

# ***THE CHALLENGER***

## **Kingsport District UMC**

**JANUARY 2012**

David W. Graves, District Superintendent, davidgraves@holston.org

Susan S. Smith, Administrative Assistant, kptdist@holston.org

District Office:224-1533 or 224-1534

<http://kingsportdistrict.holston.org> for District information

Holston.org for more Holston Conference information

<Http://Facebook.holston.org> tweeter shortcut is #HolstonTweets

### ***“The Best is Yet to Come!”***

David Graves, District Superintendent

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Please contact the district office or respond to this email if you wish to be taken off this newsletter email list.

## **FROM THE DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT**

### ***Thank You People of the Kingsport District!!!***

Nancy and I want to thank you for the wonderful year we have shared together in 2011. We have had the wonderful opportunity to be in many places to worship, enjoy meals and fellowship. There have been times of worship, lives changed and churches which have found new life and opportunities. You have opened your churches and your hearts to us and when I look back, what a blessed year. Along the way there have been challenges, but there always will be and at times life will be just downright hard, but the best is always yet to come.

So many churches in the District are growing with people received on profession of faith and new worship attendees. Others are finding new vitality to ministry and looking to see the glass is half full and not half empty. We have overcome a sense of hopelessness and despair. Pastors and churches are working together and we see that together we are stronger and the sense of being a connectional church is so important.

Therefore, thank you the people of the United Methodist Church in the Kingsport District. It is a blessing to serve in ministry with you.

May your Christmas be Christ-filled and the New Year one following the Christ Child. May we be open to the changes that God may want to place in our lives.

One blessing that I get to share before this year comes to a close is to spend Christmas Eve night with my family in Knoxville and to take my parents to Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Services. I have not done this in over 25 years. Before this year is over, please take time for rest, family and friends.

In Christ,

***David and Nancy Graves***

### ***MEET & GREET EVENT***

**Sunday, January 8**

**3:00 – 5:00 p.m.**

**Colonial Heights UMC**

***For more details continue to read page 3.***

## How Does One Become a United Methodist Bishop?

Since my nomination from the Holston Conference Delegation on September 27<sup>th</sup>, I have been asked this question numerous times. To be frank with you, it is an overwhelming journey. Technically, the 500 or so delegates from around the 15 Annual Conferences in the Southeast will come together on July 18-19, 2012 and vote. When a person receives 60% of the vote on any given ballot, they are elected. It is the political side that makes it a difficult task for me. At the end of the day, it is an election and one has to present themselves to others in order for people to want to vote for you. There are 14 nominees running for 5 Bishop Positions in the Southeast. Everywhere you go; people are sizing you up and making decisions. I am blessed to travel, develop a website, a brochure, and bring Nancy to General and Jurisdictional Conference as people will want to know who maybe the Bishop's spouse if elected. I will also do a mailing and spend enormous amounts of time connecting and building relationships with many people. Yes, the bottom line is that it is very political. Some days I wonder why go down this road? My answer, however, is that I feel God has placed me on this journey and I want to do all I can to honor God each step of the way. At the end of the day on July 19, 2012, we will know.

As with all things in life, running for Bishop cost money. I will need to raise several thousand dollars to help in this journey. I have already received generous donations from two of our local churches who gave me a gift when I preached in their churches recently. It was truly a God thing and affirmed that I am in God's will for this time and season of my life. However, I have more funding that I need to raise.

To begin to help people develop a deeper understanding of our connectional system and join me in the fund raising effort, I am going to have three Meet/Greet Events in Tennessee. These will be held in January and we are planning 3 or 4 in the Virginia Districts in the spring of 2012. I have personal contacts and have served churches in Knoxville, Chattanooga, and Kingsport and we will specifically ask for funding in these three areas. **During** the Meet/Greets, which will last 2 hours, I will share, one of my team members will give persons the opportunity to give a financial gift, and then I will take questions. This is a way for everyone to have a part in this historic Episcopal (Bishop) election in 2012. With 5 new Bishops to elect and 3 residing Bishops moving, 8 Annual Conferences will receive a new Bishop on September 1, 2012.

