



# The Connecting Link

SMOKY MOUNTAIN DISTRICT UNITED METHODIST

Holston  
Conference

Smoky  
Mountain  
District

Local  
Unit

DECEMBER 2021

## Upcoming Events

THE BIG GIVE Online  
Fundraiser for Susannah's  
House  
November 30, 2021  
[Give to Susannah's House | The  
Big Give \(biggiveknox.org\)](https://www.biggiveknox.org)

Tablescapes Fundraiser for  
Wesley House  
April 30, 2022  
SAVE THE DATE!

Mission U 2022  
July 22-23, 2022  
Cokesbury UMC or  
Zoom



## THE JOURNEY

The one thing that I have heard throughout the COVID pandemic is how much we as United Methodist Women have missed being together in person. On November 6, 2021, 65 of us gathered in person for the third annual Smoky Mountain District UMW Annual Meeting at Sevierville First United Methodist Church. We were so blessed to have Pat Bellingrath, Holston Conference UMW Spiritual Growth Coordinator, install officers and Rev. Sandra Johnson was the speaker. Our very special member, Norma Blair, was honored for 77 years of faithful service with a Special Mission Recognition pin. Since Norma will turn 99 in December 2021, we celebrated her upcoming birthday after lunch with a surprise birthday cupcake and tiara. The Smoky Mountain District UMW is very blessed to have another member, Elizabeth Franklin, who turned 97 in July. Elizabeth has been a faithful member of UMW for half of its existence. Elizabeth continues to be in mission by making quilts, teddy bears and baby hats for those in need.

I have just completed the United Methodist Women Changemakers Soul Care Retreat which was held virtually. This is a part of the New Wineskins campaign that will be rolling out early in 2022 addressing the need for care of the whole person – body, mind and spirit. The New Wineskins campaign is based on Mark 2:22, *No one pours new wine into old leather wineskins; otherwise, the wine would burst the wineskins and the wine would be lost and the wineskins destroyed. But new wine is for new wineskins.*

There are also more changes coming in 2022 to United Methodist Women. There will be a new website coming out in January 2022. Mission u will have a new approach as adults, youth and children use the same study which will also be available for use in Sunday School and Bible Study settings. A National Membership Model will be available in 2022 which will allow online membership engagement. Yvette Moore described this Campaign in a Zoom meeting I attended as a “grand refreshment that will carve out ways for new women to engage in the United Methodist Women’s organization which will encourage growth and invite new women.” In the same Zoom meeting, Sally Vonner described the New Wineskins Campaign as “a way to reboot UMW by boldly being ahead of our time.” She encouraged us to put our faith, hope and love into action and referenced Isaiah 43:19: *Look! I’m doing a new thing; now it sprouts up; don’t you recognize it? I’m making a way in the desert, paths in the wilderness.* Change is always difficult and uncomfortable. But through us the dreams of our foremothers live on. Please be in prayer for our National UMW Leaders as they make new ways and paths and all United Methodist Women as we acquire new wineskins.

*Continued on page 2*

The † symbol denotes a  
Conference or Jurisdiction event.  
For more information or to  
register for conference events,  
visit our website:  
<http://holstonumw.org/>

## NEW LOGO FOR 2022



## SPIRITUAL GROWTH

### New Daily Prayer Guide Coming in 2022

Pat Bellingrath, Holston Conference UMW Spiritual Growth Coordinator has announced,

*“Our beloved Prayer Calendar has a new name and focus. The hope is to encounter God and find joy through the stories and prayers provided. God’s love invites us into mission with our neighbors and this love has the power to transform the world. This new devotional guide resource will inspire you daily through prayers and mission reflections that testify to the impact of United Methodist Women and Global Ministries outreach in the world and how those who serve encounter God and find joy through their work and calling.”*

Order your copy through the UMW Mission Resources portal

<https://www.umwmissionresources.org/>

Blessings,

Cassie Sylvester  
Spiritual Growth Coordinator

Congratulations! The 2022 logo contest winner is Morgan Wallace Gilbert, Clinch Mountain District. The theme is Live in Peace... Build up One Another. The design was inspired by the verse:

“So let us do all we can to live in peace. And let us work hard to build up one another.”  
Romans 14:19 (NIRV).

