

# H E A D L I N E R C H U R C H O F T H E B R E T H R E N

SEPTEMBER

*Newsletter*

2019

***"For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God." I Corinthians 1:18 (KJV)***

Let me begin by saying, I have counted it a "God-given blessing" to have been chosen as your 2019 District Conference Moderator. And I trust that our Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ will receive all the honor that is due Him as we serve Him together. Certainly, I feel so unworthy to be in this position but often through our unworthiness, God will do His best work.

When I received the good news, or should I say "not so good news" that I was chosen in 2017 as Moderator-Elect, I began praying and seeking the Lord's guidance as to what my theme for our 2019 District Conference would be. Immediately my mind and my heart was drawn to the cross of Calvary. After all, my Christian friends, that is what the entire Bible is about! Without the cross of Calvary and the finished work that God's only Son did, there would be no hope for lost humanity.

So the theme for our 2019 District Conference is "Don't Hide the Cross". We must keep the cross in view at all times in our lives as Christians. After I received the gavel of authority from my sister in Christ, Debbie S. Humphrey, our 2018 Moderator, I remember issuing a challenge to all the pastors and church leaders to focus more on the cross and to preach messages pertaining to what took place on the cross. And I trust that challenge has proved to be successful.

I believe that God has a plan for each of our lives. "God doesn't always call the equipped, but He always equips the called." I must acknowledge that it was God's will that one of His servants serve His church as Moderator this year. To God be the glory! I believe that we would all do much better in our Christian walk if we would say as did the Prophet Isaiah, "Here I am Lord, use me."

So the challenge was issued to all pastors and other church leaders to focus more on the cross of Jesus Christ. I believe if more people in our beloved Church of the Brethren would center our minds on what the cross means and get away from the sinful and silly things, our churches would be in a better position to lead the lost world to Jesus Christ for salvation. Until we do, we look no better to the world than the rest of society.

And so it is, we must find every opportunity that we can find to make sure that the cross is not hidden in our lives. We must let the world know how important the cross is in our lives as we live for our Saviour and Re


deemer. We must make sure that the cross of Jesus Christ is always out front in everything we say and do.

As we all are aware, we are living in a society that does its best in trying to keep the message of the cross hidden from view. In some of the songs that many people choose to sing, even on the Lord's Day, in His house, the message of the cross is often hidden. From the pulpits in many of our so-called "modern churches" the cross is hidden in the sermon that is spoken. Many had rather share fairy tales that will tickle parishioners' ears. Some of the pastors perhaps, are afraid to say anything about the precious blood of Jesus because it might be offensive to someone that walks with a strut with their head high in the air.

We must understand that Christianity is far different than all of the other religions of the world. And I even hesitate in saying Christianity is a religion, because really it is not. Christianity is a relationship with Jesus Christ as our Saviour and Redeemer. And the message of the cross that is often hidden in the lives of many people is repentance from sin. The beloved Apostle Paul had this to say in Romans 6:1 and 2, "What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? God forbid. How shall we that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?"

I will conclude by sharing, after receiving the position of Moderator, I asked my dear brother in Christ, Randy Gallimore, if he would write a song that would go well with the conference theme, "Don't Hide the Cross", and in just a few days he had written two songs. Those songs will be sung at the Friday evening worship service. And on Saturday during worship, Trinity Road will sing a song that your Moderator has written. So my dear brothers and sisters in Christ, make plans to be at the Grandin Court Baptist Church on November 8 and 9 as we worship and serve the Lord together.

*Roy U. Turpin*  
*2019 District Conference Moderator*

 **VIRLINA DISTRICT**  
3402 Plantation Road, NE  
Roanoke, Virginia 24012

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DAVID K. SHUMATE, DISTRICT EXECUTIVE MINISTER  
MARY SINK ST. JOHN, DIRECTOR OF DISTRICT CONFERENCE, NURTURE AND WITNESS  
GARY L. BASHAM, DIRECTOR OF MINISTRY FORMATION  
JOY A. MURRAY, COORDINATOR OF CHILDREN, YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT MINISTRIES  
ED AND SUSAN MCKIMMY, COORDINATORS OF DISASTER RESPONSE



**Concord, Living Faith** - Amber Medlin by baptism June 16, 2019.

**Germantown Brick** - Betsy Johnson and Betty Johnson by baptism July 21, 2019.

**Peters Creek** - Johnny and Sherry Thompson as associate members on August 4, 2019.

**Roanoke, Hollins Road** - John Nichols by letter June 30, 2019. Lucas Hinds by letter July 28, 2019. Melvin Jones, Jr. by reaffirmation July 28, 2019. Michael Bennett, David Bowers, Brody Hinds, Nevaeh Lambert, Charles Sykes, Kiersten Sykes and Gabby West by baptism July 28, 2019.

