

# VIRLINA DISTRICT

Church  
Of the  
Brethren



## MEMO FOR MINISTERS

### DAVID K. SHUMATE - SCHEDULE FOR JUNE 2020

- 1 Office
- 2 Office
- 3 Staff Meeting/Office
- 4 OFF
- 5 Office/Commission on Ministry
- 6 Christian Growth Institute Orientation - Buena Vista, Stone
- 7 Worship Undetermined
- 8 Office/District Board Executive Committee (ZOOM)
- 9 Office
- 10 Staff Meeting/Office
- 11 OFF
- 12 Office/Historical Committee
- 13 Ministry and Mission Day - Fairview, Rocky Mount
- 14 Worship Undetermined
- 15 Office
- 16 Office
- 17 Staff Meeting/Office
- 18 OFF
- 19 Office
- 20 District Board Meeting - Crab Orchard
- 21 Worship Undetermined
- 22 Office
- 23 Office
- 24 Staff Meeting/Office
- 25 OFF
- 26 Office
- 27 OPEN
- 28 Travel to Grand Rapids, MI
- 29 Council of District Executives Meetings - Grand Rapids, MI
- 30 Council of District Executives Meetings - Grand Rapids, MI

### DAVID K. SHUMATE - SCHEDULE FOR JULY 2020

- 1 Annual Conference - Grand Rapids, MI
- 2 Annual Conference - Grand Rapids, MI
- 3 Annual Conference - Grand Rapids, MI
- 4 Travel to Roanoke, VA
- 5 Worship Undetermined
- 6 Office
- 7 Office
- 8 Staff Meeting/Office
- 9 OFF
- 10 Office
- 11 OPEN
- 12 Worship Undetermined
- 13 Office/Lake Side Steering Committee
- 14 Office
- 15 Staff Meeting/Office
- 16 Office

### ONLINE ETHICS TRAINING ON MAY 16, 2020

The Virlina District Resource Center is sponsoring an online Advanced Ethics Training Unit on Saturday, May 16, 2020 from 9:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. The focal point will be the new ethics training curriculum written by Jim Benedict.

Ethics training is mandatory for all ministers and students in the Christian Growth Institute and other ministry training programs. CEU credit of .5 is available for commissioned and ordained ministers. As of May 1, only four spaces remain. These will be awarded on a first-come, first-served basis. If you desire to register, contact us at <nuchurch@aol.com>.

### ADVANCED LEVEL ETHICS TRAINING - JULY 1

Another advanced level opportunity is at Annual Conference on Wednesday, July 1 from 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. The cost is \$10 for materials. .5 CEUs will be granted free of charge by the Brethren Academy. For more information, contact the Office of Ministry at (847) 429-4382 or by e-mail at <officeofministry@brethren.org>.

**DAVID K. SHUMATE - SCHEDULE FOR JULY 2020**

17	Office
18	OPEN
19	Worship Undetermined
20	Office
21	Office
22	Staff Meeting/Office
23	OFF
24	Office
25	OPEN
26	Worship Undetermined
27	Office
28	Office
29	Staff Meeting/Office
30	OFF
31	Office

**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. On occasion we hold this meeting at Camp Bethel in order to build relationship and synergy with the staff working at that location. Thank you for your understanding and patience.

**COMMISSION ON WITNESS SURVEY - "HOW WE ARE WITNESSING"**

The Virlina District Board - Commission on Witness is requesting that you complete the attached "How We Are Witnessing" survey. This seeks to obtain helpful information to be collated and shared with our congregations, ministers and membership concerning church life in a pandemic. You may mail the form to the Virlina District Resource Center at 3402 Planation Road, NE, Roanoke, VA 24012-3732 or scan and e-mail to <virlina2@aol.com>.

**BRETHREN BENEFIT TRUST NEEDS YOUR HELP**

Brethren Benefit Trust is in an exploratory phase of offering medical insurance to local pastors and church workers. While BBT realizes the timing of this request may seem a bit insensitive, recognizing that you have far greater concerns right now than providing information to BBT. One of the things that the current COVID 19 situation has brought to everyone's attention is the need for affordable health insurance for all. BBT's hope in asking pastors for information is to determine whether they can offer health insurance to our local congregations for their pastor(s) and other church employees.

Your participation in providing the following information will allow them to determine how the Brethren Medical Plan may be a fit for your congregation. The following webaddress <<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/7Q7LN8G>> will take you to the survey on Surveymonkey. There are only ten questions and BBT would appreciate your response to this survey as soon as possible. Thank you in advance for your help.

