



The Maryville District

# Messenger

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This being my first article after returning to work I wanted to take the opportunity to offer you my heartfelt appreciation for your love and support these past two and half months. Your prayers, texts, emails, cards, calls, meals, and numerous other ways you have reached out to us has truly been a blessing and critical part of my healing. I want to offer a special thank you to Cheryl Thompson for going the extra mile through taking on tasks I would have normally been doing and Carol Wilson for filling in for me as your cabinet representative. Even when tragedy hits, the work of the church and the work of this office can't be put on hold. I appreciate how Cheryl and Carol kept things moving. In going through a tragedy, however great or small, family support is naturally present and necessary. Support from fellow colleagues is not as expected, so when the outpouring of love is shown through the people you work with, it adds an additional blanket around a mending heart.

Now, I know, we are more than simply colleagues and co-workers. We are in ministry together. We work as one to usher in the grace and love of Jesus Christ. We work together to promote justice for the oppressed, freedom for the enslaved, and salvation for the lost. Though we share in various differences, we have a common denominator that trumps any differences of opinion we may have. That very common denominator, Christ Jesus, is what connects us.

I have always believed in the United Methodist connection. Even as a child I would listen to my friends tell sad stories that revolved around the firing of their pastor and how their family of faith had been absent of a spiritual leader for months, sometimes years. It was very unknown and foreign to me even to a point where I couldn't wrap my mind around it. But as I have grown and matured and moved through my own ministry the connection began to be much more than simply churches always having a pastoral leader. And now that I am moving through the most tragic event of my life the connection has become greater that it was before.

Even in having a greater appreciation of the connection it was still quite institutional to me. Which is very much appealing to my analytical mind. But there is no pattern of behavior when it comes to expressing love, grace, and compassion. There are steps to follow in making sure a church always has a pastor. There are no steps to work through in descending into a dark hole to be with your fellow pastor, colleague, and friend.

It gives me great encouragement as I look ahead to the work we have before us. Work that will sometimes involve a process but at other times not. Work that will usher us into a new chapter of our conference while continuing to usher in the grace and love of Christ. Work that will require our connection in every sense of the word. A connection I know is there not only because I see it in our church, but, more importantly, I've felt it in my heart.

Grace & Peace,

*Jason*

## Pastors-CEU Update

Pastors, below is the link for the latest Continuing Education Update News

<https://app.robly.com/archive?id=16bb7b6e5c89997e139e794ef5b0674a>

## Cluster Charge Conference Schedule-2017

Sunday, October 8, 3:00 p.m.  
Sweetwater, First UMC

Sunday, October 22, 3:00 p.m.  
Sevierville, First UMC

Sunday, October 29, 3:00 p.m.  
Fairview UMC

Sunday, November 12, 3:00 p.m.  
Maryville, First UMC

## 2018 At-Large Lay Members

The following were voted in at our District Conference for 2018 At-Large Lay Members for 2018 Annual Conference:

Malinda Carpenter Boring  
Mary Coppedge  
Ina Faye Crowson  
Heather Burton Fugatt  
Jim Gass  
Rob Gaddard  
Adam Hood, Sr.  
Cynthia Hulse  
Roxanna Jones  
Lisa Knight  
Amy Large  
Danny Lawson  
Jennifer McIntyre  
Carole Myers  
Emmit Rawls  
Betty Jo Reagan  
Ed Robbins  
Ronnie Shell  
Lori Sluder  
Greta Smith  
Connie Vincent  
Carol Werker  
Donna Yeane  
David Zavona



Alternate:  
Nell Douglas

## Up-Coming Events

### October

- 8 Cluster Charge Conference at Sweetwater, First UMC at 3:00 p.m.
- 22 Cluster Charge Conference at Sevierville, First UMC at 3:00 p.m.
- 29 Cluster Charge Conference at Fairview UMC at 3:00 p.m.

### November

- 4 UMW Annual Meeting & Officer Training at Mountain View at 9:30 a.m.
- 5 Daylight Savings Time Ends 
- 12 Cluster Charge Conference at Maryville, First UMC at 3:00 p.m.
- 22-24 Thanksgiving Holiday-Office closed 

### December

- 15 Pastors' Christmas Dinner at Alcoa, First UMC, start gathering at 6:00 p.m., eat at 6:30 p.m.
- 21-Jan 1 District office closed for Christmas holiday.



