



The Maryville District

Messenger

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Breaking Ground

In the past few weeks I have been involved in groundbreaking and ribbon cutting ceremonies. Hiwassee College announced a \$7.2 million effort with the US Department of Agriculture to renovate and renew Brock Hall and the Library as well as some new projects. We handed the keys to Chastity Harris on the Habitat for Humanity house that the Maryville District constructed. The Holston Conference is a partner with Appalachia Service Project in building houses for the Gatlinburg fire recovery work. We broke ground on the first house which is partially funded with money from Holston. Family Promise cut the ribbon on their new day center and offices that are housed in the former Bungalow UMC building. All of these are ground breaking work.

Several times Jesus used the image of plowing and sowing as pictures of the Kingdom of God. Often our work in the Kingdom is to prepare the ground for the seeds from which the Kingdom grows. Preparing ground—particularly new ground—is difficult, backbreaking work. Simply getting things ready for the planting is toilsome.

We sometimes work and do not get to see the harvest. I think about the folks who built Bungalow nearly 100 years ago. They would never have dreamed that their building would house homeless families during the day. They would never have imagined all the Bible school days, the Sunday school classes, the weddings, funerals, baptisms, conversions that would take place in the building they worked so hard to construct.

Sometimes our work is preparation—simply getting things ready. Laying a foundation, nailing studs together as the skeletons for walls, just breaking ground. However, even in those tasks we proclaim that the Kingdom of God is at hand.

Peace,

Charles

Latvia District Partnership

The Maryville District continues in partnership with the United Methodist Churches in Latvia. The goal this year is to raise funds for pastoral support, Wesley Camp Scholarships, and Hope House. Speakers are available to talk to local churches or small groups in those churches. A video and brochure are available to introduce or reacquaint our local churches with the work in Latvia.



Registration for Summer Camp at Wesley Woods

Summer Camp 2017 begins on June 5th. This year's theme is No Greater Love and we have some wonderful new programming options. Campers can register online or by phone. For more information, visit our website or call our office at (865) 448-2246.



Nickle Lodge renovations are complete!



Pastors-CEU Update

Pastors below is the link for the latest Continuing Education Update News

<https://app.robly.com/archive?id=25a2af3c72c5e9a61103e7a6674389bb>

Reception for Charles Maynard

Don't miss the reception for Charles Maynard being held at Maryville First UMC, 804 Montvale Station Road, 3-5 p.m. Charles is being appointed to a church this year and we want you to have a chance to say goodbye to him and Janice for all the wonderful things they have done for the Maryville District in the last six year.

Welcome Reception

Please put on your calendar the welcome reception for our new District Superintendent, Jason Gattis being held on June 25, at Broadway UMC, 3-5 p.m.

UMVIM Leadership Training

Maxine Schultz is providing us with information regarding UMVIM Leadership Training for those interested can attend this workshop. The link is <http://holston.org/ministries/missions/programs/volunteers-mission/>. There will be another workshop in November with online registration on the Holston.org website. [Volunteers in Mission - Missions - Ministries - Holston ...](#)

Up-Coming Events

May

- 1-3 Jubilation in Pigeon Forge
- 9 District Committee on Ministry will meet at Maryville, First UMC, 5-7 p.m.
- 21 Pre-Conference Briefing at Alcoa, First UMC, 3:00-4:00 p.m.
- 24 Pastor's Spring Luncheon-Event Center at the District Office, gathering at 11:30 eat at noon
- 29 District office closed for Memorial Day holiday

June

- 4 Reception for Charles Maynard will be held in Wesley Hall at Maryville, First UMC, 804 Montvale Station Road, Maryville, 3-5 p.m.
- 7 Mission Buckets for Annual Conference received at Fairview UMC, 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
- 11-14 Annual Conference at Lake Junaluska, NC
- 21 Moving Day for Transitioning Pastors
- 25 Welcome Reception for Jason Gattis (new District Superintendent) at Alcoa, First UMC, 617 Gilbert Street, Alcoa, 3-5 p.m.

