

VIRLINA DISTRICT

Church
Of the
Brethren



MEMO FOR MINISTERS

DAVID K. SHUMATE - SCHEDULE FOR JUNE 2021

- 1 Office
- 2 Staff Meeting/Office
- 3 OFF
- 4 Office/Commission on Ministry - Boones Mill
- 5 Placement Interview - Bethlehem
- 6 Preach at New Bethel/Consult at Summerdean/Study Group (Z)
- 7 Office
- 8 Office/Executive Committee - Ninth Street
- 9 Staff Meeting/Office/Credential Review Task Group
- 10 OFF
- 11 Office
- 12 Christian Growth Institute New Student Orientation (Z)
- 13 Worship at Jeters Chapel/Study Group (Z)
- 14 Office
- 15 Office/CGI Staff Meeting/Commission on Stewardship -
Roanoke, Oak Grove
- 16 Staff Meeting/Office
- 17 CODEAST - Hagerstown, MD
- 18 Office
- 19 District Board - Oak Grove, South
- 20 Worship Undetermined/Study Group (Z)
- 21 Office
- 22 Office/Long Range Financial Planning Committee - Jones Chapel
- 23 Staff Meeting/Office
- 24 OFF
- 25 Office
- 26 OPEN
- 27 Worship at Roanoke, Summerdean/Meeting at Roanoke,
Williamson Road/Council of District Executives (Z)
- 28 Council of District Executives (Z)
- 29 Council of District Executives (Z)
- 30 Council of District Executives (Z)/Annual Conference (O)

DAVID K. SHUMATE - SCHEDULE FOR JULY 2019

- 1-4 Annual Conference (O)
- 5 DISTRICT RESOURCE CENTER - HOLIDAY
- 6 Awakening Committee - Roanoke, Hollins Road/Office
- 7 Staff Meeting/Office
- 8 OFF
- 9 Office
- 10 OPEN
- 11 Worship at Fraternity
- 12 Office
- 13 Office/Smaller Membership Congregational Comm.- Boones Mill
- 14 Staff Meeting/Office
- 15 OFF
- 16 Office
- 17 OPEN

ONLINE ANNUAL CONFERENCE TRAINING BEGINS JUNE 16

Seven Training Sessions, starting on June 16, showing step-by-step instructions from how to log on to the Online AC site to how to join an Insight Session will be hosted by Tim Harvey and Carol Elmore, both of the Oak Grove Church of the Brethren. During these trainings, they will be able to answer any questions you have about the site and hopefully calm any fears you may have about navigating an online conference. The schedule of the trainings is posted at <www.brethren.org/ac2021>.

DISTRICT RESOURCE CENTER UPDATES

The District Resource Center will close on Friday, July 2, at 6 p.m. in observance of the July 4 holiday. The office will reopen on Tuesday, July 6, at 9 a.m.

Staff availability during the preceding week may be limited due to the Annual Conference along with the CODE pre-conference meeting.

The 2021 Virlina District Directory is at the printers. The distribution of the print edition will be limited as in 2020.

DISTRICT EXECUTIVE MINISTER SCHEDULE FOR JULY 2021

18 Worship at Lynchburg
 19 Office/Moneta, Lake Side Steering Committee
 20 Office
 21 Staff Meeting/Office
 22 OFF
 23 Office
 24 OPEN
 25 Worship Undetermined/Licensing Service at Cloverdale (T)
 26 Office
 27 Office/Long Range Financial Planning Comm. - TBA
 28 Staff Meeting/Office
 29 OFF
 30 Office
 31 OPEN

MARY SINK ST. JOHN - SCHEDULE FOR JUNE 2021

1 Office
 2 Staff Meeting/Office
 3 Office
 4 Office
 6 Race Education Team (Online)
 8 Office
 9 Staff Meeting/Office
 10 Office
 11 Office
 15 - 18 VACATION
 19 District Board Meeting - Oak Grove (South)
 22 Office/Peace Affairs Committee
 23 Staff Meeting/Office
 24 Office
 25 Office
 29 Office
 30 Annual Conference (Online)

