

# OUTREACH

*participating in ministries of compassion, justice, and advocacy*

**{Outward}**

2013 MISSIONAL FOCUS CALENDAR		
<b>July</b> SHELTER/PRIMARY ED Local  CARITAS School Supplies	<b>August</b> PRIMARY ED Local  School Supplies	<b>September</b> URBAN MINISTRIES Regional  <b>Shalom Farms</b>
<b>October</b> WORLD HEALTH National/Global *  ImagineNoMalaria Pan American Health	<b>November/December</b> FAMILY SERVICES Local  UMFS Christmas	

SHALOM FARMS is a community development project of United Methodist Urban Ministries of Richmond. It is a farm with a focus; namely, food security in our region. The project is: 1) providing fresh produce to underserved communities; 2) providing educational training to children and adults on growing food and food-based entrepreneurship; and 3) linking community groups to a wide range of food security resources and partners.

## WITNESS

*telling our stories, offering expressions of faith, being Christ-like*

**{Together}**

**SAVE THE DATE:** The Richmond Marathon and Half-marathon is on November 16. Last year, friends of Boulevard posted up out front to cheer on runners and to offer hospitality to the passer-byers. It is an opportunity to give the cold cup of water and the encouragement Christ commends (Matt 10:43; 1 Thess 5:11). Who can lead us?

**ANOTHER SAVE THE DATE:** Sunday, October 13. It is Boulevard's 2013 Charge Conference. Once a year, we gather for an hour to talk about where we have been and where, with God, we aim to go. Good food is always involved. And it is certainly made more meaningful by your presence.

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

We make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world (Matthew 28).

# Boulevard United Methodist Church



Not etiquette but kingdom behavior is the point.

Harper Bible Commentary

September 1, 2013

321 N Boulevard  
Richmond, Virginia 23220  
boulevardumc@gmail.com

# Order of Worship for the 15<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

(UMH) - The United Methodist Hymnal  
(TFWS) - The Faith We Sing

\* Please stand, as able.

## Gathering

Words of Welcome

Introit *Brighten the Corner Where You Are*

\*Call to Worship

\*Hymn *Gather Us In* 2236 TFWS

Prayer

## Proclamation and Response

Time with Children

First Lessons *Jeremiah 2:4-13*  
*Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16*

Anthem *When I Needed a Neighbor*

Gospel Lesson *Luke 14:25-33*

Sermon "Entertaining Angels" Rev. Rachel G. May

\*Hymn *How Firm a Foundation* 529 UMH

## Thanksgiving and Communion

Our Confession, God's Pardon, and The Peace

Our Service of Word and Table continues on page 15. You are invited to offer tithes and gifts as you come forward to celebrate the sacrament by intinction.

Offertory *God of the Sparrow, God of the Whale*

Prayer 11 UMH

## Sending Forth

\*Hymn *O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing* 57 UMH

\*Benediction

\*Postlude

# NURTURE

*caring for one another, for our space, and for our growth as disciples*

{Inward}

REVISED COMMON LECTIONARY READINGS typically shape our order of service, including the sermon. If you'd like to prepare:

### Next Sunday—16<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

*Jeremiah 18:1-11*  
*Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18*  
*Philemon 1-21*  
*Luke 14:25-33*

WE ARE PRAYING for the Carels, the Mays, the Seipps, Kimberly, Donna, Sheldon, Doris Leonard, Nancy Tate, Patricia Stansbury, Roy Burgess, Tonya Toney, David Johnson, John McConnell, Katie Anderson, William Wagner, Wilmer Chipiwalt, Wendy McClellan, Porter Anderson, Buster Riddell, and June Robinson. Want to add someone? Say so via the offering plate or call the office.

NEXT MONDAY MORNING PRAYER: September 9 (not September 2). You are invited to join in prayer and lunch thereafter, if you'd like, at Westminster Canterbury. All are welcome. Our focus is on lifting the names of our members and friends to God. We gather at 11:30 on the first Monday of each month.

HOLY COMMUNION is celebrated by intinction, this morning. Intinction is the act of receiving bread and then dipping it into the juice so as to receive both elements together. When this method is selected, one reason is its consistency with the Biblical witness about Jesus' celebration of the Last Supper. Also, communion by intinction is inclusive. It allows us to walk and talk with our children as they learn that there is a place at the Table for them. It also permits some to kneel and pray at the altar as others pray upon returning to their seat.

GIVING GROWS US. Clicking "like" on our Facebook page and visiting SignUp Genius to offer your time? These count too.

August 18 - 24	Ministry Costs	Your Contributions
	6588	2690

 FLOWERS are given to glorify God by the Fishers, in honor of Charlie's first birthday.



## Crossing Boulevard

*with Rev. Rachel*

### 7 INTO A PLENTIFUL LAND Jeremiah 2

There was a time when there was plenty of it. Land could be grabbed. [Having a friend from Oklahoma means recalling something of that 1889 event...and other bits of Sooner state trivia. I try. I really do.]

Note: It's not the quantity of land that Jeremiah references. What is indicative of God's provision is the quality. Our spiritual ancestors are upon soil God knows to be capable of producing "good things". Yet, "You defiled my land," says God (v.7). *You degraded it.*

I wonder. If it were I being examined through the Almighty's lens, what could be said of my effect on the land? Am I a friend or a defiler? Yikes.

Shalom Farms is place where people ask that very question. Sometimes they are spring-boarded into living the answer they long to hear. It isn't a place where people go to circulate blame. Hours spent there are about catching glimpses of the Hebrew word for wholeness—seeing shalom—beholding completeness.

The project is our September mission focus. While I am sure that any financial contributions we are able to route their way will be received with joy, I have doubt on another front. I doubt my capacity to get us from here to the blessing—from the place where I distribute food for thought to the moment where we receive another's hospitality.

Fear not: No visions of a tour bus, here. In fact, not one of our outreach endeavors is predicated upon an all or nothing notion of participation. But a handful of emissaries who approach the adventure as though they were gladly taking all of Boulevard with them in spirit? That would be all right.

Their mission, after all, is experiential. As I imagine it, Shalom Farms is like that family member made miserable by the expectation of wrapping an object in a box because that has never been and never will be their love language.

Which leads me to say, I hope we'll get there. And if we do, let it be for the love of the One who still shows us how to let go of our home-field advantage and join others at *their* table, where there is plenty room and grace upon grace is waiting.