Morgan states, “I have brought to focus the two parts of this that are essential to the verse, the ideas of peace, and building up one another. The sprig of olive brings about the idea of the dove as a symbol for peace in the Noah’s Ark story. The circles symbolize the strength of our unity in togetherness and as the circles begin to link, they become stronger. The entire design is inspired by a light, art nouveau theme, often associated with beauty and femininity.”

Feel free to use this logo in appropriate ways in your districts and local units throughout the year.

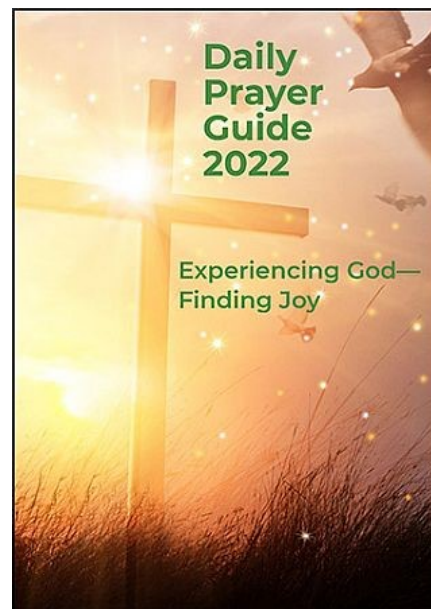
Donna Mosby  
Holston Conference UMW President

## THE JOURNEY

*Continued from page 1*

I wish you and yours a very, Merry Christmas and healthy, Happy New Year! I look forward to seeing all that 2022 will bring to United Methodist Women!

Blessings,  
Susan



## LOCAL UNIT SECRETARY – WHAT IS YOUR UNIT DOING ABOUT NEW OFFICERS?



I am PLEASED to continue as the Smoky Mountain District Secretary for 2022. The changes in our District Officers are listed elsewhere in this issue.

One of my duties is to maintain the list of Local Unit Officers for our District Leadership Team so communication is as easy as possible.

I have sent a contact email to each Local Unit Secretary or President requesting a list of your 2022 officers.

### THANKS TO THOSE WHO HAVE RESPONDED.

I will try again in December. **UNLESS I HEAR FROM YOU**, I am going to assume that **YOUR** Local Unit Officers are the same for next year.

If there are changes in **officers or contact information** now or during the year, please send me, either by email or postal mail, your list of Local Unit officers with **Local Unit Office, Name, Mailing Address, Phone, and Email if available**.

By the end of December, I must have the completed Local Unit Officer List for the coming year so you can receive

- the Smoky Mountain District *Connecting Link*, which is sent to ALL Local Unit officers, and
- the Holston Conference *Holstonian*, which is sent to ALL Local Unit Presidents.

We truly appreciate your willingness to serve as Local Unit Secretary. Keep up the Mission Work!

Please contact me at any time if you have questions!

**Sandra Guinn**

**Smoky Mountain District UMW Secretary**

**408 E 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave.**

**Lenoir City, TN 37771**

**[sjguinn336@charter.net](mailto:sjguinn336@charter.net)**

## Assembly 2022 TURN IT UP!



### ASSEMBLY 2022: HELP SPREAD THE WORD!

**May 20-22, 2022,**

**Orlando Convention Center, Orlando, Florida**

**Early Registration End November 30, 2021**

**Check out the Virtual Option to participate if you are unable to attend in person.**

I want to personally invite you to come with me to ASSEMBLY 2022 in Orlando, Florida. In 2022 we will reflect on today's challenges and together find comfort and strength to move forward, building new ways for faith-filled women to make a difference in their communities and the world. We will recommit to our purpose, but also more.

For such a time as this we will TURN IT UP! TURN IT UP! for spiritual healing and renewal. We will TURN IT UP! for rebirth in a new time. We will TURN IT UP! for women leaders. We will TURN IT UP! for justice for women, children and youth.

Bold action, like faith, takes courage. Our bravery is inspired by God's love and driven by our powerful commitment to improve the lives of women, children and youth. We're a sisterhood acting in faith to tackle the hard work of the world without hesitation. We show up, we take action, we get it done. Our passion is boundless.

Visit [Assembly2022.org](https://Assembly2022.org) to get updates, get excited, and find ways to help let women in your life know about this amazing gathering.

