



# Columns

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### Sue McCoy's Report from:

235th Session of the Virginia Annual Conference, United Methodist Church June 16-18, 2017, Hampton, Virginia

**Purpose:** To make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world by equipping its local churches for ministry and providing a connection for ministry beyond the local church; all to the glory of God. (p. 8-Book of Reports)

**Bishop Sharma Lewis** presided over her first Virginia Annual Conference. She reported on the information she gleaned through her 32 "Chat and Chew" sessions in 16 different locations. From those sessions, she has derived a ministry vision for our conference.

*Isaiah 43:19 Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.*

· It is time to stop looking backward, to clarify our focus and commit to God's Plan. We are disciples of Jesus Christ. **Bishop Lewis defined a disciple as a lifelong learner who influences others to serve.** This gives clarification to our process of making disciples by loving God, loving others, for the transformation of the world.

### Some other words of inspiration I heard at conference this year include:

- ◆ Change teaches life is fragile, uncertain, and temporary; Psalm 102 -"For I the Lord will never change!
- ◆ We can't insure success; Take risks and trust in the Lord.
- ◆ The key to our victory is at the hands of God.
- ◆ The key to mission is in the hands of the people. God chose 12 of them. He uses us to fulfill his greatness.
- ◆ Allow for Kairos time; God's time. Some moments are more valuable than others. Don't count time as minutes and hours with a to do list; count it as opportunities to be with God and share his word. Watch! Be ready!
- ◆ Shared vision – when the leaders of the church share their passion with the congregation in meeting the needs of the community. The intersect of these components is when God speaks.
- ◆ Engage our youth and young adults now. Engage them in relevant ministries that make a difference. Establish multigenerational relationships to share experience with a new perspective.

**Rally**  
WEEKEND 2017

Save the Date:  
SEPTEMBER 8-10

Continued on page 11



## Preparing to go back-to-school

August is the time teachers prepare for the students to be back at school. The schools get busy preparing for the new semester, and I believe families will have to make certain adjustments, so their children will be ready for the semester.

We as a church, also are preparing for the new school year to start. It starts with Rally Weekend, September 8 - 10, which is not only a particular time to invite members to kick-off the new season but also is a starting point for us to transition into a new focus of ministry for the year. This Rally Sunday we will transition into the 'transformation of the world' part of our ministry direction. For the year, we will find ways to encourage involvement in missions and discover how God is using our missional life to transform the world.

As we are going through this important time of preparation, I want to invite you to be part of a special love offering. The first Sunday each month after the communion, we have been collecting a Love Offering. A love offering is our commitment to respond to the love we receive from Jesus Christ, as we participate in His mission. A love offering shares with others to extend love from our Lord. This month's Love offering will be focused to support and encourage our members who are teachers in their mission field.

Our church has been faithful to the call to collect school supplies, which will be distributed to C.I.A. (Congregations In Action – community of churches that supports four local schools in our area) and C.O.P. (Community Outreach Program – an after school literacy program sponsored by the Roanoke District United Methodist Church). However I wonder how much support do we give to our teachers in our congregation?

We have many members, who serve in teaching positions. All of them are faithful to their call to nurture the next generation. We need to keep them in our prayers. Not only for patience and endurance, but also for the love of Jesus Christ to fill them, so they can share that love with the children. Through their interaction they are planting seeds that will have a lasting effect on the lives of these children.

I heard that many of the teachers have to pay out of their own pockets for the extra supplies in the classroom. Not only should we support our teachers in prayer, but we should also encourage them to continue their mission successfully. So, I would like to make a call to collect a Love Offering to support our teachers in their missional work. All donations will be distributed to our teachers during our Back-to-School Open Table on August 30 at 6:30 PM.

Please join us as we continue to share the love of our Lord to transform the world.

In Christ,  
*RJ*

# Executive Council News Corner

July 2017

The Executive Council met on Tuesday, July 11, 2017 at 5:30pm.

We began as always with prayer and worship. We continued our discussion of Adam Hamilton's book, *Leading Beyond the Walls*.

We discussed and accepted reports from the following committees by the committee chair.

