

Salisbury District ENews

NOVEMBER, 2011

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Encouragement from REVDRNANA

"In our prayers for you we always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, for we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the saints, because of the hope laid up for you in heaven." (Col. 1:3-5a)

As I have traveled around this district doing Charge Conferences I have consistently found us celebrating life transforming ministries. For all the doom and gloom we hear about the decline of the mainline churches that negativity has not phased our churches in this district when it comes to ministries with the least and the lost of humanity. Regardless of size our churches are intentionally feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, and visiting those in prison. We have pre-schools, day care centers, children's ministries of all kinds. Our youth are serving in mission projects from Carolina Cross Connection to projects for their own church members. We have food pantries that not only give out food but people are on hand to offer prayer and friendship with the people they serve. We have clothing ministries that also build on relationships. Churches are partnering with schools to give supplies, pray for the teachers and students, and be a resource for them.

I am seeing many reports of adult professions of faith. At Memorial in Kannapolis they received eleven new members all of whom can walk to church. Midway began a neighborhood ministry called Opportunity House. Out of Opportunity House came a worshipping community called Narrow Gate that has a service on Thursday nights. They now average over 190 in worship! We have churches that routinely offer meals to their communities. In a time when our denomination is focusing on the vitality of local churches we can stand and be counted.

Our annual training for church officers known as the District Leadership Conference is being redesigned this year to be a "Vitality Tool Box" and will be open to anyone who wants to help their church become more vital for God's Kingdom work. It will be held on Jan. 29th at Jackson Park in Kannapolis from 2 p.m. until 5 p.m. The workshops will focus on the "Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations" that you saw in the VITAL Scorecard that you received at Charge Conference. Clergy, please note, too, that our next Clergy meeting will be the next day, Jan. 30th. We will be focusing on the "T" in VITAL which is "Transformation." Rev. Jamie Hamrick, pastor of Rocky Mount UMC in Troutman will be our guest presenter and preacher for the morning. Jamie leads one of the fastest growing churches in our Conference and was this year's recipient of the Denman Award for Evangelism. We will meet at First UMC, China Grove.

Let us continue to do God's work and proclaim Jesus Christ crucified and risen from the dead. For we, as the Church, are called to be the body of Christ in this world.

Serving Christ with you,



Rev. Dr. Nancy Burgin Rankin

Nancy B. Rankin

WNCC Transition

Transition Team Reports Progress, Invites Feedback



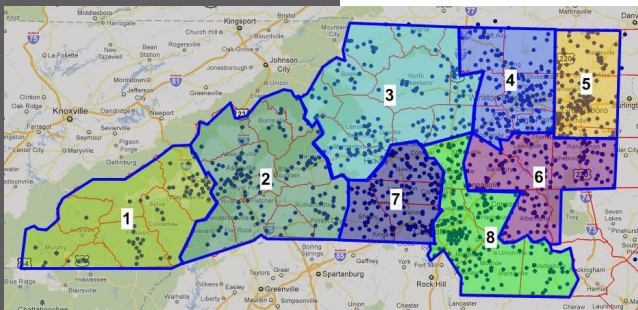
Making Progress

The Western North Carolina Conference Transition Team, charged with developing a plan of reorganization for the conference to move from 15 districts to 8, has met three times over the past few months. The initial meeting, held in July, was an organizational meeting in which the 16 members were divided into four sub-committees. The sub-committees are organized around the following topics and meet periodically to discuss the scope of work to be considered: District Boundary Lines, Role and Function of the District Superintendent, Legal and Property Matters, and District Structure/Design.

The second meeting of the Transition Team was held in September at which time each of the four sub-committees provided an update regarding their discussion to this point. The District Boundary Lines sub-committee presented a preliminary draft of eight districts for consideration and feedback. This draft will be posted within the next few days for review and feedback from across the conference.

The third meeting was a joint meeting held on Oct. 14 with the North Carolina Conference. The Transition Team from the North Carolina Conference is undergoing a similar process, also reducing the number of districts to 8, but started their process over a year ago. The willingness to share their work and what they have learned, to this point, was extremely helpful as our team and sub-committees continue their work.

