Happenings at High Street Newsletter

High Street United Methodist Church

Mailing Address: P. O. Box 218, Franklin, VA 23851
Located at: 31164 Camp Parkway, Courtland, Va., 23837
757-562-3367 * hsumc@beldar.com * www.highstreetumcva.com
Pastor: Rev. Hank Teague
Newsletter Staff: M. Lewis, *Administrative Assistant*

GLA Summer Kick-Off

On Wednesday, June 24, the High Street Mission Team sponsored Graces Little Angels' Summer Kick-Off from 8:00 AM to 12:00 noon. They provided two bounce houses, a snow cone machine, lots of bubbles, and yard games. The Lord blessed us with a beautiful day - with a cloud free blue sky and free from humidity. The kids played (and ate snow cones!) all morning long. I'm sure they had a good long nap!!

Lemonade on the Lawn

We had a fellowship time after church on Sunday, June 28 at Lemonade on the Lawn. It was hosted by our Choir who served delicious cookies and brownies.

Lemonade in the Garden

Lemonade in the Garden was held in the Mission Garden after Worship Service on Sunday, July 26. Jeff Brown spoke about what the team has harvested so far for Foodbank. Thank you to all who work on this important mission project!!

Vacation Bible School, 2026

VBS was once again a HUGE success! Enjoy some photos of the fun!

Created for God's Good Work

"For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works…" — Ephesians 2:10

As September signals the beginning of fall, it brings new programs, familiar routines, new opportunities to serve, and additions to our already busy calendars. September often prompts this question: "What needs to get done?" But in Ephesians 2:10, the Apostle Paul offers us a better question: "What good work might God be preparing me to do?" Here Paul shares that we are created in Christ Jesus for good works—to partner with God by using our gifts, showing hospitality, and serving God and neighbors.

That is especially true for this September. In the midst of "nominations season" I've been invited church leaders and those serving on administrative committees to consider how they can best serve God at HSUMC. Now, with this article, I'm asking everyone to do the same. So I echo the Apostle Paul by inviting you to not only ask "Where does my church need volunteers?" but also ask, "Where might God use me?" Below are some real needs- Where might God use you?

Shepherding others. Shepherds are individuals or couples who intentionally stay connected with and care for a particular group of people in our congregation. Most people at HSUMC have a shepherd, but not everyone does—and we'll have more "sheep" when our next iBelong Newcomers Class ends on September 10th.

The need is real- could God use you as a shepherd at HSUMC? (If so contact me to learn more.)

Showing Hospitality on GLA Sunday- September 13, we'll celebrate our first-ever GLA Preschool Sunday in conjunction with our annual outdoor worship and picnic at the Bronco Club. Since most of our preschool families are not currently active in our church, this is a wonderful opportunity for us to show some Christlike hospitality. Consider bringing extra covered dishes, inviting a preschool family to worship and eat with you, introducing yourself, or volunteering to greet others in the parking lot or at the hospitality table.

The need is real- could God use you to show Hospitality on GLA Sunday? (If greeter, then please contact me.)

Nurturing faith with Children's Church. Starting September 20th we'll be offering Children's Church during the 11:00 service, creating another important opportunity for volunteer teachers and assistants.

The need is real- could God use you to nurture faith at Children's church? (If so please contact Rebecca Harper or Marie Smith)

Connecting with others digitally. Recently, Church Council authorized the formation of a Digital Outreach Team to be funded from endowment funds for a one-year experiment in connecting more effectively with our neighbors—especially younger generations—online. Terry Godwin has volunteered to lead this effort, and now his team needs some 'players.".

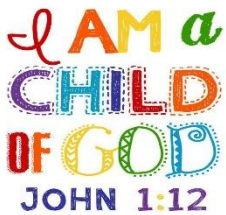
Remember God didn't create you to be busy, but to participate in God's good work! So this fall, choose one good work— and then get to work!

In Christ,
- **Pastor Hank Teague**

Grace's Little Angels

Summer went by so fast! The angels and our Campers have had a fun filled summer. We have had a great summer, and we are just about ready to return to our academic year routine. We have our open house on August 22nd from 1pm – 3pm. Parents will bring in school supplies and meet their child's teachers. Our academic year will start September 8th . GLA will be closed August 28th for all-day staff training in the fellowship hall. The teachers will receive their annual training hours and be treated to a pizza lunch.

