Annual Conference 2012
Book of Reports

Holston Conference
The United Methodist Church

June 10–13, 2012
Lake Junaluska, North Carolina
Registration

The official Registration Card is enclosed in this mailing.

Members of the Conference (Lay and Clergy) are asked to bring the completed and corrected Registration Card to the Registration Desk and pick up your name badges and registration packets. Note that Registration is at the Bethea Welcome Center on Sunday and moves to Susan Todd Lounge in Harrell Center beginning Monday. Other resources will be available at the displays, which are located in the Auditorium on the first floor of Harrell Center.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Registration</th>
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<td><em>(Note the time changes)</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday, June 10 – Bethea Welcome Center ..... 2:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, June 11 – Susan Todd Lounge .......... 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>Tuesday, June 12 – Susan Todd Lounge .......... 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.</td>
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Exhibits, displays, and other resources are located in the Auditorium on the first floor of Harrell Center.

Conference Services

Chaplain ................................................................. Terrace, Room 210
Child Care (Children 6 months – 12 years) ........................................ Children’s Building
*(To help offset costs, there is a charge of $10.00 per child per day of the Annual Conference)*
Credit Union .............................................................. Harrell Center, Room 202
*(Any banking services and discount tickets to Biltmore. Regal Cinema, Gatlinburg Aquarium, Knoxville Zoo and Cenemark available during Registration hours)*
First Aid Station ...................................................... Harrell Center, Room 101
Nurse on duty:
  - Sunday ......................................................... 5:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
  - Monday ......................................................... 9:00 a.m. – 7:30 p.m.
  - Tuesday ......................................................... 9:00 a.m. – 7:30 p.m.
Information Center (Messages) ........................................ Stuart Auditorium Lobby
SERRV ................................................................. Harrell Center, Room 202

Conference Offices

Bishop ................................................................. Stuart Auditorium, behind Stage, 1st room on the left
Cabinet ................................................................. Terrace, Room 316
Communications ................................................................. Harrell Center, Room 103
Conference Secretary & Staff ....... Stuart Auditorium, behind Stage, 2nd room on the left

Modified Meal Plan

When you register, indicate the meals that you will NOT have in the dining room. *No credit from meal tickets will be given toward special meals.* All private meal functions will be charged separately by the sponsoring group or organization.

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<tr>
<th>Modified Meal Plan</th>
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<tr>
<td>Hotel and Cottage Rental Check-in ~ 3:00 p.m., Sunday, June 10</td>
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</table>

Contact numbers at Lake Junaluska
Phone: (828) 452-2881; Fax: (828) 452-2225; Emergency: 911
It is my joy to greet you as you read the 2012 Book of Reports in preparation for your service as a member of the 2012 Holston Annual Conference Session. John 20:30-31 reads this way: “Then Jesus did many other miraculous signs in his disciples’ presence, signs that aren’t recorded in this scroll. But these things are written so that you will believe that Jesus is the Christ, God’s Son, and that believing, you will have life in his name.” The reports you will read in the Book of Reports are designed to give evidence of the “miraculous signs” of Jesus’ presence among us but we are aware that these reports are not a complete listing of all of God’s “miraculous works” done in and through the people called United Methodist. It is our hope that these reports might be signs of the vitality that we see so often in the congregations of the Holston Annual Conference. I trust that you will join me in rejoicing in the new congregations that we have started that are winning new people to Christ in Holston, in South Sudan and in the Czech Republic. I trust you will see the vitality in the number of children and young people that made new professions of faith at our camps, at Resurrection and Divine Rhythm. I trust you will see the vitality in the number of mission teams doing mission work in Holston, in the United States and around the world. I trust you will see the vitality of congregations that discovered that the tithe belongs to the Lord and that we do have much to share. I trust you will see the vitality bursting out in places where congregations are rediscovering their neighborhoods need them and are providing medical services, food, clothing, child services, Habitat houses, and a myriad of services. I trust you see that we are catching the “Call to Action” as women and men, young, middle age and some seniors are responding to the call to full-time Christian service. Yes, it’s called a Book of Reports but the reports are about “miraculous signs” of the presence of Jesus among us, that He is “…the Christ, God’s Son, and that believing, you will have life in His name.”

Blessings,

Bishop James E. Swanson, Sr.
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Bring your Bible, your Book of Reports, and your Worship Booklet to all sessions. Water will be available so bring your reusable water bottle, too!
Welcome to Lake Junaluska

Dear Holston Annual Conference Delegates and Guests:

We are so pleased that you are returning to Lake Junaluska once again for the Holston Annual Conference. We very much appreciate your loyalty to us but do not take that loyalty for granted. I love it that the map of the Holston Conference in the Bishop’s office includes Lake Junaluska as a part of the geographical boundaries of the Conference.

We have been preparing for your arrival since the beginning of January. We are looking forward to showing you how we are continuing to live into our mission statement. The mission of Lake Junaluska is to be “a place of Christian hospitality where lives are transformed through the renewal of soul, mind, and body.” We think you will notice some additional changes this year and want to let you know that much more will happen over the next several years to make your experience here even more special.

We encourage you to take full advantage of the opportunities provided for you while you are here to be “transformed through the renewal of soul, mind, and body.” Some of you may have never visited the Corneille Bryan Native Garden located at the end of Stuart Circle (across from the Colonnade). It is one of the most peaceful and beautiful areas at the Lake. Some may have never visited the International Prayer Chapel located down the hall behind the front desk of Lambuth Inn. Include a stop at Inspiration Point at the west end of Lambuth Inn. The views from there are even more spectacular than from the Cross. Many of you have walked around the Lake and we encourage you to do so again. It is one of the most beautiful walks in all the world and not too strenuous for most of us. We have added to the Walking Path this year. Even if you have visited the two museums on our grounds previously, we encourage you to visit them again – the SEJ Heritage Center and Museum (lower level of the Harrell Center) and the World Methodist Museum.

The excitement is growing as we approach the Centennial Celebration of Lake Junaluska in 2013. We hope that you will plan to spend even more time with us during that special time.

Have a wonderful time with us in 2012 at the Holston Annual Conference. We are here to serve you.

Jack Ewing
Executive Director and CEO
Lake Junaluska Assembly
1. **What Is the Purpose of the Annual Conference?**

Annual Conference is a yearly meeting of Holston United Methodists (lay and clergy) for spiritual renewal and business and ministry decisions; also, appointments and ordination of clergy take place.

The purpose of the Annual Conference is to make disciples of Jesus Christ by equipping its local churches for ministry and by providing a connection for ministry beyond the local church; all to the glory of God.

John Wesley desired Annual Conference to be a means of God’s grace through Christian “conferencing.”

2. **Why Do We Have It?**

Historical – John Wesley initiated the practice of having “Conference” with the first Methodist clergy. The practice has continued and expanded. Annual Conferences are mandated by the United Methodist Constitution as outlined in Division Two – Organization of *The Book of Discipline*.

3. **Who Calls It?**

The Bishop is responsible for seeing that it is carried out and sets the date. The Annual Conference itself sets the place.

4. **Who Plans and Runs the Annual Conference?**

The Annual Conference Program Committee arranges and plans the Conference. The Bishop presides.

5. **What Is the History of the Annual Conference?**

The first Annual Conference was on Monday, June 25, 1744. “The following persons being met at the Foundry – John Wesley, Charles Wesley, John Hodges, Henry Piers, Samuel Taylor, and John Meriton – after some time spent in prayer, the design of our meeting was proposed, namely, to consider:

- what to teach;
- how to teach; and
- what to do, i.e., how to regulate our doctrine, discipline, and practice.

But first it was inquired whether any of our lay brethren should be present at this conference, and it was agreed to invite from time to time such of them as we should think proper. ‘Twas then asked, ‘Which of them shall we invite today?’ The answer was, ‘Thomas Richards, Thomas Maxfield, John Bennet, and John Downes,’ who were accordingly brought in.”

*John Wesley* – Edited by Albert C. Outler, Oxford

The Holston Annual Conference of The Methodist Church was organized in 1824. There are history books by R. N. Price, I. P. Martin, Robert Hilten, and others.

6. **What Rules Does the Annual Conference Use To Operate?**


7. **Who Comes?**

Elected lay members, clergy, and members-at-large. There are an equal number of lay and clergy members. Lay members are elected at the charge conference of the local church/charge each year.

8. **How Do I Participate?**

You must have an official name badge to vote.

You may speak any time the chair recognizes you.
Motions may be made from the floor at any time. Attendance at all sessions enhances participation, as listening to issues and reports being discussed is beneficial to knowing what is going on. Come prepared – read this Annual Conference Book of Reports. A local church, district, an individual, or any official board, agency, commission, council, committee, or ministry team may submit a resolution to be voted on at Annual Conference. These resolutions must be received by the conference secretary or Chair of the Committee on Resolutions by March 1.

9. Is There Follow-up?
Reporting Guides are available to help with reporting back to the local church. These guides will be distributed at the laity orientation session and appear in the back of this Book of Reports (page 173). The Call will highlight daily events and be available during conference. Summaries and pictures will also be available on the internet (www.holston.org).

10. Where Do I Go To Register at Annual Conference?
Sunday: The Bethea Welcome Center is the first building on the left inside the main entrance to Lake Junaluska.
Monday–Tuesday: Susan Todd Lounge on the second floor, lake side of Harrell Center

11. What Will I Get When I Register at Annual Conference?
An official name badge will identify you as a lay or clergy member of Annual Conference.

12. Theme? Called to Action

13. Who Do I See for What and Where?
See the Message Board at the back of Stuart Auditorium for messages. Additional Conference related information can also be found at the back of Stuart Auditorium. See Members of the Board of Laity (“Red Ribbons” designate the Board of Laity). See Ushers. See the Conference Secretary at the stage in Stuart Auditorium for general information. Rest rooms are located on the lake side of Stuart Auditorium and in Harrell Center on both floors. Meals on Lake Junaluska grounds may be included as part of your room cost for certain accommodations or purchased separately at Terrace or Lambuth (please note Modified Meal Plan). Lost and Found centers are located at the Information Center in the lobby of Stuart Auditorium and the Registration Desk in the Bethea Welcome Center (Sunday) or Susan Todd Lounge (Monday through Wednesday mid-morning).

14. Spiritual Needs
See a clergy member. The Chapel is open 24 hours (chapel is located next to Stuart Auditorium). The Bishop will appoint a Chaplain for Annual Conference. (Ask one of the Ushers, and he or she will find the chaplain for you.)

15. Daily Guidance
Communion worship is held every morning in the Chapel (located next to Stuart Auditorium) at 7:45 a.m. Conference worship daily – A Worship Book will be distributed at registration and should be brought to worship services. Daily devotions and scriptures of your own choosing.
16. Fun
Golf, tennis, walking, swimming, paddle boats, fishing, rocking chairs, youth center (for teenagers), Cokesbury Bookstore.
Maggie Valley shops and attractions.
Waynesville shops and attractions.
Check with Lake Junaluska Administrative Office located across from Stuart Auditorium for more information on area activities and recreational opportunities or check the display racks located in Terrace and Lambuth.

17. Special Activities
Orientation as scheduled in this Book of Reports.
Special breakfasts, lunches, and dinners (see listing in this Book of Reports and please note Modified Meal Plan).
Fellowship times are listed on page 6 of this Book of Reports.

Before Conference – call the Annual Conference Coordinator’s office in Alcoa at 865-690-4080 (toll-free at 866-690-4080) or call your district office.

19. Medical Concerns
Check at the front desk where you are staying.
Go to the first aid station in Harrell Center, Room 101. Annual Conference provides a nurse.
For emergencies, call 911, or go to the emergency room at the hospital in nearby Waynesville.
First aid kits may be found at each place of lodging at Lake Junaluska.
Emergency number at Lake Junaluska is (828) 452-2881.

20. Making Sense of the Material Maze
Attend your District Pre-Conference Briefing.
Attend the Laity Orientation Session on Sunday evening at 6:00 p.m. in Stuart Auditorium.
Read this Annual Conference Book of Reports.
Don’t hesitate to ask questions if there is something you don’t understand.
Other option: Pray continually (1 Thessalonians 5:17).

21. How To Get Around
Trolleys and buses operate on the grounds before and after all sessions.
Walking is always an option.
Parking is available on the main road with trolley service to bring you to the auditorium, the parking lot on the left side of the Stuart Auditorium, or behind the Lake Junaluska Administrative Office located across from Stuart Auditorium.

22. Lake Junaluska Resources
Use Map available at Registration or at the Information Desk at the back of Stuart Auditorium.
Go to Administrative Office located across the street from Stuart Auditorium.

23. Where To Stay (on or off the Lake Junaluska grounds)
Call Lake Junaluska for housing (828-452-2881 or 800-222-4930).
Call or visit the websites of the Maggie Valley or Waynesville Chamber of Commerce for housing options nearby.
24. What If I Want To Make or Speak on a Motion?

There is a form in the back of this Annual Conference Book of Reports (page 175) for Motions and Amendments. Many motions important to the Conference operation and program are functional and are voted on as a matter of course. Other motions invite debate. You may find you desire to speak on a motion or even introduce a motion concerning an issue on the agenda. The proper way to speak on the floor of the Conference is as follows:

a. Be recognized by the presiding officer (usually the Bishop) by standing at your seat, raising your hand, waving your program Book of Reports, etc.
b. When recognized, move to the numbered microphone designated by the presiding officer.
c. Give your name, identify your district, and give the name of your local church.
d. If you are making a motion in regard to a report on the floor (being discussed), state the motion with no verbal introduction, and say, “If seconded, I would like to speak on it,” and then when seconded give your comments and supportive details. Please remember to speak clearly!

(Note: Motions must be written out on the form provided in the Annual Conference Book of Reports, page 183, and must be turned in to the Conference Secretary on the stage after making your motion, even if not passed or seconded.)
e. If you are commenting on a report or motion on the floor (being discussed), then state if you speak in favor of or opposition to the motion and make your comments.

25. How To Get an Issue Before the Conference

Ask the chair to be recognized (See 24.1 above).

Before Conference – Any church or district committee, commission, council, board, agency, ministry team, or individual may send a resolution to the Conference Secretary. Call the Conference Secretary’s Office at 865-690-4080 (toll-free at 866-690-4080) if you have any questions. The deadline for resolutions is March 1. This deadline is published in The Call the first of the year.

Voting will be held every four years for delegates to upcoming General and Jurisdictional Conferences. These elections take place at the Annual gathering held the year prior to General and Jurisdictional Conferences. Nominations are submitted prior to Annual Conference and nominees published in the Book of Reports. Nominations may be made from the floor during the Laity Orientation session on Monday morning. A nomination form must be completed and available upon nomination. Refer to the Book of Reports for voting instructions.

26. Buzz Words and What They Mean

- AC – Annual Conference
- BOLM – Board of Lay Ministries
- BOM – Board of Ordained Ministry
- Cabinet – The Bishop, District Superintendents, and, when appropriate, other conference staff. The Cabinet under the leadership of the Bishop is the expression of superintending leadership in and through the Annual Conference. Appointment Cabinet – The Bishop and District Superintendents; Extended Cabinet – The Bishop, District Superintendents, other conference staff, and Conference Lay Leader.
- CCFA – Conference Council on Finance and Administration
- CCYM – Conference Council on Youth Ministries
- CLL – Conference Lay Leader
• Connectional – A network of interdependent relations among persons and groups on local, regional, national and international levels of The United Methodist Church.

• CRM – Camp and Retreat Ministries

• Certified Lay Minister – A lay minister that has received specific training and certification that will enhance the quality of ministry to small membership churches and expand team ministry in churches.

• Conference Lay Leader – Primary representative of the laity of Holston Conference. Elected by the Annual Conference. Chairs Conference Board of Lay Ministry.

• Deacon – Deacons are ordained to a lifetime ministry of the Word and Service to community and congregation.

• Deaconess – A lay woman who, in response to God’s call and on recommendation of the General Board of Global Ministries, is commissioned by a Bishop to share faith in Jesus Christ through ministries of love, justice and service. Deaconesses form a covenant community rooted in Scripture and informed by history, driven by mission, ecumenical in scope and global outreach. Deaconesses serve the church in any capacity not requiring full clergy rights. They are related to the General Board of Global Ministries. A lifetime commitment to mission is presumed.

• Diakonal Ministers – This consecrated lay ministry exemplifies the servanthood every Christian is called to live in both church and world.

• Discipline – (The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church – 2008) “The Discipline is the book of law of The United Methodist Church. It is the product of the many General Conferences of historic religious bodies which now form The United Methodist Church.” It is published every four years, after each General Conference.

• DS – District Superintendent

• DT – Discipleship Team (to discern a vision and ministry direction for the Conference).

• Elder – Elders are ordained to a lifetime ministry of Service, Work, Sacrament and Order. They are authorized to preach and teach God’s word, to administer the sacraments of Baptism and Holy Communion, and to order the life of the church for Mission and Ministry. They begin this calling as Provisional Members.

• General Conference – The legislative body of the United Methodist Church, composed of an equal number of elected lay and clergy delegates. It meets every four years and is the only body that can speak officially for the denomination.

• Jurisdictional Conference – A regional conference held every four years and attended by elected delegates, an equal number of lay and clergy. The business primarily involves the election and assignment of Bishops.

• Lay Leader – A function in the local church, carried out through a position elected by the Charge Conference, and who serves as the primary lay representative of the members of the local church. The Lay Leader has specific responsibilities detailed in the Discipline. Districts and Annual Conferences also elect lay leaders to serve as the primary representatives of their lay membership.

• Lay Members to Annual Conference – Lay members are elected at the charge conference of the local church/charge each year, and lay members at-large are elected annually at District Conferences. Other lay members are included based on positions and offices held within the districts and conferences as outlined in the Discipline.

• Lay Missioners – Committed laypersons, mostly volunteers, who are willing to be trained and work in a team with a pastor-mentor to develop faith communities, establish community ministries, develop church school extension, programs, and engage in congregational development.
• Lay Speaker – Laypersons who complete lay speaking training courses to serve the local church or charge in any way in which their witness or leadership and service inspires the laity to deeper commitment to Christ and more effective discipleship. Local Church Lay Speaker has completed the basic training course; Certified Lay Speaker has completed the basic and one advanced training courses for lay speaking.

• Local Pastor – A clergy person, serving under license, issued by the resident Bishop, who is authorized to perform all the duties of an ordained pastor, including the Sacraments, while assigned to a particular charge under the supervision of a District Superintendent.

• Ministry – The ministry of Christ is given to all Christians by virtue of their baptism (not reserved for clergy only).

• NOW – Nurture, Outreach, and Witness ministry areas

• Ordination – The act of conferring ministerial orders, presided over by a Bishop. The authorization of the church for the practice of the Word, Sacrament, and Order.

• PRC – Personnel Resources Committee (recruits, employs, deploys, and evaluates staff of the Conference).

• Quadrennium – The official four year period beginning January 1 following each General Conference, during which The United Methodist Church implements General Conference legislation.

• SEJ – Southeastern Jurisdiction

• UMC – United Methodist Church

• UMM – United Methodist Men

• UMW – United Methodist Women

• Wesley Leadership Institute – A Conference initiative that creates educational opportunities for clergy through a Wesleyan perspective.

27. Fashion: What To Wear?
Casual clothes are fine for all occasions; always wear a smile. God loves you!

28. Youth
Each district sends two youth members to the Annual Conference session.
Housing for these youth is arranged in advance with the Conference Youth ministry office. Youth members and their chaperones usually stay on the grounds at Lake Junaluska. An orientation session is held on Sunday afternoon at 4:00 p.m. for these youth. During this time, a complete schedule is provided. Youth-led devotions are held each evening at 10:30 p.m. for youth who are members of the Annual Conference and other youth who would like to participate. The location for these gatherings will be posted outside Stuart Auditorium each day. Follow the signs!

29. Children (K–5)
Childcare is available during the week during all sessions at the Children’s Center on the grounds at Lake Junaluska. There is a fee of $10.00 per child per day. Call or stop by the Children’s Center for more information.

30. Etiquette
In Stuart Auditorium, please move toward the center of each section for seating, rather than taking up aisle seats. Avoid congregating at the entrances and exits, and avoid distracting conversations inside and outside the auditorium when Conference is in session.

Prepared by:
Holston Conference Board of Lay Ministry
Called to Action: Vital Congregations in Mission and Ministry

Imagine a Church that is boldly reshaping human hearts and the world by courageously seeking out innovative ways to proclaim the good news about God's ongoing salvation history in the world. Think about what the Church is already accomplishing through addressing the needs of its community and then reaching out into the global community to speak the truth about God and tangibly change the human condition. Visualize this Church diligently and intentionally following after God's call.

The United Methodist Church is producing this kind of fruit.

From its earliest days, Methodists imagined a movement that would connect people to God, develop disciples of Jesus Christ, and address the needs of the poor, imprisoned, and infirmed. Methodism, as a movement, flourished against intimidating odds and witnessed a bountiful harvest.

Holston Annual Conference is reclaiming our call to action to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. This is an exciting time to be a United Methodist in the Holston Conference because we once again stand on the frontier of faith, boldly blazing new trails in this new and changing world.

The Call to Action study empowers both laity and clergy alike to audaciously set ambitious goals (through the Five Indicators of Congregational Vitality), generate vital congregations (through the Four Key Drivers), and embody the fruit of the kingdom (by committing our lives to the Four Areas of Focus). Together we challenge one another to prayerfully and faithfully seek a new way toward God's kingdom that is breaking in all around us and across the globe. This is not a program that can be participated in by reading the right material and categorizing the information into our rolodex of methods for organizing the latest ministry. It is a movement that is changing the Church, the Holston Conference, and the world.

Nowhere is ministry more effective and productive than in the local church. Regardless of size or geographic location, the local church is on the front lines of where the brokenness of the world meets the redeeming grace of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. This is the primary way in which we make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. You can change the world in the local church.

And yet, as a connectional people we see ourselves participating in ministries across the conference and around the globe. The effectiveness of the local church only multiplies the kinds of ministry that are possible from Saltville, Virginia, to Southern Sudan. The work that God has called us to receive is local as well as global.

Every dollar tithed by the local church is connected to a ministry, has a face, and makes an impact that is changing the world for the glory of God. Through our connectional life we are intimately connected to a far-reaching arm of grace and love to a hurting world. You participate in these ministries. These stories are your stories. These ministries are your ministries. These faces are your faces.

The following pages introduce you to the vision of the Call to Action and Vital Congregations.
First, you will find a summary sheet that highlights the commitments we make as vital congregation in the Holston Conference. Second, you will find excerpts from a publication prepared by the Council of Bishops, which provides an overview and invitation to live as vital congregations. Copies of this Call to Action Study Guide may be downloaded free at www.umccalltoaction.org or ordered through Cokesbury Book Store.

As we go through this annual conference session, we pray that you will be open to the preaching, teaching, and sharing, so that we will return home with stories to tell to strengthen our fulfillment of our mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. Please be in prayer as you prepare for our time together, as you participate in the days of the annual conference, and as you return home to continue faithful service. Holston Conference: Vital Congregations Called to Action! Thanks be to God!

~ Annual Conference Planning Committee

Bishop Swanson After His 2004 Consecration Service
The mission of The United Methodist Church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Disciple-making and transformation of the world occur through vital congregations.

The Adaptive Challenge for The United Methodist Church is to redirect the flow of attention, energy, and resources to an intense concentration on fostering and sustaining an increase in the number of vital congregations effective in making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Therefore Holston Conference has as its focus the development of vital congregations who are making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

We will recognize vital congregations through the following:

**Indicators of Congregational Vitality**
from the Call to Action research

1) Disciples in worship (worship attendance)
2) Disciples making new disciples (number of professions of faith)
3) Disciples growing in their faith (number of small groups and children and youth ministry)
4) Disciples engaged in mission (number of disciples doing outreach in the community and the world)
5) Disciples sharing their resources for mission (amount of money given to mission)

We will foster vital congregations through the following:

**Four Drivers for Congregational Vitality**
from the Call to Action research

Inviting and inspiring worship
Gifted, equipped and empowered lay leadership
Effective, equipped and inspired clergy leadership
Small groups and strong children’s programs and youth ministry

We will see the fruit of vital congregations through the following:

**Four Areas of Focus**

On-going commitment of The United Methodist Church endorsed at the 2008 General Conference
Create new places for new people and revitalize existing congregations
Develop principled Christian leaders
Engage in ministry with the poor
Improve health globally through eradicating the diseases of poverty, especially malaria, tuberculosis, and HIV/AIDS
We Are Called to Action

For the sake of a new world, we see a new church.

We see a new church. It is a church that is clear about its mission and confident about its future; a church that is always reaching out, inviting, alive, agile, and resilient. We see a church that is hope-filled, passionate, nimble, called by God, and courageous. It is a church that is passionately committed to the mission and vision of the Wesleyan movement. This church takes risks to serve the poor, reach new people, and search continuously for creative ways to help each person grow in grace, love, and holiness.

Today we call you to action, to join with United Methodist sisters and brothers from around the world in the adventure of becoming a New Church. The most important steps will not result from legislative action at General Conference or in annual conferences. Instead, they will require different actions and patterns of leadership by bishops, clergy, and laity. These changes must be grounded deeply in the spiritual disciplines of prayer and fasting. These changes have already begun, and the Call to Action is already starting to be employed in many congregations and conferences. We call you to:

- Grow vital congregations that will make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world;
- Demonstrate courageous turnaround leadership that leads the church toward deep Holy Spirit change;
- Take risks; experiment in ministry as we go to the margins of society to minister with the poor, immigrants, prisoners, and the homeless, as well as with the non-religious and nominally religious people in our communities;
- Unite as one; develop deeper trust so that together we face our adaptive spiritual challenges;
- Set visionary goals and support one another as we eagerly experiment, innovate, embrace change, and regularly account for our ministries.

— The Council of Bishops,
The United Methodist Church
December 2011
A Call to Make Disciples for the Transformation of the World

I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own.

—Philippians 3:12

The Apostle Paul writes to the Philippians to encourage them, and his words echo through the centuries to our ears today. “Press on toward God’s call.” Today’s Call to Action is as urgent as:

- God’s call to Moses,
- Mordecai’s call to Esther,
- Jeremiah’s call to the exiled Israelites,
- Jesus’ call to his disciples, and
- John Wesley’s call to a new society called Methodists.

The call is the same in every instance: “I need you for such a time as this.”

For times such as this, in a world besieged by war and poverty, environmental calamity and economic uncertainty, hunger and conflict – and, yes, in places, even hopelessness – God calls us to be a forward-leaning people. We are not to turn away from the fierce oncoming wind. God’s challenge to us as the people of The United Methodist Church is to LEAN INTO IT.

How do we know where to lean when winds are swirling all around us? How do we know in which direction to lean? We look to the mission of The United Methodist Church and what it calls us to do – make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

God’s plan for us in this hour could not be clearer or more crucial. We are to be a people united by pressing on to be in relationship with and meet the needs of growing numbers of non-religious and nominally religious people. God calls us to press on to connect with the people in our communities and in our lives. God calls us to offer Christ to those whose hope may be shaken by the great challenges of our time. We are called to share with them the hope we are given through God’s grace in Jesus Christ.

God calls us to join the seekers and spiritually hungry in a celebration of the jubilant word that Jesus has made ALL of us his own. Pressing on is the essence of who we are as United Methodists.

What do you experience in the world and the church that calls for urgent action?
2 A Call for Spiritual Renewal

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God.

Romans 12:1-2

The Call to Action is an urgent spiritual call to the church to surrender and recommit ourselves to Christ and the ministry of grace. Almost all biblical call stories begin with a call to surrender to and obey God. The founder of Methodism experienced a similar call. Wesley’s Aldersgate experience, in which his heart was “strangely warmed,” was shaped by his experience with the Moravians, who were ready to surrender their lives during a raging storm. Following this experience, Wesley went to Aldersgate Street and experienced grace when he surrendered himself completely to God.

Wesley later taught that God’s grace is unearned and begins with surrender, but we should not wait idly to continue to experience grace. When we engage in the means of grace, God works,
often invisibly, in disciples—hastening, strengthening, and confirming faith so that God’s grace pervades in and through their lives.

The means of grace are a practice of daily surrender and obedience to God. We are called to these same means of grace today. They include regular spiritual disciplines, daily works of piety, and works of mercy.

**Works of Piety include:**

Reading, meditating on, and studying the Scriptures; prayer; confessing sin; fasting; regularly attending worship; healthy living; sharing our faith with others; regularly sharing in the sacraments; Christian conferencing (accountability to one another); and Bible study.

**Works of Mercy include:**

Doing good works, visiting the sick, visiting those in prison, feeding the hungry, giving generously to the needs of others, seeking justice, ending oppression and discrimination (for instance, Wesley challenged Methodists to end slavery), and addressing the needs of the poor.

Practicing the means of grace engages us in core values of United Methodism, personal and social holiness in which United Methodists transform souls, communities, and injustice. Discipleship is more than becoming a member. We will not meet the pressing winds of our age if we first do not surrender, change, and practice spiritual disciplines.
A Call for More Turnaround Spiritual Leaders

Perhaps you have come to [this position] for just such a time as this.

—Esther 4:14

In the book of Esther, Mordecai, at the risk of his own life, courageously calls Queen Esther to lean into the stiff winds of oppression and save God’s people. Esther was a common woman and a Jew who rose to prominence and was asked to take great risks to speak up for God’s people. Her boldness saved the people. Our greatest call as The United Methodist Church is to lean into the stiff winds, make appropriate sacrifices, and give our best for God and the world.

God calls us as well. Yet it seems that today, when the world needs us most, we are most challenged.

❖ Membership decline in The United Methodist Church began in 1972. While we are growing in Africa and the Philippines, membership continues to decline today in Europe and the United States.

❖ A decline in worship attendance in The United Methodist Church began in 2002. Today, this decline is experienced most in Europe and the United States.

❖ The decline in offerings in The United Methodist Church began in 2008. Today, this decline is experienced most in Europe and the United States.

We need a cadre of mutually committed, collaborative, turnaround leaders who:

1. Make a compelling case for daring, disciplined, and sustained actions and

2. Demonstrate strong leadership to change what we emphasize, and de-emphasize many treasured approaches and programs and forego familiar rhetoric that, though valued, does not lead to effectiveness in achieving different and desired outcomes.

This is not a time for leaders who are ambivalent, reluctant, or unwilling to walk forward with humility and courage.

—Call to Action Steering Team Report

What should we sacrifice to embrace God’s unfolding mission for the Church?
and will be felt by every community we serve.

* The next anticipated significant decline is in the field of mission giving and mission engagement. When God and the world need us most, we struggle with vitality in our congregations and conferences.

Esther risked everything — her privileged status in the palace, her wealth, and even her life — to save the people. She was willing to sacrifice everything to be a part of God’s unfolding plan.

The eroding number of disciples and resources of The United Methodist Church point to deep spiritual and systemic issues. It calls for forward-leaning spiritual leadership and change.

This is the faithful type of leadership that Esther and Mordecai demonstrated. It is the leadership that many of our vital congregations and conferences are demonstrating.

**What church leader do you know today who has been a turnaround leader?**

**What did he or she do to turn a church, conference, or ministry around?**
Vital congregations:
- Attract and make new disciples, grow over time.
- Engage disciples in ministry and mission.
- Engage in the community.

Where do you see vitality in your congregation?

making new disciples and giving generously to the needs of others.

The study reviewed the statistics of 33,000 United Methodist churches in the United States over a five-year period of time and found that approximately 5,000 were highly vital. Think of it for a moment. Only 15 percent of our congregations in the United States were found to be "highly vital."

The study found that we as United Methodists, in congregations large and small, fledgling and thriving, urban and rural, face a common obstacle. That obstacle is our denomination’s “adaptive spiritual challenge.”

This “adaptive spiritual challenge” is the WHY behind our discouraging numbers and decline. We are
not bearing fruit that lives up to our potential, or God’s intentions for us. This adaptive spiritual challenge is defined in five key ways:

1. We have deep division and mistrust at all levels of the church. That division and mistrust keeps us from moving as one to respond to the needs of the communities around us. Our institutional concerns and lack of faith in one another inhibit us from leaning fully into the oncoming challenges.

2. We are averse to what the report called metrics. We are not comfortable with setting goals and measuring the fruits of our work in answer to God’s call. This aversion renders us unsure

Continued on next page
of our progress. It keeps us doing the things that are not working.

3 We do not have enough turnaround leaders, leaders who courageously face the challenges and inspire people toward greater goals. We need leaders who press on toward the goal that is before us.

3 We are not connecting with the nominally and non-religious people in our communities. We do not know or understand the emerging culture; rather, we choose to connect with people who think like us, act like us, and look like us.

3 We are not growing and supporting vital congregations. Our denominational resources and attention will need to be refocused on the congregation as the central mission body of the church. It has the greatest potential to make new disciples and engage disciples in the transformation of the world.

According to the Call to Action Report, we are challenged “to redirect the flow of attention, energy, and resources to an intense concentration to foster and sustain an increase in the number of vital congregations making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.”

Our denomination’s “adaptive spiritual challenge” is quite different from the challenges with which many of us are more familiar – our “technical” problems.
What time are we going to hold Sunday morning worship is a technical problem. The adaptive spiritual challenge inherent in this question is, How do we attract and offer meaningful worship experiences to the non-religious and nominally religious people in our community? We must lean into our adaptive spiritual challenges so that congregations become more vital in attracting new disciples, growing over time, and engaging disciples in ministry and mission.

We tend to avoid or deny our adaptive spiritual challenges because they are harder to define and take longer to address. They force us to face our weaknesses and vulnerabilities. The results, however, are worth the effort and time required. Addressing adaptive challenges invites us to transformation.

Transformation of the world begins with us.

The great challenge before us is to grow more vital congregations. According to the Call to Action, a vital congregation is "a community of believers under the Lordship of Christ." It is the redemptive fellowship in which the Word of God is preached. It is defined by its fruits, evidenced in its worship, teaching, and participation in the redemption of the world. A vital congregation bears witness to the saving love of Jesus Christ, and shows signs of increased engagement, attendance, growth, and missional outreach over time. Vital churches come in all sizes, are found in all geographic locations, and reflect a variety of racial/ethnic identities.

In your experience, what traits best identify a turnaround leader? How might you provide turnaround leadership?
16 Drivers of Vital Congregations

**Children & youth**

1. Vital churches have more small groups for all ages.
2. Vital churches have more programs for children.
3. Vital churches have more programs for youth.

**Lay leadership**

4. Vital churches focus on increasing the effectiveness of lay leaders. (Laity understand their role and carry these roles out effectively.)
5. Vital churches have lay leaders who demonstrate a vital personal faith. (This faith includes regular worship, intentional spiritual growth, personal devotional life, and giving of financial resources.)
6. Vital churches place an emphasis on rotating lay leadership in order to involve more people over time.
7. Vital churches call, equip, use, and support more lay leaders than non-vital churches. (Twenty percent or more of their worship attendees describe themselves as current or past leaders in their church.)
Pastors

8 Vital pastors coach and mentor lay leadership.

9 Vital pastors use their influence to increase the participation of others in order to accomplish changes in the church.

10 Vital pastors motivate the congregation to set and achieve significant goals through effective leadership.

11 Vital pastors inspire the congregation through motivational preaching.

12 Vital pastors, when they are serving effectively, stay for a longer period of time.

Worship

13 Vital churches offer a mix of contemporary (newer forms and styles of worship) and traditional services.

14 Vital churches have preachers who tend to use more topical sermon series in traditional services.

15 Vital churches use more contemporary music (less blended music that includes traditional tunes) in contemporary services.

16 Vital churches use more multi-media in contemporary services (multi-media may not be as important as it is in some cultures).
5 A Call for Transformative Change

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free.

—Luke 4:18

Today, we are challenged to connect with the growing numbers of non- and nominally religious people in our communities, connect with younger generations, grow and mature disciples’ faith, and recruit turnaround leaders, particularly young adult clergy leaders. Paul pressed on toward the goal against stiff winds of opposition because his heart and mind were radically transformed on the road to Damascus. What will be The United Methodist Church’s Damascus Road experience? What will be the experience that changes us so that we press on toward a Spirit-filled church that captures the hearts and imaginations of young people, ends death by malaria, houses the homeless and orphans, quadruples our number of highly vital congregations, and baptizes the world with grace and hope. It is likely that we will need Damascus Road experiences across the connection:

- At General Conference,
- Within the Council of Bishops,
- Within the ministry of our General Agencies,
- Within our annual conferences,
- Within our clergy leaders,
- Within our laity.

A Damascus Road experience changes not only an individual but also the course of history. It is a transformative experience created through the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ. Paul thought he was doing the work of God until he experienced Christ on the Damascus Road. John Wesley thought he was doing all the good he could, until he met Christ on Aldersgate Street. The Methodist Church thought it aligned with God, but in fact it needed an epiphany to abolish the segregated Central Jurisdiction at the 1968 General Conference in Dallas, Texas. Throughout history, individuals, congregations, and denominations

What are new ways we can connect with non- and nominally religious people?

What is your Damascus Road experience?
have experienced the transforming power of the Holy Spirit, which has literally set them in a new direction.

At every level of the church, deep Holy Spirit change is needed so that we lean into the stiff winds and press on toward the goal — the goal to renew our disciple-making heritage and transform lives and communities.

Deep transformative change is needed because we know from experience that adding a new program, a new agency, or more dollars to the budget does not empower us to grow the fruit God desires. The Call to Action is calling for deep transformative change at all levels of the church. Deep transformative change can sometimes be inspired through a few strategic changes that provide leverage for the entire system. You will see in the following legislation that the church is invited to change a few things that will leverage transformation throughout the denomination.

For instance, we want to continue to embrace the four areas of focus in the coming quadrennium — to end deaths by malaria, eliminate poverty, start new faith communities, and call and develop younger leaders.

Where have you witnessed transformative change in the church?

What helped to bring about this change?
Call for Action to the Annual Conference and Staff

1. Regularly practice and lead congregations to practice the means of grace.
2. Direct resources to grow vital congregations with particular focus on implementing the 16 drivers of vitality and carry out the four areas of focus — end deaths by malaria, eliminate poverty, start new faith communities, and recruit younger clergy.
3. Organize the conference as appropriate and work collaboratively in five areas:
   - Administrative and Strategic Support Services,
   - Congregational Vitality,
   - Leadership Excellence,
   - Missional Engagement,
   - Justice and Reconciliation.
4. Develop and embrace metrics and goals that measure staff and conference resourcing effectiveness for growing vital congregations and achieving results in the four areas of focus.
5. Continually improve skills and practices to strengthen the church.
6. Pray for and work with pastors, laity, and bishops to grow the unity within the church, grow trust within the congregation and denomination, and engage in listening and conversation with non-religious and nominally religious people in the community.

Call for Action to Pastors

1. Regularly practice and lead your congregation(s) to practice the means of grace.
2. Lead your congregation to become more vital, particularly leading your congregation to implement the 16 drivers of vitality and carry out the four areas of focus — end deaths by malaria, eliminate poverty, start new faith communities, and recruit younger clergy.
3. Develop and embrace metrics and goals that measure your and the congregation’s effectiveness for becoming a highly vital congregation and results in the four areas of focus. This includes but is not limited to the five denominational discipleship goals:
   - Disciples make new disciples – professions of faith;
   - Disciples worship – worship attendance;
   - Disciples grow and mature in their faith – number of small faith-development groups;
   - Disciples engage in mission – number of members engaged in community and worldwide mission;
   - Disciples give generously to mission – the amount of money given to mission.
Grow your leadership skills to lead the congregation to implement the 16 drivers of vitality and achieve the five denominational goals with increasing effectiveness.

Pray for and work with your laity, superintendent, and bishop to grow the unity within the congregation, conference and denomination; grow trust within the congregation and denomination; and engage in listening and conversation with non- and nominally religious people in the community.

Encourage and mentor turnaround leaders to serve within the congregation and the community and foster an environment in which others can hear and respond to the call to pastoral ministry.

Call to Action to Laity

1. Regularly practice and lead others to practice the means of grace.

2. Serve within your congregation so that it becomes more vital, particularly leading/serving within your congregation to implement the 16 drivers of vitality and carry out the four areas of focus – end deaths by malaria, eliminate poverty, start new faith communities, and recruit younger clergy.

3. Grow your leadership and/or servant skills to serve with increasing effectiveness so that the congregation implements the 16 drivers of vitality and becomes more vital.

4. Embrace and develop metrics and goals that measure your congregation’s effectiveness for growing vital congregations and results in the four areas of focus. This includes but is not limited to the five denominational discipleship goals:

   - Disciples make new disciples – professions of faith;
   - Disciples worship – worship attendance;
   - Disciples grow and mature in their faith – number of small faith-development groups;
   - Disciples engage in mission — number of members engaged in community and worldwide mission;
   - Disciples give generously to mission – the amount of money given to mission.

5. Pray for and work with your pastor(s), superintendent, and bishop to grow the unity within the congregation, conference, and denomination; grow trust within the congregation and denomination; and engage in listening and conversation with non-religious and nominally religious people in the community.
As [God] has sent me, so I send you.
John 20:21

The United Methodist Church continues to be a spiritual influence in the world for the gospel. Vital congregations are essential to its ministry. But what makes a congregation vital, and what do vital congregations do? While the true testimony of a congregation lies in the stories told by those whose lives have been transformed, there is also other information that clearly shows the movement of the Spirit in vital congregations around the world. The United Methodist Council of Bishops and the Connectional Table commissioned a study by Towers Watson to better identify the key activities of vital congregations.

The study reviewed the statistics of 33,000 churches and found that nearly 5,000 churches were growing and engaging a greater percentage of their membership in worship and ministry. They were engaging disciples in worship, in making new disciples, in growing their faith, and in giving generously. It was not only that these things were occurring but also that they were evident at a significantly higher rate than in other churches, and the vital congregations – no matter what their size, location, or ethnicity – demonstrated growth over a period of years.

The study further examined these churches and found they shared at least sixteen ministries/strategies in common. The study called them “drivers of vitality,” and indicated that if churches worked on all sixteen, they would move toward vitality or become more vital. The sixteen ministries/strategies can be grouped into four areas: youth and children, lay leaders, pastors, and worship.

While the study noted that vital churches give more to mission, some have noticed that other types of mission engagement and outreach are not listed as proven “drivers.” This is because, during the past, we have not collected this data consistently across the church and therefore the research could not quantitatively substantiate mission engagement. But, in conversations with vital congregations, they tell us that this is an important aspect of their ministry. Giving to mission is, in all matters, fostering a spirit of generosity. It also should be noted that while the study alludes to spiritual vitality in the faith of the laity and the inspirational leadership of clergy, one should not see these ministries/strategies as mechanical operations. Rather, they are undergirded or enlivened by a deep and abiding faith in Jesus Christ.
Our Mission
The mission of The United Methodist Church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world as described in Matthew 28:18-20 (The Great Commission) and Matthew 22:36-40 (The Great Commandment).

We Are Called to Action
The United Methodist Church is called to be a world leader in developing existing churches and starting new vital congregations so that we make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Vital Congregations
Vital congregations are Spirit-filled, forward-leaning communities of believers that welcome all people. (Galatians 3:28)

- Make disciples of Jesus Christ (Matthew 28:18-20.)
- Serve like Christ through justice and mercy ministries (Micah 6:8; Luke 4:17-21)
- Develop inviting and inspiring worship services
- Work with disciples in mission and outreach
- Empower lay leadership
- Support inspired clergy leadership
- Create small groups and strong children’s programs and youth ministry
- Engage in world transformation through the creation of vital disciples

Vital Disciples
A vital disciple is a changed follower of Jesus as described in Matthew 22:36-40 (The Great Commandment).

- Worship sincerely
- Grow their faith
- Engage in mission
- Give to mission
- Make new disciples

Be doers of the word.
James 1:22
HOLSTON ANNUAL CONFERENCE
JUNE 10-13 2012
James E. Swanson, Sr.
Resident Bishop, Presiding
SCHEDULE AND AGENDA

CALLED TO ACTION

SUNDAY – June 10, 2012

2:00 p.m. Registration opens, Bethea Welcome Center
3:30 p.m. Orientation for First-Time Appointees – Terrace Auditorium
4:00 p.m. Rehearsal for Communion servers – Stuart Auditorium
4:45 p.m. Dinner served at Terrace and Lambuth
6:00 p.m. Laity Session – Stuart Auditorium
6:00 p.m. Clergy Session – Shackford Hall
7:00 p.m. Worship Leaders and Liturgists Prepare for Opening Worship
7:30 p.m. Festival of Worship and Holy Communion

Bishop James E. Swanson, Sr. presiding
Lighting of the Christ Candle
Call to Action – Bishop Swanson and Mary Ruth Richards
Crossfire – Burks UMC Praise Team

MONDAY – June 11, 2012

7:00 a.m. BOPping Along (Board of Pensions health walk) – leaving from Stuart (see page 35 for more information)
7:00 – 11:00 a.m. Personal Health Assessments – 2nd floor Terrace Lobby
7:45 a.m. Jump Start Morning Worship and Communion
in Memorial Chapel
8:30 a.m. Prayer for Opening of Annual Conference
Hymn #553 “And Are We Yet Alive?”
Organizing Motions
Adoption of Agenda
Setting Bar of Conference
Election of Tellers, Conference Secretarial Staff

Report from Committee on Rules and Order

Welcome from Jack Ewing, Lake Junaluska

Announcements

Blessing of Hands-On Mission Kits

9:00 a.m. Fostering Vital Congregations

*Vital Congregations have*

- Inviting and inspiring worship
- Gifted, equipped, and empowered lay leadership
- Effective, equipped, and inspired clergy leadership
- Small groups and strong children’s and youth ministries

*These key drivers are reflected through strong missional outreach in vital congregations.*

Reports to be included during the morning sessions can be found in your Book of Reports on pages 53 through 143.

10:00 a.m. Break

10:20 a.m. Fostering Vital Congregations

The Monday morning time will include these reports: Congregational Development, Discipleship Team, Mission Team, Nurture Team, Outreach/Advocacy Team, Stewardship Team, Witness Team, Hispanic Ministries, Board of Ordained Ministry, Equitable Compensation, Pensions, Personnel Resources, Trustees, Archives and History, Connectional Table and Council on Finance and Administration

Nominations

General Conference Delegation Report

Petitions and Resolutions

11:55 a.m. Blessing of the Meal

12:00 to 2:00 p.m. Lunch Break
2:00 p.m.  Memorial Service  
   Rev. Grady Winegar, preaching  
   Bristol Area UMC Choirs  
   Seymour UMC Youth Handbell Choir

3:00 p.m.  Break

3:20 p.m.  Prayer for the Session  
   Teaching Plenary with Dr. Drew Dyson and Dr. Lew Parks

5:00 p.m.  Blessing of the Meal

5:00 p.m.  BOPping Along (Board of Pensions health walk) – leaving from Stuart

5:00 to 7:00 p.m.  Dinner Break

6:15 p.m.  Ordinands line up for Ordination Service

6:30 p.m.  Sponsors, Cabinet, and BOM line up for Ordination Service

7:00 p.m.  Service of Ordination and Commissioning  
   Bishop James E. Swanson, Sr. presiding  
   Rev. Dr. Kim Cape, GBHEM, preaching  
   First Bluefield UMC Choir

**TUESDAY – June 12, 2012**

7:00 a.m.  BOPping Along (Board of Pensions health walk) – leaving from Stuart

7:00 – 11:00 a.m.  Personal Health Assessments – 2nd floor Terrace Lobby

7:45 a.m.  Jump Start Morning Worship and Communion  
   in Memorial Chapel

8:30 a.m.  Morning Watch – Worship Camp Style

Living the United Methodist Way

   Reports to be included during the morning session can be found in your Book of Reports on pages 144 through 153.