Here are the specifics about the money raised. I have set up an account: David Graves for Bishop. Gary Poe is serving as my Treasurer and all funds will be dispersed through him. He will keep an accounting record and present a final expense report. I will not accept any checks written on a church account because I want monies given to churches to be used for ministry. Any gift given is not tax deductible as these funds are used for direct expenses of my running for Bishop. Any monies left over will go to missions. I have selected three areas and each will receive a third: Kingsport Community Ministry Center here in Kingsport, Buffalo Mountain Camp, and Hope for Today, a ministry in India.

My prayer is that people will come to learn more about this important process in our connection as United Methodists. Then if you feel led, you can help in giving a gift made out to: David Graves for Bishop. Because scripture encourages us to pray in all things without ceasing, I have put together a prayer team for this time in my life, as persons all though the Conference are joining me in this prayer effort. Susan Arnold has agreed to be my prayer team leader. Not only do I need prayers for this run for Bishop, but we have a most important and intense General Conference happening this spring (April 24 – May 4). So please join me in prayer as it is here that we will find all we need to run the race that is before us.

I have always held close to these verses from 2 Timothy 4:7-8, *I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, and I have remained faithful. And now the prize awaits me-the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give me on the day of his return. And the prize is not just for me, but for all who eagerly look forward to his appearing.* Thank you for taking the time to read this article and I look forward to sharing this journey with you further at the Meet/Greet Events.

You see the best is always yet to come!

In Christ,

*David*

# CHRISTMAS THROUGHOUT OUR DISTRICT

*And This Will Be A Sign For You:  
You Will Find A Baby Wrapped In Swaddling Clothes  
And Lying In A Manger.  
Come See Him!*

## FIRST BROAD STREET UMC

### **The Blessing of the Babies**

Saturday, December 24, 3 p.m.

Gathering at the Manger

We invite you to join us for our Family Christmas Eve Service Gathering at the Manger which will include an opportunity to participate in “**The Blessing of the Babies.**” As a Parent/Guardian of a child ages 18 months or younger, you are invited to bring your little one forward in a special blessing upon your child. This invitation is for everyone in the Community. We encourage you to invite your friends, family and neighbors.

### NEXT

Gather at the Manger to witness the **Living Nativity** with children of all ages. Ask your own questions of the Angels, Mary & Joseph!

### **Candle light Christmas Eve services:**

Traditional: 5:30 & 10:30, sanctuary

Contemporary: 7:30 p.m., fellowship hall

### **Christmas Day:**

Traditional/Contemporary Service: 10:45 a.m.

## VERMONT UMC

December 18 at 10:45 a.m.

December 18 at 6:00 p.m.

December 24 at 11:00 p.m.

January 8 at 7:00 p.m.

Christmas Cantata *Mary Did You Know?*

Kids Christmas Program *Happy Birthday Jesus*

Christmas Eve Service. Holy Communion & Candlelight Service

Accomplished pianist Tommy Rose performer for Grand Old Opry

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## YEAR END REPORTS

**DUE IN  
DISTRICT OFFICE**

**Wednesday, January 11, 9 – 12 & 1-6 p.m.**

**Thursday, January 12, 9-12**

## **MEMBERS-AT-LARGE TO ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

The following, in alphabetical order, were elected at the District Conference on November 13, 2011 to be Members-at-Large. They will represent the Kingsport District when they attend Holston Annual Conference on June 10-13, 2012.

Carol Anderson	Lay Leader: Luke Bell
Amy Aycock	UMW President: Carol Alley
Victor Dingus	UMM President: Powell Kidd
Eloise Ellis	Young Adult Rep: Sybil Smith
Phillip Ellis	Jurisdictional Rep – alternate: John Powers
Danny Howe	Youth Rep: Claire Kilgore
Susan Smith	
Nancy Tate	
Pat Tipton	
Marie Willis	

## **2012 DISTRICT COMMITTEE & BOARD CHAIRS**

Lay Leader & Board of Laity Chair: Luke Bell (Mafair UMC) [lebell@inbox.com](mailto:lebell@inbox.com)

