

# VIRLINA DISTRICT

Church  
Of the  
Brethren



## MEMO FOR MINISTERS

### DAVID K. SHUMATE - SCHEDULE FOR JUNE 2022

1	Staff Meeting/Office/Hiwassee Bible Study
2	OFF
3	Office/Ministry Advisory Council (Z)
4	Christian Growth Institute Orientation - Buena Vista (Stone)
5	Preach at Smith Mountain Lake/Profile Meeting
6	Office
7	Office/Lynchburg Church Board
8	Staff Meeting/Office
9	OFF
10	Office
11	OPEN
12	Worship at Bethel/Candidate Vote
13	Office/Concord, Living Faith Church Board
14	Office/Virginia Council of Churches Judicatory Check-In (Z)
15	Staff Meeting/Office
16	OFF
17	Office/Commission on Ministry
18	District Board Meeting - Crab Orchard, WV
19	Worship Undetermined
20	Office
21	Office
22	Staff Meeting/Office
23	OFF
24	Office
25	Nominating and Personnel (Z)
26	Worship at Bethlehem/Candidate Vote
27	Office
28	Office
29	Staff Meeting/Office
30	OFF

### DAVID K. SHUMATE - SCHEDULE FOR JULY 2022

1	Office/Christian Growth Institute Staff Meeting
2	OPEN
3	Worship Undetermined
4	District Resource Center - Closed
5	Travel enroute to Omaha, NE
6	Travel enroute to Omaha, NE
7	Council of District Executives
8	Council of District Executives
9	Council of District Executives
10	Annual Conference - Omaha, Nebraska
11	Annual Conference - Omaha, Nebraska
12	Annual Conference - Omaha, Nebraska
13	Annual Conference - Omaha, Nebraska
14	Annual Conference - Omaha, Nebraska

### DISTRICT RESOURCE CENTER UPDATES

The District Resource Center will close on Friday, July 1, at 6 p.m. in observance of the July 4 holiday. The office will reopen on Tuesday, July 5, at 9 a.m.

### DISTRICT EXECUTIVE MINISTER SEARCH COMMITTEE FORMED AND WORKING

A search committee has been formed to conduct the search process for the next District Executive Minister. The committee consists of JW Rhoades (Chairperson-Trinity), Carol Elmore (Vice Chairperson-Roanoke, Oak Grove), Lupita Ortiz (Secretary-Iglesia Cristiana Nueva Vida), Greg Fleshman (Mount Union), Gayle Harms (Jones Chapel), Anne Mitchell (Lighthouse), Sam Riner (Pleasant View), Dewey Williard (Fraternity), and Jim Worline (Lynchburg).

The group has been actively meeting and is currently in a phase of gathering feedback from individuals throughout a district-wide survey form. The group is working closely with Nancy S. Heishman, Director of Ministry for the Church of the Brethren and Hannah Jarrett, Virlina District Board Chairperson.

**DAVID K. SHUMATE - SCHEDULE FOR JULY 2022**

15 -16	Travel
17	OPEN
18	Office/Lake Side Steering Committee
19	Office
20	Staff Meeting/Office
21	OFF
22	Office
23	OPEN
24	Preach at Roanoke, First
25	Office/Blacksburg, Iglesia EL Buen Pastor Steering Committee
26	Office
27	Staff Meeting/Office
28	OFF
29	Office
30	OPEN
31	Preach at Trinity

**MARY SINK ST. JOHN - SCHEDULE FOR JUNE 2022**

1	Staff Meeting/Office
2-3	Office
7	Commission on Nurture - Germantown Brick
8	Staff Meeting/Office
9-10	Office
14 - 17	VACATION
18	District Board Meeting - Crab Orchard, WV
21	Office
22	Staff Meeting/Office
23-24	Office
25	Nominating and Personnel (Z)
28	Office/Race Education Team (Z)
29	Staff Meeting/Office
30	Office

**MARY SINK ST. JOHN - SCHEDULE FOR JULY 2022**

1	Office
4	District Resource Center - Closed
5	Office
6	Staff Meeting/Office
7-8	Office
12	Office
13	Staff Meeting/Office
14-15	Office
19	Office/NYC Bus Trip Check-in
20	Staff Meeting/Office
21-22	Office
26	Office
27	Staff Meeting/Office
28-29	Office

**MINISTERS AND SPOUSES RETREAT - MARCH 10-11, 2023**

Our annual MINISTERS AND SPOUSES RETREAT is scheduled for March 10-11, 2023 at the Eagle Eyrie Baptist Conference Center on U.S. 501 near Lynchburg, VA. Leadership for the retreat will be David Radcliff, Director of the New Community Project and former denominational staff person. Registration forms will be available prior to the end of the year.

