



# AUMC WITNESS

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

Annandale United Methodist Church  
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Ministers:  
Rev. Dr. Clarence R. Brown, Jr.  
Rev. Eduardo Carrillo  
Rev. Cynthia Johnson-Oliver

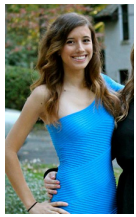
Vol. 11 No. 11



We are a Stephen Ministry Church

June 3, 2014

## congratulations to our graduates!



**Ella DiPetto** will graduate from JEB Stuart HS with the IB diploma. Ella was on the tennis team all four years and this year was co-captain and the “number one” seed. Her family joined AUMC when she was in 6th grade and have been involved with many activities including the mission trip to Mississippi. Ella will attend Virginia Tech with a planned major of Wildlife Sciences. “The church family has been so great to me over the past years and I’m very grateful.”



**Ryan FitzGibbon** will graduate June 17 from Annandale High School. At Annandale he was a member of the Atoms Marching Band for four years and played Lacrosse for four years. He has really enjoyed his time at AUMC with the Youth Group and the great friendships that have come from that. He will attend Virginia Wesleyan College. Ryan’s

parents are Gary and Jeanie FitzGibbon and his older sister is Kelly.



**Jacqueline Elizabeth Long** will graduate from W.T.Woodson High School on June 17. Jackie was with the Woodson Chorus for four years, was the Vice President of The Freedom Club and has been an active member in AUMC’s music programs and most recently was Glinda, the Good Witch, in *The Wizard of Oz*. She plans to pursue a career in

photography and attend NVCC.



**Andrew McGaffic** will graduate from Woodbridge Sr. High School in Woodbridge. Andrew plans to attend Northern Virginia Community College for two years and then attend George Mason University.

**Michael McGaffic** will graduate from Osbourn Park High School in Manassas and plans to attend The Citadel.



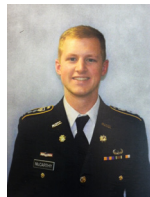
**Sarah Padrutt** will graduate from Annandale High School. She has been part of AUMC’s the Grid for the past four years. At AHS, Sarah is part of the swim team and the field hockey team. She is a member of the national honor society, the math honor society, and the Annandale FCA. Outside of school Sarah has

enjoyed swimming for The Potomac Marlins. Next year, Sarah will attend The College of Wooster, in Wooster, Ohio, where she will be a part of the fighting Scots swim team. She also plans to major in business economics.



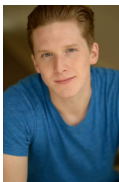
**Danny Laurence** graduated in December 2013 from the University of Maryland with a Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Science. Danny is working as a software engineer for Dante, a privately held Software Company in Arlington, VA. Dante works with large enterprises in the Communications and

Media, Financial and Government sectors. Danny also taught a class in web development at UMD this past semester and is developing a barcode check in system for the Safe Haven clients. His parents are Joni and Robert and his brother is Joey.



**August McCarthy** graduated from Pennsylvania State University with a Bachelor’s degree in Advertising and Public Relations and a minor in Military Studies. He is also now commissioned as a 2Lt. United States Army Officer. He will be stationed at Ft. Eustis, Va. in the Branch of Transportation. He was an Acolyte and Crucifer

for several years at AUMC. His parents are Margi and Joe McCarthy; his sister is Chelsea and his brother is Monte.



**John L. Odom** graduated with a Bachelor of Fine Arts from the Cincinnati Conservatory of Music. He will move to Los Angeles in July to pursue an acting career in film.

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# “LET YOUR LIFE SPEAK”

*Some time when the river is ice ask me what mistakes I have made. Ask me whether what I have done is my life.* -William Stafford

Dear Friends,

We are in the midst of graduation season. This Sunday, our church will acknowledge high school graduates who are achieving that important milestone and will be leaving home to attend college in the fall. In fact, many individuals will walk across the stage, over the next few weeks, to receive high school, college, and graduate diplomas. With these seals of approval, they will proceed into the world to lead lives worthy of the educational institutions that have so endowed them. Undoubtedly, doors of opportunity will open, and they will decide where to enter.