Lay Ministry Directors:

Co-Director: Mary Ruth Richards (Ketron Memorial) [maryrichards@charter.net](mailto:maryrichards@charter.net)

Co-Director: Nancy Tate (First Broad Street) [ntate@fbsumc.org](mailto:ntate@fbsumc.org)

Disaster Response Coord.: Bill Campbell (First Broad Street) [wdc5609@charter.net](mailto:wdc5609@charter.net)

Discipleship Team: Jared Wood (Vermont) [jaredgwood@yahoo.com](mailto:jaredgwood@yahoo.com)

Finance Chair: Jerry Lawson (Kingsley) [jlawson@eastman.com](mailto:jlawson@eastman.com)

Mission Coordinator: Eloise Ellis (Mount Carmel) [ryarosh@yahoo.com](mailto:ryarosh@yahoo.com)

Superintendency Committee: Martha Ketron (Kingsley) [medketron@hotmail.com](mailto:medketron@hotmail.com)

Trustee Chair: Fred Crabtree (Vermont) [gdaddy43@charter.net](mailto:gdaddy43@charter.net)

UMW President: Carol Alley (Chalybeate Springs) [carolalley@hotmail.com](mailto:carolalley@hotmail.com)

UMM President: Powell Kidd (Colonial Heights) [pkiff@charter.net](mailto:pkiff@charter.net)

Youth Coordinator: Jarrod Suits (First Broad Street) [jsuits@fbsumc.org](mailto:jsuits@fbsumc.org)

Board of Church Location & Building, Chair: Frank Marsh (Elm Springs) [frankmarsh@RJIA.net](mailto:frankmarsh@RJIA.net)

Board of Mission & Church Extension, Inc., Chair: Parker Smith (First Broad St.) [p\\_smith@charter.net](mailto:p_smith@charter.net)

## **DISASTER RESPONSE PLANS & COORDINATORS**

*How can YOU and the CONGREGATION help out in an emergency?*

*Do you know who your Disaster Response Coordinator is at the church?*

*Does your Disaster Response Coordinator still need training for your church?*

*Do you have a plan developed - paperwork was given out last year?*

*Do you need some help developing a plan? (It is to be turned in by January 9 if possible.)*

Bill Campbell, District Disaster Response Coordinator, is ready to help in any way that he can.

If you need a training session please let him or the district office know. He will be in contact with all the churches who have not turned in a plan. Please contact him with any questions or concerns.

Let all of us pool our resources together so we can be ready to help our neighboring churches & communities when a natural disaster or other emergency happens in our district and conference.

The following have turned their plans (or partial plans) into the district office:

Cassidy	Grange Hall	Salem
Church Hill First	Kendricks Creek	
Crossroads	Pactolus	

**Bill Campbell, District Disaster Response Coordinator**

**423-323-8516**

**Wdc5609@charter.net**

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## **FINANCE QUESTIONS???**

**Monday, January 9 at noon is the deadline  
for turning in all District & Conference contributions for 2011.**

### **District Financial Secretary Contact information:**

Laurie Neville

224-1533

laurieneville@centruylink.net

Office Hours: Tuesday & Thursday from 9-noon (sometimes longer)

### **Worker Comp Questions?**

Shafer Insurance Agency/Holston Conference Insurance Program Administrator

865-292-1133 [www.shaferinsurance.com](http://www.shaferinsurance.com) Blog: <http://shaferinsurance.wordpress.com>

To have an address changed please contact **Bill Rowland at [browland@shaferinsurance.com](mailto:browland@shaferinsurance.com)**

## OLDER ADULTS

## ROOTS & SHOOTS

### SPRING EVENT

Thursday, March 22, 2012

10:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Colonial Heights UMC

## LET'S PUT A SMILE ON YOUR FACE!!

Join us for some mid-day laughter with

**Rev. Ralph Kidd**

as he brings his wit & wisdom to our luncheon!

**John Powers** will be leading us in a few songs  
&

**Mary Watterson**, Director of Kingsport Community Ministry Center, will explain the triumphs & trials of this compassionate community based organization.