## A Humble Legacy Woman of Tennessee

by Carol Green with the Elizabeth Franklin Unit of Green Meadow United Methodist Women, Alcoa, Tennessee

As a 13 year old, Elizabeth Jones' mother died and she had to leave school to care for her siblings. Then, to earn board and room, she worked for a prominent and compassionate family until her marriage to Raymond Franklin. He brought her into the Methodist church, brought five children into the world with her, and supported her creative gifts and leadership.

The Franklins were charter members of Green Meadow Methodist Church in 1966. Elizabeth helped to establish a unit of the Women's Society of Christian Service, the children's ministry, and the young adults' ministry, locally and in the district. The Franklins were active in district and conference events, including the Methodist Men's meetings.

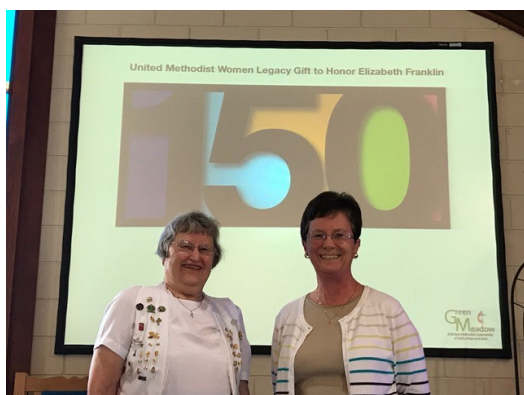
When Raymond took a position with the Federal Highway Administration in Washington, DC, they became involved with the Upper Marlboro Methodist church, district, and conference ministries in Maryland. Concerned that she couldn't relate to the education and experiences of the women's meetings, she began taking "handwork" to break the barriers. She was recognized as an expert in their new hobby. When she was asked to speak, Raymond would help her write and practice her presentation.

After they had returned to Alcoa, Elizabeth felt inadequate in the speech-making expectations of the District Lay Speaker training. Thanks to her, leadership in projects became an avenue of service. She has been able to use her sewing, cooking, and woodworking skills to meet local church and mission needs. She's made sanctuary banners and was awed to tend to the altar. She's made thousands of stuffed toys, blankets, layettes, baby caps, quilts, book bags, wheelchair bags, and clothing. This modest woman, sure of her ability, reveals she has sent each item off with love.

Although they had designed and built a second house across the street from the church, when Raymond passed on and her health was keeping her from her gardening and cooking, she decided to move to the nearby Asbury Place retirement center. Of course, she immediately saved the United Methodist Women unit from folding, established her quilt frame and crafts in the activity room, began repairing residents' clothing and even trimming hair. She tended her raised bed garden and houseplants in the common areas.

During the pandemic shut down, Elizabeth relished the undisturbed time to complete a Wedding Ring quilt for each of her 13 great-grandchildren. When told of the need for small blankets for immigrant children passing through on buses to their next home, over 30 quilts were distributed with love.

At age 97, she wears many UMW "Special Mission" pins and has been recognized as a "Five Star Woman" ever since that was established as a goal. She has been duly honored with a major donation to the Legacy Fund for the 150th Celebration of the United Methodist Women. All the while, smiling with friendliness, she seeks to do justice, loves kindness, and walks humbly with her God.





## NORMA BLAIR HONORED AT ANNUAL MEETING

Norma Blair was honored for her 99<sup>th</sup> birthday and long-time service to United Methodist Women at the Smoky Mountain District 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting and luncheon on Saturday, November 6 at Sevierville First UMC.

During the service, Norma received a Special Mission Recognition pin for her 75-plus years of service to United Methodist Women from Susan Daffron, Smoky Mountain District President. As Spiritual Growth Coordinator for her home unit of Sevierville First, she participated in the annual Memorial Service lead by Cassie Sylvester, District Spiritual Growth Coordinator, by ringing a bell for every woman for whom 19 candles had been lighted and whom many churches in the district had lost in 2020.

Norma S. Blair was born on December 20, 1922. She has been a lifelong Methodist beginning at First Church in Oakdale, TN (Morgan Co.) She proudly wears her WSCS pin along with others she has received through the years.

In her 75-plus years as a UMW member, Norma has served on many committees and as an officer for the units and circles of which she has been a member. She has also been an avid participant in the UMW Reading Program.

