



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

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We are a Stephen Ministry Church

April 19, 2016



Camp Highroad Service Retreat

On May 13 - 15, AUMC members will go on a weekend trip to Camp Highroad to help repair the camp, have fun, and connect with God in the beauty of nature. Camp Highroad, a United Methodist adventure camp in Middleburg, VA, has been providing Christian hospitality since 1949, creating a place for boy scout groups and Sunday School classes alike to experience the wonder of the outdoors.

AUMC selected the camp as one of our Lenten Mission Projects, purchasing supplies for a service retreat. There are projects for every skill level, and everyone is invited to join in and help out. Service activities will include painting, moving mulch, picking up fallen branches, hammering nails, and moving supplies, along with helping out in the kitchen. It's a great opportunity for parents to teach children the value of mission work: even the smallest hands can help carry sticks to clean up an area.

The trip will also have plenty of fun and games! There will be a Learning Hike for young children, where

a Camp Highroad guide will teach about local plants and animals. A camp lake provides a perfect spot for canoeing. Thrill-seekers (6th grade and up) have a chance to try out rope courses high above the ground, ending with an 800-foot zipline. And of course there are plenty of beautiful trails for anyone wishing to explore the camp.

We end our time at Camp Highroad each year with an outdoors worship service, where communion will be served and a brief sermon will be provided by Rev. Eduardo Carrillo. This year, the camp trip falls on Pentecost, allowing us to celebrate the holiday amidst the light and the leaves.



Sign up for Camp Highroad by May 1 by contacting Mark Bradley at Bradleyfam@aol.com. The cost for the trip is \$15 per night/per person, including meals. You are welcome to bring bedding and claim a bed in the lodge or to bring your own tent and camp out. For more information talk to Mark, Becki Stewart, Eduardo Carrillo or Trish Bradley.

SAVE THE DATE!

Annandale United Methodist Church Vacation Bible School 2016

"Come to the Table"

July 11-15; Celebration Sunday July 17



During AUMC Vacation Bible School, children will hear Bible stories each day, create unique crafts, play games, make bread, learn about hospitality to others, enjoy time with friends, enjoy fun snacks every day, and more....!

For children ages 3 Years by Sept. 30, 2015– 4th Grade

Registration begins in April. Save the date! Register online at www.annandale-umc.org on the Children's Ministry

page. Cost of registration is \$20 for your first child and \$10 for each additional child (\$40 maximum per family).

Volunteers are needed as well! Volunteer sign-up is also available online.

Contact Becki Stewart for details at 703-256-8330 or bstewart@annandale-umc.org.

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From Mission to Missionary

Grace and peace in the name of our Savior!

As I write, I am still in the warm throes of Easter. We had a marvelous service. The music was transcendent (many thanks to Pat and the music department); there was great energy and passion; and the pews were full. I can hardly wait for worship the next Sunday. But...

I go forward with the full and certain knowledge that the pews will be less full. And that bothers me. Why? Glad you asked. Many of those who graced us with their presence were younger. They came with mom and dad or grandma. They were visiting or curious. They were experiencing the passion we had for something greater than ourselves. The passion of Jesus Christ.

There is nothing greater than that passion in history. As our Lenten guide John Ortberg described, Jesus' passion for the world was transformative; he literally changed almost every cultural convention one could name. Education, health care, family relationships. You name it, he reframed it in ways that have endured over the millennia. Passion: having a love for something so all encompassing that one would be willing to give it all, to die for it. The world was transformed all because Jesus had a passion for the world. We at AUMC

have passion. That passion is lived out in several ways. We love God. We love neighbor. We serve the world. We feed children. We package food for areas in distress. We build and rebuild homes, hospitals and churches. We teach and we tutor. I delight in all that we do. But...

There are still those whom we will not see again until Mothers Day or Christmas. I don't know about you, but I have a burning passion for them as well. In my various readings on church and culture, one thing has become quite clear. The church is no longer the center of the universe. Persons hold views of the church and of church goes that is indifferent at best and hostile at worst. People who believe that they are spiritual (but not religious) seek independent means of moral direction. They are the current mission field.

