

VIRGINIA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

SHENANDOAH RIVER CHARGE CONFERENCES AND DISTRICT CONFERENCE

Held at

Randolph Macon Academy—Boggs Chapel
200 Academy Drive Front Royal, VA 22630

NOVEMBER 6, 2022

3:00 P.M.



Rev. Sharma D. Lewis, Resident Bishop
Virginia Conference

Rev. Dr. Victor R. Gómez
Shenandoah River District Superintendent

Mr. Andy Harbick
Shenandoah River District Co-Lay Leader

Mrs. Wilma Jennings
Shenandoah River District Co-Lay Leader

Mrs. Kathy Lutman
Mrs. Susan Schall
Shenandoah River District Assistant Lay Leaders

Celebrating the Ministry of the Shenandoah River District

Who is Eligible to Vote at District Conference?

“The membership of each district conference shall be composed of the following: all ordained and commissioned clergy, licensed local pastors, lay supply pastors, certified lay ministers, diaconal ministers, and deaconesses and home missionaries related to that district; a church lay leader, chairperson of the church council or its equivalent body, church school superintendent, president of the United Methodist Women, and president of the chartered United Methodist Men from each local church in the district; the district steward from each charge; the lay member of the annual conference from each charge; and three members at large, one of whom shall be a youth, elected by each charge conference.

District officers who are members of the district conference include: the chairperson of the district Council on Ministries or equivalent body, the district stewards, the district trustees, the district treasurer, the district lay leader and associate lay leaders, the president of the district United Methodist Women, the president of the district United Methodist Men, the president of the district United Methodist Youth, the president of the district United Methodist Young Adults, the district coordinators of children, youth, young adult, adult, and family ministries, other district coordinators and directors, five youth members elected by the district youth council and five young adult members elected by the District Council on Ministries (or equivalent body). Special attention shall be given to inclusiveness

[THE DISTRICT CONFERENCE –Rules Change 2006.doc
(E-mail correspondence from Conference Connectional
Ministries Director 9/22/06)]

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*Call to Worship—Lisa Vander Wall, posted on website of Presbyterian Church USA, pcusa.org.
Centering Prayer— Posted on Homiletics Online/Invocations*

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Affirmation of Faith & Unity----Based on Ephesians 4:1-16 Homiletics Online: Affirmations of Faith pg 1 homileticsonline.com.

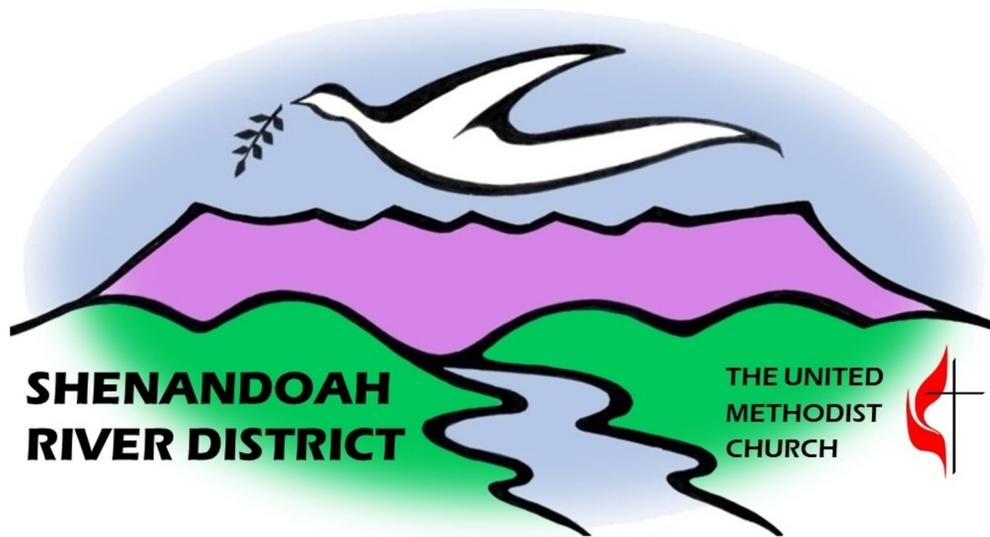
Prayer of Confession—Adapted from Rev. Mindi, Rev-o-lution website, rev-o-lution.org.

Prayer after Receiving—Homiletics Online: Prayers after Communion pg. 1 homileticsonline.com

Commission & Blessing-- Reprinted by permission of Westminster John Knox Press from Feasting on the Word Worship Companion. Copyright 2013

Special thanks to Kingdom Stringers for providing the music today.

We are blessed that Randolph Macon Academy hosted us today. We thank you very much!



November 6, 2022

2022 Charge Conferences

1st Shenandoah River District Conference

District Superintendent Rev. Dr. Victor Gómez, Presiding

GATHERING MUSIC "Everything" Kingdom Stringers

OPENING Rev. Dr. Victor Gómez

WELCOME Brig. General David Wesley, President of RMA

OPENING PRAYER Rev. Monica Reynolds, RMA Chaplain

*CALL TO WORSHIP Andy Harbick, District Co-Lay Leader

Come, Lord God, to receive our worship. Come, Lord Jesus, to receive our praise. Come, Holy Spirit, to receive our thanks. Come, eternal three-in-one God, come where we are gathered to celebrate our unity as your body, the church.

We share one faith and are of one soul and one mind, which belong solely and wholly to you.

We are baptized with one baptism, eat of one bread and drink of one cup.

We confess one name above all other names.

We are obedient to one Lord, who frees us from the tyranny and hatefulness of the world.

We share one hope, one comfort, one goal.

We are one people, united — despite any noticeable differences — by our faith in you, Lord Jesus.

We are one people, united by your love and mercy to stand against any power that would try to tear us apart.

We are one people, united in blessing and in suffering, united in joy and in sorrow, united in strength and in weakness.

Receive our praise!

*OPENING HYMN "How Great is Our God/How Great Thou Art" Kingdom Stringers

CENTERING PRAYER Wilma Jennings, District Co-Lay Leader

As we gather for worship, let us spend just a moment in quiet, stilling our hearts, remembering why we are here.

(Pause)

We are welcomed into your presence this day by your gracious hospitality, O God. Grant that we will lay aside our cares and anxieties to concentrate our thoughts on you alone. Open us to the teaching and guidance for living which we receive, that we will be strengthened to walk with you and follow wherever you lead us. Through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Savior. Amen.

REAFFIRMATION OF BAPTISMAL COVENANT DS Gómez

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

[touching the water]

Holy God,
We give you thanks for your grace revealed through water.
Before time, at the beginning of creation, your Holy Spirit moved across the face of the deep, dark waters and from chaos you brought forth light and land and every living thing, declaring them good.

When the world fell into wickedness and rebellion, you saved Noah in the terrible, scouring flood; by light refracted in the water of clouds, you made the rainbow a sign of your covenant never to abandon the earth and its inhabitants to the destructive curse of evil.

You led the Hebrews through the waters of the Red Sea, freeing them from slavery in Egypt, and led them through the waters of the Jordan River, bringing them to your promised land of milk and honey.

To the waters of that same Jordan River, your Son Jesus came to be baptized by John, as the Holy Spirit anointed him to proclaim salvation for the world.

Send your Holy Spirit to bless the water of this font. Let it be for us the water of new creation, the cleansing flood, the covenant rainbow, the Red Sea of victory, the anointing of salvation. Let it be our Jordan River, through which we become one with Jesus Christ in his baptism, receiving the promise you have opened to people of every time and nation; for we pray through Christ who lives with you and the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever. Amen.

[lifting water from the font]

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. And the people of God say: **Amen.**

THE WORK OF THE CHARGE CONFERENCE

- Election of Charge Conference Secretary
- Action Items
 - Election of Church Lay Leaders & Ministry Leaders
 - Lay Servants
 - Candidates for Ministry
 - Clergy Compensation
 - Base Salary/Housing Allowance
 - Accountable Reimbursement
 - Parsonage/Housing Exclusion
- Member Removal (Paragraph 228.b.2-4)
- Naming the Saints
- Conclusion of Charge Conference

*HYMN

“The Servant Song”

The Kingdom Stringers

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

BLESSING OF THE BUCKETS

Rev. Brian Posey, Mission Coordinator

OFFERTORY

Rev. Brian Posey, President of Camp Overlook

The offering collected today will benefit Camp Overlook Retreat and Camp Ministries.
(Make checks payable to Shenandoah River District)

THE WORK OF THE DISTRICT CONFERENCE

- Election of District Conference Secretary
 - Attendance Sheet
 - Minutes of the 2021 District Conferences and 2022 Special Called District Conference (pages 4-8)
 - Report of the Shenandoah River District Committee on Ordained Ministry
Rev. Michael Reaves & Rev. Daniel Wray, Co-Chairs
 - Ratification of the 2023 Shenandoah River District Budget (Pages 26-27) Rev. Sue McTavish & Rev. Kirk Nave, Finance Chairs
 - Election of District Leadership (pages 13,14)
 - Election of 2023 Annual Conference District Members At-Large (pages 28-31)
-

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH & UNITY

Andy Harbick, District Co-Lay Leader

Would you join me in the affirmation of faith and unity.

We believe that there is one body of Christ working in the world, one Holy Spirit who sustains and comforts, one hope that stirred our hearts when we heard your call, one Lord who has called us here today, one faith that we strive to live up to daily, one baptism that brings each of us into the family of God, one God and Creator of all, who is over all and through all and in all. We believe that each of us, as a member of God's family, has a calling to fulfill and that in doing so, the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ. Amen.

***MINISTRY OF THE WORD**

John 17: 20-23 (NLT)

Wilma Jennings, District Co-Lay Leader

Would you please stand for the reading of the Gospel.

²⁰ [Jesus said] *"I am praying not only for these disciples but also for all who will ever believe in me through their message. ²¹ I pray that they will all be one, just as you and I are one—as you are in me, Father, and I am in you. And may they be in us so that the world will believe you sent me. ²² "I have given them the glory you gave me, so they may be one as we are one. ²³ I am in them and you are in me. May they experience such perfect unity that the world will know that you sent me and that you love them as much as you love me."*

MESSAGE FOR MINISTRY

Walker Somerville, Missionary in Honduras

***CLOSING HYMN**

"Blessed Assurance"

The Kingdom Stringers

***COMMISSION**

Walker Somerville, Missionary in Honduras

Go out into the world proclaiming Christ in every corner, admonishing and teaching with all wisdom, so that everyone can comprehend fully the presence and witness of Christ, by the power of the Holy Spirit.

***BENEDICTION**

DS Gómez

- Receive the blessing of God, whose mercy knows no ends.
- Receive the blessing of Christ, who is patient and eager to give us words of life.
- Receive the blessing of the Holy Spirit who moves us and gives us power to do God's will.
- Receive the blessing of the triune God, and share this blessing with others!
- . Let God's people say, **Amen!**

THE PEACE

As you depart, share the peace of Christ with one another.

