



# The Holstonian

June 2019



A Publication of Holston Conference United Methodist Women

Marci Villanueva, Editor

## SAVE THE DATE SEPTEMBER 14-15, 2019

HOLSTON CONFERENCE  
UNITED METHODIST  
WOMEN

ANNUAL MEETING/  
OFFICER TRAINING/  
SEE COMBINED EVENT



MEADOWVIEW  
CONFERENCE RESORT  
AND CONVENTION CENTER  
KINGSPORT, TN



Be Blessed!  
Lisa E. Black, Vice-President  
Holston Conference United Methodist Women

Brochure coming in July



*Spiritual Leader*  
Rev. Sandra Johnson

*Musical Guests:*

*Loretta Bowers and  
Bryan Underwood*





Summer is in the air along with sudden rain showers, beautiful blooming flowers, green trees, singing birds, grass to mow, and planning for a great summer.

As you make your plans, don't forget to look at your 2019 Calendar of Events for Holston Conference United Methodist Women. We have a lot going on. RISE was an inspiring event. If you missed it this time, plan to come next year.

The Holston Annual Conference just finished. If you have never attended an Annual Conference for Holston, I suggest that you try to attend a day even if you can't attend the entire conference. Learn how our conference does the necessary business we often take for granted, such as budgeting and placing pastors in each church.

In July, make time for Holston Conference Mission u. It starts July 19<sup>th</sup> and will be at Pleasant View UMC in Abingdon, VA. Each year we get three choices of studies to pursue for growth in our participation in and understanding of mission in our church, nation and world as well as an opportunity to fellowship with United Methodist Women from every district. Children are invited and welcome to participate in the children's study. Invite a friend or two to join you for Mission u. You will have a great time learning together! Information concerning it and registration is out so check with your leaders/units.

Has your unit and district celebrated UMW's 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary yet? I have heard from many of you who have done so but for those of you who are still waiting, you still have time though March 23<sup>rd</sup> was the official 150<sup>th</sup> year date. Go ahead, plan a celebration and share a pic or two on our conference UMW's Facebook page. Contact Marci Villanueva to put one in the Holstonian or Lori Sluder if you need help putting it on the FB page. I would love to see one from every one of our 9 new districts.

I hope to see many of you at the upcoming events!

Yours in Christ,

Carolyn Haerr, President,  
Holston Conference United Methodist Women



### ***Hands-On-Mission Project***

For our Hands-On-Mission Project we are collecting shopping bags for Willow, Alaska. There are no particular limits on shopping bag sizes. The kind grocery stores are selling work, big enough for a sack full of groceries work best, big enough for about 10 pounds of groceries.

In a previous newsletter, it was mentioned that you could go to UMCOR's website for instructions on how to make a shopping bag; however, the pattern is no longer available on the website. For units that are interested in making shopping bags, there is a You Tube video entitled, "How to Make a Market Tote Bag," that gives instructions.

In addition to the shopping bags, we are also collecting school supplies. The following school supplies have been shared between the nine districts. Locate your district and school supplies below:

- \* 3 ring binders, 1 inch - [Appalachian District](#)
- \* index cards (100) – [Appalachian District](#)
- \* washable marker set – [Appalachian District](#)
- \* 3 ring binders, 1 ½ inch – [Clinch Mountain District](#)
- \* crayons, box of 24 – [Clinch Mountain District](#)
- \* cap erasers – [Clinch Mountain District](#)
- \* pink pearl erasers – [Hiwassee District](#)
- \* plastic folder with pockets – [Hiwassee District](#)
- \* glue sticks – [Hiwassee District](#)
- \* elmer's glue – [Mountain View District](#)
- \* Kleenex – [Mountain View District](#)
- \* wide ruled notebook paper – [Mountain View District](#)
- \* college ruled notebook paper – [New River District](#)
- \* pens blue and black ball point – [New River District](#)
- \* highlighters – [New River District](#)
- \* pencil sharpeners hand held – [Scenic South District](#)
- \* rulers – [Scenic South District](#)
- \* colored pencils 24 – [Scenic South District](#)
- \* Ticonderoga #2 pencils – [Smoky Mountain District](#)
- \* Fiskar scissors – [Smoky Mountain District](#)
- \* Mead Primary notebook – [Smoky Mountain District](#)
- \* fine black sharpies – [Smoky Mountain District](#)
- \* single subject spiral notebooks wide ruled – [Tennessee Valley District](#)
- \* spiral notebooks college ruled – [Three Rivers District](#)
- \* Water color paints – [Three Rivers District](#)

The school supplies will be used throughout the school year, so any number of supplies will be most appreciated.