Executive Council-Sue McCoy  
Congregational Care- Judy Thornton  
Next Generation-Julie Realmuto (with youth at Kings Dominion)  
Trustees-Danny Gee  
Finance-John DiLauro  
Missions-Judy Dickerson  
Small Group-Larry Dickenson  
Staff/Pastor Parish Relations-Sarah Stephens  
United Methodist Men-Rich McGimsey  
United Methodist Women-Louise Miller  
Worship-Patsy Wingfield  
Pastor's Report-Seungsoo Jun  
Approval of Tonight's Minutes-Will Adkins

Amongst the many great things we have going on at our church, we discussed **Rally Day 2017**. Rally Day will be September 10, 2017. A Task force is working on all the specifics, supported by:

The Rally Day Weekend Planning Team  
The Rally Day Publication Team  
The Rally Day Invitation Team

We discussed the **Executive Council Structure** and terms for the many members that are involved with various committees.

May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2017 we celebrated **RCUMC's 96<sup>th</sup> Anniversary** which included lunch and a newcomer "Eat and Greet" brunch and 7 new members joining our church.

We are now using oil candles in the sanctuary. They should provide a more consistent flame. These were donated by Becky and Danny Gee. Thank you for this addition to our worship services.

Questions, comments, email Will Adkins ([adkinw@gmail.com](mailto:adkinw@gmail.com)).

The Next Executive Council meeting is on Tuesday, Aug 22, 2017 at 5:30 PM.





# Volunteers for August

	August 6	August 13	August 20	August 27
Acolytes	Keira Realmuto	Emily Shockley Bryce Tackett	Emma Silva Julia Vaughan	Luke Barrette Jake DiLauro
Altar Flowers	Tim & Sarah McConchie	Roy & Louise Miller	Jim & Martha Nicholas	Mark & Georgia Seiler
Children's Time	Sarah Stephens	Patsy Wingfield	Martha Nicholas	Sarah Pero
Facility Security	Tommy Whitaker	Greg Huffman	Ken Arritt	Tim McConchie
Fellowship Time	Cindy Hayth			Ken & Kathy Arritt
Finance Office	Steve Gross	Linda Wright	Rob Vaughan	Mark Seiler
Liturgists	Sandra Addison	George Dickenson	Steve Gross	Evan Gross
Nursery	Allison Coleman Joanna Coleman Vicke Marshall Chelsea McDaniel	Becky Gee Kelly Silva Beth Watts Patsy Wingfield	Darlene Bongrazio Bonnie Clark Brittany Roberts Katherine Vaughan	Allison Coleman Landon Smith Whitney Smith Janet Tanner
Healthcare Worship	Becky Gee Allison Sadler	Alli Coleman Bonnie Clark	Cindy Hayth Bryce Tackett	Shelby and Bonnie Dickerson
Tech Team 8:30	Charlie H - Audio Steven Mc - Slides	Joe Downing - Audio Christine H - Slides	Rob V - Audio Charlie H - Slides	Rob V - Audio Jin Jun - Slides
Tech Team 11	Andy Thornton – Audio Frank W - Camera Jin Jun - Slides	Mark Moyer - Audio Frank W - Camera Jin Jun - Slides	Mark Moyer - Audio Frank W - Camera Jin Jun - Slides	Frank W - Camera Steven Mc - Slides
Transportation	Carl Cress	Carl Cress	Carl Cress	Carl Cress
Ushers	Tim McConchie Brad Stephens Sarah Stephens Tommy Whitaker Jeanne Whitaker Patsy Wingfield	Jake DiLauro John DiLauro Stew Hubbell Greg Huffman Trace King David Tanner	Kathy Arritt Ken Arritt Shelby Dickerson Jay Inge	Roy Miller Debbie Reid Robert Reid Julie Wheeler Mitch Wheeler

*Do you want to volunteer for something but aren't sure how?  
Just ask Terri (terriu@rcumc.org) and she will connect  
you with the right people to show you the ropes!*



# United Methodist Women

## Sunday Evening Fellowship

Sunday Evening Fellowship will meet at 6:30 PM in the church library on August 13, 2017. Louise Miller will report on Mission Encounter. Fall plans will be discussed. All women are welcome to join our fellowship. Contact Janice Phillips at 725-1358 for information.

