



# GOOD NEWSLETTER

Clarendon United Methodist Church ————— March 2019

## Decision: A Way Forward

**A Special Session** of the General Conference of The United Methodist Church took place February 23–26, 2019 in St. Louis, Missouri. The purpose was to act on a report from the **Commission on a Way Forward**, authorized to examine paragraphs in The Book of Discipline concerning **human sexuality** and to explore options to strengthen church unity.

Bishop Sharma D. Lewis held an address titled “State of the Church: Where do we go from here?” on Monday, March 4, following the Special Session of General Conference. The event was live streamed and featured an address by Bishop Lewis as well as time for questions and answers. The event footage has been archived and can be accessed at the following link: [www.livestream.com/vaumc/stateofthechurch](http://www.livestream.com/vaumc/stateofthechurch).

On Wednesday, March 13, the Arlington and Alexandria Districts will host a “What Just Happened” conversation with General Conference Delegates Tom Berlin and Martha Stokes in order to provide an update on the process and decisions that were reached during the 2019 Special Called General Conference. They will hold a session for clergy from 10:00 a.m. to noon and a separate session that evening for the laity from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Both sessions will take place at Herndon UMC: 701 Bennett St, Herndon VA 20170. **A reservation is required to attend this event. Register for either session by filling out this form.**

## Next Level Innovations

On Tuesday, February 19, 91 members gathered for a special church conference to vote on the recommendations proposed by the Next Level Innovations Team (district staff and NLI mentor) and it passed with 91% of the members voting “Yes” (83-8). We will now begin the work of putting groups into place to carry out the innovations. Thank you to the Clarendon NLI Team led by Erin White with Pastor Tracy, Nii Armar, Kevin Sweeney, Laura Watson, and Gary White, as well as many others who assisted. Look for clipboards around the church where you can sign up to join in this amazing transformation of CUMC, and stay tuned for more information coming from the church office.



# Welcome to Nilse Furtado-Gilliam

Clarendon UMC welcomes Nilse Furtado-Gilliam as our new Director of Discipleship Development. This newly established position has the primary responsibility for developing a path toward discipleship for children, youth and adults; fostering and nurturing Christian faith and discipleship in visible and fruitful ways.

Nilse has vast experience across the spectrum of Christian education, course design, developing and directing programs for children and youth, leading teams, web design, and communications, just to name a few. Nilse was born in Brazil and speaks both Spanish and Portuguese. Her father is currently a United Methodist minister (and a District Superintendent). She has a Bachelor's Degree in Mass Communications, Rust College (Summa Cum Laude), a Masters in Journalism, University of Memphis, and will complete her Master of Divinity degree in spring of next year at Asbury. The concluding paragraph of her resume was a "Personal Statement of Salvation and Call to Ministry" as is as follows:



*"Every position I've held I considered it full-time ministry. I am honored and humbled to serve God where He calls me to go. As He leads me back to serve at a local church, I am confident He will continue to move in and through me to accomplish His perfect will."*

Nilse has a 10-year old son (Elijah) and a 4-year-old daughter (Naya). Her husband, Sean, is a chef.

## Welcome New Members

On February 10, **James Owen** and **Peggy Little**, both active Chancel Choir members, joined the church. James was raised in Florida and moved to the area a few years ago to serve in the Army at Ft. Myer. He visited CUMC on his third day in the area and has not left since. He met and married his wife Gretchen Clark here and continues to be active. Peggy is very new to the church and also fell in love with the music at CUMC. She attended a performance of the Bach Consortium honoring Reilly and sought us out. She is Senior Counsel at a non-profit in DC and enjoys biking to church.

**Laura Bishop** and **Grace Wines** (both members of the Adult Bell Choir) joined the church on February 17 at the 11:00 a.m. service. Laura has been an Associate Member at CUMC for over 30 years and was introduced by Trudy Ensign who has been her mentor, shepherd, and friend the entire time. Laura is a professor at Georgetown University in the Kennedy Institute of Ethics. Grace is the daughter of Pastor Tracy and Len Wines and recently graduated from Shenandoah College with a music therapy degree. Grace is an accomplished violinist.