Norma is very committed to supporting mission work both through the church and the community. She is proud of her UMW sisters and supporters. We celebrate Norma for her inspiration, her service, her 99 years and wish her many more!



Norma Blair was honored at a 99th birthday party at our Annual Meeting on November 6. She was given a crown and feather boas, a cupcake and candle, and we sang "Happy Birthday." She also received a Special Mission Recognition pin for her 75-plus years of service to UMW.

## TREASURER'S REPORT

It was such a pleasure to see so many of you at our District Annual Meeting and Local Unit Officer Training a few weeks ago. I am very happy to report that five Treasurers attended our Treasurer training session. For those who were unable to attend, I will still be keeping everyone updated via email and "snail mail" as necessary. I am also very pleased to report that our Mission Giving Offering taken up at Annual Meeting was nearly \$600.00! This money will go towards the District's Pledge to Mission.

I am working now on turning in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter remittance and year-end reports to our Conference Treasurer and also our outside auditor. When this newsletter is published, we will be in the 1st quarter of 2022. This quarter runs from November 21, 2021 to February 20, 2022. If all Unit Treasurers would please mark

your calendars - the next remittance is due to me by February 20<sup>th</sup>.

If your unit held a pledge service for 2022, please email me what your unit pledge amount is.

As always, if anyone has any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to me.

I hope everyone has a very Merry Christmas and a safe and happy holiday season!

Take care and God Bless,

Kim Henry  
Treasurer  
Kimodb63@gmail.com

## LOCAL UNIT NEWS

### MARYVILLE 1ST UMW

Thirteen Maryville First UMW sisters and Pastor Matt Hall gathered at Camp Wesley Woods in the beautiful Nickle lodge for a one-day escape on Thursday, September 30. It had taken so long to set it up due to Covid-19 restrictions at the Camp, we praised God to meet for fellowship, fun, food and spiritual growth!

After morning refreshments we kicked off our day. President Dianne McRae welcomed all followed by a Prayer Calendar devotion from Cassie Sylvester, Spiritual Growth, and guest speakers Pat Bellingrath, Spiritual Growth, Holston Conference UMW and Eva Pray, our Camp Wesley Woods BaseCamp Coordinator.

Pat's devotion was from Alisha Gordon's book "Our Entire Selves – Spiritual practices that help us be whole persons in Jesus Christ and create space for God". It teaches that bringing your entire self into the God space is essential. Jesus instructed us to love God and love our neighbors as ourselves, not more than ourselves. Taking care of you is not indulgence, it's preservation!

Acknowledging disparities between self-care and self-preservation is the first step in developing practices that seek to heal and restore our mind, body and spirit. Self-care becomes a critical part of our ability to carry out the work of justice, and enlisting our sisters and allies to ensure this happens is a part of the deep relationship building we as UMW members claim and crave.

Some spiritual practices can include gentle stretches as we pray, meditation – slowing our mind and body, meditate on the Word: Joshua 1:8 or Psalm 1:2, and music to lift your spirits. As author Alisha Gordon says, "It takes time to build up our spiritual

*being and nurture our body and mind as well. I have not mastered the seated yoga position yet but with patience for my body, keen attention to my mind and some help from Jesus, I will learn to embrace wholeness.*

Pat also shared the Examen, an ancient guide to spiritual growth with five practices to center us in prayer.

1. Notice God's Presence...Look back over your day and make note of the times you experienced His Presence.
2. Give Thanks...As you review the day, thank God for each blessing and gift you remember.
3. Ask Forgiveness...Be honest with God about the moments when you fell short today – when you

were impatient or quick-tempered, when you lacked compassion or ignored a need.

4. Pray About One Thing...Talk with God about one joy, one sorrow, one surprise, or one specific situation from today and let Him speak to your heart.
5. Hope for Tomorrow.

Following a sumptuous catered lunch, Eva Pray, Wesley Woods BaseCamp Coordinator, welcomed us and shared Camp stories of fun and fellowship. Eva said, "Covid 19 had delayed the camp in 2020, so this year was a great success with 330 summer campers on site, and 22 campers that traveled in our tripping programs all the way to Florida, the Northeast, and Minnesota."

