class, we understood they were still working on the requirements to make the course material a valuable teaching resource for

everyone. Another area that made taking this certification online difficult was trying to juggle multiple balls at once. For most of us, this is a normal daily occurrence. However, I did find it difficult to work on a training module, then switch to



some work that needed to get done, then back to find my place in the course material/video. So, if you are attempting to complete the coursework during normal work

hours, going back and forth can be a bit challenging. Consider creating a schedule and informing your co-workers of your class time to avoid too many interruptions.

Even with the difficulties we faced, we are still glad we took the online course. The cost is a fraction of what it costs to go to Nashville for a week. However, a down side is not getting to meet all the others who are also taking the course.

From Evonne: Going beyond the on-line certification, this past year I also had the opportunity to go to the PAUMCS Annual Conference in Chicago. Honestly, I did not know what to expect and I was pleasantly surprised. It was a great opportunity to meet with other administrators from across the states and discuss some things with those that have had similar experiences. You also have the opportunity to meet some of the other students who took the online certification course.

From Donna: I did not have the opportunity to go to Chicago so I missed out on meeting those who might have worked with me on the project and others who may have the same type of job that I do. I thoroughly enjoyed the online discussions, especially the one on finances. I learned quite a bit from those discussions, and I am sure some of my coworkers are not happy with me when I say "No, you really can't do that." I understand all those who completed the course



received their certification and in order to maintain our certification we must:

1. Maintain national membership in the Professional Administrators of The United Methodist Connectional Structure (PAUMCS) with dues current and paid in full for the calendar year.
2. Attend the full session of a PAUMCS National Annual Conference at least once every four (4) years and earn one Continuing Education Unit*.
3. Earn one Continuing Education Unit* in the two-year period by attending:
 - A. the full session of a National Annual Conference of PAUMCS.
 - B. the full session of an approved annual meeting of any local PAUMCS Chapter in good standing.
 - C. an event related to the church secretary's profession with prior approval of the PAUMCS National Professional.

*Definition for Continuing Education Unit (CEU): One CEU is defined as Ten (10) contact hours of participation in an organized continuing education experience under responsible sponsorship, capable direction, and qualified instruction. Business Meetings, Worship Services, breaks, meals, snacks, and fellowship/gathering times are not to be considered. Contact hours of less than 10 but not less than 5 will be granted .5 CEU (Example: an 8-hour workshop/seminar would be equal to .5 CEU.)

The above requirements are needed to maintain your certification as a Certified United Methodist Church Administrator.

Overall, the experience is one that has helped in our day-to-day ministry with the church.

The General Conference on Finance and Administration (GCFA) offers online certification courses for administrative professionals in the United Methodist Church. Check gcf.org/paumcs for the next available course enrollment period!



Susan Petrey greets Annual Conference attendees at the PAUMCS display table

2017 - A Good Year for Badge Buddy Sales **Susan Petrey**

I proudly managed the VA PAUMCS display table at Annual Conference in Hampton, June 16-18. The display table in the exhibit hall offers us the opportunity to talk to lay and clergy members to conference about VA PAUMCS and why they should encourage their church administrative staff members to become involved. Brochures for membership and our fall event were handed out and explained. *And* there are Badge Buddies!

For several years, we have sold red VA PAUMCS name tag holders, using proceeds to benefit our VA PAUMCS training events. They have become quite the thing to have at Annual Conference and members seek out our table to purchase the badge holder that makes them one of the team. At \$5.00 each, this year we sold \$495 worth, for a wonderful supplement to our event funds.

Thanks to each member who spent some time manning the table and “selling” VA PAUMCS to the attendees. Mark your calendar now for Annual Conference 2018, June 15-17 in Hampton; volunteer to represent your church as a local church delegate or call your district office to be added to the nominees for District lay member at-large; and join us for our next opportunity to share VA PAUMCS with the world!

VA PAUMCS Member Care

Donna Desper

It is a joy for me to be your Member Care Coordinator. It has given me a chance to pray for each of you as I write, sign, and send your birthday cards, and to celebrate the blessing you are from God. Thankfully it is not too often that I need to send a “Get Well” or “Sympathy” card, but know when I do, many prayers from your PAUMCS sisters are coming to you. When sending the cards, it is a time of sharing with each other the happy times and the sad times; it is being a part of a family who call ourselves PAUMCS. I would ask of you a request, please do email me (StauntonDistrict@vaumc.org) the date of your birthday (no, you do not need to give me the year). Also, please let me know at which address you prefer to receive your cards. I have been known to send the cards to the church sometimes and to the home address at other times. PAUMCS is a way that we connect and I am so glad to be a part of that connection.



Prayer Chain & Care Ministry

The Virginia Chapter has a PAUMCS Prayer Chain and solicits your prayers for those who submit a request. Many pray daily for the requests, send cards and notes via regular or email to those listed, or simply hold the requests in their hearts.

Anyone interested in becoming part of this ministry is encouraged to email Donna Desper by email at stauntondistrict@vaumc.org.

Your Care Ministry team of VA PAUMCS enjoys being in ministry with you and celebrating your special joys, giving encouragement when needed and a word of sympathy at a time of sorrow. Our Member Care Coordinator is Donna Desper, StauntonDistrict@vaumc.org.

Get Away From It All!
VA PAUMCS Spring Retreat

Wednesday, May 16, 2018
 (Lodging available for Tuesday, May 15)

**W.E. Skelton 4-H Educational
 Conference Center**
 775 Hermitage Rd
 Wirtz, VA 24184

Speaker: Martha Stokes
 Director of Church and Community Relations,
 Pinnacle Living (fka Virginia UM Homes, Inc.)

Watch for more details later this year!

Virginia Chapter Professional Administrators of the United Methodist Connectional Structure

Virginia United Methodist Conference
 10330 Staples Mill Road, Glen Allen VA 23060
 PO Box 5606, Glen Allen VA 23058

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|----------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|--|
| <i>President</i> | Sandra Fulcher | (276) 638-2688..... | danvilledistrict@vaumc.org |
| <i>1st VP</i> | Cindy Spieth..... | (804) 746-9073..... | cindyluspieth@gmail.com |
| <i>2nd VP</i> | Susan Petrey | (804) 521-1100..... | susanpetrey@vaumc.org |
| <i>Secretary</i> | Karen Albro | (804) 270-7613..... | karenalbro77@gmail.com |
| <i>Membership Secretary</i> | Lynn Manley | (804) 448-8326..... | rappahannockriverdistrict@vaumc.org |
| <i>Treasurer</i> | Heather Bosley-Papp .. | (703) 441-9715 | heatherbosley@yahoo.com |
| <i>Nominations Chair</i> | Bev Myers..... | (804) 521-1134..... | bevmyers@vaumc.org |
| <i>Communications Chair</i> | Adrian Smith | (434) 792-3391 | fairviewumc@comcast.net |