

# VIRLINA DISTRICT

Church  
of the  
Brethren



## MEMO FOR MINISTERS

### DISTRICT EXECUTIVE MINISTER SCHEDULE FOR AUGUST 2018

- 1 Staff Meeting/Office
- 2 OFF
- 3 Office/Lunch Appointment/Commission on Ministry
- 4 Practice of Ministry Day - Buena Vista (Stone)
- 5 Worship at Pleasant View
- 6 Discipleship and Reconciliation Committee/New Church  
Development Committee/Lake Side Steering Committee
- 7 Office
- 8 Staff Meeting/Office/Council of District Exec. Conference Call
- 9 OFF
- 10 Office/Lunch Appointment
- 11 World Hunger Auction at Antioch
- 12 Worship at Oak Grove (South)/Germantown Brick/Bethany
- 13 Office/Eden, First
- 14 Office/Christian Growth Institute Administrative Committee at  
Buena Vista (Stone)/Boones Mill
- 15 Staff Meeting/Office/Pastoral Comp and Benefit Advisory Call
- 16 OFF
- 17 Office/Commission on Stewardship
- 18 Teach Christian Growth Institute Class at Coulson/New Bethel
- 19 Worship at Pulaski, First
- 20-21 Office
- 22 Staff Meeting/Office
- 23 OFF
- 24 Office
- 25 District Board Executive Committee
- 26 Worship at Saunders Grove for their 125th Anniversary
- 27 Office/Mountain District Executives Meeting in Concord, NC
- 28 Mountain District Executives Meeting
- 29 Staff Meeting/Office
- 30 OFF
- 31 Office

### DISTRICT EXECUTIVE MINISTER SCHEDULE FOR SEPTEMBER 2018

- 1 OFF
- 2 Preach at Roanoke, First
- 3 District Resource Center (Closed for Labor Day)
4. Office
5. Staff Meeting/Office
- 6 OFF
- 7 Office/Historical Committee
- 8 Teach Christian Growth Institute Class at Coulson
- 9 Worship Undetermined
- 10 Northern Area Ministers Meeting at Troutville/Office
- 11 Office/Mission Resourcing Committee
- 12 Staff Meeting/Office
- 13 OFF
- 14 Office
- 15 District Board Meeting at Topeco
- 16 Preach at Bethel for Homecoming
- 17 Office/Southern Area Ministers Meeting (undetermined)

### PRACTICE OF MINISTRY DAY - AUGUST 4

The 2018 Practice of Ministry Day will be Saturday, August 4, 8:15 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Buena Vista, Stone Church (2162 Forest Ave Buena Vista, VA 24416-2734).

The focus this year is "Communication with Pastor and Parish." Marty Barlow, John Jantzi, Tabitha Rudy and David Shumate will be presenters on subjects such as "Expectations of the Part Time Pastor", "Anger Management", "Social Media", and "Politics and the Church." .6 CEU credit is available for ordained ministers. Please visit [www.virlina.org/events](http://www.virlina.org/events) for a downloadable registration form or use the **registration form attached to this mailing.**

### SLUSHER TO BE ORDAINED AUGUST 12

Jessica A. Slusher, pastor of the Bethany Church in Callaway, Virginia will be ordained to the Gospel Ministry there on Sunday, August 12, at 4 p.m.

**DISTRICT EXECUTIVE MINISTER SCHEDULE - SEPTEMBER 2018**

- 18 Office
- 19 Staff Meeting/Office
- 20 OFF
- 21 Office
- 22 Teach Christian Growth Institute Class at Coulson
- 23-28 VACATION
- 29 Roanoke, First 125th Anniversary Celebration
- 30 Worship Undetermined/ New Bethel/New Hope Revival

