# TABLE OF CONTENTS

## SECTION I: INTRODUCTIONS AND ORIENTATION

| Greeting - Bishop Taylor | 1 |

## SECTION II: REPORTS

<p>| A Word From the Secretary of The Annual Conference | 2 |
| I Cabinet | 2 |
| The Cabinet Report of the District Superintendents | 2 |
| Resolutions for Closure | 4 |
| II Communications Advisory Council | 10 |
| III Committee on Congregational Development | 12 |
| IV Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministry | no report submitted |
| V Board of Lay Ministry | 12 |
| VI Discipleship Team | |
| VI.a Missions Team | 13 |
| VI.a.1 Church and Community Renewal | 14 |
| VI.a.2 Willow United Methodist Church and Willow Community Food Pantry, Willow, Alaska Missionary Conference | 15 |
| VI.a.3 Project Crossroads | 15 |
| VI.a.4 The English Speaking United Methodist Church of Prague | 16 |
| VI.a.5 Elk Garden Community Ministries | 17 |
| VI.a.6 South Sudan | 17 |
| Recommendations for The Advance 2021 | 21 |
| VI.b Nurture Ministry Team | |
| VI.b.1 Children’s Ministry Team | 25 |
| VI.b.2 Conference Council on Youth Ministries | 25 |
| VI.b.3 Young Adult Ministry Team | no report submitted |
| VI.b.4 Camp and Retreat Ministry Board | 26 |
| VI.b.5 Older Adult Ministry Team | 27 |
| VI.c Outreach/Advocacy Ministry Team | 27 |
| VI.c.1 Religion and Race Ministry Area | 27 |
| VI.c.2 Church and Society Ministry Area | no report submitted |
| VI.c.3 Status and Role of Women Ministry Area | 29 |
| VI.c.4 Christian Unity and Inter-Religious Relationships Ministry Area | no report submitted |
| VI.c.5 Disability Concerns | no report submitted |
| VI.c.6 Strength for the Journey Team | 30 |
| VI.c.7 Conference Representative to Holston Home for Children | 30 |
| VI.c.8 Native American Ministries | no report submitted |
| VI.c.9 Strengthening the Black Church Holston Conference Initiative for the 21st Century | 31 |
| VI.c.10 Black Methodists for Church Renewal | 32 |
| VI.d Stewardship Ministry Team | 32 |
| VI.e Witness Ministry Team | |
| Churches of Excellence in Evangelism | 34 |
| VI.e.1 Small Membership Congregation Team | 38 |
| VI.e.2 Hispanic / Latino Leadership Team | 38 |
| VII Board of Ordained Ministry | 39 |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group/Task Force</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>VIII Groups related to the Cabinet and Ordained Ministry</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VIII.a Administrative Review Committee</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VIII.b Committee on Investigation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VIII.c Order of Deacons, Order of Elders</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VIII.d Center for Wellbeing Supervisory Committee</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IX Conference Council on Finance and Administration</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IX.a Recommendations and Guidelines</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IX.b Report of the Conference Treasurer</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IX.c Benevolent Giving Comparison</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IX.d Membership Statistics Chart by District</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IX.e Line Item Proposed Budget 2021</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IX.f 2019 Five Star Churches and 100% Tithe Churches</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X Administration</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X.a Board of Pensions</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X.b Insurance Rate Sheet for 2021</td>
<td>74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X.c Board of Trustees</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X.d Commission on Archives and History</td>
<td>76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X.e Commission on Equitable Compensation</td>
<td>77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X.f Minimum Salary Recommendations for 2021</td>
<td>77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X.g Equitable Compensation by Recipient</td>
<td>78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X.h Committee on Episcopacy</td>
<td>79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X.i Cabinet, Teams, Boards, Councils, Committees, Ministry Areas</td>
<td>81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X.j District Committees on Ordained Ministry</td>
<td>93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X.k District Boards of Church Location and Building</td>
<td>94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X.l Committee on Petitions and Resolutions</td>
<td>98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X.m Report</td>
<td>98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X.n Resolutions</td>
<td>98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X.o Committee on Rules of Order</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X.p Report / Proposed Changes</td>
<td>103</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X.q Holston Annual Conference Bylaws, Procedures</td>
<td>103</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X.r Episcopal Residence Committee</td>
<td>112</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X.s Personnel Resources Committee</td>
<td>113</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X.t Program Committee, Annual Conference Session</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XI Support Groups</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XI.a United Methodist Men</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XI.b United Methodist Women</td>
<td>113</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XII The Conference Connectional Table</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XII.a African American Ministry Task Force of the Discipleship Team</td>
<td>114</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XII.b Appalachian Trail Chaplain Team</td>
<td>114</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XII.c Sexual Ethics &amp; Boundaries Task Force</td>
<td>115</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XII.d Conference Response Team (formerly CWART)</td>
<td>116</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XIII Task Forces</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XIII.a Trust and Directors of Conference - Related Institutions and Agencies</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XIII.b Holston Foundation Holding Company</td>
<td>118</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XIII.c Holston Foundation</td>
<td>118</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XIII.d East Tennessee State University - Wesley Foundation Board of Trustees</td>
<td>119</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XIII.e Radford University - Wesley Foundation Board of Directors</td>
<td>120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XIII.f University of Tennessee, Chattanooga - Wesley Foundation Board of Directors</td>
<td>121</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XIII.g University of Tennessee, Knoxville - Wesley Foundation Board of Directors</td>
<td>121</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XIII.h University of VA-Wise - Wesley Foundation Board of Directors</td>
<td>123</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
XV Others
Africa University ......................................................................................................................................... 123
Candler School of Theology ........................................................................................................................ 124
Duke Divinity School .................................................................................................................................. 125
Emory & Henry College ............................................................................................................................. 126
Boston University School of Theology ....................................................................................................... 128
Gammon Theological Seminary (Gammon/ITC) ........................................................................................ 129
Methodist Theological School in Ohio (MTSO) ......................................................................................... 129
Tennessee Wesleyan University .................................................................................................................. 130
Wesley Theological Seminary ..................................................................................................................... 132
United Theological Seminary ................................................................................................................... no report submitted
Hinton Rural Life Center .......................................................................................................................... 134
GraceInside Prison Chaplain Service .......................................................................................................... 135
Safe Gatherings and CongregationU ......................................................................................................... 136

SECTION III: RESOURCES
Reporting Guide for Lay Members ............................................................................................................. 137

2020 General Conference Delegates:
(L) Emily Ballard (TV)(Leader) (C) Kim Goddard (NR) (L) Amanda Onks (TR) (C) Lauri Jo Cranford (TR)
(L) Del Holley (SM) (C) Wil Cantrell (TV) (L) Charles McEntyre (SS) (C) Josh Kilbourne (SS)
(L) Anne Travis (SM) (C) Paul Seay (SM) (L) Reagan Kelly (TR) (C) David Graybeal (HI)
(L) John Eldridge (TV) (C) Mary Thompson (HI) (L) Jim Gass (SM) (C) Kristen Burkhart (TV)
(L) Donna Mosby (TV) (C) Randy Frye (AP) (L) Nate Roark (CM) (C) Sarah Varnell (MV)
(L) Becky Hall (SS) (C) Sharon Bowers (MV) (L) Leamon Burl Lawson (AP) (C) Mark Flynn (TV)
My Dear Holston Friends,

As I write to welcome you to the 2020 session of the Holston Conference, I am at home practicing social distancing as all of us have been asked to do. I am wondering if we will need to postpone this year’s annual conference or is there a way to come together in God’s work without coming together.

Now the decision has been made that we are going to hold a Virtual Annual Conference on June 27, 2020. During the Virtual Clergy Session on June 8, 2020, at 1:00 pm the appointments will be fixed, the candidates for ordination, commissioning, licensing and recognition will answer the historical questions and be approved, and the question of clergy character will be answered.

As the Covid-19 global pandemic continues to threaten our world, it has become necessary to conduct our Holston Annual Conference session virtually. We continue to work on all the logistics to make that possible. We are indebted to the Annual Conference Planning Committee, Del Holley, our Conference Lay Leader, the Reverend Terry Goodman, our Conference Secretary, the Reverend Mike Sluder, our Director of Connectional Ministries, and the Reverend Brad Scott, our Chairperson of Rules and Order for navigating these uncharted waters for all of us in light of requirements of The Book of Discipline. In addition, this Virtual Annual Conference would not be possible without the assistance of the Reverend Dr. Tim Jones, our Director of Communications and his gifted team. All of us wish we were able to do the necessary business of the annual conference in person as we have enjoyed in years past and will treasure in years to come.

Last year we focused our Healing Hands on opioid addiction. Reverend Dr. Barry Ball from the West Virginia Conference will share by video his experiences dealing with the opioid epidemic inviting us to helpful ways the church can respond. Every community in our region is faced with the challenge of addiction. Working together we can help rid our communities of this evil.

Jesus offered hope and healing to all. As the church, we are called to offer that same hope and healing today walking beside the addicted and the families who love them. It is my prayer that the Virtual Annual Conference will be a time of worship and Holy Conferencing as we celebrate the stories of how our churches are impacting our neighborhoods through ministries of healing.

I love to tell the story of unseen things above, of Jesus and His glory, of Jesus and His love. I love to tell the story because I know tis true; it satisfies my longings as nothing else can do.

God’s grace, mercy, and peace are always sufficient.

Dindy Taylor
A WORD FROM THE SECRETARY OF THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE CONCERNING ITEMS FOR THE BOOK OF REPORTS

Friends, we are living in a time of unique circumstances. None of us could have predicted the current situation in which we find ourselves. The idea of not having a physical gathering for annual conference seems so foreign. Likewise, the concept of a digital Book of Reports is likewise foreign to many.

I appreciate those of you that ordered a hard copy ahead of time. By now you should have received a refund for your down payment. If not, then please let me know at conferencesecretary@holston.org. If you still require a printed copy, perhaps you could see if your church could make a copy for you. Likewise, you may contact your district office and one can be printed for you.

The reason for only a virtual version is the fluid nature of our decision-making process. The Standing Rule said I had to produce a Book of Reports (physical or electronic) 30 days before the session of the Annual Conference. I needed about another 30 days prior to that date in order to get it to the printers and have a physical copy produced. With the uncertainty that surrounds us, I decided on the electronic version only.

With that being said, let me welcome you to the 2020 Book of Reports. It contains the reports from the various committees, boards, groups, etc. that provide ministry and leadership to our annual conference. This year, since we will not have a traditional annual conference at which verbal reports are to be made for most of our groups, it is vitally important that you read the written reports contained in this document. In the reports, you will discover how the ministries of the annual conference have represented you and engaged in ministry on your behalf. Please don’t shortchange these reports with a cursory reading thinking that you’ll hear more in the presentation. Only very few verbal presentations will be made at the Virtual Annual Conference.

In case you have not yet heard, the Virtual Holston Annual Conference will be held on Saturday June 27, 2020 beginning at 1:00 pm. This will be a live event. All members of the conference will be sent a link to this ZOOM Webinar. It is my hope that every member of the annual conference will be able to join us in this live event. So go ahead and mark your calendars and be prepared to join with the other clergy and laity of the annual conference as we gather for this important yearly meeting.

A Fellow Servant of Christ,
Rev. Terry Goodman, Secretary of the Annual Conference / Director of Clergy Services

I CABINET - REPORT OF THE DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENTS

“I love to tell the story, of unseen things above, of Jesus and his glory, of Jesus and his love…..I love to tell the story, it did so much for me….I love to tell the story, for some have never heard…” When Catherine Hankey penned those words in the late 1860’s, I am sure she did not have any inkling they would serve as the theme for the meeting of the Holston Annual Conference in 2020. But, what appropriate words for us to surround ourselves with as we gather to conduct the business of the Annual Conference and to worship the one who inspired those phrases. Afterall, isn’t that what the Church is supposed to be about…telling the story of Jesus and his love?

As a Cabinet, our goal is to lead our districts in telling the old, old story. And, we want to thank the laity and pastors of the Conference for the ways you have made the story come alive for those who know it best, as well as for those who have never heard. We know the story is true because it has touched our lives. It has done so much for us.

Our call is to help those who have never heard, seen, experienced, and/or believed the story of Jesus and his love, to find it true in their lives. To do this, we cannot just sit in the cozy confines of our sanctuaries and wait for people to show up. That strategy may have worked years ago but it is not going to happen in today’s world. As a Cabinet, we know we are busy. We know we are stressed. We understand we have troubles of our own. But that does not mean we do not have a witness. That does not mean we can only be concerned about ourselves. If ever there was a time for the church to tell the story, it is now. We encourage every church in the Conference to find ways to tell the story in word and deed. Tell it with food. Tell it with love. No church is too small or too insignificant to tell the story.

Some of the ways we have seen churches and districts tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love in new ways across the Holston Conference are:
• **Appalachian** – The Clintwood UMC, in poverty-stricken Dickenson County, Virginia started a weekly, free community meal. The response and need were so great they added a second day and are now offering the meal on Wednesdays and Fridays.

• **Clinch Mountain** – Four Bristol churches, Reynolds Memorial UMC, Trinity UMC, John Wesley UMC, and Hunts’s Memorial UMC, are combining into a Missional Hub where the pastors will work together as a staff for all four churches.

• **Hiwassee** – First UMC in Dayton does a Wednesday program for children where over 300 kids from the community come each week for a meal, a Bible lesson, and tutoring for their homework. Many of the children are from the Hispanic population in that area.

• **Mountain View** – Bybee UMC is in an unincorporated community of the same name in rural Cocke County. The church sponsors a community meal on Wednesdays that serves over 200 people each week.

• **New River** – Last year at Annual Conference, a new alignment of churches was created as the Wabash Circuit was born. During this past year, this 14-church circuit has found new life as it is served by four pastors who rotate among the churches each week and meet each Monday to plan and dream.

• **Scenic South** – The Tyner UMC has a unique Drive-Thru Prayer Ministry where people can come through the church parking lot, share a concern and be prayed for immediately. At times, they have offered participants Holy Communion, as well.

• **Smoky Mountain** – When Broadway UMC added a new Hispanic minister to its staff, there wasn’t a parsonage for the new pastor to live in. Peck’s Memorial UMC had an empty parsonage and freely opened it to the Hispanic pastor and his family.

• **Three Rivers** – Wesley Memorial UMC and East Pine Grove Park UMC are working in a new relationship where Wesley Memorial is sending people to help lead in worship at East Pine Grove Park and both churches are working together to reach out to a housing complex near East Pine Grove Park.

• **Tennessee Valley** – The District sponsored the “Holston Vision Day” for Fresh Expressions on February 1, 2020, at Cokesbury Church. It was the largest attended, single location Fresh Expressions Vision Day held in the U.S. Well over 200 people attended and received inspiration. Fresh Expressions is a form of church for our changing culture, established primarily for the benefit of people who are not yet members of any church.

• During the COVID-19 pandemic where worship services were suspended for a few weeks, pastors and churches found innovative ways to share worship by using Facebook Live, YouTube and other online arenas. It was certainly moving to see Facebook filled with pastor’s messages and it allowed all of us to share in multiple services that would be impossible for us to do physically in one day. Pastors and churches develop creative ways for people to give as well as outlets to share prayer concerns and check on people. Many churches worked to make sure school children and the elderly had someone looking out for them and providing meals since schools were closed and shopping opportunities for the elderly were limited.

There are many more ways our churches and pastors are telling the story of Jesus and his love throughout the Conference. We tell it with our responses to missions giving and mission projects. We tell it with our responses in disasters such as the tornadoes that ripped through Middle Tennessee in March. We tell it in how we care for one another in the midst of pandemics. We tell it in one-on-one conversations. We tell it by how we treat one another even in the face of disagreements over theology and practice. We tell it by how we reach out to the poor, homeless, and the needy. We tell it by how we reach out to the lonely, the lost, and the forgotten. And the truth is, sometimes our witness is less than stellar and hinders how the story is told.

As your Cabinet, we acknowledge the uncertainty of where our church, as a whole, is heading. We also acknowledge that tensions, both in and out of the church, seem at an all-time high. But we commit ourselves and our churches to tell the old, old, story in established ways, in new ways, in any way we can so that many more will come to know God’s love for all of us expressed in the gift of Christ. Our prayer is that in the face of adversity and uncertainty, we will remain focused on telling the story and remain focused on making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. That is the story of our calling and our purpose.

Jeffrey W. Wright, Dean of the Cabinet

= = = END OF REPORT = = =
I RESOLUTIONS FOR CLOSURE(S)

RESOLUTION FOR CLOSURE OF:
CREECH’S CHAPEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
WHITESBURG, TENNESSEE
MOUNTAIN VIEW DISTRICT
HOLSTON CONFERENCE OF
THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

WHEREAS,
• the Creech’s Chapel United Methodist Church, located at 1775 Needmore Rd., Whitesburg, TN 37891 in the Mountain View District faithfully served the community and the conference, offering the love, mercy, grace and salvation of Jesus the Christ since July 17, 1915; and
• there is insufficient source of income to maintain the building, increasing liability; and
• the Creech’s Chapel United Methodist Church no longer serves the purpose for which it was organized, (The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church 2016 ¶ 2549.1.a); and
• the local church property will no longer be used, kept, or maintained by its membership as a place of active and divine worship of The United Methodist Church, (The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church 2016 ¶ 2549.1.b); and
• at a called church conference of the Creech’s Chapel United Methodist Church on February 21, 2010, four remaining members voted unanimously to be a Limited Service Church; and
• when there are no longer persons to be found for this responsibility the property can be declared abandoned; and
• the conditions exist that indicates the building is no longer maintained and no report to the charge conferences is made giving valid reasons for the continuation of Limited Service Status; and
• the District Superintendent may bring the property before the Annual Conference to declare it Abandoned without further consultation; and
• consent to closure was granted on January 15, 2020 by the cabinet of Holston Annual Conference; and
• also the Mountain View District Board of Church Location and Building, having all Disciplinary requirements met, concur with closure on January 15, 2020; and
• circumstances exist that require immediate protection of the Creech’s Chapel United Methodist Church’s property for the benefit of the denomination (The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church 2016 ¶ 2549.3.b).

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED
• that the presiding Bishop Mary Virginia Taylor and the nine District Superintendents, celebrating the ministry of Creech’s Chapel United Methodist Church, do hereby authorize the closure of Creech’s Chapel United Methodist Church; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,
• that there are not remaining members to be transferred; and
• that all deeds, records and other official and legal papers should be collected by the Mountain View District Superintendent for the Trustees of the Holston Annual Conference; and
• that any remaining assets be transferred to the Board of Trustees of the Holston Annual Conference; and
• that the Board of Trustees of the Holston Annual Conference be requested to dispose of the Creech’s Chapel United Methodist Church property, real and personal, tangible and intangible, in its discretion.

Bishop: Signed Mary Virginia Taylor
Dean of Cabinet: Signed Rev. Jeff W. Wright

END OF RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION FOR CLOSURE OF:
ST. LUKE’S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE
TENNESSEE VALLEY DISTRICT
HOLSTON CONFERENCE OF
THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

WHEREAS,
• St. Luke’s United Methodist Church, located at 3839 Buffet Mill Road, Knoxville, Tennessee in the Tennessee Valley District faithfully served the community and the conference, offering grace and salvation of Jesus Christ since 1958; and
• there has been a decrease in average worship attendance in recent years; and
• members discerned that St. Luke’s United Methodist Church could no longer serve the purpose for which it was organized, and
• there is no source of income to maintain the building, increasing liability; and
• at a called church conference the remaining members of the St. Luke’s United Methodist Church met with the District Superintendent on March 31, 2019 and voted unanimously to close; and

Bishop: Signed Mary Virginia Taylor
Dean of Cabinet: Signed Rev. Jeff W. Wright

END OF RESOLUTION
consent to closure was granted by the Tennessee Valley District Board of Church Location and Building, and all Disciplinary requirements have been met.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,
• that the presiding Bishop Mary Virginia Taylor and a majority of the District Superintendents, celebrating the ministry of this church, to hereby authorize the closure of St. Luke’s United Methodist Church as is required by ¶ 2549 in The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church 2016; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,
• any remaining members be transferred to Washington Pike United Methodist Church in Knoxville, Tennessee or a church of their own choosing; and
• that all deeds, records and other official and legal papers should be collected by the District Superintendent for the Trustees of the Holston Annual Conference; and
• the furnishings and fixtures be distributed to the churches of the Tennessee Valley District at the discretion of the district superintendent or the Trustees of the Holston Annual Conference; and
• any remaining assets be transferred to the Board of Trustees of the Holston Annual Conference; and

• that the Board of Trustees of the Holston Annual Conference be requested to dispose of the St. Luke’s United Methodist Church property, real and personal, tangible and intangible, in its discretion.

Bishop: Signed Mary Virginia Taylor
Dean of Cabinet: Signed Rev. Jeff W. Wright

END OF RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION REGARDING ABANDONMENT OF:
CHESTUA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
MONROE COUNTY, TENNESSEE
HIWASSEE DISTRICT
HOLSTON CONFERENCE OF
THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

WHEREAS,
• the Chestuee United Methodist Church of the Hiwassee District of the Holston Annual Conference has served God’s people and Monroe County, Tennessee community since land was donated by Wesley and Della Cardin on July 11, 1929 with the House of Worship erected soon after; and
• during the time of faithful service, the pastors and people of this Church have offered Christ and His grace to many and has seen God’s miracle of salvation realized through witness of Word and Sacrament; and
• in September of 2017, the presiding Bishop and the Cabinet of the Holston Conference designated Chestuee United Methodist Church a “Preaching Station” of the Maryville District now part of the Hiwassee District; and
• the membership of this congregation has made the choice to separate themselves from the Holston Conference of the United Methodist Church in a manner contrary to the Book of Discipline; and
• the congregation has not attended worship since June 16, 2019 to the present date of September 18, 2019, even though, the appointed pastor has been present each Sunday at 11:00 a.m. and prepared to conduct Holy Worship; and
• the Chestuee United Methodist Church no longer serves the purpose for which it was organized as is defined by The Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church (2016) ¶¶201-204; and
• the Chestuee United Methodist Church property is no longer used, kept, or maintained by its membership as a place of divine worship of The United Methodist Church; and
• the District Board of Church Building and Location met September 16, 2019 and reviewed the property and its condition and has found that it has no immediate plan for use of the property as a place of divine worship; and
• The Rev. Hugh Kilgore, Superintendent of the Hiwassee District does recommend that the Chestuee United Methodist Church be declared as abandoned pursuant to ¶2549 of The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church (2016).
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,
• that the presiding Bishop, Bishop Mary Virginia Taylor, and the District Superintendents unanimously consent to the declaration of abandonment of the Chestua United Methodist Church of the Hiwassee District as is required by ¶2549 of The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church (2016); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,
• that the District Superintendent be directed to collect all deeds, records, and financial documents from the abandoned Church as is required by ¶2549 of The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church (2016); and
• that said property will be deeded to the Holston Conference of The United Methodist Church and be disposed by sale through the Holston Conference Board of Trustees pursuant to ¶2549 and the revenue of said sale shall be managed by the Holston Conference Trustees; and
• that the furnishings and fixtures, be distributed at the discretion of the District Superintendent to the churches of the District, the Conference, and the Denomination for use in the ministry of our Lord and Savior.

By action of the Bishop and District Superintendents of the Holston Conference of The United Methodist Church on this 18th day of September 2019.

Bishop: Signed Mary Virginia Taylor
Dean of Cabinet: Signed Rev. Jeff W. Wright

END OF RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION FOR CLOSURE OF:
CROFT CHAPEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
TURTLETOWN, TENNESSEE
HIWASSEE DISTRICT
HOLSTON CONFERENCE OF
THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

WHEREAS,
• Croft Chapel United Methodist Church, located at 146 Croft Chapel Road, Turtletown, TN in the Hiwassee District faithfully served the Holston Conference, offering grace and salvation of Jesus Christ since July 19, 1923. Croft Chapel United Methodist Church was of the Ducktown United Methodist Church and Croft Chapel United Methodist Church (UMC) Circuit of the Cleveland District, now the Hiwassee District; and
• Croft Chapel UMC held its last worship service on August 28, 2016. There was no plan to have any subsequent worship services, and no one returned for the next month when new pastor was present for Sunday worship; and
• the church no longer serves the purpose for which it was organized, (The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church 2016 ¶2549.1.a); and
• the local church property will no longer be used, kept, or maintained by its membership as a place of divine worship of The United Methodist Church, (The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church 2016, ¶2549.1.b); and
• there is insufficient source of income to maintain the building and grounds, increasing liability; and
• as approval of closure was granted on July 26, 2018 by the Hiwassee District Board of Church Locations and Building.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED
• that the Bishop and majority of District Superintendents of the Holston Annual Conference, celebrating the ministry of this church, do hereby consent to the closure of Croft Chapel UMC effective November 14, 2019; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,
• that the remaining members be transferred to First United Methodist Church Copper Hill in Copper Hill, Tennessee or to a church of their own choosing; and
• that all deeds, records, and other official and legal papers have been collected by the District Superintendent for the Trustees of the Holston Annual Conference; and
• that the furnishings and fixtures be distributed to the churches of the Hiwassee District or at the discretion of the District Superintendent or the Trustees of the Holston Annual Conference, and
• that any remaining assets be transferred to the Board of Trustees of the Holston Annual Conference, and
• that the Board of Trustees of the Holston Annual Conference be requested to dispose of the Croft Chapel United Methodist Church property, real and personal, tangible and intangible, in its sole discretion.

Bishop: Signed Mary Virginia Taylor
Dean of Cabinet: Signed Rev. Jeff W. Wright

END OF RESOLUTION
RESOLUTION FOR CLOSURE OF:
PINEY GROVE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
ATHENS, TENNESSEE
HIWASSEE DISTRICT
HOLSTON CONFERENCE OF
THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

WHEREAS,
• the Piney Grove United Methodist Church, located at 767 County Road 750 Athens, TN in the Hiwassee District faithfully served the community and the conference, offering grace and salvation of Jesus Christ since 1840; and
• there is insufficient source of income to maintain the building, increasing liability; and
• the church no long serves the purpose for which it was organized, (The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church 2016, ¶2549.1.a); and
• the local church property will no longer be used, kept, or maintained by its membership as a place of divine worship of The United Methodist Church, (The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church 2016, ¶2549.1.b); and
• at a called church conference of the Piney Grove United Methodist Church on April 24, 2019, members voted unanimously to close; and
• on May 19, 2019, the congregation held a worship service of celebration and thanksgiving; and
• consent to closure was granted on January 31, 2020 by the Hiwassee District board of missions and church extension and Board of Church Location and Building, and all Disciplinary requirements have been met; and
• there is no plan to have any subsequent worship services; and
• exigent circumstances exist that require immediate protection of the local church’s property for the benefit of the denomination (The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church 2016, ¶2549.3.b),

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,
• that the Presiding Bishop Mary Virginia Taylor and a majority of district superintendents, celebrating the ministry of this church, do hereby authorize the closure of the Piney Grove United Methodist Church; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,
• that the remaining members be transferred to Jones Chapel United Methodist Church in Athens, TN or a church of their own choosing; and

• that all deeds, records, and other official and legal papers should be collected by the District Superintendent for the Trustees of the Holston Annual Conference; and
• that the furnishings and fixtures be distributed to the churches of the Hiwassee District or at the discretion of the District Superintendent or the Trustees of the Holston Annual Conference; and
• that any remaining assets be transferred to the Board of Trustees of the Holston Annual Conference; and
• that the Board of Trustees of the Holston Annual Conference be requested to dispose of the Piney Grove United Methodist Church property, real and personal, tangible and intangible, in its sole discretion.

Bishop: Signed Mary Virginia Taylor
Dean of Cabinet: Signed Rev. Jeff W. Wright

END OF RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION FOR CLOSURE OF:
LAKEVIEW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
A PART OF LAKEVIEW UNION CHURCH
RUSSELL COUNTY, VIRGINIA
CLINCH MOUNTAIN DISTRICT
HOLSTON CONFERENCE OF
THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

WHEREAS,
• the Lakeview United Methodist Church was established in 1936 as the Lakeview Methodist Episcopal Church, South, which had been invited by the Lakeview Baptist Church to form a new “union church” of both Baptist and Methodist members to be known together as the Lakeview Union Church, located at 130 Lakeview Circle in Castlewood, Russell County, Virginia, which is now within the bounds of the Clinch Mountain District; and
• there are now no remaining members of the Lakeview United Methodist Church; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,
• that the Lakeview United Methodist Church was established in 1936 as the Lakeview Methodist Episcopal Church, South, which had been invited by the Lakeview Baptist Church to form a new “union church” of both Baptist and Methodist members to be known together as the Lakeview Union Church, located at 130 Lakeview Circle in Castlewood, Russell County, Virginia, which is now within the bounds of the Clinch Mountain District; and
• the Lakeview United Methodist Church has since its founding served the community and the Holston Annual Conference, offering the grace and salvation of Jesus Christ; and
• there are now no remaining members of the Lakeview United Methodist Church at Lakeview Union Church; and
• without members, the church no longer serves the purpose for which it was organized, (The Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church 2016, ¶2549.1a); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,
• that the remaining members be transferred to Jones Chapel United Methodist Church in Athens, TN or a church of their own choosing; and

• that all deeds, records, and other official and legal papers should be collected by the District Superintendent for the Trustees of the Holston Annual Conference; and
• that the furnishings and fixtures be distributed to the churches of the Hiwassee District or at the discretion of the District Superintendent or the Trustees of the Holston Annual Conference; and
• that any remaining assets be transferred to the Board of Trustees of the Holston Annual Conference; and
• that the Board of Trustees of the Holston Annual Conference be requested to dispose of the Piney Grove United Methodist Church property, real and personal, tangible and intangible, in its sole discretion.

Bishop: Signed Mary Virginia Taylor
Dean of Cabinet: Signed Rev. Jeff W. Wright
• the local church property will no longer be used, kept, or maintained as a place of divine worship of The United Methodist Church, (The Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church 2016, ¶2549.1b); and
• consent to closure was granted on April 23, 2020, by the Clinch Mountain District board of church location and building and all Disciplinary requirements have been met; and
• exigent circumstances exist that require immediate protection of the local church’s property for the benefit of the denomination (The Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church 2016, ¶2549.3b).

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED
• that the Resident Bishop, Mary Virginia Taylor, and a majority of district superintendents, celebrating the ministry of this church, do hereby authorize the closure of the Lakeview United Methodist Church, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,
• that all deeds, records, and other official and legal papers should be collected by the superintendent for the Trustees of the Holston Annual Conference, and
• that the furnishings and fixtures be distributed to the Lakeview Baptist Church, or at the discretion of the district superintendent or the Trustees of the Holston Annual Conference, and
• that any remaining assets be transferred to the Board of Trustees of the Holston Annual Conference, and finally,
• that the Board of Trustees of the Holston Annual Conference be requested to dispose of the Lakeview United Methodist Church property, real and personal, tangible and intangible, at its sole discretion. The Trustees on the aforesaid Board of Trustees are hereby authorized and empowered to dispose of the real property of the Lakeview United Methodist Church, and to execute such deeds and other documents as may be needed, with all necessary covenants, warranties and assurances, and to sign, seal, acknowledge, and deliver the same; and they are further authorized to seek such authority as may be necessary from the Circuit Court of Russell County, Virginia, to effect and accomplish the same.

Bishop: Signed Mary Virginia Taylor
Dean of Cabinet: Signed Rev. Jeff W. Wright

END OF RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION FOR CLOSURE OF:
GRASSY CREEK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
A PART OF GRASSY CREEK UNION CHURCH
RUSSELL COUNTY, VIRGINIA
CLINCH MOUNTAIN DISTRICT
HOLSTON CONFERENCE OF
THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

WHEREAS,
• the Grassy Creek United Methodist Church was established in 1900 as the Grassy Creek Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and Grassy Creek Methodist Episcopal Church and Grassy Creek Independent Baptist Church to form a new “union church” of both Baptist and Methodist members to be known together as the Grassy Creek Union Church, located at 1426 South 71 in Castlewood, Russell County, Virginia, which is now within the bounds of the Clinch Mountain District; and
• the Grassy Creek United Methodist Church has since its founding served the community and the Holston Annual Conference, offering the grace and salvation of Jesus Christ; and
• there are now no remaining members of the Grassy Creek United Methodist Church at Grassy Creek Union Church; and
• without members, the church no longer serves the purpose for which it was organized, (The Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church 2016, ¶2549.1a); and
• the local church property will no longer be used, kept, or maintained as a place of divine worship of The United Methodist Church, (The Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church 2016, ¶2549.1b); and
• consent to closure was granted on April 23, 2020, by the Clinch Mountain District board of church location and building and all Disciplinary requirements have been met; and
• exigent circumstances exist that require immediate protection of the local church’s property for the benefit of the denomination (The Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church 2016, ¶2549.3b).

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED
• that the Resident Bishop, Mary Virginia Taylor, and a majority of district superintendents, celebrating the ministry of this church, do hereby authorize the closure of the Grassy Creek United Methodist Church, and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,
• that all deeds, records, and other official and legal papers should be collected by the superintendent for the Trustees of the Holston Annual Conference, and
• that the furnishings and fixtures be distributed to the Grassy Creek Independent Baptist Church, or at the discretion of the district superintendent or the Trustees of the Holston Annual Conference, and
• that any remaining assets be transferred to the Board of Trustees of the Holston Annual Conference, and finally,
• that the Board of Trustees of the Holston Annual Conference be requested to dispose of the Grassy Creek United Methodist Church property, real and personal, tangible and intangible, at its sole discretion. The Trustees on the aforesaid Board of Trustees are hereby authorized and empowered to dispose of the real property of the Grassy Creek United Methodist Church, and to execute such deeds and other documents as may be needed, with all necessary covenants, warranties and assurances, and to sign, seal, acknowledge, and deliver the same; and they are further authorized to seek such authority as may be necessary from the Circuit Court of Russell County, Virginia, to effect and accomplish the same.

Bishop: Signed Mary Virginia Taylor
Dean of Cabinet: Signed Rev. Jeff W. Wright

END OF RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION FOR CLOSURE OF:
MOORE’S GAP UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
HEISKELL, TENNESSEE
TENNESSEE VALLEY DISTRICT
HOLSTON CONFERENCE OF
THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

WHEREAS,
• the Moore’s Gap United Methodist Church located at 164 Moore’s Gap Road Heiskell, TN, in the Tennessee Valley District faithfully served the community and the Conference, offering the grace and salvation of Jesus Christ since 1872; and
• there is insufficient source of income to maintain the building, increasing liability, and
• the church no longer serves the purpose for which it was organized, (The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church 2016, ¶2549.1a), and
• the local church property will no longer be used, kept, or maintained by its membership as a place of divine worship of The United Methodist Church, (The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church 2016, ¶2549.1b), and
• the membership of Moore’s Gap United Methodist Church voted (10 yes, 1 neutral, 1 no) to close on April 5, 2020, and
• there is no plan to have any subsequent worship services, and
• consent to closure was granted on April, 23, 2020 by the Tennessee Valley District board of church location and building, and all Disciplinary requirements have been met; and
• exigent circumstances exist that require immediate protection of the local church’s property for the benefit of the denomination (The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church 2016, ¶2549.3b), THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED
• that the Presiding Bishop Mary Virginia Taylor and a majority of district superintendents, celebrating the ministry of this church, do hereby authorize the closure of the Moore’s Gap United Methodist Church, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,
• the remaining members be transferred to Kern Memorial United Methodist Church in Oak Ridge, TN or a church of their own choosing, and
• all deeds, records, and other official and legal papers should be collected by the district superintendent for the Trustees of the Holston Annual Conference, and
• the furnishings and fixtures be distributed to the churches of the Tennessee Valley District or at the discretion of the district superintendent or the Trustees of the Holston Annual Conference, and
• any remaining assets be transferred to the Board of Trustees of the Holston Annual Conference, and
• the Board of Trustees of the Holston Annual Conference be requested to dispose of the Moore’s Gap United Methodist Church property, real and personal, tangible and intangible, at its sole discretion.

Bishop: Signed Mary Virginia Taylor
Dean of Cabinet: Signed Rev. Jeff W. Wright

END OF RESOLUTION
II COMMUNICATIONS ADVISORY COUNCIL

The Communications Advisory Council (CAC) supports the paid communications team of professionals of the Holston Conference. The council is made up of laity and clergy with media, public relations, marketing and other communications-related training and experience. The primary function of the CAC is to act as a team of “consultants” who answer questions and provide expert advice at the request of the communications team.

The CAC works closely with the Holston Conference Director of Communications, the Reverend Dr. Tim Jones, and the entire conference communications staff. Tim and his team have been diligently preparing to cover General Conference, which has now been rescheduled for 2021. The Holston Communications staff has, in challenging circumstances, remained committed to providing excellent, balanced coverage of events related to both the called General Conference of 2019 and the upcoming General Conference. During the 2019 General Conference, the communications team kept Holston informed through regular updates to the new General Conference blog and periodic email newsletters. Tim and his team will cover the upcoming General Conference with the same comprehensive reporting and high standards of excellence.

Additionally, the communications team has undertaken several new initiatives to enhance communications across the conference:

- The communications team, with input from the CAC, has completed a major redesign of the conference website. In fact, “redesign” is an inadequate word to describe the scope of work undertaken by the team. This project has entailed a complete overhaul, not only of the design, but the underlying technology and data structure of the website. The result is a web experience that is more streamlined, easier to read and navigate, and fine-tuned for search and usability.
- The Communications department is also beginning to take on a larger role in managing the conference database, spearheading a move to newer technology that will result in a more integrated data system across the Annual Conference.
- The daily devotional (available via email and the website) has proven to be a popular feature from Holston Communications, providing inspiration and insight from conference leaders.
- News and information updates, photo and video content, and livestreaming events continue to be a focus for the Communications team.

The Communications Advisory Council is including in its report this year an additional document that we hope will be beneficial to the Annual Conference. We present “Guidelines for Effective Use of Digital Communication and Social Media Tools,” a document produced in partnership with the Sexual Ethics Task Force. This document is intended to offer general advice about the opportunities and pitfalls of digital communication and social media tools. This document is not intended to be a comprehensive policy, but rather an accessible guideline that incorporates the existing policies of the Holston Annual Conference and the United Methodist Church as outlined in the Book of Discipline. The text of the guideline follows the body of this report. We hope this document will be helpful for pastors, churches, and Conference organizations as they seek to incorporate digital communication and social media tools into their ministries.

We believe that the efforts of the Communications Advisory Council and the Holston Communications team are helping to create a deeper sense of community and shared mission throughout the conference. Our prayer is that Holston Communications will continue to play a vital role in telling our story as a conference. More importantly, we pray that we will—in everything we say and do—tell Jesus’ story, and invite everyone who listens to receive new life in him.

Guidelines for Effective Use of Digital Communication and Social Media Tools

Modern forms of communication encompass a wide array of devices and services that may be used both to communicate interpersonally and as methods of broadcast communication. Tools such as email, texting, blogging and social media services offer novel ways to connect with one another. Of course, the proliferation of tools also increases the opportunity for misuse.

This document is intended to provide guidelines for the safe and effective use of digital communication. It is not intended to comprehensively deal with every possible use of digital communication and social media tools.

As with all communication, thoughtfulness, kindness, and a desire to share the love of God with others should inform our efforts as we use digital communication tools. In his day, John Wesley asked the members of
his Society to think about their words and actions in daily life. He crafted a rule of life for his Society that was based on three principles: do no harm; do good; attend to the ordinances of God. These principles can be applied to the use of digital communications tools by churches, pastors, and conference leaders.

**Do No Harm**
Take care that in your use of digital communication tools you avoid causing harm to yourself or others.
- Care should be taken to abide by all policies of the Annual Conference, including the Sexual Ethics Policy.
- Speaking or writing about colleagues, parishioners, and others in ways that undermine their integrity or personhood is never acceptable in any forum.
- Harassment, discrimination, and hate speech should never be indulged in digital communication. Sexual harassment violates the policy of the Annual Conference and is a chargeable offense for clergy and laity in the *Book of Discipline*.
- Viewing and/or sharing pornographic images or videos violates the policy of the Annual Conference and is a chargeable offense for clergy in the *Book of Discipline*.
- Disclosing confidential information is a violation of trust; and, for those who are licensed or ordained, it is a violation of ordination vows, and as such may be charged in accordance with Paragraph 2702.1(d) in the *Book of Discipline*.
- Posting photographs or videos of others to your website or social media presence can be problematic. Establish guidelines for how and when you will share photos and videos of ministry events and clearly communicate your policies to all participants.

