



# AUMC WITNESS

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

Annandale United Methodist Church  
6935 Columbia Pike, Annandale, VA 22003  
P: 703-256-8330 F: 703-914-8896  
office@annandale-umc.org

Ministers:  
Rev. Dr. Clarence R. Brown, Jr.  
Rev. Eduardo Carrillo  
Rev. Cynthia Johnson-Oliver  
Seminary Intern: Jim Harrington

Vol. 13 No. 5



We are a Stephen Ministry Church

May 17, 2016

## CONGRATULATIONS TO THE HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES FROM AUMC!



**Angel Adu** is graduating from Annandale High School. Angel will be attending Virginia Commonwealth University starting in fall 2016, where she plans on majoring in chemistry with a focus on pre-pharmacy.



**Rebecca Rutland Soulen** is graduating from Annandale High School, and will be attending Yale University.



**Ben Bradley** is a member of the Annandale High School Class of 2016, graduating on Monday, June 20. He will begin attending Radford University in fall 2016.



**Lauren Twomey** will graduate from JEB Stuart High School. She has been in the AUMC choir (14 years), Youth Group (6 years and SLI 2 years.) She has participated in AUMC mission trips for the last 3 years and will be joining the Brazil team in June. At Stuart, she plays lacrosse, field hockey, indoor track, and is in the chamber orchestra. She is a member of the National Honor Society, Art Honor Society, and is a Scholar Athlete. She has danced (ballet, tap and pointe) since she was 3 years old. In addition to her extracurricular activities she works part-time. She has been recruited to play lacrosse for Shippensburg University, Shippensburg, PA, and is currently undecided about her major.



**Jacqueline (Jaci) Cannon** will graduate from Falls Church High School. While at FCHS, Jaci participated in colorguard, where she was the captain for three years, and was on the varsity dance team. She was a member of the National Honor Society and the National Honor Society for the Dance Arts. Jaci was baptized and confirmed at AUMC. She was active in youth group, served as SLI, and was a crucifer and acolyte. In the fall, Jaci will be attending James Madison University where she plans to study nursing.



**Anna Parker** is graduating with a high school diploma from Lake Braddock Secondary School. Her future plans are to attend Northern Virginia Community College/Virginia Commonwealth University, majoring in English and Art History. Anna has spent the past 3 years in the "Crow's Nest" doing sound and video for Annandale UMC!



**Leanna Rodriguez** will graduate from TC Williams where she played varsity softball and was a member of the National Honor Society. Leanna has been an active Girl Scout, earning her Silver Trefoil award for 100 hours of community service and the Gold Award for a summer reading project for elementary children at the Heritage campus. She has participated in AUMC youth ministries, assisting at VBS and on the Appalachia Service Project. She will be attending the University of Virginia and plans to major in Psychology and Chemistry.

## CONGRATULATIONS TO THE COLLEGE GRADUATES FROM AUMC!



**James Harrington** is graduating with a Master of Divinity degree from Wesley Theological Seminary. His future plan is to serve Christ's church.



**Carolyn Hartley** is receiving her Bachelor of Science degree in Chemistry from the College of William and Mary with a minor in Hispanic Studies. A Phi Beta Kappa scholar, Carolyn's honors thesis studies systems for artificial photosynthesis to improve solar cell technology. Carolyn served as president of the Wesley Foundation, the United Methodist campus ministry, and has been an active member of Kappa Delta sorority. Carolyn will pursue graduate studies in Chemistry at the University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill.

# Waiting for May Flowers

*"He ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father."*

-- Acts 1:4

Dear Friends,

Like many of you, I have been waiting for spring. Our winter was defined by a historic snowstorm quickly melted by sunny days, but the chill returned with weeks of rain. Temperatures grew warm then cool then warm again. We wore jackets longer than normal. And many people turned on their air conditioners and then had to pull out the winter blankets again.

Come to think of it, doesn't it seem that we spend a lot of our time waiting? The single are waiting to get married. The married are waiting to have children. Older parents are waiting for grandchildren. And young people can hardly wait to grow up. The employed are waiting for promotion. And if you live in this area, you can spend many hours waiting in traffic.

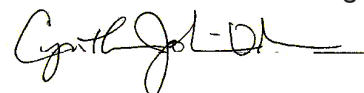
I remember learning a saying when I was young: "March winds and April showers bring May flowers." The saying reflects the waiting that characterizes the period between the end of winter and the warmth of latter spring. Even after winter, we still have to wait for winds and rains before experiencing the beauty of May flowers.