**Smith River** - Noah Jones by baptism May 12, 2019.

**KINGDOM BUILDING FOLLOW UP - SEPTEMBER 26, 2019**

All members of the Roanoke City congregations (Central, First Church, Hollins Road, Ninth Street and Williamson Road) are invited to participate in a discussion of some of the insights about Kingdom Building that Paul Munday shared at the Kingdom Building Conference on May 31 and June 1. Paul's presentation included much food for thought. This follow up gathering will give an opportunity to benefit from his insight.

We will meet at Hollins Road Church on Thursday evening, September 26, at 7 p.m. Topics include "The Person I Must Become" and "Stories of Churches Growing Young." There will be opportunities to share what has worked in your congregation and the problems that your congregation has experienced in seeking to follow Christ's commandment to make disciples of all people.

This opportunity is for anyone who has an interest in Kingdom Building, not just pastors or leadership team/board members. So, invite a friend! Materials shared by Paul can be accessed at <<http://tinyurl.com/yehj83ma>>. For more information contact Harry Rhodes at (540) 588-1663 or Mary Sink StJohn at the District Resource Center at (540) 362-1816 or <[virlina2@aol.com](mailto:virlina2@aol.com)>.

**PILGRIMAGE XXIV - MARCH 20-22, 2020**

Pilgrimage XXIV will be held March 20-22, 2020, at Camp Bethel. Individuals from 60 congregations in our district have participated in this spiritual retreat for adults. Pilgrimage is for everyone who wants to draw closer to God. It is for the young and old, for the new Christian and the one who has been a Christian for decades. The retreat includes spiritual talks, small groups, fun times, inspiring worship services, and much more. God continues to work in wonderful ways through this ministry! Prayerfully consider your participation. For more information, please contact Karen Haynes at (336) 765-5263 or <[haynesmk1986@yahoo.com](mailto:haynesmk1986@yahoo.com)> or go to <[www.experiencepilgrimage.com](http://www.experiencepilgrimage.com)>.

**PASTORAL PLACEMENT REPORT**

**BETHEL** - Part time position, no profile available - Pulpit supply.

**BOONES MILL** - Part time position, profile circulating (P/I) - Pulpit Supply.

**EDEN, FIRST** - Full time position, profile circulating (P/I) - Edward C. Woodard serving as interim pastor.

**FRATERNITY** - Full time position, profile pending - Pulpit supply.

**JETERS CHAPEL** - Part or full time position, profile circulating (P) - James R. Worline serving as interim pastor.

**JONES CHAPEL** - Part or full time position, profile circulating (P/I) - Emma Jean Franklin Woodard serving as interim pastor.

**LIGHTHOUSE** - Part time position, no profile available - *Don Street serving as pulpit supply.*

**LYNCHBURG** - Part time position, profile circulating (P) - Leah O. Harness serving as interim pastor.

**MAPLE GROVE** - Part time position, no profile available - Timothy Sink resigned as interim pastor effective June 15, 2019.

**MASONS COVE** - Part time position, no profile available - Jack W. Lowe, Jr. serving as interim pastor.

**MONETA, LAKE SIDE** - Part time position, profile circulating - Christian J. Becker serving as interim pastor.

**NEWPORT NEWS, IVY FARMS** - Part time position, profile circulating - Nathaniel Milton serving as interim pastor.

**PLEASANTDALE** - Part time position, no profile available - W. Leonard Foley has resigned effective August 31, 2019.

**RED HILL** - Part time position, no profile available - Pulpit supply.

**ROANOKE, IGLESIA CRISTIANA RENACER** - Part time position, no profile available - Daniel D'Oleo resigned effective July 31, 2019.