MARY SINK ST. JOHN - SCHEDULE FOR JULY 2021

1 - 4 Annual Conference (Online)
 6 Office
 7 Staff Meeting/Office
 8 Office
 9 Office
 13 Office/Smaller Membership Cong. Comm. - Boones Mill
 14 Staff Meeting/Office
 15 Office/Spiritual Development Retreat Committee
 16 Office
 17 Program and Arrangements Committee
 20 Office/Race Education Team
 21 Staff Meeting/Office
 22 Office
 23 Office
 27 Office
 28 Staff Meeting/Office
 29 Office
 30 Office

NEW COMMUNITY VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL PROJECT OPPORTUNITY

The NEW COMMUNITY PROJECT just launched a campaign to purchase bunkbeds and mattresses for schoolgirls in Malawi attending high school 30 and 50 miles from home. Last fall we raised funds to build hostels for them; now they have requested help purchasing these bedding supplies. 20 beds and 40 mattresses are needed, at a cost of \$147 and \$45 each – but of course any amount is welcomed. And a donor has offered to match any gifts, doubling the love! The project is highlighted on this page of our website and on the NCP Facebook page. This could perhaps be a good option for VBS or other summer focus. Malawi is also the site of our A Girl and A Bike campaign, and we always welcome support for this as well.

NEW COMMUNITY PROJECT LEARNING TOUR - AUGUST 18-25

Yellowstone Yes! The world's first National Park is one of the gems of God's creation, and we've got spots on our August 18-25 Learning Tour – in fact we need a couple participants to make this trip a go. We'd be happy for you to put this out to folks of all ages in your congregation. Contact David Radcliff for info about these offerings of NCP at <dradcliffncp@yahoo.com>

Terri Welch Luzynski was licensed to the Gospel Ministry at Roanoke, Williamson Road on Sunday, May 30.

Karen B. Cassell is to be installed as pastor of the Lynchburg Church on Sunday, July 18, at 11 a.m.

John P. Reed, Sr. is to be licensed to the Gospel Ministry at Cloverdale on Sunday, July 25, at 4 p.m. (restrictions permitting),

PASTORAL PLACEMENT REPORT

- (P indicates reviewing profiles, I indicates interviewing)
- **BASSETT** - Full time position, profile pending - *Paul Maynard Baker will be retiring effective August 28, 2021.*
- **BETHANY** - Part time position, no profile available - Emma Jean Woodard serving as interim pastor.
- **BETHEL** - Part time position, no profile available - *John P. Reed, Sr. serving as interim pastor through August 31, 2021.*
- **BETHLEHEM** - Full time position, profile circulating (P/1-I) - Horace D. Light, Jr. serving as interim pastor.
- **COPPER HILL** - Full time position, profile pending - *William J. Hinton, Sr. will begin as interim pastor on July 1, 2021.*
- **FRATERNITY** - Full time position, profile circulating (P/3-I)- *In negotiation, trial sermon and vote on July 11, 2021.*
- **GREEN HILL** - Part time position, profile available by request (P) - J. Michael Varner serving as interim pastor.
- **JETERS CHAPEL** - Part time position, profile circulating (P/2-I)- *In negotiation, trial sermon and vote on June 13, 2021.*
- **LIGHTHOUSE** - Part time position, no profile available - Don D. Street, lay speaker from Mount Hermon, serving as pulpit supply.
- **MAPLE GROVE** - Part time position, no profile available - Chad Beamer serving a pulpit supply.
- **MONETA, LAKE SIDE** - Part time position, profile circulating (P) - Christian J. Becker (FGBC) continues as pulpit supply
- **MONTE VISTA** - Part time position, no profile available - Edward C. Woodard providing pulpit supply in June.
- **NEW BETHEL** - Part time position, no profile available - *Greg Hedrick called as interim pastor effective July 1 until December 31, 2021.*
- **NEWPORT NEWS, IVY FARMS** - Part time position, profile circulating (P) - Pulpit supply.
- **OAK GROVE, SOUTH** - Part time position, no profile available - Pulpit supply.
- **PLEASANT VIEW** - Part time position, no profile available - *Galen Daniel Ludwick has resigned effective May 31, 2021.*
- **PLEASANTDALE** - Part time position, no profile available - *W. Leonard Foley has resigned effective April 26, 2021. Congregation has not met for fourteen months.*
- **ROANOKE, IGLESIA CRISTIANA RENACER** - Part time position, profile pending - Pulpit supply.
- **ROANOKE, SUMMERDEAN** - Full time position, profile pending - *Allen C. Lenker has resigned effective June 16, 2021. Adam C. Stultz began as Transitional Pastor effective June 1, 2021.*
- **SAINT PAUL** - Part time position, no profile available - Congregation is not currently meeting.
- **SELMA** - Part time position, no profile available - Alvis Jackson serving as pulpit supply.
- **SHELTON** - Part time position, no profile available - Pulpit supply.
- **TRINITY** - Part time position, profile available by request (P/I) - Anne Mitchell serving as interim pastor.