I wonder if this period of waiting is similar to that which the disciples experienced between Easter and Pentecost. During this period, the earthly ministry of Jesus had concluded. The winter of his passion and death had passed. They experienced the glory of Jesus' spring-like resurrection. But then, Jesus ordered them to wait. Wait in Jerusalem. Wait for the promise. Wait for the Holy Spirit. Wait for what will blossom when the Holy Spirit comes!

Perhaps you may now be in a time of waiting. Perhaps you are experiencing a personal time of wind and rain hoping that something beautiful will bloom in your life. Know that these times of waiting teach us to trust in God's promises. They allow us to strengthen our faith and our hope for the future.

What, then, should we do while we are waiting? The scriptures tell us that the disciples "devoted themselves to prayer." That is my recommendation as well. Pray while you wait. Worship while you wait. Continue to live your best life while you wait. Spring will be here before you know it. And you won't believe what God has in store for those who love him. You just wait!

Blessings,



Rev. Cynthia Johnson-Oliver



**Samaritan Gifts**, which are received from Mother's Day through **June 19**, Father's Day, go directly to the financial support of residents in need who reside at a Virginia United Methodist Home (VUMH). Your gift can be designated to any VUMH community or go where the need is greatest as an undesignated gift.

**AUMC is again sponsoring** an adult mission trip to Brenton, West Virginia (Wyoming County) on **Oct. 23-29** with the Appalachia Service Project (ASP). We will be doing relational ministry and home repairs—typical ASP projects include roofing, drywall and insulation, wheelchair ramps, plumbing, electrical, foundation repair, painting, stair and floor repairs. Cost for the trip: \$475 to include transportation, lodging, meals and construction materials. Volunteers who cannot go for the full 7 days (5 work days and 2 travel days) are welcome. We anticipate some people going for 3 days—cost \$325. Email John Clarke [clarkejhl@gmail.com](mailto:clarkejhl@gmail.com). Commitments needed with a nonrefundable deposit of \$225.

**AUMC**  
**babypalooza**



On May 22 at 9:45 a.m., parents with infants and toddlers are invited to come and learn how Annandale United Methodist

Church recognizes and supports children, including classes for parents, baptism, and professional child care on Sunday mornings. Everyone is welcome (parents and family members.)

**Babypalooza** will honor the extraordinary event of 11 new babies born into our congregation in the last 12+ months. The birth of a baby is something very special, whether the new family addition is your first, second, or third child. The church recognizes children in special ways with an announcement in the bulletin, a rosebud on the altar, and baptism. At Babypalooza, you will meet other parents (and babies, of course), learn about what baptism means for infants in the Methodist tradition, hear about the nursery, meet our professional childcare supervisor, and more!

Contact Becki Stewart, [bstewart@annandale-umc.org](mailto:bstewart@annandale-umc.org), for details.



## Flags and Honor at AUMC Memorial Day Weekend Ceremony, Sunday, May 29

During the Sunday school hour on Sunday, May 29, Annandale Methodist children, youth, and adult members will participate in the church's Memorial Day tribute. At the heart of the event is the ceremonial installation of American flags on the gravesites of the 37 veterans interred in AUMC Cemetery. At the conclusion of the 8:30 a.m. service, those who wish to participate in or witness the tribute will proceed to the cemetery. Those arriving later may join the procession from the atrium or meet it at the crest of the cemetery.

Upon arriving in the cemetery, those attending will witness the raising of the national colors and hear brief ceremonial words. Following this prelude, children, youth, and others will process through the cemetery and ceremonially implant flags on the gravesites of all interred military service veterans. After the flag placements, participants and witnesses will congregate at the flagpole for the playing of taps. Everyone is invited for fellowship and refreshment in Wright Hall following the ceremony.

Although bearing similarities in setting, ceremony, and memorial with the autumn observance of Veterans Day, Memorial Day is distinguished by serving as the solemn acknowledgement and singular official expression and observance of a nation's eternal gratitude for the ultimate in military sacrifice - the death in battle of American soldiers, sailors, airmen, and marines. The raising of the stars and stripes on the gravesites of AUMC's interred veterans is how church members and visitors bestow the deepest and most grateful recognition and honor they can summon to those who risked and gave their very lives for the sake of their country.