The angels will start out learning about – Back to School, All About Me, The 5 Senses and Johnny Appleseed. The letter S and the letter A. We will have Chapel on Thursday's @ 10:00am.



GLA will be having their 3rd Annual Golf Tournament. On September 11th. We look forward to seeing what this event will bring this year. Thank you all who helped support this event.

We will be having a Winter Fundraiser. We will be selling BBQ by the pound, and at the Winter Fundraiser, we will be selling popcorn. We will share more information when the time comes.

We would like to say thank you to each of you for allowing us to continue to use the space to grow God's children and raise them in a loving Christian environment. We look forward to what the next school year will bring.

In God's Love,
Jill Thorpe, Site Manager

VITALITY

Greetings friends!

It's time for our church-wide Annual Worship Service and Church Picnic. This year, our guests will be the GLA families. We hope you will join us on Sunday, September 13 at 10:30 AM down by the river at the Bronco Club. We will have a worship service followed by a COVERED DISH lunch. This is a relaxed time of fun, food, and fellowship! Please bring your BEST covered dish (side, dessert) to share. You will also want to bring a lawn chair. If you want to bring cornhole, please feel free to do so. Any other games? Roscoe Holloway (Susan's horse) will be there to visit with the kids. We will also have the PARACHUTE!! Of course, there's always fishing and swimming too! Bring your family and friends and come join us down by the riverside!! Also, mark your calendar for the Harvest Festival on October 25, 2026. Further details will follow.

Share the good news...and bring a friend!!
Kathy Worrell, Vitality Team Chair

United Women in Faith

The United Women in Faith are still on our summer hiatus.
Our first meetings for August/September are:

☆ MORNING CIRCLE will meet on Monday, September 14, 2026, at 10 AM *(normally we would meet on the first Monday but that would interfere with Labor Day holiday!)*

☆ EVENING CIRCLE will meet on Monday, September 28, 2026, at 5:30 PM.

☆ EXECUTIVE BOARD met on Tuesday, August 25, 2026, at 10AM.

ALL ladies are invited to join either of the circles for Faith, Fun and Fellowship!
We invite the congregation to take time this summer to begin preparing for Methodist Marketplace coming up in the fall.

Be a Blessing!
Kathy Worrell, United Women in Faith (UMW), President

Please join us for the Widow's Might weekly meetings every Wednesday *(unless otherwise noted)* for food, fun and fellowship.

The gatherings for September:

- **Wednesday, September 2 - Fred's @ 12pm**
- **Wednesday, September 9 - El Rancheros 12 pm**
- **Wednesday, September 16 - Wydia's @ 12pm**
- **Wednesday, September 23 - Backporch Grill @ 12pm**
- **Wednesday, September 30 - Three Guys @ 12pm**

No meeting, no agenda...
….just good food and great conversation!

The Vine
August 12, 2026

Our United Methodist Men gathered for breakfast and their regular monthly meeting today (Saturday, July 20) at the Courtland Dairy Queen. Any of these gentlemen would love to talk to you about joining them for food, fun and fellowship!

The High Street UMC Mission Garden team has been busy in the last month or so. There have been several harvests of sweet corn, a good crop of tomatoes, and even some green beans! Our farmer, Jeff Brown, reports that so far this spring and summer over 1,000 pounds of produce have been delivered to the Franklin Foodbank—so far! There are also some zinnias and sunflowers still growing! There is still more summer produce to come, and fall plantings of collards, cabbage and maybe some broccoli will begin soon. Thanks to all who ventured out to the garden on July 26th for our "Lemonade in the Garden" Sunday.

The Franklin Cooperative Ministry has started a new project. They are collecting children's books (new or very gently used) to hand out to the children who come into the FCM with their parents or other caregivers. A lot of these children don't have access to books in their homes. The Mission Team will be purchasing some children's books in Spanish to go along with others collected to present to the FCM. If you would like to give some books for children, please leave them in the boxes/baskets marked Franklin Cooperative Ministry in the narthex or in the hallway near the church office.

In August we collected laundry detergent for the Franklin Cooperative Ministry's cleaning bags that are given out to those in need. In September we will be collecting women's deodorant and bars of bath soap. Thanks for your help with this.

