



AUMC WITNESS

Our Mission: Love God, Love Neighbor, Serve the World

Annandale United Methodist Church
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Rev. Cynthia Johnson-Oliver
Rev. Luz Zuleta



We are a Stephen Ministry Church

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STOP HUNGER NOW, May 31

"When people were hungry, Jesus didn't say, "Now is that political, or social?" He said, "I feed you." Because the good news to a hungry person is bread." - Desmond Tutu.

Almost 1 billion people across the globe will go to bed hungry tonight, 200 million of them children, according to USAID (2013). Undernourishment kills more people every year than malaria, tuberculosis and AIDS combined (USAID, 2012). But we can help! Stop Hunger Now packaged and distributed 25 million meals in 2012 and 29 million in 2013. All of these meals were packaged by groups like ours. We will be packaging over 80,000 meals at AUMC and many hands make light work.



worldwide to respond to food crises and to provide school meals critical to enabling children to get an education.

Please come ready to work at 8:45 a.m. There are several different tasks to choose from. A refreshment table for volunteers will be set up during the meal packaging event and donations of baked goods, fresh fruit, granola bars, and other snacks are needed. Drop off donations of refreshments on Friday, May 30, in the kitchen or Saturday morning, May 31 in the Coffee Café off the atrium. If you have questions about refreshments, call Betsy Clevenger, 703-425-6424.

Please join other AUMC members, friends and neighbors at AUMC's Stop Hunger Now meal packaging event on **Saturday, May 31, from 8:45 a.m. until 1 p.m. in Wright Hall.** We can help end hunger by packaging and distributing meals to hungry people all over the world. The Stop Hunger Now organization (<http://www.stophungernow.org/>) has perfected a low cost, (25 cents per meal) highly nutritious meal of dehydrated rice and soy meal that can be easily shipped and stored. The meals are shipped



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Part of the Body of Christ

For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ.

- 1 Corinthians 12:12

"I can't believe you brought me to a place full of liars, thieves, and sinners!" That was the reaction of my devout Roman Catholic grandfather the first time he visited a Methodist church with my faithful grandmother. Everything was going smoothly but when the time of testimonies came, a lot of stories of wrong turns, wrong friends, and wrong decisions were told. After hearing this, my grandpa had enough grounds to settle his case: that church was unnecessary. "It's just a place full of imperfect people."

We are in the midst of our "Name That Sermon" series and I must thank you for all of your sermon ideas. It is very energizing to read your topics and opinions. We are indeed a very diverse bunch! I also feel energized when I get a chance to interact with people who do not have a church community. As soon as I say that I'm a pastor, it's usually followed by "so, you do all the work?" I laugh and reply, "certainly... NOT!" It seems as if the church has this image that only its leaders do the work or that only good people are sitting in the pews. Really? Is that what we've become?



Paul reminds us of our responsibility to one another as parts of the body of Christ. Just imagine if you wanted to take a drink from a glass of water and your hand decided not to work? Or what if you have an itch on your neck but your arm decided to take the day off? Our body works in wonderful and amazing ways, together; the thoughts turn into electrical impulses that move throughout the body to trigger the desired movement in the arm. So it is with the

body of Christ. We are all connected in one way or another, some are prophets, apostles, teachers, caregivers and so on. If we do not have these different workers coming together, then the circuit is incomplete and the Body doesn't work properly. It is in this diversity that the body of Christ thrives in our communities. Whether it is writing down an upcoming sermon topic that ends up inspiring someone in our congregation, or packing dry food for a Stop Hunger Now event, or marching for economic and racial justice (as 8,000 UMW did just a few weeks ago), when the miscellaneous body of Christ comes together, powerful things happen.

My granddad was right; the church is definitely imperfect. We have our rough edges and we have taken a wrong turn once or twice. And this group of rough-edged, imperfect people is supposed to somehow come together to work as Christ's Church. We might not see eye to eye on everything, but we must be able to put aside our differences and be able to see Christ in each other and the need for His joy in the world around us. Being part of the Body of Christ does not give us a free pass to sit in the pew and let the pastor work, or to not participate in a ministry because we don't agree with the opinions of the person working next to us; it gives us forgiveness, belonging and accountability for one another. I'm a member of the Body of Christ, and though different from you, we are equals in that Body.



