

AUMC WITNESS

Our Mission: Love God, Love Neighbor, Serve the World

Annandale United Methodist Church - annandalechurch.com
6935 Columbia Pike, Annandale, VA 22003 P: 703-256-8330
F: 703-914-8896 office@annandale-umc.org

Ministers:
Rev. Jason Micheli
Rev. Peter Kwon
Rev. Chenda Lee

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 We are a Stephen Ministry Church

January 14, 2020

In 2020, resolve to get involved in our mission projects

At AUMC, we are blessed with an abundance of opportunities to serve our neighbors. The United Methodist Church's mission of "making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world" has led us to help those in Fairfax County, Appalachia and around the world.

So why not make it a New Year's resolution to get involved in one of our many mission projects? Here are a few you might consider:

AUMC Mission Center

In addition to the food distribution program on Thursday evenings, the Mission Center (7901 Heritage Drive) coordinates activities with local schools (collecting school supplies, for example) and provides homework assistance on Wednesday afternoons. We have recently begun making sandwiches and assembling meals year-round. For food and school programs, contact Betsy Clevenger at 240-682-2067; for tutoring, contact Jerry Beyer at 703-399-1395.



Poe Middle School food program

AUMC provides meals to over 300 Poe students on Tuesday afternoons. To serve on one of the teams or to help in other ways (like prepping meals), contact Sheila Kyer at Sheila.Kyer@dbhds.virginia.gov.

ACCA Rebuilding Together

On the last Saturday in April, AUMC joins with ACCA to help repair the house of a local homeowner in need. Many of these homes are occupied by elderly or disabled individuals. Work consists of painting, carpentry, electrical work, yard work and variety of minor repairs. Contact John Clarke at clarkejh1@gmail.com.

Kairos Prison Ministry

Our Kairos team ministers to the men at Greensville Correctional Center in Jarratt, VA. The ministry includes weekend retreats and monthly visits, as well as cookie baking and a prayer chain. There is an informational dinner this Saturday (see page 2). The next four-day weekend is April 23-26. Contact Bill Iwig at bethesda.duo@verizon.net.

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Hypothermia Week 2019 a success, Bailey's overflow is Feb. 9-16

Our Hypothermia Week (Dec. 1-8) with FACETS was a huge success! We served 37 to 47 guests each night, with most of them coming all seven nights. The temperatures were more moderate than last year, so we had fewer than we have seen in the past. The good news is that we stayed within our budget and still had a little for the extras that go into making a dormitory-like setting seem like home!



We had 78 volunteers who gave of their time or talent! Special thanks to these individuals: Carolyn Stayman, who was there when I couldn't be, and Tracy Carney, who organized all breakfast meals with her "breakfast buddies." Many groups need thanks as well for providing meals in the evening: The United Methodist Men; Grace & Truth Bible Study; Stephen Ministers; our youth group, led by Pastor Peter; the Monte Sinai Church, led by Pastor Eduardo Gonzalez; our church staff; and the McConville family and friends. I also need to mention that Valerie DePeralta and her children Thomas and Mia won the table decorating contest!

For the first time, we worked with corporate sponsors and will seek to do this more in the future. Thanks to Dr. George Papastergiou of Vienna, who provided us with toothbrushes and toothpaste for all, and Distributing Dignity, a women's help group in New Jersey that provided women's feminine products and underwear.

We had services and entertainment during our guests' stay. Brenda Buchy gave haircuts to both men and women. We were entertained by the singing group "The Girls Next Door," singer/songwriter Shye Ashkenazi from The Jewish Community Center and Serena Parrish (fresh from "off" Broadway!). Nick Brown lent us his restaurant equipment and his time to balance the sound system. These professionals dropped their fees to give back to the community!

Thanks for all your well wishes, prayers and donations. Extra special thanks to Jerry Beyer for putting up with my tirades so you wouldn't have to see them! Remember, the week of Feb. 9-16 (Sunday evening through Sunday morning), AUMC hosts the hypothermia overflow for Bailey's Crossroads Community Shelter. The only slots available are 6:30-10 p.m. each night and 5:30-7 a.m. each morning.

Teresa Beyer

(Mission Projects, continued from page 1)

Appalachia Service Project

Each fall, AUMC takes a team to Appalachia to spend a week repairing homes in West Virginia. Projects have included building stairs and decks, painting, carpentry and a variety of home repairs. The team stays at one of the ASP facilities. Contact John Clarke at clarkejhl@gmail.com.