## Special Thanks to the following Congregations who are current in their giving to the 2017 District Ministries

(Thru September 26, 2017—75%)

(\* Denotes 100% of 2017 District Ministries paid)

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

## Maryville District UMW - Susan Daffron-President

Joy was the topic Rev. Melissa Smith brought before 214 United Methodist Women gathered at the ConneXion in Sevierville for the 44<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Holston Conference UMW. She reminded us how the definition of joy seems to change from childhood into adulthood. Roller coasters are not really my definition of joy, but to some they represent the thrill and excitement of experiencing the thrill of going up and down and somewhere in between leaving one's stomach. I did think of the joy my granddaughter experiences at the wonders of the squirrels getting a pile of acorns she left for them over night and splashing in her little swimming pool. For her, that moment is the only moment in time; to be experienced, thoroughly enjoyed and recaptured throughout the day. Why does that kind of joy escape us as adults? Responsibilities naturally get in the way. But why can't we turn them on or off like a light switch? We as women have a million responsibilities - family, husbands, children, jobs, friends, church, ourselves, cooking, shopping, cleaning, laundry, etc. There is always so much to do that we rarely have time for ourselves much less take time to experience joy in whatever possible way it may present itself. Maybe we could become more aware of those moments and truly experience them as Philippians 4:4 states, *Rejoice in the Lord Always*. If we are truly able to do that, I am certain that we will experience the pure joy God intended.

One of the Maryville District UMW newest members attending the Annual Meeting this year shared the following: "The more UMW events I attend the more I come to appreciate what a fantastic organization it is. I really enjoyed the annual conference meeting on Saturday. I am proud to be a member!!! Thank you all for inviting me to UMW." As your District President, that brought me great joy to know that we are fulfilling our purpose to develop a creative supportive fellowship and that we are changing the lives of women, children and youth right here and around the world. For that I [\*Rejoice in the Lord Always\*](#).

## 2018 Hands-On Mission Project- Zimbabwe Holston Annual Conference

***Unlike school supplies, food items have expiration dates. Be sure and check the dates and make sure they do not expire until 2019 in order to cover transport time and having a useful life for the people in Zimbabwe.***

The Maryville District has been asked to put together 400 Food Buckets for the 2018 Holston Annual Conference Hand-On Mission Project. *Note:* A \$5.00 donation for packing and shipping is to accompany each bucket. ***Each church is ask to bring ONE check for the total donation amount. Make checks out to Maryville District and put 2018 Hands-On in the memo line.***

**\* Do not put money in the bucket!\***

Canned Ham (2-lb total)  
1 - 4-5lb. Bag self-rising flour  
1 bottle cooking oil (48 oz. or less)  
1 - 2lb. Bag rice  
1 - 4-5lb. Bag Sugar

1 box powdered milk (10oz. or less)  
1 box old-fashioned oats (18 oz. or less)  
1 box Splenda/Sucralose (50 ct. or less)  
1 - 2lb. Bag dried beans

Your buckets need to be delivered to Fairview UMC on  
**Wednesday, June 6 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.** (do not deliver early)



## Latvia District Partnership

The Maryville District continues in partnership with the United Methodist Churches in Latvia. The goal this year is to raise funds for pastoral support, Wesley Camp Scholarships, and Hope House. Speakers are available to talk to local churches or small groups in those churches. A video and brochure are available to introduce or reacquaint our local churches with the work in Latvia.

Richard Rudisell, Chair Latvia Team



*Latvia, part of the Baltic Region in Northern Europe, became an EU member on May 1, 2004*



Have you considered your year-end giving options this year? The Holston Foundation is here to assist you in making the best decision that accomplishes your goals as a donor.

There are a number of charitable plans that can help you save on taxes this year and secure your financial future. You can receive a charitable deduction by making a gift of your low performing CDs, stocks, bonds or even cash to your local church or favorite charity through the Holston Conference Foundation. The Foundation can also accept your appreciated assets like real estate or a business interest and help you sell these tax-free.

If you are looking for income now or in the future, there are also a number of ways the Foundation can help you generate tax savings and provide you with a stream of income for life.

We invite you to consider the following options:

- Take advantage of the Charitable Gift IRA Rollover
- Save on taxes by donating appreciated assets and investments such as stocks or real estate
- Create an income-producing gift such as a charitable remainder trust or a charitable gift annuity

All of these gifts can help you and your church continue good work together.

If any of these options interest you please contact the Holston Conference Foundation to see a personalized illustration with your tax and income benefits. To learn more about the benefits of making a planned gift, you can also visit the Foundation's website by clicking [here](#) or call Paul Bowman or Roger Redding at 865-690-8124.



## UMVIM Team Leader Training - November 4, 2017 - <http://holston.org/ministries/missions/umvim-2017-training/>

Trinity Outreach Center Fellowship Hall  
320 Robertsville Rd., Oak Ridge, TN 37830  
Please bring a sack lunch.

This course will provide you with the tools you need to confidently lead a mission team from your church congregation on a successful mission trip either within the USA or throughout the world.

The cost of the course is \$26, which covers the cost of the Team Leader Handbook that you will receive at the training. Please pre-register so that sufficient materials will be available.

For questions regarding the event, please contact the following:

Maxine or Bob Schultz, (865) 719-4304 or (865) 719-3230

For questions regarding registration, please contact Charlotte Riggins, [charlotteriggins@holston.org](mailto:charlotteriggins@holston.org), (865) 690-4080