WHEN THE CENTER DOES NOT HOLD: LEADING IN AN AGE OF POLARIZATION

• Pastors for Peace of the Shenandoah District will sponsor a discussion of the book *When the Center Does Not Hold: Leading in an Age of Polarization*, by David R. Brubaker. Discussions begin Tuesday, August 3, at 1:30 p.m. The format involves twice monthly one-hour discussions via zoom scheduled for the first and third Tuesdays of August, September, and October. **These discussions are open to any interested person, including beyond the Shenandoah District.** We are especially thankful that David Brubaker, who teaches at Eastern Mennonite University, will join us on August 3 to provide an overview of the book's theme and introduce us to some of the questions he is addressing.

• All you need to do to participate in the discussion is to register and read the book. When the Center Does Not Hold is a short book and includes contributions from three authors in addition to Brubaker. The authors offer guidance to leaders navigating polarized contexts at a local level. They describe the sources polarization and strive to equip leaders with the skills to manage themselves while leading others. Pastors for Peace in the Shenandoah District provides a meeting place for pastors and others with a desire to promote the Gospel of Peace for a living peace church. Each year they present The Living Peace Award to an individual or group in the Shenandoah District whose life and labors contribute to this mission. They have sponsored continuing education events as well.

• Contact David R. Miller if you have questions or wish to participate at <drmillercob@gmail.com>.

PRE-CONFERENCE MINISTERS MEETING ONLINE - JUNE 29 - 30, 2021

We have been working for almost two years to bring continuing education credit in the area of Biblical Studies. Our 2021 speaker is Dr. Michael Gorman, New Testament scholar, who is a professor at St. Mary's Seminary and University in Baltimore, MD, and author of nearly twenty books and sixty articles on biblical interpretation and ethics.

We wish we could be together in person but are thankful for the technology that provides the opportunity for education and the ability to gather virtually. We would love to have you participate from your computer, tablet, smart phone, or phone (for audio only). Our committee is confident in the learning you will receive from Dr. Gorman.

Our Ministers' Pre-Conference will be in webinar format with the opportunity for a Q & A at the end of each session. We hope you will be able to peruse one or both of the downloads/books we have listed on our website and in the flyer, Reading Paul and/or Participating in Christ: Explorations in Paul's Theology and Spirituality prior to the event on June 29-30. Our schedule is: June 29: 5-8 pm and June 30: 9:30-11 am; 12-3 pm (Central Time).

Remember, the event is only \$50 with the possibility for CEU credit. Now is the time to register! Registration is available at <www.brethren.org/ministryoffice>. Spanish translation is available for this event.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE WORSHIP SERVICES ONLINE - JUNE 30 THROUGH JULY 4, 2021

Want to hear the talented preaching skills of Chelsea Goss and Tyler Goss? Or scripture being read by the Starkey children? Or the virtual choir from the Stone Church of the Brethren, Huntingdon, PA? All of that and more will be a part of the online Annual Conference worship services!

The Conference theme "God's Adventurous Future" is the focus for worship. God's Adventurous Future invites us forward into a new heaven, a new earth, as a new creation in Christ. Inspired by John (Revelation 21 and 22), the River of Life offers water for the thirsty and the Tree of Life bears fruit for the healing of the world. Indeed, God's future is one of great hope!