"Eva also shared that Wesley Woods operates on funds provided by the Smoky Mountain, Tennessee Valley, and Mountain View Districts of the Holston Conference as well as donations from generous individuals. To donate to Camp Wesley Woods, visit our website at [campwesleywoods.com](http://campwesleywoods.com) and click the "Donate Now" button in the top right corner. To volunteer or schedule the Camp for a retreat, please call the office at (865) 448-2246 or email [office@campwesleywoods.com](mailto:office@campwesleywoods.com)."



### TRINITY UMW

The Trinity United Methodist Women are using our December meeting to host a baby shower in honor of Jesus. We are collecting all manner of baby goods, including clothing and diapers, and are going to be giving everything we collect to Susannah's House. We will have new, unwrapped items delivered by the second week of December.

## LOCAL UNIT NEWS

### BROADWAY UMW

Our unit is keeping busy as we move into the holiday season.

On Monday, November 15, Square One met for dinner, then shopped for Salvation Army Angels and Silver Bells.

On Sunday, November 21, we held our annual Country Store and Luncheon after our combined service with our Hispanic congregation. It is our principal fund raiser each year. Our members contribute hand-made/homemade goods to be sold at the Country Store. We raised \$1,875.

On Thursday, December 2, our UMW Leadership Team hosted our Circle of Fellowship for their first meeting since the pandemic. After a time for fellowship, the ladies discussed their meeting over the next few months. Patsy Russell, UMW co-president, had the program on the World Thank Offering.

On Monday, December 6, we were excited to bring back our annual Advent Gathering after missing last year. Our Fellowship Hill was transformed into a Christmas wonderland of tables decorated by our hosts which puts attendees in a joyful Christmas mood! After enjoying desserts and coffee prepared by our table hosts, we heard about Isaiah 117 House from founder Ronda Paulson and a love offering was taken.

We pray that God will guide our hearts and our intentions!

### GREEN MEADOW UMC

A Call to Advent

Join us for an Advent study on Tuesday evenings starting November 30 at 6:00 on Zoom. We will be focusing on meditations by Sarah Bessey in her online book, *Waiting, Accepting, Journeying, Birthing*.

"...many of us are wondering: how could we possibly enter into this season of the Church calendar if we are paying attention to this world?

How do we celebrate or "get cozy" or turn towards Christmas when our hearts are broken by coronavirus, quarantines, death tolls, political divides, conspiracy theories, refugees, detention camps, broken treaties, by one another? When, in response to every crisis, our communities seem splintered and divided even in how to bind up each other's wounds and careless words are flung like rocks at our own glass houses? When perhaps we are lonely or bored or tired or

sick or broke or afraid? When we are grieving and sad and scared?

In these days, celebration can seem callous and uncaring, if not outright impossible.

But here's the thing, my friend: we enter into Advent now precisely because we are paying attention.

It's because everything hurts as we prepare for Advent. It's because we have stood in hospital rooms and gravesides, empty churches and quiet bedrooms that we resolutely lay out candles and matches.

We don't get to have hope without having grief. Hope dares to admit that not everything is as it should be, and so if we want to be hopeful, first we have to grieve. First we have to see that something is broken and there is a reason for why we need hope to begin with."

Sarah Bessey

Contact Ginny West Case  
865-363-1709  
[ginny.w.case@gmail.com](mailto:ginny.w.case@gmail.com)

### WESLEY HOUSE WALK-A-THON

In June, we received an invitation from Wesley House to participate in a Walk-A-Thon to raise funds their work with children and senior adults. Wesley House was founded by three United Methodist Women in 1907 to provide after school care and summer camps for working women. In the 1950's, they saw a need to support senior citizens who were experiencing social isolation. The SMD Leadership Team embraced this opportunity to support Wesley House and challenged each of our 22 units to donate \$100. Our \$2,200 would be 20% of the goal of \$11,000.

Several units participated donating over \$3,000! One unit has continued the walk meeting the 3rd Friday of each month to walk and raise funds for a mission project.

Once again, United Methodist Women have answered a call to mission. Thank you for your donations to support Wesley House in their work.

Wesley House is planning on the return of Tablescape, their major fundraiser, on April 30, 2022. Mark your calendars to save the date!



## LEGACY FUND NEWS

## MISSION GIVING

Dear Holston Friends,

We are filled with many years of missions because of women who felt the need to share a vision of mission giving.