**INT. ASSOC. DIST. EXEC. MINISTER SCHEDULE - AUGUST 2018**

- 1 Staff Meeting/Office
- 2 Office/BrainFreeze BrainStorm Conference Call
- 3 OFF
- 4 Practice of Ministry Day at Buena Vista (Stone)
- 5 Worship Undetermined
- 6 Office/Spiritual Development Retreat Committee at Summerdean/Peace Affairs Comm.
- 7 OFF
- 8 Staff Meeting/Office
- 9 Office/Commission on Witness
- 10 OFF
- 11 World Hunger Auction at Antioch
- 12 Worship Undetermined/Bethany Ordination
- 13 OFF
- 14 Office
- 15 Staff Meeting/Office
- 16 Office
- 17 OFF
- 18 Making Sense of Adoption Event at Copper Hill
- 19 OFF
- 20 Office/Commission on Nurture
- 21 Office/Ministry Chicks
- 22 Staff Meeting/Office
- 23 Office
- 24 OFF
- 25 District Board Executive Committee
- 26 Worship at PleasantDale
- 27 Office/Mountain District Executives Meeting in Concord, NC
- 28 Mountain District Executives Meeting
- 29 Staff Meeting/Office/Disabilities Ministries Committee
- 30-31 VACATION

**INT. ASSOC. DIST. EXEC. MINISTER SCHEDULE - SEPTEMBER 2018**

- 1-5 VACATION
- 6-7 Office
- 8 Open Arms, Open Doors Event at Summerdean
- 9 Worship Undetermined
- 10 Northern Area Ministers Meeting at Troutville/Office
- 11 OFF
- 12 Staff Meeting/Office
- 13 Office
- 14 OFF
- 15 District Board at Topeco
- 16 Preach at Bethany
- 17 Office/Southern Area Ministers Meeting (undetermined)
- 18 Office/Ministry Chicks/Disaster Response Committee
- 19 Staff Meeting/Office
- 20-21 OFF
- 22 OPEN
- 23 Worship Undetermined/Peace Day Service at Roanoke, First
- 24-25 Office
- 26 Staff Meeting/Office
- 27-28 OFF
- 29 Roanoke, First 125th Anniversary Celebration
- 30 Worship Undetermined/Ordination Service at New Bethel

**WORLD HUNGER AUCTION - AUGUST 11, 2018**

The World Hunger Auction will be held on Saturday, August 11, 2018 starting at 9:30 a.m. This is the culmination to our year-long fund-raising activities, the World Hunger Auction, is held each August at Antioch Church of the Brethren, 2996 Callaway Road, near Rocky Mount, VA. The auction includes the sale of crafts, quilts, toys, produce, baked and canned goods, special services and much more. Come early for the best selection. Let the highest bidder win, for doing what we can opens the door for God to do much more.

**34TH HERITAGE DAY FESTIVAL, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 6**

Camp Bethel's 34th Annual Heritage Day Festival will be held on Saturday, October 6. Please encourage everyone in your congregation to participate and help in this vitally important fund raiser for Camp Bethel. Tell your friends and help us advertise. Heritage Day forms, fliers and information are available at <[www.CampBethelVirginia.org/events.html](http://www.CampBethelVirginia.org/events.html)>, or from your pastor or camp representative.

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**PASTORAL PLACEMENT REPORT**

- **BETHEL** - Part time position, no profile available - Pulpit supply.
- **BOONES MILL** - *Part time position, no profile available - Harry W. Shelton has retired effective July 31, 2018.*
- **CHRISTIANSBURG** - Full time position, profile circulating (P/I) - Glen H. Sage serving as Interim Pastor.
- **COULSON** - Full time position, profile circulating (P) - Pulpit supply, J. Stuart Kelly.
- **GERMANTOWN BRICK** - *Full time position, profile circulating (P/I) - In negotiation, trial sermon and vote on August 12.*
- **JONES CHAPEL** - Part or full-time position, profile circulating -Emma Jean Franklin Woodard serving as interim pastor.
- **LYNCHBURG** - *Part time position, no profile available - Jack Karpenske has retired effective August 31, 2018.*
- **MAPLE GROVE** - Part time position, no profile available - Timothy Sink serving as interim pastor.
- **MASONS COVE** - Part time position, no profile available -Jack W. Lowe, Jr. serving as interim pastor.
- **MONETA, LAKE SIDE** - Part time position, profile circulating - Pulpit supply, Christian Becker.
- **NEWPORT NEWS, IVY FARMS** - *Part time position, profile meeting on July 29 - Pulpit supply.*
- **OAKVALE** - Part time position, no profile available - *James J. Stade and Joshua N. Lucas called as co-pastors on a part-time basis effective June 1, 2018.*
- **OAK GROVE, SOUTH** - *Part time position, no profile available - Richard Wood Thomas, Sr. has resigned, effective August 14, 2018, to accept the call of the Red Oak Grove Church.*
- **PETERS CREEK** - Full time position, profile circulating (P) - Johnny Thompson (AG) serving as interim pastor.
- **PLEASANT VIEW** - *Part time position, profile circulating (P/I) - In negotiation, trial sermon and vote on August 5.*
- **POAGES MILL** - *Full or part time position, profile circulating (P/I) - In negotiation, trial sermon and vote not determined.*
- **RED HILL** - Part time position, profile pending -Carlton R. Hodges serving as interim pastor.
- **SAINT PAUL** -Part time position, no profile available - Mark A. Bolt is serving as interim pastor.
- **SAUNDERS GROVE** - Part time position, profile circulating (P) - James R. Worline serving as interim.
- **SHELTON** - Part time position, no profile available - Joseph D. Smith serving as interim pastor.
- **SMITH MOUNTAIN LAKE COMMUNITY** - *Full-time position, profile circulating (P/I) - In negotiation, trial sermon and vote on October 7.*
- **TRINITY** - Part time position, profile circulating (P) - J. Neil Varner is serving as interim pastor.