Cost: \$11/person with each church submitting one check written to the Kingsport District.  
Mail to Kingsport District Office, P.O. Box 894, Kingsport, TN 37662.

**Registration deadline: Monday, March 12.** (P.O. Box 894, Kingsport, TN 37662)

**Mission Focus:** An optional love offering of \$1/person can be brought for Kingsport Community Ministry Center (KCMC).

Catered by BJ Catering.

### **District Roots & Shoots Team Members**

*Please feel free to talk to one of these members if you have suggestions, questions, concerns or would like to be part of the District team.*

**Betty Martino, Chairperson**  
**joemartino@chartertn.net**

Carol Anderson  
Lynn Carson  
Tommie Churchwell  
Jacquie Dishner  
Eloise Ellis  
Phillip Ellis  
Mary Faulkner  
Barbara Harker  
Judy Harr

Douglas Kaufman  
Powell Kidd  
Gaye King (Conference support)  
Betty Martino  
Barbara Moody  
Jo Odom  
Retta Overturf  
Lynn Quillinan  
Susan Smith (District support)

Patsy Snapp  
Nate Ware  
John Wilson

# **MISSIONS**

## **Hands-On Mission Project 2012**

**Holston Annual Conference**

**Liberia – Helen Roberts-Evans, School Kits**

**Kingsport District • Goal 400**

- 1 12” ruler
- 1 compass (for math)
- 1 protractor
- 1 small calculator
- 1 10 pack pencils
- 1 10 pack pens (blue or black)
- 1 small dictionary (new or used)
- 1 small Bible (new or used)
- 3 spiral notebooks (70 ct.) college ruled
- 1 medium or large poncho (NO emergency ponchos)
- 1 pair flip flops (size M-L) plain

Pack all items in a 2½ gallon Hefty zip-loc bag.

### **Money**

- A \$5.00 donation for packing and shipping is to accompany each kit.
- Each church should write one check to Kingsport District.
- Place check in an envelope with name of church, number of kits & total enclosed.
- Please keep check separate from kits, by giving envelope to the “treasurer” when you drop kits off.

### **Drop-off** (No kits will be accepted after these dates.)

Crossroads UMC

Tuesday, June 5      10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Wednesday, June 6      9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Trucks will be loaded on Friday, June 8.

### **Volunteers Needed To:** (Contact Eloise Ellis if you can volunteer.)

- Check the kits
- Pack boxes
- Load trucks
- “Treasurer” is needed to collect correct amount of money from each church, record amount & calculate a final total.

### **For Questions & to Volunteer Please Contact:**

**Eloise Ellis, District Mission Coordinator, at 384-8843.**

## **Hand-On Mission Project: Suggestions on what & where to buy:**

**Calculator:** Casio HS-8VA, \$3.97, Walmart

### **Poncho**

“Totes” for children 8 & older, \$4.99, K-Mart

“Coleman” pink or blue youth, \$5.44, Walmart

### **Compass & Protractor** (can be a combo set)

\$2, Big Lots, Family Dollar

\$1.99, K-Mart

\$1, Dollar General

### **Dictionary**

Dollar Tree

### **Flip Flops**

Dollar Tree

Family Dollar

Dollar General

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## **CONSIDER THESE MISSION SUPPORT OPPORTUNITIES**

**Individuals can contribute or the church can contribute and count most on their 5 Star contributions.**

### **Hope for Today – a Ministry in India**

Conference Advance Special, World Ministries

Write Check to Holston Conference & mail to P.O. Box 850, Alcoa, TN 37701

Designate on memo line:

Hope for Today – India – Peter Peieria: #490

### **KCMC (Kingsport Community Ministry Center)**

Write check to KCMC & mail to P.O. Box 1288, Kingsport, TN 37662

### **Buffalo Mountain Camp**

Conference Advance Special, Holston Conference Camps

Write check to Holston Conference & mail to P.O. Box 850, Alcoa, TN 37701

Designate which fund on memo line:

Camperships: # 238

Camp Development Funds: #101

Annual Ministry Funds: #486

**For Missionary Support:** Make check to Holston Conference.

Mail to Holston Conference, ATTN: Anne Travis, P.O. Box 850, Alcoa, TN 37701

**Fred & Libby Dearing: #719**

**Steve & Diantha Hodges: #683**

**Sudan Orphanage Support:** Make check to Holston Conference Foundation, memo line Sudan Orphanage.

Send it to Holston Conference Foundation, ATTN: Anne Travis, P.O. Box 900, Alcoa, TN 37701-0237.