Earlier this year, the pastors led a sermon series titled “Living with Passion and Purpose.” One of the books on the recommended reading list offered timely advice: “Let your life speak.” The phrase is an old Quaker maxim. It is also the title of Parker Palmer’s book on discerning life vocation.\* Parker advises that vocation is not a goal one pursues. It is not an act of will or determination that one’s life will go in a prescribed direction. Rather, vocation requires listening. Rooted in the Latin word for voice, vocation is a calling that one hears. Palmer advises, “Before I can tell my life what I want to do with it, I must listen to my life telling me who I am.”

Palmer cautions that one can misread this statement. At first glance, it sounds like a call to action. It sounds like a reminder that actions speak louder than words, and we must get about the business of doing something. However, in a culture that focuses so much on doing, Parker reminds us of the importance of first listening. Otherwise, our doing becomes busy work, and we risk leading lives that do not reflect our true selves.

Would that I had heard this advice when graduating from high school! Perhaps I would have paused and listened, not to the voice of other people’s expectations and definitions of who I am meant to be, but to the inner voice of who God created me to be. Society, peers, and media will attempt to tell us who we are. Mentors and loved ones will affirm our gifts and advise us along the way. Ultimately, however, the voice of vocation must come from within.

Therefore, to listen to the voice of vocation requires an inner life of prayer, meditation, and study. It may also require patience, as our lives will speak over weeks, months, even years.

Like the poet above (also quoted in Palmer’s book), we may all pause one day and say, “Ask me whether what I have

done is my life.” Read: not my friend’s life, my mentor’s life, or the life that society says I should lead. We are all called to lead lives that reflect our true selves, the person God created us to be. Therefore, let your life speak...and listen.

With Congratulations and Blessings,  
Rev. Cynthia Johnson-Oliver

\* Parker Palmer, *Let Your Life Speak: Listening for the Voice of Vocation* (Jossey-Bass: 2000).

**Volunteer opportunities** at the Heritage Drive Campus: 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 Hoefer at 703-845-7751. A Tutoring Program, 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.

**Vacation Bible School registration is underway!** This year’s VBS, “Walking in God’s Light”, will be July 7-11, from 9 a.m. til noon. Children will hear the story, create unique crafts, play games, enjoy special music, great snacks, spend fun time with friends, and more! To participate, children must be 3 years old by Sept. 30, 2013, through the 4th grade. Youth 5th grade or above and adults may sign up to be a volunteer. It’s easy to register as a participant or a volunteer and child care is available for volunteers. To sign up or to volunteer, visit [www.annandale-umc.org](http://www.annandale-umc.org) or pick up a form in the church office. For details contact Becki Stewart, Director of Children’s Ministries, [bstewart@annandale-umc.org](mailto:bstewart@annandale-umc.org) or 703-256-8330. Registration is \$15 for your first child and \$10 for each additional child, \$35 maximum per family.

**DATEBOOK**

- June 7, 6:30 p.m. – Brethren Concert
- June 8, 10:30 a.m. – Youth Sunday, one service
- June 11, 5:45 p.m. – Wednesday Night Together
- June 14, 6:30 p.m. – Contemporary Worship Service
- June 20, 6:30 p.m. – Music Appreciation Dinner



**Alana Ogata** graduated from the College of William and Mary with a Bachelor of Science degree with a chemistry major and mathematics minor. She will continue her education in graduate school at UC Irvine to pursue a PhD in chemistry. Alana's parents are Reichel and Willa Ogata, and her younger brother is Evan. "AUMC has given me wonderful memories of youth group, the Pittsburgh Project, choir, and a wonderful and supportive church family," she said.

