

# AUMC WITNESS

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

Annandale United Methodist Church  
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Rev. Dr. Clarence R. Brown  
Rev. Eduardo Carrillo  
Rev. Cynthia Johnson-Oliver J.D.  
Dr. Paul Y. Shin



Vol. 9 No. 17

 We are a Stephen Ministry Church

September 11, 2012



## Academy of Discipleship Annandale United Methodist Church



### CONVOCATION SUNDAY

**Professor Kendall Soulen**  
Professor of Systematic Theology  
Wesley Theological Seminary

**Sunday, Sept. 16, 2012**  
8:30 and 11 a.m. - Worship  
9:45 am - Combined Adult Class

### "Why the 21st Century Needs Fools for Christ"

The Academy of Discipleship invites you to its sixth annual Convocation. This event marks the beginning of a new year of discipleship, learning, and service. Join us for worship and for a combined adult class with Professor Kendall Soulen in the sanctuary.

Kendall Soulen is Professor of Systematic Theology at Wesley Theological Seminary. He is also a member of the Virginia Conference of the United Methodist Church. He received the MDiv degree from Emory University and the BA and PhD degrees from Yale University. He has authored *The God of Israel and Christian Theology* (1996), *Handbook of Biblical Criticism*, 3rd edition, co-authored with Richard N. Soulen (2001), *Abraham's Promise: Judaism and Jewish Christian Relations* (2004), and *God and Human Dignity*, co-edited with Linda Woodhead (Summer 2006). Besides being interested in 'all things theological', he is an old-time banjo and fiddle player. He is currently working on a manuscript entitled *The Name of God in Trinitarian Perspective*.

**For a complete listing of Adult Sunday School and Mid-week classes, visit [www.Academyofdiscipleship.com](http://www.Academyofdiscipleship.com).**

**CONNECT+GROW+SERVE**

### MID-WEEK CLASSES BEGINNING

#### Centering Prayer Group

Dottie Rogerson  
Becki Stewart  
Mondays, 9:30 a.m.  
Prayer Room (308)

#### Agape Small Group

Elaina Carrillo  
Alt. Mondays, 7 p.m.  
Carrillo Home  
703-403-3424

#### Grace and Truth Small Group

Gary FitzGibbon  
Todd Mitchell  
Michelle Mock  
1st/3rd Mondays, 7 p.m.  
Parlor; Begins Sept. 10

#### Bible Study

Ramona Thompson  
Tuesdays, 10 a.m.  
Room 300

#### The Wisdom of God

Gloria Rothman  
Tuesdays, 2:15-3:45 p.m.  
Parlor

#### Prayer & Praise Bible Study

Rudy Meekins  
Wednesdays, 7:30 a.m.  
Room 307

#### Thursday Book Study: Missions Dilemma

Molly Wilmarth  
Thursdays, 4:30 p.m.  
Parlor

#### Disciple 1 - New Testament

Rev. Dr. Clarence Brown  
Thursdays, 7 p.m.  
Room 209

#### Disciple 2

Pam Adams  
Thursdays, 7 p.m.  
Room 307

#### Young Adult Small Group

Lance Witkowski  
Thursdays, 7:30 p.m.  
Room 302

#### 1 Kings Men's Bible Study

Bill Iwig/Jim Cromwell  
1st/4th Saturdays, 7:30 a.m.  
Jukebox Diner backroom

#### Financial Peace University

Peter Taylor  
Thursdays, 7 p.m.  
Room 210  
Begins Sept 20



**The Wisdom-Word of God**

*"Wisdom cries out in the street; in the squares she raises her voice"*

- Proverbs 1:20

Dear Friends,

The pursuit of wisdom has been commonplace in every culture and every era, including the Ancient Near East context of the Old Testament/Hebrew Bible to the early Christian context of the New Testament and to the present day.

In the Old Testament, the most thorough expression is found in the Wisdom literature (Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and Song of Solomon), in which writers reflect on the nature of life, death, work, relationships, God, and more.

**"To be a disciple of Jesus is to be a disciple of Wisdom Incarnate with the hope that God's wisdom will become flesh in our hearts and our lives."**

In the Book of Proverbs, wisdom is personified as she who "cries out in the street" and "raises her voice." In chapter 4, children are advised to "get wisdom; get insight.... Do not forsake her, and she will keep you; love her, and she will guard you." Moreover, readers

are advised, "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the holy one is understanding." (9:10)

This wisdom tradition is carried over into the New Testament. Jesus declares that "wisdom is justified by her children." (Matthew 11:19). The Epistle of James, which resembles the wisdom literature, encourages readers to have a wisdom that is from above. Paul refers to Christ as the Wisdom of God. (1 Cor. 1:24) Moreover, the Synoptic Gospels frequently present Jesus as a wisdom teacher who gathers his disciples and teaches them using aphorisms, parables, maxims, and beatitudes.