# YOUTH

## Kingsport District Youth Director

Jarrold Suits

[jsuits@fbsumc.org](mailto:jsuits@fbsumc.org)/423-224-1516

## Conference Youth Director

Laura Lambert

[lauralambert@holston.org](mailto:lauralambert@holston.org)/865-293-4151

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# CHILDREN

## MARCH FORTH FOR CHILDREN

The Holston Conference Children's Ministry Team is pleased to announce March Forth for Children 2012, **March 2-3 at Cokesbury Center in Knoxville, TN**. The two-day children's ministry conference will be helpful to volunteers, professional workers, parents, pastors and anyone who loves children. Over 20 quality workshops and excellent leadership will help local churches strengthen their ministry with children. Mark Burrows, a nationally recognized writer, composer, clinician, and director of children's ministries in Fort Worth, TX will help us learn creative and lively ways to engage children in worship. The brochure and registration forms are available online at [www.holstonkids.org](http://www.holstonkids.org).

We will also be awarding the "*Marching in His Steps*" Award to a person who has unselfishly dedicated himself or herself to ministry with children. You can nominate someone by sending an email to [gayeking@holston.org](mailto:gayeking@holston.org) explaining why that person deserves the honor in 100 words or less. Submissions must be received by February 1, 2012. Please include your name and contact information along with the name of the church and district. For more information contact Gaye King at 866-690-4080 or [gayeking@holston.org](mailto:gayeking@holston.org)

## CONFERENCE CHILDREN & FAMILY DIRECTOR

**Gaye King**

865-293-4139

[gayeking@holston.org](mailto:gayeking@holston.org)

Please contact Gaye if you have questions about children's ministries or if you need programming ideas.

## Would you like to get updates from the conference on children's ministries?

Here's how to do it: Go to [Holston.org](http://Holston.org) – the children's page – there is a place on the left of the page for you to sign up. You have to sign up voluntarily for the emails from the conference.

# DISCIPLESHIP TRAINING FOR KINGSPORT DISTRICT

We are offering these workshops at the north & south end of our district.  
Please plan to attend one of them! The information should be the same at both workshops.

## Workshops Offered:

**Finance**  
**Trustees**  
**Missions**  
**Administrative Board**

### Sunday, February 12

3-5 p.m.  
First UMC Rogersville

### OR

### Sunday, February 26

3 – 5 p.m.  
Colonial Heights UMC

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## THIS & THAT

### **Kingsport District Fellowship Scholarship Donations:**

Donations may be made at anytime of the year. Write check to “Kingsport District UM Fellowship”.  
Mail to John Powers, Treasurer, 439 Cypress St., Mt. Carmel, TN 37645.

If you have further questions please contact John Powers at [johnpowers2@juno.com](mailto:johnpowers2@juno.com) or 423-357-8891 or 423-335-5697.

### **Jason Roe, United Methodist General Evangelist, JC Evangelistic Ministries**

“I am currently in transition moving the preaching element of my ministry to Kingdom Building Ministries. If you are interested in a booking, please contact KBM at 1-800-873-8957 or [www.kbm.org](http://www.kbm.org).”

### **JOB OPENINGS:**

#### **P-T Music Director**

Wheeler UMC seeks a part-time Music Director with skills in both traditional and contemporary worship. Resumes and questions can be submitted to [wheelerumc@embarqmail.com](mailto:wheelerumc@embarqmail.com) or to SPRC, P.O. Box 1130, Blountville, TN 37617

**P-T Keyboardist** at Rogersville First for Sunday morning and Wednesday evening. This would be an excellent second income opportunity for someone. Please send resumes to 110 Colonial Rogersville, TN 37857 or call 423-272-7311.