The Legacy Fund would like to express gratitude and thankfulness for ALL the many donations to the Legacy Fund. You are the most important part of The Legacy Fund. Your contributions in the past and those for the future are the reason for our blessed organization,

Grace and Peace,  
Willela Douthat  
Chair, 150 UMW Anniversary & Legacy Committee

Support the United Methodist Women Legacy Fund!

By Text: Text 41444  
In your message: type  
LEGACY Amount Your Name  
(Example: LEGACY 150 Jane Smith)  
Hit Send.

Online: <https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/150/home>

By Mail:  
United Methodist Women National Office  
475 Riverside Drive 15th Floor  
Attn: LEGACY  
New York, NY 10115

Planned Giving: Include the Legacy Fund in your financial planning.



Start 2022 with a reminder to your members. United Methodist Women's Mission Giving—which is unrestricted funds—supports the total program of the organization. There are five avenues for Mission Giving

**Special Mission Recognition:** Special Mission Recognition pins offer a meaningful way to honor members and non-members who have dedicated time and effort to service. The honoree receives a small gold oval lapel pin and certificate. Gift amounts range from \$40 to \$2,000. Pins can be ordered from your unit, district, or conference treasurer.

**Gift to Mission:** Make a gift for a minimum of \$5 in honor of someone and send a card to the honoree. Ecards are available for: Friendship, Mother's Day, Peace, and Thoughts and Prayers. On your donation form, check "Yes, I would like to send a gift notification" under "Send an Ecard." Cards are also be available through your district or conference treasurer.

**Gift in Memory:** Give a gift for a minimum of \$5 in memory of a member, friend or anyone else. Gift in Memory cards, available free from the district treasurer, may be sent to the family of the deceased. You can also send an Ecard with your gift when you donate using our donation form. Your district or conference treasurer are also available through your district or conference treasurer.

**Pledge to Mission:** An individual member's Pledge to Mission is the amount she pledges to contribute via her local unit. To support the foundational mission work of United Methodist Women. After the pledge she makes to her local church, her Pledge to Mission is usually the largest amount she gives every year for mission.

**World Thank Offering:** Spontaneous additional gifts can be given out of gratitude for God's abundance and in celebration of the joys of life. Gifts are collected throughout the year in a World Thank Offering box or jar or other container. World Thank Offerings are usually received in the fall during a special service of thanksgiving in the local unit. Visit our World Thank Offering page for downloading a box or label, worship resources and World Thank Offering stories.

<https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/worldthank>

For more information about Mission Giving, go to <https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/mission-giving>



## SMOKY MOUNTAIN DISTRICT UMW

### 2021 Officers

President	Susan Daffron 2618 Brantley Park Blvd. Maryville, TN 37804 865-216-8421 spdaffron1@gmail.com	Broadway/Green Meadow  Elected 2021 for term ending 2022 Years on team 2017-2022
Vice President	Belinda Kenny 113 Palomino Drive Friendsville, TN 37737 865-235-9104 belnkenn@gmail.com	Williamson Chapel  Elected 2021 for term ending 2023 Years on team 2021-2023
Secretary	Sandra Guinn 408 East Third Avenue Lenoir City, TN 37771 865-986-9660 sjguinn336@charter.net	Trinity, Lenoir City  Elected 2021 for term ending 2023 Years on team 2019-2023
Treasurer	Kim Henry P. O. Box 5061 Maryville, TN 37802 865-789-3793 kimodb63@gmail.com	Peck's Memorial  Elected 2021 for term ending 2023 Years on team 2018-2023
Communications Coordinator	Kim Hill 1504 Aberdeen Drive Alcoa, TN 37701 865-804-2585 kimhillumw@gmail.com	Broadway  Elected 2021 for term ending 2023 Years on team 2017-2023
Spiritual Growth	Cassie Sylvester 1302 Prairie Place Greenback, TN 37742 865-567-5138 clsylvester@outlook.com	Maryville First  Elected 2020 for term ending 2022 Years on team 2021-2022
Membership Nurture and Outreach	Lori Sluder 3909 Rankin Ferry Loop Louisville, TN 37777 865-414-4245 lorilsluder@gmail.com	St. Mark's  Elected 2021 for term ending 2023 Years on team 2022-2023
Social Action	Alice Nichols 3043 Cool Creek Road Sevierville, TN 37862 865-803-6739 alice.nichols27@gmail.com	Mountain View  Elected 2020 for term ending 2022 Years on team 2019-2022
Education & Interpretation	Ginny West Case 1417 Cedar Park Drive Maryville, TN 37803 865-363-1709 ginny.w.case@gmail.com	Green Meadow  Elected 2020 for term ending 2022 Years on team 2021-2022