The verdant sublimity of the season makes Memorial Day weekend not just an occasion for recognition and remembrance but also an ideal time for people to experience the stone graven dignity, graceful natural beauty, and historical richness of AUMC Cemetery, which serves as the final earthly resting places of many members of our church's founding families.

If you have any questions about the ceremony or the AUMC cemetery, contact Mike Moser, [mmoser@annandale-umc.org](mailto:mmoser@annandale-umc.org) or 703-591-1210.

### **Military Veterans Interred in Annandale United Methodist Church Cemetery**

**James Benjamin Bladen**, U.S. Air Force, Site 36C, passed 2006  
**Betty M. Bullock**, U.S. Navy, Site UG20A, passed 2007  
**Howard B. Bullock**, U.S. Army, Site UG20B, passed 2013  
**Edward Blocksom Bunch**, U.S. Army, Site 77A, passed 1972  
**William Chapman**, U.S. Navy, Site 76A, passed 2007  
**Aubrey Chason**, U.S. Army, Site 28A, passed 2009  
**Henry C. Cock**, Army, (Confederate) Site OS12, passed 1910  
**Dale Farringer**, U.S. Navy, Site 57E, passed 1993  
**Philip Gibson**, U.S. Army AF, Site 7C, passed 2004  
**Theodore P. Gleiter**, U.S. Navy, Site 71A, passed 2009  
**F. Dean Hannah**, U.S. Navy, Site 53A, passed 1996  
**George Hartley**, U.S. Army, Site UG15B, passed 2006  
**Walter E. Haynes**, U.S. Army, Site 52E, passed 2015  
**George W. Hill, Sr.**, U.S. Army, Site 34A, passed 2011  
**John A. Jackson**, U.S. Army, Site 62A, passed 2011  
**Edward Kysar**, U.S. Army, Site 69A, passed 2004  
**Maurice Lacy**, U.S. Army, Site 60D, passed 2003  
**Margaret Ann LaPlante**, U.S. Army, Site UG13B, passed 2013  
**Charles Lynch Jr.**, U.S. Air Force, Site 44F, passed 2004  
**Charles Lynch Sr.**, U.S. Navy, Site 44 E, passed 1988  
**Sam Lynch, U.S. Army**, Site 76D, passed 1981  
**Ralph May, U.S. Army**, Site UG12A, passed 2004  
**Sanford W. Merryman**, U.S. Navy, Site 33D, passed 1996  
**Amy Mikel, U.S. Army**, Site 73B, passed 2005  
**Russell Mikel, U.S. Army**, Site 73A, passed 2002  
**Malcolm R. Moore**, U.S. Navy, Site 43 E, passed 2008  
**John D. Newton**, U.S. Army, Site UG11A, passed 1997  
**Jack Pierce**, U.S. Navy, Site 54A, passed 2004  
**Donald L. Plucknett**, U.S. Army, Site 8A, passed 2007  
**Gene C. Trent**, U.S. Army, Site 79F, passed 2013  
**Elhanan W. Wakefield**, U.S. Army, Site OS 4, passed 1920  
**Lowell Wakefield**, U.S. Army, Site OSI, passed 1978  
**John C. Webb**, U.S. Army, Site 13C, passed 2000  
**Shelton T. White**, U.S. Army, Site 30E, passed 1994  
**George H. Williams**, Army (Confederate), Site OS64, passed 1929  
**Wasena F. Wright, Jr.**, U.S. Army, Site 42E, passed 2003  
**John Joseph Zych, U.S. Army**, Site 66C, passed 1989

### **Morris joins AUMC staff**



AUMC member Jay Morris replaces Barbara Gordon as the church's part-time communications manager. Barbara recently stepped down to spend time with her new granddaughter.

Jay began his career as a reporter and has held senior-level positions at several Washington trade associations. In 2011, he started his own public relations and marketing firm.

Jay has been active on the AUMC Missions Committee and Foundation Board, and he is a member of the Northern Virginia Kairos prison ministry team. We look forward to Jay working with our congregation and staff to further the mission of AUMC and increase awareness of our programs, worship activities and mission projects. Jay can be reached at [jmorris@annandale-umc.org](mailto:jmorris@annandale-umc.org).