   Holston Conference Foundation
   Holston Home for Children
   Asbury Inc.
Holston Conference Higher Education and Ministry
Emory and Henry, Hiwassee, Tennessee Wesleyan,
Wesley Foundations at ETSU, Radford, UTC, UTK,
UVa-Wise
Francis Asbury Award

10:20 a.m. Break
10:45 a.m. Retirement Recognition
11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Lunch Break
1:30 p.m. Prayer for the Session
   Plenary Session – United Methodist Call to Action
   Dr. Dyson and Dr. Parks
3:00 p.m. Fellowship Time on the Lawn
   Time to Greet Bishop and Mrs. Swanson
3:40 p.m. Prayer for the Session
   Plenary Session – United Methodist Call to Action
   Bishop Gregory Palmer
5:00 p.m. Blessing of the Meal
5:00 p.m. BOPping Along (Board of Pensions health walk) – leaving from Stuart
5:00 to 7:00 p.m. Dinner Break
7:00 p.m. Evening Celebration of Bishop Swanson’s Ministry
   Mount Moriah Parish Choir – Chattanooga

WEDNESDAY – June 13, 2012

7:00 a.m. BOPping Along (Board of Pensions health walk) – leaving from Stuart
7:00 – 11:00 a.m. Personal Health Assessments – 2nd floor Terrace Lobby
7:45 a.m. Jump Start Morning Worship and Communion in Memorial Chapel
8:30 a.m. Concluding Business of The Annual Conference
   Prayer for the Session
   Approval of Holston Conference Ministry Funding
Cabinet Report

Plenary Session – United Methodist Call to Action
Holston Responds with Rev. David Graves

Denman Evangelism Award
Living Stone Award

Bishop Fritz Mutti Recognizes Holston for HIV/AIDS Contribution

Cabinet Recognitions

Minute Question #85 “Where Shall Annual Conference Be Held?”

Our Life Together

Sending Forth Worship

Bishop James E. Swanson, Sr. presiding

Fixing of Appointments

Licensing of Local Pastors

Fairview UMC Youth Choir

**BOPping Along!**

The Board of Pensions would really like to engage folk during Annual Conference in participating in **exercise** and in our **new health initiative**. To that end, we are sponsoring **BOP** (Board of Pensions)-**ping Along!** Come take a brief walk with us at these times during Annual Conference and improve your health and vitality!

At each stated time, meet right in front of Stuart Auditorium (beside the statue of Chief Junaluska). We will walk to the foot bridge and back (30 minutes) or to the dam bridge and back (20 minutes). Five walks are scheduled, and we hope you will join us!

- Monday at 7:00 a.m. – 30 minute Foot Bridge BOP
- Monday at 5:00 p.m. – 20 minute Dam Bridge BOP
- Tuesday at 7:00 a.m. – 30 minute Foot Bridge BOP
- Tuesday at 5:00 p.m. – 20 minute Dam Bridge BOP
- Wednesday at 7:00 a.m. – 30 minute Foot Bridge BOP
SPECIAL EVENTS / FELLOWSHIP SCHEDULE
2012 Holston Annual Conference

Sunday, June 10, 2012
2:00 p.m. Registration begins............................................................ Bethea Welcome Center
3:30 p.m. First-time Appointed Pastors’ Training/Orientation ....Terrace Auditorium

Monday, June 11, 2012
7:00 a.m. Cabinet Breakfast .............................................................Terrace, Room 316
7:00 a.m. Small Membership Church Breakfast .......................Lambuth International
7:00 a.m. Society for Biblical Studies Breakfast.........................Terrace, Room 319
7:00 a.m. BOPping Along – 30-min. Foot Bridge Walk.....Outside Stuart Auditorium
12:00 p.m. Candler Alumni Luncheon...............................Foundation for Evangelism
12:00 p.m. Drew Seminary and Alumni Luncheon .................Terrace, Room 319
12:00 p.m. Ministers’ Spouses Luncheon.............................First UMC, Waynesville
12:00 p.m. Peace with Justice/Outreach/Advocacy Luncheon ....Terrace, Room 316
12:30 p.m. Deacon and Diaconal Ministries Luncheon ...............Lambuth International
5:00 p.m. BOPping Along – 20-min. Dam Bridge Walk ...Outside Stuart Auditorium
5:15 p.m. Missions Ministry Dinner........................................Terrace Auditorium

Tuesday, June 12, 2012
6:30 a.m. Holston UM Renewal Breakfast ......................................Terrace Auditorium
7:00 a.m. Emory and Henry Alumni & Friends Breakfast .....Found. for Evangelism
7:00 a.m. Extension Ministries Breakfast.....................................Terrace, Room 316
7:00 a.m. Associate Members and Local Pastors Breakfast ....Lambuth International
7:00 a.m. Tennessee Wesleyan Alumni Breakfast .................Terrace, Room 319
7:00 a.m. BOPping Along – 30-min. Foot Bridge Walk.....Outside Stuart Auditorium
12:00 p.m. Holston Retirees Luncheon.................................Terrace Auditorium
12:30 p.m. Board of Higher Education Luncheon......................Horton’s Home
12:30 p.m. Women in Ministry Luncheon.................................Terrace, Room 316
3:00 p.m. Fellowship Time to greet Bishop and Mrs. Swanson........Lawn next to Stuart Auditorium
5:00 p.m. BOPping Along – 20-min. Dam Bridge Walk ...Outside Stuart Auditorium
6:00 p.m. Duke Divinity Alumni Fellowship ......................Harrell Center, 2nd level porch
8:30 p.m. Asbury Seminary Alumni Fellowship .................Terrace, Room 319

Wednesday, June 13, 2012
7:00 a.m. Black Methodists for Church Renewal Breakfast ........Terrace Auditorium
7:00 a.m. Hiwassee College Breakfast ...........................................Terrace, Room 316
7:00 a.m. United Methodist Men..................................................Terrace, Room 319
7:00 a.m. BOPping Along – 30-min. Foot Bridge Walk.....Outside Stuart Auditorium
Annual Conference Roll Call:
I move that the signed registration cards constitute the roll call and record of attendance. Excused clergy will be noted and recorded in the Journal.

Legal Limits for Voting and Business:
I move that the legal voting and business limits of the 2012 Holston Annual Conference be the stage area, sections one (1) through ten (10), and pews behind sections one (1)B and three (3) of the George R. Stuart Auditorium.

Agenda:
I move that the Schedule/Agenda as printed and included in the Annual Conference Book of Reports constitute the agenda for the 2012 Session of the Holston Annual Conference, subject to any necessary changes and/or amendments by the Chair.

Reports:
I move that reports found in the Annual Conference Book of Reports that do not require action and other reports submitted for information, subject to editorial corrections, be ordered to record and published in the 2012 Conference Journal.

NOMINATIONS FOR SECRETARIAL STAFF

Secretarial Staff:
I move the election of the following persons who join the Conference Secretary as members of the secretarial staff for the 2012 Session of the Holston Annual Conference:

- Diana Brown Taylor
- Mike Sluder
- Marci Villanueva

~ Daniel H. Taylor, Jr., Conference Secretary
**NOMINATIONS FOR USHERS/TELLERS**

**TELLERS:** I move the election of the following Lay and Clergy members as Ushers/Tellers for the 2012 Annual Conference:

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<tr>
<th>Location</th>
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<td>Abingdon</td>
<td>Donnie Lee Bailey</td>
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**Coordinator:** Rev. Tony Collins

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Report of the Committee on Rules and Order, 2012

Our recommended changes for the “Plan of Organization and Rules of Order” are as follows:

Rule 14: add the following language to enable the Annual Conference to adopt a consent agenda for non-controversial business items as needed:

Agenda items and reports not requiring action by the Annual Conference other than a vote to receive said item for publication in the Journal may be placed on a Consent Agenda. For any item or report to be eligible for placement on the Consent Agenda, it must have been distributed in the pre-Conference materials. Determination of items to be placed on the Consent Agenda shall be made annually by a committee composed of the Conference Secretary, the Chair of the Committee on Rules and Order, and the Director of Connectional Ministries. An individual item may be removed from the Consent Agenda by a written request signed by twelve clergy and/or lay members of the Annual Conference and presented to the Conference Secretary prior to the first business session of the Annual Conference. When an individual item has been removed from the Consent Agenda, it shall be placed into the regular agenda at an appropriate time as determined by the Conference Secretary.

Change the first sentence of Rule 14:

Present language:

“Proposed programs from boards, teams, commissions, committees, councils, and agencies that require Conference action shall be compiled and printed under the direction of the Annual Conference Program Committee and mailed to all lay and clergy members of the Conference at least thirty (30) days before the opening . . .”

New language would read:

“Proposed programs from boards, teams, commissions, committees, councils, and agencies that require Conference action shall be compiled and published and/or made available in electronic/digital format under the direction of the Annual Conference Program Committee and distributed to all lay and clergy members of the Conference at least thirty (30) days before the opening . . .”

Change to Rule 30:

After the first sentence add: “Publication may include both print and digital publishing.”

Change to Rule 31:

Present language:

“The Conference Secretary shall be responsible for the distribution of the Journal. The District Superintendents shall obtain the orders for the Journals from the pastoral charges, and the cost of the Journals so ordered will be billed directly to the pastoral charges. These accounts are to be paid in full to the Conference Treasurer within sixty (60) days of delivery.”
New Language would read:

"The Conference Secretary shall be responsible for the distribution of the Journal. The District Superintendents shall obtain the orders for the Journals from the pastoral charges, through pre-paid orders."

Change to Rule 33:
Before the section on laity nominations, add:

“The Orders of Elder and Deacon shall make available to clergy members an option to withdraw their names from consideration to serve as delegates to General and Jurisdictional conference, so long as the eligibility of all members in full connection is not limited in any way. Any printed material to address this must be in the hands of the conference secretary prior to stated deadlines for the Book of Reports and Programs.”

Changes under “Structure and Organization”:
VI. b. 4. Discontinue the Older Adult Ministry Team
VI. c. 6. Discontinue the Prisoner and Family Ministry Team/Advocacy Group
VII. Board of Ordained Ministry - change elected members [nominated by the Resident Bishop and elected by the Annual Conference] to 29 (22 clergy, 7 professing members). The Board may adopt a policy to pull in others to use as interviewers as needed. Members may serve up to three four-year terms (¶ 635.1.a). Correct total membership number.

Move VII. a. Administrative Review Committee to VIII a.
Move VII. b. Committee on Investigation (Clergy) to VIII b. Change membership to include 7; 4 clergy in full connection, 3 professing members; 6 alternates; 3 clergy in full connection and 3 professing members. (Discipline ¶¶2703-27011)
Remove VII. c. Wesley Leadership Institute Committee entirely. This will become an organization within the structure and at the discretion of the Board of Ordained Ministry.

Change the numbering of VIII a. and b. to VIII c. and d. respectively.
IX. Council on Finance and Administration. Change total membership to 15, with 11 elected members and 4 persons without vote, as stated.

~ Bradley H. Scott, Chair
~ Daniel H. Taylor, Jr., Secretary/Conference Secretary
B. STRUCTURE AND ORGANIZATION

THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

“The purpose of the Annual Conference is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world by equipping its local churches for ministry and by providing a connection for ministry beyond the local church; all to the glory of God.” (2008 Book of Discipline, ¶601).

Composition and Character is defined by 2008 Book of Discipline, ¶602, ¶32-36

Organization is defined by 2008 Book of Discipline, ¶603

Function is defined by the 2008 Book of Discipline, ¶¶604-606

I. CABINET

a. Appointment Cabinet: Resident Bishop; 12 District Superintendents; Executive Assistant to the Bishop ¶417-425

b. Extended Cabinet: Appointment Cabinet; Director of Clergy Services/Conference Secretary; Director of Connectional Ministries; Director of Finance Services/Conference Treasurer; Director of Congregational Development; Director of the Wesley Leadership Institute; Steward of Clergy Concerns; Executive Director, Holston Conference Foundation. The Conference Lay Leader shall be invited to attend meetings of the Extended Cabinet.

II. COMMUNICATIONS ADVISORY COUNCIL, a service agency of the entire Conference. Total Membership = 14: 9 elected members, Cabinet Representative, Director of Communications, Information Technology Manager, Multimedia Coordinator, Print Media Specialist, Editor of The Call (Discipline ¶609, 646)

Related to Council on Finance and Administration and Annual Conference.

III. COMMITTEE ON CONGREGATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Total Membership = 13: 12 elected members, Cabinet Representative

IV. BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND CAMPUS MINISTRY

Total Membership = 13: 12 elected members, one of whom shall be from the Young Adult Ministry, Cabinet Representative (Discipline ¶634) Related to the Discipleship Team and Council on Finance and Administration

1. Wesley Foundations
2. Conference Colleges

V. BOARD OF LAY MINISTRY (Related directly to Annual Conference)

a. The Conference Lay Leader is the elected leader of conference laity (¶607.1);

b. Total membership 23: 12 District Lay Leaders; presidents of United Methodist Men, United Methodist Women, United Methodist Youth; Resident Bishop, Conference Director of Lay Speaking; 2 cabinet representatives; 5 members-at-large; Conference Lay Leader. The Board may elect up to three associate Conference Lay Leaders from its membership, who may represent the Lay Leader with full voting rights in any group of which the Lay Leader is a member. (Discipline ¶631)

c. The Conference Lay Leader shall be the chairperson of the conference Board of Lay Ministry (Discipline ¶607.3).

VI. DISCIPLESHIP TEAM

Total Membership = 25: 12 elected members, Resident Bishop, Board of Higher Education & Campus Ministry Chairperson, Conference Lay Leader, Director of Connectional Ministries, 5 Chairpersons of Ministry Teams with vote: Missions, Nurture, Outreach, Stewardship, Witness, 4 Representatives without vote: Appointment Cabinet, Board of Ordained Ministry, Communications Advisory Council, Wesley Leadership Institute. (Discipline ¶630)
a. **Missions Team** Total Membership = 15: 12 elected members, Chairperson of Native American Ministries, Conference Secretary of Global Ministries, Cabinet Representative (Discipline ¶633). Sub-groups to be determined by Missions Team in consultation with Discipleship Team.
   1. **Native American Ministries** Total Membership = 7: 6 elected members, Cabinet Representative (Discipline ¶654)

b. **Nurture Team** Total Membership = 19: 12 elected members, Representatives of the 6 Ministry Teams/Board with vote (Children’s, Council on Youth, Young Adult, Older Adult, Camp and Retreat), Cabinet Representative. Other representatives to be determined and named by Nurture Team in consultation with Discipleship Team.
   1. **Children’s Ministry Team** Total Membership = 12: 9 elected, 3 Ex-Officio (Conference Representative to Holston Home for Children, Cabinet Representative, Staff Resource Person)
   2. **Conference Council on Youth Ministries** Total Membership = 38: 2 youth per District, 1 adult per District, Coordinator of District Coordinators, Cabinet Representative (Discipline ¶649)
   3. **Young Adult Ministry Team** Total Membership = 13: 12 elected members, 75% or 9 of which are age 18 to 35, representing a cross section of the annual conference, Cabinet Representative (Discipline ¶650)
   4. **Older Adult Ministry Team** Total Membership = 18: 12 Chairs of District Older Adult Councils; 3 officers including a chair, vice chair, and secretary; the conference lay leader or designee; the conference coordinator of older adult ministries, and a Cabinet Representative (Discipline ¶651)
   5. **Camp and Retreat Ministry Board** Total Membership = 19+: 16 elected members, Resident Bishop, Director of Connectional Ministries, Camp and Retreat Ministry Executive Director, 4 Site Directors, Chairpersons of 4 Site Boards

c. **Outreach/Advocacy Team** Total Membership = 23: 12 elected members plus the four ministry area chairpersons of Religion and Race, Church and Society, Status and Role of Women, and Christian Unity and Inter-Religious Concerns, Cabinet Representative, additional Ex-Officio members named by the Team in consultation with the Discipleship Team (Discipline ¶629)
   1. **Religion and Race Ministry Area** Total Membership = 13: 12 elected members (1 from each District), Cabinet Representative (Discipline ¶643)
   2. **Church and Society Ministry Area** (Chair) (Discipline ¶629)
   3. **Status and Role of Women Ministry Area** (Chair) (Discipline ¶644)
   4. **Christian Unity and Inter-Religious Concerns Ministry Area** (Chair) (Discipline ¶642)
   5. **Disability Concerns** (Chair) (Discipline ¶653)
   6. **Prisoner and Family Ministry Advocacy Group** (6 elected members; Cabinet Representative) (Discipline ¶656)

d. **Stewardship Team** Total Membership = 13: 12 elected members, Cabinet Representative

e. **Witness Team** Total Membership = 15: 12 elected members, Chairpersons of Committee on Small Membership Congregation Team and Hispanic/Latino Ministry Leadership Team, Cabinet Representative
   1. **Small Membership Congregation Team** Total Membership = 10: 9 elected members, Cabinet Representative
   2. **Hispanic/Latino Leadership Team** Total Membership = 10: 9 elected members, Cabinet Representative
VII. BOARD OF ORDAINED MINISTRY

Total Membership = 58: 51 elected members [nominated by the Resident Bishop and elected by the Annual Conference]; Administrative Registrar and Director of the Wesley Leadership Institute (without vote); Chair, Order of Deacons; Chair, Order of Elders [nominated by the Board of Ordained Ministry and elected by Clergy Session]; Chair, Fellowship of Local Pastors and Associate Members; 2 District Superintendents appointed by Resident Bishop. The Board shall select its own officers. Discipline ¶635, ¶306-309

a. Administrative Review Committee

Total Membership = 3: 3 elected clergy in full connection and two alternate clergy in full connection, nominated by the Bishop and elected by the Clergy Session. Discipline ¶636

b. Committee on Investigation (Clergy)

Total Membership = 7: 4 clergy in full connection, 3 professing members; 10 alternates of 5 clergy in full connection and 5 professing members. Members are nominated by the Resident Bishop and elected by the Annual Conference quadrennially. Discipline ¶¶2703-27011

c. Wesley Leadership Institute Committee

Total Membership = 15: 12 elected members, 1 representative each from the Cabinet and the Board of Ordained Ministry, and the Director of the Wesley Leadership Institute

VIII. GROUPS RELATED TO THE CABINET AND ORDAINED MINISTRY

a. Order of Deacons, Order of Elders (Discipline ¶ 306-309)

b. Pastoral Counseling Center Supervisory Committee

Total Membership = 13: 8 elected members, Representative of the Board of Ordained Ministry, three (3) District Superintendents (none of whom shall be from any district where Counselors hold their Charge Conference), Steward of Clergy Concerns. Related to Cabinet and Board of Ordained Ministry.

IX. COUNCIL ON FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

Total Membership = 25: 21 elected members and 4 persons without vote: Resident Bishop, Conference Treasurer, District Superintendent chosen by the Cabinet, and Director of Connectional Ministries. The Council shall elect its own officers, except the treasurer who shall be the Conference Treasurer. Discipline ¶611

X. ADMINISTRATION

a. Board of Pensions

Total Membership = 27: 8 elected members each from Clergy, Laymen, Laywomen, Pensions Director, Chair of Joint Committee on Incapacity, Cabinet Representative. Discipline ¶639

b. Board of Trustees

Total Membership = 13: 12 elected members, Cabinet Representative; Ex-Officio, Resident Bishop. The Board shall elect its own officers. Discipline ¶¶640, 2512-2550

c. Commission on Archives and History

Total Membership = 12: 9 elected members, Cabinet Representative, Historical Society Representative, Conference Archivist. Discipline ¶641

d. Commission on Equitable Compensation

Total Membership = 12: 10 elected members [an equal number of lay and clergy members], 1 District Superintendent named by the Cabinet, Conference Treasurer

e. Committee on Episcopacy

Total Membership = 14: 3 elected clergy, 4 elected laymen, 4 elected laywomen, 3 members appointed by Resident Bishop, Ex-Officio Members are the lay and clergy members of Jurisdictional Committee on Episcopacy. The Conference Lay Leader shall be one of the lay elected persons. ¶637

f. Committee on Nominations

There shall be a Conference Committee on Nominations composed of the Resident Bishop, who shall serve as Chairperson, members of the Extended Cabinet, Conference Lay Leader, President of the Conference United Methodist Women, President of the Conference United Methodist Men, Chairperson of the Discipleship Team, Conference Secretary, a representative of United Methodist Youth, one lay person from each district chosen by the District Committee on Nominations, and additional lay and clergy persons for equalization of lay and clergy membership.
Schedule and Organization

- **Committee on Resolutions and Petitions** Total Membership = 10: 9 elected members and a Cabinet Representative (without vote). Committee members are elected for the quadrennium.
- **Committee on Rules and Order** Total Membership = 12: 8 elected members (4 Lay and 4 Clergy) nominated by the Committee on Nominations and elected by the Annual Conference, 4 Ex-Officio members with vote: Resident Bishop, Conference Chancellor, Conference Secretary and a Cabinet Representative
- **Episcopal Residence Committee** Total Membership = 3: Chairs or Representatives of the Committee on Episcopacy, the Council on Finance and Administration, and the Board of Trustees. Discipline ¶638
- **Personnel Resources Committee** Total Membership = 15: 12 elected members, Conference Chancellor, Executive Assistant to the Bishop, Chairperson of Committee on Episcopacy, Chairperson of Personnel Team of the Council on Finance and Administration, Resident Bishop (Ex-Officio)
  1. **Personnel Team of the Council on Finance and Administration**
- **Program Committee, Annual Conference Session** Total Membership = 9+: Resident Bishop, Conference Secretary, Conference Lay Leader, President of United Methodist Men, President of United Methodist Women, Chairperson of Discipleship Team, District Superintendent chosen by the Cabinet, Director of Connectional Ministries, additional members appointed by Resident Bishop as necessary

XI. SUPPORT GROUPS

- **United Methodist Men** All men of local churches or charges chartered or unchartered within the bounds of the Annual Conference. Discipline ¶648
- **United Methodist Women** All members of local units within the bounds of the Conference. Discipline ¶647

XII. THE CONFERENCE CONNECTIONAL TABLE

The membership shall include those staff persons, clergy, lay officials, and other persons deemed needed by the Resident Bishop to carry out the missions of the conference. Different connectional tables may be held for various missions.

*Purpose*: to assist in identifying Conference priorities and coordinating Conference ministries and emphasis.

XIII. TASK FORCES

Task forces must be formed with the approval of the Extended Cabinet and exist for a period of four years to complete their work. At the end of four years, any task force must reapply if needed for an extension not to exceed four more years. If funding is required task forces must apply to the appropriate body.
C. PROCEDURES
I. NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

1. The Conference Committee on Nominations shall nominate all members of Conference boards, teams, councils, commissions, and committees including the Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, and Secretary, unless such nominations are otherwise provided for in the Book of Discipline or elsewhere in these Standing Rules. The Committee on Nominations, through the Conference Secretary, shall develop an annual instrument for the Charge Conference packet on which laity and clergy may indicate an interest in election to membership on a Conference or District Board, Committee, Team, Council, or Commission. The Committee on Nominations shall also nominate the Conference Lay Leader for election to a four year term of office. When a term is complete or a vacancy occurs of the Conference Lay Leader, the Board of Lay Ministry may submit the names of one or more persons for consideration by the Committee on Nominations. The Conference Lay Leader is eligible to serve two consecutive terms of office. All persons elected at the Annual Conference will begin serving at the close of the Annual Conference. The Extended Cabinet shall fill all mid-year vacancies which shall be confirmed at the next meeting of the Annual Conference.

2. Election to Conference boards, teams, councils, and committees shall be for a four-year term. Members are eligible for a second four-year term, except where the Discipline of the Church or action of the Annual Conference provides otherwise.

   • Members of the Board of Pensions are elected for a term of eight years and are arranged in panels: one-third laywomen, one-third laymen, and one-third clergy. (Discipline ¶639) Members of the Board of Pensions shall not serve consecutive terms.

   • Conference leadership groups shall be organized into the following descriptive categories: advocacy groups, agencies, boards, commissions, committees, councils, ministry areas, and teams. No person shall serve as an elective member of two or more conference leadership groups within the same category; provided, however, that the limitation on joint membership shall not apply to agencies, committees, United Methodist Men, United Methodist Women, the Religion and Race Ministry Area, the Board of Directors of the Holston Conference Foundation, Inc., and the Board of Directors of Asbury, Inc.

   • The year a person is elected at the Annual Conference, or is appointed by the Extended Cabinet to fill a vacancy, shall be year “one” of a term. After completing year “four” of a term, a person is eligible to serve a second term of office or year “five” through year “eight.” If a person has served two consecutive terms in an office, they are ineligible to serve another term in that office, but are eligible to serve in another conference office. A person who has served two consecutive terms in an office becomes eligible again after four years.

   • Members who fail to participate in the meetings and activities of a conference board, council, committee or team may be removed and a successor named in the next report of the Committee on Nominations to the Annual Conference, unless the by-laws of the agency provide otherwise.

   • The chairperson, majority of members, or Resident Bishop may call a meeting of any conference board, council, committee or team. The call of a meeting shall be coordinated with the Conference office and shall give the date, time, place, and purpose of the meeting. Unless a meeting is called at the Annual Conference, in order to report to the Annual Conference, a three day or greater notice should be given to members.

3. No person in the employ of a Conference agency shall be a voting member of a board, committee, commission, or council which supervises the work of the agency by which that member is employed.

4. The Resident Bishop may designate a person to represent the Bishop on any board, team, council, commission, committee, other position, or any occasion where the Bishop deems it necessary. The Resident Bishop or designated person may charge a council, board, committee, team or commission or other conference entity to study or consider an issue that he/she believes is necessary to carry out the mission of the Conference.
5. There shall be a Committee on Nominations within each district, composed of the District Superintendent (who shall serve as Chair), District Lay Leader, District President of United Methodist Women, District President of United Methodist Men, a representative of the District Youth Council, the Chairperson of the District Leadership Team or other structure, and the District Lay representative to the Conference Committee on Nominations. Additional representatives may be added by the District Leadership Team or other structure to ensure adequate representation. These district committees shall serve as a resource group throughout the year to supply appropriate names of clergy and lay persons to the Conference Committee on Nominations for service within the Annual Conference.

6. Members of the boards of directors of Asbury Centers, Inc., Holston United Methodist Home for Children, and Advisory Board of Directors of the Methodist Medical Center of Oak Ridge shall be nominated and elected by the respective boards and confirmed by the Annual Conference.

7. Members of the Board of Trustees of Holston Conference Colleges (Emory and Henry College, Hiwassee College and Tennessee Wesleyan College) shall be nominated and elected by the respective boards at their fall Board meetings and confirmed at the next session of Annual Conference.

8. The Holston Conference of the United Methodist Church Foundation, Inc. shall be governed by a board of not fewer than fifteen (15) directors elected by the Board of Directors and confirmed by the Holston Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church. The Resident Bishop of the Holston Conference of The United Methodist Church, and the Conference Treasurer shall be ex officio members of the board with full voice privileges and voting rights. All elected directors shall serve for terms of one, two, or three years as determined by said Board.

II. MEMBERS TO ANNUAL CONFERENCE

9. The lay members of the Annual Conference may be elected annually, or to four-year terms to provide continuity. Lay members shall serve at the meeting of the next Annual Conference following election.

10. The District Leadership Team or other structure, in consultation with the District Council on Youth Ministries or other appropriate group representative of youth throughout the district, shall elect members of the Holston Annual Conference. The young persons elected shall meet the requirements for election of all lay members as stated in the Book of Discipline, ¶ 32, which is one person from age 12 to 17 and one person from age 18 to 30. The names and addresses of the elected members shall be sent to the Holston Conference Secretary by January 15. If any elected youth is unable to attend the Annual Conference, the District Leadership Team may select a replacement member to attend by sending the name of the youth to the Conference Secretary. A per diem for these youth members shall be paid by the Annual Conference.

11. Each year there shall be elected an equal number of lay and clergy members to the Holston Annual Conference. Professing lay members representing each local charge are to be elected at the Charge Conference. Diaconal ministers, active deaconesses, home missionaries under Episcopal appointment within the bounds of the Holston Conference, Conference President of United Methodist Men, Conference President of United Methodist Women, the Conference Treasurer, Director of Connectional Ministries and Associate Director(s), Director of Communications, Conference Chancellor, Chair of the Committee on Rules and Order, Chair of the Discipleship Team, Chair of the Personnel Resources Committee, Chair of the Council on Finance and Administration, The Executive Director of the Holston Conference Foundation, the Conference Lay Leader and other members of the Conference Board of Lay Ministry not otherwise elected as members of the Annual Conference shall be members of the Annual Conference. The conference director of Lay Speaking Ministries, Conference Secretary of Global Ministries (if lay), and the remaining lay members that will be needed to achieve equalization are to be apportioned to the Districts on the basis of district lay membership, provided that the total number of lay members shall include youth delegates required by the Discipline, District lay leaders, District presidents of United Methodist Women, and United Methodist Men, Lay delegates and alternates to the General
and Jurisdictional Conferences for the Quadrennium. The clergy membership shall consist of deacons and elders in full connection, probationary members, associate members, and local pastors under appointment. See also Discipline ¶602.1e. Discipline ¶602

12. The Conference Secretary shall notify each District Superintendent of the number of lay members to be elected not later than sixty days following Annual Conference. The additional persons apportioned to the Districts as lay members to the Holston Annual Conference shall be elected at each of the District Conferences upon nomination from the local churches and District Committee on Nominations. Where there is no District Conference, lay members shall be elected in a manner determined by the District Leadership Team or other equivalent structure.

A prepared ballot of these nominees will be available for the election. Nominations may be received from the floor of the District Conference. A per diem for these members shall be paid by the Annual Conference upon requisition, where they are not paid by the local Church, the District, or some other source. The District Superintendents will be responsible for seeing that the members are elected and that their names and addresses are sent to the Holston Conference Secretary by January 15th of each year.

### III. Program and Reports

13. The Conference Secretary shall be responsible for Memoirs. A memorial service for clergy members, spouses of clergy members, and members of local congregations deceased during the year shall be held at each Annual Conference.

14. Proposed programs from boards, teams, commissions, committees, councils, and agencies that require Conference action shall be compiled and printed under the direction of the Annual Conference Program Committee and mailed to all lay and clergy members of the Conference at least thirty (30) days before the opening session of the Annual Conference. Reports from various committees, boards, teams, commissions, and agencies that are to be included in the Book of Reports are due at the office of the Conference Secretary by March 15.

15. The Statistical Report (Table No. 1, Table No. 2, and Table No. 3) for each local church shall be due and submitted by the pastor at an announced place and date set by each District Superintendent, to be no earlier than January 10th and no later than January 15th of each year.

16. The Program of the Annual Conference shall be arranged by a Program Committee composed of the Resident Bishop, Conference Secretary, Conference Lay Leader, President of the Conference United Methodist Women, President of the Conference United Methodist Men, Chair of the Discipleship Team, and a District Superintendent. The Resident Bishop shall serve as chair and may appoint additional members to serve on the Program Committee. The Conference may make any change in the schedule necessary to facilitate its work.

17. There shall be a Conference Committee on Resolutions and Petitions consisting of nine persons elected for the quadrennium by the Annual Conference after nomination by the Committee on Nominations. All proposed resolutions for the Annual Conference or petitions to General Conference, to be considered by the Annual Conference, shall first be presented to the Committee on Resolutions and Petitions by March 1. The Committee shall evaluate each proposed resolution for Annual Conference or petition to General Conference and recommend concurrence, non-concurrence or appropriate referral. Their recommendations and all materials must be in the hands of the Conference Secretary for the Book of Reports by March 15. Any resolution to Annual Conference or petition to General Conference proposed at the Annual Conference from the floor, that was not first considered by the Committee, must be referred, by a majority vote of the Annual Conference, to the Committee for a recommendation, after which the Annual Conference may consider it. There shall be a Cabinet Representative appointed to the Committee (without vote). The Chair shall be nominated by the Committee on Nominations. All petitions to General Conference submitted for consideration by the Annual Conference must adhere to the specific requirements published each quadrennium by the Petitions Secretary of the General Conference.
IV. PROCEDURES

General

18. In those districts scheduling a district conference, the membership shall include the local church lay leader; chair of the administrative council or administrative board and council on ministries; presidents of United Methodist Youth, United Methodist Women, and United Methodist Men; lay leader; Diaconal ministers and pastors serving within the district; and such other persons as may be determined by the District Leadership Team or other structures.

19. No clerical member of the Annual Conference shall leave the seat of the Conference without notifying in writing that member’s district superintendent, who will, in turn, report to the conference secretary.

20. The effective date for all clergy members of the Holston Annual Conference entering into voluntary retirement shall be at the close of the session of the Annual Conference at which their retirement is approved. No retirements may be voted for a projected date during the ensuing appointive year except by the joint recommendation of the Board of Ordained Ministry and the Board of Pensions in response to extraordinary and compelling circumstances.

21. The General Conference rules of order shall be used so far as they apply; otherwise, Robert’s Rules of Order shall be used.

22. Any and all proposed changes in the Standing Rules of the Conference made by the Committee on Rules and Order shall be printed in the Annual Conference Book of Reports as outlined in Standing Rule 15 and shall be presented for approval by the Annual Conference at the opening business session of the Annual Conference. Any other motion to amend the Standing Rules must be presented in writing, lay over one day, and be reviewed by the Committee on Rules and Order before a vote is taken, and such motion must be approved by a two-thirds vote of the Annual Conference. The Standing Rules of the Conference shall be printed in each edition of the Conference Journal.

Finance

23. There shall be a Conference Council of Finance and Administration. The Council of Finance and Administration shall submit its proposed budget and recommendations in the Book of Reports to the members of the Annual Conference for its consideration. Budget amendments and other recommendations made by the Council of Finance and Administration, but not included in the Book of Reports may be considered at the Annual Conference. All requests for Conference funds or monetary obligations by any board, committee, council, team, agency or other body shall first be submitted to the Council of Finance and Administration for consideration in the budget. Requests for funds must be submitted to the Council of Finance and Administration or Conference Treasurer by March 1. All requests for funds properly made in time, but not recommended in the budget by the Council of Finance and Administration may be considered by the Annual Conference by amendment to the budget. Other requests for funds or obligations shall not be considered by the Annual Conference unless first referred by majority vote of the Annual Conference to the Council of Finance and Administration for a recommendation. After receiving a recommendation, the Annual Conference may consider a proposed budget amendment. Discipline ¶¶610-618

24. The fiscal year of the Conference shall be from January 1st through December 31st of each year. The final day to receive payment on Conference apportionments shall be by the close of the business day of January 9th or the Monday following when the 9th falls on a Saturday or a Sunday.

25. The Treasurer of the Conference shall make final settlement and shall disburse all funds as designated after the adjournment of the Annual Conference. During the fiscal year, the Conference Treasurer shall make disbursements to various Conference Agencies at times and in manners approved by the Conference Council on Finance and Administration, and upon requisition of the proper officials of the Board and Agencies. Discipline ¶618

26. The District Superintendents shall receive equal salaries, plus allowances for travel and other expenses beyond the District served and for which no other financial arrangement has been made on requisition from the fund designated for this purpose.
27. There shall be a Conference Board of Trustees. Any request for the sale, mortgage, transfer
or disposal of real estate or other assets owned by the Conference shall first be considered by
the Conference Board of Trustees. The Board shall present its recommendations in the Book
of Reports, but can include additional property or assets or change its recommendation at the
Annual Conference. Any other items not considered by the Conference Board of Trustees
must be referred to the Conference Board of Trustees by a majority vote of the Annual
Conference before action. After receiving a recommendation from the Conference Board of
Trustees, the Annual Conference may consider the item.

28. Capital funds campaigns initiated by Conference agencies and institutions that involve the
churches of Holston Conference must have the approval of the Council on Finance and
Administration and the Annual Conference. Other fund-raising campaigns which extend
beyond district boundaries must have the approval of and be coordinated by the Council on
Finance and Administration and the Annual Conference. In those instances where financial
goals are to be assigned to the congregations, said goals, along with the proposed strategies
for meeting those goals, shall be clearly identified prior to approval. Appeals arising within
the Conference between Annual Conference sessions may be conducted only on approval of
the Council on Finance and Administration. Approval of such appeals shall be communicated
to local churches of the Conference.

29. The Conference Council on Finance and Administration shall be required to give thirty (30)
days notice to all boards and agencies prior to the annual meeting for budgetary review for
consideration of the annual budget of the Conference.

Journal

30. The Committee on Rules and Order and the Conference Secretary and Staff shall establish
the policy for the publication of the Journal. The Journal shall be published under the
direction of the Conference Secretary, who shall serve as editor. The Conference Secretary
shall, with the approval of the Council on Finance and Administration, enter into a contract
to publish the Journal. All materials to be published shall be in the hands of the Editor within
fifteen (15) days after the adjournment of the Conference.

31. The Conference Secretary shall be responsible for the distribution of the Journal. The District
Superintendents shall obtain the orders for the Journals from the pastoral charges, and the
cost of the Journals so ordered will be billed directly to the pastoral charges. These accounts
are to be paid in full to the Conference Treasurer within sixty (60) days of delivery. Retirees
may receive, upon request and without charge, a copy of the Journal for the year of their
retirement. A clergy person, whose spouse has died, and Surviving Spouses may receive,
upon request and without charge, a copy of the Journal that contains the memorial. Clergy
and Diaconal ministers, who are retired or on incapacity leave, and conference claimants
may receive, upon request and without charge, a copy of the Conference Directory. Requests
must be made to the Office of the Conference Secretary, From Staff. Other persons may
place orders with payment through the Conference Secretary. Receipts of Journal sales shall
be held in a carry-over account at the end of the fiscal year.

Reports and Motions

32. All motions presented to the Conference and amendments to any paper shall be in writing
and placed in the hand of the Secretary immediately following the presentation.

Election Procedures for Delegates to General and Jurisdictional Conferences

33. To ensure that qualified lay persons are identified for consideration as delegates to the
General and Jurisdictional Conference, persons may be nominated by local churches,
District Boards of Laity, or the Annual Conference Board of Lay Ministry on a form to
be developed by the Conference Board of Lay Ministry. The form shall ask the potential
nominee to respond to the following items:

1. I agree to be a nominee for General and Jurisdictional Conferences.
2. I wish to be a nominee for the Jurisdictional Conference only.
Names of all nominees from local churches shall be in the hands of the District Board of Laity by February 15th of the year in which delegates are to be elected. The District Board of Laity shall review the nominations and determine their eligibility. The Board may add names of persons it deems to be candidates and shall deliver the list to the Conference Board of Lay Ministry by March 1st. The Conference Board of Lay Ministry shall complete the lists, add any persons it deems to be candidates, and provide the list by March 15th, along with biographical information, to the Conference Secretary for printing and distribution in the Book of Reports. The form for nominations shall include the name, address, occupation, local church and district, indication if individual is of ethnic constituency, current photograph, and a biographical sketch of no more than fifty (50) words provided by the nominee. In addition to this process, nominations may be made at the Orientation Session for Laity at the seat of the Annual Conference for presentation to the Conference.

Following the election of the lay delegates to General Conference and two lay delegates to Jurisdictional Conference, the chair shall then explain to the lay members that an additional list of names is now available indicating persons who have asked to be considered for election to the Jurisdictional Conference only, and they may now vote for these persons as well as any unelected person.

34. Ministerial and lay delegates elected to the previous General and Jurisdictional Conferences shall be delegates to special sessions of the respective conferences.

35. Expenses of two alternate ministerial and two alternate lay delegates to the General and Jurisdictional Conferences, in order of their election, shall be borne by the Annual Conference at a rate not to exceed the per diem of delegates.

36. Each member shall be required to vote for no more than the number of delegates for that particular ballot, but ballots with less than the required number will be considered valid.

37. The names of all eligible clergy persons in the conference shall be printed on a ballot in alphabetical order. A voting number shall be assigned for each eligible clergy person. Clergy members shall vote by ballot until the required number of delegates are elected by a majority vote of the ballots cast. The number of votes a clergy member can cast on a ballot cannot exceed the number of delegates left to be elected. On the ballot that elects the last delegate, if one or more clergy receives a majority vote that exceeds the needed number to be elected, the highest vote total(s) will be used to determine the election. The other clergy person(s) with majority vote will be elected as alternate(s). Another ballot will be taken to elect alternate delegates. After that ballot, if not enough alternates have been elected, a floor vote of a majority of clergy present and voting may elect alternates in the manner specified in the motion.

38. The extended cabinet is authorized to complete any unfinished business of the annual conference that was unavoidably overlooked, but where action is needed to properly carry out the mission of the conference. Any such decision by the extended cabinet shall be recorded in the minutes of the cabinet and reported in the subsequent Journal. The extended cabinet is also authorized to take action in behalf of the conference at times between annual conferences where it is deemed a vital issue and where time is of the essence. Any such action of the extended cabinet shall be recommended by the Resident Bishop after consulting with lay and clergy leaders. The action of the extended cabinet shall be recorded in the minutes of the cabinet and reported to the next annual conference for ratification.
The Cabinet Report of the District Superintendents

As we left Annual Conference last year, there was much talk about Call to Action and how each church would take a look at where their congregation had been in the last few years and what the church might look like in 2015, especially around participation in ministry and mission. We talked about the need to reach new people and to experience church revitalization. In fact, many left discouraged as a lot of the talk centered on how much the United Methodist Church has declined in membership, worship, Sunday school, and professions of faith. We heard that the last decade was devastating in this regard and about the coming of a “death tsunami,” resulting in church closures and the possibility that if we kept going the way we were going, 300 churches in Holston would close in the next five to ten years.

Yet, the faithful people of Holston have always been open to new challenges and in the midst of all this news, over the last year, we rolled up our sleeves and went to work. Over the last several months, the District Superintendents, pastors, and lay leadership have been at work on our Call to Action reports. 94% of our 899 churches have submitted their report. These reports must be more than a piece of paper. They represent the hopes and dreams of what can be in the life of each congregation. Philippians 4:13 tells us, “For I can do everything through Christ who gives me strength.” NLT

During this past year, we have seen a renewed attitude that every congregation is a vital congregation. It is time to start talking about “bright spots” in every church and in every corner of the Holston Conference. We give God praise that over the last year many of our large membership churches had increases, especially in worship attendance, turning around years of decline. People in medium and small membership congregations began to move away from the “why” question to “why not?” Wonderful discussions have taken place. Talk has turned from decline to key drivers of vitality and four areas of focus. More time of prayer and discernment has taken place. Walls of fear and mistrust seem to be coming down. Churches are talking about strategic thinking and planning. This emphasis has spread to all our Districts as the Cabinet is asking that each District work to develop and bring forth a District Strategy for Mission and Ministry.

To help in this effort, the Cabinet is scripting a lot of work going forward from the Conference Prayer Services held on April 15, to pre-conference briefings, to Charge Conference work in the fall of 2012. Prayer will be the key for us, because if our efforts are not bathed in prayer, our efforts will not be fruitful. Each church will now be held accountable for their Call to Action report going forward; each District Superintendent will hold each other accountable to serve as a resource to the churches in the District we serve. This commitment will be evident as we complete 2012 and move into 2013.

A key emphasis for each of us will be a focus on “bright spots.” Our connection of working together is the strength of the United Methodist Church. We begin each Cabinet meeting with prayer, worship, and the sharing of a “bright spot” from around the Annual Conference. These have brought great energy and synergy to our work, and in turn, to the work of the Annual Conference. We could fill pages of how God is moving from Tazewell to Chattanooga and every place in between. The majority of our report that will be shared at Annual Conference will focus on “bright spots.” Do we still have challenges? Yes we do, but we also have great possibilities in the midst of these challenging times. I believe that we as District Superintendents can do things you cannot do; you, pastors and laity, can do much more than we can do; God can do all things; and together, we can do great things!
We are called to action. The next Annual Conference year will bring about much change from General Conference actions to receiving a new Bishop in Holston. When we focus on Christ and remember we can do all things through Christ who strengthens us, the best is yet to come!

I would like to take a moment of privilege to thank Bishop Swanson for these eight years of leadership in Holston. He has been in many places and has led us with grace. There may have been times we have not agreed with him, but there is no questioning his pastor’s heart and his passion to preach God’s word. Following Annual Conference, we will welcome three new District Superintendents to the Appointment Cabinet. We wish Doug Fairbanks, Randy Frye, and Mike Travis well and thank them for their years of leadership. We also want to recognize Bettye Duncan for her 35 years of service as the Administrative Assistant in the Abingdon District. Bettye had to retire last fall and graduated to Heaven this past March after a courageous battle with cancer. In the last year, we welcomed several Administrative Assistants: Nichelle Evans to Oak Ridge District; Cindy Fleenor to the Abingdon District; and Ethel Starnes, who we just won’t let retire, back to serve in the Chattanooga District.

Now as followers of Christ, we are called to action. Let’s continue the good work that has begun!

David W. Graves, Dean of the Cabinet
The Connectional Table is a gathering of lay and clergy leaders assembled by the bishop on an occasional basis to consider particular issues in the life of the annual conference. This group is co-chaired by the conference lay leader. For the past several years, this group has met to consider establishing and funding conference priorities. In the fall of 2011 the Connectional Table recommended the formation of a team of persons to provide focused attention to establishing these priorities. This group of 17 persons was designated as the Bishop’s Blue Ribbon Team. They spent three days with Susan Hays, a professional consultant and sister to the authors of *Switch: How to Change When Change is Hard*. She led the group through the fundamentals of this process which identifies every experience of change as having three components: the rational (symbolized by a rider), the emotional (symbolized by an elephant), and the implementation (symbolized by a path).

Drawing on the process from *Switch* and the materials from the Vital Congregations portion of the Call to Action, the Blue Ribbon Team recommended to the Connectional Table that supporting and developing the drivers of congregational vitality serve as the core of the work of the annual conference.