## Frances Allen Circle

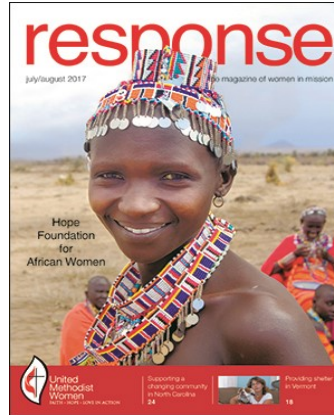
The Frances Allen Circle will resume meetings in September.



Questions or more information contact any of the circle members or Bonnie Dickerson 540-774-1870 or 309-0141

## Reading Program

Please turn in your reading lists to Luci by August 20. You may hand them in by mail, in person or by email ([lubruwright@gmail.com](mailto:lubruwright@gmail.com))



Please indicate what category your titles read fall under and if you have read any in the magazines. If you have a personal subscription to one of the magazines, that needs to be reported as well. Thanks!

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### United Methodist Women Calendar

Sept 15-16 Young Women's Event  
Camp Overlook Harrisonburg District

# It's Never Too Late To Start!

## Let's take the Bishop's challenge to read the Bible in one year!

As you read through the Bible this year, you may come to some passages that are difficult to comprehend even with the footnotes in your translation. There are numerous resources in our church library such as commentaries for individual books, the Interpreter's Bible and overall resources for approaching scripture with the historical-critical method of interpretation. Any of these titles can be checked out by noting your name and the book title in the notebook on the desk.

Weekly Prayer Focus	The Lord's Day	Monday
<h1 style="text-align: center; color: #00AEEF;">August 2017</h1>		
<p><b>Praise God for His undying love and ask Him to be the center of your life each day.</b></p>	<p><b>6 Isaiah 42-44</b></p> <p>NEW MEMBERS!  8:30 AM First Light Worship  8:30 AM Connection Corner  Coffee Fellowship  9:40 AM Sunday School  11:00 AM Traditional Worship</p> <p>IHN - last day</p>	<p><b>7 Isaiah 45-48</b></p> <p>9:00AM Music Camp  2:00PM Staff Meeting  6:30 PM 1st Lt Worship Team  7:00 PM Prayer Ministry</p>
<p><b>Spend quiet time in prayer with our loving Lord Jesus every day.</b></p>	<p><b>13 Jeremiah 4-6</b></p> <p>8:30 AM First Light Worship  8:30 AM Connection Corner  Coffee Fellowship  9:40 AM Sunday School  11:00 AM Traditional Worship  12:15 PM Mission Team Meeting</p>	<p><b>14 Jeremiah 7-9</b></p> <p>2:00 PM Staff Meeting  6:30 PM 1st Lt Worship Team  7:00 PM Prayer Ministry</p>
<p><b>Pray that God will guide and protect all students and teachers as a new school year begins.</b></p>	<p><b>20 Jeremiah 30-31</b></p> <p>8:30 AM First Light Worship  8:30 AM Connection Corner  Coffee Fellowship  9:40 AM Sunday School  11:00 AM Traditional Worship</p>	<p><b>21 Jeremiah 32-34</b></p> <p>2:00 PM Staff Meeting  6:30 PM 1st Lt Worship Team  7:00 PM Prayer Ministry</p>
<p><b>Pray that God will lead you to a life which serves Him daily.</b></p>	<p><b>27 Jeremiah 51-52</b></p> <p>8:30 AM First Light Worship  8:30 AM Connection Corner  Coffee Fellowship  9:40 AM Sunday School  11:00 AM Traditional Worship</p>	<p><b>28 Lamentations 1:1-3:36</b></p> <p>2:00 PM Staff Meeting  6:30 PM 1st Lt Worship Team  7:00 PM Prayer Ministry</p>