## *“Taking Care When Giving Care”*

### **Conference Counselor Laura Shearer**

*Presents Sunday Sermon and Seminar  
February 5<sup>th</sup> @ Glen Alpine UMC*

Sunday February 5th

Worship @ 10:45am    Devotional by Laura Shearer

Lunch @ Noon

Caring for Aging Parents Lecture @ 12:30

Coffee Break @ 1:30

Small Group Sharing @ 2:00

*(Please make a reservation for lunch through the Church office 349-7831.)*

*So many of our congregants are dealing with the stress and loss of aging parents. One sweet soul is nearing his 70's and running herd on eight 80 to 90 year olds who still maintain their own homes. Most of our 50+ crowd has responsibilities for older relatives ranging from running errands, to keeping Doctor appointments, to moving souls in and out of levels of assisted care, to book keeping and legal ranglings. Then there is the emotional expense of losing a loved one in bits and pieces; their minds, their personalities, the shifting weight of the attending parent to the needy parent. We could all use some help in navigating this new emotional, spiritual, and physical territory.*

*Laura Shearer says,*

*“The topic includes areas I have covered with other groups in the Conference. I hear time management, grief, anxiety, boundaries, self-care and of course the underlying spiritual care.”*

# KINGSPORT DISTRICT CALENDAR

## December, 2011

19- January 2                      District Office closed

## January 2012

5            District Superintendency Committee, 6:30 p.m., district office  
9            Apportionments to Conference & District are due by noon  
9            Pastor's Meeting at Clouds Bend/Crossroads  
              Night meeting pastors can turn their Year End reports in.  
10          District UMM committee, 7 p.m., district office  
11          Year End Reports 9 a.m. – noon & 1 – 6 p.m. District Office  
12          Year End Reports 9 a.m. – noon                                      District Office  
13-15 & 20-22      Resurrection, Gatlinburg, TN  
16          Office Closed for Martin Luther King Day  
23          Kingsport Fellowship, Kendricks Creek, 6 p.m.  
24          All PPR/SPR reports are to be turned in  
27-29      Divine Rhythm for young adults, Pigeon Forge, TN

## February

5            Taking Care When Giving Care, Glen Alpine UMC  
6-9        Convocation, Lake Junaluska  
12         Training Event, 3-5, Rogersville First, Finance, Trustees, Council/Board, Missions  
16         District Finance Committee, 7 p.m., district office  
26         Training Event, 3-5, Colonial Heights, Finance, Trustees, Council/Board, Missions  
27         Kingsport Fellowship, St. Luke, 6 p.m.

## March

2-3        March Forth for Children  
19         Pastors' Meeting, Kingsley/Grange Hall  
22         Roots & Shoots Spring Event  
26         Kingsport Fellowship, Kingsley, 6 p.m.

## April

6            Office closed for Good Friday  
13-15     Clergy Marriage Enrichment Retreat, Buffalo Mt. Camp  
16         Pastors' Meeting at Emory/Surgoinsville First  
20-21     UMW Spiritual Enrichment weekend  
23         Kingsport Fellowship, Crossroads, 6 p.m.  
22-24     Jubilation, Meadowview  
24- May 4      **General Conference**, Tampa, Florida  
25         Administrative Professionals Day (Tell your Administrative Assistant/Secretary THANK YOU!)