Eduardo
Eduardo

DATEBOOK

- May 14** – Wednesday Night Together
- May 16-18** – Camp Highroad Camp Out
- May 31** – Stop Hunger Now
- June 8** – Youth Sunday

NEWS IN BRIEF

Wednesday Night Together fellowship dinner and program is scheduled for Wednesday, May 14. Dinner begins at 5:45 p.m. and program at 6:30 p.m. The program will be a presentation about the Tutoring, ESL and Food Distribution Programs at our Heritage Drive location. The dinner menu will be garden salad, herb roasted turkey, squash casserole, stuffing, berry custard pie for dessert. Register for dinner online at www.annandale-umc.org, by emailing Joyce Kitzmiller: jkitzmiller@annandale-umc.org or by calling 703-256-8330. The meal price (pay at the door) is \$8 per person, \$3 for children under 12, and \$25 per family maximum.

High School and College Grads: An upcoming issue of the Witness will highlight AUMC's 2014 college and high school graduates. Please send a digital photo and the following information by May 23: name of student, degree, name of high school/college/university, and any other information you would like to share, such as name of parent(s) and future plans (college, graduate school, new job, etc.). Also please list what AUMC activities the student has participated in (choir, acolyte, crucifer, mission trip, etc.) Please email information to bgordon@annandale-umc.org.

ACCA's furniture ministry (which delivers donated furniture to needy families) needs volunteers! AUMC's dates to assist from 8 a.m. to 12 noon are Saturdays, May 17 and July 19. If interested, email Saro Nkesi at sneski@gmail.com.

New Member Class "Brownies with Brown" will meet the next three Sundays, May 11, 18 and 25 at 9:45 a.m. in room 212C. The class, taught by Rev. Dr. Clarence Brown, Jr., is a time of exploration and discernment of what it means to be a disciple of Jesus Christ at Annandale UMC. Topics will range from Wesleyan Theology to United Methodism 101; from Stewardship to Spiritual Gifts. Pre-registration is not necessary. For details, call 703-256-8330.

Volunteers needed for VBS: volunteers, center leaders, and shepherds are needed for AUMC's Vacation Bible School "Walking In God's Light" July 7-11 9 a.m. to noon. Contact Becki Stewart, bstewart@annandale-umc.org or call 703-256-8330.

Volunteer opportunities at Heritage Drive:

- **Food Distribution** operates on Thursdays from 5 - 7 p.m. Contact Betsy Clevenger, 703-425-6424.
- **ESL classes** meet on Tuesdays from 7 - 9 p.m. Contact Mike or Liz Hoefler at 703-845-7751.
- **A Tutoring Program** is being planned. Contact Barb Pearson at b-pearson@cox.net or 703-323-6114.
- For additional ideas and questions about our Heritage Drive Campus, contact Bill Sinclair, 703-321-7529.

What does your garden grow? If you are planting a vegetable garden this spring, consider planting an extra row for the Heritage Drive Food Site. AUMC's food ministry serves about 70 low-income families each week. Perishables such as fruit, vegetables, bread, and sometimes milk are provided by Food For Others, but the supply is often not enough. Any amount of your harvest which your family cannot use would be a blessing to a family in Annandale. Bring your donations to the Heritage Drive campus Fellowship Hall any Thursday afternoon. If you have questions, call Betsy Clevenger 703-425-6424.

A Volunteers in Mission adult mission trip to Brenton, WVa. with the Appalachian Service Project is scheduled for Sept. 21-27, 2014. Cost for the trip is \$525 and includes transportation, lodging, meals and all construction materials. Volunteers who cannot go for the full seven days (five work days and two travel days) are welcome. Some may go Sunday and return Wednesday or early Thursday at a cost of \$350. Contact John Clarke by phone or text 703 606-6464 or email clarkejhl@gmail.com. Commitments are needed with a nonrefundable deposit of \$250.