**SAINT PAUL** - Part time position, no profile available - Mark A. Bolt is serving as interim pastor.

**SHELTON** - Part time position, no profile available - Joseph D. Smith serving as interim pastor.

**TRINITY** - Part time position, profile circulating (P) - Pulpit supply.

**REMEMBERING THE WITNESS AND SERVICE OF Lester Galen Reed**, aged 88, of Roanoke, Va., passed away on July 31, 2019. He was preceded in death by his parents, Jesse and Alvah Reed; and a son, Galen Lester Reed. Lester was faithful to his family and church, becoming a deacon at the age of 22. Lester lived boldly for Christ. He served the Virlina District including 33 years as pastor of Lighthouse Church of the Brethren, Brethren Disaster Response, Pilgrimage and at Camp Bethel. He also served in the SWVA Emmaus Organization.

Known to most as "Papa Les," he is survived by his wife of 67 years, Joyce Woodson Reed; and his children, Michael Reed, Annette Scott (David), Laura Johnson (Elmer), and Renee Reed (Chuck Abbott); ten grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. A memorial service was held at the Lighthouse Church on Sunday, August 25, 2019. Memorials may be made to Lighthouse Church of the Brethren, 7780 Willowbranch Road, Boones Mill, VA 24179.

# NEWS & EVENTS

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

The District Resource Center has one copy of the 2019 Annual Conference Wrap Up DVD available for loan. This is the perfect resource for delegate reports to congregations. Please contact Mary Sink St. John to reserve your usage at <virlina2@aol.com>.

## **ETHICS TRAINING IN SEPTEMBER 2019**

Ethics training is mandatory for all ministers and students in the Christian Growth Institute and other ministry training programs. Advanced sessions for ordained and commissioned ministers, as well as licensed ministers who are serving as pastors and have previously had the basic unit, will be held as follows:

September 14	Charlottesville	10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
September 15	Linville Creek	3 p.m. - 8 p.m.
September 16	Coulson	10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
September 17	Collinsville	10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
September 18	Lynchburg	10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Registration forms are available on the <www.virlina.org> website.

## **NATIONAL OLDER ADULT CONFERENCE (NOAC) - SEPTEMBER 2-6, 2019**

National Older Adult Conference (NOAC) is "a Spirit-filled gathering of adults who love learning and discerning together, exploring God's call for their lives and living out that call by sharing their energy, insight, and legacy with their families, communities, and the world" It is scheduled for September 2-6, 2019 at Lake Junaluska Conference and Retreat Center located in the mountains of western N.C.

Registration cost is \$225. First time attendees will get a \$20 discount. Your registration fee does not include housing or meals. After you register you will be able to go to the Lake J housing reservations website to make your lodging reservations. Details about NOAC registration, lodging and meals are found at <http://www.brethren.org/noac/>.

## **"TUNE MY HEART TO SING THY GRACE" - CHOIR FESTIVAL - SEPTEMBER 13-14, 2019**

"Tune My Heart To Sing Thy Grace" is the first-ever Virlina District Choir Festival. It will be held on September 13-14, 2019, at the Central Church of the Brethren in Roanoke, Virginia. The guest director will be S. Reed Carter, IV. Carter serves as Minister of Music at the Salem Presbyterian Church and as director of the Salem Choral Society. Robert "Bob" Iseminger, instrumentalist of the Central Church, will serve as our accompanist.

We will learn and rehearse four or five anthems on Friday evening and Saturday. The festival will conclude with a service of worship filled with music and the Word at 4:00 p.m. on Saturday. It will be open to the public. We hope to have 100% participation from the Church of the Brethren Choirs (and all others who love to sing) in the area! You'll be able to take your anthems home to share with your congregation!

If you live out of the Roanoke area, and would like the blessing of staying in a Church of the Brethren family host home

overnight Friday, let us know!! There will be a fee of \$25 per participant to cover music and food. A schedule and registration form is on the <www.virlina.org> website. If you have questions or need more information, please contact Carol Elmore by e-mail at <carol@oakgrovecob.org> or by telephone at (540) 774-3217! This event is planned and sponsored by the Spiritual Development Retreat Committee of the Virlina District.