**Attend to the Ordinances of God**
Digital communication and social media tools offer us an opportunity to spread the Gospel message in previously unimagined ways.
- Making your worship service available online is a great way to give potential visitors a taste of what your faith community is like.
- Online worship also offers those who are seeking a relationship with God the chance to hear God’s word wherever they are in their journey.
- Digital forums offer unique opportunities for discipleship. Developing online communities, small groups, virtual meetings, and other digital methods of supporting discipleship is highly encouraged.
- Online and digital communities should also be grounded in the incarnational practices of the local church, and care should be taken to support digital discipleship with ministries of presence.
- It is inappropriate to offer sacramental ministry online. The Annual Conference has adopted a resolution affirming the United Methodist Church’s official statements regarding our faithful celebration of the sacraments and the Council of Bishop’s moratorium on the practice of online communion.

Rev. Timothy Hankins

= = = END OF REPORT = = =
III COMMITTEE ON CONGREGATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

One of the realities of the life of our churches is that every one of them is in some state of development; some are growing, some are stable, and some are in decline. Most every arena of life reflects this; be it schools, businesses, health care facilities, etc.

The work of congregational development is to facilitate church growth and vitality. In places where the population is increasing there are opportunities to enable such growth, but where the population is in decline it becomes a challenge. We see these challenges in both urban and rural settings, and there is not one prescription that addresses all of the challenges the church faces today. Our call is to simply be FAITHFUL.

The grants that our Annual Conference is able to provide are an effort to help churches refocus, reboot, and relate to the communities they serve. We are not able to help every congregation who makes a request, but we make every attempt to be good stewards of the resources we have available.

One of the grants made this year has installed central heat and air in the Elk Garden School Community Ministry led by Brooke Atchley. When this ministry began there was a coal fired boiler and some window air conditioners. Shortly after the coal was delivered for the winter of 2019 the furnace broke. The downside was that the building was cold. The upside was that they were able to bag up the coal and give to families who needed it. Because of your generosity the building is now fully functional year round. There are more examples of how we have been able to enhance the ministries of many our churches.

One of the most exciting projects is the Hardin Valley Church that began as a dream almost 15 years ago. Steve Sallee and Bill Kilday saw the opportunity for ministry in Hardin Valley and the Annual Conference along with Oak Ridge District bought 20 acres in Hardin Valley.

Hardin Valley Church a United Methodist Congregation is now under the leadership of Rev. John Gargis. The property is being cleared and we are in the beginning stages of how the site will be developed. It is exciting to see what God will do in Hardin Valley.

Please know that the work of Congregational Development is important work for Holston Conference. We still have the Builders Club for those who want to be a part of this ministry. We would encourage any person who wants to be directly involved in the opportunities that we have, to expand our witness as Holston Conference, become a member of the Builders Club.

Becky Hall, Chair
Rusty Taylor, Director

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IV BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND CAMPUS MINISTRY
No report submitted

V BOARD OF LAY MINISTRY

The Conference Board of Lay Ministry, comprised of District Lay Leaders, Conference Presidents of United Methodist Men, Women, and Youth, Conference Director of Lay Servant Ministries, and members-at-large, is pleased to report that lay ministry in Holston Conference continues to be vibrant, and laypersons across the Conference, in partnership with our clergy sisters and brothers, are finding new and innovative ways to lead the church in service to our communities.

District Lay Leaders are leading and equipping laypersons for ministry in their areas in the following ways:

- Facilitating groups for prayer and planning
- Offering training for Lay Servant Ministry, District Lay Leaders, Directors of Lay Servant Ministry, and District Boards of Laity
- Working together with lay leaders, lay servants, and clergy serving local congregations
- Assist all lay members to discern places where God may be calling them into service
- Provide resources needed to be fruitful

The Board gives thanks for the dedicated work of these servants of the Kingdom!
It has become traditional for the Board to lead and provide opportunities for prayer at Lake Junaluska during the Annual Conference session. The Room of Memories next to Memorial Chapel will be available each day of our gathering as a prayer room with materials to share prayer requests and hold one another in prayer. It is a privilege for Board members to divide the prayer request cards that are left in the prayer room and continue to pray for those needs throughout the year.

This year marks the end of my tenure as your Conference Lay Leader. The past eight years have been particularly challenging for The United Methodist Church, but I am confident that God has much work for “the people called Methodist’ yet to do and will make a way for us to fulfill His will and purposes. I am a product of the churches and ministries of Holston Conference and give thanks for the many ways God has used the people of this region - not just during the past 8 years, but for nearly 50 years - to guide me on my spiritual journey and help me become more fully the disciple God has called me to be. Words fail to express the deep appreciation I feel for the saints of Holston and the prayerful encouragement each of you has offered, so I will say, simply, “Thank you, I love each of you, and God bless you.”

I have been truly blessed to partner in ministry with Bishop Taylor and the members of her Extended Cabinet. Our bishop has been intentional about increasing the visibility of our partnership and inviting me to be present with her, as a representative of the laity of the conference, in the process of leading the churches of Holston. She has set a high bar for the episcopal leaders who will follow her in Holston.

The leadership of laypersons has been a hallmark of Methodist history, and the Book of Discipline affirms that the ministry of the laity is one of the most significant evangelistic tools available to congregations of The United Methodist Church. Thank you for living your daily lives in ways that bring glory to God and help make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world!

Del Holley, Conference Lay Leader

VI DISCIPLESHIP TEAM
VI.a MISSIONS TEAM

Mission is not something we do, but who we are as followers of the Risen Lord. The Church is only truly the Church when it is moving outward into the world. Carlos F. Cardoza-Orlandi (2002), in his book, Mission: An Essential Guide, reminds us all that since God is in mission… the Church is in mission (p.14), a mission rooted in God’s salvation history. God is working both within the Church and with the Church, calling the people of God to participate in God’s action in the world. Cardoza-Orlandi continues, “Therefore, the church lives in two realities: it is born out of God’s mission and it participates in God’s mission” (p.46). When a Church embraces its calling and bears witness to God’s salvation history, proclaiming Jesus the Christ, the Holy Spirit works in the Church and outside the Church, transforming both the Church and the world.

Mission is in the DNA of Methodism. Our Book of Discipline (2016) explains our responsibility and calling to go out into the world and witness to the grace and love of Christ through missions. The section on missions is outlined in Part IV-The ministry of All Christians. Paragraph 130 explains the call of the local church and reminds us:

“The people of God, who are the church made visible in the world, must convince the world of the reality of the gospel or leave it unconvinced. There can be no evasion or delegation of this responsibility; the church is either faithful as a witnessing and serving community, or it loses its vitality and its impact…” (p.98).

While these words remind us of living as a faithful community, there is also an individual, personal reality. Missions should not or cannot be delegated to a select few. Missions is the calling of each person who seeks to live The Way of Jesus. Anglican priest and missionary, Henry Martyn, stated it this way, “The spirit of Christ is the spirit of missions. The nearer we get to Him, the more intensely missionary we become.” As you continue to grow closer to Christ, the Mission Team prays you will accept God’s invitation to go out into your community and the world to experience the abundant blessings of serving through missions.
The Mission Team affirms these words realizing discipleship and transformation take place most significantly at the local church level and seeks to connect local congregations with God’s redemptive work in the world. More specifically, the Mission Team is focused on inviting, inspiring, and involving the people of the Holston Conference in God’s life-giving, transformative mission in their personal lives, in their communities and in the world.

This report provides a brief overview of just some of the mission opportunities throughout Holston. Our Conference has a strong foundation and tradition of excellence in missions work established by the devotion, commitment, and leadership of those who have faithfully responded to God’s call to serve and go into the world. Currently, the Holston Conference is actively engaged in Africa, Central and South America, Eastern Europe, Turkey, India, and throughout the United States. A special thanks to all the missionaries, team leaders, and church leaders for your prayers, support, and sacrificial service. Because of your efforts, we are able to celebrate numerous short term mission teams who have faithfully served and shown the love of Christ to our neighbors both far and near.

None of these missions would be possible without the leadership and devotion of the missionaries who give so much of themselves. Please continue to pray for all of those who serve the Lord through Holston-related missions.

- Fred and Libby Dearing (South Sudan/Uganda)
- Helen Roberts-Evans (Liberia)
- Nancy Chinzwende (Ishe Anesu)
- Mark and Heather Hicks (Czech Republic)
- Peter Pereira (India)
- Bruce and Emy P (Middle East)
- Rebecca S (MOT)
- Bill Lovelace (Lithuania)
- Rukang and Fresie Chikomb (Democratic Republic of Congo)
- Joe D and Christina DowlingSoka (Alaska Missionary Conference)
- Lyn and Sharon Fogleman (Mission Society/South Sudan/Uganda)

The following reports were submitted to celebrate the ongoing missions throughout the Conference:

VI.a.1 CHURCH AND COMMUNITY RENEWAL - APPALACHIAN DISTRICT

What if? That’s my missional question for you!

What if? What if local churches responded to the needs of those around them with grace?

What if we stopped blaming the victim and started looking for systemic reasons people are poor? What if we courageously met the people of the highways and byways, and we listened to their stories?

For over 30 years Church and Community Renewal has met the basic human needs of people in Lee, Scott, Wise, and Dickenson Counties in Virginia. We will continue to do so with:

- Seeds of Bounty, providing garden seeds, and thanks to Society of St. Andrew, seed potatoes for those who want to grow gardens.
- Fort Blackmore Day Camp, partnering with Camp in the Community and churches in the area to provide day camp for kids who do not experience enrichment in the summer.
- Christmas CART provides gifts of toys, hygiene items, and gift cards for families in need at Christmas in Scott County.
- Emergency aid provides small grants for households in need of help with electric or water bills.

The General Board of Global Ministry has set December 2021 as the end date for this particular project. We move towards sustainability. How will Church and Community Renewal be sustainable? The churches will be trained, have a plan, and be in mission with their community. This is the sustainability plan!

The end of this project is NOT the end of mission ministry in Southwest Virginia. I invite you to be in prayerful discernment with us as we discover the next ministry. It is the beginning of new ministries, as we ask “What if…..?”

Koni Purscell, Church and Community Worker

= = = = END OF REPORT = = = =
VI.a.2 WILLOW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH AND WILLOW COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY, WILLOW, ALASKA MISSIONARY CONFERENCE

We are delighted to be in our third year serving as pastors in the Alaska Missionary Conference. We are stationed in the Matanuska Valley, about an hour and a half above Anchorage at Willow, Alaska. Here, we co-pastor the Willow United Methodist Church and we also work alongside Ola Williams, the Willow Community Food Pantry director to help coordinate the many church and community ministries that take place through the pantry. Willow UMC serves an area the size of Chattanooga with a population of 2,000. We are at the center of the dog mushing world. The weather is extreme, reaching -37 one night this winter. And many people live on edge, some in dry cabins, some off the grid, many in extreme poverty. Our food pantry serves some 160-175 families each month. Our sack pack weekend food ministry has grown to 60 children each week. In addition, we are a distribution center for government food boxes. The church also provides water, showers, firewood and many forms of emergency assistance to those in need.

The closest United Methodist Church to us is in Wasilla, 30 miles to the south, and the next church to the north is 300 miles north in Fairbanks. Leading worship continues to be our key delight. It is a joy to be a part of a vibrant worshipping community. In a very real sense, we are pastors to the whole community. The church plays a central role in the community and many of our members have continued the efforts of Deaconess Fran Lynch who for many years served as Willow’s Church and Community worker. United Methodists were instrumental in bringing public transit to the valley, working to get a clinic here, establishing a recycling center, drawing up plans for a new library. They believe in working for the “shalom” of the whole community. In August of this year, our area was devastated by the McKinley fire which burned some 52 homes, 82 buildings and 3 businesses as well as 3288 acres. Joe-d is chairing the McKinley Fire Recovery Group that will be working for many years alongside a host of volunteers to help rebuild some of these cabins and homes. Many of our congregation are involved in recovery.

We were thrilled to be the recipient of this year’s Holston UMW “in kind” offering and were overwhelmed by all the wonderful school supplies sent. We are also thankful for all who send new clothing of all sizes for our Christmas clothing project, toiletries, handmade scarves and hats, and for those all who participate in our “parcel post auction” where partners send items unique to their area in a box simply marked parcel post auction. These are sent to Box 182, Willow, Alaska 99688 and on the night of the auction are auctioned off by their return address. 80 packages last year brought in $6,000 to buy much needed food for the pantry. Holston is by far the largest supporter of the church and food pantry ministries, in 2019 contributing $50,125 of the $100,000 dollars that we must raise annually beyond local giving. This year Holston will be sending 4 VIM teams who will help with such projects as cutting firewood, fire recovery and VBS. We delight in being Holston’s “outpost of mission” here in Alaska.

We are thankful for all who support this ministry through the Advance (#874 Willow United Methodist Church – C. DowlingSoka salary support or #264 Willow Church and Community Ministries.) And for all who send checks of support or in-kind gifts to Willow United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 182, Willow, Alaska, 99688.

Thank you, Holston!
Rev. Christina & Rev. Joe-d DowlingSoka,
Co-Pastors Willow UMC

= = = = END OF REPORT = = = =

VI.a.3 PROJECT CROSSROADS

During 2019, we were able to serve 31 families through our Home Rehab ministry. We had 19 work teams that composed a total of 22 churches that came to assist us with these projects. We also partnered with Pleasant View UMC in Abingdon as they hosted a SERVE Mission team that was made up of four churches with 70 team members. Through this partnership we are able to serve an additional 5 families. Through our Rehab Ministry, we are able to do most rehab requests except for roof requests. Most of our teams now are composed of youth who are too young to be on roofs or are adults who now feel as they are “more mature in years” are not comfortable being on a roof. We are preparing for a new season with work teams already scheduled and a few dates still available for this summer. We will be partnering with Pleasant View again this year to provide mission opportunities for youth and adults through the SERVE Mission program.
During the winter, we delivered firewood to 31 families so they could keep their homes warm during cold weather. The number of families were down year a little from last year and of those there were fewer requests; which we feel was primarily due to a milder winter overall. We had 7 churches assist with our Firewood Ministry by bringing teams to help cut, split and stack firewood so it would be ready for delivery. We also had students from the Emory and Henry College, School of Health Sciences; Physical Therapy Program help with wood splitting and stacking this fall.

We didn’t have any disaster deliveries during 2019 but were prepared as a hurricane skirted the east coast. The Emory and Henry College, School of Health Sciences; Physician Assistant Program students helped us open and finish filling donated cleaning buckets and then load on the trailer in anticipation of being called to make a delivery if needed. They helped us add sponges and gloves to buckets that lacked these items as we prepared to load the trailer. We had to deliver over 350 plus buckets and about 1,200 hygiene kits right after the first of the year to Richlands and Hansonville areas after flooding that occurred. We are now asking churches to put together buckets and hygiene kits to help us build up the Conference stock so we will be ready for the next disaster when called.

We saw a reduction in the number of patients in the Mel Leaman Free Clinic because of the expanded Medicaid in Virginia this past year. This has in reality been a good thing for those patients that qualify for the Medicaid because they will have access to more medical tests and procedures that we have difficulty obtaining for our patients who have no insurance. We have picked up some new patients because of the increase in the income threshold through the Virginia Association of Free and Charitable Clinics. We are now able to provide dental care through the clinic due to some retired dentists who volunteer their services. We saw fewer patients at our Smyth County RAM (Remote Area Medical) Clinic last year because of the expanded Medicaid as well and this year we are planning for a two day instead of a three day clinic. We served over 700 individuals with over 900 patients visits that came for dental, vision, medical and hearing services.

We are so grateful for the volunteers, financial resources and prayers that have enabled us to continue to “serve Jesus as we serve those in need” in our communities.

Rev. Harry Howe, PA-C  Executive Director

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VI.a.4 THE ENGLISH SPEAKING UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF PRAGUE

The English Speaking United Methodist Church of Prague has had an amazing year and God is rapidly opening doors for even greater ministry. The beauty of this little mission church with a big heart is that the love of God is so evident that it not only attracts believers; but, also atheists and agnostics who sense the Hope, Love and Presence of Jesus. They come and are accepted as they are, doubts and all, and the love of God melts their hearts.

Now in 2020 this multicultural/multinational church, God has spoken to our hearts. Although we are a small church with limited financial resources, we are to begin to act like a big church. From this God gave us the new vision of outreach:

- A weekly Radio Broadcast sharing the love of God on a secular FM radio station which has a potential audience of an area of 2 million people.
- A Prison Ministry whereby we partner with an existing prison ministry to minister to Czech prisoners sharing the Love of God, doing addiction recovery therapy, teaching English and teaching life skills in order to give them a better chance at staying out of prison once they are released.
- An Orphanage Ministry which partners with an existing Czech orphanage ministry, supplying English lessons, mentoring, educational tutoring, summer camps, clothes, school supplies and teaching them life skills. In the Czech Republic orphans are kicked out of the Orphanage when they are 18 onto the street where many of them turn to crime in order to survive or end up homeless. We want to share both the Love of God with them and the skills they need to have a normal life once they leave the orphanages.
- A diaper collection to provide diapers to children of refugees in the Czech Republic.
- A partnership with Horní Pocenice shelter for homeless families in Prague.

It is a bold vision for a small mission church in a nation that is so strongly atheist; but, we believe in a big God who is more than able.

Please pray for us as we continue to serve the people that God brings through our church doors each week and that the Lord of the Harvest will bring more and more people from across this vast city into church.
Please pray for our new Radio Broadcasting Ministry that God will touch the hearts and change the lives of the listening audience.

Please pray for our Prison Ministry to grow and be blessed as we follow the words of Jesus, “I was in prison and you visited me.”

Please pray for our Orphanage Ministry as we share the love of God with the Czech orphans and try to give them a chance at a better life.

Please pray for our work with the refugees and homeless that we can share the love of God in the midst of their distress.

As the Lord speaks to your heart to partner with us, you can do so both by your prayers and by your financial gifts. We thank you for your prayers and we look forward to hearing from you. We pray that as you give to us via your prayers and giving that God will in turn bless you.

From Prague, the Heart of Central Europe, Yours in Christ, Don Hall, ESUMC Outreach Director & Mark Hicks, Pastor

= = = = END OF REPORT = = = =

VI.a.5 ELK GARDEN COMMUNITY MINISTRIES

The year of 2019 was a year of growth for the Elk Garden School Community Ministries. Our regular ministries continued but we added several new ministries. In addition to the thrift store and food pantry growth, a raised-bed community garden was built. The 72’4x8’, 5 4’x4’ beds and the 18 berry beds were built and tended by volunteers, staff and local groups to produce vegetables that were handed out in the food pantry, supplemented our community meals and preserved. We were able to harvest vegetables from early April until December. What a blessing it is to plant seeds, watch them grow and then harvest!

Other new ministries were started as well! The Sewing and Quilting classes added additional offerings and are actively planning a quilt auction for the fall. A pre-employment program was developed in collaboration with the state of VA to help folks learn skills that will help them obtain jobs. Bible studies were added and we learned about what God desires from us and what He desires for us! This winter saw the addition of a new heating and air system and the building is now being used 7 days a week to meet the needs of the community including community game nights and additional education opportunities. Our community meals program continues to grow and each and every Tuesday sees 60-80 folks sharing life around a table while feeding their bellies and souls!

The ministry that happens at the Elk Garden School Community Ministries would not happen without the gifts and prayers of the folks of the Holston Conference. Lives are being transformed because of the love of Christ!

Brooke Atchley, Church and Community Worker

= = = = END OF REPORT = = = =

VI.a.6 SOUTH SUDAN

Holston Conference has been in relationship with the United Methodist Church in South Sudan since 2006. The war with Sudan had ceased and a comprehensive peace agreement was signed. The church requested help in leadership development, church development, education and economic development. The people had just returned from exile back into their communities and were adjusting to a life outside refugee camps. Their homes and land were occupied by squatters during their absence, there were no schools, churches or medical clinics. Twenty one churches were organized in the camps but the leadership collapsed along with eleven churches. The ten remaining churches organized themselves as best as they could. They met under trees or in homes. Holston Conference responded to their plea for a partnership. The Reverend Boo and the Reverend Phyllis Hankins were appointed to the South Sudan United Methodist Church in 2009. They organized the church and its leadership and supervised the construction of Captains House, a gift from the late Captain Walt and Reverend Linda Wright. The Hankins returned to the U.S. in 2011 and the Reverend Fred and Libby Dearing were appointed to the UMC South Sudan.
In the intervening years up to 2016 churches and individuals in Holston Conference built four schools, six churches and drilled 40 boreholes. The church had grown and had over five thousand professing members. GRACE Home for children was constructed and staffed to raise thirty-six vulnerable children. War resumed in South Sudan in 2016 and the missionaries were evacuated in July. They are in exile with over a million South Sudanese refugees in Uganda. The pastors and churches who fled the violence are located in four camps. The missionaries reside in Arua twenty to thirty miles away. The staff in South Sudan resides in a newly renovated Captains House and oversees the church in South Sudan.

There are now eighteen churches organized in the camps and two more are being organized. The youth have organized and elected their officers. The United Methodist Women have organized. Ten women in South Sudan were trained in tailoring and received sewing machines. They are now self supporting. They are working on another training to include men. Savings and loan groups are being formed and organized. Three intensive English literacy trainings were conducted in three camps graduating one hundred fifty persons. They are pleading for advanced trainings and for three more basic trainings. Four pastors earned a diploma in theology, eleven are enrolled in course of study and will receive their certificate in theology this spring. Three pastors were ordained in 2019 and six will be ordained at this annual conference. Two staff members have received bachelor degrees and three others are enrolled in the university working towards bachelor degrees. One completed auto driving and mechanic training and received his auto mechanic certification. Thirty students are currently sponsored. We have requests for twenty eight scholarships. All the children from GRACE Home are enrolled in boarding schools. The board for GRACE Home are working on registering the Home with the Ugandan Government. The United Methodist Church is now registered in South Sudan. There are five churches and pastors who have chosen to remain and work in South Sudan even in the midst of the violence and insecurity. This past year one pastor was shot and killed, another kidnapped and conscripted into a militia, and another was attacked but escaped and we were able to bring him and his family out safely. There are many challenges but God is a God of abundance, the Holy Spirit is transforming the hearts and minds of the people, growing the church, making disciples for Jesus Christ and developing Christian leaders.

This is a mission of abundance sharing God’s blessings and grace in the face of fear, hate, greed and violence. The Holston Foundation has made a big commitment to continue to care for the people of South Sudan during these dangerous and challenging times. For every dollar donated to continue the South Sudan mission and ministry, the Holston Foundation will match up to $75,000. The goal is to raise $150,000. This match is a gift approved by the Foundation’s board of directors. The director Paul Bowman said, “My passion and my heart is to make a difference… I see the difference this will make in the lives of some of the most vulnerable people in the world.”

Holston Conference has been and continues to be in the position to to walk along side the people of South Sudan, rejoicing God is answering their prayers through the churches and individuals of Holston Conference. “For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.” Jeremiah 29:11. Holston you are invited to be part of God’s plan for the people of South Sudan and to give generously to the Foundation’s historic matching gift.

Grace, peace and love,
Fred and Libby Dearing
The Advisory Team
The Board of GRACE Home
Reverend Doctor Thomas Hancock,
Holston Conference Mission Team Chair

= = = END OF REPORT = = =

Mission Team Report for Holston Conference:

The Year 2019 would be a true reminder “That God Goes Before Us.” In January there were two teams that visited Guatemala. In the mornings they led VBS in local schools and in the afternoons in Methodist Churches. The average number of children per day was 300 or more, so about 1,500 children and moms or teachers heard and experienced the story of God’s love and grace through Jesus each week. We celebrate the ministry of these two teams reaching over 3,000 persons with the Love of Christ in Guatemala during January. Another beauty of these teams of high school seniors and young adults was that the teams included persons from Costa Rica making each team international.
In March during Spring Break, we had a Youth team from Maryville come to Costa Rica and share in some maintenance work and VBS these 25 persons shared VBS using inflatables which many of the children had never experienced. What fun they had while the team shared Jesus with each group! The locations were in very poor and rural schools and Methodist churches including one village of immigrants from Nicaragua. The story of God’s love in Jesus was shared with over 1,000 children and adults during their week in Costa Rica. They also visited a local Methodist church and shared testimonies and music in the service.

May saw two more groups going to Guatemala. One group was made up of adults and youth to work at the orphanage Hogar Del Nino and lead VBS in schools and local Methodist Churches. The second was a medical team who worked in rural villages.

The medical group saw 800 persons in their clinics, plus fitting 500 persons with glasses. 1,000 children were served in VBS. Once again 10 persons from Costa Rica joined the two teams.

The hands-on collection of kits and buckets moved at an amazing rate as greater numbers of churches participated and sent supplies that were gathered at Fairview UMC in Maryville, TN the loading location. This was a record year for the conference Hands-On project for Liberia and Zimbabwe. These much-needed resources were lovingly packed onto three containers by the Volunteers from many churches plus football players from Maryville High School who shared in this mission ministry. What a joy it was to hear the horn blowing at Holston Annual Conference and prayers being said over these containers. We were in Zimbabwe to receive the supplies and store them for use by Ishe Anesu.

In June two Sports teams partnered with the Fellowship of Christian Athletes from Maryville to lead sports camps and play local teams where they shared testimonies and gave Bibles to children and adults. This was a special time spiritually for these young men and women; 12 of them were baptized in Rio Celeste. Each team had 18 people. The coaches feel this will impact the high school as well as their individual lives.
A team of 21 people, clergy and laity, traveled to Zimbabwe in August. Team leaders were Dr. Sam Dozo from Zimbabwe and Rev. Chris Brown from Colonial Heights UMC in Kingsport. This team received the supplies from the Hands-On Containers and placed them in the storage area at Ishe Anesu where they will be distributed as needed. They also did various repairs,

but the biggest work opportunity was in leading a VBS for children of the area around Hilltop UMC. This was a four day VBS. On the first full day there was 750 children; each day saw the numbers of children grow to 1,800 children on the last day. The following Sunday the host church was full of children to share a program of songs and lessons from the previous week. The church was packed to over 4,000 people. “WHAT a Day!” What an exciting experience to see this many children hearing about Jesus, making craft items, singing, and recreating. The pastor said, “Next year lets plan on two thousand children.” Oh, Lord May it Be So…

September brought preparation for a team to Costa Rica for Resurrection Costa Rica, the first overseas ministry of Holston Resurrection. It was a dream of young people hearing the gospel and responding during a special resurrection type event. Holston sent a team of youth and adults, including our Bishop and some of the conference staff. They led VBS in rural villages (over 1,000 children in four days) and then helped lead the Resurrection Event in La Fortuna, a tourist town. More than 724 youth registered for the event and over 1,000 persons came for the Saturday night concert and preaching. During this weekend, Holston not only supported the event with over $40,000 for housing and feeding the Costa Rican youth, but also were servants in helping with many hands-on tasks. Over 246 first time decisions for Christ were made, and on Sunday when the invitation was given for those sensing God’s “Call for full time Christian Service” over 100 persons responded.

What a mission team experience!

It took us a week to finish up and clean up after the team returned to the United States. Yet, what a wonderful God-filled time with children in the rural areas hearing the gospel and then the Resurrection Event in La Fortuna. We were so honored that our Bishop participated in this ministry.
A team of 14 traveled to Latvia to lead a retreat for pastors, their spouses, and lay leaders. We visited local churches, led worship services, and visited mission projects to see the work of the Methodist church in Latvia and to encourage and share with our Methodist family. The team was led by Fairview UMC Mission and Family pastor Jimmy Mannis and associate pastor Rev. Gilbert Harris. These young adult leaders are the next generation of pastors and leaders from Holston who are moving us forward to the next generation of mission and ministry at home and around the world. It was exciting to see the work of the Latvian church that suffered so much under the persecuting hand of the Soviet Union now moving ever so slowly forward reaching the next generation of people for Christ.

In the last month of the year, I travelled to Paraguay to visit and preach for our 5th graduating class from the Methodist school New Horizon which is an approved Advance Special project. We now have 199 graduates from this school started by Fairview UMC and supported by many persons in Holston Conference. There are over 440 students receiving scholarships from our Methodist family and more than half are University Students and future leaders for the church and nation of Paraguay.

In 2019 ten mission teams totaling over 250 persons from Holston Conference churches traveled to other countries to spread the love of Jesus.

- Over 5,000 children heard the gospel.
- 350 first time decisions for Christ were made that we know of for sure…
- 12 Maryville athletes baptized.
- $250,000 spent on mission projects from teams alone.
- $40,000 was donated from Holston for Resurrection Costa Rica to house, feed and bring program persons to the event.
- Scholarships were provided for over 440 students at New Horizon School in Paraguay.
- 15 local churches sent team members for these ten teams.

May God be Glorified, and the Kingdom grow because of the blessings of 2019! I look forward to what God has in store for the coming year.

Submitted by,
Dr. Jerry Russell

= = = = END OF REPORT = = = =
**Be a 5-Star Church**

*To qualify for the 5-Star Award, churches must:*

1. Pay tithe apportionment in full and give at least $25 in categories 2 through 5:
2. Give to at least one International Advance
3. Give to at least one U.S. Advance
4. Give to at least one UMCOR Advance
5. Give to at least one Conference Advance

**International Advance**

A. Missionaries Assigned to Holston Conference

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<tr>
<th>Missionary</th>
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<td>Rukang Chikomb</td>
<td>14959Z</td>
<td>516</td>
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<td>Country: Democratic Republic of Congo</td>
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<td>Fresie Chikomb</td>
<td>3021434</td>
<td>777</td>
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<td>Country: Democratic Republic of Congo</td>
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<td>The Rev. Bill Lovelace</td>
<td>11872Z</td>
<td>054</td>
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<td>Country: Lithuania</td>
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<tr>
<td>Helen Roberts-Evans</td>
<td>3021129</td>
<td>705</td>
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<tr>
<td>Country: Liberia</td>
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*Missionaries Around the World (Any Amount)*

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<td>Code: 00779Z</td>
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*(Other missionaries may be supported by Holston churches. Inquiry should be made through the Conference Mission Sec.)*

B. Africa

1. ISHE ANESU Project
   - Zimbabwe
   - Code: 13071A
   - 160
2. Africa University Scholarship
   - Code: 3021028
   - 629
3. Imagine No Malaria
   - Code: 3021190
   - 684

C. Mexico

*"Give Ye Them To Eat" Hunger Program*

   - Code: 07629A
   - 074

D. Estonia

1. Baltic Mission Center
   - Code: 010923N
   - 055
2. Baltic Methodist
   - Code: 15021B
   - 203
   - Theological Seminary Scholarship ($1,500 per year)

E. Paraguay

- New Horizon School
  - Code: 3021089
  - 421

*Courtesy of United Methodist News Service: Mike DuBose*
Covenant Relationships
with Missionaries and Persons in Mission
Although Advance salary support for missionaries is needed in any amount, churches wishing to have a Conference Covenant Relationship with a missionary provide $1,000 per year; churches under 333 members provide $3 per member per year. A GBGM Covenant Relationship with a missionary requires $2,500 per year; churches under 333 members provide $5 per member per year. Covenant Relationship forms and information can be secured from the Conference Mission Secretary. On the conference deposit slip, list the missionary’s name, code number, and the amount.

United States
Advance

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>GBGM Code</th>
<th>Holston Project #</th>
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A. Missionaries Assigned to Holston Conference
Christina DowlingSoka
Code: 931511

B. Appalachian Ministries Network
Code: 982041

C. Appalachia Service Project
Code: 982050

D. Four Corners Native American Ministries, Shiprock, NM
Code: 581254

E. Henderson Settlement, Frakes, Kentucky
Code: 773365

F. Hinton Rural Life Center, Hayesville, NC
Code: 731372

G. Willow, Alaska Church & Community Ministry
Code: 931520

H. Red Bird Mission, Inc., Beverly, Kentucky
Code: 773726

I. Society of St. Andrew, Big Island, VA
Code: 801600

J. United Methodist Volunteers in Mission, SEJ Jurisdiction, Birmingham, AL
Code: 901875

K. Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference
Code: 583634

UMCOR Advance

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<th>GBGM Code</th>
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A. Heifer Project, Living Gift
Code: 982532

B. UMCOR Disaster Response in U.S.
Code: 901670

C. UMCOR Emergency Relief (Around the World)
Code: 982450

D. World Hunger / Poverty
Code: 982920
Holston Annual Conference

Offering

Opioid Addiction Response

E. Disaster Relief Within Holston Conference 143
F. District Advance (Indicate which project)
G. Habitat for Humanity Ministries
   (Be sure to indicate which habitat you are supporting)
   1. Anderson Co. 184 3. Blount County 167
   2. Appalachia 4. Holston 067
      (Scott County) 105 5. Loudon County 099
H. Hispanic Ministries within Holston Conference 093
   1. Galax, VA 541
   2. Smoky Mountain District 542
   3. Mountain View District 543
I. Holston Conference Camps
   1. Camperships
      Bays Mountain 238 Dickenson 437
      Lookout 276 Wesley Woods 275
      Undesignated 087
   2. Camp Development Funds
      Bays Mountain 101 Dickenson 236
      Lookout 078 Wesley Woods 113
      Undesignated 484
   3. Annual Ministry Funds
      Bays Mountain 486 Dickenson 488
      Lookout 487 Wesley Woods 489
      Undesignated 485
   4. Camp in the Community 869
   5. Camp & Retreat Ministries 870
Conference Advance

Continued

J. Holston United Methodist Homes for Children
1. Dermid Family Services, Bristol, Virginia 103
2. Holston Home, Greeneville, TN 002

K. Neighborhood Centers
1. Bethlehem Community Center 079
2. Wesley House Community Center 080

L. Student Aid, Conference Scholarship Grants
1. Emory & Henry College 085
2. Tennessee Wesleyan University 125

M. Support for Action Ministries
1. Appalachian Trail Chaplaincy 847
2. Big Stone Gap Dist. Church & Community Renewal 141
3. CASA of East TN, Inc. 493
4. CASA Corridor of East TN 611
5. CASA of the Tennessee Heartland 455
6. Coalition for Kids, Inc. 133
7. Community Youth Outreach, 1st UMC, Johnson City 906
8. Contact 211 886
9. Crossroads Medical Mission 364
10. Emerald Youth Foundation-Just Lead 014
11. GATE-Gateway to Independence 612
12. Good Samaritan Ministries, Inc. 066
13. Help For Haiti Children’s Shelter 913
14. Hope to Walk 887
15. Interfaith Health Clinic 492
16. Jubilee Project, Inc. 015
17. Ministry Ctr. Food Pantry 888
18. Morgan-Scott Project 013
19. Of One Accord Ministry 904
20. Partners for Children 536
21. Plateau Home School 106
22. Project Crossroads Ministries 047
23. Restorative Justice Conf. 903
24. SIFAT-Alabama 670
25. Susannah’s House 830
26. Unity Center 151

N. Volunteer in Mission Projects and Personnel
Projects approved by the Conference
1. New Church Development/Orphanage in Guatemala 121
2. New Church Development in Costa Rica 161
3. New Church Development in Holston 380
4. New Church Development in Latvia 365
5. Resurrection–Costa Rica 920

O. World Ministries
1. English Speaking UMC–Prague 716
   — Mark A. Hicks
2. South Sudan Projects 537
3. Hope for Today–India 490
4. Magdy Bassaly—Ambassadors for Christ International 501
5. Mary Diana Samuel Orphanage–India 579
6. The Rescue Ministries–Philippines 676

P. “Change for Children” 012

The Advance
formerly Advance Specials
Advancing hope in Christ’s name

Holston Annual Conference 2021
www.holston.org

Holston Annual Conference 2020 Book of Reports
VI.b  NURTURE MINISTRY TEAM

VI.b.1 CHILDREN’S MINISTRY TEAM

The Children’s Ministry Team serves as a resource to children’s ministry leaders, volunteers and children in our conference. The team meets bi-monthly, typically in virtual meetings with one face-to-face meeting per year. Our purpose is to:

1. Celebrate - share and relay stories
2. Encourage – new and improving ministries
3. Equip - provide tools and resources for leaders (staff and volunteers)
4. Connect – deepen relationships between leaders

The Children’s Ministry Facebook group provides up-to-date resources and ministry ideas, connects children’s ministry leaders, and celebrates the many inspirational activities throughout the conference. Each month features a specific theme. This year we highlighted Volunteer recognition, Seasonal ideas (Advent, Lent, Easter, summer), Change for Children grants, mission ideas and grant opportunities. Future themes include: summer planning and programming, special needs and fall planning. We encourage you to join the conversation with your questions, ideas, and suggestions. The Facebook group can be found at: https://www.facebook.com/groups/HolstonKids/.

The Children’s Ministry Team continues to be an advocate and resource for Safe Sanctuaries in our churches. We offer resources, answer questions, provide training for teachers and leaders, as well being available to review your local church policy.

Change for Children continues to be an established mission providing financial grants to local church ministries with children and families in their communities. The 2018-2019 Annual Conference offering was $73,031. Two grant cycles (August and February) were held this year. Twenty-three grants to churches and organizations were awarded for a total of $54,665 for the year. Camp in the Community was awarded $14,500 to distribute grants to participating churches. The grand total of grants awarded using Change for Children funds for 2019-2020 was $69,165! Thank you Holston Conference for your generous support of children!

“Lunch and Learn” Regional/District Networking groups launched this year in the Tennessee Valley District and the New River District. The goal of this project is to identify leaders in each area and help them to establish networking groups for support and encouragement. We anticipate adding additional regions in the upcoming year.

For more information about the Holston Children’s Ministry Team or to offer suggestions or comments please contact susangroseclose@holston.org.

We are grateful for the many servant leaders in Holston and for their ministry to children and families in our conference and around the world. We look forward to serving in the upcoming year.

Submitted by,
Jaymie Derden, Chair

= = = = END OF REPORT = = = =

VI.b.2 CONFERENCE COUNCIL ON YOUTH MINISTRIES

Conference Council on Youth Ministries and the youth of Holston had a very successful year.

Two representatives from the council were voted as 2020-2024 Jurisdictional Delegates at the 2019 Annual Conference.

Assembly was an incredible experience for all of those who attended. Some of our CCYM representatives were able to experience a new summer camp called Engage. The camp was held at Emory and Henry College and helped students learn how they can grow in their faith and live out their call to ministry.

Many youth from all over the conference got to be a part of the first international Resurrection. This event took place in La Fortuna, Costa Rica. Along with many pastors and lay members, the team spent almost 10 days in Costa Rica working together to grow the Kingdom of God.
Our Youth Service Fund decided to rename the fund to 12:31 Fund: Serving Home and Beyond, after Mark 12:31. The team decided that half of the funds should go to local needs and the other half should be given to international ministries. The 12:31 Fund made its debut at Resurrection 2020 where $21,000 was taken up during the offering in the Saturday morning sessions. Rez 2020 was filled with worship, praise, and celebration for all of the gifts God has blessed us with.

The youth of Holston had an incredible year of showing the love and light of Jesus Christ in all they have done.

Reagan Kelly, President

= = = = END OF REPORT = = = =

VI.b.3 YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY TEAM
No report submitted

VI.b.4 CAMP AND RETREAT MINISTRY BOARD

In the summer of 2018 a high-energy boy (we will call Luke) found his way to one of our camps for the first time. Luke kept our camp counselors on their toes and proved to need additional supervision. One of our Holston ministers, Tom, was present and agreed to shepherd the boy during the week. The boy frankly exhausted Tom. During that week Luke and Tom got to spend a lot of time together. Tom told the boy about his plan to hike part of the Appalachian Trail during the year and they shared more about their lives and plans.

In the summer of 2019, Tom visited camp again the week that this high-energy boy was present. Luke was excited to see Tom. The boy told Tom that he had looked for him all year. Luke explained to Tom that during the year he would have his grandmother take him to the woods very often so that he could walk around and each time he would call out Tom’s name loud as he could. He was hoping to hear the minister respond so they could talk more but he never got a response.

The minister’s life was forever touched. This child had worn his patience for a solid week but loved him so much he called out his name searching for him for a year until he was finally able to find him again at camp the next summer. How often are we able to build relationships like this in the name of Christ? How often do we as a church call out for other disciples to help us find the right path? At Holston Camp and Retreat Ministries, we strive to provide a space to share the love of Christ in the glory of creation. We give a place for children and adults to minister to one another. Camp changes lives for the Kingdom.

