



Wednesday SCHEDULE

All activities will be held in Stuart Auditorium, unless indicated.

8:30 a.m.
Morning Worship with Bible Study and Holy Communion



Del Holley

- 9:45 a.m.**
- Congregational Development
 - Lay Leader Del Holley
 - United Methodist Women
 - United Methodist Men

- 10:45 a.m.**
- Personnel Resources
 - National Council of Churches
 - UMCOR
 - Imagine No Malaria
 - United Methodist Publishing
 - Nominations
 - Board of Pensions
 - Trustees
 - Archives and History
 - Intro to mission projects

Lunch

- 1 p.m.**
Mission Projects
- Society of St. Andrew Crop Drop: Outdoor Gym
 - Stop Hunger Now: Kern Youth Center

- 2:30 p.m.**
- Equitable Compensation
 - 2016 Budget Vote
 - Holston Conference Foundation
 - Petitions and Resolutions
 - General Council on Finance and Administration

- 4:05 p.m.**
- Holston Home for Children
 - Asbury Centers, Inc.
 - Cabinet Report
 - Annual Conference 2016
 - Final business
 - Closing prayer

Dinner

6:30 p.m.
Music by Jimbo Whaley & Greenbrier

7 p.m.
Worship

- Rev. Susana Lopez

Jesus said, feed the hungry

Wrap up business today ... worship God with offering for children tonight

Today the conference will hear final reports, complete business and conclude voting so that tomorrow morning may be devoted to the Service of Ordination, Commissioning, and Sending Forth.

After morning worship, the Congregational Development Team will share its report. Del Holley, conference lay leader, will address the Annual Conference. He will be followed by Lynice Broyles, president of the United Methodist Women, and Eric Knoefel, president of the United Methodist Men.

During the 10:45 a.m. session, the Rev. Steve Martin will represent the National Council of Churches. A Holston native, Martin was recently hired as communications director, based in Washington, D.C.

The Board of Pensions and Health Benefits will report a reduction in health plans from three to two options. See pages 155-160 in the "Book of Reports" for details.

Before departing for lunch, the conference will learn about two different mission projects happening at 1 p.m. Members may choose to help package 10,000 meals through Stop Hunger Now at Kern Youth Center -- or bag potatoes for Society of St. Andrew at the Outdoor Gym. A donation of at least \$10 per person is suggested to help cover transportation costs for these projects.

P.M. session

At 2:30 p.m., the Commission on Equitable Compensation will recommend a two percent increase in minimum salary levels for clergy, ranging from \$29,651 for full-time local pastors in beginning studies to \$40,184 for full members with M.Div. degrees or equivalent. For details, see pages 38-42 in the "Book of Reports."

The Council on Finance and Administration will ask the Annual Conference to approve the proposed 2016 budget.



or



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1 p.m.

▲ Annual Conference members may participate in one of two mission projects: Bagging potatoes for the Society of St. Andrew or packaging meals for Stop Hunger Now.

The Committee on Petitions and Resolutions will address four resolutions submitted to the Annual Conference. Topics include clergy abuse, homosexuality, child care, and reduction in the conference tithe. See pages 197-203 in the "Book of Reports."

The 4:05 p.m. session will include the signing of a "statement of relationship" between Holston Annual Conference and Asbury Centers, Inc. The covenant terms are published on pages 168-169 of the "Book of Reports."

Tonight, "gathering music" will begin at 6:30 p.m. with bluegrass by Jimbo Whaley and Greenbrier of Sevierville, Tenn. At 7 p.m., the Rev. Susana Lopez will preach for evening worship. Lopez is pastor at *El Ministerio del Espiritu Santo*, a congregation of First United Methodist Church at Sevierville. The missions offering will be taken for local children in poverty. ■



Today's Pocket Prayer

Jesus, You have commanded us to love our neighbors as ourselves. Invade our thoughts, words, and actions this day so that your instruction will be our reality. Amen.

7 p.m.

▲ The Rev. Susana Lopez will preach for evening worship.

6:30 p.m.

▶ Jimbo Whaley and Greenbrier will play before and during worship.