In some early Christian communities, Wisdom (Greek: Sophia) is seen as the counterpart to the Word (Greek: Logos). In these traditions, Jesus is seen as Wisdom Incarnate as wisdom or "the word" became flesh and dwelt among us. This Sophia/Logos,

Wisdom/Word connection is also seen in Catholic and Orthodox traditions which interpret Jesus as Holy Wisdom or Hagia Sophia.

My reflections on wisdom come at the time of year when we commence a new year of the Academy of Discipleship. Discipleship and Christian education are, at their heart, a pursuit of divine wisdom and understanding of how we are to live our lives. To be a disciple of Jesus is to be a disciple of Wisdom Incarnate with the hope that God's wisdom will become flesh in our hearts and our lives.

As we begin the Academy year, I likewise encourage you to "get wisdom; get insight." Pursue wisdom through prayer, bible study, meditation, small groups, and Godly counsel. Love wisdom and she will guide you and guard you in every aspect of your life. This year, I invite you on a journey to embrace and embody the Wisdom-Word of God.

Blessings.

Rev. Cynthia Johnson-Oliver

**Choir Invitation**

*Join us! We need new choir members!*

**DO YOU LIKE TO SING?** Do you love music? The AUMC Adult Choir is recruiting new members and welcomes visitors at rehearsals. The choir is a fun group with all levels of experience and ability. New members do not need to have experience reading music but should love to sing and be willing to learn. If you are interested in joining the choir, or learning more about it, contact Pat Vaughn, pvaughn@annandale-umc.org or 703-256-8330.



**FLU SHOTS**

**Sunday, Sept. 16, 9:30 – 11 a.m.**

Flu Shot Clinic in room 210; cost \$30 or Medicare B. Ages 4 years old and up. Call 703-256-8330 to register.



# OUR CHURCH *family*

## *Thank You*

Dear Members of Our Caring Church Family:

Words can never express how much you have been my source of strength.

After being diagnosed with Stage III cancer, my husband, our twins Marissa and Stephanie (who are in Church Choir, chimes, and GRID) and my church family were immediately at my side.

The communication from Dr. Brown and Jaie, the flowers delivered by Alice and Pete Snitzer, the Johnsons and GRID kept my spirits up because I love flowers!

Pat Vaughn kept in touch with prayers even from his vacation! God's caring touch comes right through Pat.

I acknowledge the GRID. The twins going away for the first time and experiencing changing someone's life so immensely overwhelmed us with emotion. God is powerful, as they learned from TJ, Hannah, Pat, Frank, Amy, and Mark throwing his arms around me when they left the church parking lot and said he would "take good care of them while in Mississippi" will never be forgotten.

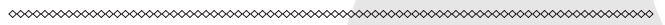
Thank you my dearest TJ for organizing an all-night prayer to NOT NOT NOT have the cancer spread to brain. And God answered the prayers. No cancer in the brain; which means that I may have more than one year to live and I can fight a long battle with chemotherapy, surgery, and radiation. I told TJ I felt God's presence in the room when Radiology and I were reading the brain scan together. God answered "NO cancer in the brain".

When my friends Marci and Lauren Twomy completed a 25-mile night walk in Massachusetts they had my picture next to a candle and read my name during the walk.

God bless all of you as I continue to fight for my life. I truly feel all of your love and God's presence.

All my love,

Pat Shand



Much thanks to your staff and to all the church family for your remembrance of me in your prayers as I continue in this healing process.

I appreciate the thoughtful cards and the beautiful flower arrangements.

They are a delight and a reminder of your and God's love.

God bless all of you,

Sue Plucknett



### **LOVING NEIGHBORS IN NEED School Supplies Collection**

As we approach the beginning of the school year, we are aware that many families are not able to purchase school supplies for their children. As you are able, please pick up extras of crayons, markers, glue sticks, scissors, or other basic supplies. These items will be distributed to families in need at the Immanuel campus when families come to get food from the Food For Others on Thursday evenings. We will collect supplies through Sept. 16. A collection box is located in the atrium.

**An AUMC and Stop Hunger Now activity seeks donations and participants!** A Meal Packaging Event is scheduled for Sept. 15 and cash donations are needed NOW to support this Lenten Mission Project. \$4,000 is needed to provide 16,000 meals for the hungry. Bring or mail donations to the church office.