These four drivers of congregational vitality are as follows:

- Inviting and inspiring worship
- Gifted, equipped and empowered lay leadership
- Effective, equipped and inspired clergy leadership
- Small groups and strong children’s programs and youth ministry

In addition to the four drivers, the Blue Ribbon Team added two additional categories to gain a full expression of conference commitments:

- Congregational Vitality and Missional Outreach
- Living the United Methodist Way

The resulting six categories have been used to guide the interpretation of the 2012 budget and the development of the proposed 2013 narrative budget. In addition, they are reflected in the ministry reports presented in the Book of Reports and the verbal reports that will be shared on Monday morning of annual conference. These priorities reflect the commitment of the ministries of the Holston Annual Conference to participate in the adaptive challenge identified in the Call to Action:

The Adaptive Challenge for The United Methodist Church is to redirect the flow of attention, energy, and resources to an intense concentration on fostering and sustaining an increase in the number of vital congregations effective in making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

The Call to Action suggests that this focus be in place for a minimum of the next ten years. This commitment will continue to guide the conference ministry priorities and will be reflected in the annual conference funding priorities.

Several outcomes have already occurred in response to this commitment:

- The extended and appointment cabinets have invited clergy and lay leaders of vital congregations to come to each meeting and share “bright spots” of vital congregations. These opportunities have been both inspirational and informational and have verified that congregational vitality is generated by commitment to the drivers identified in the Call to Action.
• Bright spots of ministry in the six identified areas are being highlighted through articles in *The Call*. Holston Conference has many good stories to tell. Sharing of these stories is a means to familiarize our congregations with the drivers and indicators of vitality and to illustrate the many ways that congregations of all sizes and in all locations can be vital.

• Each of the twelve districts held simultaneous prayer services on April 15, 2012. These Days of Prayer were initiated to offer prayer for vital congregations in the Holston Conference as well as to pray for the General and Jurisdictional Conferences.

• A series of conversations have been identified to help us look at the best use of our resources as we fulfill significant ministry commitments. The goal is that our ministry priorities and our conference funding plans will reflect the priorities of creating vital congregations and bearing the fruits of the Four Areas of Focus of The United Methodist Church.

These first conversations have been organized around a series of questions:

For the Wesley Foundations and Conference Colleges and our Conference Board of Higher Education and Ministry: How do we best provide campus ministries in the Holston Conference?

For the Pastoral Counseling Center: How do we best provide support for our clergy and their families and our conference staff through an arrangement that allows us to share costs?

For the Board of Pensions: How do we provide retiree health insurance that is cost effective for our retirees, their spouses, and the annual conference?

For the Extended Cabinet and District Lay Leadership: How do we define the role of the district superintendent to support congregational vitality and structure the districts geographically to best support these efforts?

For the Annual Conference Planning Committee, Extended Cabinet, and Wesley Leadership Institute: How do we interpret and implement a fee for annual conference and explore the possibility of offering CEU credits for clergy and participation in leadership development credits for local congregations?

For the Annual Conference staff: How do we best staff to fulfill our commitment to fostering vital congregations in the Holston Conference?

Other similar conversations are expected to emerge as we continue to grow into the adaptive challenge. The prayer is that this will be a time of creative consideration of the options before us and of positioning our conference ministries to serve faithfully and fruitfully into the future. These conversations are underway. Updates of these conversations will be shared at the annual conference session and outcomes will be reported at future sessions of the annual conference.

The Connectional Table invites your prayers to accompany their work as the annual conference continues to support vital congregations and bear fruit for the Kingdom.

Bishop James E. Swanson, Sr.

Mary Ruth Richards, Conference Lay Leader
The Communications Advisory Council continues to work closely with the communications staff as we strive to keep the conference connected through communication tools. Our main areas of communication within the conference include:

Publication - The Call
Webpage
Conference Information Technology
Design and Print

All four components work together to keep the conference moving forward to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. When it comes to making sure we have vital congregations that carry forth the initiative of Call to Action, the advisory committee feels that the services we provide through communications are there to assist pastors and congregations in having vital worship, inspired lay leadership, and effective clergy. Each of the areas in Call to Action takes advantage of what our conference communications offer.

By the request of our Conference Council on Finance and Administration (CFA), we are happy to report that our communications staff has worked diligently to find any avenue that can be cut in the 2012 budget. We have been able to make considerable adjustments to the 2012 budget while also continuing to fully fund our communications and IT needs through reserve funds produced from past years’ conference sales of communication items.

We have made general projections for 2013 that include this possibility as well. However, CFA has given us room to have time for discussions throughout the year regarding the best way to address several large areas of the conference ministries so we have not finalized the line items of funding or expenses. We are fortunate to have the reserve funds for this time of discernment and can draw on these for two years, if necessary, without doing any harm.

We also want to report that we are in the process of performing a full audit of our communication needs. UMCOM offers this service to conferences who are looking at making changes to their communications. While we feel our communications staff effectively performs the duties that are required in Holston, we continue to struggle with the best and most cost-effective way to communicate to the conference the vital information that needs to be addressed to our conference members. Hopefully, this audit will be conducted this year with a report going to the 2013 Annual Conference.

As I roll off of the Communications Advisory Council I want to thank Carol Wilson and the smooth transition she has made into her position as the conference communications director. I look forward to seeing how this area of our conference will continue to grow over the next few years.

Respectfully submitted,

Jason N. Gattis, Communications Advisory Chair
As Christians, we are called to be faithful and fruitful in all that we do. While it is God who gives the growth, we are to cultivate in ourselves and others the skills of planting and watering. Holston’s Congregational Development Team is deeply committed to this task and to the work of partnering with local churches and committed disciples – to nurture new faith communities and to help strengthen and renew existing churches. In all of this, we seek to stay focused on the best means and opportunities to cultivate vital congregations who can be about the work of making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

We celebrate the birth of seven new churches in the Holston area during the period 2008-2012. As a part of the denomination-wide Path 1 movement to start hundreds of new United Methodist churches in the United States during this quadrennium, we are thankful for these new faith communities that are seeking to reach the large numbers of unchurched and dechurched people in their mission fields. Four of the new churches are Anglo starts, and three are Hispanic/Latino new church starts. (The Congregational Development Team partners with the Conference Hispanic Ministries Team in helping to initiate and support new Hispanic churches.) Two of the new church starts emerged in 2011: Out of The Box – a second campus of First United Methodist Church, Hillsville, VA, and LifeSpring, a new church start in Kingsport, TN. Holston has experienced one of the largest new church starts in United Methodism during this quadrennium (Cokesbury West); one of its fastest growing Anglo starts (Out of The Box/First Hillsville UMC); and one of its larger Hispanic/Latino new church starts (Ministerio del Espiritu Santo – partnered with First UMC, Sevierville, TN).

In addition to partnering with new church starts in the Holston area, the Congregational Development Team, for the first time in 2011, made a commitment to help start new churches in South Sudan (the world’s newest nation). Funding has already been provided to help launch one new church, Kenyi UMC, and the Team has funds committed to help launch one to two additional new church starts in South Sudan. We are excited about this opportunity to partner in a mission field that has vital links to Holston and has seen the support of many Holston churches.

Funding for new church starts comes from multiple sources, including: tithe-based apportionment giving from Holston churches, monies previously given and now lodged in Holston Conference Foundation accounts, and funding from partnering churches. Another important source of support is our “15 New Churches” campaign (formerly known as the “Be A Builder” campaign). 2011 saw the highest level of giving to “15 New Churches” in several years.

A fast growing emphasis of Congregational Development ministries in Holston involves our partnership with a growing number of existing churches to support their efforts toward transformation and growth. This support takes many forms, including: loans and grants toward new facilities, coaching support for pastors, and special events to equip laity and clergy to better understand today’s rapidly changing culture and how we and our churches can better connect with the large numbers of unchurched people in our mission fields.

One new transformation effort in 2011-2012 involves 14 Holston churches that have become a part of two transformation cluster learning groups. Nine medium-size churches are working together, and five large/downtown churches are meeting together. After an initial two day retreat in September 2011 for clergy and key laity from all 14 churches, pastors have been meeting in monthly cluster gatherings with two Path 1 trained coaches. The pastors experience group learning with their peers and
Vital Congregations

read and discuss ten excellent books related to themes such as “bearing fruit”, “how to make hard changes,” and “how to work toward transformation.” As the pastors learn, they collaborate with key laity in their churches. Together, they work toward implementing one to two key strategic efforts in their churches and mission fields over the next year. The Congregational Development Team hopes to continue working with many of the cluster churches for a second year. Longer term, we hope to continue to bring new churches into the process.

Additionally, we continue to offer Natural Church Development to Holston Conference churches as a possible pathway to greater congregational health and renewed vitality. Several new churches entered the process over the last year. Taking the NCD Survey (…it is taken by the pastor and twenty-nine active and engaged laity) is a great way for a church to benchmark its current health.

Another source of support to churches in the effort to help them become more vital congregations is the availability of MissionInsite demographics resources to every church in Holston Conference at no cost. MissionInsite is a great online demographics resource that can allow a local church to discover a huge amount of relevant information in the ten mile area surrounding their church. As churches learn how to utilize the system and to process and apply the information they obtain, they can make better decisions about who they are specifically called to reach and how they can better reach those persons. It can be a tremendous asset in helping a church to identify its true mission field, and in prioritizing ministries and effective strategies to reach people for Christ. We are excited that over 200 people in Holston Conference attended MissionInsite training events in 2011-2012.

The Congregational Development Team celebrates the continued work of the African-American Ministries Team in Holston Conference. In August, 2011, a second leadership conference was held, focusing on the theme of “Rethink, Relaunch, Renew, & Revision.” Dr. Harold Lewis (Florida Conference) was the major plenary speaker.

We take note of and celebrate the 2012 Holston Evangelism Conference held in March in Knoxville. Sponsored by the Witness Team, over 280 participants learned powerful ways that Fort McKinley UMC in Dayton, Ohio (a church over 100 years old) experienced tremendous transformation in a three year period, growing from 40 in attendance to over 400. Participants heard great stories and were given practical tools to take back to their communities to help them rediscover their mission fields, reconnect with their communities, and reclaim lives for Jesus Christ, one at a time.

Finally, the Congregational Development Team expresses its deep gratitude to Bishop James E. Swanson, Sr., for his visionary leadership and unwavering support given to the work of starting new churches and helping existing churches to find renewal and new life. Not only in his leadership in Holston, but also as a leading Bishop on the Path 1 Team to start new United Methodist churches nationwide and throughout the world, Bishop Swanson has been a huge positive force in our mission to reach new people, reach younger people, and reach more diverse people for Jesus Christ. We are grateful and thankful for his leadership among us.

Becky Hall – Chair, Congregational Development Team
Richard Edwards – Director of Congregational Development
**DISCIPLESHIP TEAM**

4 Just as our bodies have many parts and each part has a special function, so it is with Christ’s body. We are many parts of one body, and we all belong to each other. 5 In his grace, God has given us different gifts for doing certain things well. So if God has given you the ability to prophesy, speak out with as much faith as God has given you. 6 If your gift is serving others, serve them well. If you are a teacher, teach well. 7 If your gift is to encourage others, be encouraging. If it is giving, give generously. If God has given you leadership ability, take the responsibility seriously. And if you have a gift for showing kindness to others, do it gladly. (Romans 12:4-8 NLT)

Music is one of my favorite things. Listening to the melody and harmonies flow together like the crystal drops of water in a rushing river delights and reminds me of the beauty of the passage where many parts work together to do things well. The guitarist and pianist share the melody, the rhythm guitar fills the song with warmth, the drummer sets the tempo and helps with the dynamics of the song, and the bass line pulses the rhythm and melody in rich low tones. All together, the music makes a song to be enjoyed by many. God is asking us in Romans 12 to work together, our unique talents and gifts to do good work for His kingdom.

As God has blessed us with special gifts and abilities for service, our Holston Discipleship Team is also blessed with gifts with which to serve God. The Discipleship Team is comprised of many teams or families of folks who are gifted to serve in many ways, and when all this service comes together, we act as one—just as God has planned.

The Nurture Team serves through education and guidance for healthy Christian growth. From Holston Camps to Adult Ministries to Leadership Holston, we reach out to teach, encourage, build relationship, and spread God’s love across the conference and beyond. Holston Colleges and Wesley Foundations nurture students as they study. The Stewardship Team trains and guides our conference to learn best practices for sacrificial giving, so that we might reap the rewards of obediently following God’s command. Feeding the poor and improving health and living conditions are some of the ways that the servants on Outreach and Advocacy follow God’s command to love our neighbors. Our Mission Team knows that the mission field is all around us and serves to bring a clean drink of water and medical treatment to those in Sudan and the folks in the Appalachian Mountains and all places in between—staying true to God’s command to help the sick and the poor. Motivating Holstonians to move out...step out...shout out the Good News is the Witness Team’s call to action to win people for Christ! All of our teams work together to resource our local churches in being vital congregations. The Four Key Drivers are all related to the ministries offered by the Ministry Team of Holston.

I have been honored to have served on the Discipleship Team for the last eight years and have learned so much about the larger church and about the many ways in which God works through our Holston Conference. I challenge each of you to be involved, to offer your special gifts and talents, and watch how God orchestrates a beautiful song called ministry.

May God bless Holston Conference,

~Deb Holly, Chairperson

**Office of Connectional Ministries**

The Office of Connectional Ministries of Holston Conference has been energized this year to think creatively and positively about how we can best resource the local churches of Holston as they respond to the Call to Action and Vital Congregations project. We praise God for the possibilities for transformation in our congregations, and we seek God’s
guidance in offering those resources that will best serve our local churches. We are here to assist you!

The Connectional Ministries staff has expertise and can assist any size local church in developing new or improving existing ministries with children, youth, young adults, adults, and older adults. Our Camp and Retreat Ministries support the local churches through summer camp programs for children and youth, as well as retreat ministries throughout the year. We have persons on our staff who can resource churches seeking to strengthen Safe Sanctuaries policies.

Please contact our office if we can assist your local church with discerning God’s vision for your church, setting specific ministry goals for your congregation, assessing how your congregation is doing in any area of ministry, responding to the Call to Action and Vital Congregations, or providing training for small group ministries. If we are not able to assist you, we will help you find someone who can. You may reach us by calling the Conference Office (toll free at 866-690-4080) or sending an email to connectionalministries@holston.org.

Above all, we thank God daily for the churches of Holston Conference – small to large, rural to suburban to urban, from north Georgia through east Tennessee to southwest Virginia – who so faithfully continue to win persons to Jesus Christ and serve God through outreach and mission in this world. We are honored to be in ministry with you.

~ The staff of Connectional Ministries

a. African American Ministry Team

The African American Ministry Team (AAMT) is focusing for its next conference in 2013 with the theme “Rethink Possible.” The agenda will include all aspects of the Vital Congregation initiative. This meeting will be held the first week of August 2013 and will be inclusive for those seeking to make diversity a reality for the Christian Experience in the Holston Conference.

~ William Pace, Chair

b. Missions Ministry Team

It is the responsibility and privilege of the Missions Ministry Team to interpret the mission of the United Methodist Church as called by God to reconcile the brokenness of humanity through Christ Jesus. The team is also committed to offer the opportunity to be in mission in the world to all who call Holston home. We are striving to offer experiences in mission with the marginalized of our local communities, within the regions of our great nation, and around the globe, both through participation and resources. We seek to live into the transformational opportunities of serving “the least of these” as we engage members of our local churches in the mission of the church, both through the sharing of their resources and the offering of their time and talents. We embrace the Four Areas of Focus of the United Methodist Church and seek to facilitate a culture within our denomination that may one day have these focus areas as a part of our individual and collective DNA, or who we innately are.

Holston continues to send mission teams throughout the world, having over 225 teams from local churches and districts in the field last year, with some of those registered through United Methodist Volunteers in Mission. We encourage all teams to register with UVMIM to enable teams to have the best experience possible and allow the connectional church to be aware of how God is transforming the world through missions. Holston has also
been intentional about team leader training to ensure that teams have a positive experience and live into the culture of the mission setting they are called to serve. Your donations to UMVIM-SEJ enable these trainings to be available as well as for coordination assistance in putting a team into the mission field.

Holston continues to embrace community ministry through the assignment of GBGM Church and Community Workers. Koni Purscell has been in the Big Stone Gap District for over a year now, and her ministry is enabling individuals and local congregations within Holston and other annual conferences to be in ministry with marginalized communities in the district. Harry Howe and Mark and Linda Stransky continue to transform the lives and homes of the folk in southwest Virginia through the ministries of Project Crossroads. Harry will finish the clinical portion of his Physician’s Assistant Program later this summer and begin integrating rural medicine into the portfolio of assistance ministries offered by the project.

Holston was unfortunate to have been stricken by tornados both in 2011 and early 2012 that left heavy damage and loss of life, but we were blessed by the outpouring of response by members of Holston as well as from other annual conferences. Over 5300 volunteers cleaned debris, assisted in rebuilding homes, and shared a compassionate God with victims and communities in the Chattanooga, Cleveland, Johnson City, and Wytheville Districts. After having a personal experience in the despair of being victims of such magnitude, members of Holston are continuing to be trained and made ready to respond to disaster when it strikes again.

During the 2010-2011 Conference year, the Missions Ministry Team was again involved in the collection of Hands-On Kits for a part of our Annual Conference offering. These kits, which were sent to Ishe Anesu in Zimbabwe and to Liberia, provide much-needed food, school supplies, and health kits for the children there. Another benefit of the Hands-On collections each year is that they provide every local church in Holston the opportunity to be involved directly in missions.

We celebrate the partnerships in ministry that many local churches of Holston as well as districts have with areas of need around the world. The work of the church in these areas enables us to embrace the connection of our denomination through collaborative efforts and a common passion for the transformation of the world.

Holston continues to live into God’s vision for the people of South Sudan as we are seeing the United Methodist Church grow and become a strong component of the forward movement of this new nation. Over 20 local churches are now planted and over 25 boreholes have been drilled since Holston first entered into ministry with East Africa Annual Conference in 2006. Boo and Phyllis Hankins broke new ground and “prepared a way for the Lord” during two years of mission work with our brothers and sisters who have struggled for so long. Fred and Libby Dearing are now serving there, continuing to strengthen the church and care for the most vulnerable: the widows and orphans. Partnerships are now being set up between local churches in South Sudan and districts and churches within Holston, as well as other annual conferences. There partnerships create facilities that are necessary to educate the children and disciple the communities for a future of hope, love, and peace.

Steve and Diantha Hodges are making great progress in providing micro-enterprising opportunities and training in agricultural sustainability. Diantha is bringing quality of life to a people long suffering from malnutrition, disease, and infant mortality. The realization that a few changes in lifestyle can make a great difference in quality of life is now a reality enjoyed. Lynn and Sharon Fogleman have been in Yei since February of this year and will be providing rural health as physicians who have worked previously in Kenya and Red Bird Missionary Conference. Mission teams continue to travel to South Sudan to live into our covenant with East Africa Annual Conference and keep the people of Holston
connected to a ministry of transformation – transformation of a new nation being born after going through the fire, and transformation of ourselves in seeing, believing, and living the scriptures as God restores life to the people of South Sudan.

As we continue to fulfill our covenant in South Sudan, God has called upon Holston to remember the people of Vietnam. During the latter half of 2012, we will be engaged in ministry in the country where so much pain remains prevalent and so many scars need to be wiped away by the grace of Christ Jesus. We look forward to the opportunities of healing and wholeness as we enter into ministry with the people of Vietnam and are grateful as we celebrate the “Bishop’s Initiative,” the Annual Conference Offering going to our ministry with Vietnam.

~ Danny Howe, Chair
**The Advance**

Advancing hope in Christ’s name

Holston Annual Conference 2013  
www.holston.org

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**Be a 5-Star Church**

To qualify for the 5-Star Award, churches must:

1. Pay Fair Share in full
   
   and give at least $25
   
   in categories 2 through 5:

2. Give to at least one International Advance
3. Give to at least one U.S. Advance
4. Give to at least one UMCOR Advance
5. Give to at least one Conference Advance

---

**International Advance**

A. Missionaries Supported by Holston Conference

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Project No.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rukang Chikomb</td>
<td>14959Z</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Country: Democratic Republic of Congo</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fresie Chikomb</td>
<td>3021434</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Country: Democratic Republic of Congo</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Rev. Bill Lovelace</td>
<td>11872Z</td>
<td>054</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Country: Ukraine</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Helen Roberts-Evans</td>
<td>3021129</td>
<td>705</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Country: Liberia</td>
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Missionaries Around the World (Any Amount)  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Project No.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>075</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Other missionaries may be supported by Holston churches. Inquiry should be made through the Conference Mission Sec.)

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B. Africa

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mission</th>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Project No.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ISHE ANESU Project/Maria Humbane, Zimbabwe</td>
<td>13071A</td>
<td>160</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Africa University Scholarship</td>
<td>3021028</td>
<td>629</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Imagine No Malaria</td>
<td>3021190</td>
<td>684</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steve &amp; Diantha Hodges, Sudan</td>
<td>982465</td>
<td>691</td>
</tr>
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</table>

C. Mexico

*“Give Ye Them To Eat” Hunger Program*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Project No.</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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D. Estonia

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mission</th>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Project No.</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Baltic Mission Center, Code</td>
<td>010923-N</td>
<td>055</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baltic Methodist</td>
<td>15021B</td>
<td>203</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Theological Seminary Scholarship ($1,500 per year)</td>
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E. Paraguay

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mission</th>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Project No.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New Horizon School</td>
<td>302-1089</td>
<td>421</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Vital Congregations
### Covenant Relationships

**with Missionaries and Persons in Mission**

Although Advance salary support for missionaries is needed in any amount, churches wishing to have a Conference Covenant Relationship with a missionary provide $1,000 per year; churches under 333 members provide $3 per member per year. A GBGM Covenant Relationship with a missionary requires $2,500 per year; churches under 333 members provide $5 per member per year. Covenant Relationship forms and information can be secured from the Conference Mission Secretary. On the conference deposit slip, list the missionary’s name, code number, and the amount.

### United States Advance

A. Missionary Supported by Holston Conference

#### Fran Lynch
- **Alaska Missionary Conference**
- Code: 982950
- Holston Project No.: 032

B. Appalachian Ministries Network
- Code: 982041
- Holston Project No.: 007

C. Appalachian Service Project
- Code: 982050
- Holston Project No.: 092

D. Cherokee U.M. Church, Cherokee, NC
- Code: 731144
- Holston Project No.: 153

E. Four Corners Native American Ministries, Shiprock, NM
- Code: 581254
- Holston Project No.: 023

### UMCOR Advance

A. **Heifer Project International**
- Code: 982418
- Holston Project No.: 021

B. **Heifer Project, Living Gift**
- Code: 982532
- Holston Project No.: 031

C. **UMCOR Disaster Response in U.S.**
- Code: 901670-1
- Holston Project No.: 026

D. **UMCOR Emergency Relief (Around the World)**
- Code: 982450-8
- Holston Project No.: 050

E. **World Hunger / Poverty**
- Code: 982920
- Holston Project No.: 016

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**Photo courtesy of Heifer International**

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### Holston Annual Conference Offering

**Council of Bishops Emphasis:**

IMAGINE NO MALARIA

### Conference Advance

A. Persons in Mission Supported by Holston Conference

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Project No.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Harry Howe</td>
<td>Marion, VA</td>
<td>020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Koni Purscell</td>
<td>Big Stone Gap, VA</td>
<td>701</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fred and Libby Dearing</td>
<td>Sudan</td>
<td>719</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bruce &amp; Emy P.*</td>
<td>Middle East</td>
<td>008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mark &amp; Linda Stransky</td>
<td>Marion, VA</td>
<td>571</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Ashbury, Inc.</td>
<td></td>
<td>091</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

B. Muslim Outreach Team Project

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Project No.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rebekah S.</td>
<td></td>
<td>572</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

C. Campus Ministry and Wesley Foundations

1. ETSU                                     | 064
2. Radford                                  | 127
3. UT Knoxville                              | 305
4. UT Chattanooga                           | 313
5. UVA at Wise                              | 061

D. Disaster Relief Within Holston Conference

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jefferson County</td>
<td>145</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loudon County</td>
<td>099</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

E. CONTACT Telephone Ministries

(Be sure to indicate which ministry you are supporting)

1. Johnson City                             | 063    |
2. Concern of NE TN, Inc.                   | 413    |
3. McMinn County/Meigs County/              |       |
    Monroe County                            | 162    |

F. Disaster Relief Within Holston Conference

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>143</td>
<td></td>
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</table>

G. District Advance

(Indicate which project)

H. Habitat for Humanity Ministries

(Indicate which project)

1. Anderson Co.                              | 184    |
2. Blount Co.                                | 167    |
3. Jefferson County                          | 145    |
4. Loudon County                             | 099    |
5. Holston                                   | 067    |

I. Hispanic Ministries within Holston Conference

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Galax, VA</td>
<td>541</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maryville District</td>
<td>542</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morristown District</td>
<td>543</td>
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</table>

J. Holston Conference Camps

1. Camperships
   - Buffalo Mountain                         | 238    |
   - Lookout                                  | 276    |
   - Undesignated                             | 087    |

2. Camp Development Funds
   - Buffalo Mountain                         | 101    |
   - Lookout                                  | 078    |
   - Undesignated                             | 484    |

3. Annual Ministry Funds
   - Buffalo Mountain                         | 486    |
   - Lookout                                  | 487    |
   - Undesignated                             | 485    |

4. Strength for the Journey Scholarships
   (HIV/AIDS Retreats)
   - 300
**Conference Advance Continued**

**K. Holston United Methodist Homes for Children**
1. Dermid Family Services, Bristol, Virginia 103
2. Holston Home, Greeneville, Tennessee 002

**L. Neighborhood Centers**
1. Bethlehem Community Center 079
2. Wesley House Community Center 080

**M. Student Aid, Conference Scholarship Grants**
1. Emory and Henry College 085
2. Hwassee College 045
3. Tennessee Wesleyan College 125

**N. Support for Action Ministries**
1. Angelic Ministries (KN) 637
2. Big Stone Gap Dist. Church & Community Renewal 141
3. CASA of East Tennessee (KN) 493
4. CASA of East Tennessee Heartland (CL) 611
5. CASA of Tennessee (OA) 455
6. Coalition for Kids, Inc. (JO) 133
7. Crossroads Medical Mission (AB) 364
8. Emerald Youth Foundation-Just Lead (KN) 014
9. GATE-Gateway to Independence (MA) 612
10. Good Samaritan Ministries, Inc. (JO) 066
11. Hope for Healing.org (MO) 577
12. Interfaith Health Clinic (KN) 492
13. Jubilee Project, Inc. (MO) 015
14. Morgan-Scott Project (OA) 013
15. Overhome Ministries (MO) 106
16. Project Crossroads Ministries (AB) 047
17. Second Harvest Food Bank 759
18. Unity Center (CL) 151
19. Volunteer Ministry Center (KN) 614
20. W S. Hight Community Outreach PACE (CH) 362
21. Wesley Medical Clinic (AB) 674

**O. Volunteer Labor Program**
Central Region 128

**P. Volunteer in Mission Projects and Personnel**
Projects approved by the Conference
1. New Church Development/Orphanage in Guatemala 121
2. New Church Development in Costa Rica 161
3. New Church Development in Holston 380

**Q. World Ministries**
1. Connecting Churches World Evangelism 367
2. English Speaking UMC–Prague 716
   –Michelle McKinnon-Young
3. Haiti Water Project 671
4. South Sudan Projects 537
5. Hope for Today–India–Peter Peieria 490
6. Magdy Bassaly-Ambassadors for Christ International 501
7. Mary Diana Samuel Orphanage–India 579
8. Operation Classroom/Liberia–Dan Kelley 058
   Operation Classroom Shipping 059
9. SIFAT 670
10. The Rescue Ministries–Philippines 676
11. Uhuru Child–Kenya 717

**R. “Change for Children”** 012

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**The Advance**
Advancing hope in Christ’s name

**Holston Annual Conference 2013**
www.holston.org
c. Nurture Ministry Team

Greetings from the Conference Nurture Ministry Team –

The mission of this team is to nurture and support growth in the knowledge, experience, and expression of the love of Christ of the laity and clergy of the Holston Conference. That mission is a task this team of staff and volunteers, laity and clergy, takes very seriously. Here are some of the celebrations and noteworthy news from this past year. The Nurture Team is significantly involved in providing resources for local churches in response to the Call to Action. All four of the key drivers of congregational vitality have to do with the work of the Nurture Team: (1) authentic worship, (2) small group ministry and programs for children and youth, (3) effective pastoral leadership, and (4) spiritually engaged laity. The Leadership Holston program is a premier training program for clergy and laity together to enhance their effectiveness in ministry. Also within the responsibility of Nurture Ministry Team are responsibilities for resourcing congregations in the area of worship and overseeing age-level ministries in Holston, including children and youth ministries.

Leadership Holston continues to be a vital program to nurture leadership (both lay and clergy) in Holston Conference. This year’s class of 22 participants is the largest yet and has representatives from 11 of the conference’s districts. Plans for next year include adding a class specifically geared to youth, perhaps offered during the summer. We celebrate a program that so closely addresses one of the UMC’s Four Areas of Focus – to Develop Principled Christian Leaders – while also responding to the key drivers of effective pastoral leadership and spiritually engaged and equipped laity.

Gaye King and the Children’s Ministry Team continue to educate and equip leaders who work with children. A highlight of the year for the team included the March Forth for Children event in March. Mark Burrows of Ft. Worth, Texas, was keynote speaker, and several other workshop leaders directed workshops around the theme of Family. Change for Children awarded $16,000 in grant money that will further support children’s programming both in and outside the boundaries of Holston Conference.

Laura Lambert and the Conference Council on Youth Ministries have worked to make several events great successes. From two amazing weekends of the Resurrection youth event with speaker Reggie Dabbs to Youth Assembly happening at Tennessee Wesleyan College this summer, Holston’s youth are being exposed to quality faith building experiences that are also fun! Watch for highlights of the upcoming summer mission trip to the Bahamas to work with orphans and AIDS patients.

The Young Adult Team and Laura Lambert accomplished another Divine Rhythm event in January for the conference’s young adults and college students. Speaker Matthew Paul Turner challenged participants to a better understanding of Christ’s message for Christians in light of how often Christian brothers and sisters get the Good News wrong.

The Nurture Team expresses appreciation to Rev. Frank M. “Bob” Bostick for the leadership he has provided the Older Adult Team for the past several years. Bob retired in December, and now Gaye King is planning events that offer a combination of fun, fellowship, and faith for mature folks in the conference. The annual Jubilation event featured author Linda Douty on aging, personal growth, and spiritual formation. The team is studying how to best organize events that will reach the largest number of older adults, which may include more district level events. Watch for more from this team!

Randy Pasqua and the Camp and Retreat Ministries Team continue to serve in a thriving area of ministry for the conference. The combination of exposing primarily children and youth to the wonder of God’s creation as they explore their faith is a gift for the team to work with. This team continues to challenge the standard role of camp and last year took “camp” to children in area city parks – a fresh new way to minister to our neighbors.
Pete Rowlett carries on the important work of Marriage Ministries. The 8th annual retreat for couples working in ministry took place in April with the underlying theme being that the best way to help lay people with their marriages is to help clergy maintain healthy marriages.

This document covers just the high spots of these ministries. I trust you will read the detailed reports of these teams in this book. It is our privilege to serve the conference as we strive to NURTURE people in all ages and stages of their Christian discipleship.

~ Leanna Johnson, Chair

c.1 Camp and Retreat Ministries
(Relates to Nurture Ministry Team)

“Sharing the Love of Christ in the Glory of God’s Creation” is the mission of Holston Conference Camp and Retreat Ministries (CRM). We accomplish this mission through the combined ministries of Buffalo Mountain Camp, Camp Dickenson, Camp Lookout, and Camp Wesley Woods. We are uniquely positioned to support the Call to Action and vital congregations by partnering with local churches to be in ministry to children and youth and to engage clergy and laity through our Ministers in Residence program and weekend retreat ministries.

The 2011-2012 year has been a solid year for CRM. Summer camp attendance held steady with a positive growth of six campers. Our traditional summer camp sessions welcomed 2,897 campers last year. The positive aspect of our summer is a significant growth in the number of United Methodist campers. We continue to have a profound impact on the spiritual formation of our campers. During their camp experience, 39% of our campers made a significant faith commitment; 1,129 campers either made a first-time or a renewal commitment to discipleship. Nurturing young disciples is our calling, and we are jubilant about the results.

The exciting new “Camp in Community” outreach ministry through Camp Wesley Woods served hundreds of children in an innovative day camp; these children would otherwise not have been served. Camp left the mountain to bring Christ to children in their churches, parks, and homeless shelters.

CRM did not escape the tornadoes of the 2011 spring. Camp Lookout took a direct hit. Through the tremendous efforts of the camp staff and hundreds of volunteers, summer camp began on time and continued to be a great blessing to its campers.

On the financial front, CRM is extremely grateful to the Conference, Districts, Churches, participants, and our many individual partners. Each of the four camps was able to operate in 2011 with a positive net balance in its operational budget.

Your camps continue to partner with clergy and laity from across our Conference and beyond sponsoring retreats focused on leadership development, spiritual renewal, and personal inspiration.

To the members of Holston Conference, the CRM Board expresses great appreciation for the tremendous support and encouragement received for “Sharing the Love of Christ in the Glory of God’s Creation.”

~ Ed Terry, Chair of CRM Board

~ Randy Pasqua, Executive Director of CRM
c.2 Children’s Ministries Team

The Children’s Ministries Team is proud to play a significant role in resourcing local churches as they seek to provide programs for children in their geographic area. The Vital Congregations project recognizes the importance of strong children’s ministries in healthy, vibrant congregations. We are available to assist any local church that desires to improve in this area of ministry.

March Forth for Children, our biannual conference-wide training for those working in children’s ministry, was held March 2 and 3 at Cokesbury Center in Knoxville. With a baseball inspired theme to connect faith and home, over 115 paid workers and volunteers including 20-year veterans, those on their second day on the job, clergy and laity came together to discuss and learn how our local church can better equip parents to be vital faith leaders in the home. A number of issues surround those working with children including congregations lacking the willingness to invest in children’s ministry, limited budgets, parents who are absent or unengaged in their children’s faith development, plus volunteers who are juggling 40-hour work weeks, family, and are leading children’s ministry with limited support. Keynote speaker Mark Burrows from First UMC, Fort Worth, Texas, encouraged and inspired participants as he taught about family focused worship, music, and puppetry. A wide range of workshops from children’s ministry 101 to bullying and faith formation to using social media were offered. Evaluation comments indicated a hunger among participants for training and resources.

Conference resources like the Holston Kids Link newsletter and holstonkids.org website continue to offer networking and training opportunities. Team members are looking into ways to connect children's ministry workers within districts together on a regular basis to offer the support and resources those workers are seeking.

Through the ongoing generous support of our Holston Conference congregations, Change for Children continues to offer grants to churches who are intentionally working to support new and existing ministries with economically disadvantaged children in Holston Conference and in Africa. In 2011 Change for Children granted a total of $89,000 to 17 Holston churches and the Southern Sudan Orphan Ministry.

Since passing the resolution in 2004, Holston Conference churches have worked to keep our churches a safe place for our children and youth through active implementation of our Safe Sanctuaries program. Many churches have worked to review and improve their policies this year. Churches are strongly encouraged to review their policies and train their workers yearly. If you need assistance with Safe Sanctuaries, contact the Connectional Ministries office.

~ Elizabeth Rudesill, Chair, Children’s Ministry Team
~ Gaye King, Associate Director of Connectional Ministries

Children, Family, and Advocacy Ministries

c.3 Conference Council on Youth Ministries (CCYM)

Holston Conference Youth Ministry is working to help encourage vital congregations by providing opportunities for conference youth ministry and local church youth ministry to strengthen one another. Programs for youth at the conference level are intended to support the important ministry provided for youth at the local church level.

Our Conference Council on Youth Ministries (CCYM) takes leadership and is a voice for the over 10,000 youth of Holston. During our meetings this year, CCYM has looked at ways to encourage local churches to be involved in missions, ways to connect to youth via Facebook and Twitter, written devotions to be shared around the conference, and worked
on the planning of youth events including Youth in Mission, Junior and Senior High Assemblies, and Discovery. CCYM is developing principled Christian leaders to lead not only at the Conference level, but also in the members’ local churches.

Resurrection is a time when many youth groups experience renewal and bring a great excitement back to their churches. The experiences of over 12,000 people over 2 weekends in January continue year round through the youth and adults who attended. This year’s speaker, Reggie Dabbs, spoke to the great hurt that many teenagers feel and offered hope through Christ. Many stories have been shared of how those words of hope changed the lives of youth who attended, those who were watching Rez TV streaming online, and those who the words were shared with at home.

Through Youth in Missions and Mission Madness, youth learn the importance of reaching out and helping others. Youth around the conference participate in Mission Madness during the month of April, doing mission work in their local areas including helping elderly church members with yard work, volunteering at a food pantry, and participating world hunger awareness programs. Last summer, 32 youth and adults from around Holston traveled to Charleston, SC, to participate in Youth in Mission. There, we did home repairs, worked with Habitat for Humanity, led worship for our host church, and several other projects. After we returned home, the youth and leaders organized a YIM reunion and helped with the tornado clean up in Greene County!

Junior and Senior High Assemblies continue to be exciting weeks in our summers! Through the interest groups offered throughout the week, youth learn about worship arts and about various topics about which they wish to learn. One youth was a part of the dance worship arts group and was so inspired that she went home and started a liturgical dance group in her own church. It is exciting to see the ways that conference and local church ministries work together!

Finally, Discovery is our weekend retreat for youth who feel called to ministry. It is a great chance for youth to discuss their calling with others who are experiencing the same calling. During the retreat, youth hear from people in lay and ordained ministry and spend time in workshops and small groups. Through Facebook, last year’s Discovery group has continued to support one another long after the weekend ended. This year at Resurrection, we had a record number of people fill out Call to Ministry cards, and we are looking forward to seeing how each of those people makes a difference in the Kingdom!

Youth ministry is an important part of vital congregations. In the coming year, we will continue with our current ministry offerings so that local church ministry and conference youth ministry can work together to encourage vitality throughout Holston!

~ Taylor Downey, CCYM President
~ Laura Lambert

Associate Director of Connectional Ministries for Youth and Young Adults

c.4 Marriage Ministries

Because the well-being of our families, our communities, and our nation are profoundly affected by the success or failure of marriages, we must make every congregation a place where couples can find their marriages strengthened. With the divorce rate in our society hovering around 50%, and with the marriage success rate of church members being similar to that of the general population, we must take seriously our responsibility to assist couples in building healthy marriages. No institutions have a better opportunity to nurture strong marriages than local churches do, and the resources are available. The Vital Congregations emphasis understands the need for effective pastoral leadership, and providing support for our clergy and their spouses is one way to enhance effectiveness as their marriages are strengthened and they are then able to support married couples in their local congregations.
Pastoral leadership is crucial in creating the setting in which marriages are strengthened. Therefore, Holston Conference is sponsoring an annual “Marriage Enrichment Retreat for Couples in Ministry in Holston Conference.” During the six years this event has been held, a total of 60 couples have attended. The 2012 Retreat will be at Buffalo Mountain Retreat Center on April 13-15. “Issues unique to clergy marriages” is one of the topics discussed. The event is jointly funded by the Nurture Team and the Board of Ordained Ministry.

Training is available for those couples who would be interested in providing marriage education and enrichment in their church and community. Contact Anne Travis (annetravis@holson.org) or me (bee.rowlett@gmail.com) if you are interested in exploring this opportunity.

~ Peyton Rowlett, Chair

c.5 Older Adult Ministries

It’s a fact. The United Methodist Church is an aging church with 76% of our attendees being age 45 or older and those numbers continue to grow. But that does not mean our congregations are not vital. Healthy congregations find creative ways to invite older adults to remain a vital part of the church by making significant contributions to its ministry. Aging isn’t a time to retire from discipleship. Instead, it is a time to grow in service and ministry to others.

Now in its twelfth year, Jubilation 2012 continues to provide ministries for older adults, aged 50 and over, that nurtures spiritual growth, provides educational opportunities and ways to cope with life issues, promotes involvement in missions, and enhances Christian fellowship. A generous grant from Asbury, Inc., continues to make it possible to provide excellent leadership in a comfortable resort and conference setting at a reasonable cost to those attending.

Holston Conference’s older adult ministry also supports the local church by offering opportunities to grow, learn, and serve together in our districts. Most districts have regular gatherings and district programing. As we look to the coming year, we will be exploring ways to help strengthen existing ministries and develop new ministries in districts not currently active by identifying ways to provide opportunities for Christian mission and service in those areas.

After many years of faithful service and devotion to the churches of Holston Conference, the Rev. Frank M. (Bob) Bostick retired as Coordinator of Older Adult Ministries at the end of 2011. We thank Bob for his endless hours of devotion to this important ministry and for the excellent leadership he has provided to Jubilation and Older Adult Ministries in Holston Conference.

~ Gaye King, Associate Director of Connectional Ministries

c.6 Young Adult Ministry Team

We are very excited about what God is doing in Holston Conference in the area of young adult ministries, particularly because we envision vital congregations that are filled with spiritually engaged young persons who are engaged in missional outreach, as well as congregations served by effective young adult clergy persons. Two young adults, Rev. Wil Cantrell (clergy) and Megan Watson (laity), were elected to General Conference. It is wonderful that the people of Holston Conference see the need and trust young adults to be in positions of leadership. The team knows these young adults will represent all of us to the best of their abilities.

The Young Adult Team is continuing to work in the districts of Holston. Each of the 12 districts has a Young Adult representative. These representatives are there to promote young
Vital Congregations

adult issues at the district level and work with individual churches interested in finding ways to connect to young adults. We are continuing to bring a young adult information presentation to district ministers’ meetings. The team is still offering grants to churches creating new young adult ministries or enhancing existing ministries.

It is our prayer for Holston Annual Conference that we continue to move forward in the area of young adult ministry. We are committed to helping at all levels. On behalf of the Young Adult Ministry Team, I thank you for the opportunity to serve you and look forward to doing more in the future.

~ Todd R. Adams, Chair

d. Outreach/Advocacy Ministry Team

Our mission is to examine and raise awareness about issues of justice, mercy, and kindness in the midst of our complex and constantly changing world and to help connect people in Holston Conference with the challenges of the world we live in. For the past few years, the economy has had an impact on our budget, but we are still striving to develop and encourage ministry opportunities for members of Holston Conference as we promote engaging congregations and individuals in missional outreach in their communities and around the world.

In September 2011, the third annual Poverty Conference was held at First Broad Street UMC in Kingsport, TN. The theme was “Breaking the Chains of Poverty,” and one of the goals was to help participants understand and experience the problems of material need. Worship and plenary sessions featured Bishop Paul Leland of the Alabama/West Florida Conference, Rev. Beth Templeton Love, John Hill of GBCS, and Rev. Jim Sessions. Attendees participated in a hands-on poverty simulation exercise, which is now available for use in each local church in the conference after a training session. If your church is interested in participating in a poverty simulation, please contact the Office of Connectional Ministries.

In the spirit of our connection, two clergy from Holston, Chris Brown and Asa Hendrickson, attended the Young Clergy event in January 2012 at the General Board of Church and Society (GBCS) in Washington, DC. They received an overview of the work of GBCS and plans for the future. In October 2011, Susan Montgomery attended a RIMcor (Refugee and Immigrant Ministries) training in Los Angeles offered by UMCOR and GBCS. These training events are especially noteworthy as means by which Outreach Advocacy supports the key drivers of effective pastoral leadership and spiritually equipped and engaged laity.

Our Creation Care team has been revitalized under the leadership of Brenda Haymore, and her report which follows details their activities in the past year and great plans for the year to come.

In an effort to spread a vital ministry and missional outreach, with the Virginia Conference and the United Methodist Men, we are bringing the Disciple Bible Study program into the Virginia State prisons, a number of which are located in the Holston Conference portion of Virginia. It will also be offered in prisons in Tennessee and north Georgia. If persons are interested in participating in this program, please contact the Office of Connectional Ministries to learn how you can obtain the required training.

Our ministry team has offered support to Neighborhood Reconciliation Services in Johnson City, the Virginia Chaplaincy Service, the Peace with Justice Luncheon at Annual Conference, the Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy, and grants to address issues around HIV/AIDS. Through the Committee on Status and Role of Women (COSROW) and Religion and Race, monitoring of inclusive participation at Annual Conference is surveyed and reported for 2011 and again this year.
We encourage members to be involved in the Caring for God’s Creation event at Lake Junaluska in the spring 2013 and the Peace Conference in November 2012 which will focus on nonviolence and feature Nobel Peace laureate Leymah Gbowee, Rev. Bernard Lafayette, and Michael Nagler.

We also encourage every pastor to share God’s Renewed Creation: Call for Hope and Action from the Council of Bishops with his or her congregation.

~ Susan Montgomery, chair

e. Stewardship Ministry Team

The Holston Conference Stewardship Team continues its three-fold focus on equipping pastors to lead the church in generosity and financial stewardship, creating opportunities for laity to learn a theology of giving and practical ways they can help their churches become more generous, and providing stewardship resources to the local churches. One of the indicators of congregational vitality for which each church in Holston has set a goal is disciples sharing their resources for mission (amount of money given to mission), and the Stewardship Ministry Team is available to resource congregations to achieve established goals.

Over 90 pastors have now attended to the “Texas Intensive Stewardship Training” seminar with Rev. Michael Reeves during the last 5 years. Two “reunions” of these groups have been held, and we continue to receive reports of exciting results from those who have received the training. Pastors who have received the intensive training are being utilized by District Superintendents to share what they have learned with other clergy in their districts. Many pastors also consistently report increased giving in their congregations as a result of how the seminar has shaped their leadership.

In the fall of 2011, the Stewardship Team and the Holston Conference Foundation sponsored a second annual stewardship conference within the bounds of Holston titled Changing the Culture of Stewardship and Generosity led by Dr. Clif Christopher. The conference, which was held both at Concord UMC (Knoxville, TN) and Pleasant View UMC (Abingdon, VA), attracted over 200 clergy and laity to hear Dr. Christopher share a vision for communicating the spiritual imperative of stewardship in a changing culture.

The Holston Conference Stewardship Team continues to provide weekly “Offertory Moments” email messages composed by Rev. Bill Kilday. These emails provide pastors with 30- to 60-second stewardship messages to introduce the offering in worship each week. You can subscribe to the “Offertory Moments” weekly email and view “Offertory Moments” archives at www.stewardship.holston.org.

In 2012 and 2013, the Stewardship Team plans to continue and improve upon these efforts to help the people of Holston Conference change lives and experience the joy of generosity through faithful stewardship.

~ Wil Cantrell, Chair

f. Witness Ministry Team

The Witness Team has had another busy year as we have sought to engage local churches in Holston in the ministry of making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. The work of the Witness Ministry Team is crucial as we resource local churches to foster an ongoing effort to increase the numbers of professions of faith.

In June 2011, we awarded Denman Evangelism Awards at the 2011 Annual Conference to a clergy recipient (Reverend Robert Hayes), a lay person (Wilma Sue Davis Foreman), and to a youth member (Benjamin Horton).
In the Fall 2011 we awarded $27,482 in Church Program Grants to local churches that are creating new ministries to reach new people. These grants are specifically designed for churches that are beginning a ministry designed to bring new persons into a relationship with Jesus Christ. We encourage each local church in Holston to consider how you might do the same and apply for a grant in Fall 2012.

