



Tazewell District Newsletter

March/April 2017

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Many of you know that my favorite scripture is John 3:16, “For God so loved the world that He gave his only begotten son that whosoever believes in him shall not perish but have everlasting life.”- “KJV” I memorized this scripture when I was five years old. My Sunday school teacher lead us in saying John 3:16 every Sunday for a year, and I have lived with this text ever since. It shapes my ministry and the actions I take everyday.

I have noticed that a lot of Christians are worried about the future of the United Methodist Church and our future as Christians. If we believe John 3:16, then we should have faith that we “shall not perish but have everlasting life.” It seems we often live in spiritual poverty instead of living through spiritual promises. If we live our lives knowing we have spiritual promises, then we should be able to answer the calling of God on our lives without fear.

Now if we live without fear, then we should be able to live into the vision that God gives us. Have you ever considered what your vision would be if you dared to trust God’s plan instead of being limited by ours? The spiritual gift of visioning comes from a belief that God will do what God promises.

If we believe in and accept the promises of John 3:16, then we receive God’s love, God’s Son (to whosoever believes), and everlasting life. If we take these promises and live them boldly and with vision just imagine where God will take us.

The challenge for us is to pray for God’s vision for us and move to that vision. The journey may be difficult, with many obstacles in our path, but we must cast a vision. If there is no vision the people will perish, so we must be the ones to cast a vision. John 3:16 casts a vision - will we be bold enough to grasp that vision and move forward with it?

Grace and Peace,

David



United Methodist Women

Mission Awareness

Saturday, March 18

Registration begins at 9:30 AM

Bland United Methodist Church

Pre Conference Briefing will be held on Tuesday, May 23 beginning at 6:30 PM

Bluefield First UMC, 200 South College Avenue, Bluefield, VA

All pastors, lay members to Annual Conference

and At-Large Members to Annual Conference are expected to attend.

We will have a worship service followed by the pre conference briefing.

Just Older Youth

(For Our Over 50 Age Group)

Tuesday, May 16 at Ebenezer UMC, Bluefield, Virginia

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| 9:30 AM | Registration, Fellowship and Refreshments |
| 10:00 AM | Welcome, Announcements, Introductions, Prayer |
| 10:15 AM | Memorial Service for Larry Marion |
| 10:30 AM | Program by Reverend John Ousley, ETSU Director |
| 12:00 Noon | Lunch in the Fellowship Hall prepared by Ebenezer UMC |
| 1:00 PM | Closing Devotion led by Reverend John Ousley |

Cost for Lunch—\$7.00 Please mail registration (for name tag) and money for lunch to:

Tazewell District UMC, PO Box 674, Tazewell, VA 24651

Name _____

Name of Church _____

Amount Enclosed _____



**Tazewell District United
Methodist Women
Day Apart
Budget Preparation 2016**

Saturday, May 6

Registration 9:30 AM

**Pearisburg First United Methodist Church
Pearisburg, Virginia**



Jubilation 2017

The Annual Gathering of Senior Adults in Holston Conference will be held May 1-3 at the MainStay Suites, Pigeon Forge, Tennessee.

Join with older adults from across the conference as they explore ways to live with purpose and possibility. You will be inspired, entertained and challenged. There will be lots of opportunities for fellowship and learning together. You'll come away refreshed, renewed and full of new purpose and possibilities.

2017 Holston Annual Conference Hands-On Mission Project

Liberia—Helen Roberts-Evans, Director of General Education and Ministry, Liberia Conference of the UMC

School Kits—Tazewell District Goal —400 Kits

Kits may be delivered to the District Office (Monday through Thursday)between May 8 and May 25

Shipping per kit—\$5.00 (Please do not put money in bag.)

The local church should write one check for total kits to the District Office

- | | |
|----------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
| _____ 1 - 12" ruler | _____ 1 coloring book |
| _____ 1 small solar powered calculator | _____ 1 dictionary (may be purchased from District Office for \$1) |
| _____ 1 - 10 or 12 pack pens (blue or black) | _____ 3 spiral notebooks (70 sheet count) |
| _____ 1 - 10 or 12 pack pencils | _____ 1 pair flip flops (adult M-L size) |
| _____ 1 pack erasers | _____ 1 poncho (adult) |
| _____ 1 box crayons (24 count) | _____ 1 pack 100–150 sheet notebook paper (wide ruled) |

Please note that counts must be exact to pass customs.

Thank you to all who have supported our Hands-On Mission Project over the years.

Your generosity has made a difference in thousands of lives.

If you have any questions regarding the Hands-On Project or District Challenge

please call the District Office at 276-988-4891

NO KITS WILL BE ACCEPTED AT ANNUAL CONFERENCE.



Blessing of the Bikes 2017

The 15th Annual Blessing of the Bikes will be May 7 at the Burkes Garden Community Center. Food will be ready at

1 PM with the Blessing of the Bikes at 2 PM. This event is sponsored by the Burke's Garden and Mt. Olivet United Methodist Churches and is in association with The Iron Titans MC.

This event is rain or shine.

Come and enjoy the fun, food and fellowship.

Ride your bikes and attend worship at

Burkes Garden @ 9:55

or Mt. Olivet @ 11:00

Bikers will leave Mt. Olivet @ 12:15 and ride across the mountain together.

All proceeds from the food sales will benefit the church youth programs.

Contact Fred Lawless at 276-472-2735 for more details.

Holston Conference 44th Annual Ministers' Spouses Retreat

March 9-11, 2017

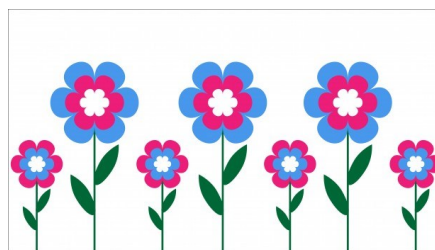
Oak Tree Lodge 1620 Parkway Sevierville, TN

For brochure or to register online visit-

ClergySpouses.holston.org

For more information, contact Lori Sluder at:

LoriSluder@holston.org



Welcome to Annual Conference 2017!

It's time to visit ac.holston.org to get ready for Holston Annual Conference,

June 11-14, 2017, at Lake Junaluska, NC.

- Order a printed version of the **Book of Reports** by **April 1, 2017**
- Sign-up for **Childcare** by **May 15, 2017**
- **Register** for Holston Annual Conference by **May 19, 2017**
- Sign-up for the **Missions Dinner** and/or the **5K Run/Walk** by **May 19, 2017**

Continue to visit the ac.holston.org site for additional resources in preparation for annual conference. Need assistance? Call your district office or contact the Holston Conference Center at (865) 690-4080 and ask for Charlotte or dial direct (865) 690-4141.

See you at the Lake!

ANNUAL AUDITS ARE DUE BY MARCH 31, 2017