



Ashland District Connection ...

connecting laity and clergy to make disciples of Jesus Christ

New Look for the Ashland District Connection: In an effort to use our resources wisely, we will be discontinuing our traditional monthly newsletter. Instead, we will update members of the Ashland District of upcoming events via the District Website (<http://ashlandvaumc.org/>) and via this new shorter email newsletter. These twice monthly emails will be shorter than the traditional newsletter so downloading shouldn't be a problem even for those of us with dial-up.

Photographs and longer articles will be available on the District Website.

If you are not connected to the internet at all and would like to continue to receive the information via snail mail, please let the District Office know at 804.798.1649.

Thanks for supporting us as we do our part to care for God's creation!

Dear Friends,

Grace and peace to you from the Ashland District Office. My prayer is that you have had a wonderful Easter Celebration and are now ready for spring.

Upcoming Events:

Your Annual Conference Book of Reports will be arriving soon. Be sure to pay close attention to the report from the Task Force on Redistricting as it will be a major focus for Annual Conference this year. We will have a special report from the Task Force at our June 6, 2010 Annual Conference Orientation Session to be held at Wright's Chapel at 3:00pm.

Mark your calendar for

Ashland District Conference – Saturday, November 20, 2010 at Shady Grove UMC in Mechanicsville starting at 9:00am.

Ashland District Leadership Training Event – Saturday, November 20, 2010 at Shady Grove UMC in Mechanicsville with two workshops following District Conference. The workshops will be held at 10:15 and 11:30.

Our planning teams for these two events decided to try a combination on a Saturday in November in order to give a 2 for 1 experience as well as give 2011 Church Officers training before January.

Please know I continue to grow in my gratitude to God for the privilege of serving the Ashland District.

Grace & Peace,
Mark

Ashland District Calendar for May and June 2010

Date	Time	Event	Location
5/3	7:30 p.m.	District UMM	Wright's Chapel UMC
5/4	6:30 p.m.	District UMW Missionary Dinner	Shady Grove (H) UMC
5/6	7:00 p.m.	District Board of Church Location & Building	TBA
5/7		7 th Annual Granville Wade Golf Tournament	Hobb's Hole, Tappahannock
5/8		Virginia Conference Family Fun Day	King's Dominion, Doswell
5/11	10:45 a.m.	District Clergy Association Farewell Luncheon	Wright's Chapel UMC
5/14-16		Conference UMW Spiritual Life Retreat	VUMAC
5/21-28		Local Pastor's Licensing School	Virginia Wesleyan, Norfolk,
5/21-22		School for Children's Ministry	VUMAC
5/23-24		PAUMCS Spring Event	Orkney Springs
5/23-28		District UMMIM Mission Trip	Statesville, North Carolina
5/24	7:30 a.m.	Westview on the James Golf Marathon	Richmond CC, Manakin-Sabot
5/25	7:00 p.m.	All Things New Committee Meeting	Wright's Chapel UMC
5/27	1:30 p.m.	2 nd Annual Rick Griffith Memorial Golf Tournament	Meadowbrook CC, Richmond
5/28	12:00 p.m.	District Office Closes Early for Memorial Day Holiday	District Office
5/31		District Office Closed for Memorial Day Holiday	District Office
6/2	7:00 p.m.	District Superintendency Committee	Wright's Chapel UMC
6/3	7:00 p.m.	District Board of Church Location & Building	TBA
6/5		Ferrum College Women's Day	Ferrum College
6/6	3:00 p.m.	Annual Conference Orientation	Wright's Chapel UMC
6/7	7:30 p.m.	District UMM	Wright's Chapel UMC
6/13 – 16		Annual Conference	Norfolk, Virginia Conference
6/13 – 16		District Office Limited Hours	District Office
6/22	7:00 p.m.	All Things New Committee Meeting	TBA
6/23	11:00 a.m.	Leadership Training Event Team Meeting	District Office

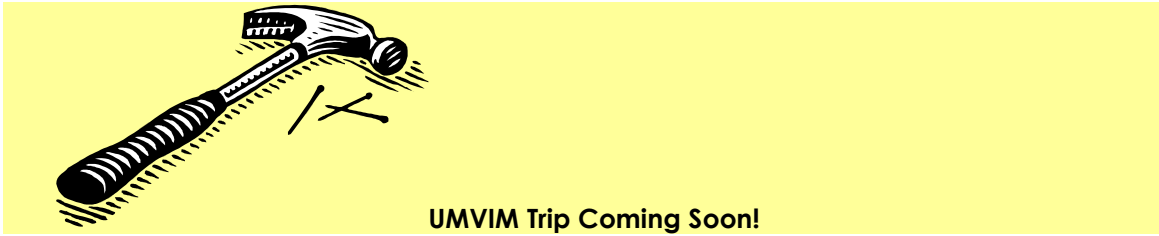
VUMAC – Virginia United Methodist Assembly Center

The Ashland District of
The United Methodist Church
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Ashland, VA 23005

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Bishop Charlene Kammerer
District Superintendent Mark V. Ogren
District Office Manager Lyn Robeson
District Administrative Assistant Lynn Manley



UMVIM Trip Coming Soon!