<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>	<b>Saturday</b>
<b>1 Isaiah 18-22</b>  8:00 AM Rally Team Meeting at FA's 5:45 PM Yoga Class 8:00 PM NA Meeting  IHN WEEK	<b>2 Isaiah 23-27</b>  7:00 AM Downtown Bible Study Breakfast 6:30 PM Handbell Class 7:30 PM Summer Choir Rehearsal  IHN WEEK	<b>3 Isaiah 28-30</b>  12:00 PM NA Meeting  IHN WEEK	<b>4 Isaiah 31-35</b>  7:30 AM Lancaster Trip begins 8:00 PM NA Meeting  IHN WEEK	<b>5 Isaiah 36-41</b>  9:00 PM Lancaster Trip ends  IHN WEEK
<b>8 Isaiah 49-53</b>  9:00AM Music Camp 5:45 PM Yoga Class 8:00 PM NA Meeting	<b>9 Isaiah 54-58</b>  9:00 AM Music Camp 6:30 PM Handbell Class	<b>10 Isaiah 59-63</b>  9:00 AM Music Camp 10 AM Prayer Shawl 12:00 PM NA Meeting 5:00 PM Smith/Moon Wedding Rehearsal	<b>11 Isaiah 64-66</b>  9:00AM Music Camp 8:00 PM NA Meeting 6:00 PM Smith/Moon Wedding	<b>12 Jeremiah 1-3</b>
<b>15 Jeremiah 10-13</b>  5:45 PM Yoga Class 8:00 PM NA Meeting	<b>16 Jeremiah 14-17</b>  <i>Columns Deadline</i> 8:30 AM Youth Kayak Trip 6:30 PM Handbell Class	<b>17 Jeremiah 18-22</b>  7:00 AM Downtown Bible Study Breakfast 12:00 PM NA Meeting	<b>18 Jeremiah 23-25</b>  8:00 PM NA Meeting	<b>19 Jeremiah 26-29</b>
<b>22 Jeremiah 35-37</b>  5:30 PM Executive Council Meeting 5:45 PM Yoga Class 8:00 PM NA Meeting	<b>23 Jeremiah 38-41</b>	<b>24 Jeremiah 42-45</b>  10:00 AM Prayer Shawl 12:00 PM NA Meeting	<b>25 Jeremiah 46-48</b>  8:00 PM NA Meeting 7:00 PM Salem Red Sox Game fundraiser for new playground	<b>26 Jeremiah 49-50</b>  Alta Mons 60th Anniversary Celebration
<b>29 Lamentations 3:37-5:22</b>  5:45 PM Yoga Class 8:00 PM NA Meeting	<b>30 Ezekiel 1-4</b>  6:00 PM Girl Scouts 6:30 PM Open Table	<b>31 Ezekiel 5-8</b>  7:00 AM Downtown Bible Study Breakfast 10:00 AM Prayer Shawl 12:00 PM NA Meeting		



These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates. — Deuteronomy 6:6-9

# Family Night at the Ballpark

## Salem Red Sox Game

### Friday, August 25 at 7:05 pm

Take me out to the ball game, take me out with the crowd!

Let's share an evening of fun together. Game tickets are available in exchange for a donation to our playground fundraising efforts! (Ticket value is \$10) Let's enjoy a night out together and take another step toward raising the money needed for our new playground.

Youth will be selling tickets on Sundays during August.

## Kayaking Trip Wednesday, August 16

Cost: \$35 (Kayak Rental + Shuttle)  
OR \$20 (Shuttle, bring your own equipment)

The Youth will kayak down the James River. Bring a lunch to eat along the way. We will meet at church at 8:30 AM. Register online at [www.rcumc.org/kayak](http://www.rcumc.org/kayak).



## Next Generation Committee Meeting Monday, August 7 5:30 PM



# My First Prayer To Be Answered— As I remember:

By Louise Dudley Jamison

I was not aware of a depression; I was only eight years old but as I look back on it now, this year was in the middle of the lean years of the early thirties.

We had moved to a new farm and were very poor, the reason we went on the move was because Mother wanted us all to be near a High School. My older brothers and sisters were getting old enough to enter high school.