## **CHILDREN'S DISASTER SERVICE TRAINING - SEPTEMBER 20-21**

The next Children's Disaster Services (CDS) workshop is scheduled for September 20-21 at Oak Grove Church of the Brethren. CDS trains volunteers to provide specialized childcare in disaster assistance centers. To register for this workshop or find out more about CDS, visit the CDS website at <http://www.brethren.org/cds/> or contact Sharon Flora at <s\_flora@live.com> or (540) 427-2233.

## **PRAYER FOR PEACE SERVICE - SEPTEMBER 22, 2019**

The Annual Day of Prayer for Peace Service will be held at the Germantown Brick Church of the Brethren on Sunday, September 22, 2019, at 3 p.m. This service is sponsored by the Virlina District's Peace Affairs Committee. Check out <www.virlina.org> for more information.

## **BRETHREN HERITAGE BUS TOUR - OCTOBER 19, 2019**

Our Brethren Heritage bus tour is planned for Saturday, October 19, 2019. This year's fall foliage outing, sponsored by the Historical Committee of the Virlina District, will include visits to a number of congregations in central Virginia. Among those visited will be Lynchburg, Bethel, West Richmond, Hopewell, Wakefield Chapel and New Covenant. Several historical presentations will be a part of this tour and (0.6) continuing education credits will be available for ordained ministers.

The cost, including continuing education credit, transportation and the luncheon meal, is a bargain at \$49.99. The tour will depart from the District Resource Center in Roanoke at 7:00 a.m. The luncheon meal will be provided by the West Richmond Church. We plan to be back in Roanoke by 6:30 p.m. This will be a great opportunity to learn about Brethren life in the Piedmont of Virginia!

Please contact Betty M. Wills at the District Resource Center to reserve your spot and make your check out to Virlina District Board - Church of the Brethren (put "Heritage Tour" in memo spot).

## **DISASTER VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION - OCTOBER 20**

The annual Disaster Response Volunteer Appreciation Dinner will be held at the Antioch Church on Sunday, October 20, beginning 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. 2018-2019 volunteers will be recognized as part of the program. To reserve your place, contact Mary Sink St. John at the District Resource Center at (540) 362-1816 or <virlina2@aol.com>.



**DISTRICT OFFICE**  
**CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN**  
3402 Plantation Road NE  
Roanoke, VA 24012

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**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### SEPTEMBER 2019

2		<b>District Resource Closed - Labor Day</b>
5	6:00 PM	Peace Affairs Committee (MSS)
6	6:00 PM	Good News Team (MSS)
7	9:00 AM	District Board Executive Committee (DKS)
9	8:30 AM	N. Area Ministers Meeting (DKS)
	5:30 PM	Iglesia Del Buen Pastor Fellowship - Blacksburg (DKS)
10	6:30 PM	Disaster Response Committee (MSS)
13	2:00 PM	Historical Committee (MSS/DKS)
	6:00 PM	Virgina Choir Festival - Roanoke Central (MSS)
14	4:00 PM	Virgina Choir Festival Worship - Roanoke Central (MSS)
15	10:30 AM	Collinsville 60th Year Celebration (DKS)
16	10:00 AM	Ethics Training - Coulson (DKS)
	6:00 PM	Southern Area Ministers Meeting - Topeco (DKS)
17	10:00 AM	Awakening Planning Meeting for 2020 (MSS)
	10:00 AM	Ethics Training - Collinsville (DKS)
	10:00 AM	Ethics Training - Lynchburg (DKS)
19	3:30 PM	Children's Cabinet Meeting - (MSS)
21	9:00 AM	District Board Meeting - Christiansburg (DKS/MSS)
22	3:00 PM	Peace Day Service - Germantown Brick (MSS/DKS)
28	9:30 AM	Northren Area Women's Fall Retreat - Peters Creek (MSS)
30		Travel to Elgin, Illinois (DKS)