In his book *Last Call: From Serving Drinks to Serving Jesus* (Louisville: John Knox Press, 2015), Jerry Herships describes his life journey which began in a religious household but got to a non-religious life of quiet desperation as he pursued his dreams of stardom in Los Angeles. One of the ways he sustained himself while he sought to become the next Johnny Carson was to tend bar. Even after he affirmed a call from God, went to seminary, and worked in a church, coming to church every Sunday morning was not his enduring passion. Like Jesus, he had a passion for the world. How he helped form a community of connection, authenticity, love and care I find instructive. He went from being on a mission to being a missionary. I recommend it to you as we look to the next frontier of engaging the world for Jesus Christ. I invite you to experience this passion. I believe it will be transformative.

Yours for a Vital Witness to Christ,


Clarence

Join In, Men!

A United Methodist Men's Steak Dinner will be held on Thursday **April 21** at 6:30 p.m. in Wright Hall. Please RSVP to gary@garyfitzgibbon.com or 703-963-8707. Note: Pat Vaughn will be having a rehearsal immediately following the dinner for any men that want to sing on Mother's Day. All men are welcome!

All men are invited to learn about Boy Scout Troop 150 activities at a breakfast for the Annandale United Methodist Men on Saturday, **April 23** at 8 a.m. in Wright Hall. This will be a time of fellowship as the Troop brings us up to date on its activities for the past year. RSVP to Gary FitzGibbon at gary@garyfitzgibbon.com or 703-963-8707, or Stan Witkowski at switkowski11@cox.net or 703-941-2935.

Calling all men! On Mother's Day, **May 8**, we are going to give our ladies in the Adult Choir the morning off and fill our loft with the men of AUMC! We will rehearse on **April 27 and May 4**, 8 - 8:45 p.m. in the Choir Room (room 113). Prior choir experience is not required. For details, contact Pat Vaughn, pvaughn@annandale-umc.org or 703-256-8330.

Summer 2016 - All God's Children Camp. A week-long overnight summer camp sponsored by the Virginia United Methodist Church for children (ages 7 – 12) of incarcerated mothers or fathers. The camps will take place at Camp Overlook in Keezletown (SE of Harrisonburg) June 26 – July 1, and Occohonock on the Bay, Eastern Shore July 31 – August 5. The Virginia Conference seeks volunteer mentors (ages 17 and up) to spend the week with 1 or 2 campers. Mentor factsheets are in the entranceway to our church. The deadline for applications is June 1. All can also help with prayers and donations for scholarships of any amount; \$400 sends one child to camp. You may place your check, made out to AUMC with All God's Children Camp in the memo, in the Sunday collection plate.



DATEBOOK

- April 21** – Men’s Dinner
- April 23** – Men’s Breakfast
- April 24** – Youth Car Wash
- April 29-May 1** – Women’s Retreat
- April 30** – Christmas in April
- May 1** – Camp Highroad Registration Deadline
- May 4** – Wednesday Night Together
- May 13 - 15** – Camp Highroad Service Retreat
- July 11-15** – Vacation Bible School
- July 17** – VBS Celebration Sunday

We care for college students! If you or your child is a college student, please contact Dottie Rogerson, drogerson@annandale-umc.org, with name, address, school, and year (freshman, sophomore, etc.). This will enable AUMC to stay in touch with our young adult members even when they’re away at college.

Help distribute food to the hungry every Thursday, 5 – 7 p.m., Heritage campus, 7901 Heritage Dr. For more information call Betsy Clevenger, 703-425-6424. You do not need to sign up to volunteer.

Christmas in April (Rebuilding Together) will be Saturday, **April 30**. Volunteers are needed for half a day/entire day. This is AUMC’s 15th consecutive year participating. We will again team up with ACCA/St. Barnabas Episcopal on a local house repair project for a deserving family or Fairfax County group home. AUMC youth (age 14 and over), young and older adults will join in fun and work making homes better and safer places to live. This project is sponsored by AUMC’s Missions Committee and ACCA. This is a great opportunity for anyone who needs Community Service Hours. If you are interested in participating or fixing a treat for the workers, call John Clarke, 703-642-3836 or 703-606-6464 (cell) or email clarkejh1@gmail.com.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Calling all Grads: An upcoming issue of the Witness will highlight AUMC’s 2016 college and high school graduates. Please send a photo and the following information: name of student, degree, name of high school/college/university, and any other information you would like to share, such as future plans (college, graduate school, new job, etc.). Please email information to ddzikiewicz@annandale-umc.org.