**CHRISTIAN GROWTH INSTITUTE IN ROANOKE - BEGINS JULY 29, 2018**

- The next class to be held at the Roanoke Center will be PREACHING, taught by J. Stuart Kelly. Textbooks for the class are: Taylor, Barbara Brown. The Preaching Life. Cowley Publications, 7th printing, copyright 1993. Long, Thomas G. The Witness of Preaching. Published by Westminster John Knox Press, Second Edition, copyright 2005. These are both available on Amazon. The Sunday afternoon classes will be held on July 29, August 12, August 26, and September 9, 2018 from 2 - 6 p.m. at the District Resource Center, 3402 Plantation Road, NE, Roanoke, VA. Tuition for the class will be \$75.00 and students are responsible for purchasing the necessary textbooks. For more information or to obtain an application please contact Judy Mills, Center Coordinator. Phone: (540) 992-1980, E-mail: <pioneerom2805@yahoo.com>. Make checks payable to VIRLINA DISTRICT and mail with registration form by July 20, to: Judy Mills, Roanoke Center Coordinator, 2805 Nace Rd, Fincastle, VA 24090-4515. CEU credit is available for ordained ministers taking the class.

**CHRISTIAN GROWTH INSTITUTE - SOUTHERN CENTER - BEGINS AUGUST 18, 2018**

- First class for the fall 2018 will be Ministerial Leadership and Administration taught by David Shumate, Executive Minister for the Virlina District. Classes will be held at the Coulson CoB, 4127 Coulson Church Road, Hillsville, VA 24343. Dates and times for the classes are August 18, September 8 and September 22, 2018 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Cost is \$75 if received by August 1, 2018 and \$100 after that date.

- Textbooks are: Preaching, Planning & Plumbing: The Implications of Bivocational Ministry for the Church and for You : Discovering God's Call to Service and Joy by Steve Clapp, Ron Finney and Angela Zimmerman, Christian Community Resources, 1999 (Used available from Amazon, two new books available from District Resource Center at \$13); Becoming Barnabas: The Ministry of Encouragement, by Paul Moots, The Alban Institute, 2004 (Numerous used available at Amazon); and the Church of the Brethren Manual of Organization and Polity, Brethren Press, 2013, found on internet at <<http://www.brethren.org/ac/ppg/>>. Make check payable to VIRLINA DISTRICT and mail with registration form to: Sue Morris, Center Coordinator, P.O. Box 8, Copper Hill, VA 24079-0008. Questions - call (540) 651-8331 or e-mail: <enncomhla@swva.net>.

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### **BRAINFREEZE BRAINSTORM - CONFERENCE CALL/VIDEO OPPORTUNITY**

Join in on a video or phone conversation about the future of Children, Youth, and Young Adult ministries in the Virlina District. There will be two opportunities:

BrainFreeze BrainStorm 1 on Sunday, July 29th at 7 p.m.