### OCTOBER 2019

1-3		Council of District Executives Meeting (CODEX) - Elgin, Illinois (DKS)
4	6:00 PM	Commission on Ministry (DKS)
5		Heritage Day Festival - Camp Bethel (DKS/MSS)
10	4:30 PM	Disabilities Ministries Committee - Oak Grove (MSS)
12	9:00 AM	New and Renew: Revitalize, Plant, Grow Workshop - Camp Bethel (DKS)
19	7:00 PM	Brethren Heritage Bus Tour (DKS/MSS)
20	5:00 PM	Disaster Response Dinner - Antioch (MSS/DKS)
21	6:00 PM	Southern Area Ministers Meeting - Copper Hill (DKS)
24	10:30 AM	Historical Room Presentation - Peters Creek (DKS)
29	6:00 PM	Mission Resourcing Committee (DKS)

# VIRLINA DISTRICT CONFERENCE

**2019 VIRLINA DISTRICT CONFERENCE**  
**November 8 - 9**  
**Grandin Court Baptist Church**  
**2660 Brambleton Avenue, Roanoke, VA**

*Join us!*

*"For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God"*

- I Corinthians 1:18 (NRSV)

## o FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 8 o

### MINISTERS & SPOUSES DINNER

Registration — 4:30 P.M.

Meal — 5:00 P.M.

Program by Nancy S. Heishman,  
Director of Office of Ministry,  
Church of the Brethren General Offices  
Reservation Deadline is October 25!  
(On-site childcare provided.)

### CONFERENCE REGISTRATION AND EXHIBIT DISPLAYS

5:00 P.M.—6:50 P.M.

(No food service at this time.)

### HYMN SINGING AND WORSHIP 7:00 P.M.

Worship Leader: Roy Turpin, Moderator of 2019  
Virilina District Conference  
Guest Speaker: Dana Cassell, Pastor of  
Durham, Peace Covenant CoB  
(On-site childcare provided.)  
Light refreshments for all after Worship.  
Young Adults will gather for ice cream.  
Youth will leave for Camp Bethel

## o SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9 o

### REGISTRATION AND EXHIBITS

Registration /Hospitality — 7:30 A.M.

### CHILDCARE, CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES, AND YOUTH

Childcare (Infant-pre-K) / Children (K-5th grade) -  
During Worship & Business  
Youth (6th—12th grade) -  
Friday after worship—Business

## o SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9 o

### HYMN SINGING AND WORSHIP

8:15 A.M.

Worship Leader: Cathy Huffman, Moderator Elect  
2020 Virilina District Conference  
Guest Speaker: Nancy Heishman,  
Director of Office of Ministry, CoB

### LUNCH

12:00– 1:15 P.M.

Reservation Deadline is October 25!

### BUSINESS SESSIONS

9:10 A.M.—12:00 P.M.

& 1:20 P.M.—4:00 P.M.



*"For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness;  
but unto us which are saved it is the power of God."*

*1 Corinthians 1:18*

# VIRLINA DISTRICT CONFERENCE

## o DELEGATES & NON-DELEGATES o

### **PRE-REGISTRATION FOR DELEGATES**

A registration form has been mailed or emailed to the pastor or contact person of every congregation. Please send the completed registration form and a check made payable to VIRLINA DISTRICT to Virlina District Office, 3402 Plantation Road, NE, Roanoke, VA 24012. Registration for delegates closes on September 28th. To receive a delegate packet, delegates need to check in at the registration table during designated times on Friday or Saturday of Conference. The check-in registers delegates as voting members of the business sessions. On-site lunch reservation requires a separate registration.

### **NON-DELEGATE REGISTRATION AT DISTRICT CONFERENCE**

Registration for non-delegates will also take place next to the delegate table during the scheduled registration times. Non-delegates cannot pre-register unless it is for the children's and youth activities.

### **CONFERENCE BOOKLET**

Booklets will be mailed to congregations in October. Pastors or contact persons are asked to distribute the booklets to the delegates. Delegates should bring their business booklets to conference. The 2018 District Conference Minutes will be published in the 2019 District conference booklet. We will order books this year based on how many delegates register by the September 28th deadline. A number of books will be reserved for non-delegates and officers. Portions of the booklet will also be available on the website once those pages are finalized.

## o MEALS o

### **MINISTERS AND SPOUSES DINNER - Reservation by October 25 is required!**

The Annual Ministers and Spouses Dinner will be held on Friday, November 8 in the newly remodeled Hamner Hall at Grandin Court Baptist Church. Check-in will begin at 4:30 PM and dinner will begin at 5 PM. The cost is \$16.00/person. Free childcare with pizza dinner will be provided for infant - grade 5 during the dinner and program. Country Kitchen of Christiansburg is catering the dinner. The guest speaker is Nancy Heishman, Director of the Office of Ministry, CoB General Offices. An invitation has been mailed or emailed to all ministers. Reservations must be secured by October 25!

