

**Pre-Conference Briefing Handout**  
**2018 Holston Annual Conference**  
**June 10-13, 2018**

**JESUS IS GOOD!**

*For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm,  
to give you a future with hope. Jeremiah 29:11 (NRSV)*

Go to [ac.holston.org](http://ac.holston.org) for annual conference information

- Watch for continued receipt of Annual Conference e-newsletters providing updates
- Book of Reports on-line now; Worship Book on-line after June 1.
- All attendance registration is ONSITE when you arrive at Lake Junaluska
- Registration is by new district alignment. District at-large members register in the district of their local church.
- **May 18** is the deadline for online pre-registration for the 5Krun/1-mile walk and for the missions dinner
- Childcare requires preregistration and prepayment directly to Lake Junaluska, including for bagged lunches by **June 1**. The form is at [ac.holston.org](http://ac.holston.org).
- Call the Conference Office at 866-690-4080 for assistance

**Registration begins on Sunday, June 10, at 2:00 p.m.** at the **Foundation for Evangelism** which is the second building on the left as you enter the Lake Junaluska grounds.

- Housing check-in is at the Bethea Welcome Center for those who are staying on the grounds of Lake Junaluska
- Laity Session at 4:00 p.m. at Stuart Auditorium
- Clergy Session at 5:00 p.m. also at Stuart Auditorium
- Dinner at the Terrace and Lambuth will begin at 5:45 p.m. on Sunday
- Evening worship and the opening of the Annual Conference at 7:30 with pre-service music at 7:00 p.m.
- Registration will move to the Susan Todd Lounge at Harrell Center beginning on Monday morning. Even if you are only able to attend part of the Annual Conference, please be sure to come by registration so that your attendance can be recorded.

**Worship Schedule**

- Sunday at 7:30 p.m. Opening Worship and Holy Communion with Bishop Taylor preaching with pre-service music at 7:00 p.m. Seating by new districts. Look for signs in the auditorium.
- Monday and Tuesday at 8:30 a.m. Bible Study with Rev. Kim Goddard
- Monday at 2:00 p.m. Memorial Service with Rev. Jeff Wright preaching
- Monday at 7:00 p.m. An Evening of Business and Worship with Alice Williams from The Commission on a Way Forward
- Tuesday at 11:00 a.m. Retirement Recognition
- Tuesday at 7:15 p.m. Mission Celebration with Fred and Libby Dearing with pre-service music at 6:45 p.m.
- Wednesday at 9:00 a.m. Ordination, Commissioning, and Recognition and Sending Forth with Bishop Taylor preaching with pre-service music at 8:30 a.m. by the Lake Junaluska Singers
- Conference choir for the Memorial Service and Monday Evening of Business and Worship. Contact [lorisluder@holston.org](mailto:lorisluder@holston.org) by May 30 to participate.

**Prayer Ministry.**

- Prayer room available in the Room of Memories at the chapel Monday-Tuesday, 7:00a.m.-10:00p.m.

## Mission Opportunities

- **Hands-on kits for Zimbabwe and Liberia** - collection dates for these kits are June 6 and 7. Check with your District Office for exact dates, times, and locations.
- The **Annual Conference Mission Offering** for our South Sudanese Brothers and Sisters in Exile will be received on Tuesday night.
- The **Change for Children** offering will be received on Tuesday morning outside Stuart Auditorium between the hours of 8:15a.m. and 10:00a.m. This offering is used each year to fund grants for children's ministry throughout the conference and in Africa.

## Business Items

- **Confirm nominations** to fill vacancies in officers and leaders for 2016-2020. (pages 160-181)
- **2019 budget proposal** is \$9,252,002, to reflect our collection history from the conference tithe for 2017. The 2019 budget reflects the reduction in expense in moving from 12 superintendents to 9 and working with the board of pensions to move the retiree health insurance supplement from the budget to the expenses covered by the direct invoice for health insurance and health insurance reserves. Emerging ministries funding provided to support ministries directed toward the UMC's Four Areas of Focus as directed by the implementation of the conference strategy. Includes full funding of General Church apportionments. Chat room on Monday 5:00-6:00, Terrace Hotel, room 316 (CFA Report, pages 104-146)
- **Board of Pensions and Health Benefits** representative will be present at CFA Chat Room. Monthly direct invoice will be \$844/month in 2019. (pages 185-199)
- **Commission on Equitable Compensation** is recommending 2% increase in the minimum salary levels for 2019. (pages 72-77)
- **Conference Strategy Team** will share a progress report., Chat room on Monday, 5:15-6:15, Terrace Hotel, room 319. (page 60-66)
- **Petitions and Resolutions** on pages 230-233.
- **Connexion presentation** on Monday morning and vote on Tuesday morning to consider purchase for a conference missions and ministry center. Chat room on Monday 12:30-1:30 Susan Todd Lounge, Harrell Center
- **Chat room on The Commission on a Way Forward and the 2019 Called General Conference** on Tuesday, 12:30-1:30, Terrace room 316
- **New Business** on Tuesday afternoon. To facilitate this process, items for New Business must be submitted to the Conference Secretary, in writing and signed, by the end of the Monday morning business session. Items will be time stamped by the Conference Secretary and considered by the Annual Conference (time permitting) in the order received.

**Book of Reports** – please read to learn about additional ministry activities, works of our institutions, and to prepare fully for Annual Conference.

- **Orientation Guide** (pages 27-32) especially helpful for first-time attendees.
- **Full Schedule** – (pages 33-37)
- **Cokesbury Bookstore and Displays** - Harrell Center Auditorium (page 228)
- **Reporting Guide** for sharing experience with local church (pages 234-236)

**Live Streaming** will be available during the session through a link at [ac.holston.org](http://ac.holston.org).

*Remember the Annual Conference in your prayers as you prepare to come. See you at the Lake!*