**MINISTRY AND MISSION DAY IN VIRLINA DISTRICT - JUNE 13, 2020**

"Ministry and Mission Day in Virlina District" has been rescheduled for Saturday, June 13, at the Fairview Church of the Brethren on Route 40 between Rocky Mount and Ferrum (4638 Franklin Street, Rocky Mount, Virginia). Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. The hymn sing and worship starts at 9:00 a.m.

The featured speaker for worship is Annual Conference Moderator Paul Munday. Five helpful and timely workshops following worship are available for participants. Each workshop provides 0.1 CEU for ordained ministers.

Following the workshops, lunch will be provided on-site. After lunch, Moderator Paul Munday and our Standing Committee delegates will hold the Annual Conference Briefing at 1:30 p.m. for pastors and delegates to learn more about what to expect at Annual Conference in Grand Rapids, Michigan. The briefing will conclude at 3:00 p.m.

Plan now to attend this day of worship, learning and fellowship.

**PASTORAL PLACEMENT REPORT**

(P indicates reviewing profiles, I indicates interviewing)

- **BETHANY** - Part time position, no profile available - Pulpit supply.
- **EDEN, FIRST** - Full time position, profile circulating (I-5) - Edward C. Woodard serving as interim pastor.
- **FRATERNITY** - Full time position, profile pending - Hal Sonafrank and Robert Williard serving as interim team.
- **JETERS CHAPEL** - Part time position, profile circulating - Pulpit supply.
- **LIGHTHOUSE** - Part time position, no profile available - *Don Steet serving as pulpit supply*
- **LYNCHBURG** - Part time position, profile circulating (I-1) - Leah O. Harness serving as interim pastor.
- **MAPLE GROVE** - Part time position, no profile available - Pulpit supply.
- **MONETA, LAKE SIDE** - Part time position, profile circulating (P) - Christian Becker serving as pulpit supply.
- **NEW BETHEL** - Part time position, no profile available - Ron Flora and Zach Tabor serving as pulpit supply.
- **NEWPORT NEWS, IVY FARMS** - Part time position, profile circulating - Pulpit supply.
- **ROANOKE - RENACER** - Part time position, profile pending - Pulpit supply.
- **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) - Elizabeth Anne Mitchell serving as interim pastor.

**ORDINATION REVIEW FOR 2020**

- Ordained ministers need to complete and return their 2020 ordination renewal forms including continuing education data. Congregations have been sent credential review forms for all the ordained ministers in their congregation. All of these were sent by U.S. Mail and need to be returned in like manner. The return date for those forms was April 30. If you have questions or concerns, please contact the District Resource Center.

**FINANCIAL HELP FOR PASTORS AND CHURCH EMPLOYEES**

- Brethren Benefit Trust through the Church Workers Assistance Fund has created a COVID-19 Emergency Grant program. The program has a streamlined application process to provide financial support to church workers (pastors, office staff, etc.) whose financial situation is adversely affected because of COVID-19 related issues. This would include help for bi-vocational pastors whose non-church work is eliminated or reduced. Inquiries should be directed to Debbie Butcher at (847) 622-3391 or <pension@cobb.org>. If you have questions on applying for this or need an application form you may also contact us by e-mail at <nuchurch@aol.com>.

**MINISTERING TO MINISTERS - BETHANY THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY**

- Each Wednesday from noon-1 p.m., the Bethany Seminary Pastoral Care Team is hosting a Zoom meeting for ministers to connect with, learn from, and support one another during the Covid-19 crisis. Each session has a theme. Past topics have included: how to reach "non-techs," grieving during a time of social distancing, and general brainstorming about pastoral responses to the pandemic. Join by using this Zoom link: <https://bethanyseminary.zoom.us/my/pooleda>

**HUFFMAN CALLED TO SERVE AS DIRECTOR OF MINISTRY FORMATION**

- Cathy S. Huffman has been called to serve as Director of Ministry Formation effective July 1, 2020. She is a member of the Antioch Church and currently serves as our 2020 District Conference Moderator. She will replace Gary L. Basham in this position. Gary has resigned effective June 30.

**SELF-ALLOCATION/FINANCIAL SECRETARY REPORT**

- The final Virlina District Financial Secretary Report for March 31, 2020 is attached. Please review your congregation's self-allocation giving for 2020 in consultation with your treasurer and draw any discrepancies to our attention.

**ATTACHMENTS FOR THE JUNE/JULY 2020 MEMO FOR MINISTERS**

- Attached to the MEMO FOR MINISTERS for June/July 2020 are 1) the Self-Allocation and Financial Secretary Report for March 31, 2020, 2) a survey from the Commission on Witness, and 3) Guidance for Religious Entities and Funeral Homes from West Virginia that has some very helpful information about the first phase of the re-opening process.