Thank you Holston Conference for supporting Camp Bays Mountain, Camp in the Community, Camp Dickenson, Camp Lookout, and Camp Wesley Woods in 2019! Our ministry is possible because the churches in Holston send campers, staff, volunteers, and donations each year. Because of your support we had more campers in 2019 than ever before. Of our 3,308 campers, 2,233 attended with some form of scholarship. While our camps remain some of the most affordable overnight camps in the nation, the need for financial assistance is still very great in the Holston Conference. We are thrilled to be able to bridge the financial gap for families in need.

Our camps continue to serve as a gateway for families of campers into our local United Methodist congregations. 52% of our camper families report being members of the United Methodist Church, while 48% report another denomination, faith, or as unchurched. We strive through the efforts of our staff, as well as our Ministers-in-Residence, to invite campers without a home church to one of our local congregations. Many of our campers make faith commitments at camp and we believe it is important for them to have a home church to nurture those commitments. In 2019, 541 campers made a first-time commitment to Christ and 671 rededicated their lives. We hope to connect camper families and churches so that more disciples of Jesus Christ can be made for the transformation of the world.

Thank you for your partnership in ministry,
Mary Thompson, Executive Director
Dave Grant, Board Chair

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VI.b.5 OLDER ADULT MINISTRY TEAM

Unfortunately, because of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) we had to cancel the 20th Anniversary Celebration of Jubilation in April. It is the team’s hope to reschedule in the Fall of 2020. This retreat is a time apart for adults with delicious food, inspiration, fellowship, information, and fun in the beautiful Smoky Mountains. Thanks to the design team who makes the retreat possible – Bill Cochran, David and Louise Coulter, Joan DeTar, Nancy and Larry Hobbs, Russell and Virginia Martin, Joyce Marion, Deb Miller, and Karen Wood. We encourage you to watch Holston Conference announcements about the 20th Anniversary celebration!

The United States Census Bureau announced that by 2030 there will be a larger population of older adults than children for the first time in the history of the United States. Already our congregations are graying and this trend will continue as Baby Boomers retire. Our congregational ministries with older adults span 40+ years and a one-size, fits all ministry, no longer works effectively. The ministry needs of those recently retired, who are too old to be young and too young to be old, are totally different than the needs of senior adults who have just moved into independent or assisted living. Reverend Susan Groseclose is available for training, to provide resources, and to assist your district or local congregation to develop or expand your ministries with older adults. Please contact Susan at susangroseclose@holston.org.

We are grateful for the many servant leaders throughout Holston for their ministries with older adults in our congregations and communities. We look forward to serving in the upcoming year.

In Christ’s service,
Reverend Susan Groseclose

We are now offering programs on racism to any church, group, gathering in Holston Conference. It is our hope to engage every church in meaningful and life-changing dialogue. We firmly and deeply believe that we must learn, study and understand the structures of racism in order to move into becoming an antiracist Church. Contact Pat Bellingrath if your church or group is interested in our program. These programs, “Sacred Conversations on Race,” will include videos, resources, dialogue and a time for the participants to ask questions and to engage in difficult but necessary conversations.

Respectfully submitted by,
Patricia Bellingrath (patbellingrath@gmail.com)
Peace with Justice Coordinator

VI.c.1 RELIGION AND RACE MINISTRY AREA

On a denominational basis, the UMC has a General Commission on Religion and Race. (GCORR) Erin Hawkins is the General Secretary. In a video presentation, The General Secretary stated that “The responsibility of the General Commission on Religion and Race is to help the Church embrace the diversity of God.”

The Core Values of GCORR are based on the biblical imperative of right relationships with God and one another—relationships of: Love, Grace, Equity, Justice, Respect, and Mutual Accountability.

The GCORR’s mission includes providing practical resources and support to help leaders throughout the Church engage and embrace the cultural diversity present in our congregations and communities.

Annual Conference level: It is my understanding that the primary task of the Conference Committee on Religion and Race is on a much smaller scale, but similar in nature to the ministry of the GCORR. Our primary task is to encourage understanding of and commitment to inclusiveness in the life of the Annual Conference. We shall “keep before the annual conference the issues and values of racial and ethnic pluralism so that people may better understand and appreciate one another, and work to eliminate racism and ethnocentrism within the United Methodist Church and the community.”
Questions for consideration:
What training opportunities are available on the conference level that will enhance the primary task of the conference committee on Religion and Race?

How can the Annual Conference work to identify, address and work towards eliminating racism and ethnocentrism within our community of faith?

What can be implemented on the district and local church levels that can help prepare congregations to receive, nurture and sustain healthy cross-racial/cross-cultural appointments?

What training opportunities are available that will equip and enhance congregations, clergy, lay leaders, the board of ordained ministry and the cabinet as they endeavor to address the various concerns that surface at the intersection Religion and Race?

The Conference Committee on Religion and Race will be in contact with the GCORR and seek resources, guidance and training opportunities that will enhance our work and effectiveness in the Holston Conference.

It is my understanding that the GCORR has developed tools that are designed to help the appointment process in making cross racial and cross cultural pastoral appointments.

Examples of Tools Developed by The GCORR:
1. Online Course – Implicit Bias: What We Don’t Think We Think
2. 3 Questions to Ask Yourself in a New CR/CC Appointment
   Written by Rev. Dr. Clarence Brown, St. Lukes UMC, Virginia Annual Conference

It’s that time again! The season of connectional expression called appointment making. Bishops and Cabinets across the connection have prayed and discerned which clergy will go to which mission field. For the clergy, the season of transition is accompanied by many challenges: leaving a beloved community; anxiety and anticipation of the new; the exhaustive process of moving physically; adjusting to a new ministry context. Each and all of these challenges test the coping skills of even the most seasoned pastors among us.

There is, of course, the additional challenge faced by those who offer themselves for appointment to cross-racial/cross-cultural (CR/CC) appointments. As one who has engaged this ministry for some time now, I pray for this new part of your journey of service and offer these thoughts as you move forward.

Our Discipline speaks to the “open itinerancy” (par. 425), and further speaks to “cross-racial and cross-cultural appointments (being) made as a creative response to increasing racial and ethnic diversity in the church and in its leadership…” (par. 425.4). It goes further to say that Bishops, District Superintendents and the General Church are to provide consultations, training and resources to prepare and support such ministry engagements. The General Commission on Religion and Race is and has been leading in the development of such resources. The Commission is here to support you, and this communication is an initiatory outreach to you in this regard.

First, as you engage this appointment, be very self-aware. What is your narrative? Where are your wounds? What strengths and growth points do you bring? This ministry requires a certain amount of resilience and transparency as you – and the congregation – grow together.

Second, where is your support? How is your relationship with the supervisory arm of the church (D.S., Bishop, et al)? What training, resources, and undergirding are you being supplied with? What work has been done with the church prior to your arrival? How might your family be cared for? The answers to these questions are essential to fruitful beginnings.

Third, what is the narrative of the congregation you will be serving? What is their history? What are their cultural norms? What is their discerned mission? What is their posture regarding race and reconciliation? Where do your gifts and their mission coincide? These are among many questions to be asked and answered over time, too many to be surfaced here. The good news is that the Bible records a coherent narrative of how the Gospel of Jesus Christ encountered and overcame geographical, cultural, and racial barriers of every type in a creative synthesis we call beloved community. You are being prayed for by many as you proclaim the good news in a new environment.

- Learn to exercise intercultural competency and tailor your sermon to your congregation by being cognizant of the geographical location, demographic and generational factors, and spirituality of church membership.
• Choose quality over quantity, and keep your sermon simple and to the point. Moreover, take time to practice. Preach your sermon beforehand several times, and work on pronunciation and adjust your speech delivery accordingly.

• Worshipers prefer a clear and concise sermon over a homily that is inundated with many difficult theological words and concepts. Remember to focus on feeding their soul by proclaiming the Word of God to the best of your ability rather than trying to impress them.

• Explore different preaching styles to see which one works best for you and your congregation.

Report Submitted By,
Charlotte B. McKee, Chairperson

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VI.c.2 CHURCH AND SOCIETY MINISTRY AREA
No report submitted

VI.c.3 STATUS AND ROLE OF WOMEN MINISTRY AREA (CSROW)

The Holston Conference Commission on the Status and Role of Women (CSROW) is committed to full participation and inclusion of women in the total life of The United Methodist Church. We believe that every person—clergy and lay, women and men, children and adults are full and equal parts of the family of God. We believe that a fully engaged and empowered membership is vital to The United Methodist Church’s mission “to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.”

In 2019, we celebrated the leadership of Bishop Mary Virginia Taylor in her efforts to advance female leadership at the cabinet level. For the first time in the history of the Holston Conference, the cabinet had a larger percentage of female district superintendents. We acknowledged this at the Annual Conference. Also, we recognized the service of two female district superintendents who were retiring, Rev. Brenda Carroll and Rev. Sandra Johnson.

We continue to monitor, educate and celebrate efforts of clergy women. We worked with the conference sexual ethics team to create a video showcasing examples of sexist and disparaging comments clergy women in the Holston Conference have experienced. We continue to work to help eliminate the practice of gender and ethnic discrimination within the Holston Conference and beyond. Holston’s CSROW committee by a majority vote, endorsed Rev. Sharon Bowers as an episcopacy nominee for 2020.

In the upcoming year and before the end of the quadrennium, the committee has one overarching goal to increase awareness of the role of CSROW in the annual conference. This will be accomplished utilizing a multifaceted approach. Our strategy will include but not be limited to providing training for clergy, SPRC committee members and laity in the various districts. Also, we will provide listening sessions, collect data, monitor events, advocate through/with the conference sexual ethics committee, write and proposal legislation in the annual conference, invite the cabinet to discuss sexism and appointments, attend Do No Harm conferences, advocate for budgeted expenses, recommend women as quadrennial leaders, encourage the use of inclusive language, and create our own story (narrative) in the Holston Conference and beyond. Long term, the Holston Annual CSROW will design and implement a clergywomen mentoring program that seeks to nurture younger clergy who may experience a call to vocational ministry that is designed to help avoid the pitfalls that women called in ministry often encounter.

Holston Annual Conference CSROW will educate, collaborate, advocate, and participate fully in the health and life of the church. We look forward to actively raising the bar of inclusivity in the Holston Annual Conference.

Rev. Sharon L. Bowers, Chairperson

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VI.c.4 CHRISTIAN UNITY AND INTER-RELIGIOUS RELATIONSHIPS MINISTRY AREA
No report submitted

VI.c.5 DISABILITY CONCERNS
No report submitted
VI.c.6 STRENGTH FOR THE JOURNEY TEAM

For persons living with HIV+ “Strength for the Journey” Retreat offers a week to renew and deepen their faith in Christ. Staffed by Holston Clergy, camp directors, church programmers, craftspeople, nurses, chefs and musicians, SFTJ campers join in worship three times daily, share in covenant groups, participate in workshops led by experts from TN and VA, and have time to hike outdoors and work crafts indoors. This past year, spiritual formation was led by Rev. Ginger Isom, worship and recovery sessions were led by Rev. Don Jones, and, as in every year Rev. Charles Maynard shared stories. The retreat leaders were Jan Thomas and Ginny West Case. Rev Mike Sluder provided supportive guidance throughout the year.

During the Oct 2019 retreat in Cosby, participants asked if the commitment to this ministry had changed since the called General Conference. We were able to tell them that no one had ever spoken against Holston “Offering Christ” to all persons. As John Wesley said, “It will be a double blessing if you give yourself up to the Great Physician, that He May heal soul and body together. And unquestionably this is His design. He wants to give you...both inward and outward health.”

Holston Conference continues to sustain SFTJ through its budget, donations from congregations, and individual giving. Prayer stoles are handmade by United Methodist Women and so many churches offer all the things a camp needs to be sustained.

While preparing for the coming camp in October, former campers reached out to me during the early days of the coronavirus (COVID-19). They told me to act responsibly toward others, to be informed about my own immune system, and remember persons whose lives are joyful even when waking up each day living with vulnerability. One camper who has lived with HIV for 36 years told me to trust Christ in all things. Then he smiled and invited me to his church “when the doors open again.”

Dennis Loy, Chairperson

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Prayers and gifts from Holston Conference churches, assisted by the pastors and ambassadors, are being used by the Lord in mighty ways throughout Holston Home’s ministry. James 1:27 reminds us all of our responsibility and our privilege to co-labor with Christ in the lives of young people.

Bradley Williams, President
Rev. Charles Hutchins, Director of Church Relations

VI.c.8 NATIVE AMERICAN MINISTRIES
No report submitted

VI.c.9 STRENGTHENING THE BLACK CHURCH HOLSTON CONFERENCE FOR THE 21ST CENTURY (SBC-21)

The Holston Conference has begun an initiative with Strengthening The Black Church for the 21st Century (SBC-21). This initiative has helped hundreds of struggling black churches connect with successful ones to gain insights and encouragement for their ministries.

Strengthening the Black Church for the 21st Century is a National Racial Ethnic Plan of the United Methodist Church. We are dedicated to helping predominately black congregations become effective and fruitful in mission and ministry. This is done by offering specific services to collaborating churches based on needs identified by Annual Conference Bishops, Cabinets, local congregations, clergy, and laity.

We met in Nashville and with the Rev. Dr. Fred Allen, National Director of Strengthening the Black Church and Rev. Michelle Morton and requested that the Holston Conference become partners with SBC-21 to empower the black churches in the conference to remain and become more viable.

The Black churches in the Holston Conference are part of more than 2,400 African-American churches and 432,354 African Americans in the United Methodist Church in the United States. SBC-21 is a program designed to assist UM Churches with predominately black congregations. The initiative moves forward and fosters trainings in worship, faithful outreach and planning, administration, support, nurture and empowerment for as many churches as possible. “It is not limited to an African-American population but is to be a gift to the entire denomination.”

Our SBC-21 partner churches receive relevant tools, coaching, training, strategic planning, hope, inspiration, and encouragement to go forward with a fresh vision. We envision all churches with healthy vitality, faithful determination, and fruitful ministries; led by strong and competent leadership. We envision the Black church to be equipped, prepared and unapologetic in building the beloved kingdom of God on earth and resisting any form of evil and injustice anywhere.

The Holston Conference has begun the process. We have created a design team of clergy and laity from all nine districts in the conference. We are in the process of developing a strategic plan under the guidance of an assigned coach, Rev. Joseph Washington from the South Carolina Annual Conference. We are committed to transforming and sustaining vital Black congregations and Black pastors.

On February 8, 2020, we held our first conference-wide gathering with approximately one hundred people in attendance including Bishop Taylor, conference staff and Black clergy and laity from throughout the conference. Our guest speaker was the Rev. Dr. Fred Allen, the former National Director of Strengthening the Black Church for the 21st Century.

Partner congregations will be local churches who want to be vital and have the need to collaborate with the SBC-21 networks to engage in:

- Leadership development
- Teambuilding
- Strategic planning,
- Conflict resolution
- Ministry development
- Engagement in mission fields.

Through the Holston Conference, identified clergy and lay leadership will be offered services through various mediums to equip current leaders serving in progressive or struggling congregations. Professional trained coaches, master trainers and facilitators will be deployed into the field to assist churches and annual conferences focused on leadership development.

We will continue to plan, develop and implement our short and long term strategic plan for the Black Church in the Holston Conference in the 21st Century and beyond.

Rev. Sharon L. Bowers, Co-Chair, Rev. Dr. Barbara Doyle, Co-Chair, Rev. Joseph Washington, Coach
VI.c.10 BLACK METHODISTS FOR CHURCH RENEWAL, INC. (BMCR)

Greetings from the Holston Conference Caucus of Black Methodists for Church Renewal (BMCR). BMCR is the organized Black caucus of the United Methodist Church; one of the five U.S. based ethnic caucuses. It represents and is dedicated to more than 2,400 Black United Methodist congregations and approximately 500,000 African American members across the denomination. Specific to the Holston Conference Caucus, there are 38 Black churches with approximately 2,300 members.

The founding Purpose of BMCR remains the same and is as relevant today as it was in 1968. “We, the people called Black Methodists for Church Renewal, created in the image of God, confess our Faith in a living and just God. We call ourselves and the entire United Methodist Church to repentance, to rebuild God’s Church as a community of faith, to declare the traditions and stories of the Bible and Black culture, to reclaim the black community and to liberate all people from racism and injustice everywhere.” The Purpose is carried out through seven specific Beliefs which are outlined and can be viewed at http://bmcrumc.org.

The Black Methodists for Church Renewal, Inc. adopted for its 2020 theme: “It’s time. Our Time Under God Is Now!” The guiding scripture is, “I tell you, now is the time for God’s favor, now is the day of salvation.” 2 Corinthians 6:2. The focus on time is not one about anxiety, but rather one of opportunity. The opportunity to advocate for unity and justice, serve as an agitating conscience of the Church, and put into place strategies to strengthen leadership and local churches. This work continues to be vitally important, as we raise up prophetic and spiritual leaders who will be advocates for the unique needs of Black people in the United Methodist Church.

Four accomplishments of the Holston Conference Caucus BMCR since Annual Conference 2019 include: 1) launching a fund development campaign known as BMCR Sunday; 2) offering support to the African American delegates (one laity and one clergy) elected to General Conference 2020; 3) acting as an endorsement agency to nominate Rev. Sharon L. Bowers as an episcopacy nominee; and 4) participation in the Southeast Regional BMCR, Jacksonville, Florida and the National BMCR, Kansas City, Missouri General meetings.

Projected activities include a Fall gathering, a Winter event and other opportunities to fulfill the Black Methodists for Church Renewal, Inc. Purpose. From this day forward our dedication must be deep, our commitment sure, and our action certain. “It’s time. Our time under God is now!”

Faithfully yours,
Donna M. Mosby, Coordinator

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VI.d STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY TEAM

The Holston Conference Stewardship Team is focused on strengthening stewardship and generosity in Holston’s churches so that we might more fully live into the mission that God calls us to. Our work begins with a theological understanding of generosity:

“We are called to be a generous people because our God is a generous God. Everything we have and everything we are is a gift from God. It belongs to God and is entrusted to our use. As Christ followers we are to live generously and give generously. As we grow in our discipleship, it should lead to a growth in our generosity. Ultimately, our giving is motivated by God’s grace and God’s love.”

Our hope as a team is to offer a strong vision for stewardship, and to provide encouragement, practical support, and relevant and adaptable resources to the churches and clergy of Holston. Together, we believe that good stewardship leads to greater generosity.

Our work is made possible through the staff and financial support of the Holston Foundation and the financial and ministry team support of Holston Conference. We are grateful to both bodies.

Here are some of our efforts:

• We have continued to provide stewardship support to Holston’s nine districts. Initial stewardship programs have been presented in most districts. Attending clergy received multiple resources. We look forward to returning to Holston’s districts in 2020 to present new stewardship strategies, ideas, and resources.
• We have put in place a stewardship grant fund, making grants of up to $500 available to churches that are seeking to initiate new stewardship efforts. We awarded our first grant last year to a Tennessee Valley District church and consulted with them in their stewardship campaign. The church was excited to experience a 50% increase in total pledges and in the amount pledged. We hope to partner with other churches in 2020.

• Through the work of the Holston Foundation’s Director of Communications, Ms. LeRae Collins, we have a new and greatly enhanced website. The site includes excellent resources centering on Estate & Planned Giving, Endowments, Grants & Scholarships, and Investment Options (including performance history). There is also a stewardship link featuring many helpful and adaptable resources. We encourage you to visit the Holston Foundation website.

• We have entered into a relationship with Horizons Stewardship, one of the largest and most respected ministry funding organizations in America. In addition to recommending them for annual stewardship campaigns or capital giving campaigns, Horizons will partner with the Holston Foundation to offer some excellent learning and training opportunities within the bounds of Holston. These events will help support and equip churches and pastors to strengthen generosity and funding for ministry in their churches. Finally, through the Holston Foundation’s website, churches will have access to Horizons Stewardship’s vast array of resources, including Giving 365.

• We will continue to offer stewardship and generosity training to Holston’s ordination classes. We also hope to provide training and support for entering local pastors in the future.

Again, we are grateful for the support of the Foundation and the Conference in providing stewardship leadership in Holston. We especially thank Dr. Paul Bowman, Executive Director of the Holston Foundation, the Rev. Richard Edwards, Director of Stewardship and Rev. Michael Sluder, Director of Connectional Ministries in Holston Conference, for their support.

Troy Forrester, Chair

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VI.e WITNESS MINISTRY TEAM - CHURCHES OF EXCELLENCE IN EVANGELISM

APPALACHIAN DISTRICT

Gold
- East Stone Gap
- Morrison Chapel

Silver
- Colonial Heights
- Grange Hall
- McFerrin
- Old Union
- Pound

Bronze
- Crossroads
- First UMC Surgoinsville
- Hales Chapel

Honorable Mention
- Amis Chapel
- Cameron
- Cassidy

CLINCH MOUNTAIN DISTRICT

Gold
- Cedar Bluff UMC (Cedar Bluff)
- Main Street UMC
- Pisgah UMC
- South Bristol UMC
- State Street UMC

Silver
- Alexander Memorial UMC
- Chilhowie UMC
- Clearview UMC
- Davis Memorial UMC
- John Wesley UMC
- Looney’s Chapel UMC

Bronze
- Abingdon UMC
- Church Hill UMC
- Coleman’s Chapel UMC

Honorable Mention
- Addilyn Memorial UMC
- Aldersgate UMC
- Beech Grove UMC
- Blackwell Chapel UMC
- Carvoso UMC
- Concord UMC
- Crabtree Chapel UMC
- Elizabeth UMC
- Honaker First UMC
- Lebanon Memorial UMC
- Madam Russell UMC
- Mahanaim UMC
- Mt. Olivet UMC (Tazewell)
- Munsey Chapel UMC
- Reynolds Memorial UMC
- Ridgedale UMC
- Riverside UMC (Saltville)
- Seven Mile Ford UMC
- Shady Grove UMC
- St. Luke UMC
- Steelesburg UMC
- Three Springs UMC
- Washington Springs UMC
- Wharf Hill UMC
- Wilbur Memorial UMC
HIWASSEE DISTRICT

Gold
- First UMC, Cleveland
- Ooltewah UMC
- St. Clair UMC
- Wesley Memorial UMC, Cleveland

Silver
- Calhoun UMC
- Keith Memorial UMC
- Luminary UMC
- Mt. Carmel UMC
- Niota UMC

Bronze
- Allen Memorial UMC
- Apison UMC
- Black Fox UMC
- Carlock UMC
- Cedar Springs UMC
- Decatur UMC
- First UMC, Dayton
- First UMC, Madisonville
- First UMC, Sweetwater

Honorable Mention
- Goodfield UMC
- Jones Chapel UMC
- Mars Hill UMC
- McDonald UMC
- Spring Creek UMC
- St. Paul’s UMC
- Vine Grove/Mt. Olive UMC
- Wesley Memorial UMC, Etowah
- Wesleyanna

MOUNTAIN VIEW DISTRICT

Gold
- Asbury
- First Dandridge
- First Rogersville
- Shady Grove
- Strawberry Plains
- Trinity Greeneville

Silver
- First Morristown
- Hartmans Chapel
- Hunt’s Chapel
- Jones Chapel
- Mt Hope
- Persia
- Pleasant Hill
- Rehobeth
- Shiloh-Rutledge
- Thompson Chapel

Bronze
- Bethel
- Bybee
- First Newport
- First White Pine
- HC Rios de Aqua Viva
- Hills Union
- Mary’s Chapel
- Mayes Chapel
- Mooresburg
- Otes
- Rutledge
- Tate Chapel
- Woodlawn

Honorable Mention
- Antioch
- Bales
- Central
- Edwards Chapel
- First Jefferson City
- McCampbells
- Mt Zion-Afton
- Mt Zion-Dandridge
- Mulberry Gap
- New Tazewell
- Pruitt Hill
- Romeo
- Russellville
- Seahorns Chapel
- Trinity Morristown
- Wesley’s Chapel-Greeneville
- Wittenburg
### NEW RIVER DISTRICT

**Gold**
- Little Wilson UMC
- Floyd UMC
- Mt Ephraim UMC
- Edgewood UMC - Pearisburg Circuit
- Eggleston UMC
- First UMC Rich Creek
- Forest UMC - Elk Creek
- Forest UMC - Lead Mines
- Glenwood UMC - Draper Circuit
- Grahams Forge UMC
- Hales Chapel UMC
- Kathleen Memorial UMC
- Lebanon UMC
- Locust Hill UMC
- Morgan’s Chapel UMC
- Mt Olivet UMC - Pulaski
- Mt Zion UMC - Elk Creek Circuit
- Mt Zion UMC - Mechanicsburg Circuit
- New Mt Olive UMC
- Newbern UMC
- Oakland UMC
- Rural Retreat UMC
- Salem UMC - Elk Creek Circuit
- Salem UMC - Mechanicsburg Circuit
- Shiloh UMC - Mechanicsburg Circuit
- Stevens Creek UMC
- Trinity UMC - Pulaski
- Wesendonck UMC
- Woodlawn UMC

**Silver**
- Auburn UMC
- Asbury UMC - Cedar Springs
- Bailey UMC
- Bethany UMC - Bridle Creek Circuit
- Byrnes Chapel UMC
- Central UMC Radford
- Cold Springs UMC
- Jordan’s Chapel UMC
- Mt Olivet UMC - Galax
- Randolph Avenue UMC
- Savannah UMC
- Shady Grove UMC - Staffordsville Circuit

**Bronze**
- Bethel UMC - Elk Creek Circuit
- Atkins Memorial UMC
- Bishop’s Chapel UMC
- Thessalia UMC
- Cecil’s Chapel UMC
- Dublin UMC

**Honorable Mention**
- Ebenezer UMC - Bluefield
- Evergreen UMC
- Falling Branch UMC
- First UMC Bluefield
- First UMC Galax
- First UMC Hillsville
- First UMC Narrows
- First UMC Pearisburg
- Gladeville UMC
- Liberty Hill UMC
- Mountain View UMC - Newbern
- Mt Pleasant UMC
- Mt Mitchell UMC
- Out of The Box UMC
- Mt Vale UMC
- Parrott UMC
- Pocahontas UMC
- Shady Grove UMC - Mechanicsburg Circuit
- Shiloh UMC - Woodlawn
- Sidney UMC
- Thornspring UMC

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### SCENIC SOUTH DISTRICT

**Gold**
- Christ
- Eastdale Village
- Hixson
- Signal Crest
- Tyner
- Wauhatchie
- White Oak

**Bronze**
- East Ridge
- Jones Memorial
- Pikeville
- St. Elmo
- Washington Hills

**Silver**
- Flintstone
- Harrison
- Paynes

**Honorable Mention**
- Chapel Hill
- Holly Ave.
- McFarland Ave.
- Randolph
- Red Bank
- Simpson
- Stanley

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SMOKY MOUNTAIN DISTRICT

Gold
- Cokesbury
- Friendsville
- Gatlinburg, First
- Oakland
- Beulah

Silver
- Ebenezer
- French Broad
- Maryville, First
- Shults Grove -Pittman Center Circuit

Bronze
- Asbury
- Fairview
- Fox (Fairgarden Circuit)
- Logan’s Chapel
- Loudon
- Middleselements
- New Hope
- New Salem
- Pleasant Hill (Knox)
- Pleasant Hill (Roane)
- Pleasant Hill (Sevier)
- Sevierville, First
- St. Paul
- Tuckaleechee
- Walden’s Creek (Sevierville Parish)
- Walland
- Wears Valley

Honorable Mention
- Alcoa, First
- Bethel (East Knox)
- Broadway
- Burnett Memorial (Pittman Center Cir.)
- Cedar Bluff (Fairgarden Circuit)
- Eden (Fairgarden Circuit)
- Immanuel
- Meadow
- Mountain View
- Pleasant Hill (Blount)
- St. Mark’s (Blount)
- St Mark (Knox)
- Trentville
- Webb’s Creek -Pittman Center Circuit

TENNESSEE VALLEY DISTRICT

Gold
- Central UMC, Knoxville
- Concord
- Fincastle
- Martin Chapel
- New Life
- Powell

Silver
- Bradbury
- Cawood
- Central UMC, Lenoir City
- Church Street
- Harriman
- Heiskell
- Middlebrook Pike

Bronze
- Andersonville
- Bearden
- Bethel UMC, Amherst
- Christ
- Emerald Avenue
- HANSARD Chapel
- Haven Chapel
- Kern Memorial
- Kingston
- Memorial
- Oneida, First
- St. Paul

Honorable Mention
- Beaver Ridge
- Cedar Lane
- First Farragut
- Fountain City
- Lennon-Seney
- Miller’s Chapel
- New Century
- Rocky Top
- Rugby Road
- Sinking Springs
- St. Mark
- Valley View
- Washington Pike

THREE RIVERS DISTRICT

Gold
- First UMC Elizabethton
- First UMC Johnson City

Silver
- Albright UMC
- Fairview UMC
- Grace UMC
- Jonesborough UMC
- Sulphur Springs UMC (Greene Co)
- Union Temple UMC

Bronze
- Baileyton UMC
- Blountville UMC
- Centenary UMC
- Cokesbury UMC
- Edgefield UMC
- Gray UMC
- Hermon UMC
- Limestone Cove UMC
- Limestone UMC
- Munsey Memorial UMC
- Otterbein UMC
- Telford UMC

Honorable Mention
- Austin Springs UMC
- Cedar Grove UMC
- Chucickey UMC
- Ebenezer UMC
- Jearoldstown UMC
- Mt Wesley UMC
- Rockhold UMC
- Sulphur Springs UMC (Washington Co)
- Wesley Memorial UMC

= = = = END OF REPORT = = = =


### VI.e.1 SMALL MEMBERSHIP CONGREGATION TEAM

The Holston Conference’s Small Church Membership Committee’s mission is to “make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world” so they will be even more vital in mission and ministry and bear fruit within their local churches. We have been charged with addressing issues which they have learned are particularly relevant to the Holston Conference. The group, chaired by Pastor Annette Warren, engaged in animated and free-flowing discussion within each of their meetings, which has yielded a number of results. They determined that the traditional UMC classification of a “small church” as one with less than 125 in average attendance is inappropriate at this time for the Holston Conference. Following a review of current statistics, they found that over 600 churches within Holston Conference averaged less than 50 in regular attendance. By redefining a “small church” utilizing that parameter, the group learned that approximately 70 percent of churches in the Holston Conference meet the criteria of a “small church.” Other meetings focused on potential strategies to increase membership and attendance in the smaller churches. Some of the suggestions revolved around a revised interpretation of the hubs (focusing on Hope, Unity, and Blessings), building of trust and cooperation first within each congregation before focusing on building them between congregations within the same appointments, then channeling into congregations across appointments, within/across districts, within/across conferences, etc. Ultimately, the group’s Hope is that the expansion of trust and cooperation across all levels will build Unity. Kingdom builders move mountains, which, in turn, will provide abundant Blessings to all involved, manifesting in increased membership, attendance, spirituality, resources, missions, and those continuing to expand those built strengths to ALL elements of spirituality, resources.

Committee Members: Rev. Scott Spence, Donna Mosby, Rev. Mike Teague, Rev. Caroline Hawthorne, Rev. Dr. Robert Kariwki Hyaga, Rev. Dr. Elson McClain, Rev. Rusty Taylor, Rev. Hugh Kilgore

Submitted by, Annette Warren, Chairperson

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### VI.e.2 HISPANIC / LATINO LEADERSHIP TEAM

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age. (Matthew 28:19-20)

We take seriously the Biblical mandate to reach all peoples in every language. This has been an exciting time for Hispanic/Latino ministry in Holston Conference. There is a lot of good news happening in Holston! We celebrate the established Spanish language congregations and missions in Holston that are reaching out to their communities all across the conference, including: First UMC - Dayton, TN; Casa de Dios - Knoxville, TN; Manantial de Esperanza - Knoxville, TN; San Juan - Maryville TN; Roca Eterna - Maryville, TN; Primera Iglesia Metodista - Gatlinburg, TN; El Ministerio del Espiritu Santo - Sevierville, TN; Iglesia Rios Agua Viva - Morristown, TN; Grace UMC - Erwin, TN; Todos Los Ninos de Dios - Unicoi, TN; Manantial de Vida - Abingdon, VA; Puerto del Cielo - Galax, VA; Nacimiento de Fe - Hixsville, VA; First UMC - Pulaski, VA

We give thanks for other missional outreaches that are happening in Chattanooga, Cleveland, Knoxville, and Pearisburg and for other collaborations and partnerships in this area between Holston churches. And we continue to be encouraged by the growing interest shown across Holston conference in reaching out to our Spanish speaking neighbors.

In 2019 and 2020 the Hispanic/Latino Leadership team has provided funding to support our local churches and pastors, and also provided grants to help local English speaking churches reach out in new ways to their Spanish-speaking neighbors. We are also providing funding to help with training and development for our Spanish speaking pastors. We are interested in talking with anyone across Holston Conference who is interested in developing or helping with Hispanic/Latino ministries and community outreach. Please contact us if you would like to become involved with our work, or if we can be of help with you in your ministry.

Submitted by,

Mike Feely, Chair

865-719-9715 revfeely@yahoo.com
Informe del equipo de liderazgo latino/hispano de la Conferencia de Holston 2020

Por tanto, vayan y hagan discípulos de todas las naciones, bautizándolos en el nombre del Padre y del Hijo y del Espíritu Santo, enseñándoles a obedecer todo lo que les ha mandado a ustedes. Y les aseguro que estaré con ustedes siempre, hasta el fin del mundo. (Mateo 28:19-20)

Nos tomamos muy en serio el mandato bíblico de llevar nuestro mensaje a todos los pueblos, en todos los idiomas. Este ha sido un momento emocionante para el ministerio hispano/latino en la Conferencia de Holston. ¡Hay grandes noticias circulando en Holston! Celebramos el establecimiento de las congregaciones y misiones de idioma español en Holston, que están comunicándose con sus comunidades en toda la conferencia; incluyendo: First UMC -Dayton, TN; Casa de Dios – Knoxville, TN; Manantial de Esperanza – Knoxville, TN; San Juan – Maryville TN; Roca Eterna – Maryville, TN; Primera Iglesia Metodista - Gatlinburg, TN; El Ministerio del Espíritu Santo - Sevierville, TN; Iglesia Rios Agua Viva – Morristown, TN; Grace UMC - Erwin, TN; Todos Los Ninos de Dios - Unicoi, TN; Manantial de Vida – Abingdon, VA; Puerto del Cielo – Galax, VA; Nacimiento de Fe - Hillsville, VA; First UMC -Pulaski, VA

Agradecemos otros acercamientos misioneros que están ocurriendo en Chattanooga, Cleveland, Knoxville, y Pearsburg, y otras colaboraciones y asociaciones en esta área, entre las iglesias de Holston. Además, continúa alentándonos el creciente interés surgido en toda la conferencia de Holston y orientado a comunicarnos con nuestros vecinos de habla española.

En los años 2019 y 2020, el equipo de liderazgo latino/ hispano ha proporcionado financiamiento para apoyar a nuestros pastores e iglesias locales; además de becas para ayudar a las iglesias locales de habla inglesa a buscar nuevas maneras de comunicarse con sus vecinos de habla española. También estamos proporcionando financiamiento para contribuir a la capacitación y desarrollo de nuestros pastores de habla española. Estamos interesados en hablar con cualquier miembro de la Conferencia de Holston que desee colaborar en el desarrollo de los ministerios latinos/hispanos y la difusión en las comunidades. Por favor, contáctenos si desea participar en nuestro trabajo o si le podemos ayudar en su ministerio.

Mike Feely, Chair

VII BOARD OF ORDAINED MINISTRY

I never cease to be amazed by the commitment of those who serve the Holston Annual Conference (HAC) through its District Committees on Ministry (DCOM) and the Annual Conference Board of Ordained Ministry (BOM). Each of these teams, made up of committed laity and clergy from our local churches, give many hours annually to the process of identifying, discerning, educating and credentialing those who discern God’s call in their lives to ministry as a vocation. This is part of our “making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.”

Those on the Holston Annual Conference BOM spend much time reading the materials of, interviewing and reflecting on the call, and exploring the readiness and effectiveness of those seeking Conference Membership. The Board does not take this work lightly. Because of the significant investment Board members have in candidates, we are able to celebrate with those pursuing their call to ordained ministry as they grow over the three-year provisional period.

We celebrate the training for DCOM, led by Rev. Terry Goodman this past year; and, the publication of a Guidelines for DCOM and BOM. This year we anticipate similar training for those who serve as Candidacy Mentors, and Clergy Mentors; along with a manual that will provide continuity of the mentoring experience across districts.

Again, this year we partnered with the Wesley Leadership Institute on Ministers’ Convocation which took place February 17 - 19, 2020, in Pigeon Forge. This year’s theme was: “Flourish! Health & Growth For Every Church.” We had three plenary speakers: Carey Nieuwhof, Jasmine Smothers, and Jeremy Troxler.

We continue to explore ways to live into “The 8-Year Assessment (EYA),” approved by the 2016 General Conference, and described in The Book of Discipline, 2016, ¶349.3 (pg 292). The 8-Year Assessment has proven to be a challenge for many Annual Conferences.

At the 2019 Annual Conference we celebrated the retirement of thirty-two clergy whose combined ministry was a total of 756 years of service to God’s Church. We celebrated the ordination of five full connection members, and commissioned eight provisional members. We licensed eight local pastors and recognized one associate member.
I am grateful for all who serve on the Holston Annual Conference BOM, those who serve on DCOM, and our staff in the Office of Clergy Services who resource both groups. On behalf of the BOM, and the DCOM, we are grateful for the opportunity to serve the people of the Holston Annual Conference.

Submitted by,
Mickey W. Rainwater, Chairperson

VIII GROUPS RELATED TO THE CABINET AND ORDAINED MINISTRY

VIII.a ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW COMMITTEE
No report submitted

VIII.b COMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATION - No report submitted

VIII.c ORDER OF DEACONS, ORDER OF ELDERS - No report submitted

VIII.d CENTER FOR WELLBEING SUPERVISORY COMMITTEE

The Holston Center for Wellbeing continues to grow in the number of clergy and families that make appointments. Another group location was added this year in Johnson City, Tennessee. Clergy groups in Chattanooga, Knoxville, Johnson City, and Emory, Virginia began studying the Enneagram and meeting for covenant time.

Donna Felskie, Administrative Assistant, submitted her resignation effective March 27, 2020. Her husband retired and they have plans to move back to Canada. She will be greatly missed as she served the Center very well for nearly 10 years. Interviews are being conducted in hopes of finding the right person to fill the position. The Holston Center for Wellbeing will be losing several of its Supervisory Committee members this year as well. Plans are in place to nominate new Supervisory Members for the next term of service.

The Holston Center for Wellbeing is a wonderful benefit the Holston Conference provides for its clergy and their families. Pastoral psychotherapy integrates the knowledge and discipline of clinical training with the wisdom and practice of theology and religion.

By supporting pastoral leadership in the Holston Conference, churches and families are strengthened toward becoming all that our Creator intended for them to be. When pastors and their families face stress or illness, the Holston Center for Wellbeing offers them a “soft place to land.” Often, ministry professionals need to be reminded to practice good self-care. They spend so much time taking care of others. Unfortunately, they forget about themselves. This makes them vulnerable to crossing boundaries or neglecting family or themselves. Professional. Safe. Affordable. Confidential. This is the mission and ministry of the Holston Center for Wellbeing.

Submitted by,
Rev. Kathy T. Heustess, MSW, LCSW, Director
Rev. Laura B. Plaster, Chairperson Supervisory Committee

IX CONFERENCE COUNCIL ON FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION (CCFA)

RECOMMENDATIONS AND GUIDELINES

Thank you for being cheerful givers. 2 Corinthians 9:6-7 states, “Now this I say, he who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must do just as he has purposed in his heart, not grudgingly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.” Thank you for doing your part in fulfilling the mission of the Church. Together we are making a difference in many people’s lives.

The Conference Council on Finance and Administration (CCFA) recommends the continuation of the tithe which requires churches to submit 10% of their undesignated income to the Holston Conference. The primary responsibility rests upon the pastor to ensure full payment of the tithe. There are four exclusions to the amount that is included in determining the tithe:

1. Tuition based income (daycare, mother’s day out, etc.)
2. Pass through donations sent to unrelated organizations (Advance specials, 5th Sunday offerings, UMCOR, etc.) The amount received matches the amount sent directly to the unrelated organization.
3. Endowment gifts (principal only unless
earnings are also donor designated and actually used for such purpose.)

