



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:
Dr. Clarence R. Brown, Jr.
Rev. Eduardo Carrillo
Rev. Cynthia Johnson-Oliver
Dr. Paul Y. Shin



Vol. 9 No. 20

 We are a Stephen Ministry Church

October 9, 2012

Laity Sunday

As Methodists, we understand the entire body of Christ as called to ministry, a “priesthood of believers.” As baptized believers and disciples of Jesus Christ, we live out our baptism in works of piety and mercy, in witness and service. This is particularly true of the laity. Methodism has a long history of lay ministry. It was the laity, for example, that maintained the life of the church in between the visits of the circuit riding clergy. Today, faithful lay women and men serve on the front lines of ministry in several vital ways to transform the world.

On Sunday, Oct. 21, we will celebrate “Laity Sunday.” Historically, the first mention of such a Sunday is recorded in 1928. The September 1928 issue of *The Methodist Layman* reports that “...the third Sunday in May [is] Anniversary Day, commemorating the constitution of the Board of Lay Activities by the General Conference, the same to be designated as “Laymen’s Day,” and strict observance of this day by a lay program in every church, which shall set forth adequately the place of lay activities in the Church and be of inspirational value to the laymen for larger service in the kingdom.” Since that time, Laity Sunday has been a time set aside by the General Church to highlight and emphasize the role that the laity play in the total life and witness of the church in the world.

Annandale United Methodist is blessed with scores of lay persons who serve the world in myriad ways; Stephen ministry, a core group of persons, extensively trained to be present on the journey with those who are in crisis; Missions servants who extend the love of God to persons around the globe and in our community. This list goes on.

This year on Laity Sunday we will highlight the ministry of those who serve through KAIROS Prison ministries. We know them as the people who ask us to bake thousands of cookies. But there is a need for persons to go beyond that. What is it that KAIROS volunteers really do?? Glad you asked!

KAIROS ministers essentially conduct a three day short course in basic Christianity. The essential skills are four: listen listen love love! Through their loving presence, the volunteers help the residents break through the constricting

Alice Snitzer Radical Hospitality Award

Alice Snitzer, long-time member of AUMC and dedicated “hospitality” volunteer, was honored at the Sept. 30 worship service with the first “Alice Snitzer Radical Hospitality Award”. The award is memorialized with a plaque which will be displayed in the bell tower area. Alice was presented the award at both services and the congregation gave her a standing ovation in support of the award.

Alice has labored for years to provide hospitality for funeral receptions, lunches, brunches, and many other church activities. She established an infrastructure and system for a smooth operation, procuring furniture and equipment and closets. The Hospitality Award will be presented annually in honor of those who support the church’s hospitality needs.



bonds of isolation, learn to trust one another, and become vulnerable. Having such a loving God encounter, they begin to understand that with God’s help, a different way of life is possible. They are encouraged to take responsibility for bad choices, and are ushered into small groups that give encouragement, and ask for accountability.

Continued on Page 4



Mark 10:42-45

42 *But Jesus called them to him, and saith unto them, Ye know that they which are accounted to rule over the Gentiles exercise lordship over them; and their great ones exercise authority upon them.*

43 *But so shall it not be among you: but whosoever will be great among you, shall be your minister:*

44 *And whosoever of you will be the chiefest, shall be servant of all.*

45 *For even the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.*

In the scripture above, we find Jesus exhorting the disciples and us today that if we want a place of honor we should humble ourselves and serve others. What a novel idea! In order to be the first, I should be the last. If I want to be great, I ought to be a servant for others. I don't know about you, but that does not make sense in our society.

We're often taught that if we want to be successful at _____ (fill in the blank), we have to work hard for ourselves and make it to the top. But here Jesus is telling us that in order for each of us to be great, we have to be last. To be the first, we must serve one another. Odd, right?

I have the honor and privilege to be part of the Division of Ministry with Young People of the General Board of Discipleship. A couple of weeks ago, the first meeting of the quadrennial took place in Nashville, TN. It was four days long, full of information—and as you might guess—filled with meeting after meeting. (As Methodists, we sure like to dialogue and listen to one another.) Regardless of how exhausting the days were, I was blessed, and in many ways humbled, by the new generation of leaders from different areas of the world within the Methodist connection.

As we sat in different meetings and discussions, there was a great feeling in the air. Young people wanted to work for and with one another. We argued about what the church's future looks like, identified today's issues, and took sides regarding our own contexts. But in the end, we were reminded that all of our ideas of serving the world were correct.

Regardless of the many challenges we face because of our age, race, socio-economic status, etc., as our facilitator expressed, "We are one in the Spirit, one with God and one with one another." That line brought a silence to the room and we all looked at ourselves, and were humbled

to be "of one accord." There was a silent understanding of what just had happened. We all had great ideas and bigger challenges to face, but we were all under the same grace—all under the same Spirit—trying to accomplish God's will for our lives.