To join this meeting: Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android: <https://zoom.us/j/115421201>

Or Telephone: Dial(for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):

US: +1 669 900 6833 or +1 646 558 8665 Meeting ID: 115 421 201

BrainFreeze BrainStorm 2 on Thursday, August 2 at 6:30 p.m.

To join this meeting: Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android: <https://zoom.us/j/745139351>

Or Telephone:

Dial(for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):

US: +1 669 900 6833 or +1 646 558 8665 Meeting ID: 745 139 351

If you were not able to come to one of the prior events, please join us by phone or video during one of these two opportunities! There is no need to RSVP - just call in or visit the link above to connect. If you have questions about how to connect, contact Tabitha Rudy by phone (540) 362.1816 or email at <[virlina2@aol.com](mailto:virlina2@aol.com)>.

### **MAKING SENSE OF ADOPTION: LEARNING FROM OTHERS' STORIES - AUGUST 18, 2018**

Chances are that you know someone who has adopted, is adopted, or might be thinking about adoption. On August 18 at Copper Hill Church of the Brethren, from 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., we will gather to hear, tell, and learn from adoption stories. The conversation will focus around these questions: Why adopt? How does one adopt? What do I wish I knew before adopting? What is adoption like for the child being adopted? What are the joys of adoption? The challenges? What do I wish my pastor/congregation knew? Lunch will be prepared by the Copper Hill Youth Group (donations requested). This event is free, however we ask that you register so we will have a count for the meal and childcare. Please register by August 10. To register or get more information, visit <[www.virlina.org/events](http://www.virlina.org/events)> or call the District Resource Center.

### **BENEFIT GOLF TOURNAMENT - AUGUST 22, 2018**

Golfers and sponsors are needed on Wednesday, August 22 at Botetourt Golf Club for our 2018 Golf Tournament and Banquet. Tee off is at 12:45 p.m. \$70 per person includes green fees, cart and dinner at camp. For more information, go to [www.CampBethelVirginia.org/golf](http://www.CampBethelVirginia.org/golf)

### **CAMP BETHEL PEP! 5K RUN/WALK - AUGUST 25, 2018**

Our newest fundraiser for "the PEPIEST gang around!" \$32.50 entry includes a race t-shirt, pre-and-post-race snacks, fully stocked water/aid stations, prizes, and fun. Registration is from 7:00 - 7:45 a.m. with an 8:00 a.m. start time. Please note that sponsor packages are available. For more information, go to [www.CampBethelVirginia.org/5K](http://www.CampBethelVirginia.org/5K)

### **"OPEN ARMS, OPEN DOORS" DISABILITIES MINISTRY EVENT - SEPTEMBER 8, 2018**

The Virlina Disabilities Ministry Committee's focus has been expanded to include persons of all age groups and abilities. Our goal is: "To include everyone who is "other abled" in the life, worship and activities in all Church of the Brethren Congregations in Virlina District" To do so, we are offering a time to come together for a "needs survey", through round table sharing with each other. We hope that this will give you a voice to share your needs. It will also assist us to develop a plan as we work to meet the needs of our Virlina members and congregations. This conversation will take place at the Summerdean Church of the Brethren in Roanoke, VA on September 8, 2018 from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. To help us prepare, please pre-register by August 24th. Visit <[www.virlina.org/events](http://www.virlina.org/events)> for a downloadable registration form and flyer, or to register online. Contact Tabitha Rudy, (540) 362-1816, if you have questions.

### **"THE THINGS THAT MAKE FOR PEACE" - PRAYER FOR PEACE SERVICE - SEPTEMBER 23, 2018**

The Annual Day of Prayer for Peace Service will be held at the Roanoke, First Church of the Brethren on Sunday, September 23, 2018, at 3pm. Gimbiya Kettering, the Director of Intercultural Ministries for the Church of the Brethren, will be the speaker. The theme, "The Things that Make for Peace," is from Luke 19:42. This service is sponsored by the Virlina District's Peace Affairs Committee. Check out <[www.virlina.org.events](http://www.virlina.org.events)>; for more

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information as we finalize other details.