4. Designated funds from donor-designated gifts or capital-related gifts. Designated Funds are not related to operating expenses of the church. The balance sheet should contain any remaining amounts on hand at the end of the fiscal year.

A copy of the church tithe and remittance worksheet should be included with each church’s monthly remittance by the 10th of the subsequent month for the collections received from the prior month.

Causes Beyond Those Included in Conference Budget

It is recommended that the Annual Conference continue recognition of local churches that give to the five-star program of payments. To qualify we would expect churches to send 10% of their income in compliance with the church tithe and remittance worksheet and at least one Advance Special in each of the four designated lanes with a minimum payment of $25.00 to each lane.

District Superintendents

A. CCFA’s formula for determining the district superintendent’s salary is to take the top two salaries of each district, divide the total by eighteen, and use the average as their salary. For 2021 we recommend the salary of the district superintendents to be $106,484.

B. The itemized cost of travel for district superintendents in the performance of their duties shall be reimbursed upon requisition to the Office of Financial Services at the IRS business rate.

C. Actual moving expenses for incoming district superintendents shall be paid from the Cabinet Fund upon requisition to the Conference.

D. Direct invoicing costs for the Cabinet shall be paid by the Cabinet budget and the District Superintendent shall be responsible for funding the pastor’s share of the insurance.

E. Adequate funding shall be provided by the districts for the office expense of superintendents.

F. The conference designates an amount annually of a cabinet staff person’s salary as allowance for parsonage expense excludable for income tax purposes. This amount is to be set after receipt of the Housing Allowance Resolution by the Conference Treasurer.

Office of Financial Services

A. The Office of Financial Services shall carry a fidelity bond of no less than $1,000,000.

B. The conference treasurer shall provide quarterly reports to each church during the period covered by the report as directed by CCFA.

C. The conference treasurer shall be responsible for accounting for all conference receipts and disbursements in a timely manner. The treasurer’s books shall be closed within guidelines of generally accepted accounting principles, with reports provided promptly.

D. The Holston Conference Treasurer shall pay General Church and Southeastern Jurisdictional apportionments at a rate determined after the books close at the end of the year. Deficit spending will be charged against these apportionments.

E. The Holston Conference shall maintain a cash flow reserve policy equal to ninety days of estimated expenditures.

Policies for Boards, Commissions, and Agencies

A. At the close of each monthly period, the conference treasurer shall deposit to the account of all Advance specials or other designated giving as they shall receive.

B. All requisitions for any funds shall be submitted on approved vouchers and shall bear the signature of the properly authorized representative of the board, commission, team, agency or staff.

C. The standard travel rate for attendance at meetings of conference boards, teams, commissions and agencies shall be the recommended IRS rate for charitable travel and an additional two cents per person per mile for others traveling in the same vehicle for the same board or agency. The travel rate for paid staff employed by the conference shall be the IRS recommended rate per mile per car or actual cost of public transportation, for travel related to the performance of duties of their office(s).
D. Every district office shall annually submit to Holston Conference Council on Finance and Administration a complete financial report for the previous year showing sources of funding, uses of such funding, and balances in all cash and investment accounts. Such financial reports shall have been reviewed or audited by an independent person prior to submission to Holston Conference Council on Finance and Administration.

Recommendations to the Local Churches

A. It is the policy of the Holston Conference that administrative boards or charge conferences designate annually, in an official resolution, an amount of the pastor’s salary as allowance for housing expense (housing exclusion) or for parsonage expenses that are excludable for income tax purposes. This amount is to be set after dialogue between the pastor and the pastor (staff) parish relations committee.

B. Charges of the conference shall pay the moving expenses for incoming pastors. The amount paid to pastors for moving expenses should be included on the W2 as income.

C. Local churches are urged to pay the expenses for members of the Annual Conference, both lay and clergy, inasmuch as such persons from the church are official members of the conference.

D. Church treasurers are reminded that The Book of Discipline 2016, ¶624, requires full payment of Ministerial Support approved by the charge conference including housing.

E. Since both past service and current pension obligations are remitted to the General Board of Pensions each month, and since other conference expenses must be met monthly, it is important that contributions from local churches be sent to the conference treasurer on a monthly basis.

F. We applaud the work of the Holston Foundation in their efforts to promote, attract and manage special gifts, bequests, and endowments for our local churches and our Conference Institutions and Agencies. The Conference Council on Finance and Administration recommends the Foundation as trustworthy, efficient, and effective stewards of investment funds for all churches and institutions. We encourage all to utilize the materials and the expertise the Foundation provides as part of their mission to serve the church and the Holston Conference.

G. CCFA expects each local church to conduct an annual stewardship campaign and to provide year-round awareness and teaching opportunities to share information about giving and tithing as part of our Wesleyan heritage.

H. CCFA encourages the local churches to support all of our conference-related institutions, including Emory & Henry College, Tennessee Wesleyan University, Holston Home for Children, and Asbury Centers by promoting gifts, grants, and bequests from our members.

I. CCFA encourages the local churches to promote “Fifth Sunday Offerings” in support of Holston Home and the annual “Mother’s Day Offering” in support of the Circle of Friends Endowment for Asbury Centers.

Miscellaneous Recommendations

A. The Holston Annual Conference shall reimburse the church or institution in which this annual conference session is held for reasonable expenses incurred by that body in addition to payments from other sources, upon itemized statements.

B. The publishing of the 2020 Conference Journal has been contracted with United Graphics, Inc., of Knoxville Tennessee. The price of the 2020 Conference Journal will be determined at a later date. An electronic version will be available online at Holston.org.

C. The conference will continue the policy by which any church’s administrative board or council wishing to withhold its proportionate share of the National and/or World Council of Churches payment may do so by communicating this action in writing to the conference treasurer. The treasurer will then notify the church of the amount designated for this cause in the local church tithe and will direct all receipts proportionately to the other causes.

D. The conference will reimburse the members at large for a per diem amount of $45 per day with a maximum of 3 days and mileage, for the 2021 Annual Conference. We believe serving as an at large delegate to Annual Conference is another way for lay members to serve their church. At large members of the annual conference are elected to equalize the number of lay members with those clergy who are not serving in the local church or are retired (The Book of Discipline 2016, ¶ 32 Article 1).
The Holston CCFA reminds all churches and agencies of the annual conference that the IRS requires a FORM 1099 MISC for every person receiving non-employee compensation of $600 or more per year. IRS Form W9 is used to obtain the information for filing the Form 1099 MISC. Also, all churches should be issuing W2 statements for all employees that are employed by the church. Each church should take great care to insure that they are meeting all of the requirements as outlined by the Internal Revenue Service to maintain the tax-exempt status.

Jeff Lambert, President
Carolyn Kidd, Vice President
Rick Cherry, Treasurer

= = = = END OF REPORT = = = =

REPORT OF THE CONFERENCE TREASURER

Churches of the Holston Annual Conference have participated within the connection by remitting their tithe for the year ending December 31, 2019. We are grateful to each church for their giving. Through our tithe and second mile giving, we are able to equip the ministries of local congregations and to support multiple ministries that are an expression of our commitment to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. The majority of Churches have been very faithful and committed to the tithing formula. Some have not committed to their obligations and this continues to limit the amount of dollars we can commit to doing the work that we are called to do by God. In 2019 the churches of the annual conference did not fully fund the 2019 Approved Budget by $855,216. In recent years CFA has adopted and continues to adhere to a policy of not spending more than it brought in by the current year’s tithe. Last year, $8,716,152 of the $9,389,912 2019 approved budget was received. Expenditures were limited to $8,534,696. If ALL Churches in the conference fulfilled the covenant of paying 10% there would be more than sufficient money to pay the obligations and build ministry. Namely, if all churches had paid the 10% tithe we would have collected $10,221,240. The Annual Conference and CCFA once again have worked very hard to make necessary changes in the budget to live into the tithing formula. Tithing is a wonderful concept when everyone participates.

After reviewing the 2019 Year End Statistics I would like to share with you some of my findings:

- 496 out of 863 churches and preaching stations in the Annual Conference paid between 95% and 100% of the 2018 calculated tithe.
- 366 churches in the Annual Conference paid less than 95% of their 2019 calculated tithe.
- If all 863 churches and preaching stations in the Annual Conference paid 100% of the calculated tithe we would have collected $10,221,240.
- The 2019 Approved Budget was $9,252,002.
- Total Budget spent for 2019 $8,534,696.

It is the commitment of the CFFA and my office to help better equip the local churches of the Holston Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church to do ministry. It is our core value. Everything we do on a daily basis is based on that principle. I want every member, in every church, in any position, to feel like they have a valuable resource at their hands when questions arise.

The people of The Holston Annual Conference have shown their commitment year after year. We have had several years of deficit spending, but seem to have finally been able to turn the corner. I am hopeful that through the work of the Strategic Planning Committee and the various subcommittees, we will continue to find our fruitfulness is multiplied and that in the coming days we are further led by the Spirit of God and not by the limitations of our resources. District Superintendents work very hard to help local churches pay these tithes. Together through our connection, we can change the lives of people and transform the world in the name of our Savior, The Lord Jesus Christ.

Rick Cherry, Conference Treasurer

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## BENEVOLENT GIVING COMPARISON

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<thead>
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<tr>
<td>3000 - Peace With Justice</td>
<td>$2,420.94</td>
<td>$3,815.92</td>
<td>$3,162.78</td>
<td>$1,954.55</td>
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<td>3100 - Native American Ministries</td>
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<td>$4,219.70</td>
<td>$2,549.01</td>
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<td>$5,433.82</td>
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<td>$24,805.78</td>
<td>$25,543.46</td>
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<td>3400 - Methodist Student</td>
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<td>$2,969.01</td>
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<td>$225.00</td>
<td>$220.00</td>
<td>$187.00</td>
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<td>5000 - International Advance Specials</td>
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<td>5100 - United States Advance Specials</td>
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<tr>
<td>Note: 2017 includes Hurricane Donations of $597,463.29</td>
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<tr>
<td>6000 - Conference Initiated Specials</td>
<td>$867,459.58</td>
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<td>Note: 2016/2017 includes Wildfire Donations of $478,002.05</td>
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<td>7200 - World Service Special Gifts</td>
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<td>$100.00</td>
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<td><strong>Total Benevolences</strong></td>
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## Membership Statistics Chart by District

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<th>District Name</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>Change</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AP - Appalachian District</td>
<td>14,749</td>
<td>11,188</td>
<td>3,561</td>
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<tr>
<td>CM - Clinch Mountain District</td>
<td>12,877</td>
<td>12,115</td>
<td>762</td>
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<tr>
<td>HI - Hiwassee District</td>
<td>14,228</td>
<td>14,087</td>
<td>141</td>
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<tr>
<td>MV - Mountain View District</td>
<td>17,166</td>
<td>17,022</td>
<td>144</td>
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<tr>
<td>NR - New River District</td>
<td>21,923</td>
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<td>SM - Smoky Mountain District</td>
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<td>SS - Scenic South District</td>
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<td>TR - Three Rivers District</td>
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<td>30,042</td>
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<tr>
<td>TV - Tennessee Valley District</td>
<td>22,015</td>
<td>22,077</td>
<td>-62</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Membership Statistics

- **Total Professing Members Reported at the Close of Last Year - 2018:**
  - AP - Appalachian District: 11,188
  - CM - Clinch Mountain District: 12,115
  - HI - Hiwassee District: 14,087
  - MV - Mountain View District: 17,022
  - NR - New River District: 21,687
  - SM - Smoky Mountain District: 22,077
  - SS - Scenic South District: 22,077
  - TR - Three Rivers District: 30,042
  - TV - Tennessee Valley District: 30,042

- **Gain (loss) in EOY Membership during 2019:**
  - AP - Appalachian District: 3,561
  - CM - Clinch Mountain District: 762
  - HI - Hiwassee District: 141
  - MV - Mountain View District: 144
  - NR - New River District: 236
  - SM - Smoky Mountain District: 150
  - SS - Scenic South District: 136
  - TR - Three Rivers District: -55
  - TV - Tennessee Valley District: -62

### District Statistical Totals

- **2019 Distric Statistical Totals:**
  - 158,862
  - Gain (loss) in EOY Membership during 2019:
    - AP - Appalachian District: 3,561
    - CM - Clinch Mountain District: 762
    - HI - Hiwassee District: 141
    - MV - Mountain View District: 144
    - NR - New River District: 236
    - SM - Smoky Mountain District: 150
    - SS - Scenic South District: 136
    - TR - Three Rivers District: -55
    - TV - Tennessee Valley District: -62

### Additional Statistics

- **Total Professing Members Reported at the Close of This Year - 2019:**
  - AP - Appalachian District: 14,749
  - CM - Clinch Mountain District: 12,877
  - HI - Hiwassee District: 14,228
  - MV - Mountain View District: 17,166
  - NR - New River District: 21,923
  - SM - Smoky Mountain District: 22,227
  - SS - Scenic South District: 13,778
  - TR - Three Rivers District: 29,987
  - TV - Tennessee Valley District: 22,015

- **Gain (loss) in EOY Membership during 2019:**
  - AP - Appalachian District: 3,561
  - CM - Clinch Mountain District: 762
  - HI - Hiwassee District: 141
  - MV - Mountain View District: 144
  - NR - New River District: 236
  - SM - Smoky Mountain District: 150
  - SS - Scenic South District: 136
  - TR - Three Rivers District: -55
  - TV - Tennessee Valley District: -62

- **Total Professing Members Reported at the Close of This Year - 2019:**
  - AP - Appalachian District: 14,749
  - CM - Clinch Mountain District: 12,877
  - HI - Hiwassee District: 14,228
  - MV - Mountain View District: 17,166
  - NR - New River District: 21,923
  - SM - Smoky Mountain District: 22,227
  - SS - Scenic South District: 13,778
  - TR - Three Rivers District: 29,987
  - TV - Tennessee Valley District: 22,015

- **Gain (loss) in EOY Membership during 2019:**
  - AP - Appalachian District: 3,561
  - CM - Clinch Mountain District: 762
  - HI - Hiwassee District: 141
  - MV - Mountain View District: 144
  - NR - New River District: 236
  - SM - Smoky Mountain District: 150
  - SS - Scenic South District: 136
  - TR - Three Rivers District: -55
  - TV - Tennessee Valley District: -62
### Line Item Proposed Budget 2021

**PROPOSED 2021 BUDGET REQUESTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2017 Approved Budget</th>
<th>2018 Approved Budget</th>
<th>2019 Approved Budget</th>
<th>2020 Approved Budget</th>
<th>2021 Proposed Budget</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cabinet</td>
<td>$1,688,746</td>
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<td>$1,463,255</td>
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<td>$225,709</td>
<td>$234,797</td>
<td>$241,696</td>
<td>$375,548</td>
<td>$373,232</td>
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<td>$116,633</td>
<td>$128,708</td>
<td>$134,838</td>
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<td>Ministry Teams</td>
<td>$1,108,730</td>
<td>$1,159,121</td>
<td>$1,201,583</td>
<td>$1,248,647</td>
<td>$1,268,117</td>
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<tr>
<td>Emerging Ministries</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
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<td>$25,653</td>
<td>$0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Annual Conference</td>
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<td>Board of Ordained Ministry</td>
<td>$213,360</td>
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<td>Board of Higher Education</td>
<td>$750,205</td>
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<td>Groups Related to the Cabinet and BOM</td>
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<td>General Church Apportionments</td>
<td>$2,626,542</td>
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<td>Lay Ministries</td>
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<td>$3,200</td>
<td>$3,200</td>
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<td>$472,700</td>
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<td><strong>Totals</strong></td>
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<td><strong>$9,074,601</strong></td>
<td><strong>$9,252,002</strong></td>
<td><strong>$9,100,709</strong></td>
<td><strong>$8,742,252</strong></td>
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**001 Holston Annual Conference of the UMC, Inc.**

**Fiscal Year Beginning 1/1/2019**

**Budgeted Financial Statement for Period 12 December 100.00%**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CABINET</th>
<th>2019 Actual YTD</th>
<th>2019 Budget Annual</th>
<th>2020 Approved Budget</th>
<th>2021 Requested Budget</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>APPOINTMENT CABINET</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meeting Expenses</td>
<td>$25,791</td>
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<td>$27,000</td>
<td>$27,000</td>
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<td>District Superintendents Travel</td>
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<td>$73,000</td>
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<td>Sub-total Meeting/Meals/Travel</td>
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<td>$100,000</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>-------------------------------------</td>
<td>---------</td>
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<td>----------</td>
<td>----------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emerging Ministries</td>
<td>$314,313</td>
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<td>Counseling</td>
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<td>Moving Expenses</td>
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<td>New DS Training</td>
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<td>Miscellaneous Expense</td>
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<td>$1,250</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sub-total Cabinet</strong></td>
<td>$318,353</td>
<td>$324,562</td>
<td>$34,403</td>
<td>$30,750</td>
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<tr>
<td>Salaries</td>
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<td>$1,356,380</td>
<td>$1,383,299</td>
<td>$1,376,269</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sub-total Cabinet Salaries</strong></td>
<td>$1,263,387</td>
<td>$1,356,380</td>
<td>$1,383,299</td>
<td>$1,376,269</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| **Total Cabinet**                   | $1,669,919| $1,780,942| $1,517,702| $1,507,019|

### COMMUNICATIONS MINISTRY TEAM

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>General &amp; Administration</th>
<th>2019 Actual YTD</th>
<th>2019 Budget Annual</th>
<th>2020 Approved Budget</th>
<th>2021 Requested Budget</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Meeting &amp; Travel Expenses</td>
<td>$536</td>
<td>$50</td>
<td>$500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dues &amp; Subscriptions</td>
<td>$3,061</td>
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<td>Advertising/Promotion</td>
<td>$20</td>
<td>$150</td>
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<td>$250</td>
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<td>Continuing Ed and Training</td>
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<td>$400</td>
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<tr>
<td>Communications Hardware/Equipment</td>
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<td>Communications Software</td>
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<td>Postage</td>
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<td>$50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Travel - Communications - Staff</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$4,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Travel - Director - Communications</td>
<td>$12,423</td>
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<td>$6,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous Expense</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sub-total - General &amp; Admin</strong></td>
<td>$19,296</td>
<td>$6,000</td>
<td>$19,800</td>
<td>$23,350</td>
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### Publication Expenses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Publication Expenses</th>
<th>2019 Actual YTD</th>
<th>2019 Budget Annual</th>
<th>2020 Approved Budget</th>
<th>2021 Requested Budget</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Meals &amp; Travel</td>
<td>$5,365</td>
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<td>E-mail hosting for the Call 2</td>
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<td>Design &amp; Printing</td>
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<td>Freelance Writing/Photo/Misc.</td>
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<td><strong>Sub-total Publications Expense</strong></td>
<td>$9,519</td>
<td>$9,200</td>
<td>$9,750</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Web/Internet Development Expenses   | $61,289         | $4,000             | $5,000               | $5,000                |
| Video Development                   | $2,919          | $1,250             | $3,500               | $3,500                |
| **Sub-total Communications**        | $64,207         | $5,250             | $8,500               | $8,500                |
| Salaries                            | $320,909        | $221,246           | $337,498             | $331,382              |
| **Sub-total Communications Salary** | $320,909        | $221,246           | $337,498             | $331,382              |
| **Total Communications**            | $413,913        | $241,696           | $375,548             | $373,232              |
### INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service/Item</th>
<th>2019 Actual YTD</th>
<th>2019 Budget Annual</th>
<th>2020 Approved Budget</th>
<th>2021 Requested Budget</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Travel-Director-Information Technology</td>
<td>$1,188</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Internet T-1 Charges - JC</td>
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<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Office Supplies</td>
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<td>$0</td>
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<td>Service/Support</td>
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<td>$60,000</td>
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<td>Web Page Hosting</td>
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<td>$8,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>License &amp; Fees - Domain Renewal</td>
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<td>$1,000</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
<td>$500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Software Purchases</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hardware Purchases/Past Leases</td>
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<td>Maintenance</td>
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</table>

**Other Sources of Income**

| Sub-total Information Technology                 | $60,014         | $67,880            | $69,000              | $100,000               |
| Salaries                                         | $59,086         | $60,828            | $65,838              | $0                     |

**Total Information Technology**

| $119,101                                         | $128,708        | $134,838           | $100,000             |

### DISCIPLESHIP TEAM

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service/Item</th>
<th>2019 Actual YTD</th>
<th>2019 Budget Annual</th>
<th>2020 Approved Budget</th>
<th>2021 Requested Budget</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General &amp; Administration</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meetings, Meals, Travel Expense</td>
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<td>Leadership Holston</td>
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**Sub-total - Discipleship Team**

| $13,922                                          | $16,270         | $11,270            | $20,200              |

### OTHER SOURCES

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service/Item</th>
<th>2019 Actual YTD</th>
<th>2019 Budget Annual</th>
<th>2020 Approved Budget</th>
<th>2021 Requested Budget</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>$0</td>
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**Total Discipleship Team**

| $13,922                                          | $16,270         | $11,270            | $20,200              |
### Missions Ministry Teams

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Meeting Expense</th>
<th>Travel-Coordinator-Missions</th>
<th>Sub-total</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$0 $200 $0 $0</td>
<td>$786 $1,000 $0</td>
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### General & Administration

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<td>Southeast Jurisdiction Programs</td>
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<td>UMVIM Office</td>
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### In-Conference Ministries

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<tr>
<td>Disaster Training Event</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mission Cultivation</td>
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<td>Church &amp; Community Workers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Missionary Itineration</td>
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<td>Annual Conf Mission Advance Team</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sub-total</strong></td>
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### Volunteers in Mission

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<tr>
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<tbody>
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### Total Missions Ministry Team

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL MISSIONS MINISTRY TEAM</strong></td>
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### Nurture Ministry Team

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<th>Category</th>
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### Children’s Ministry

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<tbody>
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<td>Meeting Expenses</td>
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<tr>
<td>Consultations and Workshops</td>
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<td>Design &amp; Printing</td>
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<td>LEAD Kids</td>
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<td>Children’s Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Travel - Coordinator - Childrens Ministries</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sub-total Children’s Ministry Team</strong></td>
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### Youth Council (Transfer to Designated Accounts)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2017</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>$25,650</td>
<td>$25,650</td>
<td>$26,650</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel - Coordinator - Youth Ministries</td>
<td>$6,281</td>
<td>$5,400</td>
<td>$4,000</td>
<td>$4,000</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sub-total Council on Youth Ministries</strong></td>
<td>$31,937</td>
<td>$31,050</td>
<td>$29,650</td>
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### Adult Ministry Teams

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Older Adult Ministry</td>
<td>$452</td>
<td>$1,350</td>
<td>$1,350</td>
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<tr>
<td>Travel - Coordinator - Older Adult Ministries</td>
<td>$652</td>
<td>$2,700</td>
<td>$600</td>
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<tr>
<td>Supplies and Equipment</td>
<td>$631</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Young Adult Ministry Grants</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$1,350</td>
<td>$1,500</td>
<td>$1,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clergy/Spouse Retreat</td>
<td>$96</td>
<td>$2,700</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>AT Chaplaincy</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
<td>$1,500</td>
<td>$1,500</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sub-total Adult Ministry</strong></td>
<td>$1,830</td>
<td>$9,100</td>
<td>$6,950</td>
<td>$5,350</td>
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</table>

### Camp & Retreat Ministries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2017</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Office Expenses (Telephone, Supplies, Postage)</td>
<td>$56,400</td>
<td>$56,400</td>
<td>$58,500</td>
<td>$60,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Summer Ministry (Training, Promotion)</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T/O to Designated Camping Account</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sub-total - Camping Staff &amp; Support/Benefits</strong></td>
<td>$56,400</td>
<td>$58,400</td>
<td>$60,500</td>
<td>$60,500</td>
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</table>

### Staff Support and Benefits

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Salaries and Benefits T/O Designated</td>
<td>$449,076</td>
<td>$449,085</td>
<td>$465,750</td>
<td>$487,255</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sub-total Camping Staff Support &amp; Benefits</strong></td>
<td>$449,076</td>
<td>$449,085</td>
<td>$465,750</td>
<td>$487,255</td>
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</table>

**TOTAL NURTURE TEAM**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL NURTURE TEAM</strong></td>
<td>$546,245</td>
<td>$560,270</td>
<td>$573,350</td>
<td>$590,205</td>
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</table>

### OUTREACH ADVOCACY TEAM

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Meetings, Meals, Travel Expenses</td>
<td>$18</td>
<td>$450</td>
<td>$250</td>
<td>$250</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sub-total</strong></td>
<td>$18</td>
<td>$3,600</td>
<td>$1,400</td>
<td>$1,250</td>
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### Agencies Funded by Holston Conference

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Appalachian Development Committee</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
<td>$2,790</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$1,350</td>
<td>$0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Virginia Chaplaincy Service</td>
<td>$20,600</td>
<td>$21,600</td>
<td>$21,600</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Poverty Action Team</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
<td>$6,750</td>
<td>$6,750</td>
<td>$7,000</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sub-total</strong></td>
<td>$26,600</td>
<td>$32,490</td>
<td>$28,350</td>
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</table>

### Grants/Scholarships within Holston Conference

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Holston Camp Scholarships</td>
<td>$900</td>
<td>$3,600</td>
<td>$3,600</td>
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<tr>
<td>Handicap Accessibility Grants</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$1,800</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sub-total</strong></td>
<td>$900</td>
<td>$5,400</td>
<td>$5,400</td>
<td>$5,600</td>
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</table>
### Religion and Race Ministries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Budget 1</th>
<th>Budget 2</th>
<th>Budget 3</th>
<th>Budget 4</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ethnic Camping Scholarships</td>
<td>$2,700</td>
<td>$2,700</td>
<td>$100</td>
<td>$500</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sub-Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$2,700</strong></td>
<td><strong>$2,700</strong></td>
<td><strong>$100</strong></td>
<td><strong>$500</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sub Team Seed Money</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Prison Ministry</td>
<td>$5,703</td>
<td>$2,700</td>
<td>$2,700</td>
<td>$2,700</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ethnic Minority Local Church Relations</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$3,150</td>
<td>$3,150</td>
<td>$3,150</td>
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<tr>
<td>Creation Care Task Force</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$900</td>
<td>$900</td>
<td>$500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Strength for the Journey</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$4,500</td>
<td>$500</td>
<td>$4,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Native American Ministries</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$900</td>
<td>$4,500</td>
<td>$500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sub-total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$5,703</strong></td>
<td><strong>$12,150</strong></td>
<td><strong>$11,750</strong></td>
<td><strong>$11,350</strong></td>
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### STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY TEAM

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Budget 1</th>
<th>Budget 2</th>
<th>Budget 3</th>
<th>Budget 4</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Meeting Expenses</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$360</td>
<td>$450</td>
<td>$400</td>
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<tr>
<td>Market Living for Giving</td>
<td>$149</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clergy Financial Workshop Travel</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$3,500</td>
<td>$3,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clergy Financial Trainees Continuing Education</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$450</td>
<td>$3,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stewardship Travel</td>
<td>$5,963</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$500</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stewardship Materials/Supplies</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$270</td>
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<td>$1,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stewardship Summit Leader</td>
<td>$500</td>
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<td>$200</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stewardship Summit Leader Travel</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$900</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stewardship Summit Leadership Expenses</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$675</td>
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<tr>
<td>Provisional Elders Financial Training</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$4,140</td>
<td>$2,350</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stewardship Cont. Ed.</td>
<td>$0</td>
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<td>$500</td>
<td>$500</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Stewardship Ministry Team</strong></td>
<td><strong>$6,612</strong></td>
<td><strong>$11,745</strong></td>
<td><strong>$13,500</strong></td>
<td><strong>$15,900</strong></td>
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### WITNESS MINISTRY TEAM

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>2019 Actual</th>
<th>2019 Budget</th>
<th>2020 Approved</th>
<th>2021 Requested</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Meeting Expenses</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$200</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evangelism-NCD</td>
<td>$638</td>
<td>$2,500</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Smaller Membership Churches/Rural Churches</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$1,500</td>
<td>$1,500</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Church Program Grants</td>
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<td>$28,000</td>
<td>$28,000</td>
<td>$26,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic Ministries</td>
<td>$89,992</td>
<td>$90,000</td>
<td>$90,000</td>
<td>$90,000</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL WITNESS MINISTRY TEAM</strong></td>
<td><strong>$118,630</strong></td>
<td><strong>$122,200</strong></td>
<td><strong>$119,500</strong></td>
<td><strong>$117,000</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

| Sub-total Ministry Teams               | **$161,162** | **$190,285** | **$180,000**  | **$178,600**   |

| Salaries                               | **$298,488** | **$304,458** | **$368,427**  | **$363,512**   |

| **Sub-Total Ministry Team Salaries**   | **$298,488** | **$304,458** | **$368,427**  | **$363,512**   |

| **Total Ministry Teams**               | **$1,185,336** | **$1,201,583** | **$1,248,647** | **$1,268,117** |

### ANNUAL CONFERENCE SESSIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>2019 Actual YTD</th>
<th>2019 Budget Annual</th>
<th>2020 Approved Budget</th>
<th>2021 Requested Budget</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Meeting Expense</td>
<td>$3,358</td>
<td>$900</td>
<td>$900</td>
<td>$3,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>At-Large Delegates Expense</td>
<td>$29,075</td>
<td>$46,000</td>
<td>$46,000</td>
<td>$32,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Conference Leaders Housing</td>
<td>$36,087</td>
<td>$13,500</td>
<td>$14,000</td>
<td>$35,000</td>
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<td>Postage</td>
<td>$116</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$125</td>
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<tr>
<td>Printing</td>
<td>$14,342</td>
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<td>$13,500</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
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<td>Supplies/Materials</td>
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<td>$2,700</td>
<td>$1,500</td>
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<td>Program Expense</td>
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<td>$22,000</td>
<td>$8,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Honorariums</td>
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<td>$1,800</td>
<td>$1,800</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stoles &amp; Bibles for Ordained</td>
<td>$278</td>
<td>$500</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
<td>$500</td>
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<tr>
<td>New Clergy Training</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous Expense</td>
<td>$7,081</td>
<td>$900</td>
<td>$750</td>
<td>$6,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Voting Expense</td>
<td>$16,826</td>
<td>$36,700</td>
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<td><strong>Total Annual Conference Sessions</strong></td>
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<td><strong>$130,000</strong></td>
<td><strong>$114,650</strong></td>
<td><strong>$103,125</strong></td>
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### COMMISSION ON ARCHIVES & HISTORY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>2019 Actual YTD</th>
<th>2019 Budget Annual</th>
<th>2020 Approved Budget</th>
<th>2021 Requested Budget</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Meals &amp; Travel</td>
<td>$22</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equipment</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$4,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contractual Services</td>
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<td>Membership Dues</td>
<td>$300</td>
<td>$200</td>
<td>$200</td>
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<td><strong>Total Commission on Archives &amp; History</strong></td>
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<td><strong>$25,200</strong></td>
<td><strong>$25,200</strong></td>
<td><strong>$29,000</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOARD OF ORDAINED MINISTRY COMMITTEES/TASK GROUPS</td>
<td>2019 Actual YTD</td>
<td>2019 Budget Annual</td>
<td>2020 Approved Budget</td>
<td>2021 Requested Budget</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------</td>
<td>-------------------</td>
<td>---------------------</td>
<td>----------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOM Meeting Expense</td>
<td>$4,759</td>
<td>$1,500</td>
<td>$3,750</td>
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<td>BOM Members-Training</td>
<td>$2,066</td>
<td>$3,600</td>
<td>$18,000</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Travel- Director Clergy Svcs</td>
<td>$1,179</td>
<td>$3,000</td>
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<td>$3,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Regional &amp; National Mtgs/Event Fees</td>
<td>$898</td>
<td>$2,500</td>
<td>$7,500</td>
<td>$3,750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff Training &amp; Development</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$1,250</td>
<td>$1,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seminary Visits</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
<td>$4,000</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eight Year Assessment</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$3,500</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clergy Gathering</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unplanned Initiatives</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$1,500</td>
<td>$7,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UMCARES Plus - Contractual</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$1,320</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
<td>$1,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>$172</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$1,250</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Continuing Education: Director of Clergy Services</td>
<td>$70</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$3,000</td>
<td>$3,000</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sub-total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$10,143</strong></td>
<td><strong>$13,920</strong></td>
<td><strong>$50,250</strong></td>
<td><strong>$51,650</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Guidance & Support                           | $67             | $0                | $0                  | $0                   |
| Candidacy Programs Materials                 | $277            | $1,000            | $0                  | $0                   |
| Clergy & Probationary Mentoring             | $0              | $2,250            | $0                  | $0                   |
| **Sub-total**                                | **$344**        | **$3,250**        | **$0**              | **$0**               |

**Candidate’s Preparation**

| Ministerial Assessment                       | $538            | $25,000           | $22,250             | $16,000              |
| Licensing School                             | $1,000          | $15,000           | $500                | $5,000               |
| Bishop’s Ordination Retreat                  | $0              | $800              | $750                | $750                 |
| Ordination                                   | $462            | $1,000            | $0                  | $0                   |
| Seminary Visits                              | $3,063          | $2,000            | $0                  | $0                   |
| Vocational Discernment/Candidacy Summit       | -$350           | $2,500            | $4,000              | $4,000               |
| UMCARES PLUS - Contractual                   | $1,320          | $1,320            | $0                  | $0                   |
| Residency in Ministry                        | $1,400          | $0                | $0                  | $5,000               |
| Miscellaneous Office Expense                 | $335            | $0                | $5,000              | $0                   |
| **Sub-total**                                | **$7,768**      | **$47,620**       | **$32,500**         | **$30,750**          |

**Other**

| Supplies                                     | $5,296          | $0                | $0                  | $0                   |
| **Sub-total**                                | **$5,296**      | **$0**            | **$0**              | **$0**               |
| **Sub-total Board of Ordained Ministry**      | **$23,551**     | **$64,790**       | **$82,750**         | **$82,400**          |

| Salaries                                     | $190,426        | $193,321          | $197,899            | $196,647             |
| **Sub-total BOM Salaries**                   | **$190,426**    | **$193,321**      | **$197,899**        | **$196,647**         |
| **Total Board of Ordained Ministry**         | **$213,978**    | **$258,111**      | **$280,649**        | **$279,047**         |
### BOARD OF HIGHER ED & CAMPUS MINISTRY

**General and Administrative**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2019 Actual YTD</th>
<th>2019 Budget Annual</th>
<th>2020 Approved Budget</th>
<th>2021 Requested Budget</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Meeting, Meals, Travel Expense</td>
<td>$1,041</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sub-total General &amp; Administrative</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,041</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,000</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,000</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,000</strong></td>
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</table>

**Wesley Foundations**

**Programs**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>College</th>
<th>2019 Actual YTD</th>
<th>2019 Budget Annual</th>
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<th>2021 Requested Budget</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ETSU</td>
<td>$18,243</td>
<td>$20,520</td>
<td>$20,520</td>
<td>$20,520</td>
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<tr>
<td>Radford University</td>
<td>$18,243</td>
<td>$20,520</td>
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<tr>
<td>UT Chattanooga</td>
<td>$18,243</td>
<td>$20,520</td>
<td>$20,520</td>
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<tr>
<td>UT Knoxville</td>
<td>$18,243</td>
<td>$20,520</td>
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<td>UVA College at Wise</td>
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<td><strong>Sub-total Wesley Foundation Program</strong></td>
<td><strong>$91,215</strong></td>
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<td><strong>$102,600</strong></td>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Capital Improvements</td>
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<td><strong>Sub-total Capital Improvements</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sub-total Wesley Foundations</strong></td>
<td><strong>$133,256</strong></td>
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**Conference Colleges**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>2019 Budget Annual</th>
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<th>2021 Requested Budget</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Emory &amp; Henry</td>
<td>$50,000</td>
<td>$50,000</td>
<td>$50,000</td>
<td>$50,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hiwassee</td>
<td>$12,500</td>
<td>$50,000</td>
<td>$50,000</td>
<td>$0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tennessee Wesleyan</td>
<td>$50,000</td>
<td>$50,000</td>
<td>$50,000</td>
<td>$50,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>E &amp; H Campus Ministry</td>
<td>$6,460</td>
<td>$7,200</td>
<td>$7,200</td>
<td>$7,200</td>
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<td>Hiwassee Campus Ministry</td>
<td>$1,615</td>
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<tr>
<td>TWU Campus Ministry</td>
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<td>$7,200</td>
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<td><strong>Sub-total - Conference Colleges</strong></td>
<td><strong>$127,035</strong></td>
<td><strong>$171,600</strong></td>
<td><strong>$171,600</strong></td>
<td><strong>$114,400</strong></td>
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<table>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Board of Higher Education</strong></td>
<td><strong>$260,291</strong></td>
<td><strong>$320,200</strong></td>
<td><strong>$320,200</strong></td>
<td><strong>$263,000</strong></td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Salaries</td>
<td>$401,283</td>
<td>$397,667</td>
<td>$410,414</td>
<td>$412,593</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sub-total Board of Higher Ed Salaries</strong></td>
<td><strong>$401,283</strong></td>
<td><strong>$397,667</strong></td>
<td><strong>$410,414</strong></td>
<td><strong>$412,593</strong></td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Board of Higher Education</strong></td>
<td><strong>$661,573</strong></td>
<td><strong>$717,868</strong></td>
<td><strong>$730,614</strong></td>
<td><strong>$675,593</strong></td>
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<td>GROUPS RELATED TO THE CABINET &amp; BOM</td>
<td>2019 Actual YTD</td>
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<tr>
<td>------------------------------------</td>
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<td><strong>ORDERS</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Meetings &amp; Travel</td>
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<tr>
<td>Travel-Steward of Clergy Concerns</td>
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<td>Support for Regions</td>
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<td>Clergy Spouses</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL ORDERS</strong></td>
<td>$106</td>
<td>$2,700</td>
<td>$3,700</td>
<td>$0</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Comm on Healthy Sexuality &amp; Pastoral Excellence</strong></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Executive Committee</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$3,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COSROW</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pastoral Training</td>
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<tr>
<td>Safe Sanctuaries/Boundary Training</td>
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<td>CWART</td>
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<td>Created by God Healthy Sexuality for Teens</td>
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<td><strong>Total Transfer to Wesley Institute</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL- ORDERS, WESLEY INSTITUTE &amp; STAFF</strong></td>
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<td>$2,700</td>
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<td><strong>CENTER FOR WELLBEING</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Travel/Lodging/Meals</strong></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Travel/Lodging/Meals-Director</td>
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<td>Travel/Lodging/Meals-Assoc. Director</td>
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<td><strong>Continuing Education</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Continuing Education-Director</td>
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<td>Staff Supervision</td>
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<td>Telephone</td>
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<td>$1,750</td>
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<td>$950</td>
<td>$950</td>
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<td>Office Rent/Utilities/Maintenance</td>
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<td>$10,700</td>
<td>$17,016</td>
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<tr>
<td>Office Equipment/Renovation</td>
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<td>$700</td>
<td>$700</td>
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<td>Cell Phone Charges</td>
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<td>$1,560</td>
<td>$1,200</td>
<td>$600</td>
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<td>Advocacy Training - Response Team</td>
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<td>$0</td>
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<td>$1,500</td>
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<td>Misc/Contingency/Testing</td>
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<td>$60</td>
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<td>$100</td>
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<td>$775</td>
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<td><strong>Sub-total - Cener for Wellbeing</strong></td>
<td>$32,753</td>
<td>$25,695</td>
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<td><strong>Total Groups Related to CAB &amp; BOM</strong></td>
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<td>$28,395</td>
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<td>$112,881</td>
<td>$126,815</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sub-total Groups Related Salaries</strong></td>
<td>$95,743</td>
<td>$109,774</td>
<td>$112,881</td>
<td>$126,815</td>
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<td><strong>Total Groups Related to the Cabinet/BOM Orders</strong></td>
<td>$128,708</td>
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### FINANCIAL SERVICES