POSTLUDE

"I'll Fly Away"

The Kingdom Stringers

UMH—United Methodist Hymnal
TFWS—The Faith We Sing



2021 HARRISONBURG DISTRICT CONFERENCE MINUTES NOVEMBER 14, 2021

As COVID 19 continues to hinder in-person gatherings, the Harrisonburg District Conference met via Zoom at 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, November 14, 2021. The Zoom Webinar was streamed from Bridgewater United Methodist Church, where most presenters met, while all others joined via Zoom. The Gathering Prelude, "Be Thou My Vision," was performed on site by Rev. Laura Douglass, retired Deacon. Rev. Dr. Victor Gómez, the District Superintendent, welcomed everyone to the District Conference.

The Call to Worship was led by the District Lay Leader, Mr. Andy Harbick via Zoom, with the responses showing on the screen for those watching the webinar. The Hymn, "Be Thou My Vision," was played by Rev. Douglass, with everyone singing from their homes. Words of Welcome and remarks from Proverbs 3:3-6 were led by Rev. Debra Cline, Harrisonburg District PiM President. She also offered a prayer for the meeting. Rev. Michael Reaves, Chairperson of the District Committee on the Ordained Ministry, gave a brief summation of the candidacy process and noted the Harrisonburg District has 20 Licensed Local Pastors and 1 Certified Lay Minister serving churches on our district. It was mentioned that special recognition certificates were being given to Pastor Edward Steele (Mt. Horeb UMC) and Pastor Joe Amend (Shenandoah Charge), for beginning their candidacy process.

District Superintendent Victor Gómez greeted everyone and moved the District Conference to holy conferencing and worship. He thanked those persons who worked behind the scenes to make this event happen: Rev. Steve McMillion, for use of the church to stream the District Conference to all on Zoom and for participating in today's service; Scott Ridder, Information Technology Chairperson at Bridgewater UMC, who worked many hours to prepare for the District Conference; and Rev. Laura Douglass, for providing today's music.

Dr. Gómez noted the emphasis for today's District Conference is United Methodist Women. The guest speaker is Barbara Phillips, District UMW President. A test vote with the polling software was attempted but not successful, so Dr. Gómez said the voting would take place by each person "unmuting" themselves and voting verbally.

The first work of the district conference was to elect the secretary. Rev. Gómez asked for a motion to elect Debbie Creech, District Administrative Assistant, as the Conference Secretary. He also asked if there were other nominations from the floor for other persons to serve as Secretary and hearing none, asked for a second, which was given. He asked for those in favor to respond verbally with "Yes," and the motion carried.

A motion was made to approve the minutes for the 2020 District Conference held on November 15, 2020, as printed on page 3-4 of the District Conference booklet. Dr. Gómez asked for a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Hearing the motion seconded, the body verbally voted in favor to approve the minutes.

Dr. Gómez called the conference's attention to District Treasurer Jo Ann Liskey's General Fund report on page 17. He asked for questions and hearing none, asked for a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report as printed. A motion was made by Pastor Sue MacTavish and seconded by Wendell Cochran. The body approved the budget by verbal agreement.

Rev. Gómez then referred those watching to the District Budget for 2022. He indicated the budget had been prepared and approved by the District Finance Committee and asked if there were any questions or discussion regarding the 2022 budget on pages 19-20. He also mentioned the 2022 Budget was approved by the District Stewards and did not need to be approved by the District Conference body, but was printed in the booklet for convenience. He also reminded each local church or charge to make sure they have a representative to serve as steward.

The District Superintendent indicated the District Committees and District Board members for 2022 were listed on pages 8-11. Dr. Gómez asked if there were any nominations from the floor for district committees and boards. Hearing no additional nominations from the floor, a motion was made to accept the members of district committees and boards as printed. The body approved the District Committees and District Board members verbally.

Rev. Jenny Day, Chairperson of the District Common Table, spoke to the district and noted the committee began their work on 01-01-21, replacing the former District Council on Ministries. She noted the Table is responsible for resourcing, developing, advocating and administering the missional life and needs of the district. She and the Table have already had one retreat and another is planned for the future. Her complete report is on Page 13 of the District Conference booklet.

Dr. Gómez asked the District Conference be suspended to hold a District Board of Missions, Ltd. meeting. He called the annual meeting of the District Board of Missions to order. The Board of Missions' Treasurer's report was noted on page 18 of the District Conference Booklet. Dr. Gómez asked for any questions and/or discussion. A motion to approve the treasurer's report was made and verbally approved. A motion was made to elect the Board of Mission Directors as printed on page 11. The motion was seconded and verbally approved. The meeting of the District Board of Missions, Ltd. was closed.

2021 HARRISONBURG DISTRICT CONFERENCE MINUTES CONTINUED

The District Conference resumed with the next business on the agenda, the election of District Lay Members-at-Large to the 2022 Annual Conference, June 16-18, 2022 in Hampton. Dr. Gómez called attention to the 14 nominations on pages 21-22 of the booklet. Sixteen District Members-at-Large needed to be elected and fourteen nominations were received. One nomination for Member-At-Large was received after the deadline of November 1st (Lacey Roberts), bringing the total nominations to fifteen. Dr. Gómez asked if there were any other nominations from the floor and being none, asked the body to elect all 15 at one time. The motion was seconded and an affirmative vote was given. Verbal voting took place and all voiced an affirmative response.

The District Conference then moved to the area of Worship. A video was shown on the 150th anniversary of the United Methodist Women as the Mission Moment. Rev Gómez mentioned to the District Conference body there was no designated offering this year. Please send the District Conference offering monies to your local church. He noted the district does ministry in amazing ways and it begins in the local church. After the Doxology played by Rev. Douglass, Barbara Phillips, District UMW president, referenced I Corinthians 16:3 and spoke on "Caring, Connecting, Communicating." She quoted Harriett Jane Olsen, "Doing is in a women's DNA." She noted the 2022 Program Resource Guide, "Healing and Joy on Our Journey to God," contains programs for use by UMW units. The Harrisonburg District UMW has made many great accomplishments, in spite of the challenges of a most unpredictable year, and will continue to stand firm with faith. The Hymn, "How Firm a Foundation" was played by Rev. Douglass on the organ.

The Anointment of Oil Service was led by Rev Gómez. He instructed the viewers to anoint themselves with oil at the appointed time, via Zoom, from their homes. Rev. Steve McMillion dismissed the forty-eighth session of the Harrisonburg District Conference with the Covenant Prayer in the Wesleyan Tradition and Benediction. The meeting concluded at 4:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah F. Creech
District Conference Secretary

79 persons were counted present on attendance sheets turned in by district clergy 38 Charges of the 75 Harrisonburg District Charges reporting. (40 Clergy and 39 Laity) as of December 10, 2021.

WINCHESTER DISTRICT CONFERENCE MINUTES

November 21, 2021 3:00 p.m.

Burnt Factory UMC and Virtual

Gathering Prelude – Stage Left provided the worship song, "Above All" to begin the Winchester District Conference.

Wilma Jennings, Winchester District Lay Leader offered a greeting to everyone and the Call to Worship.

Rev. Dr. Victor Gomez opened with words of welcome and prayer.

The song "1000 Reasons" was provided by Renacimiento Vida Nueva band.

Rev. Stephen King, chair of the Winchester Board of Ordained Ministry gave the report on behalf of the WDBOM. Rev. King mentioned in his report the need for ministry candidates.

Work of the District Conference

The election of the WD Conference Secretary, Melanie Melester was held. Rev. Gomez made the motion to elect Melanie Melester and it was seconded by Wilma Jennings. The vote was taken by a virtual poll and Melanie Melester was elected by 100% vote.

There was a motion to approve the 2020 District Conference minutes by Rev. Gomez, the motion was seconded and approved by 100% vote.

The Winchester District 2022 Budget that was approved by the WD Stewards on July 26, 2021 was presented to the district conference. The budget can be found on pages 7-8 in the District Conference booklet.

A motion was made by Rev. Gomez to approve the election of the Winchester District Committee on Nominations and Personnel for 2022 (except for the WD Board of Church Locations and Buildings and the WD Committee on Ordained Ministry, which was approved at annual conference in 2021). Kathy Lutman seconded the motion and the WD officers for 2022 were approved by vote. The officers for the Northwestern Virginia UM Board of Mission, Inc. are approved during the annual meeting.

2021 WINCHESTER DISTRICT CONFERENCE MINUTES CONTINUED

Rev. Gomez suspended the WD Conference to hold the annual meeting of the Northwestern Virginia United Methodist Board of Missions, Inc. The treasurer's report was given and the motion to approve was seconded by Kirk Nave. The vote carried with 100% voting to approve.

The meeting of the NW VA UM Board of Missions, Inc. was closed.

The WD Conference was continued with the election of the 19 WD at-large annual conference delegates for 2022 that were nominated. Rev. Gomez asked for any nominations from the floor. Rev. Bertina Westley nominated Rick Taliaferro from Stephens City UMC to be an alternate delegate. There were then 2 alternate delegates that were nominated. Rev. Gomez made the motion to approve the 19 at-large Winchester District delegates and the 2 alternate delegates for the 2022 Virginia Annual Conference. The motion was seconded by Susan Schall. Only lay members of the WD Conference were allowed to vote. The motion carried with 100% voting yes for the at-large and alternate delegates nominated.

District Conference Worship

The Winchester District worship began with a mission moment. A video of the 150 year anniversary of the United Methodist Women was shown.

Offertory – Rev. Gomez asked for donations to be made to your local church.

Mary Preston, Winchester District UMW President gave the message during the worship.

Another hymn was offered by the Renacimiento Vida Nueva band, "I Have to Decided to Follow Jesus".

Rev. Gomez offered the service of the anointment of oil to those in attendance at Burnt Factory UMC. He gave instructions for those who were watching virtually in anointing themselves or other with oil.

Rev. Steve Melester, pastor of Burnt Factory UMC offered the Covenant Prayer in the Wesleyan Tradition along with the Benediction.

The Conference ended with the postlude of "No Longer Slaves" by the Renacimiento Vide Nueva band.

Respectfully submitted,

Melanie Melester
Winchester District Conference Secretary

SPECIAL CALLED DISTRICT CONFERENCE FOR SHENANDOAH RIVER DISTRICT SATURDAY, AUGUST 6, 2022 10:00 A.M. VIA WEBINAR

A Special Called District Conference of the Shenandoah River District was held via Webinar on Saturday, August 5, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. Wilma Jennings, Lay Leader from the former Winchester District, opened the meeting with prayer. "Above All" YouTube was played by the Stage Left Ministries.

