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My father was a delegate to several General Conferences. He once told me that by the time the Spirit moved and various legislative processes were enacted, he never voted on anything he ever determined he'd vote before he left home! Essentially, he meant that none of us can predict the outcome of the gathering of an international, diverse conference of our branch of the family tree. So, we wait and we see.

I do know one constant, however, and that is that "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever." (Hebrews 13:8). Personally, this has been a key verse in my life. Whenever I've faced times of doubt, fear and worry, this verse reminds me that Jesus loves, forgives, accepts, transforms and heals personally and that Christ always loves the Bride, the Church today and its tomorrows. I find comfort in that regardless of General Conferences of yesterday, today and tomorrow! For me, this means that the movement called "United Methodism" continues regardless of Spirit-driven legislative decisions. For instance, even with a special called General Conference, Bishop Leeland still meets with 80 or so candidates for ministry; churches are planning their worship for the Sunday after as well as planning their witness and missional outreach; consultations and appointment making under the guidance of the Spirit continue on.

Towards that end, please keep in prayer our denomination, but also our Bishop, Cabinet, local churches, pastors and their families as your Bishop and Cabinet enter the season of holy conversations regarding our Biblical sending ways (Acts 13:3). Pray for those clergy who will be hearing of where they are sent. Pray for congregations that they may have a welcoming heart for their new leadership. Please remember, that our way of getting the right person in the right place at the right time depends on the prayers of the people.

With hope,  
Mike

**Saturday, February 23**, has been designated as a **Day of Prayer** for the Special Session of General Conference. The purpose of the day is to pray not only for the 2019 Special Session of the General Conference but also for increased effectiveness in fulfilling the Church's mission. The Day of Prayer will begin at 9:30 a.m. CST and will end at 3:30 p.m. You are invited to join with the bishops, delegates, staff, and observers as they pray for God's wisdom and guidance in making decisions that will affect The United Methodist Church going forward. The event will be live-streamed at [www.umc.org/live](http://www.umc.org/live).



## General Conference Follow-up Meetings and Information

Following the Special Session of General Conference, Bishop Leeland will gather with our districts for a time of worship and Holy Communion in March and April. Whatever the outcome, the United Methodist Church will continue to respond to God's call in our churches, our communities and the world.

A gathering for the Northern Piedmont and Yadkin Valley Districts will be **March 16, 10:00 a.m. at Main Street UMC in Kernersville.**

The Special Session is slated to conclude on Tuesday, February 26, 2019. To share information about what happened and what's next for our Conference, a special edition of the Conference E-News will be sent Wednesday, February 27, followed by a video presentation on Friday, March 1 from Bishop Leeland and the heads of the Western North Carolina delegation, Jennifer Davis and Kim Ingram. As you go into worship services for the weekend of March 2-3, these resources will be available to you.

**THE NEXT STEP**  
A GATHERING OF UNITED METHODISTS SEEKING  
GREATER INCLUSION IN THE CHURCH

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SPONSORED BY: RECONCILING MINISTRIES NETWORK  
HOSTED BY: GREEN STREET UMC  
639 S. GREEN ST. WINSTON-SALEM, NC  
GREENSTREETUMC.ORG

SATURDAY, MARCH 2, 2019  
10:30 - WORSHIP SERVICE  
NOON - LUNCH  
1:00-3:00 - DEBRIEF & STRATEGY SESSION  
WITH BISHOP CHARLENE KAMMERER  
& BISHOP RAY CHAMBERLAIN

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FOLLOWING THE GENERAL CONFERENCE, FEBRUARY 23-26 THERE WILL  
BE STRONG FEELINGS AND MANY QUESTIONS. WITH THIS GATHERING WE  
SEEK UNDERSTANDING AND PREPARATION FOR THE NEXT STEP.



RECONCILING MINISTRIES NETWORK



**APPORTIONMENT - A portion meant for the service of God.**

*(The above is the definition of what the word “apportionment” really means as stated by a former Conference Treasurer, Bob Meyers.)*

**Correction to the Apportionment Honor Roll that appeared in the last newsletter:**

Congratulations to the following churches who paid 100% of their **District** and **Conference** apportionments for 2018. Their names were omitted in error in the listing:

**Chestnut Grove (King)**

**Mount Tabor**

Also, Central (Mt. Airy) paid 100% of their **District** apportionments in 2018 instead of Conference apportionments as noted in the previous newsletter.



**Resources Available from the District Resource Center**

From the creators of the Mayberry Bible Study and the Beverly Hillbillies Bible Study comes “*The Van Dyke Show*” Bible Study, Volumes I and II. The studies are in a flexible 3-6 week format. Each volume contains three studies. Volume I deals with the themes of Family, Home, and Trust. Volume II deals with the themes of Fights, Loyalty, and Brotherly Love.

**District Missional Engagement Grant Applications Being Accepted**

Applications are now being accepted for Missional Engagement Grants. Missional Engagement funds are intended for mission initiatives which engage local church members in opportunities to serve and work within the local community or beyond. Priority will be given to churches and organizations that seek to build relationships between local church members and the people being served, are multi-racial and multi-ethnic, and which are most closely aligned with the mission, vision, and strategies of the WNCC.

A fully completed application must be received in the Yadkin Valley District Office by March 29, 2019 and grants will be disbursed by April 30, 2019. Grants will only be given up to \$5,000 dollars.

Click this link <https://www.yadkinvalleydistrictumc.org/post/missional-engagement-grant-process-12759316> to access a copy of the application.