This retreat is sponsored by the Commission on Ministry of the Virilina District Board. It is for all ordained, commissioned and licensed ministers of the Virilina District, as well as lay speakers, and spouses. There is much time for fellowship and quiet reflection, in addition to worship and the program. CEU's are available for commissioned and ordained ministers. The 2023 event has been scheduled to avoid conflict with the annual Youth Roundtable at Bridgewater College and the Christian Growth Institute's Spiritual Development Retreat at Brethren Woods. **Make sure to save the date!**

**SCAMMER AND SPAMMER FRAUD PREVENTION WORKSHOP**

Among the well attended workshops at Ministry and Mission Day in Virilina District on May 7 was a presentation by Zach Tabor, a member of the Nineveh Church of the Brethren, and Doug Harrison related to "Scammer and Spammer Fraud Prevention." The handout for that workshop is attached to the e-mail with this issue of the MEMO FOR MINISTERS. If your congregation or a group within your congregation would like to have Zach and Doug do a presentation, you may contact Zach at <zach\_tabor@hotmail.com> or (540) 309-1784.

**PASTORAL PLACEMENT REPORT**

**(P indicates reviewing profiles, I indicates interviewing)**

- **BASSETT** - Part or full time position, profile pending - R. Douglas Jones serving as pulpit supply.
- **BETHANY** - *Part time position, no profile available - In negotiation, trial sermon and vote on date to be determined.*
- **BETHEL** - *Part time position, no profile available - In negotiation, vote on June 12.*
- **BETHLEHEM** - *Part time position, profile circulating (4-1) - In negotiation, vote on June 26.*
- **FAIRVIEW (ROCKY MOUNT)** - Part time position, no profile available - Pulpit supply.
- **GREEN HILL** - Part time position, profile circulating (2-1) - J. Michael Varner serving as interim pastor.
- **LIGHTHOUSE** - Part time position, no profile available - Don D. Street, layspeaker from Mount Hermon, serving as pulpit supply.
- **LYNCHBURG** - *Part time position, profile pending - Karen B. Cassell has resigned effective May 24.*
- **MAPLE GROVE** - Part time position, no profile available - Jeremiah Beasley serving as pulpit supply.
- **MASONS COVE** - Part time position, no profile available - Charles DeHart serving as pulpit supply.
- **MONETA, LAKE SIDE** - Part time position, profile circulating - Christian J. Becker serving as pulpit supply.
- **MONTE VISTA** - *Part time position, no profile available - Gina Wright-Hawkins serving as interim pastor effective June 1.*
- **NEW BETHEL** - Part time position, no profile available (1-1)- Pulpit supply.
- **NEWPORT NEWS, IVY FARMS** - Part time position, profile circulating - Pulpit supply.
- **OAKVALE** - Part time position, no profile available - Joshua Lucas continues as associate pastor.
- **OLEAN** - *Plural ministry position, no profile available - Rodger L. Boothe has announced his retirement effective August 14, 2022.*
- **PLEASANT VIEW** - *Part time position, no profile available - John P. Reed, Sr. began as interim pastor effective May 1, 2022.*
- **RED OAK GROVE** - *Part time position, no profile available - Richard W. Thomas, Sr. (CBC) has resigned effective August 31, 2022.*
- **ROANOKE, IGLESIA CRISTIANA RENACER** - Part time position, profile circulating - Pulpit supply.
- **SAINT PAUL** - Part time position, no profile available - Not meeting due to COVID-19.
- **SELMA** - Part time position, no profile available - Alvis Jackson serving as pulpit supply.
- **SHELTON** - Part time position, no profile available - Pulpit supply.
- **SMITH MOUNTAIN LAKE COMMUNITY** - *Part time position, profile pending - Edward C. Woodard serving as interim pastor effective May 1.*
- **SPRUCE RUN** - *Plural ministry position, no profile available - Rodger L. Boothe has announced his retirement effective August 14, 2022.*
- **TRINITY** - *Part time position, no profile available - Judy D. Mills completed her service on June 5, 2022.*