One quick update: Fran Lynch has recently spoken to Rev. Gayle Crabtree and she is willing to possibly transport items when she goes to Willow, Alaska in July, if items are gathered by then and if they will fit in her vehicle. Rev. Crabtree's phone number is 865-964-6673.

Tawana C. Teague

Education & Interpretation  
Holston Conference United Methodist Women



**To all,  
Spiritual Growth Coordinators,**

Welcome to spring, summer, we can't tell from the weather. But God is Good. I know this has been a trying time with us merging into nine districts. But it will get easier. I hope all the districts have met the ladies that are now a part of your new district as they have merged together.

I hope you have and if they have not responded. Please give the Spiritual Growth Coordinator or President a call. Do not hesitate to call me if you have any questions.

I may not have the answer, but I know who to ask or direct you to them. I look forward to seeing you at Annual Meeting/SEE in Kingsport, September 14-15.

More details to come.

Yours in Christ,  
Johnnie Bridges, Spiritual Growth

**WHERE ARE YOU ?**

Ladies we need your help, really need your help. I know all of the artist and imagination have not left Holston Conference.

Our theme for 2020-2021 will be:

*"One Body, One Spirit" Ephesians 4:4.*

*"There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling."*

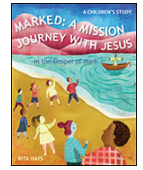
One Lord, One faith, One baptism, One God and Father of all, who is above all and through all, and in all.

Put your contact information on the back of each entry. Ladies, as you know this has been a year of change. The Holston Conference Executive Committee voted to keep our theme of "Rejoice in the Lord Always" for the 2019 year.

***We need you to get out your pens, ink, and imagination to work.***

Please send your ideas emphasizing this theme. One in color, one in black & white. Please put your contact information on the back of each entry.

Mail to:  
Spiritual Growth Coordinator  
JOHNNIE BRIDGES  
1125 ADCOCK AVE.  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37921.



**Be inspired! Be challenged!** Respond to God's call. Continue the powerful legacy of compassionate service and passionate advocacy by attending **Mission u July 19-20, 2019**. The 2019 theme for Mission u is **RADICAL DISCIPLESHIP—THEN AND NOW**. The location has changed to Pleasant View United Methodist Church, 18416 Lee Highway, Abingdon, VA. The

two-day schedule will remain this year, so you will only be away from home one night.

Mission u brochures should have been received in your mailboxes in mid-May. There are very thought-provoking and informative studies available this year, along with excellent study leaders to make the studies come alive! Pick the study that is right for you, so that you can get registered by the **deadline of July 5**. Your registrations **MUST** be postmarked by this date.

Study books must be purchased online prior to the event at [www.umwmissionresources.org](http://www.umwmissionresources.org); or [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com); or the site of your choice. Study books will no longer be available at the event due to changes in National Program Resources. You will need to have your study book prior to the event and bring it with you. This will give you the opportunity to read the book before you come to the study.

Last year there was some confusion about the time set aside for the offering. This year the offering for Mission Giving will be collected on Friday afternoon during the plenary. **Please make checks payable to Holston Conference United Methodist Women**. All monies received in the offering will be used for Mission Giving which will allow United Methodist Women to continue to help women, children and youth here and around the world.

You are in for a real surprise with the lunches that will be provided by our Hispanic sisters!

Make plans to attend Mission u and get those registrations in to ensure you get in the class you want.

Kay Phillips, Mission u Dean  
Holston Conference United Methodist Women



**DISTRICT SECRETARIES:**

The year is almost half gone and I hope you are settled into your important role as Secretary. I am looking forward to meeting those who are new to their district. By this time, you should have some idea of how important your job is and what it means to be a United Methodist Woman in mission, and to serve as an officer. Before we realize how fast time is going, it will be time for our Conference Annual Meeting in September. At our training at that time, please bring any questions, concerns or ideas with you and, hopefully, we can learn from each other and give support at the same time. I appreciate you very much, and if you have any questions or concerns, please contact me. I appreciate all you in the name of United Methodist Women.

God's Blessings,  
Nyoka Holder, Conference Secretary  
Holston Conference United Methodist Women

Hello, friends!