In March we held our third Holston Evangelism Conference at Cokesbury Center in Knoxville with an attendance that doubled over 2011. Reverend Dave Hood and Rusty Eschelman of Ft. McKinley UMC in Dayton, Ohio, shared with teams of persons interested in evangelism from local churches in Holston about how they led the Ft. McKinley congregation toward revitalization.

The Witness Ministry Team works cooperatively with the Hispanic Ministry Team to oversee the work with Hispanic congregations in Holston. We are very pleased with the health of these ministries. With tremendous support from the Maryville District, La Casa del Alfarero church building is now complete and being utilized for ministry in the Philadelphia area. A new Hispanic outreach offered through St. John UMC in Maryville is reaching children and adults in the neighborhood surrounding St. John. We celebrate the cooperative ministry at First UMC Sevierville, where the Hispanic congregation that worships there is one of the fastest growing new church starts in The United Methodist Church right now! We have witnessed a new congregation born in Greenville, TN, this year, and we are exploring possibilities of starting another ministry in the Johnson City area very soon.

The Small Membership Congregational Team is another ministry group affiliated with the Witness Ministry Team. They have seen renewed activity during this conference year, as evidenced in their report (included after this report).

We celebrate those churches being recognized this year for Church of Excellence in Evangelism Awards (included after the Small Membership Congregation Team report).

This Conference year has been a very good year. With the guidance provided to each congregation through the goal setting in the Call to Action and the structure provided to assist congregations in becoming vital, we anticipate another strong year in Holston as we seek to increase the number of vital congregations and to win more persons to a transforming relationship with Jesus Christ. Please contact the Office of Connectional Ministries if you desire any assistance from the Witness Ministry Team.

~ Ronnie Collins, chair

**f.1 Small Membership Congregation Team**

The Small Membership Congregation Team’s mission is to “Give help to small membership and rural congregations so they will be even more vital in mission and ministry and bear fruit within their local communities.” Our approach to realizing our mission is to:

- Partner with districts and provide mutually agreed upon help through the district superintendent and lay leadership of the local small membership congregations;
- Conduct equipping events for small membership and rural congregations;
- Respond to requests for help;
- Celebrate small membership and rural congregation mission and ministry (Living Stone recognition).

**Living Stone Recognition**

During 2011 the districts nominated seven small membership congregations for the Living Stone recognition. They included:
• Abingdon – Brumley Gap, Pastor Larry Linkous
• Big Stone Gap – Mt. Vernon, Pastor Vickie Fulkerson, and Rye Cove, Pastor Ray Dockery
• Knoxville – Piney Grove, Pastor Larry Anderson
• Maryville – Sevierville Circuit (Roberts, Murphy’s Chapel, and Luretta), Pastor Janet Edwards
• Morristown – Bybee, Pastor Eddie Noe (deceased), Stephanie Widmann, Lay Leader
• Oak Ridge – Bradbury, Pastor Thomas Markwood

On Monday morning of Annual Conference a breakfast was held in honor of these congregations. Each congregation was recognized as a Living Stone in their community. Representatives of Piney Grove led by Pastor Larry Anderson were recognized as the 2011 Living Stone Award for the Conference.

During 2011 the Small Membership Congregation Team (SMCT) co-sponsored the following events with the districts:

• Big Stone Gap – During August and September Victor Dingus and Archer Coppedge trained approximately 30 congregational teams in how to respond to the Call to Action. The training answered four basic questions including: Who are you? What is your purpose? Who is your neighbor? What is your next right step in mission and ministry? Three different sessions were held over a period of six weeks to create SMART Goals and SMART Actions. Approximately 300 people attended these three events.

• Kingsport – With the help and support of District Superintendent David Graves, Victor Dingus trained two “Rethink Teams” in how to respond to the Call to Action. These teams guided the congregational leadership team through dialogue, assessment, and the proper response to the Call to Action goal setting and action planning activities. Approximately 30 team and congregational members participated over a period of 6 months.

• Maryville – Dr. Lew Parks, Professor of Theology, Ministry, and Congregational Development and Director of the Doctor of Ministry Program at Wesley Theological Seminary conducted two workshops for congregational ministry teams that provided tools for the Call to Action. Approximately 125 attended the event.

• Tazewell and Wytheville – Dr. Drew Dyson, Professor of the James C. Logan Chair in Evangelism at Wesley Theological Seminary and also an ordained Elder in the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church, and Julia Kuhn Wallace, nationally recognized consultant and former staff person of The General Board of Discipleship, Small and Rural Congregations, led a two-day workshop for cluster groups in these districts. Approximately 250 people were in attendance at Pearisburg UMC and left the workshop with a draft Call to Action Ministry plan.

During 2012 the Small Membership Congregation Team (SMCT) is participating in and co-sponsoring the following events with districts:

• Call to Action Training – Victor Dingus will train the SMCT and other district resource persons in tools for supporting the Call to Action.

• Living Stone Nominees – 2012 Annual Conference – Five congregations have been nominated for the 2012 Living Stone Award. They are:
  - Maryville – Ironsburg, Pastor William Clark
  - Wytheville – Woodlawn/Shiloh, Pastor Gloria Rhudy
  - Wytheville – Fairview/Rural Retreat, Pastor Ruthanne Henley
- Morristown – Wesley’s Chapel, Pastor Sherry Seay
- Morristown – Hardin’s Chapel, Pastor Lew Kizer

The Living Stone Award will be presented to Ironsburg, Pastor William Clark, at Annual Conference.

- Facebook page – Layne Pennington is working to create a Facebook page for the SMCT team. This technology will assist us in our collaboration with small membership congregations.

~ Victor Dingus, Chair

### CHURCHES OF EXCELLENCE IN EVANGELISM

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### Morristown District

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### Tazewell District

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According to the January, 2012, edition of the “Colleague,” a publication of the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, Holston is among the top ten conferences across the denomination with a higher percentage of young commissioned and ordained elders. Across the national church, 5.61 percent of the total number of elders is under 35 years of age. That is the highest percentage of elders under 35 in more than a decade. Concerning local pastors, the 35 under age range comprises 6.2 percent.

The percentages were given in a report by Dr. Lovett Weems, who heads the Lewis Center for Church Leadership of Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, D.C. The Lewis Center, as part of its study, tracks the age demographics of clergy. In his report Dr. Weems indicates that there is a correlation between these percentages and conferences that have youth focused events that include a call to ministry component. He noted that Holston’s annual Resurrection event draws thousands of youth and there is a call to ministry component in the program. We can also include our Holston Conference camping ministries as venues which provide faith-oriented experiences that plant early seeds of dedication and formation.

The Board of Ordained Ministry encourages us as a conference to strengthen our support for these formational experiences in the lives of our children and youth as a way of planting seeds for the future of the church. In the meantime we also are called to support those persons who in our local churches are currently answering the call to preparation for ministry. These are the daughters and sons of Holston who are raised up from within our congregations by God to answer the call to ministry as local pastors, deacons, and elders. Send your kids to camp! Send your youth to Resurrection and to Youth Assembly!

Aren’t we the kind of people in Holston who want to support our own? Of course, we are! Support can come from the generosity of the tithe from each local church, which helps to ensure that the Holston Conference will receive its portion of the Ministerial Education Funds. It can also come from a local church that desires to aid a person from within its congregation to bear some of the increased costs of preparing for service to the church. As we look to the future, it is a hope of many in this conference that a separate education fund can be established through the generosity of donors with a vision and a heartfelt desire to support those who answer God’s call as local pastors, deacons, and elders.
I am indebted to the lay and clergy members of the Board of Ordained Ministry who work diligently on behalf of the people called Methodist in Holston. I wish to thank Bishop Swanson for his service in relation to the Board during his tenure. He has been a faithful servant of Christ’s church in Holston through his leadership and advocacy of ministry for both lay and clergy. I am grateful for the Cabinet and Conference staff; Dan Taylor, Don Nation, and Marci Villanueva, whose collaboration with the Board is crucial.

Reed Shell, Chair

STEERING COMMITTEE OF THE ORDERS OF ELDERS AND DEACONS AND FELLOWSHIP OF LOCAL PASTORS AND ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

The Committee once again sponsored the 2011 Clergy Gathering, which saw a change in both location and format. We had meetings in the north and south of the Conference. On October 10 we met at First Farragut and on October 11 the meeting was held at First Broad Street, Kingsport. Both meetings were held from 1:00pm to 4:00pm. We want to thank Rev. John Brewster and Rev. Mickey Rainwater, their staffs and volunteers for a warm welcome and great hospitality.

Our program was led by Bishop Swanson and Neil Alexander and, centered on the Call to Action. We want to thank the Bishop for his insight concerning this new emphasis on the revitalization of the church.

We also want to express our appreciation to Bishop Swanson for his passionate ministry during his eight years in the Holston Conference. We wish him and Delphine God’s grace as they move to another episcopal area.

Lynn Hutton resigned as chair of the order of deacons due to work commitments. We want to thank Lynn for her leadership and dedication during her tenure. Rebekah Fetzer was elected by the deacons to complete Lynn’s term. We welcome Rebekah and look forward to her input and leadership on the steering committee.

The fall gathering will be held on October 16th. Further information will be available at the clergy session.

As is our custom, the Committee will once again provide gifts for those entering various stages of ministry. This will be during the clergy session of Annual Conference.

Many thanks go to Don Nation, Steward of Clergy Concerns, for his work in assisting the Committee.

At Jurisdictional Conference five bishops will be elected and three current bishops will be reassigned. We anticipate the coming of a new episcopal leader to Holston.

Dennie D. Humphreys, Chair
The Wesley Leadership Institute (WLI) coordinates the continuing education and lifelong leadership development endeavors of the Board of Ordained Ministry for our conference clergy. Our work directly relates to one of the “Four Areas of Focus” endorsed by the 2008 General Conference - the development of principled Christian leaders - as well as one of the four drivers of congregational vitality indicated in the Call to Action report – effective, equipped and inspired clergy leadership. Our work also seeks to further the realization of the gifts of the Holy Spirit “to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ” (Ephesians 4:12).

Among the “equipment” that we offer our clergy annually is the Convocation at Lake Junaluska. This year’s convocation was held February 6-9. Kent Millard, who recently retired from St. Luke’s United Methodist Church in Indianapolis, Indiana, and is the author of *A Passion Driven Congregation* (among other books), was our keynote speaker. His sessions dealt with cultivating the pastor’s own “passion driven” spiritual life, servant leadership, the characteristics of vital and inspiring worship, and “the vision driven congregation” – each of which related to aspects of the Call to Action emphasis. We were welcomed at nearby Long’s Chapel UMC for worship, and several of Holston’s own clergy provided the leadership of a variety of workshops that also related to the Call to Action report on such topics as small group ministries, worship leadership, relating to young adults, managing conflict, using demographic information, and engaging in missions. The clergy also provided some “warm words” of love and appreciation for Bishop Swanson, for whom this is his last Convocation among us here in Holston. He closed our convocation in his customary style, by preaching for our closing worship service with Holy Communion. The evaluations of this event were resoundingly positive. The WLI would like to thank all of those who were involved in helping to make this year’s Convocation happen, but especially Ann Robins for serving as our dean this year and Will Shelton for leading our daily morning devotions.

Next year’s Convocation is scheduled for February 18-21, 2013. The theme will be “Adaptive Leadership,” and Joey Manis will serve as our dean.

One of the goals of the WLI is to draw more deeply upon the wealth of experience and expertise that is already present among our own conference clergy and laypersons in providing workshops and leading presentations that will foster our clergy’s lifelong growth and development. This is happening already at events like Convocation, but it can also happen more frequently throughout the year and more locally throughout the bounds of the Annual Conference. If you have a particular area of interest or experience that may be of value to your colleagues in ministry, or if you know of someone who does, please contact us and let us know. We want to build and maintain a database of speakers, workshop leaders and workshop topics, especially as they relate to the Call to Action emphasis. Maybe you have picked up on some pointers for leading the nominations process in the local church, or maybe you have learned some lessons about leading a congregation through a building project, or maybe you have uncovered some research in a Doctor of Ministry project or other such program that you think would be beneficial to other clergy. There is so much we can learn from one another as we all seek to grow as faithful and effective clergy, and sharing what we have learned with others is one of the ways we express our covenant commitments to one another as clergy colleagues. Please contact Don Nation, the Director of the WLI, at donnation@holston.org if you have certain programs, presentations, or presenters in mind.
We also continue to offer educational opportunities on behalf of the Board of Ordained Ministry for pastors who are starting out in their very first pastoral appointment as well as for those who are in transition to new appointments. We continue to partner with local churches, other conference groups and agencies outside of the Annual Conference, such as the General Board of Discipleship, the Society for Biblical Studies, the Intentional Growth Center at Lake Junaluska and the Alban Institute, by promoting events that they sponsor and offering continuing education credit in accordance with our CEU guidelines. Please let us know if you have any such programs coming up so that we can publicize those on our website.

We continue to be grateful for the leadership that Don Nation and Sue Weber provide through the conference office. They maintain regular contact with our pastors and are always eager to address any of your questions or concerns. Please visit our website (http://www.holston.org/ministries/wesley-leadership-institute/) for more information on upcoming events, to check on the availability of grant funding for continuing educational pursuits or to log or to track your continuing education record activities online. And please keep in touch with us and let us know how we can equip you more fully for the work of ministry to which you have been called, for building up the body of Christ and for making disciples of Christ for the transformation of the world.

David Graybeal, Chair
Wesley Leadership Institute of the Board of Ordained Ministry

THE PASTORAL COUNSELING CENTER

The Pastoral Counseling Center Director (PCC) and the Supervisory Committee are pleased to offer a reflection on the ministry of the Pastoral Counseling Center in Holston, whose purpose is to support the wellbeing of our clergy, our churches, and clergy families. In this important time in the life of the United Methodist Church it is necessary to consider thoughtfully and prayerfully every congregation and every ministry in light of the United Methodist Call to Action and the identified traits that are related to Vital Congregations. This report will be given to that reflection.

One of the four areas of congregational vitality to which this ministry relates directly is “effective equipped inspired clergy.” The ministry of Pastoral Counseling in Holston has served directly 229 clergy and laity during the past year for well over 1000 clinical contact hours, which includes individual, couple and family confidential counseling and confidential clergy groups. This enumeration, however, does not tell the whole story. It is impossible to assume how many persons have been impacted by the vital work of this center.

The Pastoral Counseling Center sponsors confidential clergy groups in three areas of the Conference. In these groups, clergy read and discuss books related to spiritual growth, leadership through the family systems perspective and other meaningful topics related to ministry. Additionally, the group is a model of the small Wesleyan-type group in which participants are held accountable for their own growth. The groups provide support for participants through confidential colleague relationships.

Pastors and their families and other beneficiaries who are clients of the Pastoral Counseling Center are supported in such a way that they are able to move toward improved relationships with others, more sound leadership skills useful in the mentoring and development of lay leadership in the churches, enlivened spiritual life, and more positive physical and emotional wellbeing. Such results are goals of
Vital Congregations

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the efforts made in this counseling ministry. It is well documented that leaders who devote time and energy to the development of their personal spirituality and emotional maturity will be more grounded and able to sustain themselves in ministry through difficulties of congregations, including perceived obstacles to growth. It is also known through research that having a more positive, hopeful outlook about one’s life enables resilience and sustainability. Such outlooks are gained when a person intentionally is responsible for his or her wellbeing. Therefore, a positive outlook will enable a pastor to help others overcome fears and negative habits that may stand in the way of congregational vitality.

Sometimes the greatest impact of a ministry cannot be quantified in numbers. The ministry offered through the work of Pastoral Counseling is broad and deeply rewarding. One of these important ways is an availability to churches for seminars and retreats on wellness topics, fill-in preaching, and spiritual retreats. Also, I frequently am invited to share with clergy at District Ministers Meeting which provides opportunity for clergy support, encouragement and teaching about self-care. This contact often results in a clergy taking advantage of the varied services I am able to provide.

This ministry supports the Board of Ordained Ministry through seminars and retreats for Clergy including Provisional members. As well, I teach a full day of pastoral self care, boundaries and clergy ethics to our valuable local pastors as they begin their ministry. The Local Pastor School has been on my agenda each February since 2005. I am honored to participate in the training and support of all our clergy.

Also, other Conference groups focused on emotional and spiritual wellness are related to the ministry of the PCC including CWART (Conference Wellness Advocacy Response Team) and Partners in Crisis. I participate with CWART both as a member of the team on occasion and supervisor. The sensitive nature of the work is vital to the wellbeing of the churches of Holston. This capable, devoted, trained team of clergy and laity needs support, debriefing, and ongoing education. These have all been provided through the ministry of Pastoral Counseling as well as through outside training groups. I am also available to Partners in Crisis clients and team members for support of individuals or the group.

Additionally, through the work of Pastoral Counseling, a Spiritual and Emotional Care Team for Disaster Response has been facilitated and trained. Thirty-three clergy and laity have been trained and many are ready to deploy when needed. Readiness is key to being able to serve in a crisis. The ministry of Pastoral Counseling here in Holston has facilitated this readiness on behalf of every Holston United Methodist clergy and congregational member and also all the people who live within the Holston Area.

~ Laura A. Shearer, Director
~ Don Ferguson, Chair, Supervisory Committee

CWART

The Congregational Wellness Advocacy Response Team (CWART) seeks to serve the congregations and pastors of the Holston Annual Conference in two ways. We serve as the response team who works with congregations immediately following a situation of clergy misconduct as well as work with congregations who are experiencing ongoing turmoil or conflict. We consist of lay persons and clergy from throughout the conference. Our work as a response team is a short-term, immediate response in order to provide safe and active listening to church members and staff. Our goal is to allow
the congregations to be heard, to grieve, and to heal so that they can move forward and grow as a vital congregation.

In working with churches who are experiencing conflict, our process is more detailed. We receive referrals or requests from District Superintendents as well as pastors. After talking with the lead pastor and Staff-Parish chairperson, we meet with the whole SPR Committee to plan how best to address the needs of the specific congregation.

The goal of both approaches is to promote healthy communication within members of the congregation while empowering the laity to help lead the congregation as they move toward healing and wholeness. In our “Suggestions” portion of our final report we offer suggestions for ways in which to empower the laity, foster strong communication throughout the congregation and encourage the pastors in their work and calling. Our goal is to help congregations to be healthy, vital and growing congregations that reach out to make disciples for Christ.

All of our work is confidential.

This year our team received training from the Reverend Darryl Stephens from COSROW on issues such as clergy misconduct and the effects on a congregation, a greater study of the theological framing of our work, and shared in discussion regarding our role as promoters of healing, wholeness, trust and confidentiality.

We appreciate the opportunities to serve the churches in our conference.

Respectfully submitted,
Lauri Jo Cranford, Chairperson

PARTNERS IN CRISIS

Partners in Crisis (PIC) is a volunteer support network for clergy spouses. Founded in 1995 upon of the vision of a clergy spouse, Mrs. Charles Hurlock, PIC seeks to provide spiritual and relational support as well as financial and legal assistance to clergy spouses who suddenly find themselves without a home, a church family, or pastoral care. Mrs. Dot Lee, wife of our former bishop, Clay F. Lee, joined Mrs. Hurlock and many other clergy spouses in the formative years of PIC.

In the years since its founding, PIC has given support to a significant number of both male and female clergy spouses.

PIC meets twice a year at the Holston Conference Center in Alcoa to review their work and to assess needs of clergy spouses and to develop ways of helping those in the midst of a crisis. Over the years since its formation, PIC has added the capability of providing for temporary housing for spouses in distressing circumstances.

The leadership of PIC maintains the highest degree of confidentiality in all its dealings with clergy spouses. The group functions with two co-directors, a secretary, and a treasurer, along with ten to twelve representative clergy spouses. The Steward of Clergy Concerns also meets with PIC, offering support and guidance. However, any clergy spouse who wishes to join the group is welcome to do so.

Gifts from those wishing to support PIC should be made out to the Holston Conference Foundation and earmarked for “Partners in Crisis.”

- Nancy Ridenour, Secretary
COMMISSION ON EQUITABLE COMPENSATION

Call to Action

One of the drivers of a vital congregation is “effective, equipped and inspired clergy leadership.” The Commission on Equitable Compensation views its work as one way to help make this “driver” possible in some of our local churches.

Some examples of this are:

- Virginia Avenue in Knoxville. This is one of the mission aid congregations, located in one of the poorest areas of the city. These funds allow us to have a congregational and pastoral presence where otherwise there would be none;
- In other sites, the funds help provide full-time pastoral leadership. The Tazewell District charges of Staffordsville Circuit and Pisgah/Pleasant Hill are growing into assuming their full pastoral support and are benefitting from the pastoral leadership that is presently there.

The 2008 Book of Discipline, paragraph 625, assigns the Commission on Equitable Compensation with the responsibility of directing the disbursement of the Equitable Compensation Fund.

The primary responsibility for pastoral compensation is with the individual congregation and we strongly encourage each pastoral charge to move toward full support of its pastor. We ask the cabinet to consider charge realignments, mergers or matching ministerial leadership to the category of salary paid by the charge in order to reduce the demand for supplementation of clergy salaries.

The purpose of equitable compensation is to support full-time clergy serving as pastors in the charges of the annual conference. This will be accomplished by:

- Recommending conference standards for pastoral support;
- Administering funds to be used in base compensation supplementation;
- Providing counsel and advisory material on clergy support to district superintendents and committees on staff/pastor/parish relations.

The Commission on Equitable Compensation will accomplish these objectives by:

- Performing an annual review and recommendations of minimum salary levels.
- Submitting an annual budget request adequate to fund equitable salary needs.
- Providing direction and oversight in the disbursement of this fund.
- Providing counsel and advisory support to the Cabinet and SPPR committees.

Following are the seven (7) guidelines normally required for Equitable Compensation Support. Following the eligibility guidelines is a section pertaining to Application and Distribution Procedures.

Eligibility Guidelines for Equitable Compensation Support

To be eligible for Equitable Compensation support, a charge should comply with the guidelines regarding fiscal responsibility and other policies of the Conference Commission on Equitable Compensation. These guidelines are as follows:

1. There shall be a Committee on Finance for the charge or for each congregation of the charge making application.
2. There shall be an educational program (approved by the District Superintendent) emphasizing specific stewardship goals of regular proportionate giving and tithing.

3. There shall be at least a simple income projection and spending plan for the congregation making application for a grant. A copy of that plan is to be attached to the application. No application will be considered complete until that plan is received.

4. The church/charge will have worked with the District Superintendent in reaching agreed upon goals related to its district and conference giving.

5. Requests shall be for a specific length of time, not to exceed four years. A specific written plan for getting off Equitable Compensation Support shall be submitted as a part of the application. The plan should be reviewed and updated at least annually to determine that adequate progress toward the ultimate goal is being achieved and celebrated. The total amount that the charge can expect over the four-year period would be determined up front. (Example: Total amount = $25,000; year one - $10,000; year two - $7,500; year three - $5,000; year four - $2,500; year five - $0.) The charge must annually pick up the 25% decrease from the previous year plus any increase in the minimum salary for its pastor as set by the conference for the coming year.

6. There shall be an annual audit, and a copy of the most recent audit shall accompany the application. No application shall be considered complete without the most recent annual audit being provided.

7. If, due to unusual circumstances, a church requests to be granted funds under the “mission situation” classification, it must substantiate its request by clearly defining its distinctive mission ministry and convince the Cabinet and the Commission on Equitable Compensation that the situation is as deserving of mission support as are other critical mission needs.

Application and Disbursement Procedures
The district superintendent must submit an application for each pastor to receive funds. These forms are available from the Office on Administrative Services. The application must be presented at the Charge Conference, approved and signed by the charge conference secretary, the pastor, and the district superintendent. This requirement is waived on mid-year pastoral changes; however, the district superintendent must sign the application and process it accordingly.

Step 1: The district superintendent is responsible for the recommendation of pastors who are eligible for equitable compensation within his/her respective district. To determine eligibility the following items must be reported on the application form:

- Total compensation from the charge including salary, travel allowance, parsonage utilities, social security payment, pastor’s share of medical insurance premiums (including salary reduction, if applicable.)
- Contributions from all other sources at the national, conference, district and local church levels.
- All other income from church sources.

Step 2: The district superintendent will submit applications to the cabinet representative to the Commission on Equitable Compensation for review by the entire cabinet. Once approved, the applications will be forwarded to the Conference Administrative Services Office for disbursement.
Step 3: The decision of eligibility for and distribution of equitable compensation funds is delegated to the cabinet, which will, insofar as possible, seek to follow the conference guidelines on equitable compensation. The Commission on Equitable Compensation and the Conference Council on Finance and Administration encourage judicious stewardship in the allocation of these funds.

Step 4: The district superintendent shall diligently guide those charges and pastors who receive support in his/her district toward self-sufficiency.

Categories to be Funded and Schedule of Minimum Salary Levels for 2013

The Commission on Equitable Compensation recommends a 4% increase in minimum salary levels for the year 2013. This is the first increase in minimum salary levels since January 1, 2009. The maximum paid for salary supplement shall not exceed 50% of the minimum salary level.

For full-time service by Conference Members:

- Full Member (M.Div.) or equivalent degree $38,624
- Provisional Member (M.Div.) or equivalent degree $36,422
- Associate Member $34,973

For Service as full-time Pastors:

- M.Div. $33,770
- Completed Studies $32,875
- Beginning Studies $28,500

For Service as Student Pastors:

- Seminary Students $26,565
- College Students $23,087

Annual Supplements for Student Pastors with Dependent Children:

- Each Dependent Child $662

The Commission on Equitable Compensation requests a budget of $136,000 for Cabinet use.

Equitable Compensation will be based on the Pastor’s Support Worksheet. The office of Administrative Services will send payments directly to the church treasurers rather than to the pastors. The treasurers are to include the funds in the pastor’s paychecks and account for them on the pastor’s W-2 forms. Equitable compensation supplements shall not be included in the pastor’s compensation line item on end-of-year reports.

Charge Categories

Equitable Compensation Charge: A charge in which the proposed equitable salary schedule is not fully paid by the charge, but which possesses the potential to become self-sustaining. Amount of funding will be reduced by 25% per year with the church becoming self-sufficient within four years. Funding beyond four years will be subject to a review by a joint committee of the Cabinet and the Commission on Equitable Compensation.

Mission Aid Ministry: A ministry, rural or urban, where the minimum salary level cannot be paid for by the ministry, either in full or in part; and where there is no
realistic expectation of financial independence. It is the responsibility of the district, the pastor serving the ministry and a representative of the related charge conference to justify the designation of such a ministry and why it qualifies for aid. The designation is to be reviewed annually.

**Cooperative Parish:** A cooperative parish is a group ministry made up of two or more charges for the purpose of enhancing ministry among churches in a specific geographical area. It is expected that any request for equitable salary funds in a cooperative parish shall meet the approved guidelines and standards for equitable compensation.

**Qualifications and Requirements**

For a pastor to receive Equitable Compensation Supplement, he or she must be under Episcopal appointment as an *approved full-time pastor.*

A **student pastor** is a clergy person under Episcopal appointment to serve a pastoral charge while a full-time student in pursuit of a degree and residing within the geographical bounds of the charge. A full-time student is one who is so classified by the school in which the student is enrolled.

A **seminary or college student** may be appointed full- or part-time as a local pastor to a charge and will receive at least the appropriate minimum salary of the Annual Conference in accordance with **paragraph 318.3** of the **2008 Book of Discipline**.

The student pastor receiving equitable compensation will be expected to:

a) Work at least 2 ½ days per week on site.

b) Work full-time each week the student is not in school.

c) Be absent from Sunday worship no more than three Sundays per year.

The **charge/church** receiving salary supplementation must pay at least 50% of the minimum salary, provide housing or a housing allowance for the pastor and offer Sunday school and other local church programs in addition to weekly worship services. A charge not meeting this standard is not eligible for salary supplementation even if served by a student. Students serving a charge in this category will be classified as part-time local pastors and receive only the salary level paid by the charge.

**Utility costs** should be considered when making appointments. If the utilities are paid by the charge, this should be considered as part of the salary. The utilities should always be in the name of the charge/church and not the pastor. Each charge should provide for its pastor’s travel expenses in its budget and provide reimbursement at the standard IRS approved mileage rate for all properly documented travel expenses related to the performance of ministry within the charge.

**Steps in Becoming a Self-Supporting Charge/Church**

The Cabinet is responsible for the conserving of conference funds by ongoing efforts to move charges to a self-supporting status. **It is recommended that each charge receiving supplemental salary establish the goal of reducing the equitable compensation supplement by 25% per year over a four-year period.** The district superintendent will work with the charge to develop a plan and to monitor the implementation of the plan so that the goal of reducing equitable compensation by 25% per year over a four-year period will be realized. The Annual Conference should recognize those charges that succeed and move to a self-supporting status for their achievement.
The District Superintendent will establish and maintain communication with the appropriate charge leaders (i.e. the pastor, the SPPR chairperson, the treasurer, the lay leader, etc…) reminding them of the charge’s progress in reducing equitable compensation. This ongoing communication is intended to keep the goal before the charge and to help encourage and enable the charge to reach its goal.

In those situations where this is not possible, it is the responsibility of the Cabinet to consider regrouping of charges, mergers, or the matching of ministerial leadership to the category of salary paid by the charge in order to provide service at minimum expense to the Annual Conference.

~ Danny C. Hensley, Chair

### Equitable Compensation Funds

**Annualized Figures**

**Effective Jan 1, 2012**

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<th>Name</th>
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**Totals**

$81,990 $45,487 $3,600
CONFERENCE BOARD OF PENSIONS AND HEALTH BENEFITS REPORT

Highlights for 2013

• There are no changes to our existing guidelines for health insurance. You can find a full listing of these guidelines listed in the 2011 Journal or on the Holston Conference website.

• Each plan was increased a maximum of 5% for 2013 as attached with our 2013 rate sheet.

• The Conference Board of Pensions and Health Benefits is in the process of implementing “Healthy Holston,” a health and wellness program for our current active health participants. Plans currently include a biometric screening at the 2012 Annual Conference. Please look for our information that publicizes and provides more details for this event.

• As a part of our report, we have included a copy of our Pension Funding Plan as approved by the General Board of Pensions. This information lists all of the future pension promises made and our plans to fund these costs.

The United Methodist Church acknowledges that pensions are "deferred compensation" earned at the same time and in the same manner as salary. Of the total compensation package, including salary, housing, utilities, health insurance, death/disability benefits, and other cash or non-cash allowances, the purpose of a pension is to assure retirement with dignity in an often unpredictable future.

To implement our Pension and Benefits Program for 2013, the Conference Board of Pensions and Health Benefits (Board of Pensions) submits the following guidance:

1. The Board of Pensions recommends a past service retirement rate of $540 per year of approved Pre-1982 ministerial service in Holston Annual Conference.

2. The total budget amount to provide for the Ministerial Pension Plan (MPP), the Comprehensive Protection Plan (CPP), and the Health Insurance shall be determined each year. Churches should remit 1/12th of their direct invoice to the conference treasurer each month.

3. The pension rate for the surviving spouse of a ministerial conference member eligible to receive pension benefits for service rendered before January 1, 1982, shall be 70% of the 2013 pension rate.

4. The Contribution Base shall be the active Participant's Plan Compensation as reported on line 12 of their appropriate pastor’s support worksheet.

5. The 2013 Plan Compensation shall include cash salary, plus tax-deferred contributions, plus 25% for housing where the minister lives in a parsonage or the cash housing allowance where such is provided.

6. An active participant in Clergy Retirement Security Program (CRSP) should contribute a minimum 3% of the Plan Compensation as a personal contribution to the Personal Investment Plan (UMPIP). These contributions may be made on a before-tax or after-tax basis. The salary-paying unit must issue the checks. The participant and the salary-paying unit must complete a Before-tax and After-tax Contribution Agreement.

7. The cost of the Comprehensive Protection Plan (CPP) under the new plan will be 3.0% of the Participant's Plan Compensation for all active full-time ministerial members and full-time local pastors.

8. Continue retirement moving expense, in accordance with our adopted policy
which allows for one-time funds up to $1,500 to be received for associated expenses. See our full policy that was included in the 2011 Book of Reports and Journal.

9. The Holston Conference Board of Pensions recommends the conference health insurance continue, for active participants with the Blue-Preferred Network with Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Tennessee, which began on January 1, 1999. This program continues to be a cost savings to the subscribers and the churches.

10. The maximum premium rates for 2013 are listed on the Rate Sheet included in this report. These rates may be revised downward if the Board of Pensions and Health Benefits receive favorable claim data and information related to the health programs. Any changes in costs or benefit levels will be mailed as a part of the health statement billings, for active pastors or in a separate mailing for retirees covered by the retiree program. These mailings will be distributed in the fourth quarter of 2012, if necessary.

11. The Holston Conference will utilize the internet to provide participants with relevant information related to their rates and plan data.

12. If participants are interested in changing their health plan they must notify the Conference Pension and Health Administrator in writing of any changes to their plan. The change from the high, middle, or H.S.A. plan must be completed by November 1, 2012, in order to take effect on January 1, 2013. The Conference will anticipate no changes in health coverage if a written request is not received from the Conference.

RESERVE BALANCES AND HEALTH INSURANCE

Like most investments around the country our reserve funds have been reduced as a result of the recent economic downturn. As a result, we will continue to monitor our asset allocations to ensure that future benefits can be provided to the participants in the various programs. Also as a result of new accounting principles, the Holston Conference has booked a charge of approximately $28 million for post-employment health care benefits. The Board of Pensions is currently taking steps to manage this liability and ensure that the benefit programs can be sustained for today and the future.

As of December 31, 2011, our reserve balances are $17,493,182 to pay future pension obligations and $11,430,965 for paying health insurance claims.

INCAPACITY LEAVE 2012-2013

In accordance with ¶ 357, 2008 Book of Discipline, the Conference Board of Pensions recommends the following active ministers and local pastors be continued subject to the renewal of their eligibility for disability benefits from the Comprehensive Protection Plan for the conference year 2012-2013: Bobby Barton, Janice A. Cate, Thomas A. Conley, Raymond C. Deese, Jr., Gary Franklin Hill, Charles R. McKinney, Mathilda S. Merker, Alfred Newman, Lawrence Nuckolls, William Ogle Sr., James Darrell Ray, Helen Esther Shaw, John L. Sheldon, David R. Vaughn, H. Malcolm Wansley, Nancy J. Wilhite, Benny Jon Bishop, David W. Olinger, Alonzo Jenkins, Paula Dell Campbell, April Milligan (pending).

SPECIAL GRANTS 2012-2013 CONFERENCE YEAR

“Conference Board of Pensions may make special grants to clergy members or former clergy members and to local pastors or former local pastors of an Annual Conference who have served under appointment in that conference; or to their spouses, former spouses, surviving former spouses, or surviving dependent children (including adult
dependent children). A report of such special grants shall be made annually to the Annual Conference”.

¶ 1506.14, The 2008 Book of Discipline

The Holston Conference will continue to provide loans for pastors that have requested incapacity leave, after receiving approval from the joint committee on incapacity until they are approved or denied by the General Board of Pensions. These loans will require the participant to sign a promissory note and the participant can only receive an advance for a maximum of 3 months or until approved for CPP, whichever is earlier.

MINISTERS

None for 2013

DEPENDENT ADULT CHILDREN

Mr. Thomas E. Byrd, birth date 9/25/44, dependent adult son of the Reverend Howard G. Byrd, deceased minister. Based on 13.00 years of service times 25% of the current pension rate.

Mr. Wendell R. Stock, birth date 12/4/58, dependent adult son of the Reverend Shirl F. Stock, deceased local pastor. Based on 5.50 years of service times 25% of the current pension rate.

HOLSTON CONFERENCE PENSION FUNDING PLAN

Currently, the Holston Conference funds its pension costs by billing each church 16.3% of line 12 of the Pastor’s Support Worksheet. This amount covers all pension costs associated with CRSP-DC, CRSP-DB, and CPP. The Conference also uses proceeds from a capital campaign and other sources of funds to fund the costs and liabilities associated with the Pre-82 plan. These assets are used to fund Pre-82 contributions and smooth any dramatic increases in the CRSP benefit plans. As a part of our long-term plan, it is anticipated that we will bill 16.3% of covered payroll for the duration of our plan unless investment income returns are less than or greater than 7%, payroll grows at a faster or slower rate than 2.5%, fewer or more participants qualify to participate in the CRSP program, or other factors occur that could have a significant impact on our future costs being increased or decreased. Currently, the General Conference is considering dramatic changes to the existing pension program which could have a significant impact on our future retirement costs.

In 2011, the Holston Conference began billing churches directly for the costs of their pension benefits. It is anticipated that we will have significant changes in the number of participants in the pension program. As a part of this our Conference total compensation total will be decreased, which may have an impact on our future direct invoice bills and our amount of payroll used to determine our costs and liabilities. We will be monitoring these changes as we constantly evaluate our funding plan.

Pre-82

The Holston Conference plans to increase Pre-82 contribution rates at 2% going forward to implement the assumptions included in our funding plan. Historically, this amount has been greater than the 2% increase proposed, but we recognize that additional increases will impact our ability to retire our liability by 2021 while funding our other retirement costs going forward.

CRSP

The General Conference is considering additional changes to the existing CRSP pension plan which are estimated to reduce our pension costs by approximately 15% in future periods. While we have not built this reduction into our funding plan, we are
anticipating that any decisions made at the 2012 General Conference will impact our existing funding plan and it may be altered going forward.

ASSUMPTIONS

As a part of the funding plan for pension costs from 2012 through 2034, the Holston Conference has made the following assumptions:

- Collection Rate for Direct Invoicing: 98%
- Direct Invoice Rate 2012-2034: 16.3% (assumes no change to CRSP at 2012 General Conference)
- Increases in Pre-82 past service rate: 2%
- Increases in Conference Compensation: 2.5%
- Increases in Denominational Compensation: 3%
- Mortality Table Used: RP -2000

| Comparison of Revenues and Expenses |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Pension Costs   | Apportionments  | Endowment       | Interest        | Endowment       | End Bal in      |
|                 | (Direct Billing)* | Transfers       | Income          | Deductions      | Endowment Fund  |
| 2012            | $5,348,392      | $4,303,200      | $1,045,192      | $1,224,523      | $1,045,192      | $17,672,513     |
| 2013            | $6,194,001      | $4,410,780      | $1,783,221      | $1,237,076      | $1,783,221      | $17,126,368     |
| 2014            | $6,333,901      | $4,521,050      | $1,812,852      | $1,198,846      | $1,812,852      | $16,512,362     |
| 2015            | $6,477,897      | $4,634,076      | $1,843,822      | $1,155,865      | $1,843,822      | $15,824,406     |
| 2016            | $6,626,110      | $4,749,928      | $1,876,182      | $1,107,708      | $1,876,182      | $15,055,932     |
| 2017            | $6,778,661      | $4,868,676      | $1,909,986      | $1,053,915      | $1,909,986      | $14,199,862     |
| 2018            | $6,935,681      | $4,990,393      | $1,945,288      | $993,990        | $1,945,288      | $13,248,564     |
| 2019            | $7,097,298      | $5,115,153      | $1,982,146      | $927,400        | $1,982,146      | $12,193,818     |
| 2021            | $7,434,874      | $5,374,107      | $2,060,767      | $771,874        | $2,060,767      | $9,737,874      |
| 2022            | $6,215,770      | $5,508,460      | $707,311        | $681,651        | $707,311        | $9,712,214      |
| 2023            | $6,397,174      | $5,646,171      | $751,003        | $679,855        | $751,003        | $9,641,066      |
| 2024            | $6,583,894      | $5,787,326      | $796,568        | $674,875        | $796,568        | $9,519,373      |
| 2025            | $6,776,085      | $5,932,009      | $844,076        | $666,356        | $844,076        | $9,341,653      |
| 2026            | $6,973,908      | $6,080,309      | $893,600        | $653,916        | $893,600        | $9,101,969      |
| 2027            | $7,177,530      | $6,232,317      | $945,214        | $637,138        | $945,214        | $8,793,893      |
| 2028            | $7,387,121      | $6,388,125      | $998,996        | $615,573        | $998,996        | $8,410,469      |
| 2029            | $7,602,856      | $6,547,828      | $1,055,028      | $588,733        | $1,055,028      | $7,944,174      |
| 2030            | $7,824,916      | $6,711,523      | $1,113,393      | $556,092        | $1,113,393      | $7,386,873      |
| 2031            | $8,053,487      | $6,879,311      | $1,174,176      | $517,081        | $1,174,176      | $6,729,779      |
| 2032            | $8,288,761      | $7,051,294      | $157,460        | $471,084        | $157,460        | $7,043,403      |
| 2033            | $8,530,935      | $7,227,577      | $1,303,359      | $493,038        | $1,303,359      | $6,233,083      |
| 2034            | $8,780,212      | $7,408,266      | $1,371,946      | $436,316        | $1,371,946      | $5,297,452      |
## Projected Expenses by Plan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>CRSP-DB**</th>
<th>CPP***</th>
<th>CRSP-DC**</th>
<th>MPP</th>
<th>Pre-82*</th>
<th>Totals</th>
<th>CRSP-DC Wages</th>
<th>CRSP</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>$3,161,048</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$792,000</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$1,395,344</td>
<td>$5,348,392</td>
<td>$26,400,000</td>
<td>$3,953,048</td>
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<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>$3,255,879</td>
<td>$730,977</td>
<td>$811,800</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$1,395,344</td>
<td>$6,194,001</td>
<td>$27,060,000</td>
<td>$4,067,679</td>
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<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>$3,353,556</td>
<td>$752,906</td>
<td>$832,095</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$1,395,344</td>
<td>$6,333,901</td>
<td>$27,736,500</td>
<td>$4,185,651</td>
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<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>$3,454,162</td>
<td>$775,494</td>
<td>$852,897</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$1,395,344</td>
<td>$6,477,897</td>
<td>$28,429,913</td>
<td>$4,307,060</td>
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<td>2016</td>
<td>$3,557,787</td>
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<td>$874,220</td>
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<td>$1,395,344</td>
<td>$6,626,110</td>
<td>$29,140,660</td>
<td>$4,432,007</td>
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<td>2017</td>
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<td>$0</td>
<td>$1,395,344</td>
<td>$6,778,661</td>
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<td>2019</td>
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<td>$872,825</td>
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<td>$1,395,344</td>
<td>$7,097,298</td>
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<tr>
<td>2020</td>
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<td>$7,263,650</td>
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<tr>
<td>2021</td>
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<td>$989,099</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$1,395,344</td>
<td>$7,434,874</td>
<td>$32,969,982</td>
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<tr>
<td>2022</td>
<td>$4,248,184</td>
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<td>$1,013,827</td>
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<td>$1,395,344</td>
<td>$7,621,570</td>
<td>$33,794,232</td>
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<td>2023</td>
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<td>$1,395,344</td>
<td>$8,088,431</td>
<td>$35,505,065</td>
<td>$5,572,051</td>
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<td>2025</td>
<td>$4,642,106</td>
<td>$1,042,199</td>
<td>$1,091,781</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$1,395,344</td>
<td>$8,365,465</td>
<td>$36,392,692</td>
<td>$5,733,886</td>
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<tr>
<td>2026</td>
<td>$4,781,369</td>
<td>$1,073,464</td>
<td>$1,119,075</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$1,395,344</td>
<td>$8,667,016</td>
<td>$37,302,509</td>
<td>$5,900,444</td>
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<td>2027</td>
<td>$4,924,810</td>
<td>$1,105,668</td>
<td>$1,147,052</td>
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<td>$1,395,344</td>
<td>$8,994,162</td>
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<td>$6,071,862</td>
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<td>2028</td>
<td>$5,072,554</td>
<td>$1,138,838</td>
<td>$1,175,728</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$1,395,344</td>
<td>$9,362,410</td>
<td>$39,190,948</td>
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<tr>
<td>2029</td>
<td>$5,224,731</td>
<td>$1,173,004</td>
<td>$1,205,122</td>
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<td>$1,395,344</td>
<td>$9,762,568</td>
<td>$40,170,722</td>
<td>$6,429,852</td>
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<tr>
<td>2030</td>
<td>$5,381,473</td>
<td>$1,208,194</td>
<td>$1,235,250</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$1,395,344</td>
<td>$10,231,909</td>
<td>$41,174,990</td>
<td>$6,616,722</td>
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<tr>
<td>2031</td>
<td>$5,542,917</td>
<td>$1,244,440</td>
<td>$1,266,131</td>
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<td>$8,053,487</td>
<td>$10,726,958</td>
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<td>$6,809,048</td>
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<td>2032</td>
<td>$5,709,204</td>
<td>$1,281,773</td>
<td>$1,297,784</td>
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<td>$8,288,761</td>
<td>$11,089,755</td>
<td>$43,259,474</td>
<td>$7,006,989</td>
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<tr>
<td>2033</td>
<td>$5,880,480</td>
<td>$1,320,226</td>
<td>$1,330,229</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$8,530,935</td>
<td>$11,411,694</td>
<td>$44,340,961</td>
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<tr>
<td>2034</td>
<td>$6,056,895</td>
<td>$1,359,833</td>
<td>$1,363,485</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$8,780,212</td>
<td>$11,745,602</td>
<td>$45,449,485</td>
<td>$7,420,379</td>
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### Holston Conference

**Maximum 2013 Rates**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th><strong>HIGH PLAN MINISTERS</strong></th>
<th><strong>MIDDLE PLAN MINISTERS</strong></th>
<th><strong>H.S.A. MINISTERS</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Individual Coverage</td>
<td>Employee + Spouse</td>
<td>Family Coverage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Direct Invoice</td>
<td>$685</td>
<td>$685</td>
<td>$685</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minister</td>
<td>$230</td>
<td>$510</td>
<td>$725</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td><strong>$915</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,195</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,410</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VANCO Discount</td>
<td>($14)</td>
<td>($14)</td>
<td>($14)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th><strong>HIGH PLAN LAY EMPLOYEES</strong></th>
<th><strong>MIDDLE PLAN LAY EMPLOYEES</strong></th>
<th><strong>H.S.A. LAY EMPLOYEES</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Individual Coverage</td>
<td>Employee + Spouse</td>
<td>Family Coverage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employer</td>
<td>$350</td>
<td>$765</td>
<td>$1,085</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Claimant</td>
<td>$230</td>
<td>$510</td>
<td>$725</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td><strong>$580</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,275</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,810</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VANCO Discount</td>
<td>($7)</td>
<td>($14)</td>
<td>($14)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**4000**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th><strong>HIGH PLAN EARLY RETIREES-Minister</strong></th>
<th><strong>MIDDLE PLAN EARLY RETIREES-Minister</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Individual Coverage</td>
<td>Employee + Spouse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Premium</td>
<td>$630</td>
<td>$1,385</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conference Subsidy</td>
<td>2% times years of service for Holston Conference service (60% max.)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VANCO Discount</td>
<td>($7)</td>
<td>($14)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th><strong>MIDDLE PLAN EARLY RETIREES-Minister</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Individual Coverage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Premium</td>
<td>$515</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conference Subsidy</td>
<td>2% times years of service for Holston Conference service (60% max)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VANCO Discount</td>
<td>($7)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Personnel Resources Committee acts to serve the dedicated lay and clergy of Holston Conference who carry out the ministry of the Gospel of Jesus Christ through their gifts of leadership and administration of the various ministries of Holston Conference.