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<tr>
<th>Service</th>
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<th>2021 Requested Budget</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Travel</td>
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<tr>
<td>Financial Services Travel</td>
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<td>Training</td>
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<td>$900</td>
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<td>$5,000</td>
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<td>Postage</td>
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<td>Cellular Telephone</td>
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<td>Equipment Purchases</td>
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<td>Copier, Postage Machine Lease</td>
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<td>Staff Meetings/Relations</td>
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<td>Holston Administrative Professionals</td>
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<td>General and Jurisdictional Conference</td>
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<td>Nominations Committee Meeting</td>
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<td>CFA Meeting Expense</td>
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<td>Legal Expense</td>
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<td>Audit Expense</td>
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<td>Miscellaneous Expense</td>
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<td><strong>Sub-total Conference Offices</strong></td>
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<td>$274,955</td>
<td>$292,523</td>
<td>$299,423</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>CONFERENCE JOURNALS</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Transfer to Journal Fund</td>
<td>$6,936</td>
<td>$6,934</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Conference Administration</strong></td>
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<td>$281,889</td>
<td>$299,523</td>
<td>$306,423</td>
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<td>Salaries</td>
<td>$546,057</td>
<td>$513,468</td>
<td>$541,102</td>
<td>$476,301</td>
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<tr>
<td>Transfer to Pension Cost 960/0110</td>
<td>($180,000)</td>
<td>($150,000)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sub-total Administration Salaries</strong></td>
<td>$366,057</td>
<td>$363,468</td>
<td>$361,102</td>
<td>$296,301</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total CFA (with GCFA Apport)</strong></td>
<td>$691,511</td>
<td>$645,357</td>
<td>$660,625</td>
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### GENERAL CHURCH APPORTIONMENTS

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<th>2019 Budget Annual</th>
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<th>2021 Requested Budget</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>World Service</td>
<td>$1,297,461</td>
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<td>$1,646,577</td>
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<td>Black College Fund</td>
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<td>$216,562</td>
<td>$221,838</td>
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<tr>
<td>Africa University Fund</td>
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<td>$48,466</td>
<td>$49,646</td>
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<td>General Administration Fund</td>
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<td>Interdenominational Cooperative Fund</td>
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<td>$42,459</td>
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<td>$5,596</td>
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<td>Episcopal Fund</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ministerial Education Fund</td>
<td>$433,340</td>
<td>$542,910</td>
<td>$556,137</td>
<td>$404,823</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>subtotal - General Church Apportionments</strong></td>
<td><strong>$2,517,200</strong></td>
<td><strong>$3,124,697</strong></td>
<td><strong>$3,200,827</strong></td>
<td><strong>$2,610,261</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Jurisdictional Conference Fund            | $24,984         | $24,983            | $24,983              | $24,983                |
| Projected Reduction                       | $0              | $0                 | ($322,581)           | ($105,744)             |
| **TOTAL GEN/JURIS CHURCH APPORTIONMENTS** | **$2,542,184**  | **$3,149,680**     | **$2,903,229**       | **$2,529,500**         |

### SUPPORT GROUPS

**BOARD OF LAY MINISTRY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
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<th>2019 Budget Annual</th>
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<tr>
<td>Meeting Expense</td>
<td>$0</td>
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<td>Dues &amp; Subscriptions</td>
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<td>$1,000</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clergy Abuse Task Force</td>
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<td>$350</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assoc. Meeting Expenses</td>
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<td>$450</td>
<td>$450</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL BOARD OF LAITY</strong></td>
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<td><strong>$3,200</strong></td>
<td><strong>$3,200</strong></td>
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**PENSIONS / TRUSTEES / EQ COMP / EPISCOPAL**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2019 Actual YTD</th>
<th>2019 Budget Annual</th>
<th>2020 Approved Budget</th>
<th>2021 Requested Budget</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Retiree Health Insurance</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Board of Pensions</td>
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<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Board Of Trustees</td>
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<td>$993</td>
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<td>Meals &amp; Travel</td>
<td>$52,095</td>
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<td>Worker’s Comp Insurance</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL BOARD OF TRUSTEES</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Commission On Equitable Compensation</td>
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<td>Salary Supplements</td>
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<td>Supplements-Mission Aid</td>
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<td>Supplements-Cooperative Parish</td>
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<tr>
<td>Meeting Expense</td>
<td>$33</td>
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<td><strong>SUSTENTATION PAYMENTS</strong></td>
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<td>Sustentation Payments - Salary</td>
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<td>Sub-total</td>
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**EPISCOPAL OFFICE SUPPLEMENT**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2019 Actual</th>
<th>2019 Budget</th>
<th>2020 Approved Budget</th>
<th>2021 Requested Budget</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Salary</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$28,668</td>
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<td>Episcopal Housing Allowance</td>
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<td>Meeting, Meal, &amp; Travel Expense</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL EPISCOPAL OFFICE SUPPLEMENT</strong></td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$50</td>
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<td>$48,718</td>
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**EPISCOPAL RESIDENCE COMMITTEE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2019 Actual</th>
<th>2019 Budget</th>
<th>2020 Approved Budget</th>
<th>2021 Requested Budget</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Episcopal Residence</td>
<td>$13,000</td>
<td>$13,000</td>
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**EPISCOPAL DISCRETIONARY FUND**

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<th>2019 Budget</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bishop’s Discretionary Fund</td>
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**Preservation of Historic Shrines**

<table>
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<th>2019 Actual</th>
<th>2019 Budget</th>
<th>2020 Approved Budget</th>
<th>2021 Requested Budget</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Preservation of Historic Shrines</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL PENSIONS / TRUSTEES / EQ COMP / EPIS</strong></td>
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### CONGREGATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

**2019 Actual**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Actual YTD</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Special Ministries Salary Fund</td>
<td>$33,880</td>
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**2019 Budget**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Budget Annual</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Special Ministries Salary Fund</td>
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**2020 Approved Budget**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Special Ministries Salary Fund</td>
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**2021 Requested Budget**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Requested Budget</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Special Ministries Salary Fund</td>
<td>$90,000</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2019 Actual</th>
<th>2019 Budget</th>
<th>2020 Approved Budget</th>
<th>2021 Requested Budget</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Special Ministries Salary Fund</td>
<td>$33,880</td>
<td>$90,000</td>
<td>$90,000</td>
<td>$90,000</td>
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</table>

**Congregational Development Team**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2019 Actual</th>
<th>2019 Budget</th>
<th>2020 Approved Budget</th>
<th>2021 Requested Budget</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Preaching/Sermon Academy - Income</td>
<td>($1,600)</td>
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<td>Preaching/Sermon Academy - Expense</td>
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<td>$4,400</td>
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<td>Travel - Director - Church Dev/Stewardship</td>
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<td>$6,300</td>
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<td>New Church Strategy Support</td>
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<td>$3,600</td>
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<tr>
<td>Strategic Revitalization</td>
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<td>Natural Church Development</td>
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<tr>
<td>Leadership Training</td>
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<td>$1,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Meetings, Meals, Travel Expense</td>
<td>$5,750</td>
<td>$1,500</td>
<td>$1,500</td>
<td>$5,700</td>
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<tr>
<td>Demographics/Research/Planning</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous Expense</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sub-total Congregational Development Team</strong></td>
<td>$58,555</td>
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**Church Extension Grants**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2019 Actual</th>
<th>2019 Budget</th>
<th>2020 Approved Budget</th>
<th>2021 Requested Budget</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Church Extension Grants</td>
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<td>Offset Overspend</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL CONGREGATIONAL DEVELOPMENT</strong></td>
<td>$188,419</td>
<td>$344,910</td>
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**Salaries**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2019 Actual</th>
<th>2019 Budget</th>
<th>2020 Approved Budget</th>
<th>2021 Requested Budget</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Salaries</td>
<td>$149,419</td>
<td>$149,138</td>
<td>$152,291</td>
<td>$216,971</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sub-total Congregational Dev Salaries</strong></td>
<td>$149,419</td>
<td>$149,138</td>
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<td><strong>Total Congregational Development</strong></td>
<td>$337,838</td>
<td>$494,048</td>
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<td>$566,021</td>
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</table>
2019 FIVE STAR CHURCHES AND 100% TITHE CHURCHES

We want to thank the churches who qualified for the Five Star Award. To be a 5-Star Church, churches must pay the conference tithe 100% and pay at least $25 in each of the four Advance mission categories. International Advance, U.S. Advance, UMCOR Advance and Conference Advance. In addition, we would like to thank all the churches who paid their 100% tithe. Those churches are also recognized below.

### APPALACHIAN DISTRICT - FIVE STAR CHURCHES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Church Name</th>
<th>10-digit Code</th>
<th>Church Name</th>
<th>10-digit Code</th>
<th>Church Name</th>
<th>10-digit Code</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alley’s Chapel UMC</td>
<td>411653</td>
<td>First UMC Pennington Gap</td>
<td>411802</td>
<td>Norton UMC</td>
<td>411766</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appalachia UMC</td>
<td>411287</td>
<td>Flatwoods UMC</td>
<td>412282</td>
<td>Okolona UMC</td>
<td>417353</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bethel UMC</td>
<td>416713</td>
<td>Fort Blackmore UMC</td>
<td>411493</td>
<td>Old Union UMC</td>
<td>416746</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cassidy UMC</td>
<td>416826</td>
<td>Fort Gibson UMC</td>
<td>410410</td>
<td>Pound UMC</td>
<td>411824</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chalybeate Springs UMC</td>
<td>411881</td>
<td>Gate City UMC</td>
<td>411607</td>
<td>Prospect UMC</td>
<td>412145</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chance’s Chapel UMC</td>
<td>411232</td>
<td>Grange Hall UMC</td>
<td>416963</td>
<td>Ross Campground UMC</td>
<td>417466</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clintwood UMC</td>
<td>411380</td>
<td>Hermon UMC</td>
<td>416974</td>
<td>Rye Cove UMC</td>
<td>411414</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coeburn UMC</td>
<td>411403</td>
<td>Ingles Chapel UMC</td>
<td>411573</td>
<td>Salem UMC</td>
<td>416792</td>
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<tr>
<td>Colonial Heights UMC</td>
<td>417240</td>
<td>Kendricks Creek UMC</td>
<td>417001</td>
<td>Smith’s Chapel UMC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Crossroads UMC</td>
<td>417034</td>
<td>Kingsley UMC</td>
<td>417023</td>
<td>St Luke UMC</td>
<td>417103</td>
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<tr>
<td>Culbertson’s Chapel UMC</td>
<td>412214</td>
<td>Mafair UMC</td>
<td>417182</td>
<td>St Mark UMC Kingsport</td>
<td>966000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dryden UMC</td>
<td>411505</td>
<td>McFerrin UMC</td>
<td>416850</td>
<td>St Paul UMC</td>
<td>411961</td>
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<tr>
<td>East Stone Gap UMC</td>
<td>411527</td>
<td>Midway Memorial UMC</td>
<td>412191</td>
<td>Tacoma UMC</td>
<td>411447</td>
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<tr>
<td>Emory UMC Kingsport</td>
<td>416906</td>
<td>Miller’s Chapel UMC</td>
<td>417777</td>
<td>Three Bells UMC</td>
<td>411367</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fall Branch UMC</td>
<td>416928</td>
<td>Mountain View UMC</td>
<td>417262</td>
<td>Trinity UMC Wise</td>
<td>412065</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Broad Street UMC</td>
<td>417067</td>
<td>New Hope UMC</td>
<td>412236</td>
<td>Valley Center UMC</td>
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<tr>
<td>First UMC Church Hill</td>
<td>416848</td>
<td>Nickelsville UMC</td>
<td>411744</td>
<td>Vermont UMC</td>
<td>417320</td>
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### APPALACHIAN DISTRICT - 100% TITHE CHURCHES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Church Name</th>
<th>10-digit Code</th>
<th>Church Name</th>
<th>10-digit Code</th>
<th>Church Name</th>
<th>10-digit Code</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arcadia UMC</td>
<td>416815</td>
<td>Dungannon UMC</td>
<td>411482</td>
<td>McClure’s Chapel UMC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bethel UMC</td>
<td>412293</td>
<td>Elm Springs UMC</td>
<td>416861</td>
<td>Morgan Memorial UMC</td>
<td>411926</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cameron UMC</td>
<td>416930</td>
<td>First UMC Surgoinsville</td>
<td>417488</td>
<td>Mt Vernon UMC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Campground UMC</td>
<td>411755</td>
<td>Fudges Chapel UMC</td>
<td>417216</td>
<td>Seminary UMC</td>
<td>411538</td>
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<td>Clouds Bend UMC</td>
<td>416883</td>
<td>Holly Springs UMC</td>
<td>416985</td>
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<td>411436</td>
<td>Holston View UMC</td>
<td>411664</td>
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<td>411323</td>
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<tr>
<td>Depews Chapel UMC</td>
<td>417012</td>
<td>Lebanon UMC</td>
<td>416872</td>
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<tr>
<td>Derby UMC</td>
<td>411301</td>
<td>Logans Chapel UMC</td>
<td>417331</td>
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</table>
CLINCH MOUNTAIN DISTRICT - FIVE STAR CHURCHES

410204 Abingdon UMC  41322  First UMC Honaker  417796 Pisgah UMC
410248 Addilynn Memorial UMC  41504  First UMC Richlands  410226 Pleasant View UMC Abingdon
410306 Anderson Street UMC  41048  Laurel Springs UMC  411152 Quarry UMC
410693 Beech Grove UMC  410762 Lebanon Memorial UMC  410363 Reynolds Memorial UMC
410011 Blackwell Chapel UMC  410534 Lebanon UMC Chilhowie  410498 Ridgedale UMC
410135 Brumley Gap UMC  410022 Lebanon UMC Glade  421036 Roberts Chapel UMC
410044 Byars Cobbs UMC  412628 Looney’s Chapel UMC  410385 South Bristol UMC
410523 Chilhowie UMC  410864 Meadowview UMC  410328 St Luke UMC
421685 Clearview UMC  420954 Midway UMC Cedar Bluff  410272 Three Springs UMC
417730 Dailey’s Chapel UMC  410795 Mountain View UMC Abingdon  410671 Wallace UMC
410567 Damascus UMC  410831 Mt Carmel UMC Marion  410237 Wyndale UMC
410875 Davis Memorial UMC  420998 New Cove UMC  411050 Zion Hill UMC
421184 Elk Garden UMC  421606 North Tazewell UMC  

CLINCH MOUNTAIN DISTRICT - 100% TITHE CHURCHES

421140 Belfast UMC  410886 Greenwood UMC  410977 Shady Grove UMC
410261 Booher’s Chapel UMC  421583 Main Street UMC  411004 Sinking Springs UMC
410374 Campground UMC  410330 Mary’s Chapel UMC  410408 State Street UMC
421127 Cedar Bluff UMC Cedar Bluff  420852 Mt Olivet UMC Tazewell  410716 Tate’s Chapel UMC
410784 Church Hill UMC  417774 Mt Pleasant UMC Cedar Bluff  410421 Trinity UMC Bristol
421014 Crabtree UMC  410181 Munsey UMC Castlewood  411141 Washington Chapel UMC
420932 Dennison UMC  411015 Paperville UMC  410465 Washington Springs UMC
410682 Greendale UMC  420885 Riverside UMC  421071 Wesley UMC Saltville

HIWASSEE DISTRICT - FIVE STAR CHURCHES

413628 Allen Memorial UMC  413880 First UMC Copperhill  966454 Reed Chapel UMC
413606 Apison UMC  419124 First UMC Madisonville  414337 Spivey UMC
413710 Benton UMC  414166 Goodfield UMC  414361 Spring City UMC
413787 Big Spring UMC  413641 Keith Memorial UMC  414086 St Paul’s UMC
414190 Concord UMC  413630 Luminary UMC  414406 Tasso UMC
414007 Decatur UMC  414474 Mt Zion UMC  414417 Wesley Memorial UMC Cleveland
414122 Evensville UMC  414350 Pleasant Hill UMC  

HIWASSEE DISTRICT - 100% TITHE CHURCHES

413801 Broad Street UMC  413960 Mountain View UMC  414463 Vine Grove/Mt Olive UMC
419328 Buckner Memorial UMC  414097 New Bethel UMC  419135 Wesley Chapel UMC
413765 Charleston UMC  414202 Niota UMC  414100 Wesley Memorial UMC Etowah
414042 Englewood UMC  414224 Ooltewah UMC  
414064 Mars Hill UMC  414521 Spring Creek UMC  

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### MOUNTAIN VIEW DISTRICT - FIVE STAR CHURCHES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Church Name</th>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Church Name</th>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Church Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>420225</td>
<td>Asbury UMC Greeneville</td>
<td>420407</td>
<td>First UMC Morristown</td>
<td>395871</td>
<td>Mt Zion UMC</td>
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<tr>
<td>420668</td>
<td>Bewley’s Chapel UMC</td>
<td>420544</td>
<td>First UMC Newport</td>
<td>419977</td>
<td>New Market UMC</td>
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<tr>
<td>420076</td>
<td>Bogart’s Chapel UMC</td>
<td>417422</td>
<td>First UMC Rogersville</td>
<td>420236</td>
<td>Noe’s Chapel UMC</td>
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<tr>
<td>966396</td>
<td>Boyd Chapel UMC</td>
<td>420761</td>
<td>First UMC White Pine</td>
<td>417581</td>
<td>Otes UMC</td>
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<tr>
<td>420692</td>
<td>Burchfield Memorial</td>
<td>441262</td>
<td>Glendale UMC</td>
<td>420475</td>
<td>Otway UMC</td>
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<tr>
<td>420566</td>
<td>Bybee UMC</td>
<td>420293</td>
<td>Hardin’s Chapel UMC</td>
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<td>Panther Springs UMC</td>
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<tr>
<td>420486</td>
<td>Carter’s Chapel UMC</td>
<td>419922</td>
<td>Harmon’s Valley UMC</td>
<td>420646</td>
<td>Pine Grove UMC</td>
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<td>420145</td>
<td>Caton’s Grove UMC</td>
<td>419294</td>
<td>Harned’s Chapel UMC</td>
<td>420794</td>
<td>Pleasant Hill UMC</td>
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<tr>
<td>420522</td>
<td>Cedar Grove UMC New Market</td>
<td>396374</td>
<td>Hartman’s Chapel UMC</td>
<td>419944</td>
<td>Romeo UMC</td>
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<tr>
<td>420670</td>
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<td>418938</td>
<td>Joppa UMC</td>
<td>420681</td>
<td>Rutledge UMC</td>
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<tr>
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### MOUNTAIN VIEW DISTRICT - 100% TITHE CHURCHES

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## NEW RIVER DISTRICT - FIVE STAR CHURCHES

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## NEW RIVER DISTRICT - 100% TITHE CHURCHES

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### SCENIC SOUTH DISTRICT - FIVE STAR CHURCHES

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### SMOKY MOUNTAIN DISTRICT - FIVE STAR CHURCHES

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= = = END OF REPORT = = =
X ADMINISTRATION  
X.a BOARD OF PENSIONS

BOARD OF PENSIONS AND HEALTH BENEFITS
The Board of Pensions and Health Benefits is pleased to issue its report to the Holston Annual Conference and will address the following:

RETIREMENT AND OTHER WELFARE PLANS:
- Pre-82 Pension Plan (Pre-82), (Defined Benefit Plan for Clergy Service Prior to 1982)
- Ministerial Pension Plan (MPP), (Modified Defined Contribution Plan for Clergy Service from January 1, 1982 through December 31, 2006)
- Clergy Retirement Security Program (CRSP), (Combination Defined Benefit and Defined Contribution Plan for Clergy Service on or after January 1, 2007)
- United Methodist Personal Investment Plan (UMPIP), (Qualified IRC§403(b) voluntary deferred compensation plan for clergy and Conference lay employees)
- Comprehensive Protection Plan (CPP), (Provides disability for active clergy and death benefit for active and retired clergy and qualified covered dependents)

Retiree Moving Expense Reimbursement
Special Grants 2020-2021

HEALTH BENEFIT PLANS:
- Holston Self-Insured Health Plan (Administered by Blue Cross / Blue Shield of Tennessee)
- Retiree Health Plan (Medicare Part D Supplement from Blue Cross/ Blue Shield of Tennessee)

COMPREHENSIVE BENEFIT FUNDING PLAN

RETIREMENT AND OTHER WELFARE PLANS
The Pre-82 pension plan provides for a lifetime pension benefit for all eligible clergy and 70% of that benefit for surviving spouses during their lifetime.

The benefit is based on the years of service prior to January 1, 1982, and a dollar amount referred to as the “Past Service Rate” for each service year. The Board has approved a Past Service Rate for calendar year 2021 of $601.00 which represents a 1% increase from 2020.

The MPP plan was funded by direct Conference contribution to individual participant accounts based on the respective clergy compensation base and functioned as a defined contribution plan during active plan years. Effective January 1, 2014, retiring participants are required to convert 65% of their plan balance to a lifetime annuity with optional survivor benefits available with reduced immediate benefits. The balance of the retiree’s account is available for immediate distribution or “Roll-Over” to UMPIP or other qualified outside accounts.

Our current retirement plan, CRSP, provides both a “Defined Benefit” and a “Defined Contribution” component.

The Defined Benefit is calculated using the following criteria:
- For each service year from January 1, 2007 through December 31, 2013, eligible participants are credited with 1 1/2% of the Denominational Average Compensation (DAC).
- For each service year after December 31, 2013, the percentage credited has been reduced to 1% of the DAC.

Clergy appointed at less than 100% but at least 50% are credited with a pro-rata percentage benefit.

At retirement, participants will receive a lifetime annuity based on their accrued plan benefit, with optional survivor benefits available with reduced immediate benefits.

Under the Defined Contribution benefit portion of CRSP the Conference:
- Contributed 3% of the participants’ plan compensation into an investment account similar to UMPIP and with the same fund investment options.
- Effective January 1, 2014, this percentage was reduced to 2% of the participants’ plan compensation.
- After January 1, 2014, if the participant voluntarily contributes at least 1% of their plan compensation into the UMPIP plan, an additional 1% will be contributed to the participants’ CRSP Defined Contribution account.

This action was taken in order to encourage participation in the UMPIP plan.

At retirement the balance in the participants’ Defined Contribution account is available for immediate distribution or “Roll-Over” to UMPIP or other qualified outside accounts.
The Conference sponsors UMPIP for both clergy and Conference laity employees. All clergy are encouraged to contribute at least 3% of their plan compensation as elective deferrals into the plan which allows an additional 1% contribution by the Conference into the clergy person’s CRSP-DC account. This election is properly made on the “Pastor Support Worksheet” concurrently with each new appointment or in connection with annual Charge Conferences for recurring appointments. Lay elections and changes are made directly with the Conference Treasurer’s office. 
Conference laity staff members, after one year of employment, are eligible to participate in the UMPIP with the Conference contributing 6% of eligible compensation provided the employee elects to contribute at least 3% personally. UMPIP provides a variety of self-directed investment options available through Wespath.

The CPP covers full-time appointed clergy only and provides for long-term disability integrated with Social Security disability benefits awarded to claimants. Clergy requesting “Medical Leave” status and approved by the Joint Committee on Medical Leave are eligible to apply for disability benefits with approvals coordinated by Liberty Mutual Insurance Company and Wespath. Applicants are granted a stipend of the lesser of 70% of their compensation base or $3,000 per month not to exceed three months, or for a lesser period if approval takes place before the end of that three-month period. The Conference is reimbursed through retro-active benefits awarded the claimant. If not approved, the funds advanced are deemed to be a grant and no repayment is required. During the time clergy are on disability, provided the claimant is enrolled in the Conference Health Plan, the Conference assumes the church portion of Health Plan Premiums with the claimant responsible for their personal portion.

In accordance with ¶ 356, The Book of Discipline 2016, the Conference Board recommends the following active ministers and local pastors be continued subject to the renewal of their eligibility for disability benefits under CPP:
Willard T. Akers, Bobby D. Barton, Diana Cornett, Carlons D. Jones, Steven Gott, Gerald S. Henry, Ralph J. Horak, Jack C. Jenkins, Susan Lankford, Roger G. Mathess, Ronald Ramsey, and Lyle White

The Voluntary Transition Program under CPP facilitates “grace-filled” exit from ministry for eligible clergy members in full connection or associate members who choose to withdraw from ministry:
Eligibility:
Minimum service of at least five years in full connection.
Not within two years of eligibility to enter the retired relationship under ¶ 357.2b, or ¶ 357.2c of the Book of Discipline 2016.
The Clergy person, district superintendent, bishop, and board of ordained ministry must agree to transition participation.
Surrender of Credentials upon approval.
Severance Benefits:
Two weeks of participant’s plan compensation for each full year of continuous service up to a maximum of six month’s pay.
Other Benefits:
Continuation of Health Plan benefits, if enrolled, with full payment of premiums for an 18-month period.
Active death benefits for same period used to calculate the severance payment.
Transition outplacement and career counseling services for up to 90 days during the transition period.
Moving expense reimbursement in accordance with policy established for retiring clergy.
Other Considerations:
Participant is excluded from any other benefits under CPP not specifically granted under the transition program.
If a former Transition Participant returns to ministry at any time he/she is required to repay the transition payment received under this program when the Annual Conference Board of Ordained Ministry approves a return to active ministry.

Additionally, CPP provides death benefits for eligible clergy, their spouses, and covered dependents.

Retiree Moving Expense Reimbursement - The Conference will continue to provide new retirees with a one-time moving expense allowance not to exceed $1,500 upon submission of valid receipts to the Conference Treasurer. The Conference cost for 2020 is projected to be $36,000 to be funded by Tithe/Askings.

Conference Pension Grants
In compliance with ¶ 1506.11 of The Book of Discipline 2016, the Board hereby reports the following grants to dependent adult children of former clergy of the Holston Annual Conference:

Mr. Thomas E. Byrd, age 72, dependent adult son of Rev. Howard G. Byrd, 25% of current pension rate.

Mr. Wendell R. Stock, age 58, dependent adult son of Rev. Shirl F. Stock, 25% of current pension rate.

HEALTH BENEFIT PLANS
In accordance with ¶ 639.7, The Book of Discipline 2016, the Conference sponsors a group health care plan. The Holston Self-Insured Health Plan covers all eligible Conference clergy, staff, and laity staff employed by participating local churches and other qualifying organizations. Clergy are deemed eligible if their cash compensation, as shown on line 13 of the Pastor Support Worksheet, is equal to, or greater than, 75% of the minimum compensation of the individual’s Conference status (Refer to the Committee on Equitable Compensation Report for those levels). Premiums are established each year by the Board and a blended premium amount set as the church’s responsibility for eligible appointed clergy. This premium is billed to the church even though an eligible clergy appointee is covered under an alternative health plan, including retired clergy appointed at a compensation level that would otherwise qualify for eligibility.

Participating clergy elect their level of coverage (Individual, Family, or Employee + one), Plan type, (PPO or Health Savings Account (H.S.A.), and Network preference (Blue Cross / Blue Shield of Tennessee Network “S” or Network “P”). Participant premiums are set accordingly plus any added amounts for optional dental, vision coverage, and elected participation in a “Flexible Spending Account.”

Full-Time (30 Hours per week average), non-clergy Conference employees, and laity staff of participating local churches and other qualifying organizations are eligible to participate in the Conference Health Plan. Premiums for these individuals are established by the Board based on the same option available to clergy and billed to participating organizations as one total amount. The amount of employer-shared responsibility is at the discretion of the participating organizations as long as the election is applied consistently to all participants.

For all covered individuals, plan types, coverage options, network preferences, and optional coverages may be modified during the open enrollment period (October 1- 30 of each calendar year), or during the plan year if a qualifying event occurs (marriage, divorce, new eligible dependent, or loss of other coverage).

Flexible Medical Spending and Dependent Care Account participation must be renewed each year during the open enrollment period and a new enrollment form must be completed and submitted in order to participate the following calendar year.

In accordance with Board action in 2016, an annual wellness exam is required for all participants and covered spouses. Examinations are to be conducted between July 1 and June 30 of each Conference year. Failure to comply with the requirement will result in a monthly premium surcharge the following calendar year.

While total costs are contingent on actual claims experience, the Conference obtains “Reinsurance” to limit the impact of claims in excess of $200,000 and maintains adequate Health Plan reserves to cover total costs in excess of premiums collected.

Please refer to Appendix A for the schedule of base premiums for 2021.
In accordance with ¶ 639.6, *The Book of Discipline 2016*, the Conference provides Conference clergy persons, who have retired in accordance with § 357.2 ¶ 357.1 ¶ 357.2c, or ¶ 357.2d other than as applied to ¶ 357.2a of *The Book of Discipline 2016* who are eligible for Medicare, and their spouses, access to a Medicare supplement through a Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Tennessee group plan. Effective January 1, 2018, clergy with less than 10 years of service under appointment in Holston as of that date, and their spouses, will not be eligible for a stipend at retirement.

**Health Insurance Plans Eligibility and Financial Responsibility Policies:**

**Definitions**

A. **Under Episcopal appointment within this Conference.** For purposes of the HIP, “Under Episcopal appointment within this Conference” means clergy appointed by the Bishop of this Conference.

B. **Years of Service.** For purposes of the HIP, “years of service” shall include years served under appointment either on a full-time basis or a less than full-time basis, as recognized by the General Board of Pensions. Years will be determined under the appointment year basis. Years served under appointment after retirement will not count toward the HIP subsidy. If a retired clergy member returns to the effective relationship under the provisions of the Discipline, years served while in such effective relationship will count toward the HIP subsidy. Years of service credited towards the subsidy paid by the Holston Conference shall be years served while appointed within the Holston Conference. Years of service while appointed to extension ministries beyond the bounds of the Holston Annual Conference shall not be credited towards the retiree subsidy but shall be credited toward eligibility to participate in the retiree supplement program.

C. **Members of the Annual Conference** taking honorable location or terminating their Conference relationship for any reason shall not be eligible to continue in the Conference insurance program.

D. **Change in status.** It is the responsibility of the plan participant to notify the Conference immediately if an event occurs that has an impact on the continued participation of a spouse, retiree, person on incapacity, or dependent child. Failure to notify the Conference of a change will result in additional costs or the loss of future benefit opportunities. This would include a divorce, qualification for Medicare, or reduction of hours.

E. **Blended premium rate.** This is the rate developed by the Conference Board of Pensions and Health Benefits that generates the premium revenue to fund the existing program for active qualified retired clergy members. This rate does not distinguish between a pastor being enrolled in the employee only, employee plus one or family program. This rate shall be developed annually based upon the number of participants in each group and will be utilized for directly invoicing the church.

**Health Insurance Plan Eligibility Policies**

The following individuals are eligible to participate in the HIP. See the section below for Financial Responsibility.

In order to qualify for the receipt of health insurance benefits, a participant must be considered full-time based upon the number of hours or his/her salary in accordance with the minimum salary associated with their classification as adopted by the Annual Conference each year. For lay employees, it requires 30 hours per week. For active clergy, it must be at 75% of the minimum salary for their classification as denoted on the Pastor Support Worksheet on file at the Holston Conference.

1. **Active Clergy Eligibility**
a. Clergy – Every active clergy member under Episcopal appointment within this Conference, including full, probationary, associate, local pastors and members of another denomination or conference, must be enrolled in the active clergy HIP, except where equivalent coverage is available under a spouse’s group plan and proof of other creditable group coverage is provided.
   (i.) Medical Leave - Clergy appointed to Medical leave are eligible and may participate in the HIP if equivalent coverage is ended.
   (ii.) Family Leave, Leave of Absence, Sabbatical Leave, Appointed to School - Clergy appointed to any of these categories are eligible and may participate in the HIP.

b. Clergy Spouse and Dependent Children – If the active clergy member is enrolled in the HIP, the clergy’s spouse and children under the age of 26 or disabled dependent, providing such disabled person(s) are not eligible for Medicare or other government sponsored healthcare programs, are eligible to participate in the HIP.

c. Surviving Spouse and Dependent Children – If an active clergy covered under the HIP dies, the surviving spouse and dependent children of that clergy person are eligible and may choose to participate in the HIP. If the surviving spouse remarries, the surviving spouse and the dependent children are no longer eligible for health insurance benefits through the HIP.

d. Divorced Spouse – The divorced spouse will be allowed to participate in the HIP under the terms of COBRA as outlined within this policy document and in compliance with all regulations that apply to COBRA coverage. The rate schedule will be in accordance with the schedule for lay participants.

2. Retired Clergy Eligibility
If a clergy member is appointed to a local church within the Holston Conference and meets the qualifications, then he/she would be on the active health insurance program. If a clergy member retires, he/she can only receive a subsidy towards the purchase of the Conference medical supplement as a part of the group program and can no longer be a part of the active program unless qualifying for early retiree plans.

a. Clergy - A clergy member who retires under the rules of the Discipline while under Episcopal appointment within this Conference shall be eligible to participate in the HIP.
   (i.) Medicare Eligible - All retiree HIP subsidies are calculated based on Medicare eligibility and participation in Medicare Parts A and B. All Medicare eligible retirees must be enrolled in Medicare Parts A and B.
   (ii.) Not Medicare Eligible - Retirees who are not Medicare eligible may participate in the active clergy HIP as “Early Retirees” but may pay more for premiums than under a Medicare eligible plan.

b. Spouse - The spouse of an eligible clergy must have been married to the retired clergy at the date of retirement to be eligible to participate in the HIP.
   (i.) Medicare Eligible - Spouse HIP subsidies are calculated based on Medicare eligibility and participation in Medicare Parts A and B. All Medicare eligible spouses must be enrolled in Medicare Parts A and B.
   (ii.) Not Medicare Eligible - Spouses who are not Medicare eligible may participate in the active clergy HIP as “Early Retirees” but may pay more for premiums than under a Medicare eligible plan.

c. Surviving Spouse - At the time that the participant became a surviving spouse, the participant must have been enrolled in the HIP.
   (i.) Medicare Eligible - Surviving spouse HIP subsidies are calculated based on Medicare eligibility and participation in Medicare Part A and B. All Medicare eligible surviving spouses must be enrolled in Medicare Parts A and B.
(ii.) Not Medicare Eligible - Surviving spouse who are not Medicare eligible may participate in the active clergy HIP, but may pay more for premiums than under a Medicare eligible plan.
(iii.) Surviving Spouse Remarries - If a surviving spouse remarries, the surviving spouse is no longer eligible to participate in the HIP.

d. **Divorced Spouse** - The divorced spouse of a retired clergy may participate in the HIP under the terms of COBRA coverage under the schedule for lay participants, if not MEDICARE eligible. Coverage under the Conference sponsored MEDICARE supplement is not available.

e. **Dependent Children** - If the retired clergy member is a participant in the active clergy program and is enrolled in the HIP, the clergy’s spouse and children under the age of 26 or disabled dependent, providing such disabled person(s) are not eligible for Medicare or other government sponsored healthcare programs, are eligible to participate in the HIP.

f. **Early retirement** - In order to qualify for early retiree rates and participation, a clergy participant must be able to immediately draw retirement benefits from Wespath (formerly the General Board of Pensions and Health Benefits). If a clergy participant is unable to begin drawing benefits upon retirement status, continuation coverage and the associated rates will be implemented if coverage is desired.

**Continuation Coverage**
Active clergy participants in the HIP who have their hours reduced at the request of the Cabinet can continue to have access to the plan. The participants will pay 100% of the cost of health insurance at the lay rates, plus a 2% administrative fee. If any other individual enrolled in the HIP (including lay employees, their spouses and dependent children) loses HIP coverage due to a loss in eligibility resulting from a termination of employment or clergy appointment, reduction in hours of employment, death, divorce or legal separation, Medicare entitlement, or a child’s loss of dependent eligibility, such individual may continue to participate in the HIP for the period of time and under the conditions set forth in the Consolidated Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985 (COBRA). Although the HIP is not subject to COBRA, it is the intent of the Conference to allow eligible individuals to continue participation in the HIP under COBRA-like coverage. An individual who elects to continue coverage pursuant to this paragraph will be responsible for timely payment of the full cost of the HIP premiums at Lay Plan Rates, plus a 2% administrative fee, on the first day of each month. If payment is not received within 30 days of the due date, coverage will be terminated retroactive to the due date of the missed payment (i.e., the first of the month for which the payment was due).

**Financial Responsibility for Health Insurance Policies**
The Board of Pensions and Health Benefits is responsible for annually reviewing the HIP premiums and establishing the financial obligations of the parties. Effective January 1, 2011, the Board of Pensions shall annually determine the premium rates for all participants in the various health insurance plans. Such premium rates shall be published in the Book of Reports, Conference Journal, or mailed to the participants in the program.

**1. Active Clergy Members**
The local church or salary paying unit is responsible for payment of the blended premium rate for all appointed clergy, which will be developed each year and included in the report from the Conference Board of Pensions and Health Benefits, and the remaining costs of the selected program will be invoiced to the local church or local salary paying unit and include the pastor’s portion of the health insurance premium.

**2. Active Lay Employees**
The local church or salary paying unit is responsible for submitting the entire amount (100%) of the premium to the Holston Conference. Any type of employee cost sharing plan as may be necessary to manage their local benefit costs may be established, so long as it is offered to each eligible employee in a consistent manner that does not discriminate on the basis of job title, hours worked, or classification. Lay employees are not eligible for HIP benefits after retirement or termination of employment with a Holston Conference related agency or institution, except as provided for “COBRA like” coverage.

3. Medical Leave
If participating in the Conference HIP, premiums for clergy appointed to medical leave will be the responsibility of the Board of Pensions and Health Benefits, and will be split between the Conference and the participant. The Conference will pay the blended rate normally charged to the appointment and the clergy member will be responsible for the remaining portion of the clergy published rate.

4. Family Leave, Leave of Absence, Sabbatical Leave, Appointed to School
Clergy appointed to any of these categories may participate in the HIP. The premium is at the participant’s sole cost, under the provisions established for continuation coverage.

5. Clergy Retirees
   a. The Board of Pensions and Health Benefits is responsible for subsidizing a portion of the health insurance premiums of the HIP for retirees, as described below.

   b. The retiree is responsible for paying the unsubsidized portion of the health insurance premiums of the HIP in accordance with the premium schedule.

      (1) Medicare Eligible – For Medicare-eligible retired clergy, spouses and surviving spouses, the subsidy will be subtracted from the adopted premium rate to determine the amount the retiree shall be responsible for paying.

      (2) Not Medicare Eligible – For retired clergy, spouses, surviving spouses and dependent children who are not eligible for Medicare, the subsidy will be subtracted from the premium determined for Lay employee plans to determine the amount the retiree shall be responsible for paying.

   c. The Board of Pensions and Health Benefits is under no obligation to subsidize any health insurance premiums for retirees unless specifically provided for below and reserves the right to recommend changes in the level of subsidization Changes and Amendments to the HIP.

   d. Lay participants are not allowed to participate in the retiree health insurance program.

6. Extension Ministries
Participants appointed to extension ministries who remain on the Conference payroll will be responsible for payment of the premium amount after deducting the blended rate normally charged to the appointment which the Conference is responsible. Participants appointed to extension ministries who do not remain on the Conference payroll will be responsible for 100% of the premium amount. In this non-Conference, extension ministry case the participant is typically responsible for payment of 40% of the premium amount and the employer is responsible for the remaining 60%, so long as the Conference receives 100% of the adopted premium amount. While under appointment to a Conference endorsed or related entity, a participant will remain eligible for service credit for retiree coverage based upon their years of service as determined by the General Board of Pensions for service credit.

7. Surviving Dependents
Surviving dependents will be responsible for paying 40% of the total premium amount until such time as they qualify for Medicare, when their share will reduce to ½ of the standard retiree rate.

**HIP Subsidy for Retired Clergy (over 65) and early retirees and their spouses**
The Board of Pensions and Health Benefits will subsidize the health insurance medical supplement and dental program for individuals who meet the eligibility criteria as set forth in the Health Insurance Plan Eligibility section above, as follows. If a participant meets the eligibility criteria, but does not qualify for a subsidy, the participant may continue to participate in the HIP at the participant’s sole cost.

1. For eligible retired clergy with at least 10 Years of Service under Episcopal appointment within this Conference as of January 1, 2018 and during the 10 years immediately preceding such clergy’s date of retirement has been enrolled in the regular HIP, the Board of Pensions and Health Benefits will subsidize a portion of the HIP health insurance premium as follows, with the participant responsible for paying the unsubsidized portion:

   (a) For the retired clergy and for each eligible spouse or dependent enrolled in the HIP, the Conference provides a fixed-dollar stipend for participating retirees and spouses to subsidize the cost of the Medicare supplement. The covered individual’s amount of stipend is calculated based on the retired clergy’s total years of service under appointment in Holston applied to a factor of $50 for each year; with a maximum annual stipend of $1,500 annually for 30 years of service. The stipend is available only to retirees and their spouses with at least 10 years of service and participation in the regular HIP for 10 years immediately preceding retirement. In the case of clergy couple retirees, the highest years of service is used to determine the stipend for both. Retirees or spouses who are not eligible for Medicare can be covered under the regular Conference Self-Insured health plan at a 2% discount off of the published premiums for each year of service.