In all of the busy-ness of a (more than) full-time career, an aging family, United Methodist Women, and a few hobbies, I've been thankful to experience Spring in several diverse locations this year – my home in Southwest VA, my daughter's home in Coastal Virginia, and my family's homes in Maine. We spent a particularly poignant Easter with Maine family appreciating rebirth as their early blooming flowers were just pushing up and, as we looked carefully, we could see forsythia just beginning to spout green shoots from the tips of their winter-hardened branches. I'm reminded that Spring comes to each of our communities in its own time.

In many ways Spring is a metaphor for transitions we each experience in our own time. Our Conference is experiencing its own Spring this year, as we learn to grow and navigate as new districts and welcome many new faces budding in our teams and gatherings. I am continually amazed at the stories of togetherness, support, and fostering of growth I learn about my United Methodist Women sisters each day I open a district newsletter, a mailing from the local missions we support, and *response* magazine.

As to the business of Holston Conference United Methodist Women: **In 2018, we:**

**Pledged \$275,000 and remitted \$241,304**, about **88%** of our Pledge to Mission.

Spent **\$88,544** of our **\$156,850** Administration and Membership Development funds, **56.5%**.

Directly supported missions with a total **\$45,550**: Call to Prayer and Self-Denial, Henderson Settlement, Jubilee Project, Red Bird Mission, UMCOR, and a dozen other missions and services.

Invested in UMW's future through a gift of **\$6,458** to the Legacy Fund.



A full report of our 2018 finances is available in the 2019 Holston Conference UMW Directory.

Today our Conference and District Finance and Executive Committees are considering our budget for the 2020 fiscal year. As we face declining membership and compete for Mission Giving funds, it's more important today than yesterday that we do everything we can to engage our women in mission opportunities, including giving, and in turn to do our best to be thrifty and intentional with the funds we reserve to do the work of the Conference.

Please continue to be constant gardeners of our Purpose, our Mission, and of each other.

Blessed Be,

~ Janet Jonas, Treasurer

Holston Conference United Methodist Women  
P.O. Box 169, Pulaski, VA 24301



The goal of the Legacy Fund is to raise \$60 million dollars. This is the magic number- that has been projected, to provide financial support for our future United Methodist Women mission by just using the interest. With God's help and our prayers, this can be done! If we need proof of this, I think we received it in the numbers of this past March 23rd, Day of Giving. Over 3500 gifts came in for Day of Giving which amounted to a total of \$496,451 raised for this very special 2019 Day of Giving! This is an increase of 84% from 2018 and is the largest Day of Giving total to date for United Methodist Women. Praise God, You did it!

The Legacy Endowment Fund campaign will end in 2020. BUT the fund will not end. It can be continually donated to. Endowment Funds are not new. Colleges, Universities and non profits have benefited from them for years. I hope all of Holston Conference's UMW members and supporters will continue to contribute to the Legacy Fund well after 2020. We can do it by praying, planning and 'just doing it'!

Sandy Wilder, one of the many women who has worked diligently for the UMW and especially on the Legacy Endowment Fund Committee wrote in the 2015 Winter issue of United Methodist Women News:

"All resources, natural and financial, are from God, and it is our responsibility as women of faith to ensure that these resources meet the needs of all"

This is what the United Methodist Women, I know, is about- just like the ladies on March 23, 1869 were about. We - listen, We - see the need, We - share the need with others, We 'collect our pennies'- to find ways to reach out to those with needs.

The Legacy Fund is an ambitious challenge to help meet the needs of the future Women, children and youth. Consider being a part, donate now and make a "planned gift" to be received in the future. Remember the UMW in your will, either by a specific amount or by a percentage.

To quote Sandy again: "When caring people plan, their ability to share grows!"

Marsheine McClurg, PAG representative  
Holston Conference United Methodist Women



Dear friends,

As the Holston Conference Secretary of Program Resources, I've been asked to give you regular updates on the UMW Reading Program. Unfortunately, I have no new information for you.

- National will not be providing consignment orders in the future and they won't be printing the Reading Program Catalogs.
- SPRs can order literature and the district or unit will pay for shipping. If anything changes I will let you know.
- On the other hand, Andris Salter administers the program and welcomes book recommendations, as well as questions and suggestions about the reading program.

