

OUTREACH

participating in ministries of compassion, justice, and advocacy

{Outward}

YOUR GENEROSITY strikes again! \$850.00 will find the Virginia-wide offering plate at Annual Conference on June 21. The Children Out of Poverty initiative and the Imagine No Malaria partnership, to name two Conference Offering beneficiaries, rely wholly on the grace that comes through local church givers. Toward reaching the \$200,000 goal, every congregation's heart and help is needed. Thank-you for making Boulevard a contributor.

WITNESS

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

{Together}

THURSDAY AFTERNOON CLUB: Two remain. June 12 and June 19. Between 4:15 and 5:45, stop by the church's front porch. This Thursday, the 12th, can you bring goods for the grill or help in some other way so that we might eat and drink with each other and with any hungry passer-byers? Speak with Rachel.

Boulevard United Methodist Church



“I am a feather on the breath of God.”

Hildegard of Bingen

June 8, 2014

321 N Boulevard
Richmond, Virginia 23220
www.boulevardumc.org

ON THE FRONT:

German writer, composer, philosopher, Christian mystic and visionary leader
Hildegard of Bingen (1098 - 1179) - Karl-Heinz Oswald's statue, Eibingen Abbey.

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

Order of Worship for Pentecost Sunday

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

* Please stand, as able.

Gathering

Introit *Every Time I Feel the Spirit*

Words of Welcome Rev. Rachel G. May

*Call to Worship

O Lord, how manifold are your works!

**In wisdom you have made them all;
the earth is full of your creatures.**

These all look to you to give them their food in due season.

**When you send forth your spirit, they are created;
and you renew the face of the ground.**

May the glory of the Lord endure forever; I will sing.

I will sing praise to my God while I have being.

Bless the Lord, O my soul. Bless the Lord! (Psalm 104)

*Hymn *How Lovely, Lord, How Lovely* TFWS 2042

Prayers of the People

Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

Interlude *Breathe on Me, Breath of God* UMH 420
Verse 1 (x2)

Proclamation and Response

Time with Children

Prayer of Illumination

First Reading Acts 2:1-12

Anthem *She is the Spirit*

Scripture Lesson 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13

Sermon Rev. Larry Davies
Lynchburg District Superintendent

Offering Tithes and Gifts

Offertory *The Seasons Are Fixed*

*Doxology (94 UMH)

*The Lord's Prayer (895 UMH)

Sending Forth

*Hymn *Forward Through the Ages* UMH 555

*Benediction

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— Trinity Sunday

Genesis 1:1—2:4a

Psalm 8

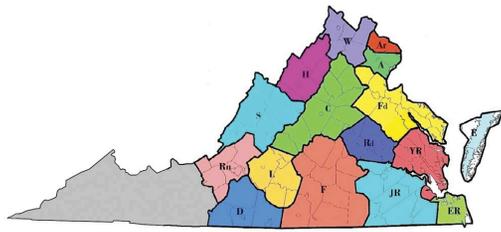
2 Corinthians 13:11-13

Matthew 28:16-20

OUR PRAYERS INCLUDE Carolyn Johnson and family, Anne and Bob Wilkinson, Irene and Bill Wagner, Buster Ridell, Jamie and Lanier May, Jim Rickards, and Jay McKinney. Wish to add or to restore a name to this printed list? Use the offering plate or contact the main office to say so.

GIVING GROWS both you and us.

	Ministry Costs	Your Gifts	Savings Used
May 1 -31	17,895	8,349	5,700



Crossing Boulevard

with Rev. Rachel

13 GIVEN ONE SPIRIT TO DRINK | Cor. 12

Among my weaknesses, is this one: The ability to consistently make real and relevant United Methodism in a post-denominational era.

The days of everyone caring whether you are Presbyterian, Baptist, Episcopalian and so on.... those are not ours. Heck. About one-fifth of the American public overall – and a third of adults under 30 – are religiously unaffiliated (www.pewforum.org). In other words, to care about distinctions within Christianity is a bit of stretch when folks are less likely to be religiously inclined *period*.

United Methodism can be as insignificant as one would like for it to be. Go ahead. Dismiss it as a relic of mainline Protestantism's heyday. In that bless your has-been heart kind of way, pat it on the head. It *did* give us some great schools and hospitals. But let me be clear: At its core is a connectionalism that ought not be mistaken for institutional jargon. In a networking era, a networked church is on time.

Connectionalism is how Boulevard has almost always had a full-time, seminary trained pastor (without having to lure one here with packages and promises). It's how you can put a few bucks in the plate and manage to reach out and touch the wounds of other people whose far-away-ness makes them no less worthy of compassion. It's how I can call up my former boss and ask him to preach.

Larry Davies oversaw my first three years in ministry. As Lynchburg's District superintendent (yellow "L" above), he was the one to tell me where I was headed after Nashville. He watched as I sought ordination in full—it's a long process—while both of us weathered the storms of my then congregation. This is to say nothing of what it means to supervise 89 congregations.

He may have had his own reasons for saying yes. What I know is why I asked. He could speak a Word that I have yet to offer you—a message that celebrates the vitality that came to a Smörgåsbord of people back then and a sermon that asks *us* to ask for *it* again. Vitality. Aliveness. Not for self-preservation. For the being of Christ's body.

I'm not going anywhere. I'll be right here. Here with you and to pray, come Holy Spirit, come. If I could instruct the third person of the trinity, I'd ask it to reveal to us how we share this cup (v.13) and to point out why, for whom, we bother. But by the grace that is my strength, I know better. So I say to the Spirit just this: Do your thing.