The task of carrying out the ministries of Holston Conference is borne among many servants: the local church, clergy and lay leadership at the local church and the boards and agencies of Holston Conference. The specialized role for some lay and clergy to help guide, plan and administer the connectional ministries that help vitalize local congregations is to serve as Holston Conference Staff and Personnel.

One dimension to the work of the Personnel Resources Committee is to ensure that the Conference staff is equipped with the resources and support they need to fulfill their call to ministry through administration. In evaluating the needs of Holston Conference staff, the Personnel Resources Committee takes into consideration benefits, compensation, administrative support and the resources necessary to perform their work.

Another dimension to the work of the Personnel Resources Committee is to oversee the fair and appropriate treatment of Conference employees through the establishment and clarification of employment policies and guidelines. In the event of conflict or misunderstanding between or among Conference employees, the Personnel Resources Committee provides an independent and unbiased forum for grievances to be thoughtfully and carefully considered for resolution.

Yet another dimension to the work of the Personnel Resources Committee is to provide guidance to the Conference Executive Team in matters of staffing. The Committee’s role here is to evaluate requests for personnel staffing decisions in light of Conference needs, resources and available personnel.

During the 2011 Conference year, the Personnel Resources Committee was called upon to serve the Conference in each of these dimensions. In addition to evaluating future employee compensation and benefits, it oversaw the modification of various Conference positions and the hiring of new Conference personnel. It also served as arbiter in the dispute resolution procedures and is now in the process of updating the Conference Employee Handbook to ensure that the needs and concerns of Holston Conference personnel continue to be met.

An efficient and productive team of Conference personnel is the ministry that supports and enhances our collective call to transform and create vital congregations throughout Holston Conference.

Michael A. Eastridge, Chair
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
2012 Annual Conference

During the 2011-2012 Conference Year, the Board of Trustees of the Holston Conference has been very active managing properties and investments on behalf of the Holston Annual Conference. In addition, the Board has provided extensive technical assistance to District Superintendents in matters related to church owned properties. During this past year, the Board, through the efforts of the staff and Board Members, has continued to provide training to District and local Church Boards of Trustees. In the coming year, the Board of Trustees intends to further its efforts in the development of “Standard Operating Procedures” for all areas of property and fiscal management, asset management, and loss prevention and control.

Real Property Management and Disposition of Surplus Property

The Board of Trustees continues to work towards fully implementing the Conference Policy on the Discontinuance of Local Churches that was adopted at the 2011 Annual Conference and is proactively working with the District Superintendents to assist in the management of this process.

Some milestones reached in the area of property management in the past twelve months include the following:

- Site visits to every identified discontinued or abandoned site throughout the Conference.
- Site visits to every Conference-held Historic Designated Site and completion of a “condition survey.”
- Inclusion of all Conference-held sites on the Conference General Liability Insurance.
- Documentation of a step-by-step procedure for the consideration and eventual sale of Church/Charge owned Parsonages
- Development and dissemination of standard “Trust Clause” language for all Church, District and Conference-held property.

During the past year $1,025,000 of surplus property has been sold for the benefit of Districts and new church development and revitalization. As part of these sales, special trust funds have been established within the affected Districts and Conference to utilize these funds for new church development and revitalization as required by the Discipline and to fulfill the various actions of the Annual Conference.

In an effort to effectively hold, manage and dispose of surplus property and as approved by the 2011 Annual Conference, the Board of Trustees established the Holston Conference Holding Company, Inc. (an IRS Approved 501(c)3 Tax Exempt Corporation). This newly formed company will receive, manage, hold and dispose of the properties of the Holston Conference.

Below is an inventory of properties that are held by or in the process of being transferred to the Holston Conference Holding Company, Inc. The planned disposition of these properties is noted:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property Name</th>
<th>District</th>
<th>Planned Disposition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bellamy's Chapel</td>
<td>BSG</td>
<td>Private Negotiated Sale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cumbo</td>
<td>BSG</td>
<td>Pending Action Sale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marble City</td>
<td>KNOX</td>
<td>Leased Pending Sale</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Middle Valley Parsonage CHA Held Pending Renovation
Middle Valley Church CHA Held Pending Cong. Dev.
Oak Grove AB Leased Pending Sale
Robinette BSG Pending Action Sale
Russell Chapel BSG Marketing for Sale
Trinity Lead Mine WY Leased Pending Sale
Trinity Dayton CL Leased by District
Washington Chapel KI Held by District

Conference Center Maintenance, Improvements and 1st Floor Leasing

The Board of Trustees continues to maintain the Conference Center to the highest standard as a “state of the art” professional office complex. During the past year, the HVAC System for the third floor of the complex has been upgraded and balanced to provide a more balanced climate. The Trustees have completed a study of the complete HVAC Systems for the Complex and are now planning the implementation of its recommendations.

The 1st floor tenants of the complex exercised an early buy-out of their lease due to corporate downsizing. This area has been vacant since July of 2011. Initially the Trustees listed the available space with a commercial real estate company. However the six-month listing yielded no credible leads. The Trustees have now begun a direct marketing plan of the space and hope to locate an acceptable tenant in the near future.

Episcopal Residence

The 2011 Annual Conference authorized the Board of Trustees to begin the process of purchasing a new episcopal residence and selling the current residence. The Board has planned to locate and purchase the new residence prior to the arrival of the anticipated new Resident Bishop in August of 2012. Once the current Resident Bishop has relocated to his new assignment the current residence would be prepared and placed on the market. In embarking on this task, the Trustees stated objective has been to purchase a new residence at or below the proceeds gained from the sale of the current residence.

In the late fall of 2011, the Chair of the Trustees appointed a committee of representatives from the Board of Trustees and the standing Episcopal Residence Committee to begin the search for a new residence. After determining that there were no specific guidelines for an episcopal residence, the Committee established an 18 point listing of the desired features of the residence. Using this information the Committee did an initial review of the available market, had staff visit nine building sites in the Alcoa/Maryville area, and determined that it was in the best interest of the Conference to purchase an existing residence rather than construct a new residence. Over a two and half month period the Committee visited 30 available properties. In-depth home inspections were completed on three potential residences.

The Trustees purchased an existing residence in Blount County, just outside of the City of Maryville for $355,000, based upon the recommendation of the study group assigned to locate a new episcopal residence. The purchased home has a tax appraised value of $405,000, and an independent appraisal value of $385,000 to $400,000. This home, built in 2007, does offer all of the features established by the Committee and is within a 10 minute commute to the Conference Center and the airport.

The Trustees, through its staff, is beginning to develop detailed plans for the marketing
and sale of the current episcopal residence. A current appraisal was completed in
the fall of 2011 and is valued from $385,000 to $410,000 in its current condition.
Consideration is being given to minor renovations and upgrades that may yield the
highest net value for the Conference.

The Board of Trustees looks forward to offering a final report of activities related to
the episcopal residence at the 2013 Annual Conference.

Real Property Tax Status

Over the past several months the Trustees have become aware of the fact that several
local Church Owned and District Owned properties both in the State of Tennessee and
the Commonwealth of Virginia have been subject to property tax assessments. While
this may be appropriate in isolated incidents, it is not correct in a majority of cases.

The Board of Trustees has directed staff to work with the State Boards of Tax
Equalization, Local Churches and Districts and Local Tax Assessors to remove
qualified Church owned property from active tax rolls. It is expected that this may
involve one hundred or more properties and thousands of dollars of annual costs.
Churches that have ANY property that is currently being taxed are encouraged to
contact their District Office or the Office of the Conference Treasurer so that we may
assist in removing this undue burden from the local church.

Procedure for the Sale of Church/Charge Held Parsonages

Over the past years, a number of questions have been raised related to the possible sale
of church/charge owned parsonages. In an effort to answer the questions raised, fully
comply with the Discipline, and maintain consistency in operations, the Trustees have
developed a step by step guideline for the sale of Church/Charge Owned Parsonages.
This procedure has been provided to each of the Districts and is available through the
District Superintendent.

Church Owned and Operated Cemeteries

Working directly with the Appointment Cabinet and the District Superintendents, the
Trustees have been actively working with select churches to resolve complex issues of
local cemetery ownership, operations, oversight, loss control and general operations.
Staff, on behalf of the Trustees, have logged hundreds of hours working through
individual issues and questions of legal obligation and liability.

The Trustees have developed and are continuing to refine a standard set of operating
guidelines for local cemetery operations. These guidelines are expected to be available
for dissemination by the end of this calendar year.

Building and Location Oversight for Wesley Foundations

During the past year, at the request of the Appointment Cabinet, the Board of Trustees
has taken on the role of the “Buildings and Locations Committee” for the five Wesley
Foundations within the Conference. The Board is working with two of the five
Foundations on active building proposals and looks forward to providing valuable
technical assistance to all five in the coming year.

Matters of Insurance

Conference Wide Workers Compensation Policy

The Board of Trustees is in the process of evaluating the Conference Wide
Workers Compensation Program and is looking at modifications that will make
the program more effective, offer better loss control assistance and be less
costly. The Board will continue to update the Annual Conference of this effort as
information becomes available.

**Conference Wide Property and General Liability Insurance Survey**

The Trustees have been working with and will continue to work with the Appointment Cabinet to obtain data on the current insured status of conference churches and related ministries. This survey is being completed to ensure that churches and related entities have the proper amount of insurance to adequately protect the interests of all related parties.

**Conference Historic Sites**

The Board of Trustees continues to work closely with the “caretakers” and “stewards” of the Conference-held historic sites. During the past year, the Trustees have offered “Matching Fund Grants” to these sites and have assisted them in maintaining these sites.

In the coming year the Board plans to complete a comprehensive evaluation of all of the sites and provide the Conference with a long range plan for each location.

**District Office Handicap Access Survey and Improvements**

The Board of Trustees has recognized its responsibility to provide facilities that are fully accessible to individuals with physical handicaps. Further, the Board understands that it should be the goal of the Districts and the Churches within the Conference to also be fully accessible. To that end, during the coming year, the Trustees will complete Handicapped Accessibility Surveys of the District Offices and provide each District with a written report of its findings. Working with the Holston Conference Foundation, the Trustees will attempt to identify and offer matching grant-type funding for improvements to accessibility of these offices.

Working directly with Connectional Ministries, it is hoped that this program might act as a pilot for a Conference-wide Handicapped Accessibility Program.

**Real Property Assets (Other Than Discontinued Church Holdings)**

- Holston Conference Center $2,800,000
- Current Episcopal Residence (Knoxville) $385,000
- New Episcopal Residence (Blount County) $400,000 (Note 1)
- The ETSU Wesley Foundation $780,000 (Note 2)
- The Radford Wesley Foundation $450,000 (Note 2)
- Acuff’s Chapel Shrine $110,000
- Cox House $100,000 (Note 3)
- Page’s Meeting House $50,000 (Note 3)

**Financial Accounts On Deposit in the Holston Conference Foundation**

- Holston Assembly Property #1172 $316,910
- HC Ext-Gatlinburg Property #1220 $449,871

~Jim Wheeler, Chairman
Every clergy member of Holston Conference has a story. Every lay person has a story. Every local church has a story. Every institution and ministry of the conference has a story. Every mission project has a story. Every social issue we face, every practice we engage and every song we sing has a story. The work of the Commission on Archives and History is to assist the church in its ministry of memory, the telling of its story. Without a sense of our history, we do not know who we are, from whence we have come, or what we are about. A vital congregation is surrounded by a cloud of witnesses whose faith has gone before and whose story must not be lost. Their stories are our history, our identity. Our present stories become our history tomorrow.

The Commission has worked with the Conference Secretary on improving the instructions in the letter which goes out to families of deceased clergy and spouses concerning the guidelines for written memoirs.

The Commission has plans underway to interview older conference members about their memories of ministry and mission in Holston.

The Commission celebrates the gift of a framed portrait of Rev. Thomas Stringfield (1796-1858) by Anne Stringfield of Greensboro, NC. This extraordinary portrait of the Presiding Elder of the Knoxville District when Holston Conference was formed in 1824 has been placed in the Holston Archives.

The Commission continues to encourage the Trustees in the development of a strategic plan for the funding and maintenance of our three Heritage Landmarks: Acuff’s Chapel, Cox House, and Keywood Marker.

The Commission is working on a team and strategy which will provide opportunities for training and resources for local church historians and history committees.

The Commission celebrates the Holston leaders who shared in the beginnings of Lake Junaluska in 1913. We look forward to the Centennial Celebration in 2013.

--Grady C. Winegar, Chair
Thank you for your continued generosity and support of our shared ministry!

2011 was a year of transition in which we were learning how to implement three new processes: the direct invoice for health insurance, direct invoice for pensions, and the tithe formula for supporting our conference and general church ministries. The direct invoice for pensions and health insurance generated a collection rate of 98% for accounts billed which allowed us to fully fund our pensions and health plan. We are deeply grateful to the dedicated efforts given to support our clergy benefits.

Our $10.9 million ministry budget was in anticipation of $10.4 million in receipts through the tithe. This estimate was based on the past congregational income levels as indicated on year-end reports. For this first year of living with the tithe, our actual receipts for 2011 were $9.3 million. Our actual expenditures were $10.8 million. We rejoice that we were able to fulfill our commitment to support our General Church and Southeastern Jurisdictional ministries at 100%. While we recognize that it is not sustainable to meet our obligations by drawing from our reserve funds every year, we were grateful to have our net assets available to assist in funding our continued operations for 2011.

Based on this first year’s experience of funding our ministries through the tithe, we amended our 2012 budget as we began the year to more closely match our anticipated revenue for 2012. This amended budget was approved by the Extended Cabinet operating as the Annual Conference between sessions.

As we move through 2012, we continue our commitment to fund our General and Jurisdictional Ministries at 100%. We have reduced several line items in the 2012 budget and are drawing on reserves (net assets) to assist us as we continue to live into this new way of funding our shared ministries.

The 2012 budget has been adjusted to $9,902,517 in projected income and $9,946,926 in projected expenditures. These totals reflect the following adjustments:

- $500,000 from the pension/insurance reserves to use toward retiree health insurance
- $167,000 of the administrative costs for pension/insurance allocated for the processing and collection of pension and health costs
- $250,000 reduction from congregational development (possible because of a recent sale of property and return of funds by a local congregation)
- $67,000 to cover communications and IT expenses out of communications funds generated across the years primarily from sales of communication items
- $60,000 reduction from ministry teams
- $10,500 grant revenue for stewardship ministries
- $82,000 in additional revenue from local churches in response to continued growth in the tithe practice, right-sizing of congregations and pastoral support, and intentional development of local church plans to grow into the tithe

During 2011, which was the first year of direct invoicing and a tithe approach to
conference giving, we have recognized several things.

1. Some churches are unable to afford the request of the Annual Conference to send 10% of their undesignated income and fund the benefit costs for their assigned pastor billed through direct invoicing. We will be working with the District Superintendents to develop plans for the churches that cannot afford the amounts agreed upon by the Annual Conference.

2. Previous statistical information reported did not match the actual congregational giving to the conference by the local churches. Therefore, the 2012 budget has been amended to more accurately reflect the income that can be generated from 10% of undesignated income. In the early parts of 2012, the budget was amended to $9,946,926 which we believe will be within the amount our congregations will give to conference ministries during 2012.

As a part of our work amending the 2012 budget, we have divided the Conference budget into 6 areas to match the drivers of congregational vitality that were identified as a part of the Call to Action. As amended, the breakdown of the $9,946,926 is allocated between these areas in the following ways:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Effective Pastoral Leadership</td>
<td>$4,388,192</td>
<td>44.12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multiple Small Groups and Ministry with Youth and Children</td>
<td>$309,653</td>
<td>3.11%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Authentic Worship</td>
<td>$316,767</td>
<td>3.18%</td>
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<td>Spiritually Engaged Laity</td>
<td>$1,364,901</td>
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<td>Living the United Methodist Way</td>
<td>$2,608,269</td>
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<tr>
<td>Congregational Vitality and Missional Outreach</td>
<td>$959,150</td>
<td>9.64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Totals</td>
<td>$9,946,926</td>
<td>100.00%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. We need to focus our collective resources to assist local churches in becoming vital congregations. While we are blessed to have many churches that are making a significant impact on their local community, it is our hope that all churches within the Holston Conference will be vital congregations that can make an impact for Jesus Christ within their areas of influence.

2013 Recommended Budget

This year CCFA is recommending a 2013 budget total of $9,558,660 for total expenditures that will be aligned with the six areas of congregational vitality. As a part of this recommendation from CCFA, we are not submitting line-item accounts, and the specific amount for each category, since representatives of the Connectional Table will be having several conversations, with various groups, that will shape the specific line-item totals in order to have a detailed plan to go forward in 2013. At the conclusion of these conversations, CCFA will adopt a line-item total budget prior to January 1, 2013, and publish a copy of this report on our website while also providing this information to the members in the Book of Reports for the 2013 Annual Conference. We do remain committed to funding our General Church apportionments at 100%, even though they will not be determined until May 2012 and 100% of our jurisdictional apportionments which will be decided in July 2012.

The goal of our budgeting approach is to allow the ministry programming conversations to occur separately from the budget process so that the budget represents our conference priorities instead of drives our conference priorities. We are expecting these conversations to assure our commitment to the principles of the Call to Action while also exploring the best funding routes for the following ministry areas—all of which express our core commitments and are important in the life of the annual conference:
For the Wesley Foundations and Conference Colleges and our Conference Board of Higher Education and Ministry: How do we best provide campus ministries in the Holston Conference?

For the Pastoral Counseling Center: How do we best provide support for our clergy and their families and our conference staff through an arrangement that allows us to share costs and provide services that are in-line with our ability to afford these benefits?

For the Board of Pensions: How do we provide retiree health insurance that is cost effective for our early retirees, retirees with various years of service to the Church, their spouses, and for the annual conference?

For the Extended Cabinet and District Lay Leadership: How do we define the role of the district superintendent to support congregational vitality and structure the districts geographically to best support these efforts?

For the Annual Conference Planning Committee, Extended Cabinet, and Wesley Leadership Institute: How do we interpret and implement a fee for annual conference and explore the possibility of offering CEU credits for clergy and participation in leadership development credits for local congregations at annual conference?

For the Annual Conference staff: How do we best staff to fulfill our commitment to fostering vital congregations in the Holston Conference?

While these conversations will not be completed by the time of the 2012 annual conference, they can begin immediately with the appropriate bodies and progress reported at the annual conference session.

As of the writing of this report, the Board of Pensions has formed a task force on retiree health insurance and various other groups are beginning to be engaged in this dialogue. We will provide an update on the status of these conversations at the 2012 Annual Conference.

**Continued Recommendations**

Our current data continues to show that most churches in the Holston Conference are not completing an annual stewardship campaign. As evidenced by my own life, faithful giving is a spiritual discipline and is a way for me to express my gratitude to God for the things that He has done in my life. I hope that every church in 2012 and beyond will begin a year-round stewardship plan to allow for this joy to be experienced by everyone in every church throughout our Conference. We, along with the Conference Stewardship Team and the Conference Foundation, are committed to assisting every church in developing a year-round stewardship plan.

Please read the full CCFA report to understand the impact of all of these changes and the plans for ministry during 2013.

Respectfully submitted,
Charles Stewart, President
Holston Conference Council on Finance and Administration
COUNCIL ON FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

Recommendations and Guidelines

2013 Apportionments

The Conference Council on Finance and Administration (CCFA) is recommending the continuation of an income-based approach for funding the Conference budget for 2013. The Holston Conference currently has an apportionment formula that requires churches to submit 10% of their undesignated income to the Holston Conference to pay for non-benefit related ministries that assist us in Offering Christ to our area and to the world. There are four exclusions to the amount that is included in determining the amount subject to the tithe:

1. Tuition-based income (day care, mother’s day out, etc.)
2. Pass-through donations sent to unrelated organizations (The Advance, 5th Sunday offerings, UMCOR, etc.). The amount received matches the amount sent directly to the unrelated organization.
3. Endowment gifts (principal only unless earnings are also donor designated and actually used for such purpose).
4. Designated funds from donor designated gifts or capital related gifts. The balance sheet should contain any remaining amounts on hand at the end of the fiscal year.

A copy of the church tithe and remittance worksheet should be included with each church’s monthly remittance by the 10th of the subsequent month for the collections received from the prior month.

Causes Beyond Those Included in Conference Budget

A. Fifty cents per member is the minimum amount that each district is asked to provide from each church for the purpose of supplementing the funds directly to the Wesley Foundation.

B. It is recommended that the Annual Conference continue recognition of local churches that give to the five-star program of payments. To qualify we would expect churches to send 10% of their income in compliance with the church tithe and remittance worksheet and at least one Advance in each of the four designated lanes with a minimum payment of $25.00 to each lane.

District Superintendents

A. The salary of the district superintendents for 2013 will be $91,322 which is the same amount paid in 2012, 2011, 2010, 2009, and 2008.

B. The itemized cost of travel for district superintendents in the performance of their duties shall be reimbursed upon requisition to the Office of Financial Services at the IRS recommended rate.

C. Actual moving expenses for incoming district superintendents shall be paid from the Cabinet Fund upon requisition to the Conference Treasurer.
D. Direct invoicing costs for the Cabinet shall be paid by the Cabinet budget and the District Superintendent shall be responsible for funding the pastor’s share of the insurance.

E. Adequate funding shall be provided by the districts for the office expense of superintendents.

F. The conference designates an amount annually of a cabinet staff person’s salary as allowance for parsonage expense excludable for income tax purposes. This amount is to be set after receipt of the Housing Allowance Resolution by the Conference Treasurer.

### Office of Financial Services

A. The Office of Financial Services shall carry a fidelity bond of no less than $1,000,000.

B. The conference treasurer shall provide quarterly reports to each church during the period covered by the report as directed by CCFA.

C. The conference treasurer shall be responsible for accounting for all conference receipts and disbursements in a timely manner. The treasurer’s books shall be closed within guidelines of generally accepted accounting principles, with reports provided promptly.

D. The Holston Conference Treasurer shall pay General Church and Southeastern Jurisdictional apportionments at 100%.

E. The Holston Conference shall maintain a cash flow reserve policy equal to 90 days of estimated expenditures.

### Policies for Boards, Commissions, and Agencies

A. At the close of each monthly period, the conference treasurer shall deposit to the account of each advance or other designated givings as they shall receive.

B. All requisitions for any funds shall be submitted on approved vouchers and shall bear the signature of the properly authorized representative of the board, commission, team, agency or staff.

C. The standard travel rate for attendance at meetings of conference boards, teams, commissions and agencies shall be the recommended IRS rate for charitable travel (currently 14 cents per mile) and an additional two cents per person per mile for others traveling in the same vehicle for the same board or agency. The travel rate for paid staff employed by the conference shall be the IRS recommended rate per mile per car or actual cost of public transportation, for travel related to the performance of duties of their office(s).

D. Every district office shall annually submit to Holston Conference Council on Finance and Administration a complete financial report for the previous year showing sources of funding, uses of such funding, and balances in all cash and investment accounts. Such financial reports shall have been reviewed or audited by an independent person prior to submission to Holston Conference Council on Finance and Administration.
Recommendations to the Local Churches

A. It is the policy of the Holston Conference that administrative boards or charge conferences designate annually, in an official resolution, an amount of the pastor’s salary as allowance for housing expense (housing exclusion) or for parsonage expenses that are excludable for income tax purposes. This amount is to be set after dialogue between the pastor and the pastor (staff) parish relations committee.

B. Charges of the conference shall pay the moving expenses for incoming pastors.

C. Local churches are urged to pay the expenses for members of the Annual Conference, both lay and clergy, inasmuch as such persons from the church are official members of the conference.

D. Church treasurers are reminded that the 2008 Book of Discipline ¶624 requires payment of Ministerial Support items, including minimum salary, in the same proportion as the pastor’s salary is paid. The primary responsibility rests upon the pastor to ensure full payment of the tithe apportionment.

E. Since both past service and current pension obligations are remitted to the General Board of Pensions each month, and since other conference expenses must be met monthly, it is important that contributions from local churches be sent to the conference treasurer on a monthly basis.

F. We applaud the work of the Holston Conference Foundation in their efforts to promote, attract and manage special gifts, bequests, and endowments for our local churches and our Conference institutions and agencies. The Conference Council on Finance and Administration recommends the Foundation as trustworthy, efficient, and effective stewards of investment funds for all churches and institutions. We encourage all to utilize the materials and the expertise the Foundation provides as part of their mission to serve the church and the Holston Conference.

G. CCFA expects each local church to conduct an annual stewardship campaign and to provide year-round awareness and teaching opportunities to share information about giving and tithing as part of our Wesleyan heritage. CCFA has partnered with the Conference Stewardship Team and the Conference Foundation to provide information, materials and speakers to assist the local church in performing an annual stewardship campaign and to support stewardship education. We believe that it is vitally important to the spiritual health of our local churches that they have dialogue around the importance of giving and generosity as part of our overall faith development. CCFA is prepared to assist them in this matter.

H. CCFA further encourages the local churches to support all of our conference related institutions, including Emory & Henry, Hiwassee, and Tennessee Wesleyan Colleges, Holston Home for Children and Asbury Centers by promoting gifts, grants and bequests from our members.

I. CCFA additionally encourages the local churches to promote “Fifth Sunday Offerings” in support of Holston Home and the annual “Mother’s Day Offering” in support of the Circle of Friends Endowment for Asbury Centers.

Miscellaneous Recommendations

A. The Holston Annual Conference shall reimburse the church or institution in which
this annual conference session is held for reasonable expenses incurred by that body in the entertainment of the conference, in addition to payments from other sources, upon itemized statements.

B. The publishing of the 2012 Conference Journal has been contracted with United Graphics, Inc., of Knoxville Tennessee. The price of the 2012 Journal will be determined at a later date.

C. The conference will continue the policy by which any church’s administrative board or council wishing to withhold its proportionate share of the National and/or World Council of Churches payment may do so by communicating this action in writing to the conference treasurer. The treasurer will then notify the church of the amount designated for this cause in the local church tithe and will direct all receipts proportionately to the other causes.

D. The conference will reimburse the members-at-large for a per diem amount of $55 per day, with a maximum of 3 days and mileage, for the 2013 Annual Conference. We believe serving as an at-large delegate to Annual Conference is another way for lay members to serve their church. At-large members of the annual conference are elected to equalize the number of lay members with those clergy who are not serving in the local church or are retired (See ¶ 32. Article I, in the 2008 Book of Discipline).

E. The Holston Conference Council on Finance and Administration reminds all churches and agencies of the annual conference that the IRS requires a FORM 1099-MISC for every person receiving non-employee compensation of $600 or more per year. IRS Form W-9 is used to obtain the information for filing the Form 1099-MISC. Also, all churches should be issuing W-2 statements for all employees that are employed by the church. Each church should take great care to ensure that they are meeting all of the requirements as outlined by the Internal Revenue Service to maintain the tax-exempt status.

~ Charles Stewart, President
Laurence Hesser, Vice President
Kate Bledsoe, Secretary
John Tate, Treasurer
Our United Methodist Church is currently engaged in an exciting time! Based on results of a study commissioned by the Connectional Table of the General Church, we have focus and direction for our future. We are Called to Action – to create vital congregations that are driven by inspiring and inviting worship, effective pastoral leadership, gifted and equipped lay leadership, and significant ministries with small groups and children and youth programs. These key drivers lead to churches reaching out in their communities and the world through significant missional ministries of compassion and justice.

In Holston Conference, we are also Called to Action in new and exciting ways. As we live into being a Conference where churches tithe their income to the Annual Conference, we are looking at our funding for ministry through the lens of the Call to Action and Vital Congregations. On this basis, the ministry funding for 2013 was prepared in six categories that represent the Call to Action at the Annual Conference level:

- Authentic Worship
- Effective Small Groups and Children's and Youth Programs
- Effective Pastoral Leadership
- Spiritually Engaged Laity
- Living the United Methodist Way
- Congregational Vitality and Missional Outreach

Join us in supporting the significant ministries of Holston Conference in 2013 as we resource local churches in making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. God is calling us to do all that we can to advance the Kingdom of God.

Traditionally the Council on Finance and Administration has provided a line item budget projection for the following year. For 2013, the budget information presented in this narrative shows our best projections at this time. With unknown expenses at the time the budget had to be prepared (for example, General and Jurisdictional Conference apportionments) and with discussions currently being held in Holston Conference in answer to questions raised by our Connectional Table, the CFA approved a total budget for 2013 of $9,558,660 with specific line items to be determined by the end of 2012 calendar year.
Effective Pastoral Leadership
~ 48% of our missional giving
This area of ministry funding represents any item that enhances the intellectual growth, emotional health, overall skills and support of our pastors and the pastoral role. Spiritual formation, personal and professional wholeness, providing resources, supervision and care, and assisting the clergy in connecting to and understanding the congregational mission field are all a part of effective pastoral leadership in our local churches.

Living the United Methodist Way
~ 25% of our missional giving
This area represents the ministries that maintain the supportive framework for our connectional commitments and the fulfillment of our shared missional responsibilities, including the Four Areas of Focus – creating new places for new people, developing principled Christian leaders, being in ministry with the poor, and improving health globally. In the Great Commission, Jesus calls us to go into all the world to reach persons for Jesus Christ, and we respond to this commission when we Live the United Methodist Way.

Spiritually Engaged Laity
~ 13% of our missional giving
This area of our ministry funding represents spiritual activity and experiences for laity, both as individuals and congregations, which lead to a deeper walk of faith and provide opportunities to engage in ministry outside the walls of the church building. We are engaged in making disciples who can then make more disciples for the transformation of the world. But beyond making disciples, we then seek to transform lives that can be engaged in ministry in the name of Christ.

Ministries funded in the area of Spiritually Engaged Laity include Discipleship Team grants, African American Ministry Team events, volunteer labor teams, our Holston Conference mission emphasis and mission cultivation, a portion of our Church and Community Workers, Native American ministries, Leadership Holston, older adult and young adult ministries (Jubilation and Divine Rhythm), Camp and Retreat Ministries, Disciple Bible Outreach prison ministry, Creation Care, Poverty Conference, stewardship training, small membership congregation training events, Hispanic ministries, church program grants, Conference colleges, and Wesley Foundations.
Vital Congregations

We are Called to Action in developing existing churches and inviting local congregations to engage in missional outreach.

Congregational Vitality and Missional Outreach ~ 8% of our missional giving

This area represents specific efforts to strengthen the local church by equipping and encouraging relevance and fruitfulness in the overall life of the congregation. Ministry funding includes resourcing and support for local churches as well as mission outreach. We are Called to Action in developing existing churches and creating new vital congregations for new persons to worship. We are also Called to Action to invite local congregations to engage in missional outreach to be the hands and feet of Christ to a hurting world.

Authentic Worship ~ 3% of our missional giving

This area of ministry funding represents ministries offered by Holston Conference to support our congregations in providing worship that is appropriate to the particular setting and welcoming to all. Inspiring, transformative worship is at the heart of our United Methodist roots and is core to the ministry of each local church. Funding includes improvements of physical facilities as well as training for worship leadership. Ministries in the area of Authentic Worship would include Congregational Development grants for building upgrades or audio/video equipment, training for workers with children in appropriate worship resources, a young adult leadership retreat, worship in our Camp and Retreat Ministries, a portion of our camp staff salaries, handicap accessibility grants to make worship accessible for all persons, church program grants for evangelism, Minister’s Convocation, worship leadership training, and worship through our Wesley Foundations and campus ministries. These ministries represent 3% of our total budget.

Effective Small Groups and Children’s and Youth Programs ~ 3% of our missional giving

This area of ministry funding represents anything that creates or supports small group activity and children’s and youth ministry programs, both at the local church and conference level. The funding includes both experiences in these areas of ministry and training to support these ministries in the local church. Jesus calls us to welcome and love the children, and a part of Holston’s history of ranking high in The United Methodist Church in percentage of young adult clergy is because of our significant commitment to reaching youth for Christ.
2013 Called to Action
Ministry Funding
in Holston Conference

“Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. This is to my Father’s glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.”

JOHN 15: 4-5, 8 (NIV)

2013 Budget Total: $9,558,660

For illustration purposes, percentages are rounded to the nearest whole number.

Note: A detailed line item budget will be completed by the end of 2012.

The graphic above shows the projected allocation of the 2013 Budget.
This reflects our historical budget distribution, and it is expected that the 2013 Budget will be similar in allocation.

You may download a PDF of this 2013 Narrative Budget at: http://www.budget.holston.org
To qualify for the Five Star Award, churches must pay the Fair Share in full and support at least one project in each of the four Advance Special categories.

### Abingdon District
- 410204 AB Abingdon
- 410762 AB Lebanon Mem.
- 410272 AB Three Springs
- 416702 AB Aldersgate
- 410534 AB Lebanon Chilhowie
- 410421 AB Trinity Bristol
- 410306 AB Anderson St.
- 410022 AB Lebanon Glade
- 410671 AB Wallace
- 410135 AB Brumley Gap
- 410988 AB Madam Russell
- 410933 AB Wesley Mtn City
- 410044 AB Byars Cobbs
- 410795 AB Mtn. View
- 410113 AB Wright’s Chapel
- 410124 AB Carvosso
- 411015 AB Paperville
- 410237 AB Wyndale
- 410088 AB Cedar Bluff
- 410226 AB Pleasant View
- 410762 AB Lebanon Mem.
- 41152 AB Quarry
- 410523 AB Chilhowie
- 410363 AB Reynolds Mem.
- 412224 AB Elizabeth
- 421036 AB Roberts Chapel
- 410625 AB Emory
- 410545 AB Seven Mile Ford
- 410341 AB First Bristol
- 411004 AB Sinking Springs
- 410807 AB First Marion
- 410215 AB St John Mtn City
- 410922 AB First Mnt.City
- 410328 AB St Luke
- 411048 AB Laurel Springs
- 410408 AB State Street

### Big Stone Gap District
- 411653 BS Alley’s Chapel
- 412282 BS Flatwoods
- 411766 BS Norton
- 411287 BS Appalachia
- 410410 BS Fort Gibson
- 411345 BS Nottingham
- 411380 BS Clinwood
- 411607 BS Gate City
- 412010 BS Pleasant Hill
- 411403 BS Coeburn
- 965687 BS Hales Chapel
- 411824 BS Pound
- 411436 BS Crab Orchard
- 411642 BS Hiltons Memorial
- 412145 BS Prospect
- 412214 BS Culbertson’s Chapel
- 411686 BS Mendota
- 411435 BS South Coeburn
- 411505 BS Dryden
- 412191 BS Midway Mem.
- 411961 BS St Paul
- 411458 BS Exeter
- 411777 BS Miller’s Chapel
- 411447 BS Tacoma
- 411802 BS First Pennington Gap
- 412156 BS Mt Vernon
- 411323 BS Trinity
- 411744 BS Nickelsville

### Chattanooga District
- 413047 CH Brooks Memorial
- 412544 CH Jones Memorial
- 413220 CH Signal Mountain
- 413721 CH Burks
- 412602 CH McFarland
- 413300 CH Sulphur Springs
- 412943 CH Chapel Hill
- 414372 CH Mount Crest
- 413500 CH Red Hill
- 412681 CH Christ
- 413060 CH New Salem
- 414428 CH Tyner
- 412965 CH Dunlap
- 413127 CH Pikeville
- 413344 CH Wauhatchie
- 414144 CH Fairview
- 412646 CH Red Bank
- 412497 CH Whiteside
- 412464 CH First Centenary
- 413162 CH Rising Fawn
- 412464 CH First Pennington Gap
- 412156 BS Mt Vernon
- 411323 BS Trinity
- 413242 CH Holly Avenue
- 412794 BS Nickelsville

### Cleveland District
- 413628 CL Allen Memorial
- 413641 CL Keith Memorial
- 414361 CL Spring City
- 413606 CL Apison
- 414064 CL Mars Hill
- 414554 CL St Clair
- 413787 CL Big Spring
- 413878 CL McDonald
- 414406 CL Tasso
- 413743 CL Calhoun
- 413960 CL Mountain View
- 414177 CL Ten Mile
- 413798 CL Chilcutt
- 414268 CL Mt Carmel
- 413663 CL Trinity Athens
- 414190 CL Concord
- 414474 CL Mt Zion
- 413674 CL Union Chapel
- 414007 CL Decatur
- 414508 CL Oak Grove
- 414417 CL Wesley Memorial
- 414042 CL Englewood
- 414224 CL Ooltewah
- 414075 CL Wesleyanna
- 414122 CL Evansville
- 414350 CL Pleasant Hill
- 413823 CL First Cleveland
- 413936 CL Red Hill
- 414075 CL Wesleyanna
- 413880 CL First Copperhill
- 414496 CL Savannah
- 414166 CL Goodfield
- 414304 CL Soddy
### FIVE STAR CHURCHES (Continued)

#### Johnson City District

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<td>JO Enterprise</td>
<td>JO Limestone Cove</td>
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<td>JO Mt Wesley</td>
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#### Kingsport District

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<td>KI Ebbing &amp; Flowing Springs</td>
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#### Knoxville District

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#### Maryville District

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<td>419011</td>
<td>MA Roberts</td>
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**FIVE STAR CHURCHES (Continued)**

### Morristown District

| MO Asbury | 420544 | MO First Newport | 420588 | MO Panther Springs |
| MO Bales Chapel | 420761 | MO First White Pine | 420602 | MO Parrottsville |
| MO Bethel | 441262 | MO Glendale | 420646 | MO Pine Grove |
| MO Bogart’s Chapel | 420293 | MO Hardin’s Chapel | 420577 | MO Pleasant Valley |
| MO Bybee | 419922 | MO Harmon’s Valley | 419944 | MO Romeo |
| MO Carter’s Chapel | 419294 | MO Harrod’s Chapel | 420180 | MO Shady Grove |
| MO Caton’s Grove | 420282 | MO Hills Union | 418951 | MO Shiloh Rutledge |
| MO Cedar Grove New Market | 420737 | MO Lawson’s Chapel | 420704 | MO Sneedville |
| MO Cedar Grove Rutledge | 420420 | MO Liberty Hill | 420828 | MO Talley’s Chapel |
| MO Central Bean Station | 396090 | MO McCampbell | 395277 | MO Trinity Greenville |
| MO Chestnut Hill | 414838 | MO Mt Airy | 420373 | MO Weems Chapel |
| MO Christ Thorn Hill | 418977 | MO Mary’s Chapel | 965973 | MO Tate Chapel Dandridge |
| MO Economy | 420123 | MO Mt Pleasant | 420590 | MO Wesley’s Chapel |
| MO Edwards Chapel | 420236 | MO Noe’s Chapel Greeneville |
| MO First Bulls Gap | 419911 | MO Oak Hill |
| MO First Morristown | 419317 | MO Oakland |
| MO Mt Hebron | 420475 | MO Ottway |

### Oak Ridge District

| OA Asbury Chapel | 415343 | OA Kern Memorial | 415126 | OA Trinity Lenoir City |
| OA Beaver Ridge | 415013 | OA LaFollette | 414895 | OA Valley View |
| OA Bradbury | 415172 | OA Miller’s Chapel Union |
| OA Ca wood | 415558 | OA Oxford Union |
| OA Central Lenoir City | 415040 | OA Moore's Gap |
| OA Concord Knox | 414736 | OA Rugby Road |
| OA First Oak Ridge | 415480 | OA Sinking Springs |
| OA Good Shepherd | 415503 | OA Solway |
| OA Heiskell | 414840 | OA St Mark Clinton |
| OA Irwin’s Chapel | 415525 | OA Sunbright |
| OA Jacksboro | 415398 | OA Thompson Chapel |
| TA Alexander Mem. | 421390 | TA Hales Chapel Narrow |
| TA Bailey | 421333 | TA Keen Mountain |
| TA Boyd’s Chapel | 421377 | TA Macedonia Egleston |
| TA Brown’s Chapel | 421583 | TA Main Street |
| TA Byrnes Chapel | 421413 | TA Midway |
| TA Clearview | 420954 | TA Midway Cedar Bluff |
| TA Dennison | 420932 | TA Dennison |
| TA Eatons Chapel | 420910 | TA Mt Hermon |
| TA Ebenezer Bluefield | 421782 | TA Mt Zion Bland Pearsburg |
| TA Eggleston | 421826 | TA New Hope Union }

### Tazewell District

| TA First Bluefield | 421721 | TA Pine Grove Bastian |
| TA First Honaker | 417796 | TA Piggah Pearsburg |
| TA First Narrow s | 421765 | TA Pleasant Hill }
| TA First Rich Creek | 421481 | TA Rich Creek Pearsburg |
| TA Garden | 420885 | TA Riverside }
| TA Goshen | 421526 | TA Rocky Gap }
| TA Green Valley Bastian | 421776 | TA Shady Grove }
| TA Green Valley Eggleston | 421548 | TA Sheffey Memorial Pearsburg |
| TA Grundy | 421696 | TA Steelesburg |
**FIVE STAR CHURCHES (Continued)**

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<td>422587 WY Atkins Memorial</td>
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<td>421823 WY Auburn</td>
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<td>422361 WY Belspring</td>
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<td>417956 WY Bethel</td>
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<td>422018 WY Bethel</td>
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<td>421856 WY Bethel</td>
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<td>422953 WY Brick</td>
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<tr>
<td>422714 WY Camp Bethel</td>
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<tr>
<td>422485 WY Carter Street</td>
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<td>422508 WY Central Radford</td>
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<td>422064 WY Cold Springs</td>
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<td>422496 WY Crockett’s Chapel</td>
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<td>421982 WY Dublin</td>
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<td>418313 WY Ebenezer</td>
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<td>421801 WY Fairview</td>
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<td>422075 WY Falling Branch</td>
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<td>422086 WY First Galax</td>
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<td>422281 WY Max Meadows</td>
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<td>422177 WY Mt Zion</td>
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<td>965665 WY New Mt Olive</td>
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<td>418131 WY Rockford</td>
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<td>422372 WY Speedwell</td>
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<td>422782 WY Stevens Creek</td>
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<td>422601 WY Thornspring</td>
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* With all of the changes to apportionments, direct invoicing, and other changes associated with the 5 star certificates, we have intentionally looked for opportunities to be gracious in the granting of the 5 star status award to those churches that appeared to attempt to meet the requirements to become a 5 star church for 2011. In 2013, each church must fulfill all of the requirements as laid out in the CCFA report to meet the 5 star status. We apologize in advance if we have overlooked any church that made a faithful effort to reach the 5 star status and we have omitted your church’s name from this report.
**COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS**

Nominees whose names are printed in bold are to be elected by the 2012 Annual Conference. Cabinet representatives will be appointed by the Resident Bishop and shall begin service following the close of the 2012 Annual Conference.