   (b) If two eligible retired clergy are married to one another, the subsidy for each retired clergy (and their participating eligible dependents) will be based on the Years of Service of the retired clergy member with the greater number of years of service. Upon the death of either clergy, the subsidy shall continue to be calculated based on the greater number of Years of Service. If the clergy couple divorce, the subsidy for each clergy shall be based on each individual’s Years of Service in accordance with the article above.

   (c) For a surviving spouse of a deceased clergy and their dependents, the subsidy will be calculated to make the participant payment one half of the amount of the premium for a retired minister of the Conference, according to the schedule listed above.

**Delinquencies:**
Billings for health insurance are processed the first of each month for the month of coverage. The bills for both the pastor’s portion and the monthly amount directly invoiced to the salary paying unit shall become due and payable immediately, upon receipt. Unpaid balances that are still due after 30 days shall be subjected to a late fee of 1.5% of the outstanding balance due. Billings that are more than 60 days past due can result in termination of the health insurance coverage provided as a part of the HIP. If the premiums (including the amount directly invoiced) are not paid within 45 calendar days of the due date, a reminder will be sent to the participant with a copy to the District Superintendent (in the case of a clergy participant) noting the amount due. After a total of 60 calendar days past due, a letter will be sent indicating coverage will be terminated the first day of the next month unless the premiums are paid in full.

**Local Church, Related Agency, and Institution Participation Guidelines:**
All local churches, related agencies, and institutions of the Annual Conference will be considered subgroups of the Conference for insurance purposes. The following requirements will apply:

   A. Participants and/or dependents must follow the current guidelines for eligibility and participation.
B. New enrollments, terminations, and changes in coverage must be sent to the Conference within 15 calendar days for processing. Changes received after the current month’s billing will be effective on the first day of the following month.

C. Local churches, related agencies, and institutions must have 75% of their eligible employees enrolled in the HIP. If they fall below 75%, there will be a grace period of one year for them to find other insurance coverage or reach the 75% enrollment. Employees covered under any creditable group insurance plan will be considered part of the 75% enrollment.

D. Local churches, related agencies, and institutions are responsible for offering COBRA-like Continuation Coverage, similar to Article III, to all employees leaving employment with them.

E. Local churches, related agencies, and institutions are required to sign a sub-group contract form with the Conference.

Changes and Amendments to the HIP
The Board of Pensions and Health Benefits, as fiduciary of the Conference Program, is required to authorize changes to the above as it deems reasonable, fair, and within the best interests of the Conference. In order to adequately share information, any changes in the guidelines shall be published in the Book of Reports or mailed to each participant group prior to enactment of any changes in policies or guidelines. The Conference Board of Pensions and Health Benefits will comply with all of the rules and requirements associated with the policies of our program administrator. This includes a requirement that all changes to coverage will be completed in writing on appropriate forms.

COMPREHENSIVE BENEFIT FUNDING PLAN
In compliance with ¶1506.6 of The Book of Discipline 2016, The Holston Annual Conference has developed, adopted, and implemented a formal comprehensive funding plan for funding all its benefits obligations. The funding plan for 2021 will be submitted to “Wespath” (formerly the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits) for review, and we expect a favorable written opinion. Their opinion and the “Benefit Obligations Summary” and the complete Comprehensive Benefit Funding Plan document, together with the Wespath written opinion, will be posted on the Conference website. The information in this report was prepared in good faith with the information available to the board prior to General Conference 2020.

~ Rev. Dr. Jonothan David Tabor, Chair
~ Rick Cherry, Treasurer
~ Julie Graham, Benefits Administrator
### Holston Conference
**EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2021**

### 2021 Insurance Rates

#### Base Plan - BCBST Network "S"

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*The amount of employer-shared responsibility is at the discretion of the participating organizations. The election must be applied consistently to all participants.*

Optional Vision Plan Rates: Individual: $11; Employee +1: $18; Family: $27
Flexible Spending Accounts are available through Progressive Benefits Solutions.

*Only TN Providers differentiate between Network "S" and Network "P". If you utilize a TN provider, assess each network to determine which best meets your needs.*

More information is available at [https://holston.org/administration/pension-health-benefits/programs/insurance/](https://holston.org/administration/pension-health-benefits/programs/insurance/)
For any questions please contact Julie Graham: juliegraham@holston.org or 865-293-4136

*Rates are subject to change after actions taken at General Conference.*

rev. 3.19.2020
X.b BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Hiwassee College

We give thanks for the excellent work of Dr. Robin Tricoli and the Hiwassee Board of Trustees under the leadership of Rev. Jason Gattis as they have spent the last year processing the closure of this historic institution. If the Lord allows all to go forward it appears that the Annual Conference Trustees could receive the residual of the campus containing 147 acres and endowments. The trustees are joyfully anticipating putting those endowments to work quickly to provide scholarships for deserving students.

Conference Wide Workers Compensation

Since 2013 the Trustees provided a plan for all churches through Church Mutual Insurance. At present about 800 ministries in Holston Conference have their Workers Compensation in this network; and are using the Nurse Reporting Program which is available 24 hours a day.

Guidance on Property and Liability Insurance

The General Conference established Minimum Insurance requirements for all churches. We realize that not all churches need or can acquire the stated requirements. A clarifying statement from the General Secretary & Treasurer states the following, “What the legislation did provide was that at least annually the local Board of Trustees review the local churches insurance coverage, both in terms of type of policies and coverage limits and compare that coverage with recommendations made by GCFA.” It also requires that the local church Trustees report at charge conference that such a review occurred and what steps are planned to move toward the recommend coverage.

Voluntary Property & Liability Plan

Beginning in 2015, working with Church Mutual, churches could take part in a group discount and dividend plan. Currently 400 churches and ministries are taking part. The program includes an onsite visit from the insurance company and insurance that meets the General Conference recommendations. In 2018 qualifying churches split a dividend of $50,258. In 2019 that dividend totaled $81,407.

Property update

The conference trustees currently oversee 20 vacant buildings. This includes the following churches that were closed this year: Piney Grove (HI), Croft Chapel (HI), Chestuee (HI), Creech’s Chapel (MV), St. Luke’s (TV) and Moore’s Gap (TV). We rejoice that in the last year, thanks to the work of Angela Lee and others a lease to purchase was signed for the Fairview UMC (MV). Three other sites are now rented: St. Luke’s (TV), Riceville (HI) Parsonage & St Luke’s (TV) Parsonage. And best of all two were sold: South Coeburn (AP) & Hendron’s Chapel (SM). We have offers for the Meadowview (MV) and Petros (TV) properties as well. In addition, we provide care for the three Holston Historic sites: Acuff Chapel (TR), Cox House (TR), and Paige’s Meeting House (NR).

David McLain, Chair
Brian Burch, Secretary

= = = END OF REPORT = = =
**X.c COMMISSION ON ARCHIVES AND HISTORY (CAH)**

Annual Conference year 2019-2020 has been a momentous year for the archives of the Holston Conference. After having the archival assets of the conference in storage for nearly three years, the commission was able to negotiate an understanding with Tennessee Wesleyan University where Tennessee Wesleyan would offer a permanent home to the conference archives and also share the employment of an archivist. As a result of this joint understanding the conference archives were moved to Athens, TN and to the campus of Tennessee Wesleyan (Sherman Hall) during the summer of 2019 and an Archivist, Daniel Ferkin, was hired in June 2019.

Mr. Ferkin has earned a Masters of Information Services degree with a specialty in Archives and Special Collections from the University of Tennessee. Most of Mr. Ferkin’s work since last summer has been in preparing the space in the basement of Sherman Hall for the Archives and in getting the Archives organized after their time in storage. The Archives are now staffed Monday through Thursday from 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. and on Fridays from 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.. Mr. Ferkin may be reached at 423-746-5226 or at dferkin@tnwesleyan.edu. There is also a link to the conference archives on the Tennessee Wesleyan Library web page. We are very happy to have Daniel on board and are pleased with the progress he is making on getting the conference archival assets ready for use. Again, our thanks to Tennessee Wesleyan University, to President Knowles and Julie Adams, and, of course, to Daniel Ferkin for their inestimable assistance.

The Spring 2020 meeting of the CAH was to have been hosted by the Bluff City United Methodist Church, the congregation of the people called Methodist who have accepted and faithfully performed the responsibility of stewarding the care of the Edward Cox house, one of the historical sites of early American Methodism which is in the bounds of the Holston Conference. We are deeply appreciative of the sacrifice and the work of the Bluff City United Methodists, and of their continued devotion to preserving the history of the Holston Conference and of American Methodism.

David T. St. Clair, Chairman

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**X.d COMMISSION ON EQUITABLE COMPENSATION (CEC)**

One of the drivers of a vital congregation is “effective, equipped and inspired clergy leadership.” The Commission on Equitable Compensation views its work as one way to help make this “driver” possible in primarily entry level position in our local churches. It is our responsibility to recommend a minimum salary for our pastors. This amount is what we determine to be the minimum salary necessary to support a pastoral family. We do not determine pay increases for clergy above the minimum levels.

The purpose of equitable compensation is to support full-time clergy serving as pastors in the charges of the annual conference.

This will be accomplished by:

a) Recommending conference standards for pastoral support;
b) Recommending funds to be used in compensation supplementation;
c) Providing counsel and advisory material on clergy support to district superintendents and committees on staff/pastor/parish relations.

The Commission on Equitable Compensation will accomplish these objectives by:

a) Performing an annual review and recommendations of minimum salary levels;
b) Submitting an annual budget request adequate to fund equitable salary needs;
c) Providing direction and oversight in the disbursement of this fund;
d) Providing counsel and advisory support to the Cabinet and Staff/Pastor Parish Relations Committees.

**ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES FOR EQUITABLE COMPENSATION SUPPORT**

To be eligible for Equitable Compensation support, a charge should comply with the guidelines regarding fiscal responsibility and other policies of the Conference Commission on Equitable Compensation.

These guidelines are as follows:

1. There shall be a Committee on Finance for the charge or for each congregation of the charge making application.
2. There shall be an educational program (approved by the District Superintendent) emphasizing specific stewardship goals of regular proportionate giving and tithing.

3. There shall be at least a simple income projection and spending plan for the congregation making application for a grant. A copy of that plan is to be attached to the application. No application will be considered complete until that plan is received.

4. The church/charge will have worked with the District Superintendent in reaching agreed upon goals related to its district and conference giving.

5. Requests shall be for a specific length of time, not to exceed four years. A specific written plan for getting off Equitable Compensation Support shall be submitted as a part of the application. The plan should be reviewed and updated at least annually to determine that adequate progress toward the ultimate goal is being achieved and celebrated. The total amount that the charge can expect over the four-year period would be determined up front. (Example: Total amount = $25,000; year one - $10,000; year two - $7,500; year three - $5,000; year four - $2,500; year five - $0.) The charge must annually pick up the 25% decrease from the previous year plus any increase in the minimum salary for its pastor as set by the conference for the coming year.

6. There shall be an annual audit, and a copy of the most recent audit shall accompany the application. No application shall be considered complete without the most recent annual audit being provided.

7. If, due to unusual circumstances, a church requests to be granted funds under the “mission situation” classification, it must substantiate its request by clearly defining its distinctive mission ministry and convince the Cabinet and the Commission on Equitable Compensation that the situation is as deserving of mission support as are other critical mission needs.

APPLICATION AND DISBURSEMENT PROCEDURES

The district superintendent must submit an application for each pastor to receive funds. These forms are available from the Office of Administrative Services. The application must be presented at the Charge Conference, approved and signed by the charge conference secretary, the pastor, and the district superintendent. This requirement is waived on mid-year pastoral changes; however, the district superintendent must sign the application and process it accordingly.

Step 1: The district superintendent is responsible for the recommendation of pastors who are eligible for equitable compensation within his/her respective district. To determine eligibility the following items must be reported on the application form:
  - Total compensation from the charge including salary, travel allowance, parsonage utilities, social security payment, pastor’s share of medical insurance premiums (including salary reduction, if applicable.)
  - Contributions from all other sources at the national, conference, district, and local church levels.
  - All other income from church sources.

Step 2: The district superintendent will submit applications to the cabinet representative to the Commission on Equitable Compensation for review by the entire cabinet. Once approved, the applications will be forwarded to the Conference Administrative Services Office for disbursement.

Step 3: The decision of eligibility for and distribution of equitable compensation funds is delegated to the cabinet, which will, insofar as possible, seek to follow the conference guidelines on equitable compensation. The Commission on Equitable Compensation and the Conference Council on Finance and Administration encourage judicious stewardship in the allocation of these funds.

Step 4: The district superintendent shall diligently guide those charges and pastors who receive support in his/her district toward self-sufficiency.

MINIMUM SALARY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FULL-TIME SERVICE BY CONFERENCE MEMBERS

We are aware that many churches are striving to become self-supporting and are on their way to accomplish this. Also, there are churches that are struggling to keep their full time pastors, and it is our desire that they succeed in this.

In regard to the unprecedented COVID-19 and the economic effect such has had on our local churches, the Commission on Equitable Compensation, in an email vote on April 8, 2020, recommends no increase to minimum salary requirements for 2021.

The Commission on Equitable Compensation requests a budget of $362,000 for Cabinet use. This is the same budget request as 2020.
2020 ................. 2021
Salary Supplement .......... $165,000 .............. $165,000
Supplements – miss .......... $35,000 .............. $35,000
Supplements – coop .......... $4,500 .............. $4,500
Meeting Expense .............. $500 .............. $500
Sustentation Pay .............. $157,000 .............. $157,000

PLEASE NOTE: The Commission would like to remind all the churches and pastors of the Annual Conference that our recommendations apply only to those pastors that are receiving the MINIMUM salary. We do not make these recommendations with the assumption that they should be applicable to all congregations of Holston Annual Conference.

We realize, however, that many, if not most churches do use our suggestion as the recommendation from the Annual Conference for all churches. We strongly believe that this is simply a basic increase that is needed at the lowest end of our salary scale. We strongly encourage those churches that are paying above the minimum levels that we have listed below to seriously and prayerfully examine their unique situation. Use the guideline of a 2% recommended increase as the beginning place in your considerations.

If the situation merits it, and the church can afford it, then by all means consider giving an increase greater than the 2% that we are recommending for the Conference Minimum Salary levels. Each local church shall determine their own methods for determining clergy salary increases.

CATEGORIES TO BE FUNDED AND SCHEDULE OF MINIMUM SALARY LEVELS FOR 2021

For full-time service by Conference Members:

$43,496…Full Member (M.Div.) or equiv. degree
$41,016…Provisional Member (M.Div.) or equiv. degree
$39,384…Associate Member

For Service as Full-Time Local Pastors:

$38,030…Master of Divinity (M.Div.)
$37,023…Completed Studies
$32,095…Beginning Studies

Equitable Compensation will be based on the Pastor’s Support Worksheet. The Office of Administrative Services will send payments directly to the church treasurers rather than to the pastors. The treasurers are to include the funds in the pastor’s paychecks and account for them on the pastor’s W-2 forms. Equitable compensation supplements shall not be included in the pastor’s compensation line item on end-of-year reports.

CHARGE CATEGORIES

Equitable Compensation Charge: A charge in which the proposed equitable salary schedule is not fully paid by the charge, but which possesses the potential to become self-sustaining. Amount of funding will be reduced by 25% per year with the church becoming self-sufficient within four years. Funding beyond four years will be subject to a review by a joint committee of the Cabinet and the Commission on Equitable Compensation.

Mission Aid Ministry: A ministry, rural or urban, where the minimum salary level cannot be paid for by the ministry, either in full or in part; and where there is no realistic expectation of financial independence. It is the responsibility of the district, the pastor serving the ministry, and a representative of the related charge conference to justify the designation of such a ministry and why it qualifies for aid. The designation is to be reviewed annually.

Cooperative Parish: A cooperative parish is a group ministry made up of two or more charges for the purpose of enhancing ministry among churches in a specific geographical area. It is expected that any request for equitable salary funds in a cooperative parish shall meet the approved guidelines and standards for equitable compensation.

QUALIFICATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS

For a pastor to receive an Equitable Compensation Supplement, he or she must be under Episcopal appointment as an approved full-time pastor.

A seminary or college student may be appointed full or part-time as a local pastor to a charge and will receive at least the appropriate minimum salary of the Annual Conference in accordance with paragraph 318.3 of the 2016 Book of Discipline. Students who qualify as a full-time local pastor will receive at least the appropriate minimum salary of the Annual Conference.
A local pastor may be considered full-time when he or she is in pursuit of a college or seminary degree, as long as the student is taking less than a full-time class load as defined by the school in which he/she is enrolled. He or she must reside within the geographical bounds of the charge.

Full time pastors who are also students and receiving equitable compensation will be expected to:

a) Work at least 2 1/2 days per week on site.
b) Work full-time each week the student is not in school.
c) Be absent from Sunday worship no more than three Sundays per year.

The charge/church receiving salary supplementation must pay at least 50% of the minimum salary, provide housing or a housing allowance for the pastor and offer Sunday school and other local church programs in addition to weekly worship services.

A charge not meeting this standard is not eligible for salary supplementation even if served by a student. Students serving a charge in this category will be classified as part-time local pastors and receive only the salary level paid by the charge.

Utility costs should be considered when making appointments. If the utilities are paid by the charge, this should be considered as part of the salary. The utilities should always be in the name of the charge/church and not the pastor. Each charge should provide for its pastor’s travel expenses in its budget and provide reimbursement at the standard IRS approved mileage rate for all properly documented travel expenses related to the performance of ministry within the charge.

**STEPS IN BECOMING A SELF-SUPPORTING CHARGE/CHURCH**

The Cabinet is responsible for the conserving of conference funds by ongoing efforts to move charges to a self-supporting status. It is recommended that each charge receiving supplemental salary establish the goal of reducing the equitable compensation supplement by 25% per year over a four-year period. The district superintendent will work with the charge to develop a plan and to monitor the implementation of the plan so that the goal of reducing equitable compensation by 25% per year over a four-year period will be realized. The Annual Conference should recognize those charges that succeed and move to a self-supporting status for their achievement.

The District Superintendent will establish and maintain communication with the appropriate charge leaders (i.e. the pastor, the SPPR chairperson, the treasurer, the lay leader, etc.) reminding them of the charge’s progress in reducing equitable compensation. This ongoing communication is intended to keep the goal before the charge and to help encourage and enable the charge to reach its goal.

In those situations, where this is not possible, it is the responsibility of the Cabinet to consider regrouping of charges, mergers, or the matching of ministerial leadership to the category of salary paid by the charge to provide service at minimum expense to the Annual Conference.

Bruce Galyon, *Chair*

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**X.e COMMITTEE ON EPISCOPACY (COE)**

The Annual Conference Committee on Episcopacy is the group charged with the responsibility of working closely with the resident bishop and providing feedback on the various responsibilities of the bishop using the eight different categories provided by the SEJ COE.

In looking at an evaluation tool regarding the Bishop, the results in the category of Ongoing Formation were consistent with previous years. There was an increase in the rating for ongoing learning opportunities. The devotions that were offered for Lent and Easter were well received. In the Administrative Responsibilities in the Episcopal Area, the concept of missional hubs has been introduced on the district level to encourage churches to work together in their communities. In the area of Leadership, the numbers are generally consistent with last year, but Del Holley added that this is challenging given the culture and what is going on in the denomination. The numbers are consistent with prior years in the areas of Articulates and Supports the Initiatives of the United Methodist Church and Strengthens the Connection.

In the area of congregational development as far as launching new churches, Bishop Taylor said that there is a need to have at least a core group of new people in order for the launch to be effective. Challenges to start new churches have come because of the current uncertainty and transition in the denomination. The focus has been on revitalizing and strengthening existing congregations.
The evaluation summaries were submitted to the SEJ Committee on Episcopacy. Part of that report included recommendations and guidance as the SEJ Committee will be making assignments for our next Bishop. Encouragement and thankfulness were offered to the Bishop about the impact it makes when she is present with people and congregations. Examples include being present at Resurrection, camp counselor’s training, and attending different churches, especially smaller congregations. Those opportunities increase awareness of what it means to be joined together as United Methodist congregations. The Bishop shared about attending Resurrection, Costa Rica where 800 youth attended.

Our bishop is assigned to the Holston area, but she serves alongside other bishops in the Southeastern Jurisdiction. A bishop must balance the dual responsibilities of the Annual Conference and the General Church.

Some of the Bishop’s time has been spent dealing with the fallout from the called General Conference of 2019. She says that we need to continue to be the church. Bishop Taylor says that she loves the church and is concerned about the church and about Holston Conference.

We are thankful for our bishop and her leadership. We will miss her as she is retiring this year. We will continue to keep her and Rusty in our prayers.

Dr. R. Steven Brown, Chair

= = = END OF REPORT = = =
COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS (CON)

CABINET

Cabinet representatives are appointed by the Resident Bishop and shall begin service upon appointment.

Chair....................................................... Bishop Mary Virginia Taylor
Executive Assistant to the Bishop........ Open
Dean of the Cabinet ............................... Jeffrey W. Wright

Appointment Cabinet (District Superintendents)
Lauri Jo Cranford                  Angela Hardy Cross                Ann P. Robins
Jason Gattis                       Hugh Kilgore                    Jane Taylor
Kimberly M. Goddard                 Reed Shell                      Jeffrey W. Wright

Extended Cabinet (all of the above as well as:)
Conference Lay Leader.......................... James D. “Del” Holley, Jr.
Conference Secretary/Director of Clergy Services......................... Terry D. Goodman
Conference Treasurer/Director of Administrative Services................. F. Richard “Rick” Cherry
Director of Congregational Development & Revitalization.................. J. Russell “Rusty” Taylor
Director of Connectional Ministries............................................. Michael “Mike” G. Sluder
Executive Director, Holston Conference Foundation......................... Paul Bowman

COMMUNICATIONS ADVISORY COUNCIL

Chairperson........................................... (C) Timothy Hankins (SM)
Vice Chairperson................................. (L) Clayton Hensley (TV)
Secretary ............................................. (L) Caroline Lamar (TV)

(C) Daniel Castillo (SM)(1)                     (C) Frank Trexler (SM)(1)     (L) Julie Faunt (HI)(1)
(C) Timothy Hankins (SM)(1)                     (L) Clayton Hensley (TV)(1)    (L) John Shearer (SS)(1)
(L) Missy Belote (AP)(1)                       (L) Caroline Lamar (TV)(1)     (L) Betty Yeomans-Barton (TR)(1)

Ex-Officio Members:
Editor, The Call......................................................... Annette Spence
Information Technology Manager.......................... Brent Sharp
Multimedia Coordinator........................................ Donna Hankins
Print Media Specialist........................................... Millie Meese
Director of Communications / Staff Resource....................... Timothy Jones
Cabinet Representative........................................... Mike Sluder

COMMITTEE ON CONGREGATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Chairperson........................................... (L) Becky Hall (SS)
Vice-Chairperson................................. (C) Ronnie Collins (NR)
Secretary ............................................. (C) Debbie Stokes (SS)

(C) Brooke Atchley (CM)(1)                     (C) Tim Paul (TV)(1)            (C) Debbie Stokes (SS)(1)
(C) Stephen Defur (SM)(1)                      (L) Steve Gross (TR)(1)          (L) Becky Hall (SS)(1)
(C) Ronnie Collins (NR)(1)                     (C) Bill Shelton (SM)(1)         (L) Willie Kitchens (SS)(1)
(C) Ginger Isom (SM)(1)                        (C) Melissa Smith (SM)(1)       (L) Byron Williamson (TV)(1)

Ex-Officio Members:
Staff Resource ............................................................... Rusty Taylor
Cabinet Representatives............................................... Mike Sluder
BOARD OF LAY MINISTRY

Chairperson ............................................ (L) Del Holley (TV)
Vice Chairperson  ................................... (L) Becky Hall (SS)
Secretary  ............................................... (L) Diane James (TV)

District Lay Leaders:
Sue Tilson (CM) Mary Baker (AP) Becky Hall (SS)
Rick Lay (HI) Nan Carver (TR) Glenda Eastridge (SM)
Rob Saunders (MV) Diane James (TV) Deborah Neal (NR)
Mike Holcomb (NR)

Conference Presidents:
United Methodist Men ..................................................................................... Eric Knoefel (TV)
United Methodist Women .................................................................................. Carolynn Haerr (HI)
United Methodist Youth ................................................................................... Lindsey Kizer (SM)

Members-at-Large:
Harold Brown (SS)(1) Audrey Jackson (TV)(1) Kay Phillips (SM)(1)
Kelly Price (MV)(1) Velena Wheatly (AP)(1)

Ex-Officio Members:
Resident Bishop ............................................................................................... Mary Virginia Taylor
Conference Director of Lay Servant Ministry ................................................. Bobby Stair
Staff Resource .............................................................................................. Rick Cherry
Cabinet Representatives .................................................................................... Jeffrey Wright, Del Holley

BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND CAMPUS MINISTRY

Chairperson ............................................ (C) Magan Stubblefield (SM)
Vice Chairperson ..................................... (C) Beth Sullivan (SS)
Secretary ................................................ (C) Ralph Kidd (NR)

(C) Misti McCreary (AP)(1) (C) Ila Schepisi (NR)(5) (L) L. Haden Scott (MV)(3)
(C) Natalie Justice (CM)(7) (C) Magan Stubblefield (SM)(6) (C) Ralph Kidd (NR)(7)
(C) Beth Sullivan (SS)(3) (C) Nathan Irwin (C) Tim Smith
(C) Aaron Atchley (C) Gary Ihfe (L) Matthew McDaniel (Radford)
(L) Jason Onks (L) Stuart French (L) Kayla Carico

Young Adult Team Representative ....................................................................... TBD

Ex-Officio Members:
Staff Resource .............................................................................................. Laura McLean, Mike Sluder
Cabinet Representative .................................................................................... Angela Hardy Cross

STRATEGY TEAM

Chairperson ............................................ (L) Mike Eastridge (TR)
Secretary ................................................ (L) Lori Sluder (SM)

(C) Amy Sumrall (MV)(1) (C) Micah Nicolaus (HI)(1) (L) Rick Cherry (TV)(1)
(C) Don Hanshew (NR)(1) (C) Mike Sluder (SM)(1) (L) Mike Eastridge (TR)(1)
(C) Sandra Johnson (CM)(1) (C) Rusty Taylor (SM)(1) (L) Becky Hall (SS)(1)
(C) Willie Kitchens (SS)(1) Bishop Mary Virginia Taylor (L) Leanna Johnson (TR)(1)
(C) Charles Maynard (SM)(1) (C) Jeffrey Wright (AP)(1) (L) David Seyphers (CM)(1)
DISCIPLESHIP TEAM

Chairperson ............................................ (C) Elizabeth Hamilton (CM)
Vice Chairperson ............................... (C) Randall Wright (AP)
Secretary ............................................. (L) Lori Sluder (SM)

(C) Elizabeth Hamilton (CM)(1) (C) Estel Williams (TR)(1) (C) Tim Hankins (SM)(1)
(C) Joshua Swanson (AP)(1) (C) James David Neel (HI)(1) (C) Ginger Isom (SM)(1)
(C) Amy Sumrall (MV)(1) (L) Marva Wheeler (CM)(1) (C) Randall Wright (AP)(1)
(L) Renni Morris (TV)(1) (C) Betsy Switzer (HI)(1) (C) Paul Humphrey (MV)(1)

Ex-Officio Members:
Resident Bishop ............................................................................................... Mary Virginia Taylor
Conference Lay Leader .................................................................................... Del Holley
Chair, Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministry ................................ Magan Stubblefield
Director of Connectional Ministries ................................................................. Mike Sluder

Chairpersons with vote:
Missions Ministry Team .................................................................................. Tom Hancock
Nurture Ministry Team .................................................................................... Adam Love
Outreach/Advocacy Ministry Team ................................................................. Lori Sluder
Stewardship Ministry Team ............................................................................. Troy Forrester
Witness Ministry Team .................................................................................... Ray Amos, Jr.

Representatives without vote (named by respective groups):
Board of Ordained Ministry ............................................................................. TBD
Communications Advisory Council ................................................................. Donna Hankins, Timothy Hankins
Staff Resource ................................................................................................. Mike Sluder
Cabinet Representative .................................................................................... Jeffrey Wright

AFRICAN AMERICAN MINISTRY TASK FORCE OF THE DISCIPLESHIP TEAM

Chairperson ............................................ (C) Charlotte Williams (SS)
Vice Chairperson ............................... (C) Paige Wimberly (NR)

(C) Bobby Black (TR)(1) (C) Charlotte Williams (SS)(1) (L) Susan Montgomery (TV)(1)
(C) Estel Williams (TR)(1) (C) Paige Wimberly (NR)(1) (L) Deborah Neal (NR)(1)

Representative, Religion and Race ................................................................. Walter Cross
Director of Connectional Ministry ................................................................. Mike Sluder

MISSIONS MINISTRY TEAM

Chairperson ............................................ (C) Tom Hancock (AP)
Vice Chairperson ............................... (C) Jerry Russell (SM)
Secretary ............................................. (L) LeRae Collins (TV)

(C) Chris Brown (AP)(1) (C) Robert Nyaga (CM)(1) (L) Linda Bernick (NR)(1)
(C) Randy Frye (AP)(1) (C) Rosa Slavik (CM)(1) (L) Kellie Bracken (HI)(1)
(C) Tom Hancock (AP)(1) (C) Beth Tipton (AP)(1) (L) LeRae Collins (TV)(1)
(C) Patty Muse (TR)(1) (L) Sam Barnett (TR)(1) (L) Charlotte DeLozier (TV)(1)
(C) Jerry Russell (SM)(1)

Ex-Officio Members:
Chair, Advance ................................................................................................. Norma Smith
Chair, Church and Community Worker Committee ......................................... Leann Crandall
Coordinator of South Sudan Missions ............................................................. Danny Howe
*District(s) Mission Secretaries Chair, Native American ................................ Faith Ramer
UMW Representative ..................................................................................... Marsheine McClurg
Volunteer in Mission Coordinator .................................................................. Bill Campbell
Director Connectional Ministries/Missions/Conference Secretary of
Global Ministries/Staff Resource/Cabinet Representative ................................ Mike Sluder
NATIVE AMERICAN MINISTRIES

Chairperson ............................................ (C) Faith Ramer (AP)
Vice Chairperson .................................... (L) Bomba Easter (TV)
Secretary ................................................ (C) Susan Lankford (TR)

(C) Susan Lankford (TR)(1)  (C) Faith Ramer (CM)(1)  (L) Valerie Ohle (SM)(1)
(C) Mike Pinner (TR)(1)  (L) Bomba Easter (TV)(1)  (L) Patricia Guthrie (TV)(1)

Ex-Officio Members:
  Cabinet Representative ................................................................. Mike Sluder

NURTURE MINISTRY TEAM

Chairperson ............................................ (C) Adam Love (AP)
Vice Chairperson .................................... (C) Sarah Slack (SM)
Secretary ................................................ (C) Tina Morgan (HI)

(C) Adam Love (AP)(1)  (L) Alan Eleazer (SM)(1)  (C) Josh Kilbourne (AP)(1)
(L) Lisa Howard (TV)(1)  (C) Lisa Bryant (CM)(1)  (L) Leanna Johnson (TR)(1)
(C) Ken Sauer (SS)(1)  (L) Tina Morgan (HI)(1)  (C) Sarah M. Slack (SM)(1)
(L) Prue Oxendine (CM)(1)  (C) Samuel Dzobo (MV)(1)  (L) Linda Jackson (AP)(1)

Representatives with vote (named by respective groups):
  Camp and Retreat Ministries Board .................................................... Mary Thompson
  Children’s Ministries Team ............................................................... Susan Groseclose
  Young Adult Ministry Team ............................................................... Laura McLean
  Council on Youth Ministries .............................................................. Del Holley
  Cabinet Representative ........................................................................ Mike Sluder

CHILDREN’S MINISTRIES TEAM

Chairperson ............................................ Jaymie Derden
Vice Chairperson ..................................... Lindsey Piercy
Secretary ................................................ Ashley Wade

(L) Melia Warren (SS)(1)  (L) Tracy Gartman (HI)(1)  (L) Sherri Smith (SM)(1)
(C) T. J. Burdine (HI)(1)  (L) Katherine Redman (CM)(1)  (L) Karen Peace (AP)(1)
(L) Jaymie Derden (CM)(1)  (L) Lindsey Piercy (TV)(1)  (L) Ashley Wade (SS)(1)

Ex-Officio Members:
  Staff Resource .................................................................................. Susan Groseclose
  Cabinet Representative ........................................................................ Mike Sluder

CONFERENCE COUNCIL ON YOUTH MINISTRIES

CCYM President ...................................... (L) Lindsey Kizer (SM)
Coordinator of District Coordinators .... (C) Pat Tipton (AP)
Coordinator of Youth Ministries .......... (L) Laura McLean (SM)
Cabinet Representative ......................... (C) Mike Sluder (SM)
**Young Adult Ministry Team**

Chairperson ............................................ (C) Asa Majors (MV)
Vice Chairperson .................................... (L) Jon Kilgore (NR)
Secretary ................................................ (C) Caleb Pitkin (SS)

(C) Caleb Frazier (AP)(1) (L) David Biggerstaff (SM)(1) (L) Jon Kilgore (NR)(1)
(C) Edna Warrick Lopez (SM)(1) (L) Jacob Ducote (HI)(1) (L) Ashley Lockridge (TV)(1)
(C) Asa Majors (MV)(1) (L) Matt Hall (SM)(1) (L) Amy Brown (CM)(1)
(C) Caleb Pitkin (SS)(1) (L) Katie Jackson (TR)(1) (L) Travis Wills (SM)(1)

**Ex-Officio Members:**
Divine Rhythm Design Team Representative .................................................. Elizabeth Parr
Campus Ministries Representative ................................................................. Joe Ratledge
Staff Resource ............................................................................................... Laura McLean
Cabinet Representative ..................................................................................... Mike Sluder

**Camp and Retreat Ministry Board**

Chairperson ............................................ (C) David Grant (TV)
Vice Chairperson .................................... (L) Leslie Bright (AP)
Secretary ................................................ (L) Linda Schumann (MV)

(C) Aaron Atchley (CM)(1) (L) Richard McGill (MV)(1) (L) Leslie Bright (AP)(1)
(C) Brandon Berg (CM)(1) (C) David Grant (TV)(1) (L) Sarah Clegg (SS)(1)
(C) T. J. Burdine (HI)(1) (C) Joe Phillips (TV)(1) (C) Tim Smith (NR)(1)
(C) Leann Crandall (TR)(1) (L) M. Lucy Maynard (SS)(1) (L) Linda Schumann (MV)(1)
(C) Amanda Dean (AP)(1) (L) Wes Bradley TR)(1) (L) Thomas Hammon tree (SM)(1)
(L) Anne Travis (SM)(1)

**Ex-Officio Members:**
Bishop .............................................................................................................. Mary Virginia Taylor
Director of Connectional Ministries / Staff ......................................................... Mike Sluder
Cabinet Representative ..................................................................................... Hugh Kilgore
Camp and Retreat Ministries Executive Director / Staff .................................... Mary Thompson
Site Directors .................................................................................................... Tony Lea, Anthony Gomez,
Site Board Chairpersons .................................................................................. David Bradshaw, Damon Riggs,
Helen Thompson, Jeff Wadley, Donald Washburn,
Philadelphia, Whitney Winston

**Outreach/Advocacy Ministry Team**

Chairperson ............................................ (L) Lori Sluder (TV)
Vice Chairperson .................................... (C) Cynthia Frye (CM)
Secretary ................................................ (C) Linda Stransky (MV)

(C) Daniel Castillo (SM)(1) (C) Linda Stransky (MV)(1) (L) Charlotte McKee (SS)(1)
(C) Cynthia Frye (CM)(1) (L) Linda Clark (TV)(1) (L) Carolyn Haerr (HI)(1)
(C) Leah Burns (SM)(1) (C) Jim Cooper (AP)(1) (L) Donna Mosby (TV)(1)
(C) Linda Rozar (TR)(1) (L) Gretchen Hakola-Penn (TV)(1) (L) Lori Sluder (SM)(1)

Chairperson, Religion and Race ................................................................. Charlotte McKee
Chairperson, Status and Role of Women ......................................................... Sharon Bowers
Chairperson, Creation Care .............................................................................. Sara Orellana
President, United Methodist Women ............................................................. Carolyn Haerr

**Ex-Officio Members:** (named by the Team):
Representative, Alcohol and Related Issues ................................................... Rance Edwards
Representative, Holston UM Home for Children ............................................ Barbara Clark
Coordinator, Peace with Justice ........................................................................ Pat Bellingrath
Representative, Native American Ministries ................................................... Faith Ramer
Chairperson, Strength for the Journey ............................................................ Dennis Loy
General Board of Church and Society ............................................................ Don Hanshew
Staff Resource ................................................................................................. Mike Sluder
Cabinet Representative ..................................................................................... Ann P. Robins
**Strength for the Journey Team**

Chairperson ............................................. (C) Dennis Loy (TV)
Vice Chairperson ................................. TBD
Secretary ................................................ (L) Betty Yeomans-Barton (TR)

(C) Annette Flynn (TV)(1)  TBD  (L) Joseph Rhymer (TR)(1)
(C) Cynthia Frye (CM)(1)  (C) Jan Thomas (TV)(1)  (L) Rob Saunders (MV)(1)
(C) Dennis Loy (TV)(1)  (L) David Frost (TR)(1)  (L) Betty Yeomans-Barton (TR)(1)
(L) Ann Stuart (TV)(1)

**Ex-Officio Members:**

Founder ............................................................................................................ Dot Avers
Staff Resource ................................................................................................. Mike Sluder
Cabinet Representative .................................................................................... Lauri Jo Cranford

**Commission on Religion and Race**

Chairperson ............................................ (L) Charlotte McKee (SS)

(C) Walter Cross (TV)(1)  (L) Elizabeth Hernandez-Lopez (NR)(1)  (C) Susan Lankford (TR)(1)
(L) David Lee (CM)(1)  (C) Rochelle Maxwell (TR)(1)  (L) Charlotte McKee (SS)(1)
(C) Elston McLain (TV)(1)  (L) Terry Mullins (CM)(1)  (C) Bobby Black (TR)(1)
(L) Dahyam Olivia (SS)(1)  (L) Tepa Bigham (HI)(1)  (L) Nathaniel Watson (TR)(1)

**Ex-Officio Members:**

Representative, Hispanic Ministry ................................................................. TBD
Staff Resource ................................................................................................. Mike Sluder
Cabinet Representative .................................................................................... Mike Sluder

**Stewardship Ministry Team**

Chairperson ............................................. (C) Troy Forrester(TV)
Vice Chairperson ................................. (C) Wil Cantrell (TV)
Secretary ................................................ (C) Robert Countiss (CM)

(C) Wil Cantrell (TV)(1)  (C) David Jackson (CM)(1)  (C) Carol Alley (AP)(1)
(C) Robert Countiss (CM)(1)  (C) Glenna Manning (TV)(1)  TBD
(C) Troy Forrester (TV)(1)  (C) Susan Arnold (TR)(1)  (L) Sherri Hagood
(C) Chuck Griffin (TV)(1)  (C) Debbie Stokes (SS)(1)  (L) Alex Fesmire Shelton (NR)(1)

**Ex-Officio Members:**

Director of Connectional Ministries ................................................................. Mike Sluder
Staff Resource ................................................................................................. Richard Edwards
Cabinet Representative .................................................................................... Paul Bowman

**Witness Ministry Team**

Chairperson ............................................. (C) Ray Amos, Jr. (CM)
Vice Chairperson ................................. (C) Kristen Burkhart (TV)
Secretary ................................................ (C) Scott Layer (TV)

(C) Ray Amos, Jr. (CM)(1)  (C) David Hall (SS)(1)  (L) Emily Ballard (TV)(1)
(C) Kristen Burkhart (TV)(1)  (C) Scott Layer (TV)(1)  (L) Rick Lay (HI)(1)
(C) Reece Fauscett (SS)(1)  (C) Will Lauderdale (SS)(1)  (L) Joyce Moore (CM)(1)
(C) Maria Grimm (MV)(1)  (C) Tim Smith (NR)(1)  (L) Elaine Powell (NR)(1)

**Ex-Officio Members:**

Chairperson, Small Membership Congregation Team ................................. Annette Warren
Chairperson, Hispanic/Latino Leadership Team ........................................ Mike Feely
Director of Congregational Development & Revitalization / Staff ................. Rusty Taylor
Director of Connectional Ministries / Staff .................................................. Mike Sluder
Cabinet Representatives ................................................................................. Jane Taylor
**SMALL MEMBERSHIP CONGREGATION TEAM**

