

Rev. Richard Edwards Joins the Holston Conference Foundation as the Director of Stewardship

The Holston Conference Foundation is pleased to announce that Rev. Richard Edwards has accepted the position of Director of Stewardship with the Foundation. He will be responsible for directing the stewardship resources provided by the Foundation, as well as resourcing the Conference's Stewardship Team. The current Stewardship Team Chair is Rev. Troy Forrester.

"Stewardship is an integral part of the Foundation's mission to the local church, its members, and staff. Having Richard on board to continue the good work that Rev. Bill Kilday directed when he was in this role, will be a vital help," said Paul Bowman, Executive Director. "Now more than ever, with the greatest transfer of wealth this country will ever see, coming soon, helping others be good stewards is an important part of our work. We are very pleased to have Richard work with us to that end."

Rev. Edwards will provide encouragement and support to clergy and congregations who are seeking to do ministry in very challenging times. Clayton Smith says it well in *Propel*: "We live in a climate of uncertainty, incivility in politics, threat of church schism, aging congregations, and donor fatigue in the church." Providing support in such times is critically important.



Richard's initial professional career began as an attorney in the Johnson City area. After responding to God's call he completed seminary at Emory University (Candler School of Theology) and went on to serve churches in Farragut and Oak Ridge. He also worked for the Conference as the Director of Congregational Development before returning to the local church setting in 2013. He retired from full time ministry in 2017.

Richard is grateful for this opportunity to serve in ministry through the Foundation. He offers this vision for the work ahead: "Pastors and churches need realistic encouragement, a sense of hope, easily utilized ideas and resources, opportunities to share and receive ideas and best practices from each other, and leadership tools that can elevate confidence, creativity, and motivation in the area of stewardship. Working together, I hope we can provide support in these areas."

For more information on the Foundation's stewardship services, please click [here to send an email](#) or contact Richard at 865-690-8124. We look forward to serving the local churches and the Conference as partners in ministry.



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Emma Fox

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2018 deadline is May 15.



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