Your WNCC Transition Team has approached this task with dedication, diligence and, most importantly, prayer. Above all else, the team is united in its commitment to be ever mindful of its mission and purpose - to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. We covet your prayers as we move through this process.



Current Proposal & Draft

We invite and welcome ideas and input from all constituents. The sub-committees and their members are listed at the top of the page. Please click on the appropriate team name to submit any feedback, comments, or questions. More information from the District Lines/Names and Superintendent Role/Personnel sub-committees will follow soon.

Updates from the work of the Transition Team are being shared on the conference website at:

<http://www.wnccumc.org/ac11/TransitionTeam.htm>

Below is a list of the members of the various transition team subcommittees. Please feel free to share comments and feedback on any of the transition team reports via the email address of the appropriate committee:

District Lines and Names:

linesandnames@wnccumc.net

Randy Harry, Mark Hollar, Amy Johnson, Bobby Sharp, Robert Upchurch

District Structure and Design:

design@wnccumc.net

David Christy, Jennifer Davis, Lory Beth Huffman, Jennifer Martin

Property and Legal:

propertyandlegal@wnccumc.net

Jennifer Burton, Amy Coles, Jim Windham

Superintendent Role and Personnel:

personnel@wnccumc.net

Ken Carter, Donald Jenkins, Mark Key, Ashley Crowder Stanley



The mission of The United Methodist Church is to
 “Make Disciples of Jesus Christ for the
 transformation of the world.”

(Matt 28:18-20 & Matt 22:36-40)

This mission is achieved through vital congregations that equip and empower people to be Disciples of Jesus Christ in their homes and communities around the world.

Vital Congregations Are:

- Spirit-filled, forward-leaning communities of believers that welcome all people (Gal. 3:28)
- Places where Disciples of Jesus Christ are made through the power of the Holy Spirit. (Matt. 28:18-20)
- Communities that serve like Christ through justice and mercy ministries. (Micah 6:8, Luke 4:17-21)

A Vital Congregation Has:

- Inviting & Inspiring Worship
- Engaged Disciples in mission & outreach
- Gifted, Empowered & Equipped Lay Leadership
- Effective, Equipped and Inspired Clergy Leadership
- Small Group Ministries
- Strong Children’s & Youth Ministry

A Disciple of Jesus Christ:

- Worships regularly
- Helps make new disciples
- Is engaged in growing in their faith
- Is engaged in mission
- Shares by giving in mission

Visit the United Methodist Church
 Vital Congregations website at:
www.umvitalcongregations.org

Save the Date...

District Clergy & Family Christmas Dinner

December 8, 6:30pm
 Salisbury First UMC

**Watch for details coming soon!

Salisbury District Leadership Conference

January 29, 2pm
 Jackson Park UMC, Kannapolis

**More information included in ENews

Salisbury District Lay Speaker Training

March 24 & 25, 2012
 9am—4pm
 Trinity UMC, Kannapolis

**Watch for forthcoming details

Happy Thanksgiving!



Salisbury District Leadership Conf.

Sunday, January 29
2:00pm— 5:00pm
Jackson Park UMC, Kannapolis

District Leadership Conference

- 1) **The Vital Work of Trustees**, led by Rev. Dan Gobble, Chair—District Committee on Church Location and Building.
 - Details on How to Incorporate
 - Inexpensive Ideas for Updating Your Building
 - Looking towards a 7-Day-A-Week Church
 - Using the church as a Tool for Hospitality

- 2) **Relational Evangelism**, led by Carole Price and Susan Brower, Blair Road UMC
 - The Goal of this workshop is to share practices of radical hospitality through relational evangelism.