Special Thanks to the following Congregations who are current in their giving to the 2017 District Ministries

(Thru April 27, 2017—33.33%)

(* Denotes 100% of 2017 District Ministries paid)

- | | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| * Axley's Chapel | * Bethel (L) | Broadway |
| * Browder Memorial | Buckner Memorial | * Burnett Memorial |
| Carpenters | * Cedar Bluff | * Chestua |
| * Eden | * Eleazar | Fairview |
| * Fenders | * Forkners | * Fox |
| Friendsville | Green Meadow | Immanuel |
| Loudon | Luretta | Madisonville, First |
| Maryville, First | * Meadow | Middlesettlement |
| * Mountain View | * New Hope | * New Salem |
| Oakland | Peck's Memorial | Pigeon Forge, First |
| * Pleasant Hill (R) | * Pleasant Hill (S) | * Roberts |
| Sevierville, First | Seymour | * Shults Grove |
| St John | St Marks | Sweetwater, First |
| * Tellico Plains, First | Tuckaleechee | * Union Grove (B) |
| * Union Grove (S) | * Vonore | * Walden's Creek |
| Walland | * Webbs Creek | * Williamson Chapel |

Maryville District UMW - Susan Daffron-President

I've always thought the simple things of life were the best. Thirteen Maryville District United Methodist Women and one honorary UMW husband joined with our sisters in Christ at Monte Vista Baptist Church on April 1st to pack new and gently used bras for Free The Girls. In a short two and half hours later 3,416 bras were packed and ready for shipment! We don't think so much about such a simple thing as a bra changing lives of women around the world, but it does. There are currently 27 million men, women and children held as slaves around the world and 80 percent of those are women and girls. The bras we packed will end up in Africa where they will provide an avenue for women who have been rescued from sex trafficking to earn a living selling second-hand bras while they go back to school. Simple thing – big impact!

The Wesley House Tablescape Fundraiser was held on April 8th. The proceeds from Tablescape will help to fund the summer program at Wesley House. Maryville District UMW sponsored and decorated a table for Tablescape. We were entertained by the Wesley House children as they demonstrated their talents of dancing and playing piano, violin and ukulele. Sponsoring a table is another simple thing with a big impact.

Day Apart held on April 29, at Maryville First UMC is another example of simple things – books. Camp in the Community Director, Whitney Winston, accepted donations of books for this summer's camp. Wesley House also received books and snacks. Books are such a wonderful way to have an impact on a child's life and we all know how children love to eat!

As we look back on our lives and look to the future, let us treasure the simple things; they are truly the best! I **Rejoice in the Lord Always** when I think of the simple ways that United Methodist Women have always made such a difference in the lives of women, children and youth around the world.

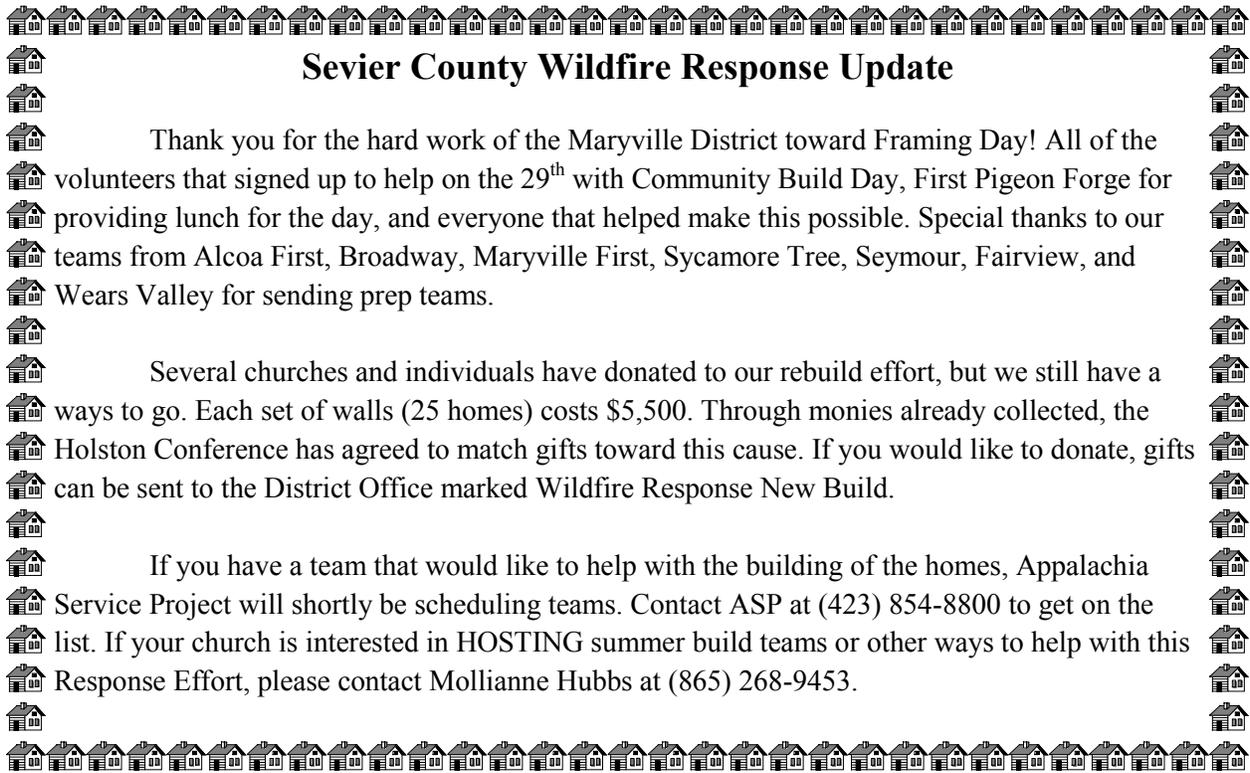
2017 Hands-On Mission Project- Zimbabwe Holston Annual Conference

