

Mountain View District of the
United Methodist Church
leading our communities with love



General E-news
February 6, 2025

lead with love



During this season of “hearts and chocolates,” be reminded today of God’s great and amazing love for YOU, a sustaining, overwhelming love; a love that knew YOU long before you were born; a love that embraces YOU all the days of your life; a love that knows no limits; an eternal, never-ending love that lives beyond the grave and forever; a love demonstrated most profoundly, for us and for all the world, in the sacrificial love of Christ Jesus, our Lord and Savior. May the words of Psalm 139 and Romans 5:8 be God’s word of love for YOU today.

When God created you, YOU were an original thought in God’s mind!
“For You created me in my inmost being: You knit me together in my mother’s womb.”

When God made You, God made someone wonderful!

“I praise You because I am fearfully and wonderfully made:
Your works are wonderful. I know that full well!”

When God made you, God made NO mistakes!

“My frame was not hidden from You
when I was made in the secret place.

When I was woven together in the depths of the earth,
Your eyes saw my unformed body.”

When God made you, God had a purpose and a plan in mind for YOU!

“All the days ordained for me were written in Your book
before one of them came to be.

From the moment YOU were conceived until NOW,

God has NEVER stopped loving You!

“How precious to me are Your thoughts, O God.

How vast is the sum of them.

Were I to count them, they would outnumber the grains of sand.

When I awake I am still with You.”

No matter where you go or what you do, God’s knowledge of YOU and

God’s loving presence that always surrounds YOU will never end!

“Where can I go from Your Spirit? Where can I flee from Your presence?

If I go up to the heavens, You are there;

if I make my bed in the depths, You are there.

If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea,

even there Your hand will guide me,

Your right hand will hold me fast.”

The cross of Christ stands forever as God’s love letter to YOU and to all the world!

“But God demonstrates God’s own love for us in this:

While we were still sinners, Christ died for us!”

Grace and Peace,
Nancy Johnson
Connecting Ministries Coordinator, Peaks View Region of the Mountain View District
Pastor, Emmanuel UMC, Amherst

lead with love - pray

Please pray for

- all who suffer from natural disasters, and those who provide relief
 - all who suffer from civil unrest, war, and for peacemakers everywhere
 - all who suffer from ill health: Mike Parrish (husband of Susan Hannah), Ella Wickham, (wife of Rev. Charles Wickham), Butch Taylor (Leigh Anne Taylor's brother), Anna Johnson (daughter of Revs. Nancy and Bruce Johnson), Hunter Wickham (daughter-in-law of Rev. Charles Wickham)
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lead with love - stay connected

NEW Mountain View District Mailing Address

Mountain View District of the VAUMC
P.O. Box 3013
Lynchburg, VA 24503
Office phone number: (276) 638-2688

New Executive Administrator

Katie Wilson, BA, MA
Executive Administrator
of the Mountain View District
Email: KatieWilson@vaumc.org
Phone: (276) 638-2688
Office Hours: 10 am-4 pm Sunday through
Thursday

Open House at Fairview UMC Lynchburg

February 8 from 10-1:00 pm.

From Rev. Liz Ecklund, "As you know we have closed for worship but we still have a building full of "stuff". We have office furniture, pulpits, pianos, music, choir robes, music hymnal, choir robes pictures and much much more. You are welcome to anything, just please come prepared to take it with you. Call me for any others info. Liz Ecklund 258-2934."

Fieldale UMC Seeks Part-Time Musician

Fieldale United Methodist Church in Fieldale, VA is seeking a part-time Choir Director/Accompanist for Sunday morning worship services and other special services throughout the year. If interested, please contact John Rehder, chairman of the church's Staff/Pastor Parish Relations Committee at (276) 956-1019 or the church office at (276) 673-6355.

lead with love - celebrate



Pictured from Left to Right: David Hewes, EUMC Lay Leader; Rev. Nancy Johnson, Pastor; DS Rev. Dr. Sarah Calvert; Ronda Wimmer (VAUMC Board of Discipleship)

On Sunday, November 10, 2024 a representative from the Virginia Conference Board of Discipleship came to Emmanuel UMC in Amherst to officially present the congregation with the 2024 One Matters Award that the church received at Annual Conference in June from the General Board of Discipleship of the UMC. Each year, one church in the Annual Conference is given this award for their efforts in turning zeros into positive numbers with a renewed focus on discipleship. EUMC received this award for their turnaround performance over the last several years in baptisms and professions of faith, particularly in 2023. The purpose of the award is to recognize improvement and progress in these statistical areas, realizing that each number represents a person loved and cherished by God. Over the last eight years or so, Emmanuel has been intentional in their efforts to become a more invitational and relational church as they continue to look for ways to connect with their community and provide opportunities for the church family to invite others into their fellowship. In addition to a plaque and certificate, the church received a check for \$1,000 to continue their good work together.

Pastor Nancy extends heartfelt thanks to the congregation for being a warm and welcoming place for guests, and for their continued commitment to make disciples for the transformation of the world. To God be the Glory! It was a blessing to have our new District Superintendent, Rev. Dr. Sarah Calvert, as our preacher on November 10 to celebrate this special occasion with us.

lead with love - leadership development



Lay Servant Academy 2025

Registration for Lay Servant Academy is open! Training weekend will be virtual only and will take place February 21st and 22nd. Courses will include standard courses such as The Basic Course and Preaching, in addition to Mission Encounter and CLM Orientation.

New this year! The Academy will also include a weekly Lenten course on the Sacraments during the season of Lent, as well as Ministry to the Forgotten; Dementia Through a Spiritual Lens to be offered on 5 consecutive Thursday evenings in February and March!