**SMOKY MOUNTAIN DISTRICT UMW  
2021 Officers**

Secretary of Program Resources	Leslie Milligan 2249 Carpenters Grade Road Maryville, TN 37803 865-254-0507 Lesliemc20@gmail.com	Peck's Memorial  Elected 2021 for term ending 2023 Years on team 2018-2023
Nominations Chair, 1 year term	Margaret Denney 6933 Riverwood Drive Knoxville, TN 37920 865-573-6806 margaretdenney@bellsouth.net	Mountain View  Elected 2021 for term ending 2022 Years on team 2018-2022
Committee on Nominations, 4 year term	Ruby Coffman-Jones 8504 Cambridge Woods Lane Knoxville, TN 37923 865-690-1701 olen3434@gmail.com	Ebenezer  Elected 2019 for term ending 2022 Years on team 2019-2022
Committee on Nominations, 4 year term	Nancy Lampe 2609 Stock Creek Road Knoxville, TN 37920 865-609-3466 nancylampe1024@comcast.net	Mountain View  Elected 2018 for term ending 2024 Years on team 2018-2024
Committee on Nominations, 4 year term	Mary Brockett 808 Tully Road Knoxville, TN 37919 865-691-2658 marybrockett@gmail.com	St. Mark, Knoxville  Elected 2021 for term ending 2025 Years on team 2022-2025
Committee on Nominations, 4 year term	Jamie Singer 9417 View Point Lane Knoxville, TN 37922 865-691-0383 jsinger32@gmail.com	Ebenezer  Elected 2021 for term ending 2025 Years on team 2022-2025
Archivist/Historian	Kay Phillips 1401 Blue Ridge Way Sevierville, TN 37862 865-453-6436 donaldphillips07@comcast.net	Roberts  Elected : 2018 Years Served : 2019-2022

**AND**

Susan Daffron 2618 Brantley Park Blvd. Maryville, TN 37804 865-216-8421 spdaffron1@gmail.com	Broadway/Green Meadow  Years on team 2017-2023
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mission u 2022

# Who Can We Be Together?

## Building Communities of Hope and Joy

Great news— COMMUNITY is God's desire for us! Please join us at Mission u 2022 as we reflect on the community that Jesus is calling us to be!

This year, as we study Luke 13, we find ourselves in a period of disruption and uncertainty. In the midst of a devastating pandemic, divisive political climate, unaddressed systemic racism, ecological crises and economic turmoil, we turn to the stories of Jesus that have anchored Christian communities for two millennia.

Our hope is that we will leave Mission u with a bigger and broader vision of the community Christ is calling us to be in times of loss, grief and massive disruption. What would be possible if we tend to the needs of our communities in small yet radical ways, as Jesus did in Luke 13?

Our newly designed Mission u 2022 is more flexible and intergenerational than ever— with curricula for youth, children and adults focused on the 13th chapter of the Gospel of Luke.

**Here is the curricula we will be using that will be available on our [e-store](#) by January 2022.**

*Who Can We Be Together?* (Adult)

*Community in the Midst of Challenging Times* (Youth)

*Our Growing Tree*

*From Self-Love to the Beloved Community and All of God's Creation* (Children)

***Will you join us?***

**Join us:**

July 22 –23, 2022 at Cokesbury United Methodist Church, 9915 Kingston Pike, Knoxville, TN. WE will have a hybrid event – in person and on Zoom. Our Study this year will be on Luke Chapter 13.

More information coming in January. **SAVE THE DATE!**





**Smoky Mountain  
District United  
Methodist Women**

**Communications Coordinator**  
Kim Hill  
1504 Aberdeen Drive  
Alcoa, TN 37701

Email:  
kimhillumw@gmail.com

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**THE REASON FOR THE SEASON  
LUKE 2 (KJV)**

And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be taxed.

(And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.)

And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city.

And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:)

To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child.

And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered.

And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid.

And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying,

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.