We did not have a car, so a kind neighbor offered to give us children a lift to Sunday School which we happily looked forward to each Sunday. I had a devout teacher and she taught us many things. She taught that we could pray and if we asked it with the right attitude we would get it.

During the following week, my father began to worry about the drought we were having. It had continued for weeks and everything was dry and turning yellow long before harvest. He said “If we do not have rain soon we will have nothing to eat, everything is drying up”.

I listened and then ran to our old out house on the farm. Everything was dry! My bare feet kicked up the dust on the way.

Then in this old shelter I prayed to God to send rain if it be His will as near like the teacher had said as I had understood.

Then I started back to the house, before I reached the door almost without a cloud, possibly one “crack” of thunder, we had rain, a great rain.

I can still see how the hard rain hit the red dust, pattering and then making gullies in our front yard. I was amazed and thought all would be well now and my household would be happy.

As soon as the rain was over Papa went out to look things over and he said “that rain was too hard, it tore down everything”!

There were six of us children, we did not starve. I am 35 now.

## Prayer Shawl Ministry



The Prayer Shawl Knitting Group will meet at 10 am **August 10th**

at the church. All are welcome to join us as we knit and crochet.

**Don't know how to knit?  
We can teach you.**

For more information or questions, please contact Carolyn Cotton at 772-4825 or email her at [cbcotton@cox.net](mailto:cbcotton@cox.net).

## Beginner's Yoga

All are welcome to attend the Beginner's Yoga Class on Tuesday evenings at 5:45 in the Fellowship Hall. Extra yoga mats and props are available. Advanced notice of attendance is not necessary.

The rate is \$10.00 per class or a class card may be purchased for a discounted rate of \$36.00 for four classes (to be used within two months).

**Gift certificates are available.**

For more information, call Rebecca Talbot, Certified Integral Yoga Instructor, [\(540\) 342-0545](tel:5403420545) or join the Facebook Group, *Roanoke Hatha Yoga*.



# MUSIC NOTES

Summer  
CHOIR



## All Adults and Teens welcome, even if you can't sing with the choir regularly!

The Chancel choir takes a break for the summer, but we will have a summer choir for one Sunday each month. This will give our regular choir members a chance to keep the dust off their vocal chords, and it will provide an opportunity for anyone else who enjoys singing to join us for these one-time commitments. We don't wear robes in the summer, just come as you are.

**Wednesday, August 2 – Rehearsal 7:30 – 8:15; Sunday, Aug 6 – Sing for Worship**



## MUSIC ADVENTURE CAMP August 7-11, 9:00 AM—12 Noon Singing ~ Instruments ~ Handbells ~ Chimes ~ Fun

If your child is 5 years old through 6th grade and they like music, sign up now for our Music Camp that will be happening on August 7-11 in the mornings, 9AM-12 Noon. This will be an exciting week of exploring music! There will be singing, percussion instruments, choirchimes and handbells, traditional and contemporary Christian music, and lots of fun music games. The week ends with a short musical concert by the children.

Cost is \$50 per child.

Register online at [www.rcumc.org](http://www.rcumc.org)

We had a great time last year so sign up now and spread the word!

## SUMMER HANDBELL CLASS



If you want to learn to ring, or you already have some ringing experience and want to work on improving your skills, or you are an experienced ringer who doesn't want to get rusty over the summer,

Come to our HANDBELL CLASS!

**Wednesday Evenings, 6:30 - 7:30 pm, August 2, 9 and 16**

Even if you can't make all the sessions you are welcome to come when you can. We will not be preparing a piece for performance. We will have fun working on ringing technique, improving our confidence as ringers, and improving our music reading skills.

*Continued from page 1*

- ◆ Discern with God how you can grow in the fruit of the spirit. Where do you share the love of God?
- ◆ 2 Timothy 1:6 For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands.
- ◆ Are you utilizing your God given gift to revive the power of the Holy Spirit within you, and within those around you?