- 3) **Vitality in Worship**, led by Pat Kluttz, North Kannapolis UMC
 - Would include break-out sessions in areas such as liturgical dance, worship leadership, accompanists, drama, etc.
 - Discerning additional worship services for your church
 - Discussion of Blended Worship (pros and cons)

- 4) **Faithfully Introducing Technology into the Worship Service**, led by Rev. Anita Sain, Asbury UMC
 - Includes a discussion of lighting and visuals
 - Resources and Training for Technology Assistants
 - Building Consensus about technology updates
 - Real-life witnesses from our district churches

- 5) **Called to More... But What?**, led by Rev. Jonathan Coppedge-Henley, First UMC, Charlotte
 - Next steps for laity who feel called to their next level of service.
 - Includes discussion of Stephen Ministry, Certified Lay Speakers, Emmaus, Roles of Deacon and Elder, lay ministries, etc.
 - Theological underpinning of calling
 - “Remember your call. Nurture the call of others.”

- 6) **A Vital Ministry**, leader TBA
 - Role of Prayer in the worship service and in meetings
 - Role of Prayer Groups—do’s and don’ts
 - Establishing a Prayer Room or Prayer Wall in your church
 - Studies on Prayer
 - Praying for Your Pastor

7) **A More Vital Youth Program**, leader TBA

- Learn to move towards a more CONNECTED Youth Group—connected to parents, connected to the congregation, connected to the Conference.
- Increase the “Five Practices of “Fruitful Congregations” in Youth Ministry.

8) **A More Vital Children’s Ministry**, leader Linda Hood (& Friends), Kerr Street UMC

- Increase the “Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations” in Children’s Ministry.
- Course leaders will share their “Kerr Kids” format, which reaches neighborhood children each Thursday evening as a continuous outreach into the lives and needs of children.

9) **Vital Care for Your Vital People**, leader Rev. Bev Copley, First UMC, Landis

- Assessing your congregation’s needs for Intentional Faith Development among adults.
- Caring for your “Feeders and Leaders” - a guide to providing vital care for those who are in teaching and helping ministries themselves.
- Caring for the Spiritual Lives of Leaders and using Spiritual Gifts with vital Leaders.
- Praying with and for Leaders.

10) **Vital Local Missions**, leader Rev. Roxane Almond, Boger’s Chapel UMC

- Implement stories from Boger’s Chapel Trinity UMC and Opportunity House.
- Facilitated by representatives of churches who are doing a GREAT job in missions! Share their energy.
- May also include visits from local ministries such as CCM, RHM and MSM.

11) **Vitality in Your Staff-Parish Committee**, led by Dr. Nancy Rankin

- Address evaluation process, appointive process, role of the committee in the calling of members into ministry.
- “Vital Approaches to Conflict” - “When Church Families Fight”
- How to run and participate in a vital SPRC meeting.

12) **Vitality in Finance and Stewardship**, leader Rev. Andy Langford, Central UMC, Concord

- Leader will share new materials, “Pyramid of Christian Generosity”.
- The Audit Process
- New “Extravagant Generosity” materials for Bishop Schnase.



Paul Nickerson

February 25-26, 2012

Children's Home

1001 Reynolda Road, Winston-Salem

Paul Nickerson, a senior associate of Griffith Coaching, offers a variety of consulting services for your Middle Judicatory or local congregation. Paul has more than 29 years of experience as a local pastor, judicatory leader and church consultant.

How to Get More Members for Your Church (also known as the Turn-Around Boot Camp) is an event designed for the Senior Pastor or Pastor-in-Charge of a church and three to nine lay leaders in the church. It provides practical help about the best practices of healthy, growing churches. You will come away from this event with an action plan about how to bring new people into your church in new and fruitful ways..

Register at: <https://www.cvent.com/events/how-to-get-more-members-for-your-church-turn-around-boot-camp-/registration>

How to Develop Tippers Into Tithers

Also led by Paul Nickerson, this workshop is for church teams of pastors and 3 members of finance and stewardship. **February 4, 2012, 2pm—5:30pm, Assurance UMC, Huntersville.**

This workshop will help church teams learn principles in giving, re-thinking motives for giving, re-thinking the Stewardship Letter and helping people grow in their giving.

Registration costs \$100 per **church team of 4**. Cost includes all materials and a copy of "Turning Tippers into Tithers." Deadline to register is January 20.