DS Victor Gómez introduced the staff to those watching and recognized the latest staff member, Rev. Jim Joyner, who began on August 1st. Part of his duties include assisting churches to use Zoom, Live-Streaming, emails and other technology. Dr. Gómez also introduced the Lay Leaders of the Shenandoah River District; Andy Harbick and Wilma Jennings and the Associate Lay Leaders, Kathy Lutman and Susan Schall.

Those watching the Webinar reviewed the Timetable of the Shenandoah River District; from the Fall of 2021 when the time of Intentional prayer, fasting, open meetings, listening sessions and Core Team work began. In December 2021, the DS presented the draft plan created by the District Initiative Team to the Bishop and the Cabinet and it was approved. In the Winter/Spring of 2022, further communication ensued as the district and conference began the process of the new structure. At the Annual Conference in Hampton in June, 2022, the 8 districts were approved. On August 1st, the district hired the Director of IT. From July 2022 to January 2023, the district will be refining its structure and ready to begin in 2023. The Mission Statement is, "**The Shenandoah River District is alive In Christ through ministries of Connection, Empowerment, and Transformation**"

The following is an explanation of how we see this Vision Statement fulfilling the "Why" for the district's existence:

***Alive** = reflects vitality. If something is vital, it is alive. We are alive through our faith in Jesus Christ and the grace of God, and the district also lives in the relational connection of the United Methodist structure for the purpose of resourcing, educating, and supporting transformational ministries in the local churches (mission sites) and our communities. (**Romans 6:11, 1 Corinthians 15:22**)

SPECIAL CALLED DISTRICT CONFERENCE FOR SHENANDOAH RIVER DISTRICT 08-06-22 CONTINUED

***Connection** = Emphasizes our Wesleyan nature of structure as the church body with respect to the local churches to the district and the district to the Annual Conference, as well as our relational nature to one another as the Body of Christ. **(Roman 7:4)**

***Empowerment** = the work of resourcing, educating, training, and undergirding (strengthening) the local churches with the tools for ministry and discipleship making. **(Ephesians 4:11-12)**

***Transformation** = this is both to allude to the United Methodist Mission Statement (“...for the transformation of the world”) yet it is also the goal we are working towards on multiple levels. To bring transformative ministries through our local churches that create an impact in the communities in which they serve. We are also working to continually renew and transform our local churches to better reach a broken world with the ministry of healing and reconciliation. **(2 Corinthians 5:18)**

DS Gómez discussed the Current Reality of the Shenandoah River District: Administration – 2 districts, 118+ clergy, 156 churches, 20 Administrative Committees, Camp Overlook, over 5 affiliated non-profit organizations. Challenges – Pandemic, Boy Scouts, Denominational Challenges, UMM. Programs – Mission Central, Partners in Ministry, Bi-District Training, Lay Servant Academy.

Plans are to adopt the SAS method (Simplified Accountable Structure) for the district where the Superintendency Committee, Finance, Church Location and Building, Trustees will serve together to conduct the business of the District. The DCOM (District Committee on Ordained Ministry) will remain a separate committee. The Discipleship Board will serve Nomination, Lay Servant, UMM/UMF and Missions. The Boundaries of the new 8 districts were discussed. The former boundaries for Harrisonburg and Winchester make up the new Shenandoah River District.

Rev. Dr. Gómez reminded those watching to Save the Date for Sunday, November 6th at 3:00 p.m. for the Annual In-Person District Conference. Place TBA.

The meeting was then opened up for questions.

Bob Brock, Attorney, from the former Winchester District and member of Braddock Street UMC, had several questions about the dissolution of the Board of Missions of each former district, the initial Trustees set up in the Draft Resolution, the Attorney for the Conference and the By-Laws. Rev. Gómez stated the lawyer for the Conference set up to handle the dissolution of our two former districts is Andrew White. The names of the Trustees to be voted at this meeting are the minimum number required to pass the resolution and that number will increase to a maximum of 9 members by year's end. The By-Laws are in process at this time.

Larry Schedule, member of Rectortown and Jay Moore, member of Front Royal UMC raised various questions about the dissolution of the two former districts and that Shenandoah River District Board of Missions will replace those Boards.

Kathy Rothgeb, member of Mount Clinton UMC, expressed her concerns and frustrations that the Annual Conference passage of the 8 districts was somehow “a done deal” before the voting took place.

VOTING FOR THE TASKS AT HAND BEGAN.

A practice vote was taken to verify the voting platform was working correctly. The question, “the beach is better than the mountains as a vacation spot” was asked. 47% voted yes, while 50% voted no.

The conference then voted on electing Debbie Creech, Shenandoah River District Administrator, as the Secretary for today's District Conference and the vote was 100% yes.

Rev. Cindy Rainger, pastor of St. Mark's and Loudoun Charge, and Rev. Ilgha Ilunga, pastor of McGaheysville UMC, raised various questions regarding voting procedures.

Resolution: Part 1 was then presented:

RESOLVED, that

the formation of the Shenandoah River District as a Virginia nonstock corporation to be called, “Shenandoah River District of the Virginia Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church” (the “Shenandoah River District”), to serve as successor to the Harrisonburg and Winchester Districts of the Virginia Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church, is hereby approved, and Rev. Víctor Gómez, Kirk Nave, Andrew Harbick, and Wilma Jennings (the “Authorized Individuals”) are hereby authorized to take any and all steps as they deem necessary or advisable in connection with the formation and the organization of such corporation, including without limitation filing Articles of Incorporation for the Shenandoah River District with the Virginia State Corporation Commission;

Resolution: Part 2

the following individuals are hereby elected as the initial trustees and directors of the Shenandoah River District: Víctor Gómez, Kirk Nave, Andrew Harbick, and Wilma Jennings; and

SPECIAL CALLED DISTRICT CONFERENCE FOR SHENANDOAH RIVER DISTRICT 08-06-22 CONTINUED

Resolution: Part 3

the dissolution of THE HARRISONBURG BOARD OF MISSIONS LTD., a Virginia nonstock corporation (the “Harrisonburg Board of Missions”), the dissolution of NORTHWESTERN VIRGINIA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH BOARD OF MISSIONS, a Virginia nonstock corporation (the “Northwestern Virginia Board of Missions”), and, ultimately, the termination of the corporate existence of each of the Harrisonburg Board of Missions and the Northwestern Virginia Board of Missions, are hereby approved, and the Authorized Individuals are hereby authorized (in each case working with and through the trustees and officers of such corporations) (i) to proceed with the orderly wind-down of the Harrisonburg Board of Missions and the Northwestern Virginia Board of Missions, including without limitation transferring all assets of the Harrisonburg Board of Missions and the Northwestern Virginia Board of Missions to the Shenandoah River District and settling all debts and obligations of the Harrisonburg Board of Missions and the Northwestern Virginia Board of Missions, (ii) at such time that each wind-down has been completed, terminating the corporate existence of the Harrisonburg Board of Missions and the Northwestern Virginia Board of Missions; and (iii) taking any and all steps as may be necessary or advisable in connection with such wind-downs and terminations, including without limitation filing with the Virginia State Corporation Commission Articles of Dissolution and Articles of Termination for each of the Harrisonburg Board of Missions and the Northwestern Virginia Board of Missions at such time that the Authorized Individuals deem appropriate.

Questions from Participants:

1 – Joel Robinette, pastor of Keezletown UMC, stated that several persons were gathered around one computer and how would their individual votes be counted? ANSWER: Place their votes on the Question and Answer section of the screen. (Minutes Secretary was able to retrieve these votes)

2- Joe Amend, pastor of the Shenandoah Charge asked for clarification on Rev. Kirk Nave, who was nominated to serve as one of the initial District Trustees. (Rev. Kirk Nave presently serves as pastor of the Braddock Street UMC, and is chairperson of Finance of the former Winchester District. It was also mentioned that the two District Lay Leaders of the former districts, Andy Harbick and Wilma Jennings were also nominated to serve)

3 – There were also various comments from Neil Alexander (Mount Crawford UMC) and Rev. Kathleen Haynes (Pastor of Mount Olive-Relief Charge). Rev. Haynes asked about gender equality on the district trustee committee. The names listed for approval are those names needed to begin the process to adopt the Shenandoah River District Board of Missions. There will be additional names added for approval at the November District Conference.

With all other questions being addressed, the voting took place with the following results for the resolution vote:

YES 93% NO 4% ABSTAIN 4%

Others who voted and submitted through the Q&A room and emails:

Keezletown 3 YES 1 NO

Manor Memorial 2 YES

Weyers Cave 1 YES

After the vote, Rev. Gómez noted the budget for the remaining 2022 is a combination of the budgets from the two former districts and the Board of Missions. The Finance Committee has met and set a preliminary 2023 budget, and will have further meetings to have its final budget to present it at the November District Conference.

The emails for the staff at the district office were presented and with all business presented to the participants, the meeting was adjourned in prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Debbie Creech
Shenandoah River District Administrator

There were 110 participants noted in attendance.

2022-2023 SHENANDOAH RIVER DISTRICT CLERGY

CHARGES

CLERGY

District Superintendent.....	Victor R. Gómez
District Director of Connectional Ministries.....	David Chadwick “Chad” Hrbek
District Director of Connectional Ministries.....	Gordon K. Meriwether
District Director of Information Technology.....	James W. “Jim” Joyner
Agape.....	Alphonso L. Irving
Annex-Crimora Charge.....	Blair C. O’Quinn
Asbury (Harrisonburg).....	Susan M. Reaves
Asbury (Harrisonburg) Associate.....	Yosvany Proenza Pereira
Bethany (Loudoun).....	Joshua S. King
Bethany (Augusta).....	Blaine H. Thomas
Bethel (Loudoun).....	Hyunsik “Sean” Kang
Bethel (Warren).....	Suzanne S. Spencer
Blue Ridge Charge.....	Richard R. Robertson
Blue Ridge Charge Assistant.....	B. J. Smith
Boyce-Millwood-White Post Charge.....	Harry G. Neidig, III
Braddock Street.....	G. Kirk Nave
Braddock Street Associate.....	AhannaLise Stevens-Jennings
Bridgewater.....	Mary K. Dadisman
Brucetown.....	Susan E. G. Catlett
Burnt Factory.....	C. Steven Melester
Cedar Grove Charge.....	Penny L. Wilson, Jr.
Christian Newcomer.....	Richard J. McDowell
Clover Hill.....	Sarah C. Bailey
Columbia Furnace-Union Forge Charge.....	W. Glen Early
Cool Spring.....	Richard Bensinger
Crums.....	David P. Graves
Dayton.....	Jennifer L. Day
Duncan Memorial (Berryville).....	James M. Smith
Edinburg Charge.....	Terry L. Hendricks
Elkton.....	Debbie A. Powell
Emmanuel.....	Susan E. G. Catlett
Evangelical.....	Debbie A. Powell
Evergreen.....	Mark A Mrini
Fairview-Refugee Charge.....	Laetitia Schoeman
Fellowship-Linville-Edom Charge.....	Costella L. Forney
First (Winchester).....	Sean C. Devolites
First (Timberville).....	Yun Goo Kang
Fort Valley Charge.....	John W. Senters
Front Royal.....	Rachel G. Plemmons
Fulks Run Charge.....	Linda D. Hudgins Breeden

