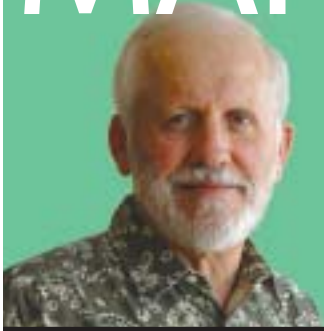
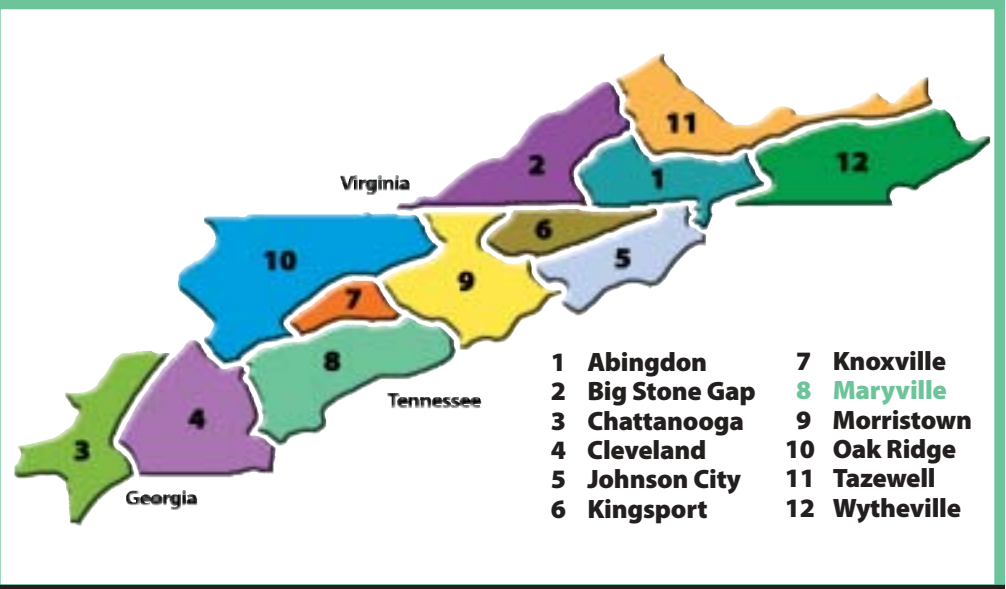


# mydistrict MARYVILLE



Don Story, age 62, is the retired former football coach for Maryville High School (1969-1987). He is district lay leader and a 36-year member of Walland United Methodist Church. This is his district.



Great Smokies | Mount Gilead | Retirees | Hiwassee College | Middlesettlements | Asbury Inc. | Mission Teams | Wesley Woods | Rankin Street | Sycamore Tree | Dollywood

**Maryville District is** one of 12 districts in Holston Conference. It includes 61 churches, 47 charges, one new church plant, and one preaching station. Based in Tennessee, the district includes all United Methodist churches in Blount, Sevier, and Monroe Counties; most in Loudon County; two in Knox County; and one in Roane County.

- **Largest membership church:** First Maryville, with 1,997
- **Largest average worship attendance:** Fairview, with 1,054
- **Smallest membership church:** Both Pleasant Hill (Sweetwater Circuit) and Shults Grove (Pittman Center Circuit) have 22 members.
- **Smallest average worship attendance:** Shults Grove (Pittman Center Circuit), with 12
- **Oldest church:** Middlesettlements, founded in 1796
- **Youngest church:** Sycamore Tree, founded in 2002
- **Congregations with largest percentage growth:** Webbs Creek with 14 percent, First Gatlinburg with 8.6 percent, and St. Marks with 7.8 percent

**Who's the boss?** District superintendent is the Rev. Carol Wilson, daughter of a Holston pastor (the late Reed Wilson) and sister to one, too (the Rev. Kathy Wilson-Parker of Main Street UMC, Tazewell District).

**Conference hub:** In March 2007, the Holston Conference Center relocated 16 miles from Knoxville District to Alcoa in the Maryville District. At the same time, the Maryville District office moved from the Laws Building in Maryville to the new conference building. The district office is now located on the third floor of 217 South Rankin Road in Alcoa.

**Historical jaunt:** Turn left out of the Conference Center parking lot onto South Rankin Road and travel a short distance. There, you'll find Methodist Hill, where the district's first Methodist meeting house was located. Mount Gilead was organized here in 1813; the first building was constructed in 1822. Bishop Francis Asbury preached on the site in 1808 and 1813.

**Local celebrities** who are members of United Methodist churches:

- **Pat Summitt**, Lady Vols basketball coach, Seymour UMC
- **Martha Sundquist**, former First Lady of Tennessee, Tuckaleechee UMC
- **Bill McDaniel**, artist, First Gatlinburg UMC

**If you were a tourist:** Maryville District's most beloved attraction is the Great Smoky Mountains. Dollywood, in Pigeon Forge, is up there.

**Best-kept ministry secret:** The district has had a vital Hispanic ministry in Loudon and Monroe Counties for more than 10 years, recently dedicating a new pavillion on two acres in Philadelphia, Tenn. Loudon is one of 17 Tennessee counties with a population that's more than 5 percent Hispanic.

## What's cool in mydistrict



New Hispanic ministry pavillion



Ruby Tuesday burger



Pat Summitt

**The district is known for ...** Missions teams and retirees. At least 60 retired clergy have settled here. Regarding missions, Sycamore Tree UMC alone has sent more than 30 work teams to the Gulf Coast. Fairview UMC is a missions hub, serving as the depot for Holston's annual hands-on kits for Africa.

**Best place to eat after church:** Don Story likes a place called Oriental Cuisine. The Rev. Ron Matthews, former district superintendent, prefers Applebee's or McAlister's Deli. Other favorites mentioned: Aubrey's in Maryville, Lee's Chicken in Alcoa, Calhoun's in Gatlinburg. But certainly, many of the district's faithful are likely to choose Ruby Tuesday, now headquartered in Maryville after selling its former Alcoa office building to Holston Conference.

**Best web sites** among Maryville District churches:

- **Green Meadow UMC**, [www.themeadow.org](http://www.themeadow.org)
- **Mountain View UMC**, [www.mv-umc.org](http://www.mv-umc.org)
- **Fairview UMC**, [www.fairview-umc.org](http://www.fairview-umc.org)

**Remember our connections:** Maryville District is home to three Holston institutions: Camp Wesley Woods in Townsend, Hiwassee College in Madisonville, and Asbury Inc. in Maryville. ■