Rise Against Hunger



At least once a year, AUMC hosts a Rise Against Hunger meal-packaging event. Rise Against Hunger is an international hunger-relief organization that distributes food and aid to those most vulnerable around the world.

Contact Carolyn Stayman at tocordova@gmail.com.

ACCA furniture delivery

AUMC is a partner in ACCA's furniture ministry, which provides items such as sofas, beds, dressers, tables and chairs to families in need in the Annandale area. AUMC provides a team of volunteers to help deliver furniture four times a year. Contact Ted Torsch at torsch@verizon.net.



AUMC Mission Center: Thank you for another successful year!

2019 was a busy but wonderful year for our programs at the AUMC Mission Center on Heritage Drive. We have so many ways that we can share God's Love with our neighbors in Annandale. Your financial support through our Alternative Giving tree and Lenten offerings; your generosity with children's clothes and books for the families we serve; the donations of food on the third Sundays of each month; and the many clean, used egg cartons we've received have helped us have a successful year!

All our food programs and our wonderful homework/reading program are a blessing to so many. With your help, during 2019 we were able to give food to 10,647 folks during our Thursday evening food distribution! Thank you for enabling us to bless all those folks!

Betsy Clevenger

Hypothermia prevention

The week after Thanksgiving, AUMC provides warm meals and a place to stay for those in our area who need shelter as part of the FACETS hypothermia prevention program. We also serve as an overflow site for the Bailey's Crossroads Community Shelter. We will be hosting overflow guests Feb. 9-16. (See article on page 1.) Contact Teresa Beyer at larachliath@gmail.com.

Join the Missions Committee

The Missions Committee meets the second Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. and welcomes new members who have a passion for mission. Come help us plan AUMC's mission projects, coordinate efforts with other community groups like ACCA and establish funding priorities for our mission ministries. Contact Teresa Beyer at larachliath@gmail.com.



Caring Ministries needs volunteers

The Caring Ministries team makes personal visits to AUMC members who are homebound, in a nursing or retirement home, in the hospital or at home being treated for an illness or recovering from surgery. About 30 members of AUMC are currently homebound and enjoy brief visits from church members.

If you are willing to make visits about once a month, please contact Barbara Gordon at barbarag2308@gmail.com or 703-300-5184. You may also contact Dottie Rogerson in the church office at drogerson@annandale-umc.org or 703-256-8330, ext. 112. The Caring Ministries team does not replace visits by AUMC's pastors; it supplements their efforts.

Kairos informational dinner this Saturday

Our Kairos Prison Ministry team shares the love of Christ with the men at Greensville Correctional Center in Jarratt, VA. There are opportunities to serve for both men and women. If you would like to learn more about Kairos, join us for our next informational dinner, this Saturday, Jan. 18, 5:30-8 p.m., in Wright Hall. RSVP to Bill Iwig at 301-365-7532 or bethesda.duo@verizon.net.

Men's Scouting Breakfast, Feb. 15

AUMC men are invited to learn more about Boy Scout Troop 150 at a breakfast for the United Methodist Men on Saturday, Feb. 15, at 8 a.m. in Wright Hall. This will be a time of fellowship as the troop updates us on its activities. Boys are also invited to attend. RSVP to Gary FitzGibbon at gary@garyfitzgibbon.com or 703-963-8707, or Stan Witkowski at switkowski11@cox.net or 703-941-2935.



ACCA Year-End Report: 500 volunteers serving Annandale

Christian Community for Action (ACCA)?

ACCA, a coalition of 27 local churches, is now in its 52nd year of serving residents of Annandale, Lincolnia and Bailey's Crossroads. ACCA has a child development center and a human services ministry. It draws on more than 500 volunteers, 130 organizational partners and 500 donors to provide much-needed services to our less-fortunate neighbors.

The human services programs include family emergency assistance, a food pantry, furniture assistance, transportation to medical appointments, as well as support for Meals on Wheels, Rebuilding Together, Annandale CROP Walk and scholarships for students with disabilities.

AUMC members have generously supported ACCA through the years, both by funding ACCA programs and participating in furniture delivery, donating food to the food pantry and working on Rebuilding Together.