Mission News

Be on the lookout soon for more information about our support of the Backpack feeding program for students who are at risk for food insecurity at S. P. Morton Elementary School here in Franklin.

There is going to be another home built in Franklin soon through the Habitat for Humanity Program. We are looking into ways we can support this new project. It's been a while since a home has been built by Habitat for Humanity, so we are excited to get involved with this. Stay tuned for more info on this. You can also get some information at the Franklin ReStore downtown.

By the time you receive this September newsletter, our big event, Rise Against Hunger, will have finished. On Saturday, August 29th, High Street UMC joined Newsoms UMC, Boykins UMC, Drewryville UMC, and Grace Memorial UMC, as well as some other community members to pack close to 20,000 meals in our church fellowship hall. It was a great event to be working side by side with others in our community as we joined together to make an impact on world hunger relief. Thanks for those who volunteered that day as well as those who made monetary donations. With the support of Mission Team funds, Vacation Bible School offerings, donations from the other churches, as well as individuals, we were able to raise close to $8,000 and pack approximately 20,000 meals. We will give more details in upcoming bulletins, newsletter, and Facebook posts! Thank you!!!

--**Ruthie Ponder**, Mission Team Leader

Mission Garden News

Wayne Bailey, Galen Butler, Mike Ponder, Jeff Brown, Pastor Hank, Jim Jervey, Michele Virtue and Ascher Overby have recently been busy harvesting tasty produce from High Street's Mission Garden that was then delivered to the Franklin Foodbank. By last count, 864 pounds of corn and 236 pounds of tomatoes have been delivered to the food bank, recently! Great job, guys!

High Street United Methodist Church Memorials and Honorariums
8/15/2026
In Loving Memory of:

Eley Owens Powell
by: Lynn and Susan Powell

Eunice Drewry Blythe
by: Kent and Jennifer Stephenson
Dr. and Mrs. Mike Ponder
Bronco Rod and Gun Club

HEALTHCARE & ASSISTED LIVING (LOCAL)

Village at Woods Edge (Memory Care) 1401 N. High St. Franklin, VA 23851 757.562.3100	Village at Woods Edge (Independent) 1401 N. High St. Franklin, VA 23851 757.562.3100 (Apartments)	Manor at Woods Edge (Assisted) 1401 N. High St. Franklin, VA 23851 757.562.3100	East Pavilion (Nursing Home) 100 Fairview Dr. Franklin, VA 23851 757.569.6424	Rehab @ Southampton Memorial (Skilled Care)
	Bobby & Nancy Turner Apt. 210	**Geneva Garland** Rm 1020	**Dianne Burns** Rm 159 A	
	Pat Emerson Apt.301	**Miles White** Rm 1002	**Betty Jackson** Rm 105 (South)	
	Judy Riddick Apt. 105			
	Peggy Benton Apt. 204			
	Joe Hutt Apt 305			
	Gaylord Ambrose Apt 207			
	Gaynelle Riddick Apt 117			

HEALTHCARE & ASSISTED LIVING (NOT LOCAL)

Fred Hollowell Arden Courts- ProMedica Memory Care (Richmond) 13800 Bon Secours Dr, Midlothian, VA 23114	**Maxine Hollowell** Barclay at Tuckahoe 567 N. Parham Rd. Henrico, VA 23228	**Sarah Rawlings** Windsor Grove Health & Rehabilitation 23352 Courthouse Hwy. Windsor, VA 23487

In Loving Memory of
Eunice Drewry Blythe
8/6/1925 – 8/13/2026
Our sincere sympathy to her family and friends.

PRAYER WARRIORS NEEDED!

The HSUMC Prayer Group needs you! Join with us as we meet and offer prayers for others, together. There are so many people who need our prayers in today's world. Prayer Warriors are needed! The High Street Warriors meet on the second Tuesday of each month at 8:30am to offer prayers for those in need in our own church family as well as for those in our community, our country, and around the world. There is so much need for the embracing love of God today. The HSUMC Prayer Group is a good place to join with one another and offer those prayers together. If you are interested, you may contact the church office at 757.562.3367 or hsumc@beldar.com.