Tuesday begins with 5K, ends with balloting

Highlights from yesterday at Annual Conference:

- Sixty-one runners and 110 walkers participated in the morning 5K Run/1-Mile Walk, a benefit for local children in poverty. Winners were the Rev. Wil Cantrell and the Rev. Nicole Hill Krewson.
- The Francis Asbury Award for a leader in higher education was presented to the Rev. Sam Roberts, a teacher at Tennessee Wesleyan College since 1986.
- The Denman Evangelism Award was presented to David Goodman (youth), Trinity UMC, Big Stone Gap District; Marcy Hall (lay member), East Ridge UMC, Chattanooga District; and the Rev. Kristen Burkhart, Mt. Zion UMC, Morristown District.
- Twenty-seven retiring clergy were recognized with music from the Wesley House Gospel Choir.

ELECTED

Clergy delegates

General Conference:

David Graves (leader)
Kim Goddard
Sandra Johnson

Lay delegates

General Conference:

Del Holley
Emily Ballard
Becky Hall
John Tate
Robert Lockaby

The Rev. Stella Roberts “passed the mantle” to the Rev. Ashley Helton. “This is such a tender moment,” Bishop Dindy Taylor said. “But these persons behind me are not really retiring. All they’re retiring from is the ability of a bishop to tell them where to go.”

- The Council on Finance and Administration (CFA) proposed a \$9.7 million budget for 2016, reflecting a 10 percent across-the-board cut in the requested budget. The conference experienced a \$600,000 shortfall in the 2014 budget, and the 2015 budget is predicted to have a \$1 million shortfall, CFA officials said. The CFA hosted an evening question-and-answer session in preparation for today’s vote on the proposed 2016 budget.

• The Rev. Randy Pasqua, executive director of Camp and Retreat Ministries, introduced new directors for two of Holston’s four camps: Tony Lea of Wesley Woods, effective in March, and the Rev. Jeff Wadley of Buffalo Mountain, effective in July. Wadley noted that while other conferences are closing their camps, Holston is buying land and building a new camp in Kingsport, Tenn., three years after a flood destroyed Buffalo Mountain Camp in Jonesborough, Tenn.

• Bishop Dindy Taylor commissioned Bert “Wildcat” Emmerson as this year’s Appalachian Trail chaplain. Emmerson, a member at First United Methodist Church of Maryville, will depart July 15 and hike 2,200 miles from Maine to Georgia while ministering to other hikers. “I don’t know if I’ve ever commissioned a ‘wildcat’ before,” Bishop Taylor said.

- In the Cabinet Report, the Rev. Charles Maynard said that Holston must align its structures and staff to fulfill its mission. “In the coming years it will be critical to adjust district boundaries and conference personnel to match changing populations and financial conditions,” he said.

- Twenty-two new local pastors were licensed and recognized by Bishop Taylor and the Annual Conference. The local pastors represented 11 of Holston’s 12 districts.

- The Rev. Tony Collins of the Hispanic Ministry Team said that a \$75,000 matching grant, received over three years from the National Consultation on Hispanic/Latino Ministry, will be used for leadership development, youth ministry, justice and advocacy. He recognized the Rev. Arturo Reyna and the Rev. Susana Lopez, recent college graduates preparing for seminary.

- The Annual Conference was introduced to and encouraged to nominate persons for “Defining Moments,” a program developed by Emory & Henry College in partnership with the Holston Board of Ordained Ministry and Conference Council on Youth Ministry. Its purpose is to nurture young people discerning a call to ministry. Visit DiscernMyCall.com for more information. ■



▲ Bert “Wildcat” Emmerson (center) is commissioned by Bishop Dindy Taylor as Appalachian Trail chaplain. At left is the Rev. Alan Ashworth of the Appalachian Trail Outreach Ministry.

Bandy’s Take-away Points

During Tom Bandy’s teaching sessions on Monday night and Tuesday morning, congregation leaders were encouraged to take these five actions for their own local-church effectiveness as well as for district and conference use in restructuring.

1. Upload People Plot
2. Define the Mission Field (Polygon)
3. Print a “Comparative Report”
4. Note the Top Lifestyle Segments
5. Mission Impact Summaries



▲ Vicki Malone gets a high-five from her husband, the Rev. Nathan Malone, after finishing the morning 5K run.



▲ The Rev. Sam Roberts (left) receives the Francis Asbury Award, presented by the Rev. Troy Forrester.



▲ The Denman Evangelism Award is presented to (left to right): Marcy Hall, David Goodman, and Rev. Kristen Burkhart.



▲ The Bethlehem-Wiley Praise Team raises the roof during last night’s worship.



▲ Bishop Dindy Taylor congratulates Rev. Dixie Miller during the Retirement Recognition.