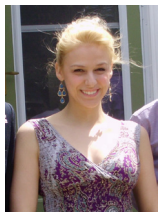


**Ashley Dorothea Stegemiller**  
University of Mary Washington  
Degree in Biology

## NEWS IN BRIEF



**Eleanor "Nellie" Robinson** graduated from Randolph-Macon College May 31 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in English with minors in Information Technology and French. At AUMC, Nellie participated in choir and tours to Lake Junaluska, youth group and mission trips to Pittsburg Project, and served as Crucifer. At Randolph-Macon, Nellie studied in Paris, operated the stadium billboard, competed with the Franklin Debating Society, worked with media services at the library, was a staff editor for the Stylus literary magazine, and served the community as President of Alpha Phi Omega service fraternity, President of RMC Washington Literary Society, and Junior Class rep on the Student Honors Council. She was invited to English and French honor societies and recognized by the Computer Science Department, Phi Beta Kappa, and the Dean's List. She's looking forward to working and having a paycheck.



**Candace Paige Rothermel** graduated May 10 from Mary Washington University. She is the daughter of Brad and Vivian Rothermel of Annandale, Virginia. A home schooled student since 3rd grade, she received her Bachelor of Science, cum laude, in Psychology, with an interest in art. While at UMW, she was named to the dean's list. After a month long tour of Europe

with friends in July, Candace plans to focus her diverse job experiences into a position in advertising.



**Graham Alan Rothermel** graduated August 17, 2013 from Virginia Commonwealth University. He is the son of Brad and Vivian Rothermel. He received a Bachelor of Arts, cum laude, in History. Graham was home schooled beginning in 6th grade. While at VCU, he was on the dean's list. Interests include architecture

with an emphasis on historical preservation, auto mechanics and wood working. A professional bike mechanic since age 17, Graham works at the Bike Rack in Washington, DC.



**Rachel Senyitko** will graduate in August 2014 from Auburn University, Auburn AL, Magna Cum Laude with a Bachelors of Science degree in Nursing (BSN) and a minor in Human Development and Family Studies. Her parents are Leslie and Gary Senyitko, her sister is Bailey Senyitko. At AUMC, Rachel was involved in children, youth

and adult choirs, children chimes, musical productions: *Sound of Music* as Louisa, *Music Man* and *Joseph & the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, Youth Choir Tours, the Pittsburgh Project Mission Trip and served as an Acolyte and crucifer.

**New Church Directory:** AUMC is working to produce a new directory of our church family. It is hoped that everyone will make an appointment and have their photo taken. There is no charge to have your photo taken, and participating families get a free copy of the directory and a free 8x10 family portrait. Photos will be taken at AUMC June 17-21 and June 24-28. To make an appointment to have your photo taken, visit the table in the Atrium on Sundays or click on the link on the home page of the church web site [www.annandale-umc.org](http://www.annandale-umc.org). Direct questions to Tina Svenson, [tinasvenson@verizon.net](mailto:tinasvenson@verizon.net) or 703-256-0718.

**Greeters needed at photo sessions:** volunteers are needed to serve as greeters to help families check in at the photo sessions for the church directory June 17-21 and 24-28, from 1:45-5:30 and 5:15 – 9 p.m. Tuesday-Friday and 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. on Saturday. To volunteer, please contact DeEtte Johnson, 703-750-3448 or [djohnson17@cox.net](mailto:djohnson17@cox.net).

### Flowers on the Altar Needed

If you would like to place flowers on the altar in memory or honor of a loved one, please circle the date(s) you wish and return the form below along with a check, made payable to AUMC. Cost: \$25 per arrangement. Flowers are not placed on the altar on the first Sunday of each month, Communion Sunday; Easter Sunday and the Sunday before Christmas have special flowers.