The life of a disciple of Christ is to serve one another. I encourage you to examine yourself and find the person that God has intended you to be. If you need to be odd to be Christ for others, then be odd. If you need to be last in order to be first, then be the last one. Remember that the Son of Man came not to be served, but to serve.

Eduardo Carrillo

DATEBOOK

Thursdays, Oct. 11, 18 and 25, 5-7 p.m., food distribution at Immanuel campus. Contact Betsy Clevenger, 703-425-6424 for details.

Saturday, Oct. 13, 8:30 - 10:30 a.m., Lake Accotink Park, Annandale CROP Hunger Walk. Contact Paul Taylor, 703-447-3903 or ptaylor78@cox.net.

Friday, Oct. 26, 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m., Immigrant Advocates Summit, AUMC

Saturday, Oct. 27, Annandale Fall Festival and Parade (walk in parade with family and friends from AUMC).

Sunday, Oct. 28, 3-5 p.m., Fall Fun Fest, AUMC parking lot. A fun, multi-generational activity! Join the TRUNK or TREAT gang; decorate your car or van and hand out candy to children as they come by.

Volunteers are needed for the Christmas Craft Bazaar on Nov. 10. The money raised in previous years has helped pay for transporting backpacks to Mozambique, the Youth Mission in MS to fix a roof, tables for the church, the Women's Retreat, UMW, Missions and much more. We need assistance on both Friday, Nov. 9 (10 a.m. to 3 p.m. & 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.) and Saturday Nov. 10 (8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.). There are many ways to help: putting up signs, taping the floor, escorting crafters to their spaces, delivering food, greeting visitors, setting up and taking down tables, as well as placing yard signs around town the week prior to the event and removing them shortly after. If you can assist in any way, please email Cyra Doty at radu94@aol.com or call at 703-354-5330.

NEWS IN BRIEF



Children's Sabbath will be held on Sunday, Oct. 14, at 8:30 and 11 a.m. Don't miss this very special worship service! Children's Choirs will sing, a special service will be conducted based on *God's Dream* by Desmond Tutu, and include Moments from Children during worship.

Pray for children and families during the Prayer Vigil, which begins on Children's Sabbath (Oct. 14). Stop by the big wheel in the Atrium and sign up for a half-hour prayer time between 5 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 14 and 5 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 15. The Prayer Vigil is an important activity, reinforcing the responsibility of Christians to nurture and protect children. Resources are near the Prayer Vigil wheel that can be used for prayers at home or in the Upper Room (room 308).



The next **Adult Leadership Meeting** is scheduled for Sunday, Oct. 14 at 12:15 p.m. Academy of Discipleship will present Advent Study 2012 and Lenten Study 2013 and discuss the spring semester. All adult teachers and small group leaders are encouraged to attend, along with any others interested in serving in this ministry.

The **Annandale High School Choir** will be in concert at AUMC on Wednesday, Oct. 24, 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary. This will be a combined concert with the Dietrich Bonhoeffer Gymnasium (secondary school) from Eppelheim, Germany. The students will be performing Schubert's Mass in G. The concert is free and open to the public.

We Love Our Pastors! October is Pastor Appreciation month and AUMC is blessed to have four wonderful pastors! Why not take a moment during October and let Clarence, Eduardo, Cynthia and Paul know how much they mean to you. Some suggested ways to let our Pastors know they are appreciated include: 1) Send them a letter, write a poem or a prayer; 2) Ask them for their prayer needs and then Pray for them regularly; 3) Be openly responsive to their preaching and teaching; 4) Say Thank You to each of them personally for all they do for our church community. By showing your appreciation our Pastors will be empowered and our church will be better for it too.



Do you know a local veteran? Decorate A Vet is sprucing up and decorating the outside of Veterans' homes for the holidays, and seeks names of Veterans who can use this support. Please nominate Veterans, caregivers and Veterans' families that would benefit from Decorate A Vet via the facebook page. For more information visit <http://www.DecorateAVet.org> or <http://www.facebook.com/Decorate.A.Vet>.

Family in Need: The congregation is invited to support Pat Shand and her family as she continues to battle breast cancer by providing meals for the family of four. If you wish to donate a meal, contact Hannah Knowland at thegrid.hannah@gmail.com to schedule a time to provide a meal, and learn dietary limits. All meals can be dropped off in TJ's office at AUMC Tuesday-Friday before 3 p.m., or at the Knowland residence after 3 p.m. Hannah will suggest the details further when you contact her. As noted above, meals can be dropped off at the Knowland Residence: 3927 Arcadia Rd Alexandria, VA 22312.

Happy Wanderers Resume Travels: The Happy Wanderers will be visiting the Amish Market on Thursday, Oct. 18. Space is limited. Call Rosemary Perdue for details 703-354-6645.