Registration: <https://vaumc.org/layservantacademy/>

Register for VAUMC Climate Summit

You may not know this, but you are essential through your words and actions in the Church's witness of Creation Care.

At the 2024 Virginia Annual Conference, the members passed the "Conference Net Zero by 2050 resolution."

The VAUMC Board of Church & Society invites you to the **VAUMC Climate Summit** on Saturday, March 8, 2025 from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Randolph-Macon College.

At this Summit,:

- learn why you are key in our VAUMC response to Creation and Racial Justice, and Sustainability as a church and as institutions
- hear from keynote speaker Michele Roberts, a scientist turned environmental justice activist who helps religious groups and people of color around the country defend the planet against environmental and racial injustice
- get to know others searching to figure out new ways to respond
- leave with practical ways to respond in your committees, and collaborations and community response.

[Learn more...](#)



lead with love - holy conferencing



Rev. Dr. Jonathan Page, conference Director of Innovation & Creativity, [shared a video](#) preview with information about Annual Conference 2025 to be held at the Berglund Center in Roanoke, VA from June 11-14.

Highlights from the video include:

Upcoming Dates:

- Monday, February 17: Annual Conference Housing and Childcare Registration will open
- Monday, February 24 : AC Display Registration opens
- Wednesday, June 11, 2025: Clergy Session
- Thursday, June 12, 2025: AC Call to Order

Logistics/Business:

- Housing voucher: To offset costs for the extra day of Annual Conference session, churches who might be impeded by this cost can apply for a voucher (for up to

Logistics/Business: (cont.)

- Voting: This year at the Annual Conference session, members will vote on constitutional amendments supported by the 2020-2024 General Conference.
- Badges: Clergy are asked to ensure they have their clergy badges given out at Annual Conference last year. To request a new one, please contact ChrisMalak@vaumc.org.
- Book of Reports: This year, to be good stewards, no copies of the publication will be printed. It will be part of the Official Packet. Members can take the electronic file and print it on their own as they see fit.

Theme:

"Movement of the Heart" The focus on how God transforms us and how God molds and shapes us and allows us to be agents of change in and around our community.

Speakers:

Rev. Dr. Candace Lewis, Dean, Gammon Theological Seminary
Rev. Dr. Edgardo Colón-Emeric, Dean, Duke Divinity School
Scott Erickson, "Scott the Painter"

Preachers:

Bishop Sue Hauptert-Johnson, Opening Worship
Rev. Dr. Candace Lewis, Memorial Service
Bishop Ken Carter, Ordination Service

For any questions, email JonathanPage@vaumc.org.

Learn more as information become available: at www.vaumc.org/ac2025.

\$100) for housing relief. More information will be released soon.

lead with love - serve

Mentors Needed for All God's Children Camp

It's that time of year again! All God's Children Camp will be offering two weeks of camp this summer (June 15-20 and August 10-15) and we need you to make it happen! We are looking for compassionate and enthusiastic mentors, who are 17 years or older, to join us this year as we serve the incarcerated community and their families. AGCC is a place to share God's love, spread kindness and to hear the words "I Am Somebody!" So grab some friends and come be a part of this wonderful opportunity to serve your community and help break the cycle of incarceration. And for our pastors: Participating as a mentor at All God's Children Camp qualifies for Continuing Education (CU) credits!

For more information, email Lori Smith at agcc@vaumc.org or check out our website www.vaumc.org/agcc

Immigration

How do United Methodists hold the tension between obeying the law and following the biblical mandate to care for our immigrant neighbors? As we ask the hard questions, please see Bishop Sue Hauptert-Johnson's **Pastoral Letter to the Virginia Conference to See Each Other, Lean on Community**, and the **VAUMC Immigration Guidance Resource**.

If you have gifts or skills* and are willing to help if needs arise for our immigrant neighbors within our district please contact Rev. Leigh Anne Taylor, Director of Connecting Ministries at leighannetaylor@vaumc.org. Our list will be kept internally for the district staff to reach out to and not shared publicly without permission. *may include offering care, translation, legal, notary public service, etc.

Mountain View District Calendar

Feb 12 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.	Clergy Training Event	ZOOM
April 27	Announcement Sunday for new appointments	
May 3	Clergy Training Event	TBA

9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.		
June 11-14	Virginia Annual Conference	Roanoke Virginia
June 25	Move date for clergy	
June 29	Laity of the Congregation Sunday	
July 6	First Sunday for New Clergy	



**Virginia Conference
of the United Methodist Church**

Bishop Sue Hauptert-Johnson, Presiding Bishop
Bishop@vaumc.org

Visit the Virginia Conference website at vaumc.org

Mountain View District

NEW POSTAL ADDRESS:

PO Box 3013, Lynchburg, VA 24503

Rev. Dr. Sarah Calvert, District Superintendent

MountainViewDS@vaumc.org



Susan White, Mountain View District Co-Lay Leader, Peaks View Region
fedsu2@aol.com

Kathryn Ware, Mountain View District Co-Lay Leader River View Region
kware@solexarchitecture.com

Tammy Burdick, Mountain View District Co-Lay Leader, Ridge View Region
tammy.burdick@gmail.com

Rev. Leigh Anne Taylor, Director of Connecting Ministries
LeighAnneTaylor@vaumc.org

Katie Wilson, Administrative Manager
KatieWilson@vaumc.org

Rev. Nancy Johnson, Coordinator, Peaks View Region
NancyJohnson@vaumc.org

Rev. Jennifer Coffey, Coordinator, River View Region & Ridge View Region

JenniferCoffey@vaumc.org

New Website Under Construction
Watch This Space for Our New Website Address

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