ACCA accomplishments this past year included:

Did you know that AUMC is one of the founding members of the Annandale

Family Emergency Assistance – provided over \$223,353 in assistance for rent, utility bills, prescriptions and other needs with an average payment of \$680 per family.

Furniture – delivered 1,178 items to 475 persons in 151 needy households.

Food pantry – made 643 deliveries of food and other necessities, serving 1,870 people with a 7–10-day supply of food. Another 450 families were assisted with a 3–5-day supply of food.

Transportation – provided 542 roundtrip rides for medical appointments and other essential errands.

Meals on Wheels – served an average of 100 meals per month to the elderly, disabled or those convalescing.

Home repairs – in partnership with Rebuilding Together, 61 volunteers renovated and upgraded two local homes.

ACCA was named one of the best small nonprofits in the metro area by the Catalogue for Philanthropy. It is currently conducting a challenge campaign to raise \$130,000. To find out more and to donate online, visit <https://accacares.org/>.

Stephen Ministers are there to listen and care

Stephen Ministry is a one-to-one lay caring ministry that provides high-quality, confidential, Christ-centered care to people who are hurting or going through difficult phases of life.

Stephen Ministers at AUMC are lay members, not clergy, who have received 50 hours of training that teaches the principles and skills needed to provide high-quality, Christ-centered emotional and spiritual care to care receivers. Care receivers are AUMC members and others in the community who are struggling through a difficult time in life — experiencing grief, divorce, job loss, chronic or terminal illness, or some other life crisis.

Some important guidelines for this caring relationship to protect both the care receiver and the Stephen Minister are:

- The relationship between a care receiver and a Stephen Minister is confidential.
- Men are matched with men, women with women.
- A Stephen Minister usually provides care to one person at a time, meeting with that person once a week for about an hour.
- A Stephen Minister establishes appropriate boundaries and respects the care receiver's boundaries in order to develop and maintain a healthy Stephen Ministry relationship.
- When a care receiver's needs exceed what a Stephen Minister can provide, the Stephen Ministry team makes a referral to an appropriate mental health professional or other community resource.

If you would like to have a Stephen Minister help you

through a difficult time, or if you would like to serve as a Stephen Minister, please contact our AUMC Stephen Leader, Pat Sherfey, at 703-354-9676 or psherfey@yahoo.com.

Flowers on the Altar Needed

If you would like to place flowers on the altar in memory or honor of a loved one, complete and return the form below to the church office, along with a check made payable to AUMC. Circle the date(s) that you would like to have flowers placed. The cost is \$30 per arrangement. Flowers are not placed on the altar on Communion Sundays (the first Sunday of the month). Easter Sunday and Advent have special flowers.

Jan.			19		July		12	19	26
Feb.			16	23	Aug.	9	16	23	30
Mar.	8	15	22	29	Sept.		13		27
Apr.			19	26	Oct.		11	18	25
May	10	17	24	31	Nov.	8	15	22	
June		14	21	28	Dec.				27

Name of Donor: _____

Phone: _____

In Memory of In Honor of *(check one)*

I/we wish to leave the flowers for distribution to shut-ins or those in the hospital. YES _____ NO _____

Updating your will in the New Year? Consider a bequest to AUMC

Your will is one of the most important documents you will ever sign. It's a legacy statement that reflects how you wish to distribute your property and bestow gifts on the people closest to you — and on charitable organizations most meaningful to you during your life.

Many people find that including charitable organizations in their will is a sensible and fulfilling way to support the work of organizations they care about. A bequest remains the most popular vehicle for distributing property after your death because it does not affect your current assets, income or lifestyle. By directing in your will that a portion of your estate be paid to one or more charities, you can leave an enduring legacy — probably one that is larger than you could have created during your lifetime.

It is important to have a will. Should you pass away without one (i.e., die "intestate"), state laws direct who will receive your estate. No charities will be included unless you name them in a valid will.

Bequests and planned gifts should be discussed with a financial advisor and a tax or legal professional. Contact Randy Gordon, president of the AUMC Foundation, at rgordon@ngfa.org if you would like to discuss gifts to AUMC through your will or estate plan.

Thank you for your financial commitment

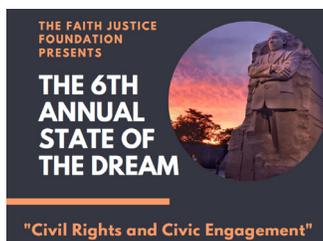
Help us reach our goal of \$1 million in pledges for 2020! If you have not made a financial commitment for 2020, we ask that you prayerfully consider filling out a pledge card. Extra cards are in the pews or in the church office. Or contact Garry Bell at 703-256-8330, ext. 100, or gbell@annandale-umc.org.