Unlike school supplies, food items have expiration dates. Be sure and check the dates and make sure they do not expire until 2018 in order to cover transport time and having a useful life for the people in Zimbabwe.

The Maryville District has been asked to put together 400 Food Buckets for the 2017 Holston Annual Conference Hand-On Mission Project. *Note: A \$5.00 donation for packing and shipping is to accompany each bucket. Each church is ask to bring **ONE** check for the total donation amount. Make checks out to **Maryville District** and put 2017 Hands-On in the memo line.* * **Do not put money in the bucket!***

Canned Ham (one 2-lb size or two 1-lb size)	1 box powdered milk (10oz. or less)
1 - 4-5lb. Bag self-rising flour	1 box old-fashioned oats (18 oz. or less)
1 bottle cooking oil (48 oz. or less)	1 box Splenda/Sucralose (50 ct. or less)
1 - 2lb. Bag rice	1 - 2lb. Bag dried beans
1 - 4-5lb. Bag Sugar	

Your buckets need to be delivered to Fairview UMC on **Wednesday, June 7 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.**
(do not deliver early)



Sevier County Wildfire Response Update

Thank you for the hard work of the Maryville District toward Framing Day! All of the volunteers that signed up to help on the 29th with Community Build Day, First Pigeon Forge for providing lunch for the day, and everyone that helped make this possible. Special thanks to our teams from Alcoa First, Broadway, Maryville First, Sycamore Tree, Seymour, Fairview, and Wears Valley for sending prep teams.

Several churches and individuals have donated to our rebuild effort, but we still have a ways to go. Each set of walls (25 homes) costs \$5,500. Through monies already collected, the Holston Conference has agreed to match gifts toward this cause. If you would like to donate, gifts can be sent to the District Office marked Wildfire Response New Build.

If you have a team that would like to help with the building of the homes, Appalachia Service Project will shortly be scheduling teams. Contact ASP at (423) 854-8800 to get on the list. If your church is interested in HOSTING summer build teams or other ways to help with this Response Effort, please contact Mollianne Hubbs at (865) 268-9453.

Spring has sprung, but it is time to plan for the harvest!

The end of the first quarter 2017 definitely provided good news concerning YTD investment returns (BALANCED GROWTH +10.7% over the trailing 12 months and a trailing average annual return of 5.8% over the last ten years). Spring has arrived along with tax season and pollen season too. Financial advisors caution us to think ahead to next year concerning our projected income so that we are not caught off guard with an unexpected tax bill. Physicians might advise we take an allergy-relief medication so we can still enjoy the flowers.

In the last Circuit Rider Dispatch we shared information on preparing for a future harvest in your church through planned giving education and awareness. In this issue I want to focus on how you spend from an endowment, scholarship or other special purpose fund invested in our Balanced Growth Fund to maximize distributions while protecting the spending power of the fund against inflation (Inflation by the way is back over 2% and has averaged over 3% since 1926.) The tool we suggest uses the 3 year market average and a spending rate of 4% instead of simply using growth, interest or dividends to set distributions. Over time the concept provides a disciplined approach that maximizes and increases distributions, lowers the impact of market swings and protects the of the fund from inflation. The attached illustration demonstrates that a \$100k gift in 1992 provided over \$168k in a growing stream of distributions through the years while doubling the value of when it started. An endowment, scholarship, cemetery maintenance, parsonage, /housing fund, etc. using such a formula that can be counted on in your church's future might be a real blessing!



If we can assist your church or even you as an individual consider such an option in your plans, let us know! Both [Paul Bowman](#) and [I](#) are eager to assist.

Roger Redding