**COMMUNICATIONS ADVISORY COUNCIL**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chairperson</td>
<td>Chuck Griffin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vice Chairperson</td>
<td>Ashley Cross</td>
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<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Monica Sheppard-Viator</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

(Numbers in brackets indicate total number of years served as of June 2012)

| (C) Paul Goshorn (WY)(1) | (L) Corina Casson (CH) | (C) Chuck Griffin (KI) |
| (L) Harold Armour (MO)(2) | (L) Ashley Cross (KN)(4) | (L) John King (MA)(4) |
| (L) Craig Bates (KN)(2) | (L) Alex Fesmire (CL) | (L) Monica Sheppard-Viator (OA)(4) |

**Ex-Officio**

- Editor, The Call: Annette Spence
- Information Technology Manager: Brent Sharp
- Multimedia Coordinator: Donna Hankins
- Print Media Specialist: Millie Meese
- Cabinet Representative: Charles Maynard
- Staff Representative: Carol Wilson

**COMMITTEE ON CONGREGATIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chairperson</td>
<td>Becky Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vice-Chairperson</td>
<td>Brent Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Brian Burch</td>
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(Numbers in brackets indicate total number of years served as of June 2012)

| (C) Sharon Bowers (WY)(6) | (C) Bill Shelton (MA)(1) | (L) Mary Baker (BI) |
| (C) Brian Burch (WY)(4)  | (C) Will Shewey (KI)(5)  | (L) Becky Hall (CH)(3) |
| (C) Mike Carter (WY)(4)  | (C) Debbie Stokes (CL)(2) | (L) John Rambo (JO)(1) |
| (C) Brent Hall (OA)(3)   |                         | (L) Tommy Schumpert (KN)(1) |
| (C) Ginger Isom (MO)     |                         |                       |

**Staff Resource**

- Richard Edwards

**Ex-Officio Members:**

- Resident Bishop: James E. Swanson, Sr.
- Conference Director of Lay Speaking: Jane Blevins
- Cabinet Representatives: Adam E. McKee III, Thomas Ballard

**BOARD OF LAY MINISTRY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chairperson</td>
<td>Del Holley</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vice Chairperson</td>
<td>Becky Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Jeff Kile</td>
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<tr>
<td>Associate Conference Lay Leader:</td>
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**District Lay Leaders:**

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<tr>
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<th>Ken Rodenberry (BI)</th>
<th>Becky Hall (CH)</th>
<th>Charles Hurley (CL)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Jan Goodsell (JO)</td>
<td>Luke Bell (KI)</td>
<td>Carl Mills (KN)</td>
<td>Don Story (MA)</td>
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<td>Stephanie Widman (MO)</td>
<td>Jeff Kile (OA)</td>
<td>Deborah Neal (TA)</td>
<td>Wilma Snyder (WY)</td>
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**Conference Presidents:**

- United Methodist Men: Eric Knoefel
- United Methodist Women: Georgia Lister
- United Methodist Youth: TBD

**Members-at-Large:**

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<th>Leanna Johnson (JO)(2)</th>
<th>Kristin Alexander (KN)</th>
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<td>(L) Johnnie Bridges (KN)(4)</td>
<td>Howard Hatcher (CH)(4)</td>
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<td>(L) Harold Brown (CH)</td>
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**Ex-Officio Members:**

- Resident Bishop: James E. Swanson, Sr.
BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND CAMPUS MINISTRY

Chairperson         Drew Henry
Vice Chairperson    Jeff Anderson
Secretary           Troy Forrester

(Numbers in brackets indicate total number of years served as of June 2012)

(C) Todd Adams (BI) (C) Drew Henry (MA)(5) (L) Jeff Anderson (JO)(1)
(C) Andrew Amodei (JO)(2) (C) Karen Lane (WY)(2) (L) Lilian Cook (CH)(1)
(C) Brandon Berg (BI) (L) Megan Abbott (MA)(3) **TBD
(C) Bill Cahill (AB)(7) ** TBD

Ex-Officio members:
Young Adult Team Representative: TBD
Cabinet Representative: Daniel H. Taylor, Jr.
Staff Resource: Laura Lambert

DISCIPLESHIP TEAM

Chairperson         TBD
Vice Chairperson    TBD
Secretary           TBD

(Numbers in brackets indicate total number of years served as of June 2012)

(C) Elizabeth Hamilton (AB) (C) Beth Tipton (BI)(1) (L) Martha Jones (KI)(7)
(C) Glenna Manning (OA)(1) (L) Kevin Blue (OA)(1) (L) John Redmond (AB)
(C) Laura Blair Plaster (WY)(7) (L) Pam Browster (TA)(4) (L) Teddy Stevens (AB)(1)
(C) Will Shelton (TA) (L) Suzanne Brown (TA)(1) (L) Megan Watson (AB)

Resident Bishop: James E. Swanson, Sr.
Conference Lay Leader: Del Holley
Chair, Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministry: Drew Henry
Director of Connectional Ministries: Anne Travis

Chairpersons with vote:
Missions Ministry Team: Danny Howe
Nurture Ministry Team: Leanna Johnson
Outreach/Advocacy Ministry Team: Susan Montgomery
Stewardship Ministry Team: Darryl Rasnake
Witness Ministry Team: Ronnie Collins

Representatives without vote (named by respective groups):
Board of Ordained Ministry: James Bennington
Communications Advisory Council: Donna Hankins, Chuck Griffin
Cabinet Representative: Anne Travis

MISSIONS MINISTRY TEAM

Chairperson         Danny Howe
Vice Chairperson    Tom Hancock
Secretary           Lori Sluder

(Numbers in brackets indicate total number of years served as of June 2012)

(C) Chris Brown (TA) (C) Jerry Russell (MA)(1) (L) Charlotte DeLozier (OA) (2)
(C) Tom Hancock (CH)(1) (C) Rosa Slavik (WY) (L) Jim Hayes (OA)(6)
(C) Jeannie Higgins (MO) (C) William "Skip" White (MA)(4) (L) Danny Howe (KI)(7)
(C) Robert Nyaga (AB)(2) (C) Tae Hun Yoon (JO) (L) Lori Sluder (KN)(5)

Ex-Officio Members with vote:
Volunteer in Mission Coordinator: TBD
Chair, Native American Ministries: Vicki Collins
Conference Secretary of Global Ministries: Anne Travis
Cabinet Representative: Anne Travis
Staff Resource/Coordinator of Missions/Outreach: Anne Travis
UMW Representative: Marsheine McClurg
NATIVE AMERICAN MINISTRIES

Chairperson: Vicki Collins
Vice Chairperson: TBD
Secretary: TBD

(Numbers in brackets indicate total number of years served as of June 2012)

(C) Susan Lankford (KI) (L) Vicki Collins (OA)(2)
(C) Faith Ramer (WY)(1) (L) Bomba Easter (OA)(4)

Cabinet Representative: Anne Travis

NURTURE MINISTRY TEAM

Chairperson: Leanna Johnson
Vice Chairperson: TBD
Secretary: Sarah Slack

(Numbers in brackets indicate total number of years served as of June 2012)

(C) Christina DowlingSoka (JO)(5) (C) Peyton Rowlett (OA)(7) (L) Leanna Johnson (JO)(2)
(C) Gale Flanary (AB)(4) (C) Sarah M. Slack (KN)(4) (L) Willie Kitchens (CH)(2)
(C) Amy Nutt (CL)(1) (C) Donald Swift (OA) (C) Peyton Rowlett (MA)(2)
(C) Daniel Ogle (KN)(1) (L) Joe Penland (MA)(2)
(C) Gale Flanary (AB)(4) (C) Sarah M. Slack (KN)(4) (L) Willie Kitchens (CH)(2)
(C) Amy Nutt (CL)(1) (C) Donald Swift (OA)

Representatives with vote (named by respective groups):
- Camp and Retreat Ministries Board
- Older Adult Ministry Team
- Children’s Ministries Team
- Council on Youth Ministries

Board of Lay Ministry Representative: Del Holley
Cabinet Representative: Anne Travis

CHILDREN’S MINISTRIES TEAM

Chairperson: Elizabeth Rudesill
Vice Chairperson: Lindsey Piercy
Secretary: Ashley Wade

(Numbers in brackets indicate total number of years served as of June 2012)

(C) Jodie Ihfe (JO)(1) (L) Lindsey Piercy (KN)(2) (L) Karen Thropp (KN)(1)
(L) Tracy Gartman (KN) (L) Elizabeth Rudesill (MA)(1) (L) Ashley Wade (CH)(3)
(L) Nathan Irwin (OA) (L) Barbara Shomo (WY)(2) (L) Melia Warren (CH)

Ex-Officio Members:
- Conference Representative, Holston Home for Children: Richard Patterson
- Cabinet Representative: Anne Travis
- Staff Resource Person: Gaye King

CONFERENCE COUNCIL ON YOUTH MINISTRIES

CCYM President: TBD
Coordinator of District Coordinators: Pat Tipton
Coordinator of Youth Ministries: Laura Lambert
Cabinet Representative: Anne Travis
### YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY TEAM

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chairperson</td>
<td>Todd Adams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vice Chairperson</td>
<td>Aaron Pierce</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>TBD</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Numbers in brackets indicate total number of years served as of June 2012)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(C) Todd Adams</td>
<td>(BI)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(C) Bethany Douty (JO)</td>
<td>(3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(C) Betzy Elfrirts Warren (BI)</td>
<td>(L) Jacob Ducote (CH)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(C) Don Petty (AB)</td>
<td>(L) Megan Lange (KN)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Divine Rhythm Design Team Representative: Todd Adams  
Campus Ministries Representative: Keith Moore  
Cabinet Representative: Anne Travis  
Staff Resource: Laura Lambert

### CAMP AND RETREAT MINISTRIES BOARD

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chairperson</td>
<td>Ed Terry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vice Chairperson</td>
<td>TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Sarah Varnell</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Numbers in brackets indicate total number of years served as of June 2012)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(C) Gary Atwater (OA)</td>
<td>(C) Don Smith (AB) (2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(C) Brandon Berg (BI)</td>
<td>(C) Sarah Varnell (KN) (3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(C) Charles Ensminger (KI)</td>
<td>(L) Hope Bruce (MA) (4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(C) Tim Paul (CL) (7)</td>
<td>(L) Bob Cantler (JO) (1*)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Ex-Officio Members:  
Bishop: James E. Swanson, Sr.  
Director of Connectional Ministries/Cabinet Representative: Anne Travis  
Camp and Retreat Ministries Executive Director: Randall C. Pasqua  
Camp and Retreat Ministries Development Officer: Trish Patterson  
Site Directors: Jason Onks, Michael Snow, Donald Washburn, John Erdman  
Site Board Chairpersons: Lu Crandall, Paul Seay, Ed Terry

### OUTREACH/ADVOCACY MINISTRY TEAM

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chairperson</td>
<td>Susan Montgomery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vice Chairperson</td>
<td>TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Barry Anderson</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Numbers in brackets indicate total number of years served as of June 2012)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(C) Daniel Castillo (MA) (2)</td>
<td>(L) Barry Anderson (WY) (6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(C) Rance Edwards (JO) (3)</td>
<td>(L) Harold Bryson (CH) (5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(C) Don Hanshew (KN) (7)</td>
<td>(L) Brenda Haymore (KN) (2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(C) Linda Stransky (AB)</td>
<td>(L) Anna Lee (KN)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Chairperson, Religion and Race: Susan Lankford  
Chairperson, Church and Society: Andrew Amodei  
Chairperson, Status and Role of Women: TBD  
Chairperson, Christian Unity & Inter-religious Concerns: TBD  

Ex-Officio (named by the Team):  
Representative, Alcohol and Related Issues: Rance Edwards  
Coordinator, Peace with Justice: Don Hanshew  
Cabinet Representative: Anne Travis  
Staff Resource: Gaye King
CONFERENCE COMMITTEE ON RELIGION AND RACE

Chairperson    Susan Lankford

(Numbers in brackets indicate total number of years served as of June 2012)

(C) Gary Atwater (OA)(4) (C) Elston McLain (CH) (L) Charles Hurley (CL)(2)
(C) Walter Cross (KN)(2) (C) Jackie Strickler (TA) (L) David Lee (AB)(3)
(C) Susan Lankford (KJ)(4) (C) Taehun Yoon (JO)(2) (L) Karen Neff (MA)(6)
(C) Rochelle Maxwell (MO)(4) (L) Elizabeth Hernandez (WY) (L) Wallace W. Ross, Jr. (BL)(2)

Representative, Hispanic Ministry    Arturo Reyna
Cabinet Representative    Anne Travis
Staff Resource    Gaye King

STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY TEAM

Chairperson    Darryll Rasnake
Vice Chairperson    TBD
Secretary    Bobby Black

(Numbers in brackets indicate total number of years served as of June 2012)

(C) Bobby Black (CH)(3) (C) Dave Henderson (BI)(3) (C) Jeff Wadley (MA)(1)
(C) Ricky Clowers (JO)(3) (C) Darryll Rasnake (KN)(1) (L) Michael Hannon (MO)
(C) Mark Gooden (CH) (C) Debbie Stokes (CL)(4) (L) Carol Myers (MA)(3)
(C) Terry Goodman (TA) (C) Edd Templeton (KN)(2) (L) Larry Stover (MO)(5)

Staff Resource Person    G. William Kilday
Director of Connectional Ministries    Anne Travis
Cabinet Representative    Roger Redding

WITNESS MINISTRY TEAM

Chairperson    Ronnie Collins
Vice Chairperson    Wayne Hedrick
Secretary    TBD

(Numbers in brackets indicate total number of years served as of June 2012)

(C) Ray Amos, Jr. (KJ)(1) (C) Rebekah Fetzer (KN)(4) (C) Steve Parker (OA)(4)
(C) Janet Batts (JO)(4) (C) Wayne Hedrick (OA)(3) (L) Helen Coddington (MO)(3)
(C) Ronnie Collins (WY)(7) (C) Will Lauderdale (KJ)(1) (L) Anna Dirl (KN)(7)
(C) Reece Fauscett (CH) (L) Lurone Jennings (CH)(2)

Ex-Officio Member with vote:
Chairperson, Small Membership Congregation Team    Victor Dingus
Chairperson, Hispanic/Latino Leadership Team    David Ketchersid
Director of Congregational Development & Revitalization    Richard Edwards
Director of Connectional Ministries    Anne Travis
Cabinet Representatives    Richard Edwards, Sandra Johnson, Anne Travis

SMALL MEMBERSHIP CONGREGATION TEAM

Chairperson    Victor Dingus
Vice Chairperson    Steve Evans
Secretary    Annette Warren

(Numbers in brackets indicate total number of years served as of June 2012)

(C) Hugh Bryan (CL)(2) (C) Michael Teague (AB)(2) (L) Victor Dingus (KJ)(2)
(C) Steve Evans (KN)(2) (C) Lon Tobin (JO)(1) (L) Dan Dugger (MO)
(C) Layne Pennington (BI)(1) (C) Annette Warren (CL)(2) (L) Donna Mosby (OA)(1)

Special Advisor    Richard C. Looney
Cabinet Representative    Archer Coppedge
Staff Representative    Anne Travis
HISPANIC/LATINO LEADERSHIP TEAM

Chairperson
Vice Chairperson
Secretary

David Ketchersid
Mickey Rainwater

(C) Tony Collins (MA)(1) (C) Bradley Stapleton (BI) (L) Susana Lopez (MA)(1)
(C) Marta Cogburn (MO) (L) David Ketchersid (CL)(2) (L) Yolanda Miranda (AB)(6)
(C) Mickey Rainwater (KI) (L) Terri Kirkpatrick (MA)(3) (L) Tommy Vanover (JO)(3)

Cabinet Representative: Thomas Ballard
Staff Resource: Anne Travis
Conference Coordinator: Arturo Reyna

BOARD OF ORDAINED MINISTRY

Chairperson TBD
Vice-Chairperson TBD
Secretary TBD

Ex-Officio:
Chair, Order of Elders TBA
Chair, Order of Deacons TBA
Chair, Fellowship of Associate Members TBA
Chair, Fellowship of Local Pastors TBA
Director, Wesley Leadership Institute Don Nation
Coordinator, Extension Ministries Mary Frances Tucker
Cabinet Representatives Sandra Johnson, Nathan Malone
Administrative Registrar Daniel H. Taylor, Jr.

Committee on Investigation (Nominated by Resident Bishop-Elected Every Quadrennium ¶ 2703.2)
(4 Clergy/3 Professing members, 3 Clergy Alternates/3 Professing Member Alternates)

Principals: (Clergy) Mary K. Briggs (AB), Randy Frye (KN), Laura Rasor (KN),
Bradley Scott - (chair)(TA),
(Professing Members) Ray Adams (MO), Ann Rowland (KN), Elizabeth Wood (BI)
Alternates (Clergy): Douglas Hyndrich (TA), David Lovelace (JO), Sarah Slack (KN)
Alternate (Professing Members): Dell Gates (JO), Beverly Henry (MA), Brad Taylor (OA)
GROUPS RELATED TO THE CABINET AND ORDAINED MINISTRY

ORDERS *(Nominated by Board of Ordained Ministry, Elected by Clergy Session)*

Chairperson, Order of Elders Dennie Humphreys
Chairperson, Order of Deacons Rebekah Fetzer*
Chair, Fellowship of Associate Members Sam Johnson
Chair, Fellowship of Local Pastors Ken Lytton
Member-at-Large Billy Rines

District Representatives:
- Abingdon, Tazewell, Wytheville TBD
- Big Stone Gap, Johnson City, Kingsport TBD
- Chattanooga, Cleveland TBD
- Knoxville, Maryville TBD
- Morristown, Oak Ridge TBD

Representative for Retirees Ann Blair
Director of Clergy Services Daniel H. Taylor, Jr
Cabinet Representative Don Nation

PASTORAL COUNSELING CENTER SUPERVISORY COMMITTEE

Chairperson Don Ferguson
Vice Chairperson Cindy Ensminger
Secretary Jonathan Jonas

(C) Don Ferguson (KN)(7) (L) Cindy Ensminger (CL)(2) (L) Judy Whedbee (KN)(7)
(C) Steven Gott (AB)(2) (L) Kathy Enschwender (KN) (L) JoAnna Williams (OA)(1)
(C) Jeannie Higgins (MO)(6) (L) Becki Garland (KN)

Representative, Board of Ordained Ministry Jonathan Jonas
Representative, Partners in Crisis Betty Hurlock
Steward of Clergy Concerns Don Nation
Cabinet Representatives: Sandra Johnson, Charles Maynard, Adam McKee
Ex-Officio Laura Shearer

COUNCIL ON FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

President TBD
Vice President Laurence Hesser
Secretary TBD
Chair, Personnel Diana Galloway

(Numbers in brackets indicate total number of years served as of June 2012)

(C) Wil Cantrell (AB) (C) Jane Taylor (MA)(6) (L) James H. Jones (TA)(4)
(C) Jason Gattis (KN) (L) Sara Beamer (WY)(4) (L) Rebecca Littleton (CH)(4)
(C) Lawrence Hesser (OA)(5) (L) Don Cooper (AB)(4) (L) Terry Muse (JO)(4)
(C) Jeff Lambert (CH)(2) (L) Diana Galloway (KN)(7)

Ex-Officio Members (without vote):
Resident Bishop James E. Swanson, Sr.
Conference Treasurer John Tate
Director of Connectional Ministries Anne Travis
Cabinet Representative Charles Maynard
GCFA Representative Daniel H. Taylor, Jr.
ADMINISTRATION

BOARD OF PENSIONS

Chairperson: Patty Muse  
Vice Chairperson: Todd Chancey  
Secretary: Nancy Fitchpatrick  
Treasurer: John Tate

2013
(L) Patty Muse  
(L) Rick Witt  
(L) Kenny Gilley

2014
(L) Norman Sparks  
(L) Kathy Mays  
(C) Tom Markwood

2015
(L) Hughes Melton  
(L) Frances Lovell  
(L) Judy Burnett

2016
(L) Betty Neeley  
(L) Mike Crawford

2017
(L) Patty Muse  
(L) Norman Sparks  
(L) Hughes Melton  
(L) Nancy Baker

2018
(L) Rick Witt  
(C) John Slater

2019
(L) Kathy Mays  
(L) Nancy Fitchpatrick

2020
(L) Kenny Gilley  
(C) Todd Chancey  
(L) Jim Snowden

Pensions Director: John Tate  
Chairperson, Joint Committee on Incapacity: David Vaughn  
Cabinet Representative: J. David Tabor

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

President: Jim Wheeler  
Vice President: Robert Goddard  
Secretary: TBD

(Numbers in brackets indicate total number of years served as of June 2012)

(C) Brian Birch (WY)  
(C) Tom Robins (MA)(1)  
(L) David McLain (CH)

(C) Sherry Boles (CH)(7)  
(L) Rob Goddard (MA)(7)  
(L) Jim Wheeler (JO)(7)

(C) Laurie Jo Cranford (JO)(1)  
(L) Evelyn Horton (KN)(4)

(C) Jonathan Jonas (AB)  
(L) Debbie Icenhour (AB)(1)

Ex-Officio Member: James E. Swanson, Sr.

Resident Bishop: John Tate  
Conference Treasurer: David Graves

PERSONNEL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Chairperson: Mike Eastridge  
Vice Chairperson: Brenda Carroll  
Secretary: Angel Norman

(Numbers in brackets indicate total number of years served as of June 2012)

(C) Brenda Carroll (MA)(2)  
(L) Charlene Becker (CH)(6)  
(L) Leann Bailes Foster (KN)(2)

(C) Rhonda Hobbs (CH)(5)  
(L) David Carr (KN)(5)  
(L) Bill Hicks (OA)(5)

(C) Janice Keebler (CH)(3)  
(L) Mike Eastridge (JO)(3)  
(L) Angel Norman (MA)(7)

(C) Charles Ledger (AB)(5)  
(L) Frederick Evans (KN)(7)  
(L) Denise Stapleton (MO)(3)

Ex-Officio Members: James E. Swanson, Sr.  
Resident Bishop: Carol Wilson  
Executive Assistant to the Bishop: Jay Garrison  
Conference Chancellor: Catherine Nance  
Chairperson, Personnel Committee, CFA: Diana Galloway

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COMMISSION ON EQUITABLE COMPENSATION

Chairperson       Natalie Smart
Vice Chairperson   Jack Brewster
Secretary         Kim Isley

(Numbers in brackets indicate total number of years served as of June 2012)

(C) Larry Carroll (MA)(2)       (L) Thomas H. Becker (OA)(2)
(C) Terry Goodman (TA)          (L) Jack Brewster (TA)(2)
(C) Kim Isley (OA)(7)           (L) Alice Marie Clark Danks (CH)(1)
(C) Jim Oxendine (AB)(2)        (L) Brian Cotton (MO)(2)
(C) Natalie Smart (CH)(5)       (L) Donna Mosby (OA)(2)

Cabinet Representative         Carol Wilson
Conference Treasurer           John Tate

COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS AND RESOLUTIONS

Chairperson    John Eldridge

(Numbers in brackets indicate total number of years served as of June 2012)

(C) Catherine Nance (OA)(3)    (C) David St. Clair (AB)(2)    (L) Nancy Hickman (KI)(2)
(C) Elston McLain (CH)(2)       (C) John Thompson (MO)(2)     (L) John Kernodle (OA)(3)
(C) Larry Ousley (KN)(2)        (L) John Eldridge (KN)(3)     (L) Gene Rasor (AB)(2)

Cabinet Representative         J. David Tabor
Conference Secretary           Daniel H. Taylor, Jr.

COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ORDER

Chairperson  Bradley Scott

(Numbers in brackets indicate total number of years served as of June 2012)

(C) Janet Edwards (MO)          (C) Bradley Scott (TA)(7)     (L) Joyce Moore (AB)(3)
(C) Paul Longmire (CH)          (L) Baden Duggins (OA)(4)     (L) Don Parnell (KN)(7)
(C) David Jackson (AB)          (L) Pat Marshall (AB)(3)

Ex-Officio:
Resident Bishop                  James E. Swanson, Sr.
Executive Assistant to the Bishop Carol Wilson
Conference Secretary             Daniel H. Taylor, Jr.
Chancellor                       Jay Garrison
Cabinet Representative           Thomas Ballard

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE ON EPISCOPACY

Chairperson       Catherine Nance
Vice Chairperson   TBD
Secretary         TBD

(Numbers in brackets indicate total number of years served as of June 2012)

(C) Steve Brown (CL)(4)         (L) Bill Bard (KI)(4)          (L) Nichelle Evans (KN)(3)
(C) Catherine Nance (OA)(6)     (L) Brian Dantzler (CH)(3)      (L) Linda Franklin (MO)
(C) Laura Rasor (KN)(3)         (L) Gene Frazer (KN)           (L) Gary James (CH)

Appointed by the Bishop:
Jean Henderson (CL)(3)           Beth McCoy (AB)(4)            Mary Frances Tucker (KN)(3)

Ex-Officio Members:
Conference Lay Leader           Del Holley
Members, Jurisdictional Committee (with vote) H. Eddie Fox, Bob Lockaby
EPISCOPAL RESIDENCE COMMITTEE

Chairperson & Representative of the Committee on Episcopacy: Catherine Nance
Representative of the Board of Trustees: TBD
Representative of the Council on Finance and Administration: TBD
Representative of the Cabinet: John Tate, Meg Taylor
Ex-Officio, Executive Assistant to the Bishop: Carol Wilson

COMMISSION ON ARCHIVES AND HISTORY

Chairperson: Grady Winegar
Vice Chairperson: Jim Douthat
Secretary: Marie Willis

(Numbers in brackets indicate total number of years served as of June 2012)

(C) Jim Douthat (CH)(5) (C) Grady Winegar (KN)(4) (L) Harold Hartman (OA)(1)
(C) Jack Jennings (TA)(1) (L) Barbara Dean (MO)(5) (L) Jerry Jones (AB)
(C) Ron Matthews (MA)(1) (L) Bob George (CL)(5) (L) Marie Willis (KI)(7)

Ex-Officio with vote: Roy Howard
Conference Archivist: Robert Vejnar
Cabinet Representative: Charles Maynard
Conference Secretary: Daniel H. Taylor, Jr.

PROGRAM COMMITTEE, ANNUAL CONFERENCE SESSION

Chairperson: James E. Swanson, Sr.
Executive Assistant to the Bishop: Carol Wilson
Conference Secretary: Daniel H. Taylor, Jr.
Conference Lay Leader: Del Holley
President-United Methodist Women: Eric Knoefel
Chairperson of the Discipleship Team: TBD
Director of Connectional Ministries: Anne Travis
Director of Communications: Carol Wilson

Additional Members Appointed by the Bishop:

SUPPORT GROUPS

UNITED METHODIST MEN

President: Eric Knoefel
Honorary President: Bishop James E. Swanson, Sr.
Vice President: Tom Mitoraj
Secretary: Nathaniel Watson
Treasurer: James Sirk
Scouting Advocate: Keith Smith
Prayer Advocate: Tom Mitoraj
Mission Coordinator/Disaster: David Whisman/Jim Fetzer
AMACHI Coordinator: Harold Bryson
Chairperson, Committee on Nominations: Harold Absher
Staff Resource: John Tate
Cabinet Representative: Mike Hubble

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

President: Georgia Lister
Vice President: Nancy Hickman
Secretary: Dianne Cooper
Treasurer: Kay Phillips
MC/Spiritual Growth: Willena Douthat
MC/Education & Interpretation: Gloria Sims
MC/Social Action: Kay Hamrick
MC/Membership & Outreach: Pegi Dalton
Secretary of Program Resources: Catherine South
Communications Coordinator: Lynice Broyles
Chairperson, Committee on Nominations: Peggy Williams
Staff Resource: Lori Shuler
Cabinet Representative: Meg Taylor
**DISTRICT COMMITTEES ON ORDAINED MINISTRY**

Nominated annually by the District Superintendent in consultation with the Chairperson or Executive Committee of the Board of Ordained Ministry and approved by the Annual Conference (¶ 663.1, 2008 Book of Discipline)

**Abingdon District**

*Clergy:* Mary K. Briggs, Barbara Clark, Steven Gott, Jonathan Jonas, Ralph Kidd, David St. Clair *(Chair)*, Nelson Woody

*Lay:* Joann Fleenor, Heda Quillin

**Big Stone Gap District**


*Lay:* Ann Cawood, Russell Martin, Tom McNeil, Velena Wheatley

**Chattanooga District**

*Clergy:* Donald E. Allison, Sherrell E. Boles *(Chair)*, Amy Whatley, Brian Davis, Reece Fauscett, Dennis Flaugher, Dwight Kilbourne, Curtis McKee, Elston McLain, Keith Moore, Janice Keebler

*Lay:* Shirley Hixson, David Lamb, Gwen Scott

**Cleveland District**

*Clergy:* Hugh Bryan, Joe Crockett, Pat Hogan, Dennie Humphreys, Kenneth Seoggins, Reed Shell, James Thompson, Dale Wyrick

*Lay:* Joan Burner, David Ketchersid, Don Randolph

**Johnson City District**

*Clergy:* Tim Bracken, Ricky Clowers, Lauri Jo Cranford, Dan Gray, Doug Grove-DeJarnett, Jodie Ihfe, David Lovelace, Lon Tobin *(Chair)*, Tammy Wright

*Lay:* Lynice Broyles, Dan Cross, Dell Gates

**Kingsport District**

*Clergy:* Susan Anderson, Stephen Burkhart, Robert Burlingham, Jack Edwards, Kim Goddard

*Lay:* Joyce Eberhart, Roger Herron, Marie Willis

**Knoxville District**

*Clergy:* Rowland Buck, Don Ferguson, Bruce Galyon, David Green, Angela Hardy Cross, Richard Isbell *(Chair)*, David Lewis, Sarah Slack, David Smith, Sarah Varnell

*Lay:* Susan Brown, Tony Clift, Shirley Napier

**Maryville District**

*Clergy:* Lisa Blackwood, Brenda Carroll *(Chair)*, Tony Collins, Kathy Hale, Gene Lovell, Gerald McFarland, Jane Taylor, Skip White

*Lay:* Susan Burns, Robert Ergenbright, Larry Martin

**Morristown District**

*Clergy:* Roger L. Crim, Jim Fain, Jeannie Higgins, Ginger Isom, Rick Spell, Doug Wilder, John Wilson, David Woody

*Lay:* Michael Brotherton, Linda Franklin, Nancy Renner

**Oak Ridge District**

*Clergy:* Wayne Hedrick, Kim Isley, Sue Lynn Johnson, Keith Knight, Charles Mattson, Catherine Nance *(Chair)*, Stella Roberts, Crystal Smith

*Lay:* Barbara Osborne, Barbara Spence, Conrad Troutman
Tazewell District  
*Clergy:* Steve Aker, Ray Amos, Kenneth Blevins, Chris Brown, Jeffrey Callahan, Kenneth Fields, Terry Goodman, Clyde Hester, Paul Hite, Doug Hyndrich, Jack Jenkins, Rodney Lawson, Gordon McBride, Paul McNalley, Larry Ramey, Bradley Scott, Wm. Don Scott, Aubrey Whitlow,  
*Lay:* Jane Johnson, James Sink, Jean Walk

Wytheville District  
*Clergy:* Elizabeth Allen-Villinger, Paul Goshorn, John Grimm, Elihugh Kilgore, Richard Mullan, Scott Robertson-Gouge, Joe Mack Taylor,  
*Lay:* Sharon Alexander, Phyllis Ashworth, Don Copenhaver, Karen Love

**DISTRICT BOARDS OF CHURCH LOCATION AND BUILDING**  
*Nominated by the District Superintendent in consultation with the district Nominating Committee, if one exists, and elected annually by the Annual Conference (¶2518, 2004 Book of Discipline)*

**Abingdon District**  
*Class of 2012:* Ed Ashley, Danny Ruble, Scott Spence

**Big Stone Gap District**  
*Class of 2012:* Lucius Ellsworth (Chair), Jeff Tallent

**Chattanooga District**  
*Class of 2012:* Sullins Lamb (Chair), Kim O’Leary, Natalie Smart

**Cleveland District**  
*Class of 2012:* Johnnie Humberd, Edith Jones, Wendell Whaley

**Johnson City District**  
*Class of 2012:* Bethany Douty, Lee Robertson, Kenny Tinsley  
*Class of 2013:* Wayne Anderson, Rex Hill, Erin Johnson  
*Class of 2014:* Randal Emmert (Chair), Cathy Fowler, Walt Isley, John Ousley

**Kingsport District**  
*Class of 2012:* Roy Adams, Jack Edwards

**Knoxville District**  
*Class of 2012:* Steve Evans, Dick Kelso, Bruce Marston (Chair)  
*Class of 2013:* Nannie Greene, John Jackson, Tommy Schumpert  
*Class of 2014:* Steve Doyal, Don Watkins

**Maryville District**  
*Class of 2012:* Reuben Payne, Kyle Petree, Jeff Wadley  
*Class of 2013:* Margaret Denney, John Houvenagle, Nancy Lampe  
*Class of 2014:* Larry Carroll, Ben Dalton (Chair), Ken Tucker

**Morristown District**  
*Class of 2012:* Steve McClane, Chad Pierce, Donna Waddle

**Oak Ridge District**  
*Class of 2012:* Bill Hicks, Doug Underwood

**Tazewell District**  
*Class of 2012:* Alan Ashworth, Patsy Hankins, Mark Haynie

**Wytheville District**  
*Class of 2012:* Joe Carrico, Richard Gregory, Ruth Looney
VITAL CONGREGATIONS

TRUSTEES AND DIRECTORS OF CONFERENCE RELATED INSTITUTIONS AND AGENCIES

ASBURY, INC.

... members of the board ... shall be nominated and elected by the boards and confirmed by the Annual Conference.

Standing Rule 6, 2011 Conference Journal

President .......................................................... Beth Stubbs
Vice Chairperson .................................................. Stephen Daves
Secretary ............................................................ Jackie Dingus
Treasurer ............................................................ Marvin Echorn

Board of Directors 2012-2013:
Michael Cullen  Larry Martin  Beth Stubbs
Stephen C. Daves  Marsheine McClurg  Bishop James E. Swanson, Sr. (Ex-Officio)
Sandra Davis  Angel A. Norman  Guy Wilson
Jackie Dingus  Mike Lattier (Ex-Officio)
Marvin Echorn

HOLSTON CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH FOUNDATION, INC.

... a board of not fewer than fifteen (15) directors, elected by the Board of Directors and confirmed by the Holston Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church.

Standing Rule 8, 2011 Conference Journal

President .......................................................... David Goodson
Vice Chairperson .................................................. John Bailes
Secretary ............................................................ Angel Norman

PANEL OF 2012  PANEL OF 2013  PANEL OF 2014
Sarah Beamer  Leonard Fant  John Anderson
Tom Bowen  Charlie Harr  John Bailes
Sam Coulter  Charles Kuykendall  Brad Bower
Dennis Falls  Richard Looney  Mike Fields
Lynne Fugate  Angel Norman  Laurence Hesser
David Goodson  William S. Rodgers  Charles Neal
Craig Ingvalson  Daniel Taylor, Jr.
Ronald Matthews  Lynne Fugate
Will Pugh  Angel Norman
Charles Stewart  Richard Timberlake

Chair, Audit Committee ......................................... Roger Leonard
Chair, Conference Relations ..................................... TBD
Chair, Gift Acceptance Committee ............................. Will Pugh
Chair, Grants Committee ........................................ Dennis Falls
Chair, Investment Committee .................................... Charles Stewart
Chair, Nominating Committee ................................... Ronald Matthews
Chair, Personnel Committee .................................... Mike Fields
Ex-Officio:
Resident Bishop .................................................. James E. Swanson, Sr.
Conference Treasurer ............................................ John Tate
Executive Director ................................................ Roger Redding
Legal Counsel ..................................................... Jackson Kramer
**HOLSTON CONFERENCE-EMORY & HENRY CEMETERY BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

*Chair* ................................................................................................................................. Frederic Kellogg

**Conference Representatives:**
- Eugene Lovell
- Peyton Rowlett
- Walter Weikel

**Emory & Henry College Representatives:**
- Henry Dawson
- Beth Mahaffey
- Talmage Stanley
- Monica Hoel
- Rosalind Reichard

**HOLSTON UNITED METHODIST HOME FOR CHILDREN**

... members of the board ... shall be nominated and elected by the boards and confirmed by the Annual Conference.

*Standing Rule 6, 2011 Conference Journal*

*Chair* ......................................................................................................................... Mary Margaret Denton

**Vice Chair** .................................................................................................................. Bradley J. Bower

**Secretary** .................................................................................................................... Nancy P. Casson

**Treasurer** ..................................................................................................................... Jeffrey J. Monson

**Assistant Treasurer** .................................................................................................. Dave W. Ford

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**Ex-Officio:**
*Resident Bishop, Holston Conference* ................................................................. James E. Swanson, Sr.
*Representative, Outreach Advocacy Team, Health & Welfare* ....................... Nicole M. Krewson
*President/CEO HUMHC* .............................................................................................. Arthur S. Masker
*Morristown District Superintendent* ................................................................. Thomas T. Ballard
*Legal Counsel* ............................................................................................................ Richard M. Currie, Jr.

**METHODIST MEDICAL CENTER ADVISORY BOARD**

... members of the board ... shall be nominated and elected by the boards and confirmed by the Annual Conference.

*Standing Rule 6, 2011 Conference Journal*

**Members:**
- Alan Parker
- Brenda Curtis
- David Keim
- Dr. John Foust
- Dr. Mark Prince
- Jackie Nichols
- John Eschenberg
- Leigha Edwards
- Dr. Charles Mascioli
- Parker Hardy
- Phil Andrews
- Jim VanderSteg
- Dr. Dan Lenoir
- Dr. Gary Goff
- Glen Zahn
- Tim Hilton
- Rev. Dr. Adam E. McKee, III
HOLSTON CONFERENCE COLLEGES, INC.

Members of the Board of Directors of Holston Conference Colleges shall be nominated and elected by the respective Boards ... and confirmed by the Annual Conference.

Standing Rule 7, 2011 Conference Journal

President ................................................................. Hal P. McHorris
Vice-President ............................................................ Dennie Humphreys
Secretary/Treasurer .................................................... J. Ronald Hammond
Executive Director ....................................................... William S. Rodgers

College Representatives:
Emory & Henry ........................................................... Robert Feagins, Hal P. McHorris
Hiwassee ................................................................. Art Fowler, Doug Hulme
Tennessee Wesleyan ................................................... Harley Knowles, Tom Reeves

Member at Large ......................................................... J. Ronald Hammond
Ex-Officio ................................................................. William S. Rodgers
Agent for the Corporation ........................................... Jackson G. (Jay) Kramer

COLLEGES OF HOLSTON CONFERENCE

Members of the Boards of Trustees of Holston Conference Colleges shall be nominated and elected by the respective Boards at their fall Board meetings and confirmed at the next session of Annual Conference.

Standing Rule 7, 2010 Conference Journal

Emory & Henry College Board of Trustees

Chairperson ............................................................... John E. Eldridge
Vice-Chairperson ....................................................... Thomas D. McGlothlin
Secretary ................................................................. L. Carole Wharton
Treasurer ................................................................. William B. Pendleton

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Glenn H. Birkitt, Jr. ...................................................... Lynda Jones Hawkins
Kyra Kegley Bishop ..................................................... Paul N. Hubble, Jr.
Jeffrey B. Bodenhorst .................................................. T. Rick Hughes
Carolee J. Bondurant .................................................... Jonathan B. Jonas
Arthur Thorton Broady ................................................. F. Winton Lackey
James H. Brooks ........................................................ Eugene H. Lovell, Jr.
John E. Eldridge ........................................................ Beth Maiden Mahaffey
Joseph F. Ellis ............................................................ Thomas D. McGlothlin
Robert H. Feagins ....................................................... Hal P. McHorris

Ex-Officio Members:
President, Emory & Henry College ................................. Rosalind Reichard
Resident Bishop of Holston Conference .......................... James E. Swanson, Sr.
Abingdon District Superintendent, Holston Conference ........ Sandra J. Johnson
Honorary Members: ..................................................... M. Beecher Dunsmore

Representatives to the Board (Non-Voting):
Faculty ................................................................. Edward H. Davis
Staff ................................................................. Jimmy R. Whited
Student ............................................................... Rachel L. Fogg
Alumni .............................................................. Matthew C. Hankins
# Hiwassee College Board of Trustees

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**Faculty Trustee** (1 year term) ................................................................. Arthur Fowler

**Student Trustee** (1 year term) ................................................................. Brittany Gregg

**Ex-Officio Members:**

- **Resident Bishop of Holston Conference** ................................. James E. Swanson, Sr.
- **Maryville District Superintendent** ................................. Charles Maynard
- **President** ................................................................. Robin J. Tricoli

# Tennessee Wesleyan College Board of Trustees

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<td>Academic Affairs Chairman</td>
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<td>Lynn Massingale</td>
<td>Finance Chairman</td>
<td>Bill Kilbride</td>
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<td>Sharon Brown</td>
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**Representatives to the Board of Trustees:**

- **Faculty Representative** ................................................................. John Gaston
- **Student Representative** ................................................................. Cassie Romeo
- **Alumni Representative** ................................................................. Anne Montgomery
- **Covenant Health Representative** ................................................................. Larry Kleinman
- **Fort Sanders Regional Medical Center Representative** ................................ Keith Altshuler

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- **Resident Bishop of Holston Conference** ................................................................. James E. Swanson, Sr.
- **President** ................................................................. Harley G. Knowles
- **District Superintendent** ................................................................. Joe Green

**Trustee Emeritus:**

Rachel N. Cochran, George Oliphant
Vital Congregations

WESLEY FOUNDATIONS BOARDS

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Vice Chair ..................................................................................................................... TBD
Secretary ....................................................................................................................... Braxton Sluder
Treasurer ...................................................................................................................... Debbie Onks

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Cindy Blackwell Scotty Myers Jason Onks Charles Griffin III
Cynthia Burnley Debbie Onks J. Eddie Lauderback William Lauderback
Wendell Gates Judith Robertson Christina Taylor Scott Layer
Johnny Qualls Braxton Sluder
Haden Scott

Ex-Officio Members:
Campus Minister, Wesley Foundation ................................................................. John W. Ousley
District Superintendents ......................... David Graves, Thomas Ballard, Walter Weikel
Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministry Representative.................. Drew Henry
Conference Director of Clergy Services .......................................................... Daniel H. Taylor, Jr.

Radford University Wesley Foundation Board of Directors

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Vice-President ............................................................................................................ Karen Lane
Secretary ...................................................................................................................... Barbara Shuflebarger
Treasurer ....................................................................................................................... Jackie Taylor
Assistant Treasurer .................................................................................................... TBD

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Susan Caldwell Chris Luper Dick Kidd Bill Parker
Heather Rowland Kevin Fiorini Jerry Krebs Jackie Taylor
David Stanley Barbara Shuflebarger Scott Robertson-Gouge Mike Vengrin
Joe Mack Taylor Kesha Taylor Cory Schepisi

Students ................................................. Allison Hinke, Anna Schoenhardt, Matt Sage, Mike Sage
Alternates .......................................................... Dina Deaton, Matt Shelor

Ex-Officio Members:
Campus Director, Wesley Center ................................................................. Martee Buchanan
District Superintendents .......... Sandra Johnson (AB), David Tabor(TA), Meg Taylor (WY)
District Secretaries of Christian Education ............................................. June Totten (AB), Gordon McBride (TA), Jennie Simmerman (WY)
District Presidents of UMW .......................................................... Doris Dunn (AB), Barbara Buskill (TA), Carolyn Snow (WY)
District Lay Leaders ......................... Flo Clarke (AB), Pat Jones (TA), Wilma Snyder (WY)
Pastors, Radford Churches ......................... Mike Carter (Central), Betsy King (Carter St.),
............................................................... Karen Lane (Grove), Ginny Tompkins (New Mt. Olive)
Conference Representative ................................................................. Laura Lambert
Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministry Representative ............. Drew Henry
University of Tennessee, Chattanooga Wesley Foundation Board of Directors

Chair ................................................................. Lillian Cook
Vice Chair .......................................................... Tbd
Treasurer ............................................................. Cheryl Morgan
Secretary ........................................................................ Tbd

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Ex-Officio Members:
- Campus Minister, Director of Wesley Center ........................................... G. Keith Moore
- District Superintendents ................................................................. Michael Hubble, Joe Green
- Conference Representative .......................................................... Laura Lambert

University of Tennessee, Knoxville Wesley Foundation Board of Director

Chair ................................................................. Mark Wilson
Vice-Chair ........................................................................... Allen Cain
Secretary/Treasurer ................................................................ Amanda Madson

Elected Members:
- Rachel Brown
- Allen Cain
- Marc Gamble

Student Members:
- Liz Barr
- Megan Huchison

Ex-Officio Members:
- Campus Minister, Wesley Foundation Director .................................... Tim Kobler
- Program Director ........................................................................ Heather Godsey
- District Superintendents .............................................................. Nathan Malone, Adam McKee, Charles Maynard
- Conference Representative ......................................................... Laura Lambert
- Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministry Representatives ........ John Shearer

University of VA-Wise Wesley Foundation Board of Directors

Chair ................................................................. Dawn Gilbert
Vice-Chair ................................................................. Judy King
Secretary ........................................................................... Mary Baker
Treasurer ................................................................................ Della Bays

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Ex-Officio Members:
- Campus Director, Wesley Foundation ........................................... Mary “Beth” Tipton
- District Superintendent, Big Stone Gap ........................................ Archer Coppedge
- District Lay Leader, Big Stone Gap .................................................. Ken Roddenberry
- District UMM President, Big Stone Gap ............................................. Tbd
- District UMW President, Big Stone Gap ........................................... Gayle Kilgore
- Representative, Tazewell District ......................................................... Paul McNalley
- Conference Representative .......................................................... Laura Lambert
- Student Representative ................................................................. Curtis Gibson, Ryan Gibson
- Liaisons to the Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministry .......... TBD
This has been a year of transition for the Board of Lay Ministry (BOLM). During the year, seven out of our 12 districts have elected new District Lay Leaders (DLL). We give thanks and celebrate the faithful service of the past seven DLL and welcome the new leaders to the Board. There have also been new District Superintendents during the last 2 years. These are transitioning opportunities that include the partnership between the Lay Leaders and the Superintendents. Holston Conference will have a change in our Episcopal leadership after Annual Conference. Bishop Swanson will be leaving our Conference and appointed to another Conference. I along with the other leaders of the BOLM am indeed thankful to Bishop Swanson for his open demonstration of support for the laity and a willingness to partner with us as we carry out God’s mission for Holston. This Annual Conference will be my last as your Conference Lay Leader. I give thanks to our Lord for the opportunity to represent the laity of this conference and to work beside the Bishop and the Extended Cabinet. The greatest joys have been witnessing the many ministries of the local churches and seeing the desire to serve by so many of the laity.

By now, we have all heard of and participated in the Call to Action at some level, particularly the local church level. Some key “drivers” of vital churches involve laity leadership. It is VITAL that we as leaders are effective and we understand and carry out our roles. Most importantly, we as leaders must demonstrate our personal faith through regular worship, intentional spiritual growth, our own personal devotional life, and give of our financial resources. There are many opportunities within our local churches, districts, and conference for spiritual growth and leadership training. We have to be willing to respond to God’s leading and commit to our own personal spiritual growth. No one can do this for us.

Lay Speaking Ministries: The Lay Speaking Ministries program is extremely effective in training laypersons for many forms of ministry, not solely for a ministry of speaking. These training events are great tools for persons in leadership roles and laity are encouraged to participate in this vital program.

Lay Members of Annual Conference: The lay member to annual conference should be informed of the actions to take place at annual conference and understand information shared during annual conference. The Board of Lay Ministries has worked with the Conference to provide training, available on the internet at Holston.org. We also provide a Laity Orientation Session at the beginning of Annual Conference as well as the Orientation guides found in the Book of Reports. A Reporting Guide is distributed for lay members to use throughout the Annual Conference gathering to record actions and events, and their thought and reactions to those actions and events. This can help in preparing the report that Lay Members are responsible for giving to the local church upon their return from Annual Conference. This responsibility is stated in our Book of Discipline: “The lay member of the annual conference, along with the pastor, shall serve as an interpreter of the actions of the annual conference session.”

Closing

God is with us during our changing times. There is an element of excitement as well as concern as we continue to change to meet the needs of communities around our local churches and the global church. We are to remain faithful to what God is calling us to do. In doing so, God can use us in His Kingdom building. For me personally, God is calling me to focus my time more at the local church level and the district level. I have experienced first-hand both the joys and challenges of serving at the Conference level and beyond; the district level; the local church level. Regardless of where God is calling you and me, we should serve with our whole heart and with God’s agenda. My prayers are with the people of the Holston Conference and those we serve.

Blessings and Peace,

Mary Ruth Richards, Holston Conference Lay Leader
COMMITTEE ON EPISCOPACY

The purpose of the Committee on Episcopacy is outlined in Paragraph 637 of the UM Discipline. We function much like a Pastor-Parish Relations Committee but on a much broader scale! Words in the Discipline which describe the committee’s work are engage, support, interpret, and report. We are the liaison between the bishop and conference agencies and act as a sounding board, as interpreters, and as prayer warriors. At each year’s meeting, it has been a joy to hear Bishop Swanson’s hopes and dreams for our conference, what has moved him, what concerns him, and what sparks his passion. Our bishop has a gift for bringing large and global concerns to us and seeing how they are really our local concerns.

This is a year of mixed emotions for the committee as we prepare to say farewell to our bishop of eight years and prepare to welcome a new bishop in September, 2012. One of the roles of the committee during this transition is to provide information about our conference to the Southeastern Jurisdictional Committee on Episcopacy. An Episcopal Area Profile was submitted which included demographic and statistical information along with specific traits that make Holston unique. Just as a conference cabinet strives to match the gifts and graces of a pastor with a church, the jurisdictional committee strives to match the strengths and gifts of a bishop with the needs and passions of a Conference. Because Rev. Eddie Fox and Bob Lockaby were elected to lead the delegation at the 2008 General Conference, they are currently Holston’s representatives on the SEJ Committee on Episcopacy (Paragraph 524). Our entire delegation will elect bishops; the SEJ Committee on Episcopacy will assign bishops to the particular areas.

Pursuant to the recommendation of the 2011 Annual Conference, the Episcopacy Committee has supported the Conference Trustees in their search for a new episcopal residence. Mary Frances Tucker chaired the group who spent many hours driving through Maryville and Alcoa looking for ‘just the right house.’ Defining words like “Bishopy” and “Holstony” were part of the committee’s work! After being shown several houses and after three inspections, the committee recommended to the trustees the purchase of a house in Blount County. For more details on the residence, please see the Report of the Trustees.