### **New Member Class**

Planning is underway for an adult class for new AUMC members and for those considering joining AUMC. The class will be held the first Friday of each month beginning Friday, Oct. 5, 7-9 p.m. in room 210. The class is called "Brownie Evenings with Brown" and will be taught by Rev. Dr. Clarence Brown. It 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 more information, call 703-256-8330.

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• **Awakening Festival 2012!!** Sept. 28-30 is the  
• Awakening Festival @ Camp Highroad. Have you  
• gotten your money in yet? Cost is only \$30 a person,  
• so get your money in! Don't miss this weekend!!  
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## MINISTRY MEETINGS

Tues., Sept. 18	Church Council	7:15 p.m.	Room 302
Wed., Sept. 19	Stephen Ministries	7:30 p.m.	Room 303
Tues., Sept. 25	SPRC	7:30 p.m.	Room 210

## LECTIONARY TEXTS

**Sept. 16, Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost:** Proverbs 1:20-33, Psalm 19 (UMH 750), James 3:1-12, Mark 8:27-38

**Sept. 23, Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost:** Proverbs 31:10-31, Psalm 1 (UMH 738), James 3:13-4:3. 7-8a, Mark 9:30-37

## AUMC WITNESS

(USPS 046-900)

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Annandale United Methodist Church

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## WEEKLY VOLUNTEERS

Children and youth are needed to serve as acolytes and crucifers during the 8:30 and 11 a.m. worship services. If interested in this ministry opportunity, call 703-256-8330 or email [office@annandale-umc.org](mailto:office@annandale-umc.org).

### Sept. 16

**Acolyte:** TBD

**Outreach greeters:** 8:10 R. Hampton, 9:30 B. Brown; 10:30 L. McConville/ E. Moss

**Greeters:** Mary and Martha Circle

**Fellowship Hour Hosts:** Kairos Prison Ministry

**Ushers:** 8:30: J. Clarke, S. Groves, R. Roberts, K. Sabo (c)

11: G. Rothman, P. Straub, R. Witkowski, P. Snitzer (c)

### Sept. 23

**Acolyte:** TBD

**Outreach greeters:** 8:30 S. Fleming, 9:30 D. Ruhter, 10:30 D. Johnson

**Greeters:** SPRC

**Fellowship Hour Hosts:** Phoebe/Lydia circles

**Ushers:** 8:30: – A. Cogswell, B. Pethal, P. Pethal, B. Brown (c)

11: S. Fleming, J. Thomas, R. Gordon, P. Adams (c)

## NEXT DEADLINE

Fri. Sept. 14 is the deadline for the Sept. 25 Witness which covers Sept. 30 and Oct. 7

## AUMC WEEKDAY CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS



### School's Open!

The AUMC Weekday Preschool and Early Learning Programs are back in session the week of Sept. 10. The children fill the halls with happy sounds and excited energy. The neon green Kid Alert signs are a reminder to use caution and to be on the watch for small children when entering and exiting the parking lot on a weekday.



### The Rainbow Exercise Class (low-impact aerobics for Senior Citizens) will begin Sept. 26. We

meet Wed. and Fri. 9:15 – 10:30 a.m. in Wright Hall. The fee is \$45 for the year. Our objectives are to increase our flexibility and endurance, strengthen our muscles and increase cardiovascular fitness. Exercising will increase your energy level!!! Plus, meeting new friends and learning to laugh with each other is good for the soul! Join us and have fun! For more information, call Sue Meekins at 703-560-2443.

**EntreLeadership** - If you want to grow your business, church, non-profit agency, in these difficult times or just to develop your own leadership skills based on Bible principles, register for the one day simulcast at [DaveRamsey.com/simulcast](http://DaveRamsey.com/simulcast). It will be at AUMC 9:45 a.m. - 5 p.m. on Sept. 21 for only \$39. Contact Dan Evans 571-334-6223 or Mike Bizer 703-256-3373 if you have questions or need additional information.

**Appliances for sale:** as part of the kitchen renovation project for the Columbia Pike parsonage, several appliances are no longer needed and are being sold. Any revenue from the sale of the appliances will be deposited in the account which supports the church's parsonages. The appliances being sold (all white) and their sale price are: convection electric stove, 2-3 years old, \$200 or best offer; Americana Dishwasher, \$50 or best offer; GE gas stove, \$150 or best offer; GE space saver microwave, \$50 or best offer. Or, all appliances may be purchased as a group for \$350. For more information contact Gail Pemberton, Chairman of the Parsonage Committee [gpemberton2@verizon.net](mailto:gpemberton2@verizon.net) or Garry Bell, AUMC Business Administrator, 703-256-8330. Sale by cash or check only, with check payable to AUMC and "parsonage" written on the note line.