**COVID PROTOCOL FOR ANNUAL CONFERENCE - JULY 10-14, 2022**

• Annual Conference attendees will be expected to wear N95 or KN95 masks at all times in the convention center and meeting rooms at the Hilton except when eating or drinking. Masks are the most effective tool in preventing spread against the BA.2 pathogens that hang in the air like a mist. Leadership speaking from the podium or head table may remove their masks while speaking to be better understood, but will replace their masks when they are finished speaking.

• We can engage in congregational singing. All choirs will also wear their masks while singing. Meal events will take place, but limits will be placed on numbers to allow for a bit more social distancing, and planners will be asked to present the program first. Those who feel comfortable doing so may eat in the meeting room and enjoy the table fellowship, while those who do not feel comfortable doing so will be able to request a boxed meal to take with them after the program. Social distancing reminders will be posted in areas where people tend to congregate in lines. In addition, although not included in our initial protocols, we will distribute small red heart stickers that can be applied to name badges by those who, for any reason, prefer to maintain at least 3 feet of distance from others. This will allow everyone to know how to approach and greet one another. COVID vaccines remain effective in reducing the risk of serious illness, hospitalization, and death. We strongly encourage all Conference attendees to get fully vaccinated prior to Annual Conference.

• We also encourage all Conference attendees to test for COVID before coming to Annual Conference. If you test positive—or if someone in your household tests positive within five days prior to Annual Conference (whether or not they were planning to come to Annual Conference)—please, please, please stay home. We will refund your registration fee. Finally, if you begin to feel ill at Annual Conference, we ask that you get tested and then isolate until you have a test result. If you test positive, you should not return to in-person activities.

We know that a variety of feelings may be evoked by our decision to adhere to recent CDC guidance recommending a return to mask wearing when traveling and attending large gatherings. For some of you, this plan may cause frustration, anxiety, or even anger that we are taking these precautions at a time when many Americans have decided to live like the pandemic is over. We call on all Conference attendees to remember that Scripture and tradition challenge us to love one another and not to conform to the world. As members of a community of faith, we must be willing to adhere to precautions that protect the lives and health of our brothers and sisters within the community of faith and the people of Omaha who will be welcoming us into their community. We expect that all Conference attendees will honor this decision and adhere to the protocols outlined above.

Program and Arrangements Committee: Moderator David Sollenberger; Moderator-elect Tim McElwee; Annual Conference Secretary Jim Beckwith; elected members: Carol Hipps Elmore, Beth Jarrett, and Nathan Hollenberg; Director of Annual Conference Rhonda Pittman Gingrich. In consultation with Dr. Kate Jacobsen and Dr. Emily Shonk Edwards

**ADVANCE REGISTRATION FOR ANNUAL CONFERENCE ENDS FRIDAY, JUNE 10, 2022**

If you have not registered for the Church of the Brethren Annual Conference now is the time to do so! Advance registration ends this Friday, June 10. The next time to register will be onsite where the registration fees increase. Annual Conference will be held July 10-14 in Omaha, Nebraska.

If you have already registered for Annual Conference, please remind family and friends that are planning to attend! Avoid the higher registration fees by registering online NOW! Go to <<https://www.brethren.org/ac2022/registration/>> to complete your registration.

**Advance Registration Fees**

Adult Full Conference - \$130.00	Adult Full Conference - Virtual - \$130.00
Adult Daily Rate - \$45.00	Post-High School to Age 21 Full Conference - \$35.00
Post-High School to Age 21 Daily Rate - \$15.00	
Current High School and younger - Free*	
Active BVS Volunteer - Free	Delegate - \$310.00

**Onsite Registration Fees**

Adult Full Conference - \$165.00	Adult Daily Rate - \$55.00
Post-High School to Age 21 Full Conference - \$45.00	
Post-High School to Age 21 Daily Rate - \$20.00	
Current High School and younger - Free*	
Active BVS Volunteer - Free	Delegate - \$ 385.00

On-site registration in Omaha opens Saturday, July 9 at 3:00 p.m. inside Hall B of the CHI Convention Center and closes at 7:00 p.m. that evening. Registration reopens at 8:00 a.m. Sunday, July 10. All children and youth must be registered for Annual Conference even though they are free.