**Older Adult Day Apart  
Thursday, April 11, 2019  
Sedge Garden United Methodist Church  
794 Sedge Garden Road  
Kernersville, NC  
Stay tuned for more information.**



## Happenings Around the District and Conference



*"Spirit and Truth is a new movement of Wesleyan-minded Christians seeking to awaken and equip the 21st century church, through the power of the Holy Spirit, to share the Gospel and make disciples of Jesus Christ."*

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### Winston-Salem Area Gathering

February 26, 2019 - 9:30-11:30am

Hillsdale UMC, 5018 US Highway 158, Advance, NC 27006

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Spirit & Truth is a new Wesleyan-minded ministry coming alongside local churches to help equip and launch Christians into more intentional outreach and discipleship. To help share our vision and to gather pastors in various regions for prayer and networking, we are excited to announce a series of regional gatherings. These brief gatherings will offer:

- A time of worship and prayer.
- An opportunity to learn more about the purpose and vision of Spirit & Truth.
- A time to hear about specific tools and training that is helping churches create significant momentum in the areas of outreach and discipleship.
- Opportunities to connect with other ministry leaders and pastors in your area.

These gatherings are not just for pastors. In fact, one of the major aspects of our ministry is helping to train and mobilize lay folks. So anyone interested, please come!

**[spiritandtruth.life](http://spiritandtruth.life)**

**First UMC, Pilot Mountain**, will have their **Sweet Repeats 2019 Spring/Summer Children's Consignment Sale** featuring gently used children's spring & summer clothing, toys, baby equipment, maternity clothing, and more!

**Sale Dates: Thursday, February 28, 6:00-9:00 p.m.**

**Friday, March 1, 9:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.**

**Saturday, March 2, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon**

For more information: [www.fumcsweetrepeats.com](http://www.fumcsweetrepeats.com)

**Mocks UMC**, located at the corner of Mocks Church Road and Beauchamp Road in Advance, will host a breakfast **on Saturday, March 9**, 6:30 a.m.– 10:00 a.m. Cost is \$7.00, which includes pork tenderloin, country ham, eggs, grits, sausage gravy, biscuit, and beverage. The breakfast is sponsored by the Mocks United Methodist Men with proceeds benefiting their mission projects. Start your Saturday off with a delicious breakfast and good fellowship!

**Love's UMC**, located at 3020 Main Street, will offer Safe Sanctuary training on **Sunday, March 10**, 2:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall, led by Donna Cooke. If you would like to attend, please call the church office (336-595-2114) by Monday, March 4, to register.

## Lenten Self-Guided Prayer

Mitchell's Chapel United Methodist Church  
2410 Center Rd. - Boonville

**Tuesdays and Thursdays during Lent-**  
**March 6- April 11**  
**From 7am-9am in Sanctuary.**

Drop In- Self-Guided Prayer

The sanctuary will be open to provide you with time of conversation and prayer with God.

Guided prayers will be available and based on the Protestant Stations of the Cross or you may have your own prayer or scripture reading.



March 13, 20, & 27  
April 3 & 10

*Repent!*

At Yadkinville UMC  
12pm – 1pm

Sponsored by the Mission Network Churches

Free Soup & Sandwich lunch will be provided after worship.

Preachers include: Rev. Jon Gaylord, Rev. Bill Foust, Rev. Jenny Stewart, Rev. Claudia Harrelson, and Rev. Rebekah Shuford Ralph



**Exploring Our Dreams**

What do our dreams tell us? How does the Spirit speak to us through dreams and how can we listen to our own souls?

Saturday, March 16, 9-12noon  
Wellspring Healing  
163 Stratford Court, Suite 201, Winston Salem  
\$40

Rev. Dr. Amy Rio, Spiritual Director & Guide  
To register: [amyjr101@gmail.com](mailto:amyjr101@gmail.com)

**CAMPING BY LAKE JUNALUSKA 2019**  
**April 26, 27, and 28**  
**Sponsored by Western North Carolina**  
**United Methodist Men**

**TO ALL BOY SCOUTS....YOU ARE INVITED**

Meet brother Scouts and Scouters from all over Western North Carolina for fun – camping – fishing – competition. Cost is \$3.00 per person.

First Place Plaque for Winner  
Participation Ribbons for all patrols

Second and Third Place Ribbons  
First Place Ribbons for winners of each event

Please reply before **APRIL 15** to receive your information packet. To give your troop address, please write or call either:

Dale Willis  
6 Bugg Street  
Canton, NC 28716  
828-648-1664

Elwood Mabe  
PO Box 244  
Walnut Cove, NC 27052  
336-591-7591 (home) 336-817-6182 (cell)  
[elwoodmabe@gmail.com](mailto:elwoodmabe@gmail.com)

Events:  
Bible Quiz, Snowshoe Race,  
Build and Raise a Flagpole  
Live Wire Accident (First Aid)  
Fishing, Ten Essentials for a Hike  
Build a Fire, Burn String, Cook  
Pancake

Chaplain Aide training will be offered. Also, free time activities

## District Joys and Concerns

Please keep **Landry Dugas**, granddaughter of **Michael and Lauralee Bailey**, in your prayers as she undergoes medical testing.

We welcome **Reverend Lynne Caldwell** to the Yadkin Valley District. She will be serving as the pastor of Danbury Community Chapel.



## Upcoming District Dates



February 23-26 – Special Session of General Conference, St. Louis,

March 9 – District UMW Mission Study, Pine Grove UMC, Winston-Salem

March 11-15 – Cabinet Meeting

April 6 – District UMW Day Apart/Prayer Breakfast, New Hope UMC, 8:30 a.m.

April 11 – District Older Adult Day Apart, Sedge Garden UMC, Kernersville

April 22-26 – Cabinet Meeting

### *Yadkin Valley District Staff*

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Check out our website: [www.yadkinvalleydistrictumc.org](http://www.yadkinvalleydistrictumc.org)