### ***News and Announcements***

- The United Methodist Conference is connectional. There are mission opportunities in our neighborhood, our state ... all over the world. If you have an interest, there is a need. Develop your vision. God does not want us to wander.
- A little humor was shared from Proverbs 16:31 “Gray hair is a crown of glory; it is gained in a righteous life.”
- We had a service of Remembrance and Holy Communion on Friday night, recognized retiring clergy on Saturday afternoon and a service for the “Ordering of Ministry” on Saturday night.
- There were lots of opportunities to sing your heart out and feel the Holy Spirit fill you to the brim!

*“To God Be the Glory for the Things He Has Done.”*

*His blood saved me.*

*His power raised me.*

The business portion was not as inspiring as the speakers and preachers. It is sad to realize that church and state has been separated in the “public” world, however, all of the politics and policies of the world affect our churches. Most of the information can be found in the upcoming August Advocate. Many resolutions were discussed and accepted/passed. Delegates voted by ballot on the 5 Proposed Constitutional Amendments that were adopted by the delegates at General Conference in May 2016. These amendments have been/will be voted on by every conference around the world; however, results are not tallied by each individual conference so they could not be shared with us at this time. We learned details from the many speakers for and against these amendments.

Please pray for the delegates who will return to Oregon in 2019 to make monumental decisions as part of the “Commission on the Way Forward.” The amendments cover gender equality, membership inclusion, delegate elections, bishop elections and bishop accountability. As a United Methodist, ask questions and seek answers. Tom Berlin, the lead pastor at Floris UMC in Herndon VA, has a blog with information and a video about discussions around these issues. ([revtomberlin.com](http://revtomberlin.com)) We need to be informed and seek unity as a connectional church. Is the love of Jesus Christ sufficient to sustain that connection? The last time unity was not achieved was when the Methodist Episcopal Church split at General Conference in 1844 over the issue of slavery, although both sides claimed scriptural warrants for their claims. The questions we need to ask are is it wise and is it just? We must gain hearts of peace to release us to work in a world that is diverse and mission focused. Pray. Learn. Enter dialogue with curiosity. Pray. What is God’s will?

*If you can use anything Lord, you can use me.*

*Take my hands Lord, and my feet*

*Touch my heart Lord, speak to me.*

Something to think about: The Great Wall of China was invaded 3 times by bribing the gate keepers! Stop the negative conversation. Just do God’s mission. Do God’s work. Do justice!

Everything I have written, I learned at the conference. I wrote this report from the notes I took. These are the thoughts of the speakers as I understood them. I heard a lot of information and inspiration! If you have any questions, I will be glad to try to answer them.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sue McCoy, Lay Leader  
Raleigh Court United Methodist Church  
7/14/17



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**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**



**August Birthdays**

*We renew our vows  
to uphold Christ's  
holy church by  
our prayers,  
our presence, our gifts, our  
service and our witness.*

	July 2	July 9	July 16	July 23
8:30 AM Worship	42	42	47	42
Sunday Groups	42	47	45	48
11:00 AM Worship	145	124	120	128
Giving	\$9,504	\$8,245	\$6368	\$4,867

- 8/1 Lisa Pence
- 8/2 Maggie Bryant
- 8/3 Blake Bongrazio
- 8/3 Jake DiLauro
- 8/4 Bill Roller Sr.
- 8/5 Chelsea Yeatts
- 8/6 Greg Barrette
- 8/8 Morgan Brooks
- 8/8 Vincent Wheeler
- 8/10 Chan Inge
- 8/12 Landon Smith
- 8/13 Connie Davis
- 8/15 Alice Olsen-Gordon
- 8/17 Cary Bryan
- 8/17 Henry Dickenson
- 8/17 Nancy Robison
- 8/18 Edward Smith
- 8/19 Shelby Dickerson
- 8/20 Rick Bowyer
- 8/20 Mary Ann Dickenson
- 8/22 Steve Gross
- 8/22 Jay Inge
- 8/24 Dennie Denison
- 8/24 Danny Gee
- 8/24 Matt Silva
- 8/27 George Dickenson
- 8/27 Reid Donihe
- 8/27 Rich McGimsey Jr
- 8/28 Mark Moyer
- 8/30 Ed Cake