God has richly blessed us during the past eight years. The Committee on Episcopacy asks that you pray for Bishop Swanson as he prepares to lead a new area and to pray for “his Mrs. Swanson” and their children as they move into another home. May prayer undergird the whole episcopal leadership process.

Catherine Clark Nance, Chairperson

UNITED METHODIST MEN

Since our 2010 Annual Conference, Holston Conference United Methodist Men have not only heard the following: Call to Action! Rethink Church! Vital Church! They have started believing these ideas and understanding that they are a vital part of their local church. We have seen this throughout all our districts. We believe that every church is a vital church. Here are some examples of what has taken place in the local churches, districts and conference levels since last year’s annual report.

Our former Holston Conference Scouting Coordinator (Keith Smith) has been appointed as the Southeastern Jurisdictional Scouting Coordinator. He has been
instrumental in overseeing and leading the eight (8) District Scouting Coordinators. Keith and his wife (Jane) both have become “Scouting Specialist.” Keith’s enthusiasm has gotten more men involved in his local church. Keith’s efforts and hard work have not gone unnoticed and this is one of the main reasons for his newest appointment.

Our Holston Conference Prayer Advocate, Tom Mitoraj continues to work with our five (5) District Prayer Advocates. Tom sets the example of what a Prayer Advocate is, by striving to broaden the communication basis of what a Prayer Advocates job is. He and his local men’s ministry answered The Upper Room Prayer Line as volunteers over eight (8) different occasions last year. Twice they answered the line for a 24 hour period. He is a true Prayer Warrior. I am also proud to say that our conference UMM again made their $1000 annual contribution to The Upper Room Prayer Line and will continue to do so.

Another example of vital church, we had over 90 groups chartered last year. This includes several groups that have incorporated their entire circuit or even their county. This has gotten more men involved in and working towards our goal of: “bringing men to Christ and helping make disciples of them for Him.” Our men are seeing that if you get the man/father in church then 93% of the time you will get the rest of the family. This is happening in the local church.

I am extremely proud of the efforts in the area of outreach missions. We have started new “gleaning” projects with The Society of St. Andrew and we now have “gleaning” coordinators in at least five (5) of the districts and even some in the local churches. We are helping to provide fresh produce to families locally that are in need. The men have gotten the families in their local churches involved. We have had folks from age 5 to age 85 help in these projects. We also fulfilled our pledge of $200 per Conference to “Stop Hunger Now.” This past year, we helped salvage at over 200,000 pounds of fresh produce in local areas. Several examples are:

• A 40,000 pound truck load of cabbage that was bagged and distributed in a day and a half to four (4) local food pantries and local families in the area.

• A farmer/processor was found that gave us 20,000 pounds of green beans that resulted in 2400 bags given away in a day. The only cost was $500 in transportation for $24,000 worth of beans that went to 5 area food pantries and 20 local churches.

• As a resulted of that bean drop at least five (5) other churches in our conference have received different amounts of beans and given them away locally.

• We helped establish a “gleaning” process in at least one of the major cities “Farmer’s Market” and averaged about 200 pounds twice a week which was given to a local area volunteer ministry.

• One district has for the third year in a row “gleaned” a turnip farmer’s field of approximately 50,000 pounds of turnips each year for local food pantry distribution.

• For the first time, Society of St. Andrew found a farmer that was willing to allow us to “glean” his pumpkin patch of 1000 to 1500 pumpkins. This not only involved UMM, but also involved college students for a local college.
These are a few of the “gleaning” projects that I have heard about, but I am sure there were many more. We have had many “volunteer” teams that have not only been on national and international mission projects this past year, but have helped their brothers and sisters within our own conference after all the devastating storms last year. There is and will continue to be needs for these teams for months to come and we will continue to promote and provide manpower where it is needed. We have had several men’s groups set up wheelchair ramp building groups and small repairs for needy families.

Bishop Swanson signed our affiliate agreement with Disciple Bible Outreach Ministries (DBOM) National for both VA and TN last year during Annual Conference. There was a training session in VA and all the Chaplains have been trained. We did not get a training date set up the TN part of Holston last year, but have it in process for early Spring 2012 with the help of Anne Travis our Conference Director of Connectional Ministries, Mark Hicks, National President of DBOM and myself.

We have learned how to communicate much better in getting the word out for the needs of all kinds in the local church, district and conference. We are working on a new website so we can promote local church missions along with district and conference. We started developing a communication team within each district. We have over the past four (4) years also seen our “Day with the Bishop” attendance go from 85 to averaging 160 men. Last year we continued to refine our Calling All Men gathering and had two (2) locations and two (2) dates to better accommodate men throughout the conference. Not only did this help get men to attend that had not been before, but we also paid off the previous year’s debt and made a small profit this past year. We continued to hear of men going back to their local churches and “rededicating their lives for Christ” or “accepting Christ for the first time.” We held 2 new successful workshops this year, one for our female clergy and one on addiction. We had 14 female clergy total attend between both gatherings and they were hosted by Bishop Swanson. The addiction workshops had a total of 16 men attend between the two (2). We will include both of these workshops again next year.

Finally, I am excited about what has/is happening in Holston Conference UMM and how men are “stepping up” and becoming more involved in their local church. They are seeing and understanding that every church is a vital church. I know that with God’s help we will continue to strive to get men more involved. I look forward to helping our next president to continue moving Holston forward.

~ Mike Smith, President

**UNITED METHODIST WOMEN**

Since the 2011 Annual Conference, Holston Conference United Methodist Women are busy doing the work of living out our Purpose. The women of Holston more than met our Pledge To Mission of $345,734.12, which undergirds the Global Ministries of the United Methodist Church universal.

When we assembled in July at our Conference School of Christian Mission, Colonial Heights United Methodist Church in Kingsport, TN., we studied subjects chosen several years in advance by the United Methodist Women’s Division. Study topics were “For the Love of God: John’s Letters”; “Mission and Evangelism”; “The Beauty and
Courage of Sudan.” Leaders for these studies were: Tom Binford and Joel Campbell; Mike and Lori Sluder; Nancy Hobbs and Randy Frye; and Marsheine McClurg. John Powers and Margie Ballard were the musicians. Those attending were 146 adults, 7 children, and 1 baby.

In August, we met at Church Street United Methodist Church in Knoxville, TN, for our third Social Action Workshop on “Immigration.” Rev. James Dougherty, Rev. Tony Collins, and David Jennings were program participants.

We were honored to have Bishop Swanson speak at the Conference UMW Annual Meeting in September. He also installed the Conference Officers and was the Communion Celebrant. Three Mission Directors, Richard Gibson, Wesley House Community Center in Knoxville; Lurone Jennings, Bethlehem Center of Chattanooga; and Randy Hildebrant of Jubilee Project, Sneedville, TN, were guest speakers. John Powers and Margie Ballard were our musicians.

Holston’s UMW special mission project for 2010 was Jubilee Project in Sneedville, TN. Total Mission Giving was $25,590.91.

The Theme for 2011 and 2012, “Faith • Hope • Love in Action” began our series of events in May at Lake Junaluska, NC. The Spiritual Enrichment Experience (SEE) was held on Friday and Saturday May 13 and 14. Rev. Sandra Johnson was the keynote speaker. Brenda Haymore and Amy Lane provided the music.

The Young Women’s Event followed SEE on Saturday and Sunday, May 14 and 15. Kristen Burkhart was the keynote speaker and Terri Winkle led the music.

Our goal for 2012 as it is every year is to help MISSION COME ALIVE for the women of Holston Conference. We strive to live according to Jesus’ command to us, “Whatever you do for one of the least of these children of mine, you do for me.”

~ Georgia Lister, President
WHEREAS, Jesus invites his disciples to bring healing to the sick (Matthew 10:8 and Matthew 25:31-46); and

WHEREAS, today a child dies every 60 seconds from malaria and these deaths are preventable; and

WHEREAS, malaria deaths and other killer diseases of poverty will only be adequately addressed by significant additional funding of our health ministries and by forming creative partnerships; and

WHEREAS, Global Health is one of the key areas of focus of our denomination, with the aim to bring healing to the sick; and

WHEREAS, we are prepared to respond to the Wesleyan admonition to “do good” in recognition that we have the hope, the people, and the power to facilitate change; and

WHEREAS, our denomination through the 2008 General Conference affirmed unanimously the Global Health Initiative Campaign to Fight Malaria; and

WHEREAS, The United Methodist Church Vital Congregation emphasis, through our Call to Action, encourages local congregations of all sizes to involve persons in mission endeavors and to give generously to mission projects; and

WHEREAS, the Holston Conference has significant ongoing ministries and relationships with countries deeply impacted by malaria, such as Liberia, Sudan, Zimbabwe, and others; and

WHEREAS, the Holston Conference has strongly supported the Nothing But Nets Campaign which is now a part of Imagine No Malaria;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the 2012 Holston Annual Conference affirms a partnership with the Imagine No Malaria Campaign; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that affirmation is granted to pursue a capital campaign targeted toward malaria ministries as an extraordinary event in the life of the United Methodist Church.

-Imagine No Malaria Task Force

This resolution has been endorsed by the Holston Conference Children's Ministry Team and the Holston Conference Missions Ministry Team.
RESOLUTION RELATING TO RENTAL/HOUSING ALLOWANCES FOR RETIRED OR DISABLED CLERGYPERSONS

The Holston Annual Conference (the “Conference”) adopts the following resolutions during the 2012 session of Annual Conference taking place June 10-June 13, 2012, relating to rental/housing allowances for active, retired, or disabled clergypersons of the Conference:

WHEREAS, the religious denomination known as The United Methodist Church (the “Church”), of which this Conference is a part, has in the past functioned and continues to function through ministers of the gospel (within the meaning of Internal Revenue Code section 107) who were or are duly ordained, commissioned, or licensed ministers of the Church (“Clergypersons”);

WHEREAS, the practice of the Church and of this Conference was and is to provide active Clergypersons with a parsonage or a rental/housing allowance as part of their gross compensation;

WHEREAS, pensions or other amounts paid to active, retired, and disabled Clergypersons are considered to be deferred compensation and are paid to active, retired, and disabled Clergypersons in consideration of previous active service; and

WHEREAS, the Internal Revenue Service has recognized the Conference (or its predecessors) as the appropriate organization to designate a rental/housing allowance for Clergypersons who are or were members of this Conference and are eligible to receive such deferred compensation;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

THAT an amount equal to 100% of the pension or disability payments received from plans authorized under The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church (the “Discipline”), which includes all such payments from the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits (“GBOPHB”), during the years 2012 and all subsequent years until it is rescinded for each active, retired, or disabled Clergyperson who is or was a member of the Conference, or its predecessors, be and hereby is designated as a rental/housing allowance for each such Clergyperson; and

THAT the pension or disability payments to which this rental/housing allowance applies will be any pension or disability payments from plans, annuities, or funds authorized under the Discipline, including such payments from the GBOPHB and from a commercial annuity company that provides an annuity arising from benefits accrued under a GBOPHB plan, annuity, or fund authorized under the Discipline, that result from any service a Clergyperson rendered to this Conference or that an active, a retired, or a disabled Clergyperson of this Conference rendered to any local church, annual conference of the Church, general agency of the Church, other institution of the Church, former denomination that is now a part of the Church, or any other employer that employed the Clergyperson to perform services related to the ministry of the Church, or its predecessors, and that elected to make contributions to, or accrue a benefit under, such a plan, annuity, or fund for such active, retired, or disabled Clergyperson’s pension or disability as part of his or her gross compensation.

NOTE: The rental/housing allowance that may be excluded from a Clergyperson’s gross income in any year for federal income tax purposes is limited under Internal Revenue Code section 107(2) and regulations thereunder to the least of: (1) the amount of the rental/housing allowance designated by the Clergyperson’s employer or other appropriate body of the Church (such as this Conference in the foregoing resolutions) for such year; (2) the amount actually expended by the Clergyperson to rent or provide a home in such year; or (3) the fair rental value of the home, including furnishings and appurtenances (such as a garage), plus the cost of utilities in such year.
It has been almost 40 years since the last soldiers, sailors, pilots, and other military personnel from the United States left Vietnam. The United States went there believing that our presence would make a difference and somehow our efforts would make the world a better place. Because of the war, scars remain, even after 40 years, upon the landscape and people of Vietnam. Agent Orange continues to debilitate much of that population. Countless numbers have died over the past four decades, and others still struggle with the effects of their illness. Future generations may also have to face the orange pain.

But God is a healing God, and that is why this year our 2012 Annual Conference Missions Offering is directed toward the General Board of Global Ministries “Victims of Agent Orange Project.” Under the direction of The Reverend Dr. Ut Van To, this project helps victims of Agent Orange with housing, medicine, and job skills training. Our gifts will help ensure that this ministry continues to touch victimized lives with healing grace.

The goal for our 2012 missions offering is $150,000 from the churches of the Holston Conference. Bishop Swanson has made a special appeal to fellow veterans to ask their help through personal contributions. We also ask local churches to take a special Annual Conference missions offering on Sunday, May 20 (or another Sunday in May), to support this appeal to aid Victims of Agent Orange. Holston Conference has a real opportunity to make a difference for these persons through the work of Dr. Ut To.

Holston Conference can return to Vietnam as instruments of peace, battling against the brokenness that leaves so many without hope. Today, we go as healing instruments, knowing that God can make life whole again for all who have been victimized. Today, we go to bring reconciliation and new beginnings. Please join all of Holston Conference on this journey.

“True devotion, the kind that is pure and faultless before God the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their difficulties and to keep the world from contaminating us.”

JAMES 1:27 (COMMON ENGLISH BIBLE)

Please give.

For information on this Mission, contact connectionalministries@holston.org.

For information about Holston Conference, visit holston.org.

Holston Conference of The United Methodist Church
P.O. Box 850 • Alcoa, TN 37701-0850 • (866) 690-4080
UPCOMING HOLSTON CONFERENCE EVENTS  
June 2012 – May 2013

June 10-13  Holston Annual Conference
June 25-29  Jr. High Assembly and Sr. High Assembly
June 30    Family Fun Day at Camp Wesley Woods
July 8-14   Youth in Mission Trip
July 26-28  School of Christian Mission
August 11  UMW Social Action Workshop
August 11  Calling All Men, Pleasant View UMC, Abingdon
August 17-18 F.U.E.L. Youth Ministry Institute #1
August 25  Calling All Men, Concord UMC, Knoxville
August 28  Buffalo Bash at Buffalo Mountain Camp
September 7-8 Abolishing Poverty Conference
September 9 Celebration Service for Newly Assigned Bishop (Knoxville)
September 14-15 Middle School Retreat Camp Wesley Woods
September 14-15 UMW Annual Meeting
September 14-16 F.U.E.L. Sabbath Retreat/F.U.E.L. Youth Ministry Institute #2
September 14-16 Native American Gathering
September 20-21 Holston Conference Secretaries Association
September 24-28 Strength for the Journey Retreat
September 30 Celebration Reception for Newly Assigned Bishop (Bristol)
October 12-14 Children’s Sabbath
October 16 Clergy Gathering
October 19 Youth Service Fund grant applications due
October 22-26 Strength for the Journey Retreat
November 1-3 F.U.E.L. Youth Ministry Institute #3
November 9-10 Camp Dickenson Youth Retreat
November 11-13 Clergy Women’s Retreat
December 1 Christmas Day Camp at Camp Wesley Woods
December 8 Christmas Day Camp at Camp Dickenson
December 8-9 Christmas Camp at Camp Wesley Woods
**UPCOMING HOLSTON CONFERENCE EVENTS (Continued)**

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>January 18-20</td>
<td>Resurrection Weekend I</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 25-27</td>
<td>Resurrection Weekend II</td>
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<td>February 1-3</td>
<td>Divine Rhythm (moving to Gatlinburg!)</td>
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<td>February 8-9</td>
<td>Camp Lookout Confirmation Retreat</td>
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<td>February 15-16</td>
<td>F.U.E.L. Youth Ministry Institute #4</td>
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<td>February 23</td>
<td>Camp Lookout Workday</td>
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<td>March 1-2</td>
<td>Buffalo Mountain Camp Confirmation Camp</td>
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<td>March 8-9</td>
<td>Camp Dickenson Confirmation Camp</td>
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<td>March 16</td>
<td>Camp Wesley Woods Volunteer Work Day</td>
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<td>April</td>
<td>Month-long Youth Mission Madness</td>
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<td>April 5-7</td>
<td>Discovery Youth Weekend</td>
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<td>April 19-21</td>
<td>F.U.E.L. Youth Ministry Institute #5</td>
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<td>May 11</td>
<td>Buffalo Mountain Camp Children’s Day</td>
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<td>June 1</td>
<td>Camp Dickenson Children’s Day</td>
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<td>July 6-13</td>
<td>Youth in Mission Trip</td>
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After a great start to 2011, the third quarter was one most investors would like to forget. Then came October. The market was up 10.8% for the month and erased most of all the declines of the previous five months. Since the official start of the S&P 500 Index in 1957, there have only been 11 instances (including October) where a calendar month gained +10%. In fact, October ranked as the 8th best calendar month EVER! The roller coaster continued down and then up in November and December. At the end of 2011 the BALANCED GROWTH FUND was up .91% YTD, the INTERMEDIATE INCOME FUND was up 5.74% and the EQUITY GROWTH FUND was down 2.24%. The SHORT-TERM INCOME FUND, which is extremely popular for churches seeking safety and income, was up 1.91% YTD (in contrast the one-year treasury note is paying one-tenth of one percent).

As 2012 gets started we anticipate another great year. The BALANCED GROWTH FUND was up nearly 4% in January and churches and people are calling seeking assistance in evaluating options and planning for a better future.

While market gyrations, politics and news reports that seem to focus on turmoil cannot be dismissed, the Foundation board takes great pride in saying to our church family that “The Foundation remains financially strong and focused on a positive future.” Our long-term, diversified, low-cost and socially-conscious investment approach with endowment assets allocated among different types and classes of stocks, and bond indexes and funds has not changed and certainly helps us benefit from upswings in the market while buffering downturns.

Key components for our consistent performance and growth are rooted in our excellent, experienced staff and a very dedicated board of directors. We have been fortunate in getting “the right people on the bus” who understand our purpose and possess a track record of accomplishment, moral integrity and diverse skills, as well as a deep commitment of service to the church.

We take seriously our role as steward of individually-created endowments, trusts, and bequests, as well as our investment services for churches, institutions, and ministries. While no one has the ability to consistently predict the short-term movements in the financial markets, we promise to be vigilant and to stay the course with quality, low-cost investments that are consistent with our long-term goals. There is a Warren Buffett quote from several years ago about those who lost money in the markets, “The hapless ones bought stock only when they felt comfortable in doing so and then proceeded to sell when the headlines made them queasy.” Buffett is also quoted as saying, “If you wait for the robins, spring will be over.”

The Foundation stewards over $75 million in assets. Over $25 million of the total assets consists of around 200 endowments, trusts and other planned gifts given by individuals to benefit the needs and the ministries that they selected. About $50 million of the total represents about 500 accounts placed here by churches, districts, institutions, and the Holston Conference to take advantage of our various low-cost and productive investment options. Our consultations and visits are provided without cost or obligation. We are eager to be of service to you in 2012!

- David Goodson, Board President
- Roger Redding, Executive Director
The work of Holston Home continues in true Wesleyan tradition to provide a ministry of hope and healing to children who have been rejected by their families, whose behavior is unacceptable to the community, or who have lost hope in a world they don’t understand and are not equipped to deal with. Most of them have no hope for the future. But lives change when they find a warm, secure place to live which emphasizes developing God-given potential, and most important, teaches them about the love of Jesus, the Christ.

Thank you for your part in answering God’s call to disenfranchised, frustrated, alienated, broken children and families. Listed are some of the accomplishments which you have made possible during the past year.

- Fifth Sunday offerings and giving to The Advance grow each year. During 2011, 695 churches have responded to the ministry to help needy children through Holston Home.
- During the year care was provided for approximately 800 children. Thirty-seven children completed 12 years of school and 31 children made a profession of faith and were baptized.
- Holston Home is in the process of seeking reaccreditation by the Council on Accreditation. National accreditation measures the agency’s policies, practices, and operations against national best practice standards and testifies to our commitment to high quality services and ethical practices. The agency has carried national accreditation for the past fourteen years.
- The George R. Johnson Equestrian Barn, which was destroyed by fire on December 13, 2009, has been replaced with another barn and was dedicated on January 20, 2011.
- Friends of Children dinners were held in Greeneville, Knoxville, and Kingsport.
- Two NOMADS (Nomads On A Mission Active in Divine Service) groups helped with restoration of the Old Superintendent’s House, painted Bewley Center and built fences on the farm. These husband and wife teams volunteered more than 2,000 hours of hard work. Other volunteer groups gave a total of 18,000 hours of work to Holston Home during the year.

James 1:27 reminds us that “Pure and lasting religion in the sight of God our Father means that we must care for orphans and widows in their troubles...” (NLT) The record of Holston Home’s ministry to children, youth and families, the prayers and the free-will gifts of Holston Conference United Methodists, the great work of Holston Home Ambassadors, and the support of the pastors prove that Methodists in Holston Conference really care for the children who need our love.

We seek your continued support. We give thanks for your heart connection and pledge to care for as many children as you are willing to underwrite. Your interest determines our future.

Plan to visit our Greeneville campus and experience firsthand the transformation and redemption that is taking place in the lives of children. Then share our story with others in your church. Remember to pray for the children, their families and our staff.

- Arthur S. Masker, President/CEO
- Mary Margaret Denton, Chair, Board of Trustees
BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND CAMPUS MINISTRY

One would be hard pressed to go almost anywhere within the geographic boundaries of the Holston Annual Conference and find someone whose life has not been impacted by one of the conference colleges or campus ministries of Holston. Of course, the reason for this is because the conference colleges and Wesley Foundations of Holston have historically been an integral part of the social and spiritual fabric of its alumni and their communities.

A popular television and radio commercial repeatedly broadcast throughout much of the Tazewell and Wytheville Districts of Holston is that of a small, family owned furniture company, whose owner always concludes his commercials by turning directly to the camera, pointing his finger, and saying his signature catch-phrase, “Be there!”

I am always amazed each year at our Board of Higher Education retreat to hear so many stories from students, volunteers and campus ministers that sound something to the effect: “I was away from my hometown for the first time. I needed a home. I attended a United Methodist Campus Ministry. I found a family. I was led to Christ. My faith was strengthened.”

It seems like with so many of these stories that I hear, when there was a need in a young person’s life, Holston has been there! Historically, this is true. Currently, this remains true. And in the future, this will hold true, because of Holston’s commitment to Higher Education and Campus Ministry.

Thanks to the much-needed financial and spiritual support of the Holston Annual Conference, campus ministry is right where it needs to be: next to the dorm of a homesick student; offering a Bible study to a young person who has questions about God; providing outreach opportunities at home and abroad for college age students who desire a break from the classroom to serve the Lord. And the list goes on.

And yet, there continues to be a tremendous opportunity for Holston on the campuses of the many colleges and universities of Holston Conference because either a United Methodist community exists there or will exist there. The Board of Higher Education encourages the local churches of Holston to do all it can to be there for the college age persons of its communities.

Please take a moment and review the reports listed below concerning the good things happening in regard to campus ministry and Higher Education in Holston.

– Chris Brown, Chairperson

East Tennessee State University Wesley Foundation

ETSU Wesley Foundation is having a very good year! I am in my second year as the director and I look forward to the future as I serve in this important appointment! Campus ministry is a vital service of the United Methodist Church on our campus. I deeply appreciate the support Wesley receives from the Holston Conference and the three districts (Kingsport, Johnson City, and Morristown) that support ETSU Wesley. Without your support we could not offer this ministry for our students at ETSU. Thank you!

The fall semester started with our Open House on August 28, 2011. Several new students attended Open House and many of these students have become a vital part of
Highlights from the year include the following:

• Attendance for our Tuesday night worship service throughout the fall and early spring semesters has averaged approximately 50 students. At the time of this report we still have eight more worship services before school is out. Bishop Swanson will be preaching at ETSU Wesley on April 3, 2012. We have set a goal to have at least 100 students here for this special worship service!
• Wesley’s annual barbeque & auction raised $20,132.18 this year. Since 2001, we have raised over $238,132.18 through our annual auction!! Thank you for your support and continued support for 2012!
• Wesley has two worship services each week. Our regular worship service is on Tuesday night. We serve a meal at 5:30 pm followed by praise and worship with Word and communion. Wesley also offers a service on Sunday night (SNL) with student-led devotions, worship, and prayer time.
• Our leadership team consists of six interns. Each intern has a ministry focus that supports the ministry of ETSU Wesley. The six areas of focus are: Worship, Discipleship, Recreation, Mission/Outreach, Freshmen Ministries, and Communications. Each ministry area has a team of four to six members. Interns meet weekly with the director and each intern then meets weekly with his/her team. Discipleship is encouraged through the spiritual formation of the group through devotions, prayer, and service. Also, groups serve in their area of focus throughout the semester.
• Wesley has a fantastic group of active freshmen that joined us this fall!
• We continue our fall ministry to freshmen and are gearing up for this coming fall 2012.
• There are two mission trips in 2012. The first mission is during spring break to Mountain T.O.P. in Altamont, Tennessee. The second mission trip is in May, going to Four Corners Native American Ministries in Shiprock, New Mexico.
• Wesley is blessed with a fantastic praise band!
• Twenty students attended Divine Rhythm this January!
• Wesley helped with fund raising and the building of the 5th ETSU Habitat for Humanity House. We also participated in the Shepherd’s Breakfast and Relay for Life.
• In the fall, our students raised $500.00 for Mexico Ministry Mission in Chiapus, Mexico. Gary and Pat Allmon are serving in this community. Wesley donated several pairs of shoes for “Soles for Souls,” donated clothes and food for residents living in the John Sevier Center in Johnson City, and served a bountiful Thanksgiving meal for the residents at the John Sevier Center.
• In February Wesley had a Super Bowl Party and raised over $725.00 to support “The World Race.” Two of our students, Garrett Hammonds and Grayson Fleetwood, will serve in 11 countries in 11 months starting this June.
• Four Wesley alumni are presently attending seminary. ETSU Wesley provides the Bedford Transou Trust Fund that pays for their books while attending seminary.
• We have established a vision team. The team consists of members from the Wesley Board. The vision team will be looking at the present and future needs of our ministry and building.

Written in 2000, our mission statement continues to be relevant and to challenge us:

To provide a safe Christian community that encourages spiritual and personal growth as students pursue God’s call.

Additionally, a challenge that is before us is to find even more ways to reach out to the students on the campus and offer Christ to them.

I am so thankful for the wonderful opportunity to serve as Director of ETSU Wesley! The ministry opportunities are phenomenal here. The potential is great! Please pray for us as we continue to work with God in building a culture of discipleship on the campus of East Tennessee State University.

~John Ousley, Director
Radford University Wesley Foundation

One of the great things about our Wesley Foundations is that they are the United Methodist Church on the college campus. They are our connection to young adults who have left home for the first time and are searching—searching for how to fit in; searching for career choices; searching for mates; and searching for their church connection. The Wesley Foundation provides a home away from home for their personal and spiritual lives while they are in college.

The program at the Radford Wesley Foundation is supportive, nurturing, and, in general, amazing! The ministry offers the students an opportunity for worship, fellowship, fun, service, and study. They eat together, play together, and praise God together. The examples are endless but there are three we would like to share. On Sunday morning, the students from Wesley gather for breakfast and then worship as a group in a local congregation. On Wednesday evenings, the students gather to eat, fellowship, and participate in a program or activity. One Wednesday in February, the activity was to leave their building and take a meal to homeless men who were being housed at Grove UMC for one week as part of the To Our House Program. They cooked, they set tables, they served, and they visited with and shared the love of Jesus Christ with these men. Finally, each Tuesday and Thursday afternoon, the students are involved in a tutoring program for local elementary school students. The children are picked up after school and taken to the Wesley Foundation where they receive one-on-one tutoring. These are three examples of the outreach into the community that the Wesley Foundation provides.

The Radford Wesley Foundation is a ministry that deserves continued support by the Holston Conference by our prayers and our dollars.

This strong endorsement is from the Program Evaluation Committee of the Radford Wesley Foundation Board of Directors.

~Martee Buchanan, Director

University of Tennessee Chattanooga Wesley Foundation

Greetings from your United Methodist Campus ministry in Chattanooga! 2011-12 has been a wonderful year and we are looking forward to another great one this August.

This year we returned to the Dominican Republic where we continued our partnership with YWAM (Youth With A Mission) reaching out to school children and helping out a medical missions team from Atlanta, GA. Once again, we joined forces with our sister Wesley Foundation, The Wesley Foundation at UVA-Wise.

Our programming continues to go well with large numbers joining us for lunch on both Wednesdays and Thursdays as well as dinner and worship on Thursday evenings. Our lunches touch on the needs of several different groups at UTC. Many of the Physical Therapy students tell us that our Souper Thursday free soup lunch is a real blessing for them. Not only does it help them stretch their dollars but it also helps them fit a good healthy lunch into their busy schedule. We also have many students from around the country who are here studying English with the intent of entering an American university. These ESL students (English as second language) find a safe, hospitable place to enjoy a lunch with their professors and practice their language skills.

But these meals not only reach out to students, they reach out to the larger community as well. Many faculty and staff take the opportunity to enjoy a restful meal with us as well. The UTC maintenance and housekeeping staff is perhaps our most faithful group. In all this, we are fulfilling our mandate to minister to the whole campus community.
Additionally, our continuing vision to nurture the culture of call is bearing fruit as well. We currently have two members leading youth groups in the Chattanooga District. Justin Keating, a 2011 graduate, is currently moving through the candidacy process with the intention of pursuing the M.Div. within the next year. Ms. Katie Taylor is preparing to enter Asbury Theological Seminary this fall. The support of local churches and conference benevolences puts the Wesley Center in a unique position to help these young adults answer the call in their lives.

We do this by building relationships which are then cultivated over time. How do we do this? Through our regular programming events such as worship, Bible study and shared meals, also through events and other programs which help us to meet new people. Building new relationships with groups such as the ROTC helps us meet new students and involve them in events such as tornado recovery work in Bradley County. Our newest programming area, Wesley Outdoors, provides an opportunity for fellowship through a shared interest.

The care and feeding of young adults is an ongoing endeavor that demands a high degree of accessibility from the church and its leaders—to say nothing of the ongoing support of the church at large. It is demanding work but it comes with a great potential for the future. On behalf of the students, staff and Board of the Wesley Center @ Chattanooga, I offer many thanks to you for your ongoing support.

~Keith Moore, Director

University of Tennessee Knoxville Wesley Foundation

Greetings to you from your Wesley Foundation at the University of Tennessee at Knoxville! This has been a year of wonderful growth in our 90th year of campus ministry at UTK. We have welcomed many new first-year and graduate students into the life of the Wesley Foundation. We seek to be a home away from home by providing a welcoming and nurturing environment on the university campus. Through worship, fellowship, discussion, and service we seek to build an open and diverse Christian community.

Our weekly programs include worship, two free meals, Bible studies, and other small group gatherings. We also enjoy fellowship times through our Friday Night Stuff program, Saturday hikes, and other community outings. Our strong resident program has helped to make the Wesley Foundation home for seven UT students who help to make it a welcoming environment for all.

We have been able to participate with several campus ministry groups for worship and learning events. We have enjoyed ecumenical music and worship events, such as our Ash Wednesday service at the Hodges Library Auditorium. These collaborative efforts remind us that we are not in competition with one another; rather, we are working side by side in the work of Christ.

We have also welcomed guest speakers to address issues such as dealing with the psychological stress of college and learning about our brothers and sisters from other faiths. The students have been planning fundraising events and exploring ways to become active volunteers in community service agencies in the Knoxville area.

I am excited to see the many ways that God is working in the lives of these young people and look forward to seeing them help usher in the realm of God. Let us continue to lift them up in prayer and strive to work together to support them as they seek out their calling in life and faith.

~Rev. Tim Kobler, Director
University of Virginia’s College at Wise Wesley Foundation

THANK YOU! Thank you, Holston Conference, for continuing to make reaching young adults at our college campuses a priority. Thank you to all the individuals, local congregations, districts and others who have sacrificially given to support the mission at UVa-Wise through apportionment and tithing dollars or other gifts of prayer, money, time and resources. Your support makes possible the vital mission of reaching our campus with the Good News of the gospel of Jesus Christ!

God’s power is at work at UVa-Wise! As our students, faculty and staff are spurred on in love, they are developing deeper relationships with God. It is a critical task of the Wesley Foundation ministry to teach how to move beyond merely believing Christianity toward being Christian and living like disciples of Jesus Christ. This in turn creates leaders, both laity and clergy, who are impacting local congregations and their communities both now and long after graduation. Participants are encouraged to change the world by changing their lives and seeking a closer relationship with Jesus Christ.

The ministry at Wise has small groups and worship opportunities most days of the week. Groups are led not only by the campus minister, but also by students, faculty and staff. We continue to reach about 10% of our total student population through various ministries. Opportunities for growth include: Bible studies, book discussion groups, worship services, prayer groups, missions, outreach and witnessing opportunities.

The heart of student ministries at UVa-Wise is a call to action. Each month students tackle small mission projects that reach locally, nationally and globally. They have served as peer ministers on campus, adopted local prisoners’ children at Christmas, sent soldiers cards, visited nursing home residents, and are engaged in eradicating poverty. Each semester the students invite residents of local homeless and domestic violence shelters to “Take My Place,” at the table and the students cook for the residents and share God’s love with the residents. This has resulted in a partnership with the local shelter residents. Globally, Wise students joined students from UTC for a spring break mission to the Dominican Republic. Students served with a medical team and presented the gospel story in the community and at school assemblies.

The Wesley Foundation at UVa-Wise is rooted in God’s risk-taking love, and is passionate about reaching our campus community with life-changing grace and open-armed acceptance. Students are witnessing to the UVa-Wise campus through various means. One highlight is the prayer teams that go to campus and walk around simply praying with and for those they encounter, as led by the Holy Spirit. We have seen lives changed, miracles and wonders of healing take place as the prayer teams are faithful to the call God has placed upon them.

We continue to offer Christ in diverse and meaningful ways to the UVa-Wise campus and community. The formation of disciples of Jesus Christ is our highest priority. Thank you for continuing to support this Wesley Foundation campus ministry that is of vital importance to edifying the United Methodist Church.

~Rev. Beth Tipton, Director

Emory & Henry College Campus Ministry

Grace and peace to you from the Office of Spiritual Life at Emory & Henry College! The 2011-12 academic year has been a time of growth and exploration in the lives of the participants in the Spiritual Life ministries on our campus.
Before the beginning of the fall semester, the student leaders of the Spiritual Life groups gathered for a two-day leadership training and planning workshop which was designed to equip the leaders for their positions and to get them excited about the beginning of the year. Welcoming new students emerged as a top priority. During Orientation, The Spark worship service began its third year in ministry to students, faculty and staff in a casual, interactive setting on Sunday mornings. The Emory United Methodist Church also welcomed many students in worship that day. Other special events held in partnership with Emory UMC included Football Sunday, Greek Sunday, and Benefactors Sunday.

Our fall kick-off event featured a t-shirt tie-dying extravaganza and the musical artist Casey Darnell on the lawn of Memorial Chapel. Student groups created displays to introduce students to all of the Spiritual Life opportunities on campus.

Encounter worship, our contemporary worship service, spent the fall semester exploring the theme of “If We are the Body.”

Get Centered, a Taize-style worship experience, began its third academic year with participants gathering on Thursdays at lunchtime to take a break from their busy schedules in order to relax and to focus on God’s presence in their lives.

Campus Christian Fellowship welcomed about 50 persons to its beginning of the year picnic on the lawn of Memorial Chapel. The fruit of this event was evident in the increase in participation in weekly CCF meetings, which include service at Busy Bee’s Day Care center, trivia challenges, and programs on topics including appropriate relationship boundaries, world hunger, and service in the mission field. “Will Sing For Food” presented an opportunity for students to exhibit their “talents” while collecting donations to support area food pantries.

Spiritual Life Housing is filled to capacity, with 5 male residents in House 17 and 7 female residents in Inazu House. These students are committed to developing a strong Christian community among residents as well as reaching out to the campus community with events such as Bible Studies and Cinnamon Roll Tuesday, as well as spontaneous acts of hospitality, fellowship, and support.

The Fellowship of Christian Athletes meets on Thursdays for a lunch meeting. Don Montgomery, head football coach, continues to coordinate this group which is facilitated by student leaders from our sports teams including football, men’s and women’s soccer, men’s and women’s basketball, and cross country. Participants also include persons who are not involved in athletics at Emory & Henry, but who have participated in High School and wish to continue this connection in college. FCA is continuing to offer “The Echo,” a worship experience featuring music, games, and an inspiring speaker.

The Echo and Encounter have also joined together to offer a once monthly joint worship service with everyone from both groups participating in these services.

Kerygma’s year began with a retreat with 15 participants at Camp Dickenson in early September featuring the Rev. Sarah Moody Varnell as speaker. Regular meetings have included persons in the ministry (professors, area pastors, alumni, etc.) sharing their life stories and how they have answered God’s call in their lives.

Higher Ground has set its focus on weekly Bible Studies for all students. This group has grown tremendously this year since it changed its format to a co-ed Bible Study on the Book of Colossians.
On September 11th, the Office of Spiritual Life remembered the events of September 11, 2001, with a candlelight vigil which focused on images of peace in the religions of the world. Students, faculty, and staff led and participated in this campus-wide event held in the Alumni Plaza.

Several Student Groups joined together to host a concert by Christian Artist Coffey Anderson. FCA, Kerygma, and Higher Ground contributed to a fun night of music and entertainment just before spring break.

The Theme of Emory & Henry’s 2011 Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration was “One Song – Many Voices.” The event opened on Sunday evening with a concert featuring diverse musical styles that have been influenced by the African-American tradition. Many guest performers joined E&H’s Concert Choir for this occasion. The closing number was a joint presentation by all of the musicians present. Voices and instruments united for a moving rendition of “We Shall Overcome.” On Monday morning, Derrick N. Ashong, Afrropolitan musical artist and renowned speaker, was the keynote speaker of the day. The day continued with several breakout sessions, a celebration dinner, and a slam poetry performance by “The Mayhem Poets” (which was co-sponsored by the Emory Activities Board). This event was attended by students, faculty and staff, as well as by persons from the surrounding community. Service opportunities were coordinated by the Appalachian Center for Public Policy and Community Service throughout the weekend.

In January, Emory & Henry was well represented at Divine Rhythm by over thirty students.

Over Spring Break, thirteen persons represented the College on an alternative spring break mission trip to the Dominican Republic. Hosted by missionaries Damon and Kim Bland, this group led a morning Vacation Bible School for high school students in Sabaneta and painted the area Mission House in the afternoons. The team also had the opportunity to participate in several worship services throughout the week, as well as to enjoy some area sites and cultural experiences.

Each year as the Chaplain at Emory & Henry College brings new adventures, challenges, and blessings. Having the opportunity to support student groups and to attend to the needs of students, faculty, and staff is a rewarding ministry. I continue to serve in a community full of spiritual diversity and exploration. Being the spiritual guide in such an atmosphere is an honor and privilege.

~Mary K. Briggs, College Chaplain

Hiwassee College Campus Ministry

Campus ministry continues to expand and be vital on the Hiwassee campus. The student leadership team is centered in the Christian Student Movement; and provides many avenues of spiritual growth and worship. School year 2011-2012 has been spent seeking God’s will in mission and ministry with conversations occurring on many different levels. Our ministry theme for this school year was GETTING REAL (with God, ourselves, and the world).

CSM along with the Chaplain sponsored and/or participated in the following:

• Weekly required Chapel worship services
• Praise Team providing worship and music leadership
• Fall Retreat – centering on discipleship
• Divine Rhythm
• Weekly CSM meetings (praise/worship, Bible studies, prayer time, and recreation)
• Supported a weekly Bible study for male students (student led)
• Attended Winter Jam in Knoxville
• Hosted 2 swimming parties to welcome new students
• Relay for Life – Monroe County
• Buddy’s Race for the Cure – Knoxville
• Provided music leadership for Young Life of Monroe County

The students involved in the ministry at Hiwassee College also raised funds for the Society of St. Andrew by educating the Hiwassee population to the need to work toward feeding needy children. The goals were to raise enough money to provide 10,000 meals for hungry children in Africa. The goal was met and surpassed.

Four students along with the Chaplain and the music instructor spent most of winter break in Costa Rica. Included on that trip was daily Bible study, providing VBS for 4 groups of children, evening worship, and hand-moving over 20 tons of gravel, sand, and concrete mix to lay a floor in a new UMC. These students also invested in course work to support this endeavor, a 15-page paper describing the mission trip, and a formal presentation to the faculty and students. When all was said and done, the students received 3-upper division credits and God was glorified.

During this school year three (3) students have been baptized and two have re-dedicated their lives to Jesus Christ.

*Getting Real: I will instruct you and teach you about the direction you should go. I’ll advise you and keep my eye on you.*  
Psalm 32:8, CEB

~Betty Furches, Chaplain

**Tennessee Wesleyan College Campus Ministry**

Campus Ministry at Tennessee Wesleyan College has flourished with an active student leadership board, charged with planning weekly programs, Bible Studies, recreation, and weekly worship events. The venue for Wesleyan Christian Fellowship has moved from a location across the street from campus to the second floor of Old College, the college’s oldest building, at the heart of campus, providing a constant reminder of TWC’s heritage and the centrality of spiritual life to the life of the campus.

The WCF weekly program consists of contemporary music, provided by student musicians, a student-led prayer time and devotion (often with multi-media enhancement), followed by division into men’s and women’s small groups for discussion. WCF has also provided tote bags for the “Rice and Beans” ministry in Costa Rica.

We have eight students who meet monthly for a “Pre-Seminar’s Dinner” with Rev.
Chris Dover and Rev. McDonald. The group discusses issues related to ministerial vocation, orders (deacons, elders), choosing a seminary, and what seminary is like.

Weekly chapel and chapel convocation services have also featured student leadership in preaching and providing music. A contemporary chapel service, with a chapel band, has attracted much interest, bringing student attendance at these services to an average of thirty. Guest speakers/musicians for the fall semester have included singer Celia Whitler from Nashville, Dr. Ellen Ott Marshall, Professor of Ethics at Emory’s Candler School of Theology (Fall Religion Lectures), and Rev. Steve Brown, Trinity UMC, Athens, and Pastor Delmer Chilton, Assistant to the Bishop for the Southeastern Synod, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Leading United Methodist theologian and authority on spiritual formation in the Wesleyan tradition, Rev. Dr. David Lowes Watson, was Heritage Day speaker February 27-28, 2012.

Twelve students, faculty, and alumni participated in the Spring Break Mission Trip to Panajachel, Guatemala, through the auspices of United Methodist Volunteers in Mission. Working with our United Methodist missionaries there and their “Mission Guatemala” organization, we helped to build a playground for the school in the refugee community of Nueva Esperanza, installed seven stoves in homes needing them, helped in the distribution of food to feeding centers, assisted in the pre-school and medical clinic, and enjoyed the beautiful scenery around Lake Atitlan.

This year marks a transition in the chaplain’s office at TWC. Dr. Sam Roberts retires from full time teaching at the college, and I will be moving into his position as chair of the Religion and Philosophy Department. Rev. Chris Dover, who has until now served in a part-time teaching capacity, will become college chaplain and director of church relations. It is with trust and joy that I commend him, together with his gifts and graces, to the college pastorate.

~ William McDonald, Chaplain
Emory & Henry College

This has been an exciting year as Emory & Henry College celebrates the 175th anniversary of its founding by the Holston Annual Conference of the Methodist Church in 1836. Very few colleges in the nation have operated for 175 years under the same name and with continued affiliation with its founding organization.

The annual day in which Emory & Henry commemorates its chartering by the Commonwealth of Virginia has been renamed as “Founders Day” this year as the College acknowledges those individuals and groups whose efforts brought us southwest Virginia’s first institution of higher education. Maryville District Superintendent Charles Maynard (E&H ’77) delivered the Founders Day address and spoke about the efforts of early Methodists to provide educational opportunities and about Bishop John Emory, namesake of the College, for whom Emory University in Atlanta was also named and founded the same year. On behalf of the Holston Conference, Bishop James Swanson accepted a College citation officially expressing appreciation to the Conference for its long-standing commitment to education in the region.

New statues of the College’s namesakes, Bishop Emory and Virginia Governor Patrick Henry, have been erected in the central campus this year as part of our 175th anniversary celebration. Pulitzer Prize winning historian Doris Kearns Goodwin visited campus as the anniversary keynote speaker and spoke about her book “Team of Rivals: The Political Genius of Abraham Lincoln.” President Lincoln began his service to the nation a mere twenty-five years after the College’s founding. A 175th anniversary pictorial history book has been published and is available for purchase by contacting our bookstore. And a spectacular fireworks display capped off an evening performance by the Chinese Opera Orchestra of Shanghai as the College community gathered on the anniversary of the laying of the cornerstone for the first building 175 years ago.

We have much to be thankful for as Emory & Henry continues to be recognized by outside observers for its exceptional value, successful student achievements, and superior faculty.

• For the second consecutive year, Emory & Henry has been named as a leader among institutions of higher education for their support of volunteering, service-learning and civic engagement. The Corporation for National and Community Service announced that Emory & Henry was one of eleven finalists nationwide for the President’s Award, the highest federal recognition for commitment to service-learning and civic engagement. In 2009, Emory & Henry was one of only six colleges or universities nationwide to win the award.

• Emory & Henry was among 70 colleges and universities included in “America’s Best Kept College Secrets.” Institutions listed in the guidebook share four important characteristics: a superior institution that is exciting, challenging and welcoming; an excellent reputation with high regard from those who know colleges; acceptance rates of more than 60 percent and retention rates of more than 85 percent; and a strong interest in applicants from outside its region.

• For the second year in a row Emory & Henry was featured as one of the top 25 colleges in the nation with the best professors. E&H was rated 12th in the ranking, which compiled student results for Forbes magazine by the Center for College Affordability and Productivity.

• Emory & Henry is among the top 20 colleges and universities in the nation that are most committed to community service, according to a new ranking by USA Today.
• Emory & Henry was named by Student Horizons again in 2012 as one of 100 “Colleges of Distinction,” a list recognizing its distinctive abilities to provide excellence in education and to dramatically improve the chances of success for their students. The listing recognizes schools on the basis of student engagement, excellence in teaching and the successful outcomes for students and graduates.

• Emory & Henry has been named among the “Top 30 Liberal Arts Colleges and Universities” in the nation by Washington Monthly. Rated 21st, Emory & Henry was the only Virginia institution included in the respected publication.

• Dr. Scott Boltwood, an Emory & Henry English professor who has distinguished himself in the study of Irish literature, was awarded a Fulbright Scholarship to research the history of the Ulster Group Theatre in Northern Ireland. He is one of only two dozen professors nationwide selected for the honor.