### **ON-SITE LUNCH ON SATURDAY - Reservation by October 25 is required!**

A limited number of boxed lunches, provided by the Roanoker Restaurant, will be on-site for those who pre-order, for OMC members and for elected reorganizing board members. Lunches are \$10 and will include 1 chicken breast, 1 ham biscuit, potato salad, and a brownie. A veggie tray, fruit, and lemonade and water will be offered on the side with the boxes. Another lunch option is to explore local eateries near the church. Lunch is scheduled from 12:00-1:15 PM. Reservation forms have been sent to congregations by mail or email. Meal tickets will be distributed on Friday evening and Saturday morning at the meal ticket table in the registration area. Reservation deadline is October 25!

## o GENERAL INFORMATION o

### **EXHIBIT AREA**

The exhibit area will be in the gymnasium on the ground floor. It will be open Friday from 5:00 PM - 6:50 PM and following worship, and on Saturday from 7:30 AM - 1:15 PM. Exhibits will be set up after 1:00 PM Friday and are to be removed by 2:00 PM on Saturday. To reserve a space, fill out the form available at <http://virlina.org/district-conference.html> or contact Mary StJohn.

### **HOSPITALITY AREA**

A space for visiting and coffee and cookies will be located on the perimeter of the Gymnasium on the ground floor. Please note that there will be light refreshments served after worship on Friday. If you are carpooling with a pastor who is attending the Friday dinner, please arrange for food either through a bagged supper or at a near-by restaurant. Exhibits and visitation space will be open at 5:00 PM.

**CAMP DIRECTOR'S 2019 SUMMER CAMP SUMMARY**

Our 93rd consecutive summer camp season ended on July 26 after 7 exciting weeks learning how to "Let the Peace of Christ Rule." 1,062 campers participated in Resident Camps, Adventure Camps, Trips, Skills Camps, and Day Camps including 152 participants in our 3 Traveling Day Camps and 32 participants in our Family Fun nights. We are blessed with excellent staff, helpful partner organizations, and dedicated volunteers who served as Chaplains, counselors and helpers. 165 children and youth received Good-As-Gold funding from Virlina congregations totaling \$42,918. Watch our weekly summer camp videos at <[www.CampBethelVirginia.org/videos](http://www.CampBethelVirginia.org/videos)>.

**DONATE TO REPLENISH THE "CAMBERSHIP" FUND**

In summer 2019, 72 campers received "Campership" funding totaling \$20,320, but our current total 2019 Campership donations only total "\$13,191 (difference of \$7,129). Please give at [www.CampBethelVirginia.org/donate](http://www.CampBethelVirginia.org/donate) or memo checks "Camperships".

**35TH HERITAGE DAY FESTIVAL ON OCTOBER 5, 2019**

Camp Bethel's 35th Brethren Heritage Day Festival is Saturday, October 5. Breakfast will be served from 7:30 until 9:00 a.m. in the Ark. Booths and activities will open at 9:00 a.m. and end at 2:30 p.m. Encourage everyone in your congregation to attend and assist 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/Heritage-Day](http://www.CampBethelVirginia.org/Heritage-Day)>, or from your Pastor or Camp Representative.

**FALL VOLUNTEER WORKDAY IS NOVEMBER 2, 2019**

Please help on Fall Volunteer Day on Saturday, November 2! The day begins in the Ark at 7:30 a.m. with free breakfast and includes a free lunch at 1:00 p.m. Your help is needed to prepare camp for the winter conference season. There are workday projects (rain or shine; indoor and outdoor) for all skill levels and all ages. RSVP meals by October 29 to (540) 992-2940 or <[CampBethelOffice@gmail.com](mailto:CampBethelOffice@gmail.com)>. Details may be found at <[www.CampBethelVirginia.org](http://www.CampBethelVirginia.org)>.