Grace.....	Mary J. Lock
Greenwood-Market Street Charge.....	Keiko T. Foster
Grottoes.....	Brian E. Posey
Harmony (Hamilton).....	Debra R. Lucas
Harmony (Hamilton) Associate.....	Margaret E. “Maggie” Croghan
Harriston.....	I. Cameron Carte
Hawkinstown-Otterbein Chapel Charge.....	Lisa A. Coffelt
Hites Chapel.....	Thomas H. “Tommy” Stelzl
Howellsville.....	Richard Bensingier
John Mann.....	Matthew B. Borbor
John Wesley (Warren).....	Joseph H. Plemmons
John Wesley (Harrisonburg).....	Daniel K. Purdom, Jr.
Keezletown.....	T. Joel Robinette
Kernstown.....	Gary E. Heaton
Leesburg.....	James N. “Jim” Wishmyer
Leesburg—Director of Congregational Ministries.....	Heather L. Wray
Linden-Markham-Marshall Cooperative Parish.....	John F. Rowe, Jr.
Loudoun Charge.....	Cynthia “Cindy” Rainger
Luray.....	Erich D. Bennett
Macedonia.....	Keith E. Ritchie
Manor Memorial.....	Stephen R. Creech
Marvin Chapel.....	Kenneth R. Patrick
Massanutten Charge.....	Brian Kaminer “Kam” Stabler
McGaheysville.....	Ilgha Ilunga
Middleburg-Rectortown Cooperative Parish.....	Jonathan J. Lamb
Montague Avenue.....	Leah A. DeLong
Mount Bethel.....	Ansel T. Seeds, Jr.
Mount Clinton.....	Patricia M. Meadows
Mount Crawford Charge.....	Brett D. Isernhagen
Mount Hermon.....	Joshua R. Orndorff
Mount Horeb.....	Edward L. Steele
Mount Jackson Charge.....	Lee J. Crosby
Mount Olive-Relief Charge.....	Kathleen W. Haynes
Mount Olive-Shiloh Charge.....	David L. Nesselrodt
Mount Olivet-Mount Pleasant Charge.....	Stephen P. King
Mount Pisgah.....	Ashley N. Oliver
Mount Tabor.....	Gordon K. Meriwether
Mount Zion (Mount Solon).....	A. Al Tuten
Mount Zion—Willisville Chapel Cooperative Parish.....	Tracey B. Lyons
Mountain Valley-Cedar Grove Charge.....	Eduardo A. Carrillo

New Hope.....	Michael B. Reaves
North Frederick Charge.....	John T. Stelzl
Old Bethel-Welltown Cooperative Parish.....	David Chadwick "Chad" Hrbek
Otterbein.....	Adam L. Blagg
Page.....	Laura L. Schultz
Paris Mountain Charge.....	Karen D. M. Adams
Parnassus.....	Shawn M. Cook
Pleasant View Charge.....	Michael W. Pettry
Port Republic.....	E. Thomas "Tom" Murphy, Jr.
Redland-Gainesboro Cooperative Parish.....	John Robert Schoeman
Rehobeth.....	Hyunsik "Sean" Kang
Reliance-Ridings Chapel Charge.....	Andy L. Brock
RISE.....	Amanda M. Garber
Riverton.....	C. Marc Roberson
Round Hill.....	Larry E. Craddock
Round Hill (Loudoun).....	Daniel A. Wray
St. James (Pleasant Valley).....	Ashley B. Isernhagen
Saint Paul.....	Sue H. MacTavish
Sangerville.....	Gary M. Monroe
Shenandoah Charge.....	Joseph H. Amend III
Shenandoah Circuit.....	Ellen H. Martin
Shenandoah Valley Charge.....	W. Todd Gess
Short Hill.....	Bradley John "Ralph" Carver
Singers Glen Charge.....	Debra C. Cline
St. Mark's.....	Cynthia "Cindy" Rainger
Stanley.....	Steven E. McMillion
Stephens City.....	Bertina J. H. Westley
Strasburg.....	John B. Haynes, Jr.
Sunset Drive (Broadway).....	Tommy Lewis-Crosby
Toms Brook.....	Patricia Ann "Trish" Hernandez
Verona.....	Edward F. Rigg
Associate: Aisle 7.....	Shawna N. Hiner
Warren Charge.....	Anne M. Sisson
Wesley (Winchester).....	Matthew B. Borbor
Wesley Chapel-Pine Grove Charge.....	Phillip H. Brumback
West Loudoun Charge.....	Bruce Nelson Lugin
Vision of Hope.....	Joseph A. Shoop
Weyers Cave.....	Amy E. Pannell
Woodstock.....	Keon Huh

SHENANDOAH RIVER DISTRICT EXTENSION MINISTRIES



OVERLOOK: RETREAT & CAMP MINISTRIES

Christiana Gibbs OVERLOOK DIRECTOR

3014 Camp Overlook Lane
Keezletown, VA 22832
269-2267 Office/FAX
e-mail: CampOverlook@gmail.com

Home address: 3022 Camp Overlook Lane, Keezletown, VA 22832

The purpose of Overlook: Retreat & Camp Ministries is to provide opportunities for Christian growth and self-development in an outdoor setting through a variety of worship experiences and many fun activities.

Blessings Lodge 269-2261
Agape Hill Kitchen 269-2266
Swank Retreat 269-2269
Ritchie Retreat 269-2265

UNITED FAMILY SERVICES' CHARTERHOUSE SCHOOL

508 Piccadilly Street * Edinburg, VA 22824

Info-edinburg@chs4u.org

UMFS' Charterhouse School is a place where Virginia's children with special needs (ages 6-22) can get out of their comfort zone and start to get out into the world. Our job is to show them a more effective and productive way. Our elementary, middle, and high school students benefit from a proven curriculum of academic and social skills instruction. Located in Edinburg we serve children from nine neighboring counties. As a result, our fully accredited school has a proud history of helping students reach graduation or their goals of returning to public schools. Kimberli Collett, Principal, 540-984-6266



SHENANDOAH RIVER DISTRICT MISSION CENTRAL

1704 Smithland Road * Harrisonburg, VA 22802

Mailing Address: PO Box 2026 Harrisonburg, VA 22801

MISSION CENTRAL CHILDREN'S CLOTHES CLOSET



Mission Central is located at 1704 Smithland Road in Harrisonburg. The Children's Clothes Closet is open to the public from 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month; and the 3rd Tuesday and the 2nd and 4th Thursday evenings from 5:00-7:00 p.m. Mission Central is open to anyone in the community (Shenandoah Valley). On the other Wednesdays of the month, the facility is open also from 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. as workdays. Contact Artie Frederick, Children's Clothing Chairperson, 301-712-8310.

MISSION CENTRAL MEDICAL EQUIPMENT FOR CARING LOANER CLOSET



Mission Central's Medical Equipment for Caring (medical equipment loaner closet) is available FREE for those needing durable medical equipment (wheelchairs, bedside commodes, shower benches, hospital beds), wound care supplies, disposable adult diapers, and adaptive equipment and much more. The Medical Equipment for Caring will be open to the public on **Mondays 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.** and **Thursday mornings from 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.** Contact Delores Reid, Medical Equipment Chairperson, 540-383-6112.



RANDOLPH-MACON
ACADEMY

THE POWER OF RISE.

Randolph-Macon Academy, located in Front Royal, VA is a co-ed private school for grades 6-12. We offer a superior university-preparatory curriculum with an elite Air Force JROTC program preparing graduates to pursue lives of meaning and success.

The *Power of Rise* is a mindset at R-MA. Students learn to take risks, to succeed, to fail – lessons at R-MA result in a rewarding sense of accomplishment even if the outcome is not one originally expected. It is a characteristic, a trait found within the very core of the most successful individuals. Our students develop this Rise as a team, they support each other on the journey. The Power of Rise inspires pride, the desire to do good and the value of overcoming adversity.

www.rma.edu

Shenandoah University educates and inspires individuals to be critical, reflective thinkers; life-long learners; and ethical, compassionate citizens who are committed to making responsible contributions within a community, a nation and the world.



SHENANDOAH
UNIVERSITY

With approximately 4,000 students across more than 200 areas of study in six different schools, students will study with accomplished professors who provide focused, individual attention, all the while leading several programs to be highly nationally ranked. Shenandoah is a creatively charged campus where ideas and connections meet cultures and perspectives. It is headquartered in Winchester, Virginia, with locations across the Northern Shenandoah Valley and throughout Northern Virginia, Shenandoah University is in close proximity to the Washington, D.C., 12 and Baltimore, Maryland.

www.su.edu

SHENANDOAH RIVER DISTRICT LEADERSHIP COMMITTEES

ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD

The responsibilities of the Administrative Board will cover the areas of:

- **Superintendency**
- **Finance**
- **Trustees**
- **Nominations**

Members for 2023 are:

District Superintendent: Victor Gómez
Co-Chair: (Clergy) Kirk Nave
Co-Chair (Lay) Andy Harbick
Stephen Creech (Clergy)
Sue MacTavish (Clergy)
Bobby Ford (Lay)
Susan Schall (Lay)

DISCIPLESHIP BOARD

The responsibilities of the Discipleship Board will cover the areas of:

- **Outreach (Mission, Evangelism, Diversity)**
- **Formation (Age Level Ministries, Library, Stewardship)**
- **Emerging Ministries**
- **Lay Servant**

Members for 2023 are:

District Superintendent: Victor Gómez
Susan Catlett (Clergy)
Gary Heaton (Clergy)
Shawna Hiner (Clergy)
Yosvany Pereria (Clergy)
Wendell Cochran (Lay)
Carrie Fair (Lay)
Wilma Jennings (Lay)
Alexis Owens (Lay)
Barbara Phillips (Lay)

DISTRICT OFFICERS

Andy Harbick—Shenandoah River District Co Lay Leader
Wilma Jennings—Shenandoah River District Co Lay Leader

Kathy Lutman—Shenandoah River District Associate Lay Leader
Susan Schall—Shenandoah River District Associate Lay Leader

Wendell Cochran—Shenandoah River District Lay Servant Co-Director
Rev. Gary Heaton—Shenandoah River District Lay Servant Co-Director

Mary Preston—Shenandoah River District President—United Women in Faith

2023

SHENANDOAH RIVER DISTRICT BOARD OF CHURCH LOCATION AND BUILDING

(term ends Dec 31 of year indicated)

Rev. Dr. Victor Gómez, Chairperson

Class of 2023:

Rev. Karen Adams

Mrs. Clarissa Byrd (Lay)

Mrs. Becky Downey (Lay)

Mr. John Morse (Lay)

Class of 2024:

Rev. Stephen Creech

Rev. Chad Hrbek

Rev. Al Irving

Rev. Jim Joyner

Class of 2025: (term begins 1/1/2023)

Rev. Linda Hudgins Breeden

Mrs. Paige Manuel (Lay)

Rev. Blair O'Quinn

Mrs. Sarah Stelzl (Lay)

Mrs. Lisa Tri (Lay)

SHENANDOAH RIVER DISTRICT COMMITTEE ON THE ORDAINED MINISTRY

Northern Team:

Co-Chair Rev. Daniel Wray

Registrar: Rev. Stephen King

Board of Ministry Representative: Rev. Heather Wray

Secretary: Mrs. Kathy Lutman

Mentor Coordinator: Rev. Debra Lucas

Rev. Larry Craddock

Rev. Kathleen Haynes

Rev. Steve Melester

Mrs. Wilma Jennings (Lay)

Rev. Anne Sisson

Mr. Archie Skiles (Lay)

Rev. Bertina Westley

Rev. Dr. Victor Gómez

Southern Team:

Co-Chair Rev. Michael Reaves

Registrar: Rev. Debbie Powell

Board of Ministry Representative: Adam Blagg

Secretary: Rev. Joel Robinette

Mentor Coordinator: Rev. Debbie Powell

Rev. Sarah Bailey

Mrs. Barbara Phillips (Lay)

Rev. Mary Dadisman

Rev. Keon Huh

Mrs. Marquette Mitchell (Lay)

Rev. Amy Pannell

Rev. Dr. Victor Gómez

DISTRICT COMMITTEE REPORTS

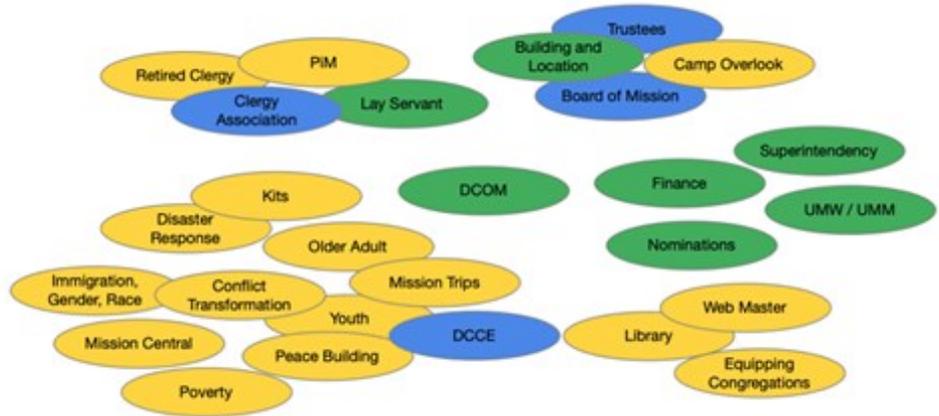
From Shenandoah River District Co - Lay Leader

Hello Shenandoah River District!

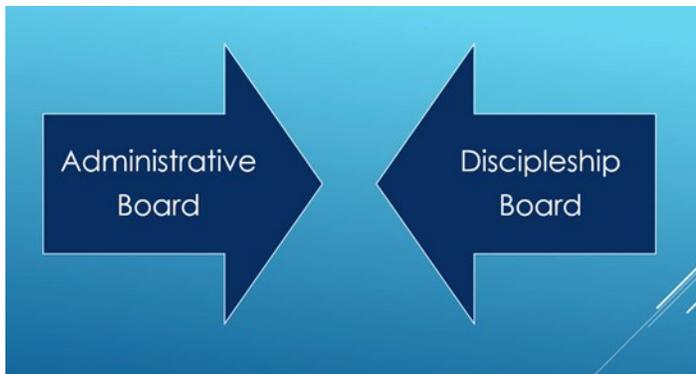
To those of you I have not met, my name is Andy Harbick. I am the District Co-Lay Leader. I attend RISE United Methodist Faith Community in Harrisonburg. I'm married to Shiree and have three adult sons Aiden, Riley, and Brody. Vocationally I lead teams that build software-based technologies. Personally, I enjoy anything that stretches me and lets me learn; you're likely to find me making things, cycling, hiking, or playing board games with friends and family. Say hello if you see me at conference.

This past year I had the honor of working with a team of laity and clergy from the former Harrisonburg and Winchester Districts to plan a structure

for our new combined district. We read books about the Simplified Accountable Structure, looked at maps, studied previous budgets, and built diagrams trying to understand all the committees and groups that come together to lead us in ministry.



At times it was overwhelming and hard to understand. In the two districts, previously, there were 27 distinct committees, some only in one district and some in both. But as we worked together and reminded each other of the mission of the United Methodist Church (to “make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world”) the Spirit showed up and helped us to find clarity and simplicity in a different structure composed of two boards that streamline the fulfillment of responsibilities in the Book of Discipline and provide excellent resources and support to the many ministries of our combined district.



Over the coming months I am excited to serve along with you and to see how living into this plan can empower our newly combined district to make a difference for the Kingdom.

Andy Harbick
Shenandoah River District Co-Lay Leader

From Shenandoah River District Co - Lay Leader

Greetings!

It's been a year with lots of changes. The creation of the Shenandoah River District by combining Winchester and Harrisonburg districts into one, was voted into reality during the VA Annual Conference in June. The Shenandoah River District and 7 other Districts in the VA Conference were created from 16 Districts. Listening to various laments about how this was not going to work, geographically, financially, relationally, managerially, many District Lay Leaders and District Superintendents present countered with their opinions about this change in a positive light. Noting that nothing is impossible for our God, we get to observe what God does and the combining of districts was seen as an opportunity for all to come a little closer together as the Kingdom of God!

Our Conference Lay Leader, Mrs. Martha Stokes has established ongoing opportunities for the District Lay Leaders and Associates to meet with Bishop Sharma Lewis and her Cabinet in formal meetings and informal retreats. Our leaders want to support the laity as well as the clergy at the grassroots level by becoming a more available resource. Our district and local church lay leaders will build more intentional relationships with their congregations, discovering and relaying their needs to the Conference for support of their faith journeys..

One of the changes that will affect how we do business in the district is the adoption of the SAS model, which will provide leaders better use of their specific gifts and talents in this work. This new model focuses on supporting administrative matters separate from the programming; mission/relational matters of the church. A diverse group of laity, clergy and youth will be represented on these committees. Our District Superintendent, Rev. Dr. Victor Gómez will be on both committees and the additional committees which will operate outside of the SAS design.

The Shenandoah River District has two wonderful Associate Lay Leaders; Kathy Lutman and Susan Schall. Kathy and Susan are active in their local churches, district and Conference ministries. Susan recently organized an event for the Warren/Fauquier Zone. Look for additional district wide events in the future. Plan to carpool with your friends and family to worship Jesus and make new connections all over the Shenandoah River District! Stay tuned.

In a changing world where God's people are distracted, discouraged, divided, and hated daily, we are still called to be the light and the salt to ALL of God's people. We still find hope in our Savior and encouragement from one another. (Do not isolate yourself!) *Keeping our faith and focus on the One who never changes... God keeps His promise to be with us, through the Holy Spirit, no matter what! So let's follow Jesus as His hands and feet in service for the people of the New Shenandoah River District! Amen.*

... Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. 24 And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, 25 not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching. Hebrews 10:23-25 NIV

District Lay Servant Ministry - Former Winchester District



The year got off to a slow start in the former Winchester District as we emerged from the coronavirus pandemic. We began the year with fifty-one Certified Lay Servants and nine Certified Lay Speakers.

We were able to hold a Lay Servant Training on May 21 at Duncan Memorial UMC. Classes offered were: Basic with Rev. Chad Hrbek teaching, Spiritual Gifts with Joe Plemmons teaching and Leading Worship with Rev. Joanna Dietz teaching. Duncan Memorial UMC has been a most gracious host for us over the years, as has Braddock Street UMC.

Prior to planning the spring training, co-director of Lay Servant Ministries the Rev. Sherry Waddell, had announced her intentions to retire from the ministry. The Rev. Gary Heaton was asked to fill her place on the committee and he graciously accepted. A big thanks to Pastor Gary for stepping up and a huge thanks to Pastor Sherry for all the time and enthusiasm she has given to the Lay Servant Ministry program over the years, as well as Rev. Leah DeLong and CLM Wayne Reynolds.

As my own service to the committee will come to an end on December 31, I want to say what a joy it has been to work with such a dedicated group of people over the years! I have seen the long hours and hard work you have put in to the various aspects of ministry and your love for our Lord. Know that each one of you is special to me.

I leave you in the very capable and enthusiastic hands of Rev. Gary Heaton, who will carry on as a District Director of Lay Servant Ministries. Keep up the good work!

Barbara Cooper
Former Winchester District Director of Lay Servants

District Lay Servant Ministry - Former Harrisonburg District

The former Harrisonburg District has a total of 56 active Lay Servants in 2022. Of these, one is a Certified Lay Minister, pastoring a two-point Charge in Shenandoah County, and 13 have completed all of the six required courses to be a Certified Lay Speaker.

The Spring 2022 Lay Servant Training was conducted in-person with only one Class, Leading Worship, led by Rev. Adam Blagg with 9 students. The Fall 2022 Training was conducted with two classes – the in-person Basic Course taught by Linda Conrad with 5 students and Leading Prayer taught in-person and Zoom by Rev. Brian Posey with 6 students. Both classes had students from across the Shenandoah River District.

In 2023, the first year priority is to merge both former District Lay Servant Committees into a combined Lay Servant Committee, merging the data bases and determining the specific class needs to meet and equip the District Lay Servants.

The Lay Servant Training dates, times, and locations are emailed to the District Lay Servants, all Pastors, and Local Church Lay Leaders. The information is also included in the monthly Shenandoah River District Newsletter and forwarded to the Conference Lay Servant Committee for their distribution. All courses are open to everyone. You do not have to be in the Lay Servant program to take any of these courses.

“The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.” (Matt. 9:37b-38)

Joe Amend <><
Former Harrisonburg District Lay Servant Committee

District Committee on the Ordained Ministry (DCOM)

Have you ever thought about the process a person must follow in order to become a Licensed Local Pastor or an ordained Deacon or Elder in the Virginia Conference of the United Methodist Church? When someone senses the movement of the Holy Spirit in his or her life and responds to God's call to servant ministry, how does that person move from "call" to being appointed where their gifts and graces will serve God's people? Every United Methodist who says, "Here I am Lord, send me!" enters a journey that seeks to assess their spiritual, psychological, and physical readiness for ministry and their potential for effectiveness.