At High Street, children are very special to us. Our sweet angel, Jennifer Michelle Pollard, went to live with Jesus on July 14, 2014. Her family - dad Mike, mom Carolyn and sister Julia ***(at left)***- remember her by sharing pink carnations with the congregation on Sunday.

September Lay Schedules

Chancel: Jim Yarborough
Ushers: Mike Wrenn, Wayne Bailey, Evan Ponder

	Sept 6	Sept 13	Sept 20	Sept 27
Acolyte:	Tristan Gayle	BRONCO CLUB	Julia Pollard	Tristan Gayle
Altar Flowers:	Scott/Jackie Wood	BRONCO CLUB	Kent/Jennifer Stephenson	Don Spengeman
Open Door Café:	NO ODC	BRONCO CLUB	TBD	Lori Vasser
8:30 Greeter/Usher:	Jewell Martin	BRONCO CLUB	Margaret/Harlan Lewis	Hope Hickam
8:30 Lay Reader:	Annie Gayle	BRONCO CLUB	Harlan Lewis	Mike Ponder
11:00 Greeter:	Mike/Carolyn Pollard	BRONCO CLUB	Toni Phillips	Jim Jervey
11:00 Lay Reader:	Cara Butler	BRONCO CLUB	Mike Ponder	Carolyn Pollard

Creating a Culture of Renewal Team Update

The purpose of your CCR Team is to prepare our congregation for renewal. We've been meeting most every month since January and we are: Cara Butler, Susan Dow, Jane Fries, Jim Jervey, Mike Ponder, Jimmy Strozier, Pastor Hank Teague, Todd Turner, Kathy Worrell, and Jim Yarborough.

Track 1 (first year). Track 1 ended in July and along the way Pastor Hank shared with us learnings from his participation in the CCR program. We first focused on skills and principles of emotional intelligence which help us build stronger relationships with others by practicing the Platinum Rule (see my July article for more on the Platinum Rule). During Track 1 we also:

- Carefully discerned that the predominate "culture" of our congregation is most similar to the DiSC® Style called Steadiness (abbreviated with a capital S).
- Determined where we are in the Maturity Stage of the "Life Cycle of Churches." (*Birth – Infancy – Childhood – Adolescence – Adulthood – Maturity -- Empty Nest – Retirement -- Old Age -- Death*.)
- Studied how generational differences affect religious preferences
- And most recently began using a tool called the Culture Shifting Matrix.

Want to know more about our "S" Church culture? Curious about the significance of the Maturity Stage? or generational preferences? or practicing the Platinum Rule? Just ask Pastor Hank or a CCR Team member, we will be glad to help!

Track 2 starts this month. Pastor Hank will attend the CCR Track 2 opening retreat (online) September 1-3. With Track 2's focus on leadership and visioning, he will be learning and sharing with the team about how to:

- Lead with confidence in the midst of conflict (because renewal brings change and even positive change can create tension and conflict.)
- Craft a Kingdom-oriented vision.
- Avoid behaviors that sabotage our natural leadership capacity.
- And shift from fear-based to faith-based decision-making.

Shifting Role of CCR Team. In the first few months of Track 2, the CCR team's role will shift from studying our congregational culture to visioning and influencing. Therefore, the composition of the CCR team (and it's name) will probably change.
So, if you are passionate about the future of our church or have a heart for discerning God's vision for us please contact Pastor Hank.

Birthdays in September

1 John Bryant
3 Hope Hickam
3 Charles Martin
3 Harlan Lewis, Jr.
3 Pat Marks
4 Cheryl Hansford
4 Jeff Moulden
4 Katie Bryant
5 Margaret Mackan
6 Kristy Aiken
6 Anne Watts
7 Diane Jervey
8 Phil Doughtie
9 Gaylord Ambrose
9 Ken Burgess
10 Isabella Dongarra
10 Zack Duke
12 Marc Waller, Jr.
14 Ann Stutts
15 Judy Bailey
15 Becky Moulden
18 Randy Peele
18 Kay Joyner
19 Bryce Powell
20 Wade Draughn
21 Sanford Belcher
23 Kim Rhodes
23 Amy Phillips
23 Ethan Fifer
24 Rebecca Harper
25 Carl Saunders
25 Lydia Jones
26 Cathi Bidwell
26 Lynne Rabil
27 Witt Harper
28 Scott Belcher
29 Gretchen Hopkins
29 Adeline Williams
30 Debbie Doughtie
30 Mike Newton
30 Annabelle Martin