Register at <http://bit.ly/nf/dy2t>



HOLIDAY SUPPORT SERIES COPING WITH GRIEF THROUGH THE HOLIDAYS



The holiday season can be difficult for those in grief. How do I manage all the holiday events while missing the one I love? Should I make changes in my holiday routine? Ignore the holidays this year? What about my family?

Join us for one or all of these series at
Epworth United Methodist Church—Fellowship Hall

[1030 Burrage Rd Ne Concord, NC 28025](https://www.epworthumc.org/1030-Burrage-Rd-NE-Concord-NC-28025)

(located off Lake Concord Rd across from CMC Northeast Medical Center & Carolina Mall)

December 1 ~ 12:00 – 1:00 PM

**Grief Talk - Coping With Grief through the Holidays:
Giving yourself permission to grieve over the holidays**

December 8 ~ 12:00 – 1:00 PM

Drawing comfort from your memories: Discussing past holiday traditions and stories

December 15~12:00 – 1:00 PM

**How to honor your loved one on the holiday itself:
Finding the healing power that the holiday season can bring**

Facilitator:

Angella Allison-Davis, Psy.D, M.Div
~ Pastoral Psychotherapist & Family Counselor with
Methodist Counseling and Consultation Services:
[www. mccsvs.org](http://www.mccsvs.org)

****Our Holiday Support Series is open to anyone
in the community free of charge****

For more information, please call the Epworth UMC office at 704-786-6183 on Monday-Friday, 8:30am-12:00pm or



Methodist Counseling and Consultation Services at
704-375-5354 ext. 404 on Monday-Friday, 9:30am-5:00pm

**** No Registration is required****

**Feel free to bring your own lunch or purchase lunch from
Epworth UMC Hot Dog Ministry:**



Local Church News

- **Harmony UMC:** 1st Annual BBQ Dinner, November 19, 10am—Until. \$6 / pound; \$7 per plate (or 3 sandwiches); \$35 / full butt. Contact Nancy Bebber (704.467.0179) or Ronnie Overcash (704.652.2074) for tickets. Harmony UMC, 101 White Street, NW, Concord.
 - **Mount Olivet:** The Mount Olivet Food Pantry is in desperate need of: Canned meats, Peanut Butter, Rice and Pasta, Spaghetti Sauce, Mac & Cheese, Dried Beans. No outdated foods please. Monetary donations also accepted! 301 Mt. Olivet Road, Concord—704.782.8846
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District Clergy Meeting

Jan. 30th-, 9:30am—lunch
China Grove 1st UMC

Vital churches have members and people from their surrounding communities who can give testimonies to the life-transforming witness and ministries of their church.

Leader: Rev. Jamie Hamrick, Senior Pastor of Rocky Mount in Troutman, recent recipient of the Harry Denman Evangelism Award





November

- 21 District Committee on Ordained Ministry Training Event, 11am—2:30pm, District Office
- 24 District Office Closed, Thanksgiving
- 29 Annual Conference Planning Meeting, Conference Office, 10am—5pm

December

- 05 District Committee Ordained Ministry Interviews, 10am—3pm, District Office
- 08 District Clergy Family Christmas Party, 6:30pm, Salisbury First UMC (details forthcoming)
- 12 District Committee Ordained Ministry Interviews, 10am—3pm, District Office
- 26-
- Jan 1 District Office Closed, Christmas break. Office re-opens Monday, January 2nd.

January

- 07 Delegation Meeting, Davidson UMC, 9:30am—2:30pm
- 17-20 DS Consultation, St. Simon’s Island, GA
- 28 Connectional Table Meeting
- 29 DLC Vitality Rally, Jackson Park UMC, 2pm—5pm
- 30 District Clergy Meeting, China Grove 1st UMC, 9:30am—lunch

Main Street Assistance Volunteer Schedule for November 2011

To volunteer to help please call Jon Hunter @ 704-216-7914.

Volunteers are needed to sort and hang clothes and to assist clients.

ROCOC Main Street UMC Assistance Center
1312 N. Main Street, Salisbury, NC 28144

Open each day from 9-11 am and 1:30 – 4 pm.

- Monday October 31
- Thursday November 3
- Monday November 14
- Thursday November 17
- Monday November 21
- Monday November 28