



30 On Thursdays are 30-minute zoom gathering highlighting an innovative ministry, success story, or unique way of doing business. The zoom will start with a few brief questions, followed by a few minutes of open dialogue, and end with providing contact information for any further questions. The call will be held from 9:00-9:30 AM on the following Thursdays with a unique theme each session.

October 19: CHURCH GROWTH

Rev. Madison Ailinger of Christ UMC in Staunton, which has seen significant growth, reached full apportionment giving, and has shared her strategy on "Ministry Matters." Read ahead at: <https://www.ministrymatters.com/all/entry/11556/looking-forward-to-surprising-transformation>

November 16: WOW WEDNESDAYS

Rev. Robert Stutes and WOW leader, Jenny Basham of Mount Pleasant UMC in Roanoke will talk about WOW Wednesday, a ministry they have for getting children into church through a powerful alternative to traditional "Sunday School." High impact at many levels.

December 7: THEO TEAMS

Rev. Mandy Newman of edges in Blacksburg, will share about her Theo ministry planning team. The Theo team works with her to plan the complete worship experience including the messaging. This is an innovative way to involve a team in worship planning/messaging. We'll discuss how it works/benefits.

January 11: NURTURE MINISTRY

Rev. Mike Derflinger and Rev. Doug Kanney of St. Paul UMC, Christiansburg will discuss their Matthew/Mark/Luke/John nurturing ministry team, which provides a structure for comprehensive congregational care.

January 25: MERGING CHURCHES

Rev. Jeff Wilson, Rev. Warren Carswell, and Wanda Martin, of Genesis UMC, will talk about the new church formed by merging two churches. Two pastors, one new congregation with a new name and new energy. We'll talk briefly about the background/planning of the uniting churches, benefits of coming together, and the two pastors---how do you make that work?

February 8: 365 DAILY DEVOTIONAL

For two years Rev. Peter Choi of Fishersville UMC has developed a Daily Devotional Guide of 365 that includes devotionals by church members and others. Where the concept came from, challenges of putting together 365 devotions and the impact it makes. Perfectly timed just before Lent!

Use the recurring Zoom link to attend for each session shared separately with pastors in emails or contact CindyMartin@vaumc.org or 540-989-3335 for the Zoom link. It may be shared with key church leaders who may have an interest in one or more of the topics. For use outside the Valley Ridge District connection please contact Rev. Dr. Dale White at DaleWhite@vaumc.org for consent. Zoom meetings may be recorded for later use.