



AUMC WITNESS

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

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



Vol. 10 No. 1



We are a Stephen Ministry Church

January 2, 2013

Something for Everyone At Bi-District Training

There will be something for everyone at the Virginia United Methodist Bi-District Training on Jan. 12 at Floris United Methodist Church, 13600 Frying Pan Road, Herndon, and members of AUMC council, committees, groups, as well as all members are invited. This year's training, entitled IMPACT 2013, will feature a dynamic keynote speaker - Rev. Olu Brown, lead pastor of Impact UMC in Atlanta - and more than 30 workshops on a variety of topics, including:

- Basic training for new church officers and leaders
- Equipping the Church: Nominations and Leadership Development
- Veterans: Nurture and Care for our Soldiers
- Conflict: What You Don't Know You Don't Know
- Effective Use of Technology
- Power of Small Groups
- Multiplying Your Church's Impact

Other workshops will focus on deepening your personal faith journey.

Register online at www.novaumc.org/btd.html
or at the door (same-day registration is \$60).

A BRETHREN
Epiphany

Sunday, January 6, 2013
6:30 p.m.

Annandale United Methodist Church
6935 Columbia Pike
Annandale, Virginia 22003
Tickets \$10 advance, \$15 door



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God's Carvings

Isaiah 60:1-2

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.

For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness is over the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory

will appear over you.

As I look at my calendar for the first few months of the year I can see there are events, weddings, and busy times, as well as preparation and leisure time. But nothing is carved out in stone. All the things I have in the calendar can be moved, scratched out, and sometimes canceled. Nothing is set in stone.

Could you imagine what your year would look like without the curve balls life throws at you? Maybe you are thinking life would be predictable and controllable. You would be prepared to act swiftly and probably more efficiently if unexpected things didn't happen. You would know exactly when it would rain and when it would pour. That would be really beneficial to our existence. It would make my life easier if I knew when good or bad things are approaching! I don't know about you, but I would be set for life if all events were already at my disposal for preparation.

Oddly enough, it is in the darkest moments of my life that the unexpected happens and a ray of light enters, changing the course of my life and giving me reassurance in whom I believe. I want to believe that God moves in different and marvelous ways. I believe God uses the little, big, and even worthless things in our lives to speak to us. It is in the unexpected moments of our lives that we can see how blessed we are. I don't mean blessed with money, food, or properties, but blessed in the way that we have come to know words of love that might as well be written in stone.

These words, or better yet carvings, are molded in our hearts and minds through the good and the bad. We all know stories of people whose lives have been changed because of unexpected events. We can even list tragedies that have happened in the past year that have brought us together to cry and hope together—events that rocked the foundations of our community, nation, and world. Despite it all, ordinary people continue to overcome obstacles with extraordinary faith, courage, and love. I really don't think we could've made it through 2012 without God's love carved in our hearts to face the unexpected.

So as you are filling your calendars with weddings, vacations,

and to-do lists, I invite you to start the year of the Lord 2013 with His words in your calendar. Carve them in your heart so that when the unexpected happens and you are in darkness you might remember that the light has come into this world. The darkness will not overcome it. God's glory is present in your life so that you might share your blessings, as John Wesley proclaimed, "By all the means you can. In all the ways you can. In all the places you can. At all the times you can. To all the people you can. As long as ever you can."

Eduardo Carrillo

CIRCLE NEWS

DEBORAH: Mon., Jan. 14, 7:30 p.m., Annandale, Rm. 210.

Prog.: Discussing how to allocate monies earned from craft projects toward mission projects and studying Deborah from the Bible.

FRIENDSHIP: meets at Immanuel campus. Contact leader Wanda Warren for details.

LYDIA: Thurs., Jan. 10, 10 a.m., Annandale, Rm. 209. Prog.: Learning how to make a Ruffle Scarf. Hostesses: Rosemary Perdue and Alice Snitzer. Dev.: Shirley Bailey.

M&M's : Sat., Jan. 19, 8 a.m. at the home of Pat Sherfey. Hostess: Marie Cavanagh. Dev.: Molly Wilmarth.

MARTHA: Mon., Jan. 28, 7:30 p.m., Immanuel. Prog.: Betsy Clevenger: Study of a woman from the Bible. This is one of the small groups making dinner for Poe students on the fourth Wednesday of each month.

MIRIAM: Thurs., Jan. 10, 9:30 a.m., Annandale, Rm. 210. Prog.: Planning 2013 programs.

PHOEBE meets at Annandale. Contact lead Cyra Doty for details.

As always, new members and guests are welcome at all circle meetings!

DATEBOOK

Thursday, Jan. 3, 5-7 p.m.: food distribution at Immanuel campus. Contact Betsy Clevenger, 703-425-6424 for details.

Sunday, Jan. 6, 10:30 a.m.: one worship service (Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.)

Sunday, Jan. 6: ACCA food drive. Bring non-perishable food for the ACCA pantry.

Sunday, Jan. 6, 6:30 p.m.: A Brethren Epiphany Concert. Tickets \$10 in advance, \$15 at the door.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Clean Water Ministry: Caretakers of God's Creation, in partnership with the Global Environment and Technology Foundation, is working to provide clean drinking water for people for whom water is scarce and/or contaminated. Since this is a new area of ministry, a trial is planned in Northern Ghana to provide water filters for individual households. The Global Environment and Technology Foundation was created by Bob Herbst, an AUMC member and former Assistant Secretary of the Interior for the U.S. The filters cost \$250 each. For more information, email Rev. Pat Watkins: caretakersofcreation@me.com.