June		15	22	
July			20	27
August		17	24	
September				
October			19	
November	9			30
December				28

Name of Donor: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of     In Honor of    (check one)

I/we wish to leave the flowers for distribution to shut-ins or those in the hospital. YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

## MINISTRY MEETINGS

Wed., June 4	Stephen Ministry	7:30 p.m.	Room 303
Tues., June 10	Finance Committee	7 p.m.	Room 210
Tues., June 10	Missions Committee	7 p.m.	Room 302
Tues., June 17	Church Council	7:15 p.m.	Room 307

## LECTIONARY TEXTS

**June 8, Day of Pentecost:** Acts 2:1-21; Psalm 104:24-34, 35b (UMH 826), 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13; John 7:37-39

**June 15, First Sunday after Pentecost:** Genesis 1:1-2:4a; Psalm 8 (UMH 743); 2 Corinthians 13:11-13; Matthew 28:16-20

## AUMC WITNESS

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## WEEKLY VOLUNTEERS

### Single Service Sunday, June 8

**Door greeters:** J. Vance, B. Brown, S. Naugle, A. Witkowski, B. Otto, D. Johnson

**Welcome Desk:** S. Kyer, S. Keplinger, A. Gribben, D. Johnson

**Fellowship hour:** Staff Parish Relations Committee

**Ushers:** A. Cogswell, R. Roberts, G. Sherfey, P. Sherfey, S. Fleming, P. Straub, R. Witkowski, R. Gordon

### Sunday, June 15

**Door greeters:** 8:10 a.m. E. Wilson, C. Cox, S. Naugle  
9:30 a.m. M. Pearson  
10:30 a.m. W. Ward

**Welcome Desk:** 8:30 a.m. J. Brooks, S. Kenski  
11 a.m. K. Nietzey, A. Gribben

**Fellowship hour:** Trustees Committee

**Ushers:** 8:30 a.m. S. Naugle, D. Pemberton, E. Sackey, S. Fleming(c)  
11 a.m. C. Jones, C. Jones, G. Sherwood, P. Shockley (c)

## NEXT DEADLINE

Friday, June 6 is the deadline for the June 17 Witness which covers June 22 and 29

**New Member Class "Brownies with Brown"** will meet on Sundays June 6, 8, 15, 22 and 29 at 9:45 a.m. in room 212C. For details, call 703-256-8330.

**The 5th grade Sunday School class** recently completed its 5th grade project which included landscaping the courtyard. Each spring, 5th graders plan and implement a project of their choice as a way of giving back to their church prior to moving to the Youth program and as a sign of appreciation to the congregation and Children's Ministry. This year's theme is "Caring for God's Creation". Everyone is invited to visit the courtyard to see the cross, fountain and beautiful flowers, to walk the labyrinth and sit a while on the benches. Special thanks to the parents, John Dodge and Jeff Jones who provided technical expertise, materials and labor.

**Calling All Women!** On Father's Day, June 15, we are going to give our men in the Adult Choir the morning off and fill our loft with the women of AUMC! If you have ever sung in your life, this is your chance! We rehearse on Wednesdays, June 4 and 11 from 8 - 8:45 p.m.

**Attention gardeners:** If you have extra harvest, it 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.

**Sermon Series Update:** June 8, Youth Sunday "What are You Looking At?", Trish Bradley, Director of Youth Ministries; June 15 "Just What is the Trinity, Anyway?", Dr. Brown; June 22, "All God's Children Got Stories", Dr. Sara Miller, Professor Emeritus, NVCC.

**Young Adults'** twice-monthly lunch discussion following worship meets June 8 and 22 at 12:30 p.m. in room 210. Light lunch is provided. For details, contact Eduardo Carrillo, [ecarrillo@annandale-umc.org](mailto:ecarrillo@annandale-umc.org).

**What is the best way** to ensure AUMC receives the support needed for operating expenses and ministries during the busy summer? eGiving! Please enroll today by visiting the website <http://www.annandale-umc.org/> and clicking on the Online Giving button. Increased participation will help stabilize our church's finances during the summer when many are away on vacation. Thank you for your continued support of our church family!

**Parent Support Group Meeting,** June 17, 2014 at 7 p.m. at Poe Middle School – Enter through EXIT 2. Babysitting and light refreshments are provided. This group will talk about raising children and have special guests. For details contact Sheila Kyer, 703-981-6080 or [Kyer027@aol.com](mailto:Kyer027@aol.com), or Amanda Sperling at [acsperling@fcps.edu](mailto:acsperling@fcps.edu).