What's Happening at High Street in SEPTEMBER

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 **7pm** Troop 17	2 **10:30am**: Bible Study/The Vine **12pm**: Widows Might/FREDs **7pm:** Praise Team Practice	3 **7am:** Mens Prayer Bfast/Freds **10am**: GLA Chapel **6:30pm**: IBelong/Comm. Rm. **7pm**: Choir Practice	4 Office Closed 12-Noon	5 **7am** F3
6-Communion **8:30am-** Contemporary Svc. **9:45am** Sunday School **11am**: Traditional Svc. **11am:** Childrens Church-*after Childrens Msg*	7 Office Closed 	8 **8:30am**: Prayer Grp/Library **6pm**: Pack 17 **7pm**: Troop 17	9 **10:30am**: Bible Study/The Vine **12pm**: Widows Might/FREDs **7pm:** Praise Team Practice	10 **7am:** Mens Prayer Bfast/Freds **10am**: GLA Chapel **6pm**: S4S/FHall **6:30pm**: IBelong/Comm. Rm. **7pm**: Choir Practice	11 Office Closed 12-Noon 3rd GLA Golf Tourney/Country Club	12 **7am** F3
13 **10:30am**: Church Picnic at Bronco Club/GLA Preschool Sunday	14 **10am**: UWF Morn Circle/FHall **6pm**: GS Mtg/Youth Rm **7pm**: Church Council Mtg/FHall	15 **7pm**: Troop 17 **7pm**: Book Club/Village	16 **10:30am**: Bible Study/The Vine **12pm**: Widows Might/FREDs **7pm:** Praise Team Practice	17-Hank OOO **7am:** Mens Prayer Bfast/Freds **10am**: GLA Chapel **6pm**: S4S/FHall **7pm**: Choir Practice	18-Hank OOO Office Closed 12-Noon	19-Hank OOO **7am** F3 **8am**: UMM Bfast Mtg/FHall
20-Guest Pastor **8:30am** Contemporary Svc. **9:30am** Open Door Café **9:45am:** Sunday School **11am**: Traditional Svc. **11am:** Childrens Church-*after Childrens Msg*	21-Hank OOO **6pm**: GS Mtg/Youth Rm	22-Hank OOO **10am:**UWF Executive Brd/Library **6pm**: Pack 17 **7pm**: Troop 17	23 **10:30am:** Bible Study/The Vine **12pm**: Widows Might/Backporch **5:30pm**: CCR Mtg/Comm. Rm. **7pm**: Praise Team Practice	17 **7am:** Mens Prayer Bfast/Freds **10am**: GLA Chapel **6pm**: S4S/FHall **7pm**: Choir Practice	25 Office Closed 12-Noon	26 **7am** F3
27 **8:30am** Contemporary Svc. **9:30am** Open Door Café **9:45am:** Sunday School **11am**: Traditional Svc. **11am:** Childrens Church-*after Childrens Msg*	28 **5:30pm**: UWF Eve Circle/FHall **6pm**: GS Mtg/Youth Rm	29 **7pm**: Troop 17	30 **10:30am**: Bible Study/The Vine **12pm**: Widows Might/Three Guys **7pm**: Praise Team Practice			

HIGH STREET IS COLLECTING FOR
FRANKLIN COOPERATIVE MINISTRY IN SEPTEMBER:

- **Women's Deodorant**
- **Bar Soap**

Donated items can be left in marked boxes and baskets in the narthex or church office.
Thank you for all you do to help FCM help those in need.

More Photos from Lemonade on the Lawn (June 28)….

Bill Billings shared a photo from Sunday, July 26 Worship service of Pastor Hank with kids during the Children's message. Thanks Bill!

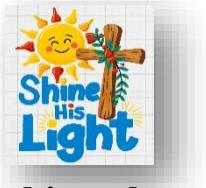
….at High Street UMC!

Beginning Sunday, September 20th, join us as we learn about God's love in a fun and engaging way!