An Ashland District Mission Trip to Statesville, NC, is scheduled for May 23-28, 2010, to help with home construction for low income families. The volunteer team will be working with the Wesley Community Development Corporation (WCDC), a United Methodist organization of the Western Carolina Conference, to build affordable housing for families in need. The cost of the trip is \$125, to include housing, some meals and transportation. WCDC provides lodging in Statesville. The mission team is being formed now and is open to both experienced and first-time volunteers. Both skilled and unskilled are welcome. Co-leaders for the mission are Gary Gross of Tabernacle UMC and Phil Haynes of Fredericksburg UMC. For more information, contact Gary at 540-786-8060 or by email at garlind68@comcast.net or Phil at 540-891-8849 or email at conradp1@verizon.net.

From our Lay Leader:

Sisters and Brothers in Christ as we embark on a "vision for transformation" are you ready to step out in faith to make All Things New? Are you really ready for CHANGE? Before we can expect to MAKE change in our churches and in the world we must BE the change we wish to see. Personal transformation always precedes church transformation. The church has an image problem because many Jesus followers have a misunderstanding of the word witness. Being a witness for Christ doesn't mean just telling others about Jesus but becoming a living demonstration of God's presence and purpose, there is a terrible disconnect in many religious people between what they say and believe and how they actually live. In Matthew Jesus is clear that you aren't supposed to just speak the Gospel, but you are to BE the gospel. You are God's word to the world and must live the good news before people will believe it. As Saint Francis of Assisi said: "Preach the Gospel always, and when necessary use words."

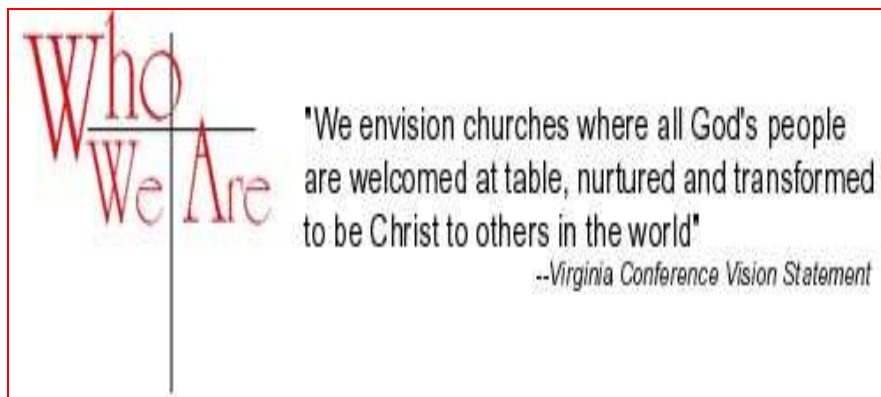
Can you name one way in which you feel like you are attempting to change the world for Jesus Christ?

Larry Tubbs



Calling All Golfers!
Check out the 3
different golf games
you can join with the
Ashland District!
Granville Wade
Tournament
Rick Griffith Memorial
Tournament and the
Westview Golf
Marathon!

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2010 Annual Conference offering to benefit Mozambique, Brazil, Grace Ministries

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.

Bishop Charlene Kammerer has announced that the 2010 Annual Conference offering goal is \$300,000 and will benefit the following leadership development projects:

Brazil: \$100,000 — The Shade and Fresh Water Project is a national network of centers developed by the Brazil Methodist Church to keep children off the streets and away from gangs and drugs. This year's offering will help fund 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 — This money will help pay for 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 — Grace Ministries, a community outreach program of the Arlington District, addresses the most pressing material and spiritual needs of low-income immigrants in northern Virginia and empowers immigrants to become community leaders. Grace Ministries provides emergency food, clothing, household items, diapers and health care information at seven United Methodist Churches. Your gifts will help provide job training programs for personal care aides, certified nurse aides and for CDL/ESL training for school bus drivers. Go to www.graceministriesumc.org for information about Grace Ministries.