Beckoning all Bakers! The Kairos Prison Ministry Team is preparing to share God's love with men at the Greensville Regional Correctional Center, in Jarratt, VA, and the Annandale UMC Team plans to provide 1,200 dozen homemade cookies. We need your help! A sign-up sheet, prison-approved cookie recipes, and instructions are under the TV monitor in the Atrium. If you cannot bake cookies but want to make a donation for baking supplies, make check payable to AUMC, designated for Kairos Cookies, by Sunday, Oct. 28. Other church members will do the baking! Place your cookies in the AUMC kitchen freezer by Sunday, Nov. 4 and label them "Kairos Cookies". Contact Bill Iwig at 301-365-7532 if you have any questions.



Just Sew you Know: AUMC's Prayer Shawl Ministry welcomes new members. In addition to sewing shawls for church members in need of comfort, some Shawl Ministry members are stitching other projects. Anyone who knits or crochets (or wants to learn) is invited to join this crafty and congenial group. Meetings are every other Tuesday, at 1 p.m. in room 303. The next meeting is Oct. 23. For more information, call Rosemary Perdue 703-354-6645.

Low-impact aerobics for Senior Citizens is the focus of the Rainbow Exercise class which meets Wednesdays and Fridays, 9:15 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. in Wright Hall. The fee is \$45 for the year. For more information, call Sue Meekins at 703-560-2443.



MINISTRY MEETINGS

Tues., Oct. 16	Church Council	7:15 p.m.	Room 302
Wed., Oct. 17	Stephen Ministry	7:30 p.m.	Room 303
Tues., Oct. 23	SPRC	7:30 p.m.	Room 210

LECTIONARY TEXTS

Oct. 14, 20th Sunday after Pentecost: Job 23:1-9, 16-17; Psalm 22:1-15; Hebrews 4:12-16; Mark 10:17-31

Oct. 21, 21st Sunday after Pentecost: Job 38:1-7; Psalm 104:1-9, 35c; Hebrews 5:1-10; Mark 10:35-45

AUMC WITNESS

(USPS 046-900)

Send address changes to:

Annandale United Methodist Church

6935 Columbia Pike, Annandale, VA 22003-3458

Published biweekly.

Periodicals Postage Paid at

Annandale, VA 22003

WEEKLY VOLUNTEERS

Sunday, Oct. 14

Outreach greeters: 8:30 a.m. E. Wilson/C. Cox, 9:30 a.m. M. Pearson, 10:30 a.m. L. McConville/E. Moss

Greeters: Caring Ministries

Fellowship hosts: Deborah/Miriam Circles

Ushers: 8:30 a.m. S. Chase, B. Pethal, P. Pethal, S. Nkesi (c)

11 a.m. B. Gordon, E. Ramsey, P. Snitzer, R. Gordon (c)

Sunday, Oct. 21

Outreach greeters 8:30 a.m. R. Hampton, 9:30 - B. Brown, 10:30 - D. Johnson

Greeters: Communion Stewards

Fellowship hosts: Exploring Faith in Life

Ushers: 8:30 a.m. A. Cogswell, R. Roberts, R. Gordon, E. McKenney (c)

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

Continued from page 1

In addition, KAIROS volunteers return to these institutions again and again, mentoring and sustaining established relationships that communicate God's constant love. God's work of transformation grows and continues. Additional ministries to youthful offenders and to the families of the residents have also been developed. Begun in 1979, today KAIROS has over 36,000 volunteers donating over 3 million hours of service and is at work in over 400 correctional institutions. Given the growing rate of incarceration, more volunteers are needed every day.

You will glean more as we celebrate this important ministry of the laity on Oct. 21. I invite you to consider this opportunity to serve, as well as the many other vital ministries that are available to you at AUMC.

Annandale United Methodist Women's fall gathering "Radical Hospitality, Welcoming a Stranger" is scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 13, 9:45 a.m. – 12 noon, Wright Hall. Everyone is welcome! A light brunch and fellowship will be followed by the presentation "Immigration in the Bible" by Mike Hoefler.



Upcoming Haiti Mission Trip: AUMC is leading a rebuilding mission trip to Haiti in spring 2013. Volunteers are now being recruited for this effort. If you are interested, please contact Mark Bradley, Bradleyfam@aol.com for details.

Volunteers are needed to provide coverage in the church office on Sundays from 9:45 to 10:45 a.m. Tasks include answering phones and directing visitors. Volunteers are also requested to provide occasional church office coverage during the week. For more information or to volunteer, contact Joyce Kitzmiller, jkitzmiller@annandale-umc.org or call 703-256-8330.

Pizza Pie Pastime! The CDC three and four-year-old classes recently took a field trip to Magill's Pizzeria. There they learned how pizza is made and watched the conveyor belt that carries the pizzas through the oven. Afterwards they were able to make their own personal cheese or pepperoni pizza. There are a few openings in the pre-school classes at AUMC. For 703-256-1100 or 703-256-1772.

Food Drive: AUMC's Children's Ministry is collecting donations for the ACCA Food Pantry every Sunday this month. Bring donations of non-perishable, canned and boxed food and place in the collection boxes in the Atrium for families in need in our neighborhood.

NEXT DEADLINE

Friday Oct. 12 is the deadline for the Oct. 23 Witness which covers Oct. 28 and Nov. 4