The DCOM continues to monitor all candidates to support them as they move forward in their call and journey. Each certified ministry candidate must meet with the DCOM annually for recertification. In addition, each Local Pastor appointed to a church comes before the DCOM to share the good news of their ministry in the previous year and the DCOM offers its support for the year ahead. We celebrate the work of our Local Pastors for they do great work for the Lord. Many are bi-vocational with the challenges of church and family. We are grateful for their response to God's call and their service on the Shenandoah River District.

During this inaugural year of the Shenandoah River District, the DCOM is adjusting to its new work environment. Rev. Daniel Wray and Rev. Michael Reaves serve as the co-chairs of the DCOM.

The DCOM thanks you for sending forth and supporting those who have heard God's call to ministry. We ask for your prayers as we seek to serve God by serving the Shenandoah River District churches in this ministry.

We have many licensed local pastors serving appointments on the District. We also have certified lay ministers serving our local churches as well. Many of these faithful servants heard their call to ministry as a member of one of the churches on the Shenandoah River District.

If you are discerning a call to ministry, the District Committee on Ordained Ministry encourages you to reach out to us. We are here to help you find the support you need to answer your call.

Rev. Michael Reaves Co-Chair michaelreaves@vaumc.org
Rev. Daniel Wray Co-Chair danielwray@vaumc.org

Camp Overlook Report 2022



Dear Members of the Shenandoah River District,

It is an absolute pleasure to share with you all that is happening at Camp Overlook! My name is Christina and I was hired as the new Director at the beginning of October. My family and I moved from North Carolina where I served as an Assistant Director at a conference camp in the Western NC District of the UMC.

With October being one of Overlook's busiest off season months; I have hit the ground running! Overlook's summer 2022 was something to celebrate! With the pandemic still around, there was some uncertainty of how it would all turn out. However, campers and staff came to Overlook and lives were changed! There were a total of 196 campers and ... staff members. Our campers journeyed through the Camp Overlook Olympics while learning about prayer and spiritual disciplines. We would like to give a special thank you to the district clergy who spent a week in the woods serving as a Chaplin for our camp community.

We are well underway planning events for summer 2023. We will be reliving the stories of the Old Testament through games, songs, drama, and storytelling! From Adam to Zechariah, we will unfold Bible history in fun and memorable ways. Please share with your congregations, neighbors and friends about this amazing opportunity for children and youth. If you know any high school or college age students who are looking to work and serve for the summer please send them our way.

As 2022 comes to a close, we celebrate and thank God for the ministry happening at Overlook and throughout our district. We thank you for your continued support through your time, financial gifts, and prayers.

Christina Gibbs
Executive Director

3014 Camp Overlook Lane
Keezletown, VA 22832
CampOverlook@gmail.com
540 2MY-CAMP
CampOverlook.org

Mission Central Board Report 2022

1704 SMITHLAND ROAD * HARRISONBURG, VA 22801

POST OFFICE BOX 2026
HARRISONBURG, VA. 22802

The ministries of Mission Central (Children's Clothes Closet and Equipment for Caring) continue their community outreach. Both are dependent on volunteer services and donations of clothing and medical equipment/disposable supplies, as well as monetary help from the community. Artie Fredrick, coordinator of the Children's Clothes Closet and Delores Reid, coordinator of Equipment for Caring, work diligently to keep both ministries organized and welcoming.

These two ministries meet the needs of those who face difficult circumstances. Whether it be financial, little or no health insurance or immigrant/refugee status, Mission Central ministries seek to bring immediate help and reassurance to many. Presently, Equipment for Caring has given equipment to an average of 60 people per month and approximately 40 people have received disposable supplies per month. The Clothes Closet is serving an average 100 families, monthly. 300+ children are helped through these efforts each month. Our liaison, Dawn Kern, is helping to bring awareness to churches, sharing our story and vision to congregations. Our ministries rely greatly on prayers of others. God is abundantly providing donations and the hands and feet of Christ, serving the least, the lonely, the lost.



The Children's Clothes Closet is open to the public from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month; and the 3rd Tuesday and the 2nd and 4th Thursday evenings from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.



Equipment for Caring is open to the public weekly on Mondays from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. and on Thursdays from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Here is the mailing address when sending monetary donations:

Equipment for Caring, 2026 Post Office Box, Harrisonburg, Va. 22801

Children's Clothes Closet, 2026 Post Office Box, Harrisonburg, Va. 22801
(Please write in check memo, a specific ministry, if you desire)

More information is available on our website:

www.missioncentralharrisonburgva.com or <http://www.shenandoahriverdistrict.org>

Continue to pray for this ministry; those in need, those who serve, those who give and those who hope!

Barbara Phillips, Mission Central Board Chairman

Shenandoah River Mission Outreach Report 2022

At the beginning of the year in 2022, we were still known as the Harrisonburg and Winchester Districts respectively. At Annual Conference in June, we became the Shenandoah River District. This report will highlight the events of each district prior to our joining.

Former Harrisonburg District Mission Report -

Over the past couple of years, the pandemic and the various health restrictions that were in place nationally, statewide, and in churches, created some difficulties in proceeding with things as normal. As a result, Early Response certifications expired for everyone, as an ERT certification is only valid for two years, and then a recertification course is required. Mission trips out of state or internationally were paused.

The Harrisonburg District worked alongside other districts over the past two years to collect Kits for Conference. Working together and with the Annual Conference leadership, we have begun to change "The Way It Always Was." This past year, we collected Hygiene Kits, Cleaning Buckets and School Kits (which have been discontinued by UMCOR) at a central location, and a truck came to our locations and transported them to Mission Central in Pennsylvania. This addressed several safety concerns about working on asphalt in Annual Conference parking lots in summer heat in the back of trailers without good ventilation. This also helped create some flexibility in our churches creation and collections time tables.

This year's Kits for Conference collected 34 cleaning buckets, 565 school kits, and 978 hygiene kits; a monetary value of about \$19,904.

At Annual Conference, it was voted and approved to move the number of districts from 16 to 8. The former Winchester and Harrisonburg joined forces to create the new Shenandoah River District. Those of us who had been serving with district disaster response missions and kit collections had already begun collaborating and working together in an effort to make this transition seamless and able to grow and expand our missional efforts.

We are discussing our coordination to address the disruptions caused by the Pandemic, and to get the missional opportunities and engagement back on track. We are currently in process of trying to get ERT certification classes made available; begin developing our UVMIM trip opportunities, and grow our Kits for Conference ministries.

We have also been working together by assisting the Annual Conference's drive for each district to contribute 585 cleaning buckets to the emergency bucket collection. This effort will help replenish cleaning bucket stocks and to be prepared for the next disaster that will require cleaning bucket disbursements. This is a request for every church to donate monetarily or create about 4 cleaning buckets. We want to thank you for your help in this important missional drive.

Submitted by,
Rev. Brian Posey—Disaster Coordinator for the Former Harrisonburg District

Shenandoah River Mission Outreach Report 2022

Former Winchester District Mission Report -

The pandemic and other health concerns restricted many activities we normally would do as a district. However, many of our local churches organized and followed through on local efforts to connect to those in the most need.

March 12th, 2022, UMVIM Team Leader training was organized and completed at Harmony United Methodist Church, Hamilton, VA. In spite of winter weather, some 14 people were certified to lead an UMVIM team.

June 2022 - Annual Conference Collection was coordinated and items dropped off at Duncan Memorial UMC in Berryville, VA.

29 churches dropped off items for the collection.

The following items were collected:

20 Cleaning Kits

1652 Hygiene Kits

308 School Kits

338 lbs non perishable food

3 layette kits

Non perishable food was delivered to the following:

Greenwood UMC for the backpack buddy program

Welltown UMC for their food pantry

Round Hill (Loudoun) for their food pantry

Joann Ballard

The former Winchester District Mission Outreach Coordinator

Shenandoah River District Report -

Since Annual Conference was held in June, we have been collaborating together on mission and outreach needs.

Below is a list of some of the things we are working on for the District:

*Cleaning Bucket Collection - Initiated by VAUMC.

Goal is to collect 600 buckets from our district to help flooding victims in the United States.

*ERT Training (Early Response Training)

*UMVIM Mission Trips (in USA as a response to recent disasters)

In addition, the District Mission/Outreach team is here to help churches in our district grow in their local, regional, national and international outreach work. Please reach out to us if you have questions or need help with training or next steps.

Joann Ballard joannballard1902@gmail.com

Brian Posey brianposey@vaumc.org

Former Winchester District United Women in Faith



United
Women
in Faith

This has been quite a year – a year like no other, to say the least. It hasn't been easy trying to get back to some kind of normalcy amid all the changes:

--a new name for our own organization, plus a few new ways of doing things

--the district merger and with it a new district name

--the loss of six more units which chose to become in-

active, thus bringing the total number of units in our district down to 25

Regarding district functions:

Last March we wanted to bring back our annual Prayer Breakfast but decided to err on the side of caution and hold off until next year.

Our Spring Event in April, which usually focuses on a social issue, was held virtually on the topic teen and youth suicide.

In August we held another "Celebration Gathering" at Burnt Factory UMC's outdoor shelter – no business, just a fun time that was enjoyed by all.

While all Executive Committee meetings throughout the year have been held virtually, our annual meeting in September was in person. Our Zone meetings this fall will be as well, with the theme "We're Still Here – Let's Celebrate Together!"

Regarding the merge with the Harrisonburg District:

The leadership of both districts have been hard at work this past summer and early fall putting together those items that needed to be voted on at our respective annual meetings; namely, budget, district pledge, A&MD fee, calendar of events, and slate of officers. There's much work yet to be done: district directory, standing rules, and combining of bank accounts.

Our new district is now very large, which will make in-person meetings for the district as a whole nearly impossible. Most will be held virtually. However, there will be a few in-person gatherings designated for either the northern area or the southern area. In fact, we're thinking of our new district as having a "North" and a "South" with a co-vice president from each area. Our zones will be designated that way, too.

In summary:

We've come a long way since the pandemic started; and with all the changes, our journey has been neither smooth nor easy. But we as United Women in Faith are still here and still doing our best to minister to the needs of women, children, and youth both here and around the world.

Mary Preston
Former Winchester District United Women in Faith President

Former Harrisonburg District United Women in Faith Report

The former Harrisonburg UMW/UWF District has had an interesting and challenging year. We have continued to be busy servants, locally and in other areas of mission. Although the ladies feel uncertain and sometimes uneasy about the future, they move forward.



United
Women
in Faith

A great portion of the year has been spent in preparing for the upcoming organization of the Shenandoah River UWF. I have had the great pleasure of working with Mary Preston, President of the present Winchester District UWF. We have met in person, by zoom, and by phone. Our relationship has grown with trust and respect for each other. We both feel confident in the plans that have been made for next year. I look forward to working with her and all the members of the new executive committee.

