

The Smoky Mountain District



# Messenger

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The Smoky Mountain District Office  
Would Like to Wish Everyone  
Merry Christmas  
And  
A Wonderful New Year!

Blessing from  
Jason Gattis  
&  
Cheryl Thompson



## Camp Wesley Woods News

### Upcoming events:

Christmas Day Camp.. December 8,  
2018 Cost to be announced  
Winter Camp.. December 26-29  
Cost to be announced  
Confirmation Camp.. March 1-2, 2019

Looking for childcare over  
the Christmas holidays?

How about Camp?

Christmas Day Camp  
December 8 from 10am to  
6pm \$55

Winter Camp full session December 27-30  
\$299 mini session December 27-28 \$149

Want some fun with your confirmation?  
How about coming to camp? March 1-2,  
2019

Want to use your golf swing to help others?  
Come to our Golf Tournament April 29,  
2019

For more information about these events  
visit [www.campwesleywoods.com](http://www.campwesleywoods.com)



## Up-Coming Events

### December

**13** Smoky Mountain District local church Administrative Assistants will be treated to a Christmas lunch here in the Event Center at the District office at noon.

**21-Jan 1** District office will be closed for Christmas holiday

### January

**10** Last Day to submit Tithe Payments to Conference

**21** District office closed for Martin Luther King holiday

**25-27** Resurrection at LeConte Center, Pigeon Forge.

### February

**1-3** Divine Rhythm at Mills Auditorium, Gatlinburg

### Smoky Mtn. Ministers

Just a note of thanks to all that are current with minister's dues!  
Barbara Clark, Ginger Isom, Charles Maynard, Laura Rasor, Betty Furches, Magan Stubblefield, Charles Ledger, Curtis McKee, Rex Rogers, Ken Tucker, Susan Groseclose, David Lord, Mickey Rainwater, Al Shaver, Charles Wender.

You may send dues to:

Ken Tucker  
3357 Line Springs Rd.  
Sevierville, Tennessee 37862  
Blessings, Ken

### Special Thanks to the following Congregations who are current in their giving to the 2018 District Ministries (Maryville District)

(Thru November 29, 2018—91.63%)

(\* Denotes 100% of 2018 District Ministries paid)

- |                         |                     |                       |
|-------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| * Alcoa, First          | * Axley's Chapel    | * Bethel (Loudon)     |
| * Bethel (Seymour)      | * Binfield          | * Broadway            |
| * Burnett Memorial      | * Camp Ground       | * Carpenters          |
| * Cedar Bluff           | * Eden              | * Eleazer             |
| * Fairview              | * Fenders           | * Forkners Chapel     |
| * Fox                   | * Friendsville      | * Gatlinburg, First   |
| * Green Meadow          | * Immanuel          | * Logan's Chapel      |
| Loudon                  | * Luretta           | * Madisonville, First |
| Maryville, First        | * Meadow            | * Middle Creek        |
| * Middlesettlements     | * Mountain View     | * Murphy's Chapel     |
| * New Hope              | * New Salem         | * Peck's Memorial     |
| * Philadelphia          | Pigeon Forge, First | * Pleasant Hill (B)   |
| * Pleasant Hill (R)     | * Pleasant Hill (S) | * Roberts             |
| Sevierville, First      | Seymour             | * Shults Grove        |
| * St. John              | St. Mark's          | Sweetwater, First     |
| * Tellico Plains, First | Tuckaleechee        | * Union Grove (B)     |
| * Union Grove (S)       | * Vonore            | * Walden's Creek      |
| * Walland               | * Wears Valley      | * Webb's Creek        |
| * Wesley Chapel         | * Williamson Chapel |                       |

**Praying**  
**"A Way Forward"**  
**Each and Every Day**  
**Please Remember to**  
**Pause and Pray for your**  
**Holston Delegation**  
**Between**  
**2:23-2:26 a.m. or p.m.**

**(February 23-26-Dates of**  
**Special Session Of**  
**The General Conference)**

### Job Opening:

Sevierville First United Methodist Church seeks a Full Time Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries. Potential candidates should be a committed Christian, enthusiastic, creative, and resourceful with the ability to relate well with youth and young adults. For more information please send your questions and resume to pastor@1stmethodist.com

## Smoky Mountain District UMW - Susan Daffron-President

Christmas will soon be here and I wonder how you are doing with the season? Is it a wonderful, story book time of the year for you or does all the shopping, cooking, cleaning, traveling, visiting family overwhelm you? Some would say, if it wasn't for all the shopping, cooking, family, etc. it wouldn't be Christmas at all. If we think back to that very first Christmas, we find it wasn't without a little chaos. Oh, there weren't shopping malls but there were animals, shepherds, wise men and a king.

In Mike Slaughter's book *A Different Kind of Christmas*, he shares what he calls "Right-sizing Your Life". This is based on Matthew 6:19-21 from the CEB, *Stop collecting treasures for your own benefit on earth, where moth and rust eat them and where thieves break in and steal them. Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.* Slaughter says, "Jesus came to Earth to proclaim that the kingdom of God is near. So, what does this kingdom look like? It is the place where God's invisible rule and activity are made visible. It is the physical representation of heaven on earth, demonstrated through a community of people living in submission to God's authority – a community that puts the resources of heaven into operation.

When we acknowledge Jesus as Lord, it means he begins to define everything about our lives, including what we do with our money. But, we struggle, because God's kingdom values are upside down from the world's values. For the most of us, the primary value is financial security. That is, we don't get up in the morning with the intention of pursuing the kingdom of God; instead we go to work to earn money, pay bills, buy Christmas presents and maybe, just maybe, save a little along the way. But Jesus said that when we make the kingdom our number-one priority, we go beyond fiscal abundance to life abundance. God will take care of our needs as Matthew 6:33 states, *desire first and foremost God's kingdom.* Why did Jesus talk more about money than any other subject including prayer or faith? Because, your money is your demonstration of what you truly value...and whom you really trust."

When I ponder on Mr. Slaughter's thoughts, I think of all those who receive our Pledge to Mission Giving and what an impact we make here at home and overseas. Lives of women, children and youth are improved, they regain hope in a seemingly hopeless world. They know they matter and that someone cares for them. They begin to see what community is. We may never get to meet them, but we can be assured that our giving matters. I ***Rejoice in the Lord Always*** for the part that the Smoky Mountain United Methodist Women play in changing lives and circumstances. As our purpose states, "the organized unit of United Methodist Women shall be a community of women whose purpose is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church."

Thank you for fulfilling the purpose of the United Methodist Women! May God guide us in the coming year and may his will be accomplished in each of our lives. I wish you a Merry Christmas and life abundance!

### 2019 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 2020 in order to cover transport time and having a useful life for the people in Zimbabwe.***

The Smoky Mountain District has been asked to put together 400 Food Buckets for the 2019 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 Smoky Mountain District and put 2019 Hands-On in the memo line.*** \* Do not put money in the bucket!

Canned Ham (2-lb total)	1 bag dried beans (2lb)
1 box Splenda/Sucralose (50 ct. or less)	1 Bag Rice (2 lb)
1 bottle cooking oil (48 oz. or less)	1 box, butter flavor grits
1 box quick/instant oats (18 oz. or less)	1 Corn meal (4-5 lb)
1 box powdered milk (10oz. or less)	

Your buckets need to be delivered to Fairview UMC, 2508 Old Niles Ferry Road, Maryville, TN 37803: **Wednesday, June 5, 2019, 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.**  
***(do not deliver early)***