• An Emory & Henry professor whose research has contributed to efforts to detect cancer was named the 2011 Carnegie Foundation Virginia Professor of the Year. Dr. Jim Duchamp became the seventh E&H professor to be honored by the Carnegie Foundation as a state or national professor of the year. Emory & Henry has been honored by the recipient of this award, including one national award winner, more than any other college or university in Virginia.

• Emory & Henry is one of only 40 colleges and universities from across the nation listed in Loren Pope’s best-selling guide book, “Colleges That Change Lives.” Since taking office in August 2006, a number of facilities improvements have been undertaken in order to continue our forward momentum.

• More than $10 million in renovations to Byars Hall and Wiley Hall, the two most historic campus buildings, were completed. Both were designed to be “green” buildings and received LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Silver certification.

• Construction was completed last summer on a new $5.5 million, 117 bed residence hall, which is helping improve the residential experience for students. The building should receive LEED Silver certification.

• Construction on a second new residence hall will begin this spring using passivhaus technology and geothermal heating and cooling, making this 119 bed facility even more efficient.

• The new Brooks Field House is under construction and should be ready for use in time for the first home football game. This will complete a $6.5 million improvement project to Fred Selfe Stadium, which included installation of artificial turf on Fullerton Field for use by football, soccer, baseball and intramural teams, lighting for night games and practices, perimeter fencing, a new scoreboard and a game day operations center. In addition, new dug outs, a game day operations center, and sound system were added to the baseball field.

• Architects have completed construction documents for the new $17 million Woodrow W. McGlothlin Center for the Arts. The Center will help the College serve a growing number of students seeking degrees in the visual and performing arts while showcasing students and their talents to the larger community. Fundraising continues and we hope to begin construction within a year.

The Rev. Mary K. Pope Briggs (E&H ’86) continues her spiritual outreach to faculty, staff and students of all denominations. She has revamped much of our Spiritual Life programming. Rev. Briggs recently received a Staff Appreciation Award for her leadership with our Martin Luther King Day activities. And finally, we are
pleased that a number of our recent graduates will be attending divinity school at such distinguished destinations as Princeton University, Duke University and Wesley Theological Seminary.

As we celebrate our 175th year, I think that Methodists of the Holston Annual Conference who founded Emory & Henry in 1836 would be impressed that our mission and commitment to the intellectual, spiritual and physical growth of our students has not wavered. They would have to be proud that our relationship with the United Methodist Church remains strong. I know they would be appreciative of the continuing support we receive from the Holston Conference and its pastors and congregations, just as we are.

Inspired by our motto, Increase in Excellence, Emory & Henry College reflects with pride on our 175 year history and remains optimistic about our future together. We hope that you will recommend our special place to others.

Rosalind Reichard, Ph.D.
President

HIWASSEE COLLEGE

"Hiwassee College, founded in 1849 and associated with the United Methodist Church, is a liberal arts, residential institution of higher education, providing quality education for all students in an atmosphere that promotes intellectual pursuit, spiritual growth, and social and personal responsibility."

Hiwassee College’s Mission Statement quoted above continues to guide the work of the college as we anticipate the beginning of the 164th year. Hiwassee’s President, Dr. Robin Tricoli, is leading the college in making strategic plans for moving forward in programming, service to the community, and guiding students as they prepare for becoming a vital part of the nation’s future.

The college received the following notification from the Transnational Association of Christian Colleges and Schools: “At the November 7-9, 2010 TRACS accreditation meeting, the Commission voted to accept the staff recommendation that Hiwassee College is now in full compliance with all recommendations that remained from the On-Site Evaluation Team Visit for Candidacy. No further Progress Report is required of the institution. I congratulate Hiwassee College, its administration, faculty and staff on its achievement and for its dedication and commitment to quality Christian higher education.” One of the major results of this accreditation status was to once again enable the college to qualify for and receive access to both federal and state financial aid dollars – a benefit the college did not have during the previous two years. The college has begun the process for moving from candidacy to full accreditation status.

The past year has been a time of many positives that position the college to move forward with renewed excitement and expectations:

- Increases in both fall and spring enrollment;
- The continuation of successful baccalaureate programs with increased participants;
- Increased retention rates over the past two years because more students are choosing to remain and complete the baccalaureate degree programs at Hiwassee;
- Increases in transfer student enrollment;
- The implementation of dual enrollment offerings in the three Monroe County high schools (246 students registered for 26 courses during the academic
year);

- The inaugural class of 10 students in the dental hygiene program will be graduating in May 2012;
- Continued strong enrollments in pre-professional programs, business, criminal justice, equine science, agriculture, and education;
- A concerted effort to provide educational experiences for military families;
- Implementation of a successful Lecture Series which provided programming for students, faculty, and community;
- Several initiatives related to sustainability such as recycling, developing gardens for growing produce for the dining hall, implementing a kudzu eradication project, etc.
- Planning for a full summer of camps including academic, athletic, spiritual, band, and other camps;
- Campus-wide involvement in the Tiger Games – a day of competition for the Monroe County high school seniors from Sequoyah, Tellico Plains, and Sweetwater High Schools;
- Increased staffing in the area of student development.

A new Strategic Plan has been developed to take advantage of the traditional strength of Hiwassee’s commitment to quality education in a Christian environment. In addition, the goal is to position the college for sustainability as we move forward in areas of resource development, new program development, environmentally responsible operations, and, most importantly, ensuring that our students develop the necessary skills to be servant leaders in an ever-changing society.

Plans are being implemented for improving certain areas of the campus in order to provide better facilities for students in the way of residence halls and recreational opportunities. Renovation of the swimming pool has served to attract not only students to the campus, but also community families and summer camps. The roof on one of the residence halls (Tom Black) has been completely replaced and plans are for interior renovation of both Tom Black and Allison to take place during the summer. Volunteer groups will be on campus this year to work on facilities renovation and other projects around campus. Hiwassee has traditionally provided its facilities to groups from the Monroe County area. Improvements to campus facilities will benefit persons attending cultural events, theater and music productions, lectures, high school commencements, and activities of the Monroe Area Council for the Arts.

Over the past few years, the college has seen growth in the area of spiritual development. The Christian Student Movement (CSM) has continued with fine Bible teaching. Students are becoming better leaders and beginning to formulate their own theology. The weekly Chapel services continue to challenge the students’ thinking. The CSM leaders join with the Hiwassee choral groups for presentations at various churches in the area. During the Christmas vacation, several students and faculty went to Costa Rica for a mission trip where they worked in Bible schools and with construction projects. The Dental Hygiene students have also been engaged in providing their services to various low income and special needs groups of young people and adults. In addition, students and faculty did volunteer work in Tellico Plains, TN, after the recent tornado. Students come away from events like this with changed hearts and attitudes and pass along these experiences to students on campus.

While the past few years have been very difficult from a financial standpoint, there
is renewed enthusiasm about the future. Through a period of reduced budgets, the college benefitted from a wonderful spirit of volunteerism as persons from Knoxville to Chattanooga and various groups of NOMADS could be found on campus painting, repairing bathrooms in residence halls, landscaping, providing a system of increased security for the residence halls, refurbishing a rental house on campus, and many other “behind-the-scenes” physical plant improvements. Perhaps one of the most important benefits of this was the impact it made on students who were able to witness first-hand the concept of giving back to the community through servant leadership.

In summary, Hiwassee College continues her commitment to a close and dynamic relationship with the Holston Annual Conference and the United Methodist Church. The belief in and the support of the college by the Conference is greatly appreciated.

Submitted by the Hiwassee President’s Office

TENNESSEE WESLEYAN COLLEGE

Tennessee Wesleyan College; Annual Holston Conference Report

During the summer of 2011, Tennessee Wesleyan College welcomed its 21st president, Dr. Harley Knowles. President Knowles has 25 years of higher education experience. He served as vice president for student affairs and vice president for development at Shenandoah University, and most recently served as the vice president of advancement at the University of New England in Maine.

Representatives from the faculty, administration, and board of trustees met throughout the fall to develop a new strategic plan which calls for the development of several new academic programs including a master’s in education, an online degree in nursing and possibly a master’s in business administration, social work, and nursing. Feasibility studies are underway for each new program, with the master’s in education program expected to begin in the summer of 2012.

Many of TWC’s liberal arts and science programs continue to attract highly prepared students. We continue to enjoy high acceptance rates of TWC graduates into top graduate programs around the region.

The Center for Servant Leadership continues to achieve new milestones. In its second year of operation, the Center continues to connect students with opportunities to provide service to the community. Last year, students performed more than 5,500 hours of community service and are expected to far exceed that number this year.

Tennessee Wesleyan’s athletic program has a long tradition of excellence, including several conference championships in men’s and women’s basketball and baseball. In addition to being champions on the field, the Tennessee Wesleyan athletes are champions in the community, providing numerous service hours throughout the region. The National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) has recognized Tennessee Wesleyan regularly for its exemplary efforts to instill values such as community service, sportsmanship, and leadership.

The spirit of Tennessee Wesleyan College remains strong and hopeful as it prepares for continued growth and change. New leadership, committed faculty and staff, and an energized board of trustees are all committed to working together to build a bright future for the college.
LAKE JUNALUSKA ASSEMBLY, INC.

As Lake Junaluska prepares to celebrate our 100th anniversary in 2013 we find ourselves proud of our rich past, energized by the present challenges, and excited about the bright future.

We cannot thank you enough for the generous support you have provided to us over the years. We are a part of you and you will forever be a part of us. We fully understand that the Southeastern Jurisdiction is facing significant challenges resulting in a reduction in the financial support provided to traditional partners, including Lake Junaluska. We want to assure you that we are preparing well for a different form of partnership with the Jurisdiction and you, the annual conferences, but do want to strongly affirm our desire to be in true partnership with each of you.

We are making some important improvements with the goal of serving you more effectively. In 2012 we will spend over $1,000,000 on capital improvements to our facilities including $300,000 from the NC Energy Office for the replacement of inefficient heating and cooling systems. Being more “green” is one of our goals for the future. We will use the remainder of the capital improvement funds to get a jump start on a campus master plan which is a part of the overall strategic plan approved by our Board of Directors in October. Included in the plan are the interior and exterior renovations of the Terrace Hotel and Lambuth Inn, the replacement of the Harrell Center and Jones Cafeteria, and the updating of Stuart Auditorium. These changes will be taking place over the course of the next several years but there should be noticeable changes the next time you come to visit us.

The success of every organization is directly dependent on having the right people in the right positions doing the right things. It is also important to have the right number of people in place. There are fewer people employed at Lake Junaluska than there were a year ago at this time, a necessary change given our financial realities. The remaining staff have willingly taken on additional responsibilities and are doing them very well.

Hosting the 2012 SEJ Conference will be a very important event for us. We are doing all we can to prepare for this conference with the hope that every delegate leaves here knowing that we have been good stewards of the resources that have been given to us.

Our mission statement for Lake Junaluska is to be a place of Christian hospitality where lives are transformed through renewal of soul, mind, and body. The significance of having a clear mission statement that people remember and refer to has been impactful. Continuing to create a culture of excellence and fabulous Christian hospitality will be our primary focus in 2012.

The future of Lake Junaluska is indeed very bright! Thank you for your incredible support as we have begun to live more fully into the potential of this place we call Lake Junaluska.

Jack Ewing, Executive Director
"When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze." – Isaiah 43:2

At its inception, many doubted that the dream could be realized. Yet, in February 2012, Africa University launched a year-long celebration of its 20th anniversary. It has quite a story to tell.

“We serve a faithful God,” says Dr. Fanuel Tagwira, vice chancellor. “As we now celebrate 20 years of existence, we can say ‘Ebenezer’, for this far the Lord has taken us. He will surely take us further because we serve a God who finishes what he starts.”

Recalling the challenges the University faced during Zimbabwe’s economic crisis in 2008-2009, Tagwira noted that “God was on our side…other universities, primary and secondary schools, and hospitals closed, but Africa University students never lost a day of classes.” For this, Tagwira offered his thanks to The United Methodist Church for its responsiveness and unwavering support.

In 2011, the Holston Conference was one of twenty-seven annual conferences that paid 100 percent of their apportioned share of funding to Africa University. The University is profoundly grateful to the leadership and local congregations of the Conference for their generous apportionment contributions to the Africa University Fund.

Enrollment at Africa University is at an all-time high. The current total population of 1634 students is 42% higher than it was for the 2010-11 academic year. There are 23 African countries represented in the student body. At Africa University, male and female students are almost evenly balanced—something that bodes well for increasing the participation of women in decision-making and leadership roles in Africa.

New programs are helping Africa University to grow and remain relevant to community needs across the continent. New academic offerings include undergraduate degree programs in Computer Science and Laboratory Science as well as graduate degree programs in Child and Family Studies, and Public Policy and Governance.

The University is preparing to launch online distance learning. Online training options will focus on areas such as practical theology, health, and business. The initial target countries for Africa University’s online distance learning outreach are Angola, Côte d’Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Liberia, Mozambique, Nigeria, and Sierra Leone.

In June 2011, 349 students from 19 African countries graduated. The graduating class was comprised of 69 graduate students receiving master’s degrees, and 280 undergraduate students receiving bachelor’s degrees. The Class of 2011 swelled the ranks of Africa University graduates to more than 4,000 since first opening its doors in March 1992.

In their home countries, graduates are addressing critical issues of hunger, poverty, disease, lack of knowledge, and conflict, all of which prevent millions of people in Africa from enjoying God’s promise of abundance (John 10:10; Jeremiah 29:11). At 20, Africa University is part of a crucial feeder system for nurturing a new generation of principled leaders in Africa as evidenced by the number of graduates who are evangelists, pastors, lecturers and administrators of schools, seminaries and universities.

“Many believe that Africa University, voted into being by the 1988 General Conference, is the most exciting ministry that The United Methodist Church has ever founded,” says Tagwira. “It is a model of connection; shared responsibility; and best of all; it is a tangible witness to how United Methodists live out the Word of God in a chaotic and self-centered world.”
This year, encourage your church to give 100 percent of its Africa University Fund apportionment. The Africa University Fund supports day-to-day operations. Your support helps young people acquire the tools and skills to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ, heal communities, enable dignified living, and foster hope. Thank you for believing in and supporting Africa University.

James H. Salley, Associate Vice Chancellor for Institutional Advancement, Africa University

March 1, 2012

For more on Africa University, visit: www.support-africauniversity.org or like us on Facebook

CANDLER SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

Candler School of Theology prepares real people to make a real difference in the real world. Our commitment to authentic discipleship and relevant ministry enables us to develop uniquely well-rounded leaders who are challenged academically, encouraged spiritually, and immersed in Christian service from the first day they arrive on campus.

As one of the 13 official seminaries of The United Methodist Church, Candler is grounded in the Christian faith and shaped by the Wesleyan tradition of evangelical piety, ecumenical openness, and social concern. As one of seven graduate professional schools of Emory University, Candler provides a rich context for learning and formation supported by the extensive resources of a top-tier research university. As a school located in the major metropolitan area of Atlanta, Candler offers students a learning environment that reflects the highly diverse communities of our 21st century world. There is no better place for ministry preparation that addresses our major denominational priorities: developing leaders, starting and growing churches, ministry with the poor, and improving global health.

Candler’s student body continues to reflect the diversity and breadth of the Christian faithful. Our enrollment stands at 479, with 372 seeking the Master of Divinity, 64 the Master of Theological Studies, 19 the Master of Theology, 17 the Doctor of Theology, and 7 enrolled as Special, Non-Degree students. The total student population is 22% U.S. ethnic minority, 8% international, and 50% women. Forty-four denominations are represented, with 52% of MDiv students being United Methodist. The median age of our entering class of MDiv students is 26, with 50% of total enrollment under thirty.

An extraordinary gift of $15 million from the O. Wayne Rollins Foundation will make possible the construction of the second phase of the school’s new building. In recognition of this gift, the first building—a 65,000-square-foot facility completed in 2008—will be named in memory of the late Rita Anne Rollins, the first grandchild of the foundation’s namesake. The new building will house the Pitts Theology Library, additional classrooms and offices, group study areas, and the Wesley Teaching Chapel.

Candler and The General Theological Seminary (GTS) in New York have formed an innovative partnership that includes the sharing of library resources, collaborative educational programs, and the exchange of both students and faculty members. The partnership began this fall with the transfer of 90,000 volumes from GTS to Candler’s Pitts Theology Library, and will continue to expand this year via student/faculty exchanges and continuing education programs.

Candler has introduced two new ways to make theological education more accessible. First, we launched a Tuesday-Thursday format for core courses for our incoming students in order to lessen the burden of commuting. Second, we began offering certain courses in an online or hybrid format. Two courses were piloted in January term and spring semester. We remain deeply committed to the highest quality education for our clergy and will offer only those hybrid and online courses that meet a gold standard of excellence in teaching and learning outcomes. Faculty members undergo rigorous training in order to translate their courses to an online format.
Candler continues to emphasize preparing our students for leadership in an increasingly global context. We now offer 17 academic exchanges with theology schools across five continents and 15 countries, including many related to The United Methodist Church. In addition to our ongoing summer internship program with the Methodist Church in the Bahamas, this year’s travel seminars included the Middle East Travel Seminar in May-June and World Methodist Evangelism Institute evangelism seminars to Colombia, Indonesia, and Israel.

A hallmark of the Candler MDiv experience, the two-year Contextual Education program shapes our students’ pastoral identities by interweaving service at ministry sites with academic analysis in the classroom and spiritual reflection in pastor-led small groups. In any given week, Candler deploys more than 250 ConEd students throughout the region to minister to people in congregations, hospitals, and social service agencies. This year we have continued Candler Advantage, a program designed to pay rising third-year MDiv students for summer internships in congregations so they can further hone their pastoral skills beyond the first two years of ConEd.

Candler’s Lifelong Learning events strengthen the church by providing opportunities for clergy and lay leaders to learn more about the practice of ministry. Our Fall Conference, “The Art of Preaching in the 21st Century,” brought to campus some of the most respected names in preaching, including Otis Moss Jr. and James Howell. The Spring Conference, “The Singing Church,” gathered experts to lead an exploration of the best practices and emerging trends of congregational song.

In addition to our Lifelong Learning events, Candler oversees the educational process of more than 900 people each year through the Course of Study regional school and our five extension schools in the Southeast.

Despite today’s challenging economic climate, Candler remains steadfastly committed to making theological education financially feasible. Although our operating budget essentially remained flat this year, we dedicated $4.5 million to financial aid. Seventy-seven percent of eligible students received Candler-based financial aid, with the average award covering more than two-thirds of tuition.

Our widely respected faculty continues to distinguish itself, both in academia and in churches and denominational bodies at local, national, and international levels. This year, faculty members garnered prestigious grants and fellowships from the Guggenheim Foundation, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the Louisville Institute, among others. Dr. Carol Newsom recently completed a term as president of the Society of Biblical Literature. In Fall 2011 we welcomed two new faculty members: Jennifer Ayres in religious education and Anthony Briggman in the history of early Christianity. In Fall 2012 we welcome Neil Alexander, current bishop of the Episcopal Archdiocese of Atlanta, as director of our Anglican Studies Program and Ted Smith as assistant professor of homiletics and ethics. Our UM faculty presence remains strong, with 36 percent of our full-time faculty being United Methodist.

Candler draws considerable strength and inspiration from its relationship with The United Methodist Church. Our ability to fulfill our mission of educating faithful and creative leaders for the church’s ministries in the world depends upon your support, gifts, and prayers. Thank you for the countless ways you advance this vital ministry in the life of our denomination. We invite you to visit us in person in Atlanta or online at www.candler.emory.edu to see firsthand how Candler prepares real people to make a real difference in the real world.

Jan Love, Dean and Professor of Christianity and World Politics
Candler School of Theology
DREW UNIVERSITY THEOLOGICAL SCHOOL

Drew Theological School, deeply rooted in its United Methodist heritage, is a place that empowers its students to conceive and implement dynamic ministries. Drew offers the MDiv, MA, MAM, STM, DMin, and PhD degrees, as well as certifications in Camp and Retreat Ministry, and Spiritual Formation. Academically rigorous and spiritually revealing, Drew develops religious leadership prepared for these ever-changing times. Drew offers 100% tuition scholarships to all United Methodists who meet all admissions requirements and have a 3.5 undergraduate GPA or higher.

In the fall semester, I had the honor of welcoming a new class of students to Drew. This new class is composed of 73 masters and 13 PhD students. In addition, we also admitted 58 DMin students who started the program in the various cohorts around the country. We also welcomed another 19 students in the spring semester. We began the new academic year with a new Associate Dean for Academic Affairs in Dr. Morris Davis, Associate Professor of the History of Christianity and Wesleyan/Methodist Studies and welcomed two new faculty members and a post-doctoral fellow. Dr. Kate Ott joined us as Assistant Professor of Christian Social Ethics, Dr. Elías Ortega-Aponte as Assistant Professor in Afro-Latino/a Religions and Cultural Studies, and Dr. David Evans as a post-doctoral fellow position and Lecturer in the History of Christianity.

As we began a new academic year, I was reminded of Drew’s impact and contribution in the global context. I had the privilege of visiting Drew alumni in Hong Kong, Taiwan, Malaysia, Singapore and South Korea. Our alumni spoke with great appreciation of the education they received at Drew and the professors who taught them. Drew’s influence in Korea, in particular, is historic. Henry G. Appenzeller, a graduate of Drew in 1885, brought Methodism to Korea. Appenzeller’s connection with Drew has brought hundreds of students from Korea to Drew. Today, we have alumni teaching in seminaries and universities and serving churches in Korea.

I have enjoyed teaching a course on the General Conference and will be taking the class to Tampa. We were honored to have leaders such as Jim Winkler, General Secretary of GBCS, Harriett Olson, Deputy General Secretary of the Women’s Division, and Erin Hawkins, General Secretary of GCORR, come and speak to the class. Three members of the Drew community are serving as delegates to the General Conference: Mark Miller, Tanya Bennett and myself.

We are living into a “majority minority” faculty, staff and student body at Drew that trains leaders for the church that will be soon serving in a “majority minority” world. Forty-five percent of our faculty is African/African Americans, Asian/Asian Americans, and Latino/a. We have almost an equal number of women and men on the faculty.

We are thrilled to have received a grant of $75,600 from the GCORR Action Fund for the purpose of widening the ethos of multi-ethnic theological education. The grant will assist us in a thorough curriculum review with the hopes of enhancing every aspect of the multi-lingual, multi-ethnic, and multi-cultural reality at Drew.

Creative, cutting-edge, inclusive, multi-cultural, social justice ministry is part of the legacy of Drew, and I am proud to be associated with it! Below are just a few other ministries that make me proud to be associated with Drew.
**Bishops in Residence at Drew**

I have enjoyed meeting Bishops and many Boards of Ordained Ministry to convey our desire at Drew to be a resource to the entire denomination. I am particularly pleased that Drew is hosting a January Term class taught by UM Bishops. This past January, Bishop Alfred Johnson taught a class in urban ministry. He recently shared with me some reflections about his experience teaching here at Drew: “I am deeply impressed with the quality, depth and reflective experience of the students in my class. Both their reflection, inquiry and contribution to the field of urban ministry greatly deepened my own theological reflection and praxis.”

In January 2013, Bishop Peggy Johnson of the Eastern PA and Peninsula Delaware Conference will teach a class on Ministry with People with Disabilities. In January of 2014, Bishop Jane Middleton of the Central PA Conference will teach a class on Ministry and Health.

**United Methodist Liaison at Drew**

The Rev. Jeff Markay continues to work with our UM students by introducing them to the leaders and resources within our denomination. He helps them navigate the process toward commissioning and ordination as well as with issues of discernment. We have monthly UM Lunches to meet with bishops, and leaders of the general agencies, conferences and connection. We are grateful for every opportunity to build a UM ethos here at Drew so that the connectionalism is strong when our students graduate to become leaders in their settings of ministry. We are also grateful to have the Rev. Susan Worrell as the Deacon Liaison on campus who shares resources and wisdom with those hearing a call to the Ministry of the Deacon in the UMC.

**Center for Clergy and Congregational Health and Wholeness**

In the fall of 2011 representatives from GBOPHB of the UMC came to Drew to meet with Dean Samuel and me. The purpose of the visit was to explore developing a partnership between the two institutions to address issues of clergy health. This cooperative partnership will lead to two things in 2012, namely, the launching of a longitudinal study on the health habits of seminary students while in seminary and for five years upon graduation and a conference, bringing together deans and presidents and staff members from the 13 UM seminaries, to be held in June on Clergy Health and Theological Education.

Taking seriously our shared lot in a global community, theological education is not just interested in “small talk”—we strive for hard talk, demanding friendships and challenges. We at Drew look forward to working with the good and faithful people of the UMC as we forge deeper friendships in the shared ministry of making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Kah-Jin Jeffrey Kuan
Dean, Drew University Theological School
The academic year 2011–2012 has been a year of strengthening the foundation of our mission and vision for Duke Divinity School. After completing his initial two-year appointment as dean, Richard Hays has accepted a full-term appointment by the President and Provost of Duke University to continue in the role as Dean of Duke Divinity School. Laceye Warner, who has served as associate dean for academic formation and programs and associate professor of the practice of evangelism, has accepted the position of Executive Vice Dean. She will oversee the day-to-day operations of the school, including oversight of academic programs, centers, and initiatives. We are thankful to have in place two exceptionally qualified leaders.

The school’s highly successful existing degree programs (M.Div., M.T.S., Th.M., and Th.D.) continue to attract some of the most talented and committed men and women who desire to be trained for ministry at Duke Divinity School. The M.Div. program remains at the heart of the school’s mission, serving as the basic program for the formation of students called to ordained ministry.

We were very pleased to welcome a diverse, energetic, and academically strong group of new students in the fall of 2011, our largest. Of the 151 entering students seeking the three-year M.Div. degree (bringing our total M.Div. enrollment to 443), 52 percent are United Methodist, 15 percent are Baptist, 8 percent are Anglican or Episcopal, and 4 percent are Presbyterian. Forty-six other denominations round out the M.Div. class.

At the same time, the Divinity School has expanded in recent years to include new degree programs, centers and initiatives, houses of study, and a Leadership Education program. During the past year we have sought to articulate the ways that all of these efforts are integrally connected to the mission of the school. These various components of Duke Divinity School are not separate silos of ministry or learning. Instead, they all work together to embody our vision for the future of the church. The Center for Reconciliation, Leadership Education, Duke Initiatives in Theology and the Arts, and Christianity and Healthcare all build bridges to meet needs in the church, academy, and the world.

Our three new degree programs, which formally launched in 2011, are off to a successful start:

- The Master of Arts in Christian Studies (M.A.C.S) welcomed 18 students to this one-year, residential program. This degree provides theological reflection for people called to non-ordained ministry or service to the church or for students seeking an introductory exploration of theological studies.
- The Master of Arts in Christian Practice (M.A.C.P) began this summer with a cohort of 13 students in the Youth Ministry track. Their first intensive week of classes in residence coincided with our Duke Youth Academy in June 2011. The program uses web-based distance learning in coordination with one-week intensive classes in residence so that people can remain in their place of ministry and still receive quality training in theology and Christian practice.
- The Doctor of Ministry (D.Min.) is a professional doctorate providing advanced study for ordained clergy seeking to deepen and enhance their practice of ministry. Twenty-four students began the program this year. The focus of this first cohort is Leadership in the Christian Tradition.

The quality of the faculty at Duke Divinity School continues to set the standard for theological education. Three professors were awarded prestigious recognition for their books. Willie Jennings, associate professor of theology and black church studies...

In addition to our core mission of academic and spiritual formation, Duke Divinity School experienced exciting developments in our centers and initiatives.

The Center for Reconciliation was given a $300,000 challenge grant from the Stewardship Foundation to explore and expand global reconciliation efforts. Director Chris Rice has made exploratory trips to central Europe and East Asia to gather information about how to best deploy the influence of the Center and the Divinity School. The Center continued its existing programs: the Summer Institute at Duke Divinity School, which equips Christian leaders for the task of reconciliation; formation in reconciliation for students, including summer field education placements; and support for the Africa Great Lakes Institute, which brings together Christian leaders from east Africa to focus on reconciliation.

The Duke Initiatives in Theology and the Arts, led by Professor Jeremy Begbie, continues to develop a robust series of theological and artistic engagements. The 2011 Convocation & Pastors’ School was devoted to this theme: Jeremy Begbie delivered the Gray Lectures, Duke University music professor Anthony Kelley performed with the BLAK Ensemble, novelist Marilynne Robinson gave a reading and interview, and the Rev. Lillian Daniel preached the Convocation sermons.

Leadership Education at Duke Divinity oversees programs for the United Methodist Church, including Clergy Health Initiative, a $12 million, 7-year program to improve the health of United Methodist clergy; Thriving Rural Communities; and Study Leave for Ministry Professionals. The Duke Youth Academy for Christian Formation attracts dozens of high-school students each summer. Finally, *Faith & Leadership*, the online magazine of Leadership Education, continues to extend the reach of Duke Divinity School to provide deeper reflection on Christian leadership through video interviews with transformative leaders, theological reflections, and in-depth articles. See [http://faithandleadership.com/](http://faithandleadership.com/)

We remain deeply grateful for the relationships among the United Methodist Church, this Annual Conference, and Duke Divinity School. We look forward to working cooperatively with you in the task of preparing men and women for Christian ministry.

To learn more about Duke Divinity School, please visit our website at:  
www.divinity.duke.edu.

Respectfully submitted by:  
Richard B. Hays  
Dean and George Washington Ivey Professor of New Testament
Gammon Theological Seminary, located in Atlanta, GA, is the United Methodist constituent member of the Interdenominational Theological Center (ITC), a consortium of six historically African American theological schools. Gammon/ITC is a coeducational, professional graduate school of theology. Its faculty personifies vigorous scholarship, rigorous academic discipline, and significant research in the service of the church and other communities in the world. Gammon/ITC is the world’s premier resource for black church scholarship and faith-based solutions to the spiritual and socio-economic challenges confronting the African American community and beyond.

Founded in 1883 by the Methodist Episcopal Church and with assistance from the Freedman’s Aid Society, today Gammon Theological Seminary is one of the 13 theological schools of the United Methodist Church. The faculty and administration of Gammon/ITC create an environment in which critical thinking, investigative reflection, decision making, and responsible action are fostered. Gammon/ITC is a member of the Atlanta University Center Complex, the world’s largest enterprise of African American higher education. It is also a member of The University Center of Georgia and the Atlanta Theological Association. The school is fully accredited by the Association of Theological Schools and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

Gammon/ITC offers the following degree programs: the Master of Divinity, the Master of Arts in Religious Education, the Master of Arts in Church Music, the Doctor of Theology (Th.D.) in Pastoral Counseling, and the Doctor of Ministry (D.Min.). There are also a number of dual degree programs offered in cooperation with seminaries and schools in the Atlanta Theological Association. Admission is open to qualified men and women of the United Methodist Church.

Because of the support of this Annual Conference, Gammon/ITC students carry on a proud tradition. They are taught to think independently and communicate effectively. They are also challenged to become involved in finding solutions to problems that affect the human condition, and to become active in the community beyond this campus. Additionally, graduates of this institution are encouraged to maintain a lifelong desire for intellectual growth, spiritual development, and the acquisition of skills for the practice of ministry.

Gammon/ITC has had a very exciting and busy year living out its mission, which is to recruit, support and educate pastors and leaders for the United Methodist Church. There are at least three significant ways that we have lived out our mission and furthered our vision:

1) Enrolled one of the largest entering classes on record for our institution. This entering class is comprised of young persons (average age of 25) called by God to be prophetic leaders for the mission of making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

2) Instituted the Merit Scholars Program, which is a scholarship for incredibly bright and called students, that covers full tuition and fees. Gammon/ITC is able to attract these students because of your contributions to the Ministerial Education Fund.

3) Launched the Center for the Study of Religion and Race. Gammon/ITC’s historic commitment to producing public theologians – men and women who are spiritually astute, intellectually keen, politically sophisticated, and culturally sensitive – is advanced with the establishment of this Center. With assistance from the General Commission on Religion and Race, it is Gammon/ITC’s desire to continue the great work of addressing issues of cultural competency, advocacy and education in areas that further racial justice and equity.

Gammon Theological Seminary is extremely grateful to this Annual Conference for your support of theological education, and for your commitment to ensuring that God’s church will be served by persons who are called and trained to lead us forward.
Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary continues its commitment to its core purpose: to know God in Christ and, through preparing spiritual leaders, to help others know God in Christ. We continue our deep and abiding commitment to prepare bold and articulate leaders who share the transforming love of Jesus Christ.

Last fall the seminary welcomed 93 new students, raising our total enrollment for the fall to 382, a 9 percent increase from the previous year. Fifty-four percent of the student body are women. The average age of the diverse and highly qualified new Master of Divinity class is thirty-one. More than thirty religious traditions, four continents, twelve countries and thirty-two states are represented in the student body. Two hundred four students are United Methodist. Thirty-four additional students come from other Pan-Methodist denominations.

Garrett-Evangelical’s commitment to making seminary education affordable is reflected in the annual awarding of more than $2 million in institutional financial aid to students. This year the seminary added the Linked in Ministry Scholarships. This 100 percent scholarship is awarded to the first student admitted to Garrett-Evangelical from his/her United Methodist annual conference who maintains a 3.3 GPA or above and who is a registered UMC candidate for ministry.

Following more than a year of renovation, Loder Hall and Stead Hall (formerly Lesemann Hall) reopened to the seminary community during the summer. Loder, a Gold-certified LEED facility (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design), includes a student center, student lounges, a state-of-the-art classroom, a dining hall, two small chapels, modern residence rooms with private baths, and guest suites. Stead Hall includes a conference room, library offices, and the Stead Center for Ethics and Values.

Care for creation is reflected in the seminary’s participation in the Green Seminary Initiative, which fosters efforts by theological schools to incorporate an ethic care for creation into the identity and mission of the institution. Garrett-Evangelical is a founding participant in the Blessed Earth Seminary Stewardship Alliance, a collaborative project among seminaries for the purpose of preparing future church leaders to be catalysts for positive change around issues of environmental sustainability.

A new partnership with Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary (AMBS) in Indiana gives Garrett-Evangelical students the opportunity to obtain a concentration and/or certificate in Peace Studies, and AMBS students can meet United Methodist ordination requirements through a certificate in United Methodist Studies earned through Garrett-Evangelical. Each school provides staff to advise students in these programs, affording students access to areas of strength at the other institution.

In October the Institute for Transformative Leaders and Communities hosted the “Captured by a Compelling Narrative Conference: A Christian Story for a New Generation.” The two-day event engaged church leaders and educators in an exploration of ways to proclaim the Good News for a new generation, focusing on developing a vision for fostering transformative witness within faith communities. Presenters included Walter Fluker, the Martin Luther King Jr. Professor of Ethical Leadership at Boston University School of Theology; Mike Slaughter, lead pastor at Ginglesburg Church in Ohio; and Diana Butler Bass, specialist in American religion and culture.
Plus, a program of the Institute for Transformative Leaders and Communities, is the first of its kind cooperative executive education program of Garrett-Evangelical and Northwestern’s Kellogg School of Management. The three-year leadership certification program for seminary graduates and other professionals in ministry includes six seminars led by experts in non-profit leadership, as well as one-on-one coaching, pairing individuals with effective and experienced certified clergy coaches.

Intersection, a new and innovative continuing education opportunity, incorporates readings, online presentations by seminary faculty, and reflection on contemporary issues of life and ministry, providing an intersection of academic studies with the concern for practical ministry. Topics range from theology, biblical interpretation, and church history to ethics and the church in society. Continuing education credit is available. Additional information is available at http://www.garrett.edu/intersection.

Garrett-Evangelical helps develop bold local pastor leaders through the United Methodist Course of Study School. Held on campus each year during the last three weeks of July, this quality education and formational experience is guided by a strong and committed faculty. The multi-cultural program offers classes in three languages: English, Spanish, and Hmong. In addition to the on-campus residential model, Garrett-Evangelical supervises three extension locations: Indiana, Illinois Great Rivers, and Upper Midwest (Iowa).

The seminary continues to raise $2 million to endow the Rueben P. Job Chair in Spiritual Formation. The chair will ensure that the seminary remains at the forefront of developing and enhancing spiritual formation studies at the certificate, master’s and doctoral levels.

The expanded Doctor of Ministry program offers four tracks of study: Congregational Leadership, African American Congregational Leadership, Spiritual Direction, and Mission in the Contemporary United States. The Garrett-Evangelical DMin program is also a portal to the Association of Chicago Theological Schools’ (ACTS) DMin program in preaching.

Two esteemed members of the Garrett-Evangelical faculty retired at the end of the academic year following a total of over 30 years of service:

Dr. James Poling, Professor of Pastoral Care, Counseling and Theology

Dr. Kenneth Vaux, Professor of Theological Ethics

Garrett-Evangelical serves over 550 students in degree-related courses, certificate programs and our summer Course of Study School. We encourage you to visit our website, www.garrett.edu, and to visit us on campus. Garrett-Evangelical’s commitment to theological education will continue to expand and improve through 2012. We are proud to serve the United Methodist Church, and we ask for your continuing prayers and support as we pursue our mission and our renewed vision.

Philip A. Amerson
President
Is God calling you or someone you know to the ministry of Jesus Christ? If so, we invite you to explore how United can assist you in fulfilling God’s purposes for your life and how you can help others in this journey. Come and check us out in person or online at www.united.edu!

United is one of the fastest growing, accredited seminaries in North America. Why are Christian disciples and leaders signing up for our traditional and online programs? They do so because United is committed to teaching the Bible and the historic Christian faith, cultivating spiritual formation for personal and social holiness, and renewing the Church for the mission of Jesus Christ in the world. What could be more important or exciting?

In addition to expanding our service in the Midwestern US, United will continue to enhance its use of technology to deliver theological education in underserved regions in North America and beyond. United’s hybrid/online UMC FLEX Master of Divinity degree was designed specifically to meet the requirements of the UMC for ordination and it is accessible anywhere with good Internet service.

Three new professors will join our excellent team of faculty in 2012. Additionally, United’s doctoral program will add new mentors and focus groups around the ministries of renewal, mission, preaching, healing and Christian education. United’s hybrid/online UM Course of Study is expanding each semester, along with UM Certification offerings.

Please let us know if you have questions about how we can best assist you or, if you would like to help make it possible for an American or international student to study at United.

Enrollment at United is growing steadily and we invite you to call or visit soon!

For more information, please contact admissions@united.edu.

Thank you for your prayers, partnership and service in the ministry of Jesus Christ!

www.united.edu
Living the United Methodist Way

Wesley Theological Seminary, Washington, DC

Last year saw extraordinary growth and many changes at Wesley Seminary. Our newly refurbished Library enhances the study and research space on campus. It offers additional breakout rooms with audio-visual capabilities and a community gathering space for coffee and snacks.

Our academic programs have seen similar renewal. A new 36 hour Master of Arts degree will provide Basic Graduate Theological Studies and a flexible curriculum to equip students for children’s and youth ministry, public theology, and arts ministry. Starting this summer, Wesley will offer Masters-level courses fulfilling GBHEM professional certification requirements in youth ministry, Christian education, urban ministry, and evangelism. We have dramatically revised the Course of Study School at Wesley, renewing the curriculum and making it easier for pastors to complete the course with alternative scheduling options, including weekend intensive courses. And the first class of Mission Fellows enters this fall to prepare for missional church and emerging ministry leadership.

Wesley received a grant of $850,000 from the Lilly Endowment Inc. to continue the Lewis Center for Church Leadership’s Lewis Fellows program through 2016. This partnership with Lilly Endowment comes from our mutual recognition of the importance of young, high-potential clergy to the church’s future. The Lewis Center continues to offer new events and resources to help congregations reach more people and fund their ministry. See www.churchleadership.com.

United Methodists on the Wesley faculty published two new books. Dr. Lovett H. Weems, Jr. wrote Focus: The Real Challenges that Face the United Methodist Church, on the recommended reading list for 2012 General Conference delegates. And Dr. Kendall Soulen authored The Divine Name(s) and the Holy Trinity: Distinguishing the Voices, a history of Trinitarian theology.


In February, the Board of Governors approved the construction of a new, LEED-certified green residence hall, expected to ready for occupancy by fall 2013. It is part of the ongoing New Church Campaign which has supported expansion of international programs, the launch of Wesley @ Mount Vernon Square in downtown Washington, DC, and Wesley’s continued efforts to renew the church by developing strong and dynamic leaders.

God’s call is bold. Your seminary should be too. Meet us at www.wesleyseminary.edu.

Rev. Dr. David McAllister-Wilson, President
REPORTING GUIDE FOR
LAY MEMBERS OF THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Paragraph 251.2 of The Book of Discipline 2008: ...“The lay member(s) of the annual conference, along with the pastor, shall serve as an interpreter of the actions of the annual conference session. These persons shall report to the local church council on actions of the annual conference as soon as possible, but not later than three months after the close of conference.”

This guide is presented to assist you as you fulfill your responsibility to report to your local congregation about Holston Annual Conference 2012. We pray the guide will encourage you to keep a record of your experiences and perceptions, help you discover the heart and soul of the Annual Conference session, and assist you as you prepare your report and interpretation by suggesting topics and information that you might want to include. Remember to record both facts and your feelings to share when you return home.

While attending Annual Conference, be aware of the reports which indicate the state of the church, the dedication and work that is obviously reflected at all levels of leadership, how the decision-making process is used, and how the decisions reached will impact you, your local church, your district, and your conference.

There may be controversy. Whenever concerned Christians meet to make decisions, some controversy often occurs. The important thing is how we handle this controversy. Look for these points: (1) Were the issues presented fairly and openly? If not, why? (2) Was the process impartial? Did all have a chance to be heard? (3) Does the controversy center on different interpretations of the facts? (4) Does it concern a disagreement of beliefs? (5) Can the matter be resolved to everyone’s satisfaction? (6) What were the issues? How were they resolved? (7) Can you think of a creative way to resolve the controversy? (8) Are either the issues or the process of sufficient concern to warrant reporting it to your congregation?

Consider these suggestions for how you share, what you share, and when you share with your local church:

How?
A panel of you and other members who attended from your church; a discussion between clergy and lay members; an interview by someone in the congregation; an article in your church newsletter or bulletin.

What?
All items that impact you, your church, your district, your conference; your overall impression of the spirit of the session; programs or ideas that made you enthusiastic; information that you feel your church can put to good use.

When?
A Sunday morning worship service; adult Sunday school classes; Administrative Board or Church Council meetings; United Methodist Women or Men; a special all-church meeting.

Notes on Festival of Worship:
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____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________

Notes on Business Reporting Sessions:
Monday morning:
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Monday afternoon:

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Tuesday morning:

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Tuesday afternoon:

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Wednesday morning:

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My impression of the Ordination Service:

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My impression of the Memorial Service:

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My impression of Retirement Recognition:

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My impression of the Tuesday Evening Celebration:

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My impression of the Sending Forth Service:

____________________________________________________________________________

My overall impression of Holston Annual Conference 2012:

____________________________________________________________________________
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____________________________________________________________________________
FORM FOR
MOTION OR AMENDMENT TO REPORT
HOLSTON ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2012

“All motions presented to the Conference and amendments to any paper shall be in writing and placed in the hand of the Secretary immediately following the presentation.”

Standing Rule 32, 2011 Journal

Date __________________________

Agenda Item ________________________________________________

________________________________________________

Motion / Amendment

Name of Maker

____________________________

Clergy Member ☐ Lay Member ☐

Motion

________________________________________________

________________________________________________

________________________________________________

________________________________________________

________________________________________________

Seconded by ________________________________________________

Conference Action

Approved ☐

Voted Down ☐

Referred to _________________________________________

for _________________________________________

Other ______________________________________________________

Thank you for assisting the Secretarial staff by the completion of this form!
Holston Annual Conference 2012
Special Events
Special Events / Fellowship Schedule
2012 Holston Annual Conference

Sunday, June 10, 2012

2:00 p.m.  Registration begins ....................................................... Bethea Welcome Center
3:30 p.m.  First-time Appointed Pastors’ Training/Orientation .......... Terrace Auditorium

Monday, June 11, 2012

7:00 a.m.  Cabinet Breakfast ............................................................... Terrace, Room 316
7:00 a.m.  Small Membership Church Breakfast ......................... Lambuth International
7:00 a.m.  Society for Biblical Studies Breakfast ......................... Terrace, Room 319
7:00 a.m.  BOPping Along – 30-min. Foot Bridge Walk ............. Outside Stuart Auditorium
12:00 p.m. Candler Alumni Luncheon ............................................... Foundation for Evangelism
12:00 p.m. Ministers’ Spouses Luncheon ........................................ First UMC, Waynesville
12:00 p.m. Peace with Justice/Outreach/Advocacy Luncheon ......... Terrace, Room 316
12:30 p.m. Deacon and Diaconal Ministries Luncheon ................. Lambuth International
5:00 p.m.  BOPping Along – 20-min. Dam Bridge Walk .......... Outside Stuart Auditorium
5:15 p.m.  Missions Ministry Dinner ................................................. Terrace Auditorium

Tuesday, June 12, 2012

6:30 a.m.  Holston UM Renewal Breakfast ....................................... Terrace Auditorium
7:00 a.m.  Emory and Henry Alumni & Friends Breakfast .............. Foundation for Evangelism
7:00 a.m.  Extension Ministries Breakfast ........................................ Terrace, Room 316
7:00 a.m.  Associate Members and Local Pastors Breakfast ............ Lambuth International
7:00 a.m.  Tennessee Wesleyan Alumni Breakfast ......................... Terrace, Room 319
7:00 a.m.  BOPping Along – 30-min. Foot Bridge Walk ............ Outside Stuart Auditorium
12:00 p.m. Holston Retirees Luncheon ............................................. Terrace Auditorium
12:30 p.m. Board of Higher Education Luncheon ......................... Horton’s Home
12:30 p.m. Women in Ministry Luncheon ......................................... Terrace, Room 316
3:00 p.m.  Fellowship Time to greet Bishop and Mrs. Swanson ....... Lawn next to Stuart Auditorium
5:00 p.m.  BOPping Along – 20-min. Dam Bridge Walk .......... Outside Stuart Auditorium
6:00 p.m.  Duke Divinity Alumni Fellowship ................................. Harrell Center, 2nd level porch
8:30 p.m.  Asbury Seminary Alumni Fellowship ............................ Terrace, Room 319

Wednesday, June 13, 2012

7:00 a.m.  Black Methodists for Church Renewal Breakfast ............ Terrace Auditorium
7:00 a.m.  Hiwassee College Breakfast ......................................... Terrace, Room 316
7:00 a.m.  United Methodist Men .................................................... Terrace, Room 319
7:00 a.m.  BOPping Along – 30-min. Foot Bridge Walk ............ Outside Stuart Auditorium

This listing of Fellowship Events is also on page 36 in the Book of Reports.