I felt so encouraged recently by the enthusiasm of attendees of our Prayer Breakfast and our annual meeting. There was delightful laughter, chatter and a great fellowship. We can make this happen, in the future, through good communication, encouragement and support for all that our units are accomplishing. Our numbers may have lessened but I feel women want to serve and make a difference for others. I see that in the work presently done. Change is hard and we like being comfortable. But, as Christian women, we have a history of making changes for the better. We are trying to get used to a new look, a new name, a new logo while still serving our same God. He asks of us one important question, "Do you love your neighbor?" Are we willing to grow, change, lead, and lift up others? I think so! We have done this for 50 years and we can continue on that path.

We will finish our year on November 12th, starting at 9:00 a.m. with our last event; "Looking Ahead Together." We will have a speaker from Open Doors/Harrisonburg to update us on its outreach to our homeless population. This event will be held at Bridgewater UMC. The second half of this event will center around explaining better utilization of our zones. We have very enthusiastic zone leaders who are willing to be liaisons to local groups. This will be a time for any questions and concerns.

Hebrews 12:1 impressed me at the closing of a recent Emmaus "Send Off" and I share this, with love for my sisters in Christ: "Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us." It may be hard at times, but I feel teamwork is everything! We are encouragers by nature! Blessings to each of you.

Blessings,
Barbara Phillips
presently serving as President of the Former Harrisonburg District

Kingsway Prison and Family Outreach

In 2021 Kingsway Prison and Family Outreach acquired the space next door in our building and we call it Kingsway's House of Restoration.



During Christmas 2021, we served Inmates at Augusta, Coffeewood, Green Rock, Marion and Cold Springs Correctional Center for men and Fluvanna Correctional Center for women as well as the C Cap Program at Cold Springs and Harrisonburg and Middle River and Rockingham Harrisonburg Regional Jails with gifts of toothpaste, lip balm, notepad and pencil, socks and a Christmas Card. (Approximately 6,000.)

The Apple Tree Project supplied Christmas gifts for 325 children. We no longer wrap the gifts but send wrapping paper and tape. The guardians have a great time wrapping these gifts for their charges. The notes we received from this project were precious.

In 2022, we sent Lenten devotionals to 200 inmates at Sussex I and Sussex II and Deer Field Correctional Centers as they were still in lockdown from Covid. We were able to start correspondent Bible Studies in March of 2022 and are continuing in R H and MRR regional jails, as well as Augusta Correctional Center and Fairfax City jail.

Services have continued inside for those in Augusta and Coffeewood. Louise Jennings was able to return as Chaplain for the women at Rockingham Harrisonburg Regional Jail.

In January 2022, we offered a Fellowship Gathering for anyone over the age of 18 with Music, Message and Testimonies. In March 2022, we started a Fellowship for mothers of inmates which meets every 3rd Tuesday night.

There has been a high influx of persons returning to the community and Kingsway has been there to help in many ways.

Kingsway is in need of regular support. We need funding to hire a director. I am getting older and feel I am not as dependable as I can be. I would like to see this ministry continue meeting the needs of those returning citizens to get a fresh start that Kingsway has been able to provide. We have some amazing new board members and 9 wonderful office volunteers. We also have 20 outside volunteers, cleared thru the Department of Corrections, that lead the inside prison church services. There is much more that could be accomplished.

Kingsway has never had a payroll (Including me) and all have been volunteers. Please pray for us. Check out our website: www.kingswayoutreach.org

Louise Jennings, Director
Vicki Barb, President of Kingsway Board of Directors

SHENANDOAH RIVER DISTRICT BUDGET—2023

Shenandoah River District Revenues	2022 Approved Budget			2023	Diff
	Harrisonburg	Winchester	Total		
Funding from apportionments	184,086	184,841	368,927	333,000	(35,927)
Transition grant from conference			-	50,000	50,000
Funding from district parsonage investment		13,000	13,000	18,000	5,000
Total revenues	184,086	197,841	381,927	401,000	19,073
Expenses					
Mission and outreach					
Camp Overlook	42,000		42,000	60,000	18,000
Mission support to churches		15,000	15,000	15,000	-
Mission Central grant	7,500		7,500	7,500	-
VIM - District teams	2,000	10,500	12,500	3,000	(9,500)
Chaplaincy		6,640	6,640	6,600	(40)
Just Neighbors	1,250		1,250	1,250	-
Criminal justice grant	500		500	500	-
Health ministries	250		250	-	(250)
	53,500	32,140	85,640	93,850	8,210
Ministries and leadership					
Congregational Vitality	3,000		3,000	6,500	3,500
New Church Starts	1,500		1,500	3,000	1,500
Clergy Leadership			-	2,000	2,000
Lay Servant Training	800		800	2,000	1,200
District Youth Ministry	1,000		1,000	2,500	1,500
Support for clergy continuing ed		500	500	1,000	500
Communications	500		500	1,000	500
Audio Visual Materials/Library	500		500	500	-
Retired Clergy Association Development	400		400	-	(400)
Emerging ministries	2,250	9,000	11,250	5,000	(6,250)
District Conference/Leadership training	1,500		1,500	1,000	(500)
	11,450	9,500	20,950	24,500	3,550
Programs outside of CommonTable					
Annual Lay Delegates	4,025	12,000	16,025	18,400	2,375
DCOM	1,000	500	1,500	1,000	(500)
District Lay Leader		500	500	1,000	500
Superintendency Fund	2,000		2,000	-	(2,000)
	7,025	13,000	20,025	20,400	375
Trustees					
Contingencies		7,000	7,000	8,000	1,000
Housing Allowance		15,000	15,000	18,000	3,000
District Parsonage Maintenance	3,500		3,500	2,500	(1,000)
District Parsonage Heat	2,000		2,000	2,000	-
District Parsonage Renovations	1,000		1,000	1,000	-
District Parsonage Insurance	1,700		1,700	1,000	(700)
DS Moving support	750		750	-	(750)
	8,950	22,000	30,950	32,500	1,550

Shenandoah River District - Page 2

Revenues

2022 Approved Budget

District Administration

	Harrisonburg	Winchester	Total	2023	Diff
Office rent	14,400	19,620	34,020	18,000	(16,020)
Office utilities	3,000		3,000	3,500	500
Office supplies	3,000	3,500	6,500	3,000	(3,500)
Postage		1,200	1,200	1,000	(200)
Office phone and internet	5,000	5,800	10,800	4,000	(6,800)
Office insurance		3,500	3,500	4,000	500
Office equipment	3,000	2,000	5,000	2,500	(2,500)
District website expenses		1,000	1,000	1,000	-
Accounting services		-	-	6,000	6,000
Xerox Lease		5,500	5,500	5,500	-
Pitney Bowes lease		1,000	1,000	1,500	500
Printing/coping		1,700	1,700	3,500	1,800
Contingencies	250	3,500	3,750	250	(3,500)
	<u>28,650</u>	<u>48,320</u>	<u>76,970</u>	<u>53,750</u>	<u>(23,220)</u>

Personnel Expenses

Administrative Assistant	37,000	38,282	75,282	38,300	(36,982)
Director of Congregational Vitality	20,000		20,000	20,000	-
DCCE Salary		20,500	20,500	20,000	(500)
Custodian	3,500		3,500	3,500	-
Part-time office help	2,000		2,000	2,000	-
Treasurer	1,200		1,200	-	(1,200)
IT Administrator			-	38,000	38,000
IT Admin Continuing ed and travel			-	3,000	3,000
DCCE/DCOV Continuing ed and travel	1,500	1,250	2,750	2,500	(250)
Continuing education - lay staff		300	300	600	300
Lay Pension (9%)	3,330	2,297	5,627	3,500	(2,127)
Clergy Pension		1,230	1,230	5,700	4,470
Payroll tax	4,781	4,497	9,278	3,200	(6,078)
Workers compensation insurance	500		500	200	(300)
DS Discretionary		4,500	4,500	3,000	(1,500)
DS Travel	700		700	3,000	2,300
	<u>74,511</u>	<u>72,856</u>	<u>147,367</u>	<u>146,500</u>	<u>(867)</u>

Total expenses

	<u>184,086</u>	<u>197,816</u>	<u>381,902</u>	<u>371,500</u>	<u>(10,402)</u>
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Revenues in excess of expenses

	<u>-</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>29,500</u>	<u>29,475</u>
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District Conference Nominations

DISTRICT MEMBERS-AT-LARGE NOMINEES

2023 ANNUAL CONFERENCE - June 15-17, 2023

ROANOKE, VIRGINIA

Shenandoah River District: Membership: 34,243
 Members At Large 2023* = 46

- 1 District Co-Lay Leader (1 Co-Lay Leader included by virtue of office** = 45 (Wilma Jenkins—Co Lay Leader)
- 2 District Assistant Lay Leaders = 43 (Kathy Lutman, Susan Schall)
- 1 District Director of Lay Servants** = 42 (Wendell Cochran)

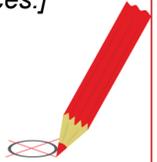
* [Calculation received from Conference Connectional Ministries Office (E-mail correspondence 09-21-22) Note: By Conference Rules: The District Lay Leader, District UMF Women President, District UMMen President, 3 District Youth Members At Large & 3 District Young Adult/College Members At Large are NOT included in the 42 representatives.]

** [The District Director of Lay Servants are District Members-at-Large by vote of previous District Conferences.]

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

42 MEMBERS-AT-LARGE REPRESENT THE SHENANDOAH RIVER DISTRICT

[Only lay members of District Conference may vote for the District Lay Members At-Large of Annual Conference]



Andy Harbick—RISE

Andy serves as the Shenandoah River District Co Lay Leader. By Conference rules, 1 district lay leader is included as a member at large to Annual Conference. (For 2023, that will be Wilma Jenkins.) Andy needs to be elected to also serve as a member at large to Annual Conference for 2023.

Betty Armentrout—Bennetts Chapel (Warren Charge):

Betty has served her local church as worship praise team director. She also served as adult Sunday School facilitator, and many years ago as treasurer. In the past she has gone on numerous mission trips and was involved in some of the Warren Charge outreach programs such as “Backpack Buddies”. She organized and held annual women's retreats at “My Father's Vineyard” for many years. She is a lay speaker, and has teamed on the Loudoun Valley Emmaus weekend walks many times. She has been elected as a Winchester District Delegate to the Virginia Annual Conference numerous times. She loves the Lord and God's people, and would count it a privilege to serve the body of Christ again as one of the Shenandoah River District Lay Delegates. Thank you for your consideration.