Chairperson ........................................... (C) Annette Warren (CM)
Vice Chairperson.................................... (L) Dan Duggar (MV)
Secretary ................................................ (C) C. Scott Spence (CM)

(C) Wayne Cook (SS)(1) (C) C. Scott Spence (CM)(1) (L) Terry Frerichs (SM)(1)
(C) Caroline Hawthorne (CM)(1) (C) Michael Teague (CM)(1) (L) Dan Duggar (MV)(1)
(C) Layne Pennington (AP)(1) (C) Annette Warren (CM)(1) (L) Donna Mosby (TV)(1)

**Ex-Officio Members:**

Special Advisor .................................................. Bishop Richard C. Looney
Staff Resource ......................................................................... Mike Sluder
Cabinet Representative ......................................................... Hugh Kilgore, Rusty Taylor

**HISPANIC/LATINO LEADERSHIP TEAM**

Chairperson ............................................ (L) Mike Feely (SS)
Vice Chairperson .................................... (C) Susana Lopez (SM)
Secretary ................................................ (C) Kayce Castenir (SM)

(C) Marta Cogburn (MV)(1) (C) Susana Lopez (SM)(1) (L) Pat Bellingrath (TV)(1)
(C) Debra Dickerson (SS)(1) (C) Jim Goddard (NR)(1) (L) Kayce Castenir (SM)(1)
(C) Barbara Farmer (CM)(1) (C) Bradley Stapleton (AP)(1) (L) Mike Feely (SS)(1)
(C) Javier Hernandez-Torres (NR)(1) (C) Ramon Torres (HI)(1) (C) Todd Adams (TR)(1)

**Ex-Officio Members:**

Staff Resource ......................................................... Annette Spence, Mike Sluder
Cabinet Representative ................................................. Jane Taylor

**BOARD OF ORDAINED MINISTRY**

Chairperson ................................................................. Mickey Rainwater
Vice-Chairperson .......................................................... Don Hanshew
Secretary ................................................................. Lauri Hale
Chair, Division of Elders .................................................. Jodie Ihfe
Co-Chairs, Division of Local Pastors and Associate Members ................................................................ Kathie Wilson-Parker
Co-Chairs, Division of Local Pastors and Associate Members ................................................................ Chuck Starks
Chair, Division of Deacons, Diaconal Concerns and Professional Certification ........................................... Rebekah Fetzer
Chair, Committee on Provisional Mentoring and Recruitment .................................................................. Dennie Humphreys
Chair, Conference Relations Committee ............................................................................................. Brad Scott
Vocational Discernment Coordinator .......................................................................................... Brad Hyde

**Clergy**

Chris Brown (AP) Don Hanshew (NR) Mickey Rainwater (SM)
Rusty Taylor (SM) Kristen Burkhart (TV) Brad Hyde (TV)
Brad Scott (SS) Kathie Wilson-Parker (TR) Walter Cross (TV)
Jodie Ihfe (SS) TBD David Woody (CM)
Barbara Doyle (CM) Timothy Jones (SM) Will Shelton (NR)
Dennie Humphreys (MV) Rebekah Fetzer (SM) Glenna Manning (TV)
Michael Sluder (SM) Nathan Malone (SS) Anthony Grills (CM)
Linda McDaniel (SS) Crystal Smith (TV) David Graybeal (HI)
Gary Grogg (SS) Micah Nicolaus (HI) Chuck Starks (TV)
T. J. Burdine (HI) Elizabeth Hamilton (CM) Mary K. Pope Briggs (CM)

**Laity**

Carolynn Haerr (HI) Bob Ergenbright (SM) Lauri Hale (TR)
Laura McLean (SM) Lee Sherbakoff (TV) Ralph Skinner (TV)
Nancy Tate (AP) Deborah Neal (NR)

**Ex-Officio Members:**

Chair, Order of Elders ......................................................... Sharon Bowers
Chair, Order of Deacons .................................................... Diana Brown Taylor
Co-Chair, Fellowship of Associate Members and Local Pastors ................................................................ Sam Johnson
Co-Chair, Fellowship of Associate Members and Local Pastors ..................................................... Wayne Cook
Director of Clergy Services / Administrative Registrar / Staff .................................................. Terry Goodman
Cabinet Representatives .................................................................................................. Jane Taylor, Reed Shell
HOLSTON CENTER FOR WELLBEING SUPERVISORY COMMITTEE

Chairperson ............................................ (C) Laura Plaster (CM)  
Vice Chairperson ................................... (L) Kathy Ehrnschwender (TV)  
Secretary ................................................ (C) Bob Ruth (NR)  

(C) Sharon Bowers (TV)(1) (C) Will Shelton (NR)(1) (C) Cynthia Frye (CM)(1)  
(L) Kathy Ehrnschwender (TV)(1) (C) Laura Plaster (CM)(1) (L) Becki Garland (TV)(1)  
(C) Bob Ruth (NR)(1) (L) David Hudson (SS)(1)  

Representative, Board of Ordained Ministry ................................................................. Brad Hyde  
Representative, Partners in Crisis .................................................................................... Nancy Ridenour  
Director of Clergy Services / Staff Resource ................................................................. Terry D. Goodman  

Ex-Officio Members:  
Cabinet Representatives ................................................................................................. Hugh Kilgore, Lauri Jo Cranford

CONFERENCE COUNCIL ON FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

President ................................................ (C) Jeffery L. Lambert (SM)  
Vice President ........................................ (L) Caroline Kidd (NR)  
Secretary ................................................ (C) Knox Wimberly (NR)  

(C) Sherrell Boles (TV)(1) (C) Janet S. Sweet (AP)(1) (L) Nat Foster (TV)(1)  
(C) Wil Cantrell (TV)(1) (C) Michael Vaughan (TR)(1) (C) Todd Chancey (TV)(1)  
(C) Sarah Varnell (MV) (1) (C) Knox Wimberly (NR)(1) (L) Carolyn Kidd (NR)(1)  
(C) Jeffery L. Lambert (SM)(1) (L) Mary Baker (AP)(1) (L) Art Masker (MV)(1)  
(C) Chuck Starks (TV)(1) (L) Keith Burroughs (TV)(1) (L) Steve Walling (TV)(1)  

Ex-Officio Members: (without vote)  
Resident Bishop .............................................................................................................. Mary Virginia Taylor  
Conference Treasurer / Staff Resource .............................................................................. Rick Cherry  
Director of Connectional Ministries / Staff Resource ....................................................... Mike Sluder  
Cabinet Representative ................................................................................................. Jason Gattis

BOARD OF PENSIONS

Chairperson ............................................ (C) David Tabor  
Vice Chairperson ................................... (L) Brent Clark  
Secretary ................................................ (C) Clair Sauer  
Treasurer ................................................ (L) Rick Cherry  

2020 2021 2022 2023  
(L) Mary Ruth Richards (AP) (C) Clair Sauer (SS) (C) Will Conner (HI) (L) Brent Clark (TV)  
(L) Jim Snowden (MV) (L) James Reynolds (CM) (L) Robert Taylor (L) Diana Galloway (TV)  
(C) Debra Stokes (SS) (L) TBA (L) Amy Westmoreland (NR) (C) TBA  

2024 2025 2026 2027  
(L) Dan Duggar (MV) (L) Linda Colvin (SM) (L) T. J. Newby (SM) (L) Lisa Atkins (TV)  
(C) Betsy Swift (HI) (L) Rick Cooper (TV) (L) Ken Webb (HI) (C) Robert Burlington (AP)  
(L) Betty Dougherty (TV) (C) Jim Whedbee (TV) (C) David Tabor (TV) (C) Caleb Pitkin (SS)  

Ex-Officio Members:  
Pensions Director ............................................................................................................. Rick Cherry  
Chairperson, Joint Committee on Medical Leave (Incapacity) ...................................... Brian Burch  
Benefits Officer / Staff Resource .................................................................................... Julie Graham  
Consultant - BCBS of TN ............................................................................................. Diana McClurg  
Cabinet Representative ................................................................................................. Rick Cherry
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

President ................................................. (L) David McLain (SS)
Vice President ............................... (L) Robert Reedy (AP)
Secretary .......................... (C) Brian Burch (NR)

(C) Brian Burch (NR)(1)  (C) Jonathan Jonas (CM)(1)  (L) David McLain (SS)(1)
(C) Bruce Galyon (TV)(1)  (C) Amy Probst (AP)(1)  (L) Renni Morris (TV)(1)
(C) Dan Gray (CM)(1)  (C) Tom Robins (TV)(1)  (L) Robert Reedy (AP)(1)
(C) Richie Hayes (AP)(1)  (L) Ken Johnson (MV)(1)  (L) Mary Frances Tucker (TV)(1)

Ex-Officio Members:
Resident Bishop ................................................................. Mary Virginia Taylor
Conference Treasurer / Staff Resource ................................................................. Rick Cherry
CFA Representative ................................................................. Jeff Lambert
Cabinet Representative ................................................................. Lauri Jo Cranford

PERSONNEL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Chairperson .......................... (C) Reed Shell (SS)
Vice Chairperson .......................... (L) Joe Harvey (AP)
Secretary .......................... (L) Carolyn L Kidd (NR)

(L) Benny Brewster (MV)(1)  (C) Adam Love (AP)(1)  (L) Kathy Hoard (MV)(1)
(C) Anthony Grills (CM)(1)  (C) Reed Shell (SS)(1)  (L) Teryl James (SS)(1)
(C) Jonathan Jonas (CM)(1)  (C) Jared Wood (SS)(1)  (L) Carolyn L. Kidd (NR)(1)
(C) Harry Layell (AP)(1)  (L) Joe Harvey (AP)(1)  (L) Chris Lee (TV)(1)

Ex-Officio Members:
Resident Bishop ................................................................. Mary Virginia Taylor
Chairperson, Committee on Episcopacy ................................................................. Steve Brown
Executive Assistant to the Bishop ................................................................. Open
Conference Chancellor ................................................................. John Eldridge
Chairperson, CFA ................................................................. Jeff Lambert
Cabinet Representative ................................................................. Ann P. Robins

COMMISSION ON EQUIitable COMPENSATION

Chairperson .......................... (C) Bruce Galyon (TV)
Vice Chairperson .......................... (L) Jack Brewster (NR)
Secretary .......................... (L) Mollianne Hubbs (SM)

(C) Larry Carroll (TV)(1)  (L) Jack Brewster (NR)(1)  (C) Aaron Atchley (CM)(1)
(L) Teresa Gammons (MV)(1)  (C) Bruce Galyon (TV)(1)  (L) Mollianne Hubbs (SM)(1)
(C) Jim Oxendine (CM)(1)  (L) Lee Sherbakoff (TV)(1)  (C) Bryan Wyke (MV)
(L) Mary Frances Tucker (TV)(1)

Ex-Officio Members:
Conference Treasurer / Staff Resource ................................................................. Rick Cherry
Executive Assistant to the Bishop ................................................................. Open
Director, Clergy Services / Conference Secretary / Staff Resource ................................ Terry D. Goodman
Sustentation Funds / District Superintendent / Cabinet Representative .................. Jason Gattis
COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS AND RESOLUTIONS

Chairperson .............................................. (L) John Eldridge (TV)

(C) Richie Hayes (AP)(1)  
(C) Jonathan B. Jonas (CM)(1)  
(L) Danny Tullier (SS)(1)
(C) Catherine Nance (SM)(1)  
(C) Monty Walton (SM)(1)  
(L) Stephanie Strutner (TV)(1)
(C) Elston McLain (TV)(1)  
(L) John Eldridge (TV)(1)  
(C) Larry Ousley (CM)(1)

Ex-Officio Members:
2016 Delegate for General Conference (named by Delegation) ................. Becky Hall
Conference Secretary / Staff Resource ........................................................... Terry D. Goodman
Cabinet Representative .............................................................................. Kim Goddard

COMMITTEE ON RULES OF ORDER

Chairperson ........... (C) Bradley Scott (SS)

(C) Bradley Scott (SS)(1)  
(C) Patty Muse (TR)(1)  
(C) David Jackson (CM)(1)
(L) Kris Berg (CM)(1)  
(L) Nathan Rowell (TV)(1)  
(C) Paul Longmire (TR)(1)
(L) Joyce Moore (CM)(1)  
(L) Jim Wheeler (TR)(1)

Ex-Officio Members:
Resident Bishop ......................................................................................... Mary Virginia Taylor
Executive Assistant to the Bishop............................................................... Open
Conference Secretary / Staff Resource ...................................................... Terry D. Goodman
Chancellor ................................................................................................. John Eldridge
Cabinet Representative ............................................................................. Mike Sluder

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE ON EPISCOPACY

Chairperson ........................................ (C) Steve Brown (MV)
Vice Chairperson ........................................ (L) Mary Margaret Denton (AP)
Secretary .................................................. (C) Laura Rasor (SM)

(C) Steve Brown (MV)(1)  
(C) Robert Countiss (CM)(1)  
(C) Laura Rasor (SM)(1)  
(C) Bill Rimmer (MV)(1)
*(L) Del Holley (SM)  
(L) Brian Dantzler (SS)(1)  
(L) Gene Frazer (SM)(1)  
(L) Gary James (SS)(1)
(L) Mary Margaret Denton (AP)(1)  
(L) Margaret Forby (MV)(1)  
(L) Linda Franklin (MV)(1)  
(L) Phyllis Ripley (MV)(1)

*Conference Lay Leader by Standing Rule and 2016 Book of Discipline ¶637

Appointed by the Bishop:  
(C) Dennie Humphreys (MV)  
(L) Ken Webb (HI)
(L) Dee Ann Collins (TV)

Ex-Officio Members:
Cabinet Representative .............................................................................. Rick Cherry
Members, Jurisdictional Committee (with vote) ......................................... Del Holley, Kim Goddard

EPISCOPAL RESIDENCE COMMITTEE

Chairperson or Representative of the Committee on Episcopacy .......... Steve Brown
Chairperson or Representative of the Board of Trustees ......................... David McLain
Chairperson or Representative of the Council on Finance and Administration..... Jeff Lambert
Cabinet Representative ........................................................................... Rick Cherry

Ex-Officio Member:
Executive Assistant to the Bishop............................................................. Open
COMMISSION ON ARCHIVES AND HISTORY

Chairperson ........................................... (C) David St. Clair (CM)
Vice Chairperson ................................. (C) Ron Fisher (HI)
Secretary ................................................ (L) Sue Tilson (CM)

(C) Ron Fisher (HI)(1) (C) David St. Clair (CM)(1) (L) Moze Reliford (MV)(1)
(C) Charles Maynard (SM)(1) (L) Harold Hartman (TV)(1) (L) Madge Walker (MV)(1)
(C) Mike Hubble (HI)(1) (C) Tom Ballard (TV)(1) (L) Sue Tilson (CM)(1)

Ex-Officio Members:
Conference Historian ................................................................. Roy Howard
Historical Society Representative ............................................. Brad Scott
Conference Secretary / Staff ..................................................... Terry D. Goodman
Cabinet Representative ............................................................. Kim Goddard

COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS

Chairperson........................................... Bishop Mary Virginia Taylor
Conference Secretary ........................... Terry D. Goodman

District Superintendents .................. Jeffrey Wright (AP), Jane Taylor (CM), Elihugh Kilgore (HI), Angela Hardy Cross (MV), Kim Goddard (NR), Jason Gattis (SM), Randy Martin (SS), Ann P. Robins (TV), Lauri Jo Cranford (TR)

Extended Cabinet ............................ Paul Bowman, Rick Cherry, Del Holley, Terry D. Goodman, Rusty Taylor, Mike Sluder

Presidents:
United Methodist Men ...................... Eric Knoefel (TV)
United Methodist Women ................. Carolyn Haerr (HI)
United Methodist Youth Rep............. Lindsey Kizer (SM)

Ex-Officio Members:
Chairperson of the Discipleship Team ... Elizabeth Hamilton
District Representatives .................. Mary Baker (AP), Sue Tilson (CM), Rick Lay (HI), Rob Saunders (MV), Mike Holcomb (NR), Glenda Eastridge (SM), Becky Hall (SS), Diane James (TV), Nan Carver (TR)
XI SUPPORT GROUPS

XI.A UNITED METHODIST MEN (UMM)

President ....................................... Eric Knoefel
Honorary President ...................... Bishop Mary Virginia Taylor
Northern Vice President ............... Powell Kidd
Southern Vice President ............... Terry D. Goodman
Secretary ...................................... James Sink
Treasurer ...................................... Tom Mitoraj
Scouting Coordinator ................... Rick Cherry
Prayer Advocate ................. Tom Mitoraj
Staff Resource ................... Rick Cherry
Cabinet Representatives ........ Jeffrey Wright

Mission Coordinators:
- Spiritual Growth .......................... Johnnie Bridges
- Education & Interpretation .......... Twanna Teague
- Social Action ............................. Jonnie Faye Ball
- Membership, Nurture & Outreach .... Lori Sluder

Secretary of Program Resources ...... Karen Murphy
Communications Coordinator .......... Marci Villanueva
Chair, Committee on Nominations .... Mary Watson
Staff Resource ............................... Lori Sluder
Cabinet Representative .............. Kim Goddard
Bishop .......................................... Mary Virginia Taylor
Deaconess ..................................... Corinna Sisk-Casson
Mission u, Dean ............................. Kay Phillips
Mission u, Assistant Dean .......... Susan Daffron
Legacy Committee Chair .............. Willela Douthat
Archivist/Historian ...................... Prue Oxendine
Webmaster ................................. Lori Sluder
Language Coordinator ............... Kacye Castenir
Young Women’s Representative .... Jessica Davis
Young Women’s Representative .... Valerie Moore
UMW National Program Advisory
- Group Representative ............ Marsheine McClurg

District Presidents:
- Appalachian ............................... Powell Kidd
- Clinch Mountain ......................... TBD
- Hiwassee .................................... Doug Greene
- Mountain View ......................... TBD
- New River .................................... TBD
- Smoky Mountain .................... TBD
- Scenic South ............................... TBD
- Tennessee Valley ..................... Ralph Skinner
- Three Rivers ......................... TBD

XI.B UNITED METHODIST WOMEN (UMW)

President ................................. Carolyn Haerr
Vice President ......................... Lisa Black
Secretary ................................. Nyoka Holder
Treasurer ................................. Janet Jones

District Presidents:
- Appalachian ............................... Penny McClellan
- Clinch Mountain ......................... Donna Camper
- Hiwassee .................................... Barbara Graham
- Mountain View ....................... Vickie Moore
- New River .................................... Linda Burnette
- Smoky Mountain .................... Susan Daffron
- Scenic South ............................... Karen Adair
- Tennessee Valley ..................... Danielle Meyers
- Three Rivers ......................... Joanne Peters

Prayer Advocate ........................... Tom Mitoraj
Scouting Coordinator ................... Rick Cherry
Cabinet Representatives ........ Jeffrey Wright
DISTRICT COMMITTEES ON ORDAINED MINISTRY (DCOM)

**Appalachian District**
- (C) Liz Hamilton (Co-Chair)
- (C) Harry Layell (Co-Chair)
- (C) Adam Love (Registrar)
- (C) Jeff Wright, D.S. (Ex-Officio)
- (C) Kyle Burnette
- (C) Jack Edwards
- (C) Wayne Hedrick
- (C) Nancy Hobbs
- (C) Jackie McGowan
- (C) Layne Pennington
- (C) Bill Porter
- (C) Brad Stapleton
- (C) Amy (Aycoc) Sumrall
- (C) Randall Wright
- (L) Mary Baker
- (L) Martha Bledsoe
- (L) Roger Herron
- (L) Lana Stallard
- (L) Marie Willis
- (L) John Wright

**Clinch Mountain District**
- (C) Anthony Grills (Chair)
- (C) Robert Countiss (Registrar)
- (C) Mary K. Briggs
- (C) Barbara Doyle
- (C) Brandon Berg
- (C) Robert Kariuki Nyaga
- (C) Larry Lusk
- (C) Carolyn Whitaker
- (C) Brooke Atchley
- (C) Carlos Hess
- (C) Annette Warren
- (C) Scott Spence
- (L) Brenda AYers
- (L) Eddie Harrison
- (L) Heda Quillin (Recorder)
- (L) Donnie Yates

**Hiwassee District**
- (C) Dwight Kilbourne (Chair)
- (C) Hugh Bryan (Registrar)
- (C) Charles Ensminger
- (C) Ron Fisher
- (C) David Graybeal
- (C) Terril Littrell
- (C) Micah Nicolaus
- (C) Mary Parson
- (C) Tom Reed
- (C) Ken Scoggins
- (C) Mike Travis
- (L) Kay Freeman
- (L) Becky Jaquish
- (L) Robert Donaghy
- (L) Rick Lay

**Mountain View District**
- (C) Steve Brown (Chair)
- (C) Dennie Humphreys (Registrar)
- (C) Roger Crim
- (C) Max Frye
- (C) Dougodes Johnson
- (C) Dixie Miller
- (C) Rick Spell
- (C) Sarah Varnell
- (C) John Wilson
- (L) John Allen
- (L) Linda Franklin
- (L) Nancy Renner
- (L) Zerudia Rogers

**New River District**
- (C) Lon Tobin (Chair)
- (C) Teresa Tolbert (Registrar)
- (C) Steve Aker
- (C) Brian Burch
- (C) Jim Goddard
- (C) Don Hanshew
- (C) Ralph Kidd
- (C) Rodney Lawson
- (C) Darlene Marshall
- (C) Don Scott
- (C) Will Shelton
- (C) Paige Wimerly
- (L) Greg Delp
- (L) Mike McMahon
- (L) Rich Waddell

**Scenic South District**
- (C) Jared Wood (Chair)
- (L) Rebekah Ducote (Registrar)
- (C) Gary W. Grogg
- (C) David Hall
- (C) Nathan A. Malone
- (C) Linda Isadore McDaniel
- (C) Adam E. McKee
- (C) G. Keith Moore
- (C) Bradley H. Scott
- (C) Reed L. Shell
- (C) Gregory S. Smart
- (C) Caleb Pitkin
- (C) Chris Ray
- (C) Laura Shearer
- (L) Donnie Callahan
- (L) Ginger Housley

**Tennessee Valley District**
- (C) Bruce Galyon (Chair)
- (C) Charlie Harrison (Vice-Chair)
- (C) David Grant (Registrar)
- (C) Donna M. Hester (Secretary)
- (C) Sherry Boles
- (C) Bradley K. Hyde
- (C) Timothy J. Best
- (C) Sharon Bowers
- (C) Kristen Burkhardt
- (C) Don Ferguson
- (C) Glenna Manning
- (C) Mike Stallings
- (C) Keith Hampson
- (L) Renni Morris
- (L) Shirley Napier
- (L) Mike Slimbarski
- (L) Sharon Vaughn

**Three Rivers District**
- (C) Kim Isley (Chair)
- (C) Karen Lane (Registrar)
- (C) Bobby Black
- (C) Rick Clowers
- (C) Leann Crandall
- (C) Doug Grove-DeJarnett
- (C) Rich Mullan
- (C) Jokie Ihfe
- (L) Sally Blackburn
- (L) Lyncie Broyles
- (L) Dan Cross
- (L) Dell Gates
- (L) Linda J Keller
- (L) Kathryn Wilhoit
DISTRICT BOARDS OF CHURCH LOCATION AND BUILDING

Appalachian District
Class of 2020................................. Adam Love, Shelia Postell, Beth Tipton
Class of 2021................................. Jack Edwards (Chair), Harry Layell, Garrett White
Class of 2022................................. Ricky Begley, Larry Hobbs, Jeff Wadley

Clinch Mountain District
Class of 2020................................. Ed Ashley, Danny Ruble (Chair), Scott Spence
Class of 2021................................. E. Creighton Smith, Barbara Parker, Michelle Brock
Class of 2022................................. Leonard Smith, Betty Webb, Jim Lytelle

Hiwassee District
Class of 2020................................. Wayne Hickman, Ramon Torres, Arthur Bigham
Class of 2021................................. Edith Jones, Donna Tisdale, Wendell Whaley (Chair)
Class of 2022................................. Jerry Frantiza, Rick Lay, Dave Whaley

Mountain View District
Class of 2020................................. Jeff Davis, Guy Jones, Tom Rush (Chair)
Class of 2021................................. Linda Franklin, Doug Jennings, Brad Peters
Class of 2022................................. Bill Brown, Michael CUTshaw, Larry Devault, William Rimmer

New River District
Class of 2020................................. Doug Armstrong, Ben McGuire
Class of 2021................................. Ronnie Collins, Neal Hammons, Tim Smith (Chair)
Class of 2022................................. GW Catron, Bill Webb

Smoky Mountain District
Class of 2020................................. Judy Martin, Magan Stubblefield
Class of 2021................................. Garry Ferraris, Tim Paul
Class of 2022................................. Susan Daffron, Brad Lunde

Scenic South District
Class of 2020................................. Steve Barham, Philip Schofield, Tony Collins
Class of 2021................................. Eric Rieger, Charlotte McKee, Benny Scruggs
Class of 2022................................. Keith Moore, Braxton Cotton, Daniel Oakley

Tennessee Valley District
Class of 2020................................. Lilly Rayson, Mark Troutman, Scott Layer
Class of 2021................................. Tom Ballard, Cedrick Jackson, Doug Underwood
Class of 2022................................. Steve Walling (Chair), Tommy Schumpert, Stan Mattie

Three Rivers District
Class of 2020................................. Joel Cook, Estel Williams
Class of 2021................................. Liz Hughes, Butch Jones
Class of 2022................................. Mark Laughlin, Linda Rozar
TRUSTEES AND DIRECTORS OF CONFERENCE-RELATED INSTITUTIONS AND AGENCIES

Holston Foundation

President ................................................. John Anderson
Vice President ........................................ Cheryl Light
Secretary ................................................ Mary Frances Tucker

Chair: Audit Committee ................................................................. Mark Walker
Chair: Conference Relations .......................................................... Dr. Laurence Hesser
Chair: Grants Committee ............................................................... Wanda Moody
Chair: Investment & Finance Committee ......................................... Charlie Harr
Chair: Nominating Committee ........................................................ Lynne Fugate

Ex-Officio Members: .................................. Bishop Mary Virginia Taylor, Rick Cherry

Panel of 2019 .......................................................... Sarah Beamer, Sam Coulter, Dennis Falls, Lynne Fugate, Charlie Harr, Lee Iglehart, Bill Kilday, Ware Mitchell, Ken Webb
Panel of 2020 .......................................................... John Anderson, Gary Bagnall, Brad Bower, David Goodson, Dr. Laurence Hesser, Charles Stewart, Mark Walker
Panel of 2021 .......................................................... Mike Hincher, Jim Johnson, Cheryl Light, Wanda Moody, Beth Peacock, Mike Reynolds, Mike Stice, Mary Frances Tucker

East Tennessee State University

Wesley Foundation Board of Trustees

Chair ................................................................. Caleb Frazier
Vice Chair ........................................................... Anna Kapoor
Secretary ........................................................... TBD
Treasurer ........................................................... TBD

Kay Farmer (AP) Haden Scott (MV)(1) Shannon Berry (MV)(2)
Kylie Gooden (TR) John Botts (TR)(2) Abraham McIntire (TR)(4)
Adam Love (AP) Rachael Barnett (TR)(4) Butch Jones (TR)(5)
Estel Williams (TR) Joyce Jones (TR)(6) Kathy Feagins (TR)(6)
Anna Kapoor (TR)(7)

Ex-Officio Members:
Campus Minister, ETSU Wesley Foundation .................................. Caleb Frazier
District Superintendents .................................................. Lauri Jo Cranford, Angela Hardy Cross, Jeffery Wright
Board of Higher Education ........................................ Magan Stubblefield
Staff Resource .......................................................... Laura McLean
Cabinet Representative .................................................. TBA
**Radford University**

**Wesley Foundation Board of Directors**

- President: Matt McDaniel
- Vice-President: Alan Ashworth
- Secretary: Dina Deaton
- Treasurer: Jackie Taylor
- Students: Logan Johnson, Mckenzie Hunt, Robert Krebs
- Alternate: Glenda Lindstrom

Panel of 2020: Alan Ashworth, David Boyd, Jackie Taylor, Matt McDaniel, Robbie Hamby
Panel of 2021: David Coulson, Dina Deaton, Marcy Harless, Paul Lambert, Susan Caldwell
Panel of 2022: Karen Black, Michael Hunt, Serounian Keir, Allison Pratt
Panel of 2023: Carli Dotson, Donna Judy, Heather Rowland, Ron Mady, Suzanne Steel

**Ex-Officio Members:**
- Campus Director, Wesley Center: Martee Buchanan
- District Superintendents: Jane Taylor (CM), Kim Goddard (NR)
- District Wesley Foundation Reps: June Totten (CM), TBA (NR)
- District Presidents of United Methodist Women: Donna Camper (CM), Linda Burnette (WY)
- District Lay Leaders: TBA (CM), Mike Holcomb (NR), Deborah Neal (NR)
- Pastors, Radford Churches: Betsy King (Carter St.), Don Smith (Central), Mark Kilbourne (Grove), Brandon Greene (New Mt. Olive)
- Conference Staff Representative: Laura McLean
- Board of Higher Education & Campus Ministry Rep: Ila Schepisi

**University of Tennessee, Chattanooga**

**Wesley Foundation Board of Directors**

- Chair: Steve Barham
- Vice Chair: TBD
- Treasurer: TBD

Panel of 2020: David Hall, Nancy Smith, Rev. Paul Womack, Roger Kincer, Rev. Clark Taylor
Panel of 2021: Connie Bowman, Marlin Gines
Panel of 2022: Dobbin Callahan

**Ex-Officio Members:**
- Campus Director, Wesley Center: G. Keith Moore
- District Superintendents: Randy Martin (SS), Hugh Kilgore (HI)
- Conference Staff Representative: Laura McLean

**University of Tennessee, Knoxville**

**Wesley Foundation Board of Directors**

- Chair: Leah Burns
- Vice-Chair: Jenny Fowler
- Secretary: Misty McComas
- Treasurer: Ralph Skinner

Elected Members: Kathy LaFollette, Dawn Chesser, Mary Hawkins, James Capps

**Ex-Officio Members:**
- Campus Minister, Wesley Foundation Exec. Director: Sharon Bowers
- Campus Minister, Wesley Foundation Associate Director: Heidi Parunak
- District Superintendents: Jason Gattis, Angela Hardy Cross
- Conference Staff Representative: Laura McLean
- Board of Higher Education Campus Ministry Rep: Magan Stubblefield
- Student Members: Rebecca Thompson, Micah White, Marlon Johnson
Chair....................................................... Ken Purscell
Vice-Chair .............................................. Susan Herron
Secretary ................................................ Jacob Somervell
Treasurer ................................................ Kenny Spurlock

Ex-Officio Members:
District Superintendent..........................Jeffrey Wright (AP)
District Superintendent..........................Jane Taylor (CM)
District Lay Leader .....................................Mary Baker (AP)
District UMM President ..............................TBD (AP)
District UMW President ..............................TBD (AP)
Pastor Trinity, Wise UMC...........................Phillip Bates
Member Emeritus .....................................vacant

Non-Voting Ex-Officio Members:
Campus Minister.......................................M. Beth Tipton
Conference Staff Liaison..............................Laura McLean
Student Representatives............................Maggie Chafin
Liaison to the Board of Higher Education........TBD

Members ..............................................Karen Hall, Susan Herron, Nancy Hobbs, H. Rae Mullins, Casey Page,
                                            Layne Pennington, G. Pete Purdue, Kenneth Purscell, Timothy Robinson,
                                            Jacob Somervell, Kenny Spurlock, John Wright, Randall Wright

Panel of 2020 ........................................Jacob Somervell, John Wright, Karen Hall, Kenny Spurlock
Panel of 2021 ........................................Kenneth Purscell, Susan Herron
Panel of 2022 .........................................Timothy Robinson, Casey Page, G. Pete Purdue, Nancy Hobbs
Panel of 2023 .........................................Layne Pennington, Randall Wright, H. Rae Mullins

= = = = END OF REPORT = = = =
A NOTE ABOUT PETITIONS TO ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2020

As I hope you are aware, due to previous communications from the Bishop’s office, the plan for a 2020 Virtual Annual Conference, does not allow us the ability to properly discuss, debate and vote upon petitions that have been properly submitted to the 2020 Annual Conference session. We realize the importance of such petitions and the debate in which they are decided. Such items become opportunities for the Annual Conference to find its voice and to define its beliefs and positions on various topics.

John Eldridge, Chairperson of Committee on Petitions and Resolutions will going to make a motion to the extended cabinet that the petitions which follow, will be referred to the 2021 Annual Conference for appropriate consideration and debate.

Along a similar vein, is the concept of New Business. Our Standing Rule 17 creates a format for the introduction of New Business. However, the format of the 2020 Virtual Annual Conference does not allow us to properly follow the guidelines in that rule. Therefore, we will be unable to introduce any new business items at the 2020 Virtual Annual Conference.

I hope that you can understand that these are different times in which we find ourselves and that these alterations to the way we typically do things are necessary in order for us to conduct the other business of our Annual Conference.

If you have questions or comments, please contact me a conferencesecretary@holston.org.

A Fellow Servant of Christ,
Rev. Terry Goodman
Secretary of the Holston Annual Conference
Director of Clergy Concerns

X.g COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS AND RESOLUTIONS (CPR)

The Petitions and Resolutions Committee (the Committee) of the Holston Annual Conference met by “Zoom” on March 4, 2020. Present were Catherine Nance, Jonathan Jonas, Monty Walton, Danny Tullier, Stephanie Strutner, Larry Ousley, Becky Hall, Terry Goodman and the undersigned.

RESOLUTION #1

WHEREAS:
• the specially called General Conference of The United Methodist Church (UMC), meeting in St. Louis, passed the Traditional Plan relative to the human sexuality issues facing the UMC; and
• the Traditional Plan prohibits pastors from performing same sex weddings and prohibits self-avowed practicing homosexuals (as defined by The Book of Discipline) from serving as ministers in The UMC; and
• the Traditional Plan also calls for violations of the “Traditional Plan” ban to be punished through the bringing of a complaint under ¶2702 of The Book of Discipline; and
• a way forward for the UMC relative to human sexuality remains uncertain and in flux; and
• charging pastors with violations of the “No Same Sex Weddings” ban would cause harm to the individual pastor and to congregations of the UMC.
• under the Traditional Plan, self-avowed practicing homosexuals (as defined by The Book of Discipline) are prevented from serving as clergy in the Holston Conference, resulting in loss of effective ministers from ever serving in Holston Conference,
• Bishop Kenneth H. Carter, President of the UMC Council of Bishops, has suggested that there be a moratorium on church trials, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:
• that the Holston Annual Conference delay any action on church trials relative to complaints against pastors for violations of the Traditional Plan until Holston Annual Conference 2021, to give clergy time to evaluate their moral and spiritual beliefs in light of changes that will have occurred at General Conference 2020, in The Book of Discipline

Submitted by: Holston Conference UMC Next

#........Date....................Name
1..........2/14/2020 23:19 ..........Danny Tullier
2..........2/14/2020 23:35 ..........Dan Young
3..........2/15/2020 0:27 ..........Stephanie Baker
4..........2/15/2020 0:37 ..........Tiffany McGee
5..........2/15/2020 0:45 ..........Matthew J Hicks
6..........2/15/2020 0:54 ..........Cheri
7..........2/15/2020 0:55 ..........Sheryl Talley
8..........2/15/2020 1:27 ..........Jesse Hankins
9..........2/15/2020 1:29 ..........Patricia Bellingrath
10..........2/15/2020 1:29 ..........Patricia Luna
11..........2/15/2020 1:44 ..........Karrie Vercelline
THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS:
• concurrence, that is, approval of this Resolution.

This resolution concerns a proposal to delay any action of the punitive aspects of the Traditional Plan as passed at the 2019 specially called General Conference. The Committee felt that since the prospect of a split in the United Methodist Church ("UMC") is probable, lack of enforcement now is the wiser course of action.

At the time the Committee considered this Resolution, the Committee obviously did not know what would occur at General Conference in May. Nonetheless, the Committee was in favor of this Resolution and unanimously recommends its approval.

END OF RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION #2

We, the people called United Methodists, affirm our faith in God or Creator, in Jesus Christ our Savior, and in the Holy Spirit, or Guide and Guard.

All creation belongs to God, and we are responsible for the ways in which we use and abuse it.

God has granted us stewardship of creation. This calls us to acts of loving care and respect, with the purpose of reversing our current misuse of God’s creation. Economic, political, social, and technological developments have increased our human numbers, and lengthened and enriched our lives. However, these developments have led to regional defoliation, dramatic extinction of species, massive human suffering, overpopulation, and misuse and overconsumption of natural and nonrenewable resources, particularly by industrialized societies. This continued course of action jeopardizes the natural heritage that God has entrusted to all generations.

We recognize the responsibility of the Holston Conference of The United Methodist Church and its members to support an ecologically equitable and sustainable world leading to a higher quality of life for all of God’s creation. Therefore, let it be resolved that the Annual Conference take action to implement the Social Principles of The United Methodist Church (2016 Book of Discipline)
• Our churches adopt Creation Care practices, planned annually through a committee under the guidance of a Creation Care Chair, to be implemented in all areas of ministry and mission.
• Our Annual Conference acts to combat climate change. Recognizing that individual actions will be insufficient to deal with the global nature of this crisis, we ask that the Annual Conference support a systemic response by The United Methodist Church to support public policies that reduce carbon emissions.
• Our theology, doctrine, education and outreach e an effective witness to these biblical commands for future generations.
• To this end, we will teach our children to care for the garden that God made and to be faithful stewards of that garden, as Creation belongs to our God, the Divine Gardener.

Submitted by: Sara Orellana, Chair, Holston Conference Creation Committee

THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS:
a referral of this Resolution to the Outreach Advocacy Ministry Team.

The Committee appreciated the spirit of this Resolution and clearly endorsed it, but was unclear as to the meaning of the action items of the Resolution. That is, the Committee did not know exactly what the Resolution was asking for, although it was sympathetic to the concerns addressed in the Resolution.

The Committee ultimately suggested this Resolution be forwarded to the Outreach Advocacy Ministry Team, as that is the place from which such action would come.

END OF RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION #3

Resolution for New Holston Conference Financial Report

WHEREAS:
• There is no published consolidated listing of financial assets for the Holston Conference,
• The ability of all delegates and churches to see the property rented (with rental), property owned (with market value), investments, reserves, and all other sources of assets is limited,
• This information may exist in a number of separate reports but it is not available in a single report for review,
• A concise table of the information with a reported change from the prior year is very important to be reported each year to AC and supplied to all churches,
BE IT RESOLED:

- The Holston Conference leadership team is directed to develop a concise new annual financial assets report with the outline:
  - The property rented (with rental rates by individual location), property owned (individually, with market value), individual investments, individual reserves, and all other sources of assets by individual item.
  - The first report should be developed before the end of the 2020 Annual Conference and reported before adjournment.
  - The report will then be updated each year as a standard requirement and distributed at Annual Conference and published.
  - Annual values will be reported as well as a historical table showing changes by calendar year (as developed starting with the 2020 report).

Submitted by: Leamon B. Lawson II, Jurisdictional Conference Delegate.

THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS:

that the Annual Conference refer this resolution to CFA.

In its consideration of this Resolution, the Committee was in sympathy with the idea of accountability and transparency relative to the finances of the Holston Annual Conference. However, much of what this Resolution seeks is probably already being done. In its consideration, the Committee determined that the best way to proceed with the thrust of this Resolution is to refer it to CFA and let CFA decide how to present the financial information relative to Holston Conference.

Nevertheless, one aspect of the Resolution is impossible. The Resolution states that, “The first report shall be developed before the end of the 2020 Annual Conference.” Approving this Resolution one day and having the “First Report” ready the next day would be impossible.