**ANNUAL CONFERENCE WITNESS TO THE HOST CITY**

**Girls, Inc of Omaha**

Girls, Inc. of Omaha has been serving girls, ages 5-18, for over 45 years. Committed to nurturing girls to be strong, smart, and bold, they offer homework help and enrichment classes in music, art, and science; encourage exercise and good nutrition; provide clothing and hygiene supplies; and equip girls with basic life skills related to budgeting and banking, public speaking, voting and citizenship, and how to apply for a job.

**How you can help**

The Annual Conference has asked Girls, Inc. of Omaha what items are most needed to support the girls they serve. This is what they need:

**School Supplies**

Backpacks (all ages)	Notebooks (all ages)	Markers (any colors)
Crayon's (chunky and regular)	Sharpies (any color)	Loose leaf notebook paper

Folders (all ages)	Pencils (all kinds)	Art Supplies
Construction paper (all colors)	Glue	Sidewalk chalk
Ribbon, beads	Glitter	

**Hygiene**

Deodorant	Sunscreen	Bug Spray
Toothpaste	Toothbrushes	Mouthwash
Lotion	Reusable Water Bottles	

**Clothing**

Panties (all sizes)	Bras (all sizes)	Training Bras
Socks (any color / all sizes)	Games	Board games (all ages)
Basketballs	Yoga Mats	Dodgeballs (soft foam)
Jump ropes (long and short)	Referee Whistles	Ball pumps
Water balloons	Beach balls	Soccer balls (size 3-5)
Baseballs/softballs/bats/gloves (gloves could be gently used)		
Volleyballs and Volleyball knee pads (knee pads could be gently used and washed)		

Donations of supplies can be dropped off in the onsite Annual Conference office or brought to worship on Tuesday evening to be shared during the offering. We will also be supporting Girls, Inc. through our monetary offering that evening. Please make checks out to Girls, Inc. of Omaha. For more information, visit [Girls Inc. | Girls Incorporated Of Omaha](http://GirlsInc.org)

**WORLD HUNGER AUCTION - AUGUST 13, 2022**

The World Hunger Auction will be held on Saturday, August 13, 2022 starting at 9:00 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.

The purpose of the World Hunger Auction has been to provide as much funding as possible to those facing hunger-related issues. With the exception of some expenses, all the money that is raised goes to organizations working toward that goal. The ten congregations of the Church of the Brethren that sponsor the auction are blessed with the opportunity to serve. However, they do not receive any of the funds. Funds received are distributed to local, national and worldwide programs that address hunger. You are invited to take part in this opportunity to touch those in need.

**NEW BROTHERS ACADEMY CLASS - THE MINISTER AS THEOLOGIAN**

The Brethren Academy will offer this online course, The Minister as Theologian, from September 7-November 1, 2022. Joelle Hathaway, assistant professor of theological studies at Bethany Theological Seminary, will be the instructor and TRIM students will receive one credit in Bible/Theology upon completion and the BTS experience. EFSM students may create a Learning Unit for the course.

As an introduction to theological thinking, this course will cover some of the "big topics" that Christians talk about, including: God, Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit, humanity as the image of God, and Christian hope. We will read multiple genres, including sermons and poetry, to help us explore the deep, imaginative interconnections between various aspects of the Christian faith. The deadline to register for this course is August 3, 2022.

**SELF-ALLOCATION/FINANCIAL SECRETARY REPORT**

The final Virlina District Financial Secretary Report for May 31, 2022 is attached. Please review your congregation's self-allocation giving for 2022 in consultation with your treasurer and draw any discrepancies to our attention. We are grateful for the faithful prayer, participation and financial support of our congregations and membership. What you give makes the ministry of the district and camp possible!