Michael Christiaanse .....	1
Benjamin Whelan .....	1
Virginia Palmer .....	2
Gia Cerritelli.....	3
Bruce Cook.....	4
Matthew Stewart .....	5
Lucy Greenfield.....	6
Meredith Melnick .....	6
Ed Betts .....	8
Ryan Lee.....	8
Tanya Sabin .....	8
Diane Smith.....	9
Michael Tarpley.....	9
Robin Whitmore .....	9
Dorothy Grotos .....	10
Nicholas King .....	12
Patti Rodriguez .....	12
Dorothy Sauer.....	13
Sean Whitmore .....	16
Morgan Veth.....	22
Reid Benjamin.....	25
Suzanne Mott.....	25
David Whelan.....	25
James McCarthy .....	27
Katheryn Lanman.....	29
Linda Gilbert.....	30
Doug Swanson .....	31
Rod Swearingen.....	31

# Milestones & Happenings

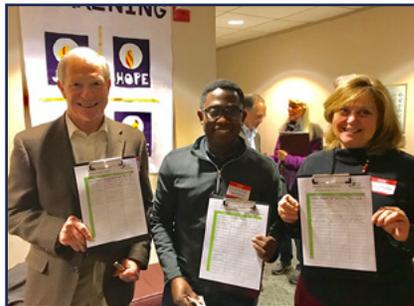
## PASSING OF GENE DRIES

We mourn the loss of Gene Dries, husband of Delanie Dries, who died on January 10. Delaina has been attending CUMC since 2017 and has been serving in several areas of the church including the Praise Band. Gene and Delaina split their time between here and Texas, where he worked as satellite engineer. We enjoyed getting to know Gene on his visits to Virginia. Please hold Delaina and her family in prayer.

## FAITH, FOOD, AND FELLOWSHIP

**Thursday, March 14, 12:00-1:45 p.m.**

Inside the United States Information Agency by Mike Kiel and Nancy Fierheighley. Come learn about this agency which was established during the Eisenhower administration and dissolved in 1999. It was the largest full-service public relations organization in the world.



Clockwise from top left: New CUMC members Peggy Little and James Owen; New CUMC members Grace Wines and Laura Bishop; Counting up votes during the NLI session; and Dedicated NLI volunteers.

Sign up for the church email distribution list.

To be added, contact ([office@clarendonumc.org](mailto:office@clarendonumc.org)).

## A SERVICE OF HEALING AND WHOLENESS

Saturday, March 9, 5:00 p.m., Sanctuary

If you or someone you know is in need of healing—body, spirit, mind or soul—we invite you to come and participate in a service of healing. You can come to pray for someone else or yourself, for needs in our world, or for God's creation. Prayers, scripture, and music will be offered along with the opportunity to receive the laying on of hands or anointing. Church membership is not required. For more information, contact [office@clarendonumc.org](mailto:office@clarendonumc.org).

## ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

Wednesday, March 6, 7 p.m.

March 6 is the beginning of the 40 days of Lent, which concludes with the glorious celebration of Jesus' resurrection on Easter Sunday, April 23. This deeply moving service of scripture, prayer and repentance will be led by the Youth.

## LENTEN STUDY: JOHN

Sunday, March 10, 9:45–10:45 a.m.

You are invited to join in a study of the words of John, one of Jesus' chosen twelve disciples. This powerful study based on *John: The Gospel of Light and Life* by Adam Hamilton is 6-weeks long with a DVD and begins the week of March 10 with the following classes. Both are open to anyone:

- Lisa and Jon White will lead in Room 206.
- Judy Yolles will lead sessions for the Good News Class in Room 210.

## GOING DEEPER

Sunday, March 10, 4–5:30 p.m., Youth Room

Additionally, Pastor Tracy and Laura Lewis will begin an 11-week short-term disciple study on The Apostle John. Please let the office know if you are interested in either of these studies and a book will be provided for you ([office@clarendonumc.org](mailto:office@clarendonumc.org)).



### Clarendon UMC

Pastor Tracy McNeil Wines  
606 N. Irving Street  
Arlington, VA 22201

## SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES:

8:30 a.m. Informal Service

11:00 a.m. Formal Service