**CHRISTMAS TOGETHER BANQUET - DECEMBER 5**

Camp Bethel's Christmas TOGETHER Banquet will be held on Thursday, December 5, at 6:30 p.m. This event includes an excellent dinner and fun Christmas program in our festive, decorated Ark Dining Hall. Your \$50 gift (larger gifts accepted) will provide much needed year-end funding for Camp Bethel. Please reserve your family or group by November 28 to (540) 992-2940 or <[CampBethelOffice@gmail.com](mailto:CampBethelOffice@gmail.com)>.

**WINTER CAMP ON DECEMBER 30-31, 2019**

Winter Camp is a fun holiday retreat for kids in Grades 1-5 and youth in Grades 6-12 led by our reunited Summer Staff. The cost of \$70 includes four meals, lodging, and program including group games, Glow-in-the-Dark Gym Party, campfire & S'mores, Bible study, crafts, hiking, nature fun, skits, sledding and other snow fun (if it snows), worship, wagon ride, summer photos slide show, 2020 camp preview and Camp Bethel stickers! Register at <[www.CampBethelVirginia.org/winter-camp](http://www.CampBethelVirginia.org/winter-camp)>.

**DONATE YOUR OLD SMART PHONE TO CAMP BETHEL**

We need your disconnected smart phones for use as camp cameras and video cameras. Contact us at (540) 992-2940 or <[CampBethelOffice@gmail.com](mailto:CampBethelOffice@gmail.com)>.

**THOUSANDS OF TREE COOKIES ARE NEEDED**

Can you help supply THOUSANDS of Tree Cookies for our 2019 programs (nametags, KinderCrittters, crafts, etc.)? Ideal "cookie" is hard wood cross cut showing tree rings, 2.5" or larger diameter and less-than 1/2" thickness. Cut 'em, drill 'em, deliver 'em, or contact us at (540) 992-2940 or <[CampBethelOffice@gmail.com](mailto:CampBethelOffice@gmail.com)>. THANK YOU!

**DEMENTIA AND SPIRITUALITY - SEPTEMBER 7, 2019**

The Smith Mountain Lake Community Church is offering this free workshop for the public on Saturday, September 7 from 10am to noon. The presenter, Heddie Sumner, a member of the Daleville congregation, is a retired nurse who specializes in care for patients with dementia and their families. She will talk about what dementia is and how it affects people and their families, as well as how it affects a person's faith. For more information or if you have questions, please contact Tabitha Rudy: [smkccobpastor@gmail.com](mailto:smkccobpastor@gmail.com) or (540) 721-1816.

**INDOOR/OUTDOOR YARD SALE - SEPTEMBER 20-21**

The Smith Mountain Lake Community Church will be having their annual indoor/outdoor yard sale on September 20th and 21st, from 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Items to be sold include furniture, clothing, jewelry, tools, books, and many other items - including food! We will also be happy to take any items others wish to donate. All proceeds help send our children and youth to Camp Bethel. For more information or if you have questions, please contact Tabitha Rudy: <[smkccobpastor@gmail.com](mailto:smkccobpastor@gmail.com)> or (540) 721-1816.

**REVITALIZE, PLANT, GROW! - OCTOBER 12, 2019**

"New & Renew: Revitalize, Plant, Grow" is a church planting and church revitalization workshop sponsored by the New Church Development Committee on Saturday, October 12, 2019 from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. with a one-hour break for lunch. The cost is t \$30 per person (lodging excluded). For those wishing to receive credit for 0.6 CEU toward the continuing education requirement for ministers, the cost to receive credit will be an additional \$10.

**YOUTH LEADER NEEDED AT TOPECO CHURCH**

The Topeco Church of the Brethren, six miles west of Floyd, Virginia, is seeking to employ a Youth Leader to work 12-15 hours a week. For more information and a job description contact the church office at (540) 789-7339.

**OUR SYMPATHY TO THE FAMILY OF**

**Carlene Thomason Blankenship**, aged 85, of Martinsville, VA, passed away on August 17, 2019. Surviving are her daughters, Nancy Hillsman (Phil) of Durham, NC, and Delia Olson (John, Jr.) of Cary, NC; sister Elen Thomason and brother Kermon Thomason (Margaret). Also surviving are her grandchildren, David Hillsman, Amy Hillsman, and John Olson III. Funeral services were held August 22. Emma Jean Woodard officiated and burial was at Roselawn Burial Park.