Each of the worship services reflect God's Spirit at work in the world. Worship leaders and participants have gathered from the east, west, north and south, as well as from lands beyond our borders. Paul Munday, Richard Zapata, sister-brother duo Chelsea Goss and Tyler Goss, Beth Sollenberger, and Patrick Starkey will be sharing the possibilities of an Adventurous Future together as the Body of Christ through their sermons. Gabby Rodriguez, Josiah Ludwick, Teshome Molalenge, Kris Hawk, and Eric Bishop are among the worship participants. Worship has been planned by the team of Cindy Laprade Lattimer, Robbie Miller, and Mandy North with assistance from Program and Arrangements members Jan King and Emily Shonk Edwards.

The five worship services of Annual Conference this summer will be live-streamed and available to all at no cost. Simply go to www.brethren.org/ac beginning Wednesday night, June 30 to be connected to the live-streamed worship service at 5:00 pm Pacific Time; 6:00 pm Mountain Time; 7:00 pm Central Time, and 8:00 pm Eastern Time. Worship will also be live-streamed on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday nights as well as on Sunday morning at 7:00 am Pacific Time; 8:00 am Mountain Time; 9:00 am Central Time and 10:00 am Eastern Time.

A recording of each of the one-hour worship services will be available for congregations to use in their own local worship either as a complete service or selecting certain portions of these times of worship. Bulletins for all five worship services will soon be available on the Webcast tab of the website. For more information go to: <www.brethren.org/ac2021/webcasts>

For more information about worship go to <www.brethren.org/ac2021/worship>.

WORLD HUNGER AUCTION - AUGUST 14, 2021

The World Hunger Auction will be held on Saturday, August 14, 2021 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.

NATIONAL OLDER ADULT CONFERENCE (NOAC) ONLINE - SEPTEMBER 6 - 10, 2021

The 2021 NOAC Planning Team is hard at work making plans for the first online National Older Adult Conference. Although we wish we could be together in person at Lake Junaluska in September, we are grateful for the technology that allows us to gather "virtually." One of the benefits of holding NOAC online is that those who have been unable to travel to Lake Junaluska for NOAC due to finances, health, or schedule conflicts, may be able to participate online this year.

Online registration is now open at <www.brethren.org/NOAC>. Cost per person is \$100 and per couple is \$150. Paper registration forms are available upon request by calling: (800) 323-8039 ext. 303. The registration fee will provide access to all sessions, worship services, workshops, and recorded archives. We hope each person/couple who plans to attend will register and pay the fee so that we can continue to provide a meaningful experience for all.

NOAC 2021 will begin on Monday, September 6 at 7 p.m. with announcements, NOAC News and worship. It will end on Friday, September 10 at 9 a.m. with worship.

The daily schedule Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday will include: (all times are eastern)

- o 8:30-9:30 a.m. Morning Bible Study led by Joel Kline
- o 9:45- 11:30 a.m. Keynote Speakers will include Karen Gonzalez, Lisa Sharon Harper, and Ted Swartz & Ken Medema
- o 1:30- 2:45 p.m. Workshops and Virtual Field Trips
- o 3:15- 4:30 p.m. Workshops and Virtual Field Trips
- o 7:00 p.m. Announcements, NOAC News
- o 7:30 p.m. Worship with preachers Christy Dowdy, Paula Bowser, Andrew Wright, Don Fitzkee, and Eric Landram
- o 8:30 p.m. Virtual Ice Cream socials with Outdoor Ministries Association, Bethany Theological Seminary and our Brethren colleges/universities

We are hoping that districts and congregations will organize viewing parties (keeping in mind COVID safety protocols). Perhaps a Sunday School class or Bible Study group could plan to meet at the church or in someone's home. We are working with our retirement communities to provide opportunities for viewing, especially for those in assisted living and nursing care units.

There are opportunities for giving- we will have a Virtual "Fundraising Walk around the Lake" which will raise funds for the Emergency Disaster Fund and assist congregations which have been impacted by the COVID pandemic. We are also raising funds to provide books for the Lake Junaluska Elementary School. Donations may be made through Brethren Press. Watch for more information about these giving opportunities.

We have a webpage at <www.brethren.org/NOAC>. We are also on Facebook at "Church of the Brethren NOAC." Both are updated on a regular basis.

SELF-ALLOCATION/FINANCIAL SECRETARY REPORT

The final Virginia District Financial Secretary Report for April 30, 2021 is attached. Please review your congregation's self-allocation giving for 2021 in consultation with your treasurer and draw any discrepancies to our attention.