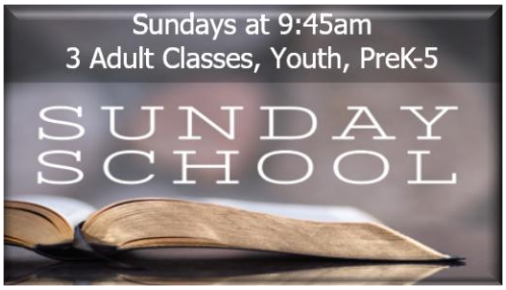
WHAT: Fun, engaging lessons about the Bible for kids.

WHEN: Sunday, 9/20 *(during the 11am service, right after the "Children's Message" portion).*

WHO: Ages PreK-6th Grade



Interested in volunteering?
Contact:
Rebecca Harper at
Rebecca.harper89@gmail.com



"Pastor Pop-In Hours" with Pastor Hank Teague

Mondays 11:00 am – 1:30 pm in the Pastor's office

Have an issue you'd like to discuss?
Just want to drop by to say "Hi?"
Then please pop-in soon.

Pastor Hank will pause what he's doing and discuss whatever is on your mind

THE UPPER ROOMS

Available in the Narthex and by the church office*

*while supplies last

SERVE DURING WORSHIP!

High Street is looking for volunteers to help make our worship services (8:30 or 11:00) welcoming and meaningful. If you feel called to serve as a greeter, acolyte, usher, or lay reader, simply fill out the tear-off tab on your bulletin and place it in the offering plate, or contact the church office. Your willingness to serve is deeply appreciated, and we are always grateful for new participants!

OPEN DOOR CAFÉ NEEDS VOLUNTEERS!

Contact Lori Vasser, the Church Office, or fill out the tab on your bulletin and place it in the offering plate today—thank you!

All men are invited to HSUMC each Saturday at 7am for F3 Nation. Workouts are as individual as you are. Come gather outside, work out, hang out, and build a circle of trust based on faith in Jesus Christ.

F3

Every Thursday
7:00am
Fred's Restaurant

MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST

All men are invited each week to come together to talk about faith, pray for each other and our community, as well as build friendships and spiritual strength--all while enjoying a nourishing breakfast in a relaxed setting.

FALL WORD SEARCH

FIND AND CIRCLE EACH WORD!

P	C	P	A	T	C	H	C	P
U	O	O	F	B	A	T	A	U
N	H	R	S	A	N	A	N	M
B	T	N	A	T	L	D	D	P
L	R	W	O	N	U	L	Y	K
O	E	N	W	O	G	M	D	I
H	A	L	L	O	W	E	E	N
K	T	R	I	C	K	S	C	N
O	C	T	O	B	E	R	K	E

Orange, Bat, Pumpkin, Patch, Fall, October, Treat, Costume, Halloween, Owl, Candy, Trick

Prayer Requests

To include your prayer request on the prayer list- write it on a bulletin tear-off tab and put in offering plate (or contact the church office)

You can opt it to be:

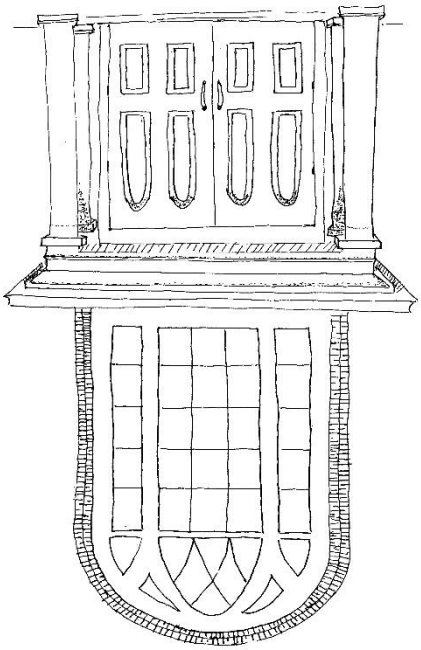
confidential (prayer team only)

or *congregational* (listed in bulletin)

Please contact the church office or pastor to add or remove your prayer request

Our Mission at High Street United Methodist Church

- ✞ Honoring God through worship.
- ✞ Serving God with time, talents, and gifts.
- ✞ Uniting in Christian fellowship.
- ✞ Making disciples.
- ✞ Caring for all God's children.



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

HIGH STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
POST OFFICE BOX 218
FRANKLIN VIRGINIA 23851