### **LISTENING TO GOD IN A NOISY WORLD - OCTOBER 13, 2018**

Television, the internet, cell phones, social media updates, constant "breaking news" alerts, and many other distractions, make it hard to listen to God. Join the Spiritual Development Retreat Committee at Camp Bethel on Saturday, October 13 from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. for our annual Fall retreat. We will learn and reflect together on how to be more attentive to God's voice and presence. The event leaders, Hannah Oakes and Dick Gottshall, will each offer their own guidance and perspectives on this topic. The cost of the event, which includes lunch, is \$25.00. Visit <[www.virlina.org/events](http://www.virlina.org/events)> to download a flyer/registration form or register online. Please note: Online payment set-up is still pending but will hopefully be available in August.

### **DISASTER VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION DINNER - OCTOBER 21, 2018**

The annual Disaster Response Volunteer Appreciation Dinner will be held at the Germantown Brick Church on the evening of Sunday, October 21 and will begin at 5:00 p.m. Invitations will be mailed to volunteers, but all persons interested in disaster response or those who have supported disaster response through making kits, financial aid, or prayers are invited to attend. 2017-2018 volunteers will be recognized as part of the program. To reserve your place, contact the District Resource Center at (540) 362-1816 or <[virlina2@aol.com](mailto:virlina2@aol.com)>.

### **VIRLINA DISTRICT CONFERENCE - NOVEMBER 9-10, 2018**

Save the date for the 2018 Virlina District Conference! We will gather as a district to worship and fellowship together, and to do business together, at Bonsack Baptist Church on November 9th and 10th, 2018. The schedule will be similar to last year, as will some of the age group activities. There will be some changes, however, to how and when delegates register. Registration information will be sent to congregations and made available online in August. Please look out for this packet and read all of the information carefully! Most of this information will also be available in the September/October edition of the Headliner. Check the conference site for the most up-to-date information: <<http://virlina.org/district-conference.html>>.

### **ANNUAL CONFERENCE WRAP UP VIDEO AVAILABLE**

The District Resource Center has two copies of the 2018 Annual Conference Wrap Up video available for loan. Please contact Betty M. Wills at <[virlinasecretary@gmail.com](mailto:virlinasecretary@gmail.com)> or (540) 362-1816.

### **MINISTRY NEWS - SUMMER 2018 ISSUE**

The Summer 2018 MINISTRY NEWS is attached/enclosed with this mailing. MINISTRY NEWS is an effort by the Commission on Ministry of the Virlina District Board to circulate helpful knowledge about the opportunities and challenges of ministry in the Church of the Brethren. We hope that you find it helpful. Please direct all feedback to Leland W. Flora, Chairperson of the Commission on Ministry, at <[lelandflora@yahoo.com](mailto:lelandflora@yahoo.com)>..

### **STAFF MEETINGS AT THE DISTRICT RESOURCE CENTER**

Our weekly staff meetings at the District Resource Center are held on most Wednesday mornings beginning at 10 a.m. and ending at lunch time. As a result, we do not answer the phone during these hours as we review prayer concerns, share devotional time, coordinate the calendars and prioritize the work list. Thank you for your understanding and patience.

### **VIRLINA MINISTERS IN PRAYER ON FACEBOOK**

While we continue to use e-mail to communicate various prayer concerns of interest to the Virlina District and her ministers, we also have a Facebook page, "VIRLINA MINISTERS IN PRAYER", for the same purpose. While it is a "closed group", you are invited to join if you desire. The link address is: <[https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=124901055000979&ref=br\\_rs](https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=124901055000979&ref=br_rs)>.

### **COMPELLING VISION PROCESS - COMING THIS FALL**

The Compelling Vision Process, approved by the 2017 Annual Conference, will be coming this fall to the Virlina District. Four meetings, in various geographical regions of the district, will be held for you and members of your congregation to share. Each of these will be two-hours in length and facilitated by a member of the Compelling Vision Process Team.

### **SELF-ALLOCATION/FINANCIAL SECRETARY REPORT**

The final Virlina District Financial Secretary Report for June 30, 2018 is attached. Please review your congregation's self-allocation giving for 2018 in consultation with your treasurer and draw any discrepancies to our attention. Please remember that your offering plate is the offering plate of the district and denomination.