Inclement Weather Announcements: When the weather is severe enough to cancel services/activities, information will be recorded on the office voice mail system. Call 703-256-8330 to hear the recorded message or visit the website www.annandale-umc.org.

Ordinary People, Extraordinary Lives! is the title of the new sermon series about the Disciples, which will begin in January. More information to come!

AUMC's New Member Class will be held on Friday, Jan. 4, 7-9 p.m., in room 209. The class is called "Brownie Evenings with Brown" and will be taught by Rev. Dr. Clarence Brown, Jr. 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.

Sunday Morning Office Hours: In order to provide easier access to the church office on Sunday mornings, volunteers are needed from 9:30 – 10:45 a.m. on Sundays. If several people volunteer, they would only be needed once or twice a month. Please contact Joyce Kitzmiller at jkitzmiller@annandale-umc.org or 703-256-8330 if you are interested.

In the Spirit of the Season: AUMC's Weekday Children's Programs collected seven cartons of food items in November to replenish the ACCA Food Pantry. In December, the CDC families contributed 41 hats, scarves, and mittens. These were delivered to the Family Shelter in Falls Church. What a wonderful way for children to learn about giving!

Join In

Sunday Morning AV Team needs more volunteers! The AV Team provides sound, slides and video at the morning worship services. Help is especially needed for the 11 a.m. service. If you have experience in this area and would like to volunteer, please contact Garry Bell, gbell@annandale-umc.org or call 703-256-8330.

Join the 2013 Mission Trip – Volunteers are being recruited for a VIM construction/ leadership development mission team to Cambine, Mozambique in 2013. The tentative dates are July 26 through Aug. 11. If you are interested in participating, or would like more information, please contact Molly Wilmarth, molly.wilmarth@yahoo.com; Erin McKenney, hoopsfan1@verizon.net; or Mark Bradley, Bradleyfam@aol.com. The first team meeting (mandatory) is scheduled for Jan. 27 at 1 p.m. in room 210, Annandale campus. All interested persons are encouraged to attend.

Teams Forming to Prepare Meals: 4 teams of 4 -5 people are needed to provide dinner for 150 students at Poe Middle School one Wednesday a month, beginning in January. Serving time is between 4:30 and 5 p.m. Volunteers are needed to create a menu, shop for ingredients, prepare food, serve the meal, and clean up. Funds are available to cover costs. For more information, contact Molly Wilmarth molly.wilmarth@yahoo.com, 703-474-3281 or Betsy Clevenger, 703-425-6424.

We Need You! Adults and/or children are greatly needed to serve as ushers, acolytes, and crucifers for Sunday morning worship. If you are interested, please contact Joyce Kitzmiller, jkitzmiller@annandale-umc.org or 703-256-8330.



MINISTRY MEETINGS

Wed., Jan. 2	Stephen Ministry	7:30 p.m.	Room 303
Tues., Jan. 8	Finance Committee	7 p.m.	Room 210
	Missions Committee	7 p.m.	Room 302
	Trustees	7:30 p.m.	Room 209
	Caring Ministries	7:30 p.m.	Room 303

LECTIONARY TEXTS

Jan. 6, Epiphany of the Lord: Isaiah 60:1-6; Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14 (UMH 795); Ephesians 3:1-12; Matthew 2:1-12

Jan. 13, First Sunday After the Epiphany: Isaiah 43:1-7; Psalm 29 (UMH 761); Acts 8:14-17; Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

AUMC WITNESS

(USPS 046-900)

Send address changes to:

Annandale United Methodist Church

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WEEKLY VOLUNTEERS

Sunday, Jan. 6

Greeters: Altar Guild

Fellowship hosts: Bible Fellowship Class

Ushers: 10:30 a.m. C. Perdue, P. Straub, J. Thomas,
P. Adams (c)

Sunday, Jan. 13

Greeters: Communion Stewards

Fellowship hosts: Caring Ministries

Ushers: 8:30 a.m. S. Chase, J. Clarke, D. Pemberton,
E. McKenney (c)

11 a.m. R. Gallagher, C. Jones, C. Jones, G. Sherwood,
R. Gordon (c)

NEXT DEADLINE

Friday, Jan. 4 is the deadline for the Jan. 15
Witness which covers Jan. 20 and 27

Stamp Out Loneliness Totals: Thanks to everyone from the Annandale and Immanuel campuses who contributed to the "Stamp Out Loneliness" project for inmates in the Fluvanna Correctional Center for Women. The collection totals (higher than last year) are: 899 "Forever" stamps, 637 calendars, 886 note cards/envelopes, 2,322 Christmas cards, 941 assorted greeting cards plus other stationery, postcards, paper and envelopes. The goal of the project is that the messages in the letters and cards sent with these supplies will strengthen ties to home and lead to healing and reconciliation.



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.

January		13	20	27
February		10	17	24
March	10	17	24	
April		14	21	28
May		12	19	26
June	9	16	23	30
July		14	21	28
August		11	18	25
September	8	15	22	29
October		13	20	27
November		10	17	24
December	8	15		29

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 _____