## MINISTRY MEETINGS

|                |                    |           |          |
|----------------|--------------------|-----------|----------|
| Tues., May 17  | Church Council     | 7:15 p.m. | Room 302 |
| Tues., May 24  | SPRC               | 7 p.m.    | Room 210 |
| Wed., June 1   | Stephen Ministry   | 7:30 p.m. | Room 303 |
| Tues., June 7  | Trustees           | 7:30 p.m. | Room 303 |
| Tues., June 14 | Finance Committee  | 7 p.m.    | Room 210 |
| Tues., June 14 | Missions Committee | 7 p.m.    | Room 302 |
| Tues., June 21 | Church Council     | 7:15 p.m. | Room 302 |

**Last sermon:** Holy Spirit Sermon Series: Rekindle the Flame. Join us as we rekindle the flame of the Holy Spirit in our hearts, our church, and our world.

**May 22** Trinity Sunday: *How Can I Make the Most of My Life?*

Previous sermons are available at [www.annandale-umc.org](http://www.annandale-umc.org).

**Summer fun opportunity:** volunteers, center leaders, and shepherds are needed for AUMC's Vacation Bible School, "Come to the Table", **July 11-15**, 9 a.m. to noon. Contact Becki Stewart, [bstewart@annandale-umc.org](mailto:bstewart@annandale-umc.org) or 703-256-8330.

**Help distribute food** to the hungry every Thursday, 5 – 7 p.m., Heritage campus, 7901 Heritage Dr. For details call Betsy Clevenger, 703-425-6424.

**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). Mentor factsheets are in the church entranceway. 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. Checks, made out to AUMC with All God's Children Camp in the memo, may be placed in the Sunday collection plate.

**Arlington Home Group** begins a new study of *Pastrix* by Nadia Bolz Weber. The group meets on Mondays at 7 p.m. at City Diner Restaurant at 5616 Leesburg Pike in Bailey's Crossroads. Book study begins on **May 23**. Contact: Candace Means at [canmeans@gmail.com](mailto:canmeans@gmail.com).

**Adult Leadership Year-End Meeting** will take place on Sunday, **May 22** following the 11 a.m. service. All adult Sunday school teachers and small group leaders are encouraged to attend. We will reflect on the past year and plan for the upcoming year, including the tenth anniversary of the Academy of Discipleship. Light lunch provided.

**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. **June 1** will be the final tutoring session this semester. Contact Jerry Beyer, 703-399-1395 for more information.

**We care for college students!** If you or your child is a college student, please contact Dottie Rogerson, [drogerson@annandale-umc.org](mailto: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.

**Heritage Campus:** On the table under the atrium monitor you can find a brief description of our new initiatives at the Heritage Drive Campus along with a summary of our two Congregational Conversations for your information.

## WEEKLY VOLUNTEERS

### Sunday, May 22

**Door greeters:** 8:10 a.m. J. Maxwell, K. Redden;  
9:30 a.m. D. Ruhter; 10:30 a.m. W. Ward

**Fellowship Hours:** In His Steps class

**Ushers:** 8:30 a.m. A. Cogswell, R. Patton, D. Pemberton,  
E. McKenney (c)

11 a.m. N. Jung, P. Straub, P. Thomas, P. Snitzer(c)

### Sunday, May 29

**Door greeters:** 8:10 S. Fleming, C. Cox;  
9:30 B. Otto; 10:30 D. Johnson

**Fellowship Hours:** United Methodist Men

**Ushers:** 8:30 a.m. J. Clarke, J. Haymaker, S. Naugle, S. Fleming (c)

11 a.m. S. Fleming, R. Gallagher, G. Rothman,  
P. Shockley (c)

### Sunday, June 5

**Door greeters:** 8:10 J. Vance, S. Naugle;  
9:30 M. Pearson; 10:30 W. Ward

**Fellowship Hours:** Bible Fellowship/Lydia Circle

**Ushers:** 8:30 a.m. S. Chase, A. Cogswell, R. Patton,  
E. McKenney (c)

11 a.m. W. Annan, C. Perdue, J. Thomas, R. Gordon (c)

### Sunday, June 12

**Door greeters:** 8:10 E. Wilson, C. Cox;  
9:30 D. Ruhter; 10:30 D. Johnson

**Fellowship Hours:** Youth Group

**Ushers:** 8:30 a.m. J. Clarke, B. Herbst, D. Pemberton,  
P. Sherfey (c)

11 a.m. S. Fleming, R. Gallagher, G. Rothman,  
R. Witkowski (c)

## NEXT DEADLINE:

Friday, June 3 is the deadline for the June 14 Witness which covers June 19 and 26, and July 3 and 10.