E-mail:

[asalter@unitedmethodistwomen.org](mailto:asalter@unitedmethodistwomen.org)

phone: 212-870-3733

*When suggesting a book please include the title, author, publisher, date of publication and price.*

#### Other news:

- I've had the opportunity to read some of the books on this year's reading program list. I was able to get 2 of the books from my local library and I encourage you to check at your own library. The others I purchased from either Amazon or from Kindle. I've learned to read from my iPad and I'm enjoying the easy portability of it.
- I recently completed *Escape from the Green Mansion* by Christine Taylor- a true story of the fate of many female Chinese immigrants in the 1890s who came to the west coast of America seeking husbands or good jobs only to be sold and forced into prostitution. It chronicles the daring Methodist and Presbyterian women who sought to provide a safe haven for these enslaved girls. They were called "Jesus Women" and they went up against powerful and sometimes dangerous men to find and protect these girls in California. It was easy to read and is an Education for Mission category book.
- I also finished *Synergy - A Leadership Guide for Church Staff and Volunteers* by Ann A. Michel. Synergy is in the Leadership Development Category. I was hesitant to read this book because I'm not on my church staff but I thought I might pick up a few good suggestions for leading my volunteer activities and for my role as Holston Conference SPR. To my delight, Synergy provided that and much more. Ann Michel is a layperson and brings that perspective in the book. She frames the book in theology but brings practical steps and actions to leadership. If you're interested in building a team, inviting participation in missions and training a new generation of leaders to continue the work, this book is a great resource.

#### Ideas:

- I've been trying to come up with some activities to energize the United Methodist Women Reading Program. One thought is to have a book exchange at the Annual Meeting in September. Anyone can bring older but still countable reading program books to the meeting and can exchange them for other reading program books.

This would have to be operated on the honor system. A one-for-one exchange. What do you think? Is anyone interested in working on this idea?

- Would any of you and your units be interested in an online book club? We could choose a book to read and I or someone else can post questions for discussion online.
- Would anyone be interested in leading or participating in the three week long Wesley Challenge Study? It's a part of the Reading Program under the Spiritual Growth.

Please respond to let me know if you are interested in the above ideas or if you have any suggestions or ideas to share.

Thanks so much for keeping the education of our group alive.

Karen Murphy,

Secretary of Program Resources  
Holston Conference United Methodist Women  
[karen10murphy@gmail.com](mailto:karen10murphy@gmail.com)



## SAVE THE DATE MARK YOUR CALENDARS August 10, 2019



Plan to attend the Conference **Social Action Event**. This will be held at **Gray United Methodist Church** in the Three Rivers District. Our focus this year will be **Elder Abuse** and **Pipeline from School to Prison**. Since Jonnie Faye Ball is having some health issues, prayers be with her, I will be acting as the chair of this event and will be sending a brochure for registration and details of the meeting soon. Both subjects are very important and we see a lot of both issues happening. The meeting will start with registration at approximately 9:30 a.m., there will be a registration fee which includes lunch. We have allowed time for both issues to be presented during the morning session. We will break for lunch and immediately will follow with a brief time of questions and answers.

Please advise your members to attend and invite others in your communities to join us.

Lynice Broyles



**SEJUMW  
SAVE THE DATE  
APRIL 17—19, 2020**

The Southeastern Jurisdictional Meeting of the United Methodist Women will be held **April 17-19, 2020**, in Mobile, Alabama, with the theme of **Calling u...to Celebrate** from Romans 1:6. More information will be available as plans are formalized. This is a good opportunity to fellowship with our southern UMW sisters.

**Holston Conference**  
**United Methodist Women**  
**THE HOLSTONIAN**  
Marci Villanueva, Editor  
4308 Eagle Drive  
Knoxville, TN 37914

Non-Profit Org.  
US Postage  
**PAID**  
Jefferson City, TN  
**Permit No. 87**

Return Service Requested



## HOLSTON CONFERENCE UMW CALENDAR 2019

- July 5**                    **Deadline to register for Mission u**
- \*July 12-13                **Committee Meetings and Conference Executive Committee**  
                                 **Holston Conference Center, Alcoa, TN**
- July 19-20**                **Mission u**  
                                 **Pleasant View UMC, Abingdon, VA**
- August 10**                **Social Action Workshop, “Elder Abuse” and “Criminalization of the Community”**  
                                 **Gray UMC, Gray, TN**
- September 14-15**        **Annual Meeting/Officer’s Training/SEE Combined Event**  
                                 **MeadowView Conference Resort, Kingsport, TN**
- \*September 13            **Committee Meetings/Conference Executive Committee/Treasurer Training**  
                                 **TBA**
- October 5**                **Mujeres en Accion Event**  
                                 **Abingdon, VA**
- \*October 11-12            **Committee Meetings and Conference Executive Committee**  
                                 **Holston Conference Center, Alcoa, TN**

\*Holston Conference UMW Executive Committee Meetings

- **United Methodist Women’s Day should be observed on a Sunday selected by the local unit in consultation with the church’s pastor.**