Robert Brock—Braddock Street:

Robert has been an active member and leader of the United Methodist Church for 30 years having held most local church positions. At Braddock Street UMC he is the Chair of the Church Council (2021-2023), Vice Chair for 2020, Sunday School small group leader, and volunteer with the Latinx Ministry- 535 Club. He is a Trustee of the Virginia Conference Historical Society; have served as a Trustee in the Winchester District and have been a member of the Board of Missions; have been a member of the Winchester District Haiti Steering Committee and was a missionary to Haiti in March 2014, March 2015, April 2016, Team Leader in February 2017, and February 2019. He was a member of the Winchester District Committee on Congregational Excellence for three years. He is an experienced Winchester District Lay Delegate to the Virginia Annual Conference as well as the Lay Delegate for my previous church. He volunteers extensively with Congregational Community Action Project (CCAP) in Winchester, including providing pro bono legal services to CCAP, and am a member of the Board of Directors. Mr. Brock is a retired Navy Veteran. He is an attorney, retired from the Department of Homeland Security. Robert is qualified to address upcoming issues and programs and he looks forward to advancing Christ's work at the 2023 Annual Conference.

Charles Wesley Curry – Parnassus:

Charles joined the Mount Zion Evangelical United Brethren Church in 1958 and has been a member of Parnassus United Methodist Church and the Harrisonburg District for eighteen years. He served as chair of church council, chair of pastor parish relations committee, chair of outreach ministries and conference delegate. Currently, he is church lay leader and a lay servant.

Carole Feiring—Bennetts Chapel (Warren Charge):

Carole is keenly interested in the workings of “my church.” She loves the teaching, the preaching and the discussions that happen no where else.

Pamela L. Foster—Bennetts Chapel (Warren Charge):

Pamela has been a member of the Warren Charge for several years. She is a certified lay speaker, leaders of children’s moment each Sunday during Bennetts Chapel United Methodist Worship Service. Pamela is a participant in the charge food pantry, and a member of the praise team. She has attended Annual Conference for the past few years.

Heather Gómez – Otterbein:

Heather has served as a volunteer for Mission Central, local church missions, women’s small group leader; former liaison for English/Spanish speaking parents in the school system and a volunteer for Just Neighbors.

Delores Gordon—Braddock Street

Delores is a life long United Methodist who is faithful in her attendance in worship and small groups as well as having served on trustees and other committees. She has followed the upheaval in the UMC and is knowledgeable on the history and coming decisions for congregations. She is reasonably tech savvy.

Gerald Gordon—Braddock Street:

Gerald is a long time member of Braddock Street and has served in a variety of jobs roles to include: SPRC chair, lay leader coordinator, mission committee chair and member at large to Annual Conference. He is a clergy parent who is deeply concerned about the vitality and future of the UMC.

Tamara (Tammy) R. Gordon – Aisle 7:

Tammy is a member of Aisle 7 in Verona. She is also a current District Lay Member At Large and has been for the past four years and would like to continue to serve. She serves on the pastor parish relations committee and is very active with the Emmaus group and involved with 2 reunion groups. It would be a honor to serve as a Member At Large again.

Cherryl Hassler—Manor Memorial

Cherryl and her husband Rick recently transferred their membership to Manor Memorial in New Market. At her previous church, she served as the local church member to annual conference for several years. She enjoys attending conference and being a participant in the business of the church.

Susan Hrbek—Front Royal:

Susan has belonged to Front Royal UMC for 48 years and has served in many areas which include: worship chair, pastor parish relations chair, mission chair, trustees, finance committee, administrative board, choir and bells, youth leader, fellowship chair United Women in Faith, circle chair, altar chair and served as lay leader. Susan has been a Lay Member At Large for 3 years.

Gene Knicely – Asbury (Harrisonburg):

Gene is a longtime member of Asbury Church and member of the church council. He is active in Sunday school. He has attended VA Annual Conference and would be glad to represent the Shenandoah River District in 2023.

Paula Levesque—Braddock Street:

Paula is 35 years old and has been a United Methodist all her life. She is currently in her second year at Wesley Theological Seminary and hopes to become a certified candidate soon. Paula has been a very active member at Braddock Street for 10 years. In her time at Braddock Street, she has served as the associate lay leader for the 11:15 service, a member at large to Annual Conference for 3 years and has been a delegate for district conference. She has served as a Winchester Member At Large for the last 5 years. Paula loves annual conference and having the opportunity of her voice being heard. She would greatly appreciate the opportunity of being elected to attend again.

Jo Ann Liskey—Otterbein:

Jo Ann has been an active member of Otterbein United Methodist Church since 1955. She has served as treasurer of the Harrisonburg District from November, 1981 until July, 2022. She is very involved with the United Women in Faith, serving as president of Otterbein and the Harrisonburg District. Jo Ann also served as the treasurer of the Virginia Conference United Women in Faith and the Harrisonburg District United Women in Faith. She has participated in mission teams to Franklin, Virginia, Hendersonville, North Carolina and Mexico. She would consider it an honor to represent the Shenandoah River District as a Member At Large.

Esther Malloy – Sunset Drive (Broadway):

Esther grew up in the Methodist church with her earliest memories coming from Ocean Grove, NJ where she attended Thornly Chapel daily. As the years passed, she was a certified lay speaker in the Harrisonburg District. She raised their children in the church and became active with youth activities in the 1990's.

Michael Malloy – Sunset Drive (Broadway):

Michael has been a member of Sunset Drive United Methodist Church since 1977 and has served in many roles including lay leader and lay speaker. He has served on mission projects including church sponsored, Habitat for Humanity and Camp Overlook. He will be glad to serve as a district member at large representing the Shenandoah River District for 2023.

Johna McFarland—Bridgewater

Johna grew up attending Mount Jackson UMC. While attending James Madison University, she attended Asbury UMC. For the last 20 years, she has been a member of Bridgewater UMC. Johna has been active in United Women of Faith and has served as circle leader, Sunday school teacher, Operation Christmas Child coordinator and United Women in Faith President.

Paul McFarland—Bridgewater

Paul grew up in Asbury UMC in Harrisonburg. He served as youth and young adult member at large to annual conference for several years. He transferred his membership to Mount Jacksons UMC with his wife, Johna. He has been a member of Bridgewater UMC for the last 20+ years, where he has served as District member at large to Annual Conference and lay leader.

Diana S. Miller—Fields (Shenandoah Charge):

Diana is a very faithful servant of God. Her faith is her daily bread to live and breathe by. She has served in many capacities including children's ministry, choir, Sunday school teach and superintendent, United Women in Faith secretary and treasurer. As times have changed, she still believes in our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

James T. Nickens—Wesley (Winchester)

James was born in Strasburg on July 28, 1938. He is a high school graduate with some college courses. U. S. Army, Germany. Honorable discharge, Spc. 4th Class. 1964 -1988. Staff of House Majority—Hale Boggs of Louisiana, 2nd District. Retired in 1988 from the House of Representatives. Has been a member of the United Methodist Church for 84 years.

Jill Ryan—Leesburg

Jill transferred her membership to Leesburg in the 2000's. Since that time, she has served in many roles in support of the mission of Christ and the church including media, council, lay leader and certified lay servant since 2015 or 2016.

Pauline Skiles—Montague Avenue

Pauline is the wife of Archie Skiles, mother of 3 adult children, 4 grandchildren and 1 great granddaughter, born this year—WOW! She wants to know how she got so old! She has attended and served at Montague Avenue for over 60 years—how did she get so old? She loves and serves the Lord. WOW! She says it is a blessing to be so old!

Steven R. Spurr—Kernstown:

Steven has been a member of the United Methodist church for 48 years. He has served in several capacities within the local church during that time. Currently he serves Kernstown as the chair of the SPPRC and is outgoing chair of its reach and serve committee.

Richard L. Taliaferro—Stephens City

Richard has been a member of Stephens City since 1995. He served as SPPRC chair from 1996-1999, lay leader from 2002-2005, district member at large to annual conference 2011-2014, Sunday school teacher from 1999 to present. Richard served on church council from 2006-2009, and is serving as church council chair 2022-2024. He is active in the community serving on the Board of Directors of the Dental Clinic of the Northern Shenandoah Valley, Volunteer Dental Dentist Clinic since 1992.

Malissa (Lisa) Wilson (Cedar Grove Charge)

Lisa has been a United Methodist pastor's wife for the last 22 years in 5 different churches/charge. Each has been loving, busy, inspirational and active in this denomination. At this time of uncertainty and change, she feels called to serve as a district member at large to better understand and serve with United Methodist churches to move toward a hopeful future.

Alternate District At-Large Member

15 Persons may be elected to serve in this position

Two Young Adult/College Members at Large

(3 allowed for the Shenandoah River District)

Raini Newman—Macedonia:

Raini is 30 years old and has been in Winchester for 7 years. She has been part of the United Methodist Church for 12 years. Raini is a faithful member of Macedonia United Methodist Church. She has been part of some wonderful ministries the past 7 years: Assisted with VBS, youth programs, helping with communion, Bible studies, participated in group ministries at nursing homes, visitations and singing with others. Raini is also currently in the process of taking Lay Servant training to be certified. She has been a Young Adult Member At Large for the past 4 years.

Jacques (Jac) Bridges - Bethany (Augusta):

Jac is a very involved member of Bethany UMC. He encourages other young people to attend with him. He has also served as a greeter, was active in the youth group while in high school. He is also very good with the older population at Bethany and visits shut-ins and the sick. He has a compassion for service within the church. He has attended numerous Annual Conferences as a guest. He has served as a district member at large for two years and takes an interest in the business of the United Methodist Church.

Two Youth Members at Large

(3 allowed for the Shenandoah River District)

Paul V. Barsteika II—Evangelical

Paul is a young man with a deeper faith than most adults. He was 7 years old when he interned with former pastor Rev. David Vaughan. He visited hospitals, nursing homes and planned a funeral. The week was capped off by him leading worship!

Berkley Bennett—Luray

Berkley is a member of Luray United Methodist Church. She has been an active part of all areas of church life, including service as an acolyte, usher, reader, mission team member, VBS helper and communion helper. She attends Randolph Macon Academy in Front Royal, VA where she is a student chapel leader.

Shenandoah River District
Virginia Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church



78 Brook Creek Road
Toms Brook, VA 22660

540.433.2382 office phone

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday
9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

*(The District Administrator works remotely on Fridays and can be reached
at the office phone number)*

District Superintendent: Rev. Dr. Victor Gómez
Email: ShenandoahRiverDS@vaumc.org 540-575-6406

District Director of Connectional Ministries: Rev. Chad Hrbek
Email: ChadHrbek@vaumc.org 540-575-6407

District Director of Connectional Ministries: Rev. Gordon Meriwether
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District Director of Informational Technology: Rev. Jim Joyner
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District Administrator: Debbie Creech
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SHENANDOAH RIVER DISTRICT WEBPAGE:

www.shenandoahriverdistrict.org

VIRGINIA CONFERENCE WEBPAGE: www.vaumc.org

EVC WEBSITE: www.evc.vaumc.org