Everyone is invited to the next Wednesday Night Together fellowship dinner and program on Wednesday, May 4, 5:45 p.m. in Wright Hall. The program will include lots of fun activities. Register today on the pew pad (write May 4 and “dinner” and the number attending) or by contacting Joyce Kitzmiller: jkitzmiller@annandale-umc.org or calling 703-256-8330. Deadline to register is noon on May 2. The meal price is \$8/person, \$4/child under 9, and \$25/family maximum. The menu will be salad, taco bar with beef, chicken and fish filling, toppings, corn pudding cake, tortilla chips and cheese sauce and Tres Leches cake.

Summer fun opportunity: volunteers, center leaders, and shepherds are needed for AUMC’s Vacation Bible School “Gather at the Table” **July 11-15**, 9 a.m. to noon. Contact Becki Stewart, bstewart@annandale-umc.org or call 703-256-8330.

Volunteer as a tutor or reader, snack provider or administrative helper for AUMC’s Tutoring Program on Wednesdays from 3:45 – 5:45 p.m. at the Heritage Campus. Contact Jerry Beyer, 703-399-1395 to serve in the tutoring program or for more information.



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.

May			22	29
June		12	19	26
July	10	17	24	31
August		14	21	28
September			18	
October		16	23	30
November		13	20	
December		11		

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 _____

Meet our New Members

Tim & Diane Jenkins are both originally from Missouri. They met in college at the University of Missouri. They have lived in Wichita Kansas, Grand Junction Colorado, and Billings Montana before coming to Virginia. Tim works for John Deere Company and covers Virginia, North Carolina and South Carolina and Diane works with the Drug Enforcement Administration in the International Training Unit. While in Colorado, they developed a love for the outdoors. They enjoy running, hiking, and camping. They also love to travel and to spend time with family and friends. Tim likes to keep busy by working in the yard and doing projects around the house. Diane likes to read and write in her spare time. Both are already actively involved in the church. They attend the Monday Small Group that meets in Arlington. They look forward to continuing to meet their new church family and get involved in mission and other areas of the church life.

Pat & Gary Sherfey, fellowship friends

MINISTRY MEETINGS

Tues., Apr. 19	Church Council	7:15 p.m.	Room 302
Tues., Apr. 26	SPRC	7 p.m.	Room 210
Tues., May 3	Trustees	7:30 p.m.	Room 303
Wed., May 4	Stephen Ministry	7:30 p.m.	Room 303
Tues., May 10	Finance Committee	7 p.m.	Room 210
Tues., May 10	Missions Committee	7 p.m.	Room 302
Tues., May 17	Church Council	7:15 p.m.	Room 302

The CM Lenten Project, the Fantastic Food Race, has concluded. The winners are the children and families at Annandale Terrace Elementary who'll receive enough food for a weekend meal for the entire family. Totals for the teams: Red Team (H-M) collected the most with 121 items, Green Team (A-G) 111, Blue (N-S) 93, and Purple (T-Z) 84. Over 400 food items will go a long way to feed hungry children and their families in our local community. Thanks to everyone who brought food.

The Weekday Children's Programs was glad to join in the Children's Ministries' Lenten mission Fantastic Food Race. We collected nearly 200 items to add to their 400 for the backpack food program. The ELP, who was our Red Team, contributed the most with 80 items!

WEEKLY VOLUNTEERS

Sunday, April 24

Door greeters: 8:10 a.m. J. Maxwell, K. Redden;
9:30 a.m. M. Pearson; 10:30 a.m. W. Ward
Fellowship Hours: Deborah Circle/Funeral Ministry
Ushers: 8:30 a.m. J. Haymaker, S. Naugle, K. Sabo,
S. Fleming (c)
11 a.m. W. Annan, P. Straub, J. Thomas,
P. Snitzer (c)

Sunday, May 1

Door greeters: 8:10 S. Naugle, W. Lord;
9:30 D. Ruhter; 10:30 D. Johnson
Fellowship Hours: Finance Committee

Sunday, May 8

Door greeters: 8:10 J. Beyer, E. Wilson;
9:30 B. Otto; 10:30 W. Ward
Fellowship Hours: Trustee Committee

Sunday, May 15

Door greeters: 8:10 J. Vance, C. Cox;
9:30 M. Pearson; 10:30 D. Johnson
Fellowship Hours: Staff Parish
Relations Committee

NEXT DEADLINE:

Friday, May 6 is the deadline for the May 17 Witness which covers May 22 and 29, and June 5 and 12.