## May

15         Denman Evangelism Award Nominations due  
21         Pastors' Meeting at Elms Springs/Crossroads  
21         Kingsport Fellowship, Salem, Banquet, 6 p.m.  
28         Office Closed for Memorial Day

## June

5-6        Hands-On Kit drop-off, Crossroads  
10-13     **Annual Conference** (Office closed)  
14-15     Office Closed  
20         Moving Day for Pastors

## July

4            Office closed  
18-19     **Jurisdictional Conference**, election of 5 Bishops  
20         Consecration of Bishops at Lake Junaluska

# **DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT'S SCHEDULE**

## **December 2011**

- 18 Preaching at Chalybeate Springs and Okolona (morning services)
- 24 LifeSpring Christmas Eve Service at 11 am
- 31 LifeSpring Church worship service at 6 pm

## **January 2012**

- 3 Kingsport District ReThink Team meeting at 6:30 pm
- 5 Conference meetings in Alcoa all day  
6:30 pm Kingsport District Superintendency Committee.
- 7 LifeSpring Church worship service at 6 pm
- 8 Preaching at Elm Springs and Amis Chapel (morning services)  
Meet/Greet Event at 3pm at Colonial Heights UMC
- 9 Pastor's meetings (morning and evening)
- 10 United Methodist Men meeting at District Office at 7 pm
- 11 & 12 Year End Report work
- 13-15 Resurrection Weekend
- 17-20 Cabinet Consultation at St. Simons Island
- 22 Meet/Greet Event in Chattanooga
- 23 Speak at Pastor's meeting in Big Stone Gap at Three Bells UMC
- 25-27 Conference and Cabinet meetings in Alcoa
- 29 Meet/Greet Event in Knoxville at Fountain City UMC
- 30 Conference meeting and Connectional Table in Alcoa

## **February:**

- 1-2 Conference meetings in Alcoa
- 3 Kingsport ReThink Church Training Event
- 4 Speak to Western North Carolina Delegation
- 5 Bishop Swanson preaching at Christ Fellowship (9 and 11 am)
- 5-6 Cabinet meetings at Lake Junaluska
- 6-9 Minister's Convocation
- 10 Holston Conference Delegation Meeting
- 11 LifeSpring worship service at 6 pm
- 12 Kingsport District Discipleship Training at First Rogersville UMC-3 to 5 pm
- 16 Kingsport District Finance Team meeting-7 pm
- 18 LifeSpring worship service at 6 pm
- 20-21 Cabinet Meetings in Alcoa
- 25 LifeSpring worship service at 6pm
- 26 Kingsport District Discipleship Training at Colonial Heights UMC-3-5 pm

# **PASTORS' INFORMATION**

## **Pastors' Meetings**

January 9	Clouds Bend/Crossroads
February	No meeting – Convocation
March 19	Kingsley/Grange Hall
April 16	Emory/Surgoinsville First
May 21	Elm Springs/Crossroads

**District Minister's Dues:** If you have not paid your dues, please do so immediately. The dues are 50 cents per \$1,000 of your salary, plus \$1, which helps to subsidize district pastor's events, pay for notes and follow-ups to sickness or deaths, District Christmas gifts and the August picnic to welcome new pastors and their families. Please make check payable to Kingsport District Ministers Association, mail to treasurer, Melanie Karnes, 175 Alpine Ridge Lane, Gate City, VA 24251. (You may also give it to Melanie or Susan at the August Picnic and September pastors meeting.)

## **Marriage Ministries**

The eighth annual Marriage Enrichment Retreat for couples in professional ministry in Holston Conference will be held at Buffalo Mountain Retreat Center on April 13-15, 2012, the weekend after Easter. The retreat is designed to provide quality time for clergy couples during a weekend away from work and family responsibilities. All cost for housing, meals, and leadership are covered by the Holston Conference. Information about the retreat and a registration form are included in a brochure that is available from Pete and Ginny Rowlett (865-966-9776 or [bee.rowlett@gmail.com](mailto:bee.rowlett@gmail.com)), and from district offices.

**Leadership Training Workshop** will be held at the Buffalo Mountain Retreat Center on July 9-13, 2012. Open to both laity and clergy, this event prepares couples to lead marriage education and enrichment programs that empower couples to build stronger marriages. Contact the Rowletts for more information.

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## **YEAR END REPORTS**

**DUE IN  
DISTRICT OFFICE**

**Wednesday, January 11, 9 – 12 & 1-6 p.m.**

**Thursday, January 12, 9-12**

Pastors that usually come to the night Pastor's meeting can turn their year end reports in on January 9. Be there at 6 p.m. The meeting will begin at 6:30, as usual.