MINISTRY MEETINGS

Tues., Jan. 14	Trustees	7 p.m.	Room 303
Tues., Jan. 14	Finance Committee	7 p.m.	Room 210
Tues., Jan. 14	Missions Committee	7 p.m.	Room 302
Tues., Jan. 21	Church Council	7 p.m.	Room 302
Tues., Jan. 28	SPRC	7 p.m.	Room 210
Tues., Feb. 4	Trustees	7 p.m.	Room 303
Wed., Feb. 5	Stephen Ministry	7 p.m.	Room 303
Tues., Feb. 11	Finance Committee	7 p.m.	Room 210
Tues., Feb. 11	Missions Committee	7 p.m.	Room 302
Tues., Feb. 18	Church Council	7 p.m.	Room 302

Get in shape in 2020!

If your age qualifies you for AARP and you're looking for a well-rounded exercise class, you are invited to classes on Wednesdays and Fridays, 9:30–10:30 a.m., in Wright Hall. Cost through June is \$50. For questions, contact Sue Cook at billisue41@earthlink.net or Fran Madill at gbmfcf@verizon.net.



State of the Dream 2020

The FaithJustice Foundation's sixth annual panel discussion on the state of Dr. Martin Luther King's dream is this Sunday, Jan. 19, at 2:30 p.m. at Mt. Olive Baptist Church, 1601 South 13th Road, Arlington, VA. There is a lunch at 1:30 p.m. The panel will

discuss civil rights, voting rights and voter mobilization in an election year. Panelists include: Rev. James Victor, pastor, Mt. Olive Baptist Church; Rev. Terrance McKinley, racial justice mobilizing director, Sojourners; Rev. Kevin Agee, presiding elder, CME Washington-Virginia District; and Rev. Cynthia Johnson-Oliver, founder and president, FaithJustice Foundation. Register at www.faithjusticefoundation.org.

WEEKLY VOLUNTEERS

Sunday, January 19, 8:30 and 11 a.m.

Door greeters: 8 S. Fleming, S. Naugle;
10:30 C. Stephens, J. Houston

Fellowship Hours: Trustee Committee

Ushers: 8:30 J. Clarke, W. Ferree, B. Herbst,
E. McKenney(c);

11 N. Bentsi-Bansah, S. Chase, R. Gordon, P. Snitzer (c)

Sunday, January 26, 8:30 and 11 a.m.

Door greeters: 8 M. Pearson, D. Ruhter;
10:30 S. Houghton, L. Riley

Fellowship Hours: Staff Parish Relations Committee

Ushers: 8:30 A. Cogswell, R. Patton, A. Powell,
S. Fleming (c);

11 S. Fleming, F. Madill, R. Gordon, P. Adams (c);

Sunday, February 2, 8:30 and 11 a.m.

Door greeters: 8 C. Cox, S. Fleming;

10:30 D. Johnson, E. Jones

Fellowship Hours: In His Steps class

Ushers: 8:30 G. FitzGibbon, M. Robinson, K. Sabo, R. Gordon(c);

11 N. Bentsi-Bansah, D. Robinson, A. Underwood, P. Snitzer (c);

Sunday, February 9, 8:30 and 11 a.m.

Door greeters: 8 S. Naugle, M. Pearson;

10:30 J. Houston, S. Houghton

Fellowship Hours: United Methodist Men

Ushers: 8:30 A. Cogswell, C. Jones, C. Jones, S. Fleming (c);

11 F. Madill, N. Robjhon, R. Gordon, P. Adams (c);

Sunday, February 16, 8:30 and 11 a.m.

Door greeters: 8 D. Ruhter, J. Vance;

10:30 L. Riley, P. Snitzer

Fellowship Hours: AUMC Parents

Ushers: 8:30 W. Annan, W. Ferree, R. Patton, S. Fleming (c);

11 N. Bentsi-Bansah, S. Fleming, A. Underwood, P. Snitzer(c);

NEXT DEADLINE:

Friday, Feb. 7, is the deadline for the Feb. 18 Witness, which covers Feb. 23 and March 1, 8, and 15.