# VIRLINA DISTRICT CONFERENCE

## **GRANDIN COURT BAPTIST CHURCH-2660 Brambleton Avenue, SW, Roanoke, Virginia 24015**

From I-581, continue on US 220S to the Colonial Avenue/Virginia Western Community College exit. At the roundabout on Colonial Avenue, turn onto Persinger Road. At the light, turn left onto Brambleton Avenue. The church building is located on the left after Fishburn Park and before The Coffee Pot restaurant. Traveling from 419, Electric Road, pass Tanglewood Mall to the Brambleton Avenue intersection. Turn right at the light. Church is 1 ½ miles on the right.

### **PARKING**

Parking for the main ground level, with six handicap parking spaces, is near the covered entrance of the Ministry Activities Center. A second parking lot is located behind the building, with 10 handicap parking spaces and has a ramp or steps option. The third parking lot is also behind the building across Sweetbrier Avenue with six handicap parking spaces and extends to the edge of the property.

### **LODGING ESTABLISHMENTS**

Camp Bethel, 328 Bethel Road, Fincastle, Virginia - (540) 992-2940  
Baymont Inn and Suites - 179 Sheraton Drive, Salem, Virginia - (540) 562-1912  
La Quinta Inn - 140 Sheraton Drive, Salem, Virginia - (540) 562-2717  
Holiday Inn Express and Suites - 991 Russell Road, Salem, Virginia - (540) 562-3229  
Hampton Inn - 1886 Electric Road, Salem, Virginia - (540) 776-6500  
Comfort Suites Inn - 2898 Keagy Road, Salem, Virginia - (540) 375-4800  
Holiday Inn - 4468 Starkey Road, Roanoke, Virginia - (540) 774-4400  
Sleep Inn - 4045 Electric Road, Roanoke, Virginia - (540) 772-1500  
Hilton Garden Inn - 4500 South Peak Boulevard Roanoke, Virginia - (540) 776-3400

### **o AGE GROUP ACTIVITIES o**

#### **CHILDCARE FOR INFANTS - PRE-K CHILDREN**

Childcare will be available for infants and toddlers during the Ministers and Spouses Dinner, during Worship Friday (6:45-8:30 PM) and during Business Sessions Saturday (8:00 AM - 12:00 noon and 1:15 PM - 4:15 PM.). **Please fill out an on-line/mailed registration form and return it to the District Office by October 25!**

#### **CHILDREN: KINDERGARTEN TO FIFTH GRADE**

The Children's Cabinet will be leading the children in crafts, conference theme devotions, and a field trip to the nearby Roanoke County EMS Fire and Rescue station. They will spend time exploring the station, meeting fire and rescue personnel and local police officers, while getting close up and personal with the trucks, ambulances and cars of our emergency responders. Please dress children suitable for outdoor and indoor play. Booster/car seats must be provided! The cost is \$7.00/child or \$20.00 for 3 or more family members. Registration forms are available online or through your congregation. **Please register by October 25!**

#### **MIDDLE SCHOOL AND SENIOR HIGH YOUTH: SIXTH - TWELTH GRADE**

Following 7:00 PM worship on Friday evening all registered youth will be participating in an overnight trip at Camp Bethel. On Saturday, participants will play games, go on a short hike, and rake leaves and other outdoor jobs for Camp Bethel. Breakfast and lunch are included. Please bring appropriate clothing for being outdoors, shoes, gloves, a sleeping bag, pillow, toiletries, and a snack to share on Friday evening. The cost is \$20.00/participant. Leaders from each participating church are needed to help drive and chaperone. Registration forms are available online and have been sent to each congregation. **Deadline to register is October 25!**

#### **YOUNG ADULTS ICE CREAM SOCIAL**

Young Adults of Virgina are invited to the reserved tables in the hospitality section for ice cream following worship. Join in a discussion of what your congregation does to invite and excite young adults.

**ALL REGISTRATION FORMS AND INFORMATION  
ABOUT DISTRICT CONFERENCE ARE AVAILABLE ONLINE!**

**<http://virlina.org/district-conference.html>**

**In addition, each congregation has been sent forms to print and share.**