Sermon Series Update: Based on your suggestions, here are the upcoming sermons and who is preaching: May 11, "Were There Women Disciples?" - Rev. Johnson-Oliver; May 18, "Are the Bible and Science Contradictory?" - Rev. Dr. Kendall Soulen, Director of the Master of Theological Studies Program, Professor of Systematic Theology at Wesley Theological Seminary; May 25, "Praying Without Being Selfish" - Rev. Carrillo; and June 1, a Healing Service with Dr. Brown, Rev. Carrillo and Rev. Johnson-Oliver.

MINISTRY MEETINGS

Wed., May 7	Stephen Ministry	7:30 p.m.	Room 303
Tues., May 13	Finance Committee	7 p.m.	Room 210
Tues., May 13	Missions Committee	7 p.m.	Room 302
Tues., May 20	Church Council	7:15 p.m.	Room 302

LECTIONARY TEXTS

May 11, Fourth Sunday of Easter: Acts 2:42-47, Psalm 23 (UMH 754 or 137), I Peter 2:19-25, John 10:1-10

May 18, Fifth Sunday of Easter: Acts 7:55-60; Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16 (UMH 764); I Peter 2:2-10; John 14:1-14

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Annandale United Methodist Church

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WEEKLY VOLUNTEERS

Sunday, May 11

Door greeters: 8:10 a.m. S. Fleming, J. Beyer
9:30 a.m. D. Ruhter
10:30 a.m. L. McConville, E. Moss

Welcome Desk: 8:30 a.m. J. Lord, 11 a.m. K. Nietzey

Fellowship hour: Issues in Christianity Class

Ushers: 8:30 a.m. J. Clarke, S. Groves, P. Thomas,
E. McKenney (c)

11 a.m. C. DeLeon, R. Gallagher, G. Sherwood,
P. Adams (c)

Sunday, May 18

Door greeters: 8:10 a.m. J. Vance, B. Brown, S. Naugle
9:30 a.m. A. Witkowski, B. Otto
10:30 a.m. D. Johnson

Welcome Desk: 8:30 a.m. S. Kenski, 11 a.m. C. Jones

Fellowship hour: Kairos Prison Ministry

Ushers: 8:30 a.m. S. Kenski, R. Roberts, G. Sherfey, P. Sherfey(c)
11 a.m. E. Carrillo, D. Davis, R. Witkowski, P. Snitzer(c)

Upper Room Readers: Upper Room devotional booklets are available from AUMC and are located in the brochure racks by the front door. To help off-set the costs, those who take the Readers are requested to contribute \$5. Checks should be made payable to AUMC with "Upper Room Reader" in the note line.

"Scream-Free Parenting", a free seminar, will be offered at AUMC on Sunday, May 18, 4 - 6 p.m. Pre-registration is not required. Child care will be provided with advance reservations, call 703-256-8330 or email jkitzmiller@annandale-umc.org. The seminar will be presented by Myra Binns Bridgforth, M.S., Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist.

Young Adults' twice-monthly lunch discussion following Sunday worship will meet on May 11 and 25 at 12:30 p.m. in room 210. Light lunch will be provided. For more information, contact Eduardo Carrillo, ecarrillo@annandale-umc.org.



Help Support Our Youth:

AUMC car magnets are available for a suggested donation of \$5 each as a fund raiser for AUMC's summer Youth Mission Trip. (Please pay by check or with exact change.) The 7" oval magnets have a white background with the letters AUMC in red in the center. Around the edge are the words Annandale United Methodist and the web site www.annandale-umc.org. The magnets can be purchased in the church office during the week. The Youth appreciate your support!

Wanda Carr, AUMC's accountant, has resigned effective May 8, to pursue other opportunities. We appreciate her nearly two years of dedicated service. The church office is now recruiting for an accountant. For details, contact Garry Bell, gbell@annandale-umc.org or 703-256-8330.

NEXT DEADLINE

Friday, May 9 is the deadline for the May 20 Witness which covers May 25 and June 1