END OF RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION #4

Resolution for Conference On-line Date [sic] Base Expansion

WHEREAS:

- The Holston Conference maintains a clergy data base on-line with church, church office personnel, emails, and phone numbers available to log in users,
- Each church must report their laity positions along with contact information,
- The laity information is NOT made available in the on-line church data base to log in users,
- The reasonable ability to communicate with specific church laity position holders is not available for church to church needs,
- Coordination amongst laity is critically important and should be improved with this information being available on-line to log in users,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

- The Holston Conference Leadership team is directed to expand the on-line log in available data base to include:
  - Clergy, with church and at least, telephone number and email
  - Church office with Administrative Assistant and at least, telephone number and email
  - Church Council chair, with at least, telephone number and email
  - Church Lay Leader, with at least, telephone number and email
  - Church SPR chair, with at least, telephone number and email
  - Church delegate to Annual Conference, with at least, telephone number and email
  - Church at-large delegates to Annual Conference, with at least, telephone number and email
  - Any other position deemed of equal importance with the same information
- To be implemented within a 12-month period after adoption by the Annual Conference
- In accepting a local church position, each individual acknowledges that they must provide this information and that it is available to log in users for use within the church and between churches,
- The potential for laity communications, coordination, and sharing between churches is much enhanced within the conference

Submitted by: Leamon B. Lawson II, Jurisdictional Conference Delegate

THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS:

gthat this Annual Conference vote nonconcurrence. That is, that the Annual Conference not approve this Resolution. The reasons are as follows:
The Committee, although sympathetic to openness and transparency, had grave concerns about making all of the requested information available on-line. The Committee felt that the possibility of cyber abuse was high, especially since the information sought is available, just not on-line. As well, data collected by the Annual Conference should be used for the mission and ministry of the Annual Conference, and not readily disseminated to anyone who asks for it. One Committee member noted that each District Office has the information sought by this Resolution, just not on-line.

Because of cyber security issues and the danger of such information being abused, the Committee voted unanimously that this Resolution not be approved.

Respectfully submitted,
John E. Eldridge Chair

= = = = END OF REPORT = = = =

X.h COMMITTEE ON RULES OF ORDER (CRO)

Due to COVID-19, the committee has determined to not make any adjustments to the Holston Annual Conference Bylaws and / or Standing Rules except for the renumbering of the Procedures beginning with item 21 based on the following statement in the 2019 Journal “21. The General Conference rules of order shall be used so far as they apply; otherwise, Robert’s Rules of Order shall be used. (This rule is now covered in our bylaws. Sections will be renumbered in 2020 Report.)”.

Respectfully Submitted,
Bradley H. Scott, Chair

HOLSTON ANNUAL CONFERENCE

BYLAWS

PREFACE

These Bylaws of the Holston Annual Conference are in keeping with The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church (Par. 604.1, The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church 2016, hereinafter referred to as the Discipline) which states, “The annual conference, for its own government, may adopt rules and regulations not in conflict with the Discipline of The United Methodist Church.” This Annual Conference is incorporated under the laws of the State of Tennessee as the Holston Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church. All references to “Conference” or “Annual Conference” shall mean The Holston Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church.

ARTICLE I
ORGANIZATION OF THE CONFERENCE

A. Organization.
The organization, composition, character, powers, duties, and business of the Annual Conference shall be in accordance with the current issue of the Discipline.

B. Rules of Order. ¶505
The General Conference Rules of Order shall be used so far as they apply; otherwise, Robert’s Rules of Order (current edition) shall be used to address all matters not specifically covered by the current Discipline and the following Conference Rules.

ARTICLE II
CONFERENCE OFFICERS

A. Conference President. ¶ 603.6
The Bishop assigned to the Holston Annual Conference is the President.

B. Conference Secretary and Statistician ¶ 603.7
The Conference Secretary and a Conference Statistician shall be nominated by the Nominations Committee, in consultation with the Bishop, and elected at the first Annual Conference session following the General Conference and shall serve for the quadrennium. In the case of a vacancy in the interim of the session of Annual Conference, the bishop, after consultation with the district superintendents, shall appoint a person to act until the next session of the annual conference.

C. Conference Treasurer. ¶ 619
The Conference Treasurer shall be nominated by the Conference Council on Finance and Administration, in consultation with the Bishop, and elected at the first Annual Conference following the General Conference, and shall serve for the quadrennium. If a vacancy should occur during the quadrennium, the council shall fill the vacancy until the next session of the annual conference.

D. Conference Chancellor. ¶ 603.8
The Conference Chancellor shall be nominated by the Bishop and elected at the first Annual Conference following the General Conference and shall serve for the quadrennium. If a vacancy should occur during the quadrennium, the bishop shall fill the vacancy until the next session of the annual conference. She/he shall serve as legal advisor to the Bishop and to the Annual Conference. The Annual Conference may designate one or more associate chancellors by the same nomination and election process to assist the conference chancellor.
E. Lay Leader, ¶ 603.9 and ¶ 607
   a. The Conference Lay Leader shall be nominated by the Committee on Nominations and elected at the first Annual Conference following the General Conference and shall serve for the quadrennium. The Conference Lay Leader is eligible to serve two consecutive terms of office. When a term is complete or a vacancy occurs of the Conference Lay Leader, the Board of Lay Ministry may submit the names of one or more persons for consideration by the Committee on Nominations.
   b. Associate lay leader(s), to work with the Conference Lay Leader, may be elected by the Conference in the same manner as the Conference Lay Leader. The District Lay Leaders shall be nominated by the District Committees on Nominations after consultation with the District Superintendent and elected at the District Conference.

F. Vacancies.
The Extended Cabinet shall be authorized to fill any vacancy in a Conference Office arising between Annual Conference sessions. If a vacancy should occur during the quadrennium in the position of Conference Treasurer, the Conference Council on Finance and Administration shall fill the vacancy until the next session of the annual conference when an election can be held.

ARTICLE III
STRUCTURE AND ORGANIZATION OF THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

A. Conference Policies & Procedures.
Policies, procedures, and ministry descriptions for Conference officers, committees, and positions shall be published each year in the Conference Journal and labeled “Structure and Organization of the Annual Conference.”

STRUCTURE AND ORGANIZATION THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

“The purpose of the Annual Conference is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world by equipping its local churches for ministry and by providing a connection for ministry beyond the local church; all to the glory of God.” (2016 Book of Discipline, ¶601).
Conference Lay Leaders from its membership, who may represent the Lay Leader with full voting rights in any group of which the Lay Leader is a member. (Discipline ¶631)
g. The Conference Lay Leader shall be the chairperson of the conference Board of Lay Ministry (Discipline ¶607.3).

VI. DISCIPLESHIP TEAM
Total Membership = 24:
12 elected members, Resident Bishop, Board of Higher Education & Campus Ministry Chairperson, Conference Lay Leader, Director of Connectional Ministries, 5 Chairpersons of Ministry Teams with vote: Missions, Nurture, Outreach, Stewardship, Witness, 3 Representatives without vote: Appointment Cabinet, Board of Ordained Ministry, Communications Advisory Council. (Discipline ¶630)

a. Missions Team Total Membership = 14: 12 elected members, Conference Secretary of Global Ministries, Cabinet Representative (Discipline ¶633). Sub-groups to be determined by Missions Team in consultation with Discipleship Team.
b. Nurture Team Total Membership = 17: 12 elected members, Representatives of the 4 Ministry Teams/Board with vote (Children’s, Council on Youth, Young Adult, Camp and Retreat), Cabinet Representative. Other representatives to be determined and named by Nurture Team in consultation with Discipleship Team.

1. Children’s Ministry Team Total Membership = 11: 9 elected, 2 Ex-Officio: Cabinet Representative, Staff Resource Person.
2. Conference Council on Youth Ministries Total Membership = 29: 2 youth per District, 1 adult per District, Coordinator of District Coordinators, Cabinet Representative (Discipline ¶649).
3. Young Adult Ministry Team Total Membership = 13: 12 elected members, 75% or 9 of which are age 18 to 35, representing a cross-section of the annual conference, Cabinet Representative (Discipline ¶650).

VI. BOARD OF ORDAINED MINISTRY
Total Membership = 47: 39 elected members [nominated by the Resident Bishop and elected by the Annual Conference]; The Board may adopt a policy to pull in others to use as interviewers as needed. Members may serve up to three four-year terms (Discipline ¶635.1.a). Director of Clergy Services/Administrative Registrar; Chair, Order of Deacons; Chair, Order of Elders [nominated by the Board of Ordained Ministry and elected by Clergy Session]; Co-Chairs, Fellowship of Local Pastors

7. Native American Ministries (Chair) Total Membership = 7: 6 elected members, Cabinet Representative (Discipline ¶654).

d. Stewardship Team Total Membership = 13: 12 elected members, Cabinet Representative.
e. Witness Team Total Membership = 15: 12 elected members, Chairpersons of Committee on Small Membership Congregation Team and Hispanic/Latino Ministry Leadership Team, Cabinet Representative

1. Small Membership Congregation Team Total Membership = 10: 9 elected members, Cabinet Representative
2. Hispanic/Latino Leadership Team Total Membership = 13: 12 elected members, Cabinet Representative

VII. BOARD OF ORDAINED MINISTRY
Total Membership = 47 : 39 elected members [nominated by the Resident Bishop and elected by the Annual Conference]; The Board may adopt a policy to pull in others to use as interviewers as needed. Members may serve up to three four-year terms (Discipline ¶635.1.a). Director of Clergy Services/Administrative Registrar; Chair, Order of Deacons; Chair, Order of Elders [nominated by the Board of Ordained Ministry and elected by Clergy Session]; Co-Chairs, Fellowship of Local Pastors
and Associate Members; Vocational Discernment Coordinator, 2 District Superintendents appointed by Resident Bishop. The Board shall select its own officers. (Discipline ¶635, ¶306-309)

VIII. GROUPS RELATED TO THE CABINET AND ORDAINED MINISTRY

a. Administrative Review Committee Total Membership = 3: 3 elected clergy in full connection and two alternate clergy in full connection, nominated by the Bishop and elected by the Clergy Session. (Discipline ¶636)

b. Committee on Investigation Total Membership = 16: 4 clergy members in Full Connection, 3 Professing Members, 3 alternate Clergy Members, 6 alternate Lay Members. Nominated by the Resident Bishop in consultation with the Board of Ordained Ministry (clergy) and the Board of Laity (professing members). Elected quadrennially by the annual conference (Discipline ¶2703.2).

c. Order of Deacons, Order of Elders (Discipline ¶306-309).

d. Center for Wellbeing Supervisory Committee Total Membership = 13: 8 elected members, Representative of the Board of Ordained Ministry, three (3) District Superintendents (none of whom shall be from any district where Counselors hold their Charge Conference), Director of Clergy Services. Related to Cabinet and Board of Ordained Ministry.

IX. COUNCIL ON FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION Total Membership = 19: 15 elected members and 4 persons without vote: Resident Bishop, Conference Treasurer, District Superintendent chosen by the Cabinet, and Director of Connectional Ministries. The Council shall elect its own officers, except the treasurer who shall be the Conference Treasurer. (Discipline ¶¶611, 612)

X. ADMINISTRATION

a. Board of Pensions Total Membership = 27: 8 elected members each from Clergy, Laymen, Laywomen, Pensions Director, Chair of Joint Committee on Medical Leave, Cabinet Representative. (Discipline ¶639)

b. Board of Trustees Total Membership = 13: 12 elected members, Cabinet Representative; Ex-Officio, non-voting CFA representative, Resident Bishop. The Board shall elect its own officers. (Discipline ¶¶640, 2512-2550)

c. Commission on Archives and History Total Membership = 12: 9 elected members, Cabinet Representative, Historical Society Representative, Conference Archivist (Discipline ¶641).

d. Commission on Equitable Compensation Total Membership = 13: 10 elected members [an equal number of lay and clergy members], one District Superintendent Conference Treasurer (Discipline ¶625).

e. Committee on Episcopacy Total Membership = 15: 12 elected (4 clergy, 4 laymen, 4 laywomen), 1 clergy, 1 layman and 1 laywoman appointed by the Resident Bishop, Ex-Officio Members are the lay and clergy members of Jurisdictional Committee on Episcopacy. The Conference Lay Leader shall be one of the lay elected persons. (Discipline ¶637)

f. Committee on Nominations There shall be a Conference Committee on Nominations composed of the Resident Bishop, who shall serve as Chairperson, members of the Extended Cabinet, Conference Lay Leader, President of the Conference United Methodist Women, President of the Conference United Methodist Men, Chairperson of the Discipleship Team, Conference Secretary, a representative of United Methodist Youth, one layperson from each district chosen by the District Committee on Nominations, and additional lay and clergy persons for equalization of lay and clergy membership.

g. Committee on Petitions and Resolutions Total Membership = 9: 9 elected members, Ex Officio (without vote) 1 a member of the current Holston delegation to General Conference, the Secretary of the Annual Conference and a Cabinet Representative (without vote). Committee members are elected for the quadrennium.

h. Committee on Rules and Order Total Membership = 13: 8 elected members (4 Lay and 4 Clergy) nominated by the Committee on Nominations and elected by the Annual Conference, 5 Ex-Officio members with vote: Resident Bishop, Conference Chancellor, Conference Secretary, Cabinet Representative, and Executive Assistant to the Bishop.

i. Episcopal Residence Committee Total Membership = 3: Chairs or Representatives of the Committee on Episcopacy, the Council on Finance and Administration, and the Board of Trustees (Discipline ¶638)

j. Personnel Resources Committee Total
Membership = 17: 12 elected members, Conference Chancellor, Executive Assistant to the Bishop, Chairperson of Committee on Episcopacy, Chairperson of Personnel Team of the Council on Finance and Administration or designee Resident Bishop (Ex-Officio).

k. **Program Committee, Annual Conference Session** Total Membership = 9+: Resident Bishop, Conference Secretary, Conference Lay Leader, President of United Methodist Men, President of United Methodist Women, Chairperson of Discipleship Team, District Superintendent chosen by the Cabinet, Director of Connectional Ministries, additional members appointed by Resident Bishop as necessary.

### XI. SUPPORT GROUPS

a. **United Methodist Men** All men of local churches or charges chartered or unchartered within the bounds of the Annual Conference. (Discipline ¶648).

b. **United Methodist Women** All members of local units within the bounds of the Conference. (Discipline ¶647)

### XII. THE CONFERENCE CONNECTIONAL TABLE

The membership shall include those staff persons, clergy, lay officials, and other persons deemed needed by the Resident Bishop to carry out the missions of the conference. Different connectional tables may be held for various missions.

**Purpose:** to assist in identifying Conference priorities and coordinating Conference ministries and emphasis.

### XIII. TASK FORCES

Task forces must be formed with the approval of the Extended Cabinet and may exist for up to a period of four years to complete their work. At the end of four years, any task force must reapply, if needed, for an extension not to exceed four more years. If funding is required, task forces must apply to the appropriate body.

### XIV. THE CONFERENCE STRATEGY TEAM:

Named by the Resident Bishop—Shall consist of between 9 and 15 members, set up in three rotating panels. No more than three (3) team members can serve consecutive terms on the Conference Strategy Team.

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**PROCEDURES**

**I. NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS**

1. The Conference Committee on Nominations shall nominate all members of Conference boards, teams, councils, commissions, and committees including the Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, and Secretary, unless such nominations are otherwise provided for in the Book of Discipline or elsewhere in these Standing Rules. The Committee on Nominations, through the Conference Secretary, shall develop an annual instrument for the Charge Conference packet on which laity and clergy may indicate an interest in election to membership on a Conference or District Board, Committee, Team, Council, or Commission. The Committee on Nominations shall also nominate the Conference Lay Leader for election to a four-year term of office. When a term is complete or a vacancy occurs of the Conference Lay Leader, the Board of Lay Ministry may submit the names of one or more persons for consideration by the Committee on Nominations. The Conference Lay Leader is eligible to serve two consecutive terms of office. All persons elected at the Annual Conference will begin serving at the close of the Annual Conference. The Extended Cabinet shall fill all mid-year vacancies which shall be confirmed at the next meeting of the Annual Conference. As per 605.3 “attention shall be given to inclusiveness”.

2. Election to Conference boards, teams, councils, and committees shall be for a term that corresponds to the quadrennium following a regular session of General Conference and concluding in the calendar year of the succeeding regular session of General Conference. Except where the Discipline of the Church or action of the Annual Conference provides otherwise, a person is eligible to serve no more than two consecutive quadrennial terms in the same elective office, subject to the further clarification herein regarding election for part of a quadrennium.

- Members of the Board of Pensions are elected for a term of eight years and are arranged in panels: one-third laywomen, one-third laymen, and one-third clergy (Discipline ¶639.2). Members of the Board of Pensions shall not serve consecutive terms.

- Conference leadership groups shall be organized into the following descriptive categories: advocacy groups, agencies, boards, commissions, committees, councils, ministry areas, and teams. No person shall serve as an elective member of two or more conference leadership groups within the same category; provided, however, that the limitation on joint membership shall not apply to agencies, committees, United Methodist Men, United Methodist Women, the Religion and Race Ministry Area, the Board of Directors of the Holston Conference Foundation, Inc., and the Board of Directors of Asbury, Inc.

- In the event a person is elected during a quadrennium as defined above, the person’s election shall be for the balance of the pending
Members of the boards of directors of Asbury Centers, Holston United Methodist Home for Children, and Advisory Board of Directors of the Methodist Medical Center of Oak Ridge shall be nominated and elected by the respective boards and confirmed by the Annual Conference.

Members of the Board of Trustees of Holston Conference Colleges (Emory & Henry College, Hiwassee College, and Tennessee Wesleyan University) shall be nominated and elected by the respective Boards at their fall Board meetings and confirmed at the next session of Annual Conference.

The Holston Conference of The United Methodist Church Foundation, Inc. shall be governed by a board of not fewer than fifteen (15) directors elected by the Board of Directors and confirmed by the Holston Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church. The Resident Bishop of the Holston Conference of The United Methodist Church and the Conference Treasurer shall be ex-officio members of the board with full voice privileges and voting rights. All elected directors shall serve for terms of one, two, or three years as determined by said Board.

II. MEMBERS TO ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The lay members of the Annual Conference may be elected annually, or to four-year terms to provide continuity. Lay members shall serve at the meeting of the next Annual Conference following election.

The District Leadership Team or other structure, in consultation with the District Council on Youth Ministries or other appropriate group representatives of youth throughout the district, shall elect members of the Holston Annual Conference. The young persons elected shall meet the requirements for election of all lay members as stated in The Book of Discipline, ¶32, which is one person from age 12 to 17 and one person from age 18 to 30. The names and addresses of the elected members shall be sent to the Holston Conference Secretary by January 15. If any elected youth is unable to attend the Annual Conference, the District Leadership Team may select a replacement member to attend by sending the name of the youth to the Conference Secretary. A per diem for these youth members shall be paid by the Annual Conference.

Each year there shall be elected an equal number of lay and clergy members to the Holston Annual Conference. Professing lay members representing each local charge are to be elected at the Charge Conference. Diaconal ministers, active deaconesses and home missioners under Episcopal appointment within the bounds of the Holston Conference, Conference President of United Methodist Men, Conference President of United Methodist Women, the Conference Treasurer, Director of Connectional Ministries and Associate Director(s),
12. The Conference Secretary shall notify each District Superintendent of the number of lay members to be elected not later than sixty days following Annual Conference. The additional persons apportioned to the Districts as lay members to the Holston Annual Conference shall be elected at each of the District Conferences upon nomination from the local churches and District Committee on Nominations. Where there is no District Conference, lay members shall be elected in a manner determined by the District Leadership Team or other equivalent structure.

A prepared ballot of these nominees will be available for the election. Nominations may be received from the floor of the District Conference. A per diem for these members shall be paid by the Annual Conference upon requisition, where they are not paid by the local Church, the District, or some other source. The District Superintendents will be responsible for seeing that the members are elected and that their names and addresses are sent to the Holston Conference Secretary by January 15th of each year.

### III. PROGRAM AND REPORTS

13. The Conference Secretary shall be responsible for Memoirs. A memorial service for clergy members, spouses of clergy members, and members of local congregations deceased during the year shall be held at each Annual Conference.

14. Proposed programs from boards, teams, commissions, committees, councils, and agencies that require Conference action shall be compiled and published and/or made available in electronic/digital format under the direction of the Annual Conference Program Committee and distributed to all lay and clergy members of the Conference at least thirty (30) days before the opening session of the Annual Conference. Reports from various committees, boards, teams, commissions, and agencies that are to be included in the *Book of Reports* are due at the office of the Conference Secretary by March 15. Agenda items and reports not requiring action by the Annual Conference other than a vote to receive said item for publication in the Journal may be placed on a Consent Agenda. For any item or report to be eligible for placement on the Consent Agenda, it must have been distributed in the pre-Conference materials.

Determination of items to be placed on the Consent Agenda shall be made annually by a committee composed of the Conference Secretary, the Chair of the Committee on Rules and Order, and the Director of Connectional Ministries. An individual item may be removed from the Consent Agenda by a written request signed by twelve clergy and/or lay members of the Annual Conference and presented to the Conference Secretary prior to the first business session of the Annual Conference. When an individual item has been removed from the Consent Agenda, it shall be placed on the regular agenda at an appropriate time as determined by the Conference Secretary.

15. The Statistical Report (Table No. 1, Table No. 2, and Table No. 3) for each local church shall be due and submitted by the pastor at an announced place and date set by each District Superintendent, in consultation with the conference statistician and extended cabinet, said date to be no earlier than the close of conference books.

16. The Program of the Annual Conference shall be arranged by a Program Committee composed of the Resident Bishop, Conference Secretary, Conference Lay Leader, President of the Conference United Methodist Women, President of the Conference United Methodist Men, Chair of the Discipleship Team, and a District Superintendent. The Resident Bishop shall serve as chair and may appoint additional members to serve on the Program Committee. The Conference may make any change in the schedule necessary to facilitate its work.

17. There shall be a Conference Committee on Petitions and Resolutions consisting of nine persons elected for the quadrennium by the Annual Conference after nomination by the Committee on Nominations and one person who shall be a member of the current Holston delegation to General Conference (who shall be selected and appointed by the delegation). There shall be a Cabinet Representative appointed to the Committee.
(without vote). The Chair shall be nominated by the Committee on Nominations.

All proposed resolutions for the Annual Conference or petitions to General Conference, to be considered by the Annual Conference, shall first be presented to the Committee on Petitions and Resolutions by March 1. The Committee shall evaluate each proposed resolution for Annual Conference or petition to General Conference and recommend concurrence, non-concurrence or appropriate referral. Their recommendations and all materials must be in the hands of the Conference Secretary for the Book of Reports by March 15. Any resolution to Annual Conference, including new business, or petition to General Conference proposed at the Annual Conference from the floor, that was not first considered by the Committee on Petitions and Resolutions, shall be referred; to the Committee on Petitions and Resolutions for a recommendation. After which the Annual Conference shall consider it in the time on the program allotted for new business. Such petition(s), resolution(s), or new business shall be submitted to the Secretary of the Annual Conference by noon on the first full day of Annual Conference.

All petitions to General Conference submitted for consideration by the Annual Conference must adhere to the specific requirements published each quadrennium by the Petitions Secretary of the General Conference.

IV. PROCEDURES

GENERAL

18. In those districts scheduling a district conference, the membership shall include the local church lay leader; chair of the administrative council or administrative board and council on ministries; presidents of United Methodist Youth, United Methodist Women, and United Methodist Men; lay leader; Diaconal ministers and pastors serving within the district; and such other persons as may be determined by the District Leadership Team or other structures.

19. No clergy member of the Annual Conference shall leave the seat of the Conference without notifying that member’s district superintendent, who will, in turn, report to the conference secretary.

20. The effective date for all clergy members of the Holston Annual Conference entering into voluntary retirement shall be July 1 after the close of the Annual Conference at which their retirement is approved. No retirements may be voted for a projected date during the ensuing appointive year except by the joint recommendation of the Board of Ordained Ministry and the Board of Pensions in response to extraordinary and compelling circumstances.

21. Any and all proposed changes in the Standing Rules of the Conference made by the Committee on Rules and Order shall be printed in the Annual Conference Book of Reports as outlined in Standing Rule 14 and shall be presented for approval by the Annual Conference at the opening business session of the Annual Conference. Any other motion to amend the Standing Rules must be presented in writing, lay over one day, and be reviewed by the Committee on Rules and Order before a vote is taken, and such motion must be approved by a two-thirds vote of the Annual Conference. The Standing Rules of the Conference shall be printed in each edition of the Conference Journal.

FINANCE

22. There shall be a Conference Council of Finance and Administration. The Council of Finance and Administration shall submit its proposed budget and recommendations in the Book of Reports to the members of the Annual Conference for its consideration. Budget amendments and other recommendations made by the Council of Finance and Administration, but not included in the Book of Reports, may be considered at the Annual Conference. All requests for Conference funds or monetary obligations by any board, committee, council, team, agency, or other body shall first be submitted to the Council of Finance and Administration for consideration in the budget. Requests for funds must be submitted to the Council of Finance and Administration or Conference Treasurer by March 1. All requests for funds properly made in time, but not recommended in the budget by the Council of Finance and Administration, may be considered by the Annual Conference by amendment to the budget. Other requests for funds or obligations shall not be considered by the Annual Conference unless first referred by the majority vote of the Annual Conference to the Council of Finance and Administration for a recommendation. After receiving a recommendation, the Annual Conference may consider a proposed budget amendment. (Discipline ¶611-619)

23. The fiscal year of the Conference shall be from January 1st through December 31st of each year. The final day to receive payment on Conference appropriations shall be by the close of the business day of January 9th or the Monday following when the 9th falls on a Saturday or a Sunday.

24. The Treasurer of the Conference shall make a final settlement and shall disburse all funds as designated after the adjournment of the Annual Conference. During the fiscal year, the Conference Treasurer shall make disbursements to various Conference Agencies at times and in manners approved by the Conference Council on Finance and Administration, and upon requisition of the
The Conference Council on Finance and Administration. (Discipline ¶619)

25. The District Superintendents shall receive equal salaries, plus allowances for travel and other expenses beyond the District served and for which no other financial arrangement has been made on requisition, from the fund designated for this purpose.

26. There shall be a Conference Board of Trustees. Any request for the sale, mortgage, transfer, or disposal of real estate or other assets owned by the Conference shall first be considered by the Conference Board of Trustees. The Board shall present its recommendations in the Book of Reports but can include additional property or assets or change its recommendation at the Annual Conference. Any other items not considered by the Conference Board of Trustees must be referred to the Conference Board of Trustees by a majority vote of the Annual Conference before action. After receiving a recommendation from the Conference Board of Trustees, the Annual Conference may consider the item. (¶640, ¶2512.1-8)

27. Capital funds campaigns initiated by Conference agencies and institutions that involve the churches of Holston Conference must have the approval of the Council on Finance and Administration and the Annual Conference. Other fundraising campaigns which extend beyond district boundaries must have the approval of and be coordinated by the Council on Finance and Administration and the Annual Conference. In those instances where financial goals are to be assigned to the congregations, said goals, along with the proposed strategies for meeting those goals, shall be clearly identified prior to approval. Appeals arising within the Conference between Annual Conference sessions may be conducted only on approval of the Council on Finance and Administration. Approval of such appeals shall be communicated to local churches of the Conference.

28. The Conference Council on Finance and Administration shall be required to give thirty (30) days notice to all boards and agencies prior to the annual meeting for budgetary review for consideration of the annual budget of the Conference.

29. The Committee on Rules and Order and the Conference Secretary and Staff shall establish the policy for the publication of the Journal. Publication may include both print and digital publishing. The Journal shall be published under the direction of the Conference Secretary prior to stated deadlines for publication of the Journal. The District Superintendents after the adjournment of the Conference.

30. The Conference Secretary shall be responsible for the distribution of the Journal. The District Superintendents shall obtain the orders for the Journals from the pastoral charges, through pre-paid orders. Retirees may receive, upon request and without charge, a copy of the Journal for the year of their retirement. A clergy person, whose spouse has died, and Surviving Spouses may receive, upon request and without charge, a copy of the Journal that contains the memorial. Clergy and Diaconal ministers, who are retired or on medical leave, and conference claimants may receive, upon request and without charge, a copy of the Conference Directory. Requests must be made to the Office of the Conference Secretary from Staff. Other persons may place orders with payment through the Conference Secretary.

Receipts of Journal sales shall be held in a carry-over account at the end of the fiscal year.

REPORTS AND MOTIONS

31. All motions presented to the Conference and amendments to any paper shall be in writing and placed in the hand of the Secretary immediately following the presentation.

ELECTION PROCEDURES FOR DELEGATES TO GENERAL AND JURISDICTIONAL CONFERENCES

32. The Orders of Elder and Deacon shall make available to clergy members an option to withdraw their names from consideration to serve as delegates to General and Jurisdictional conferences, so long as the eligibility of all members in full connection is not limited in any way. Any printed material to address this must be in the hands of the Conference Secretary prior to stated deadlines for the Book of Reports and Programs.

To ensure that qualified lay persons are identified for consideration as delegates to the General and Jurisdictional Conference, persons may be nominated by local churches, District Boards of Laity, or the Annual Conference Board of Lay Ministry on a form to be developed by the Conference Board of Lay Ministry. The form shall ask the potential nominee to respond to the following items:

- I agree to be a nominee for General and Jurisdictional Conferences.
- I wish to be a nominee for the Jurisdictional Conference only.

Names of all nominees from local churches shall be in the hands of the District Board of Laity by February.
15th of the year in which delegates are to be elected. The District Board of Laity shall review the nominations and determine their eligibility. The Board may add names of persons it deems to be candidates and shall deliver the list to the Conference Board of Lay Ministry by March 1st. The Conference Board of Lay Ministry shall complete the lists, add any persons it deems to be candidates, and provide the list by March 15th, along with biographical information, to the Conference Secretary for printing and distribution in the Book of Reports. The form for nominations shall include the name, address, occupation, local church and district, indication if individual is of ethnic constituency, current photograph, and a biographical sketch of no more than fifty (50) words provided by the nominee. In addition to this process, nominations may be made at the Orientation Session for Laity at the seat of the Annual Conference for presentation to the Conference. Following the election of the lay delegates to General Conference and two lay delegates to Jurisdictional Conference, the chair shall then explain to the lay members that an additional list of names is now available indicating persons who have asked to be considered for election to the Jurisdictional Conference only, and they may now vote for these persons as well as any unelected person.

33. Clergy and lay delegates elected to the previous General and Jurisdictional Conferences shall be delegates to special sessions of the respective conferences.

34. Expenses of two alternate ministerial and two alternate lay delegates to the General and Jurisdictional Conferences, in order of their election, shall be borne by the Annual Conference at a rate not to exceed the per diem of delegates.

35. Each member shall be required to vote for no more than the number of delegates for that particular ballot, but ballots with less than the required number will be considered valid.

36. The names of all eligible clergy persons in the conference shall be printed on a ballot in alphabetical order. A voting number shall be assigned for each eligible clergy person. Clergy members shall vote by ballot until the required number of delegates are elected by a majority vote of the ballots cast. The number of votes a clergy member can cast on a ballot cannot exceed the number of delegates left to be elected. On the ballot that elects the last delegate, if one or more clergy receives a majority vote that exceeds the needed number to be elected, the highest vote total(s) will be used to determine the election. The other clergy person(s) with majority vote will be elected as alternate(s). Another ballot will be taken to elect alternate delegates. After that ballot, if not enough alternates have been elected, a floor vote of a majority of clergy present and voting may elect alternates in the manner specified in the motion.

37. (formerly 38.) Because of the vital need of the Annual Conference to carry out its mission in a timely manner, if any conference leadership group duly elected by the Annual Conference determines an action is needed to properly carry out the mission of the Conference, especially when business of the Annual Conference was unavoidably overlooked during the conference session, or an issue is deemed vital and time is of the essence, such action is authorized to be taken by the elected leadership group after due consultation and/or necessary action of the extended cabinet acting on behalf of the conference and the resident bishop. Any action so taken will be recorded in the minutes of the cabinet and in the subsequent Journal, reported in an expeditious manner to the members of the Annual Conference, and further reported to the next annual conference session.

X.i EPISCOPAL RESIDENCE COMMITTEE (ERC)

The Episcopal Residence Committee is preparing for the transition of bishops and the items that will have to be dealt with in regards to that transition. More information will be shared with the annual conference as we begin this transition.

Submitted by:
Dr. R. Steven Brown,
Chair Committee on Episcopacy

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X.j PERSONNEL RESOURCES COMMITTEE (PRC)

The Holston Conference Personnel Resource Committee has primary responsibility for the staffing in the conference center to further the work of various ministries of the Holston Conference. Our areas of focus are upon job descriptions, compensation and benefits for conference employees. We work in collaboration with other boards and agencies, if requested, in the area of staffing.

Our conference staff positions include support staff, directors of camps and Wesley Centers on various college campuses. We have positions that provide leadership for missions, youth, children, clergy concerns and church development. Also included are administrative areas focusing on finance, pensions, insurance, communications and technology, as well as, support staff to aid the directors. The staff’s focus is to assist the Holston Conference to fulfill its mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

During the past year we have supported adjustments in the area of technology as we seek to adapt to rapid changes in more efficient software and means of communication. The committee worked to comply with the implications of new wage laws involving new earnings thresholds for overtime.

Even in these uncertain times as to the future of our denominational family, our staff continues to work faithfully to further the mission of Holston Conference. There continue to be good reasons to celebrate the excellent ministries of our conference. They are ministries that arise from the hearts, minds and convictions of God’s people in our local churches. They are supported by our conference staff as we seek to follow the guidance of God’s Spirit. We can and do work together as a team for a stronger conference and continue to look to the horizon to catch a glimpse of God’s glory calling us to follow!

Respectfully submitted by,
Reed L. Shell, Chair

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XI.b UNITED METHODIST WOMEN (UMW)

We began 2019 with 9 districts and 7833 members. We were still learning the names and boundaries of our revised districts but we became familiar with the changes and adapted our meeting locations and planning of events and programs to meet members’ needs better.

We started the year’s events with the National United Methodist Women’s Leadership Development Days held in Tempe, Arizona. Three of our officers for the conference and/or districts were able to attend. We received training and information to help us perform our duties in the coming year. St Louis, MO hosted the 2020 LDD training February 6-8.

RISE was held in May in Pigeon Forge. Speakers were the Reverends Mike Sluder and Tom Hancock. We prepared flood buckets then enjoyed music by Adoration and fellowship. We ended our time with worship and Bishop Taylor serving communion.

Many members were present and participated in Holston’s Annual Conference at Lake Junaluska in June. We were pleased to have some UMW members elected to represent Holston at the 2020 General Conference. We shared a video celebrating UMW’s 150th anniversary in mission at the conference.

Mission u 2019 was held July 19-20 at Pleasant View UMC in Abingdon, VA. It was well attended. The studies included the Spiritual Growth study Practicing Resurrection: The Gospel of Mark & Radical Discipleship, the Geographic study Women United for Change: 150 Years in Mission, the Social Action study What About Our Money? A Faith Response, the Youth study Who Do You Say That I AM? Meeting Jesus Through the Eyes of Mark, and the Children’s study MARKED: A Mission Journey With Jesus In the Gospel of Mark. 2020 provides another year of thought-provoking topics to be presented. Join us July 24-45 at Pleasant View UMC for Mission u 2020.

The Social Action event was held August 10th at Gray UMC in Gray, TN. The topics covered were School-to-Prison Pipeline and Elder Abuse. On August 8 2020, the topics are Maternal-Child Health and Economic Justice: A Living Wage for All.

Holston Annual Conference 113 2020 Book of Reports
In September we held our 46th Annual Meeting, Spiritual Enrichment and Officer Training Event at Meadowview in Kingsport with Rev. Sandra Johnson as our spiritual leader and music led by Gail Morris and Bryan Underwood. The event was combined to reduce costs and travel for our members. For 2020 it will emphasize spiritual enrichment more. We also celebrated the 150th year of UMW in mission. The event will be held at Meadowview again in September 2020.

October brought our Mujeres in Accion Event which is planned for our Hispanic sisters in United Methodist Women. It was held in Abingdon, VA at Pleasant View UMC.

Respectively submitted by,
Carolyn Haerr, President

XII THE CONFERENCE CONNECTIONAL TABLE
No report submitted

XIII TASK FORCES

XIII.a AFRICAN AMERICAN MINISTRY TASK FORCE

The African American Task Force seeks to be a sacred and social witness to the Black Prophetic tradition of Resistance in offense to the disappearance, silence, and invisibility of Black Souls and Black Bodies in the church, academy, and society.

The African American Task Force advocates for self-determination and radical self-love that freely offers its own liberation, humanity, and justice.

The African American Task Force is in solidarity with the ethical ministry and righteous indignation of Jesus that warns us against the narcissism of choosing, “Who is the greatest amongst us”, but rather take up the cause for the least of these. This solidarity helps us to serve as beacons of life and justice to the marginalized, oppressed, and disherited “wretches of the earth” found in Luke 4:18. In Luke 4:18, Jesus establishes the proximity of goodness to the poor and captive in the mission of God through Direct Action.

Consequently, our social justice ministries include, but not limited to fighting against powers, principalities, and strongholds where black bodies are profiled, profited, and targeted.

We call for a disruption and ultimately dismantling the cradle to prison pipeline, gentrification (i.e. black removed through invisibility), educational and medical apartheid, and the redistribution of power and wealth.

Finally, we will continue to support the movement in the Holston Conference through Strengthening the Black Church in the 21st Century.

Your Sistah in Christ and the Struggle,
Rev. Charlotte Shynellen Nzingah Nyaboke Williams,
Chair & Committee Members

XIII.b APPALACHIAN TRAIL CHAPLAIN TEAM

“In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.” Matthew 5:16 (NIV)

Most hikers on the Appalachian Trail are searching for meaning and purpose in their lives. The Holston Conference of The United Methodist Church helps in this search by sending a hiker chaplain to the trail every year since 2012. This unique ministry is the love of Christ present with hikers literally where they are. The AT Chaplain becomes part of the hiker community by walking with, talking with, eating with, camping with, and sharing with hikers that come from every walk of life. These hikers may ask for immediate prayer, some ask to be put on a prayer list, some have never been to a church, some are devout Christians, others have backgrounds and beliefs in other faiths. The outreach was expanded in 2018 to include Circuit Hiker Chaplains.

The 2019 Appalachian Thru Hiker Chaplain Pappy Jack Layfield was leaving a small restaurant and as he walked past a group of hikers, a young hiker stated loudly, “Hey, you’re that man at the shelter the other night that helped me!” She gave the Chaplain a hiker handshake (fist bump) and said, “Thanks!” Pappy Jack was recognized by others as their “very own chaplain”. Circuit Hiker Chaplains in 2019 were Garrett “Gandalf” and Kalie “Savage” Hammonds, and “Dr. Mary,” acting as Spiritual Ridge Runners by listening, helping and showing God’s love to hikers. Circuit Hiker Michele Gourley was commissioned at February Convocation. 2020 Thru-Hiker Chaplain Rachele Ahrens will be commissioned at June Annual Conference.
You can be a part of this ministry through prayer, Facebook and website posts, and financial support. The Thru and Circuit Hiker Appalachian Trail Chaplaincy budget for 2020 is approximately $14,000, funded by donations from individuals, churches, and other groups. Checks made out to “Holston Conference” with AT Chaplain on the memo line can be mailed to Appalachian Trail Chaplaincy, PO Box 343, Walland, TN 37886.

“Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a huge crowd of witnesses to the life of faith, let us strip off every weight that slows us down, especially the sin that so easily trips us up. And let us run with endurance the race God has set before us.” Hebrews 12:1

Mary Palmer, “Dr. Mary” AT Circuit Hiker Chaplain, Programming Chair

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XIII.c SEXUAL ETHICS & BOUNDARIES TASK FORCE

The Sexual Ethics & Boundaries Task Force began the year with at least 4 goals in mind. To date, these four goals are all in different stages of coming to fruition. First, the Task Force is asking to become a standing committee of the Annual Conference. After four Holston Conference Clergy attended the “Do No Harm” Conference in San Antonio, Texas in the fall of 2018, a growing passion developed to go beyond required quadrennial training. The team realized that a more comprehensive vision needed to be developed for the Holston Conference. In order to provide relevant training and prevention on an ongoing basis, a structure would need to exist to support sexual ethics and boundaries toward effective ministry.

Second, the team began the task of writing social media policy guidelines. The Reverend Timothy Hankins was invited to join the task force to help with this project. The Director of Conference Communications, The Reverend Tim Jones and the Communications Advisory Council were also consulted in accomplishing this task. This document will be submitted for approval at Annual Conference.

Finally, the team wanted to address the problem of sexual harassment of clergywomen. A video was created similar to one that was produced by the Lutheran Church and the Western North Carolina Conference of The United Methodist Church. The video includes male clergy reading comments made to female clergy in their ministry context. We would like to thank our Conference Communications staff, our female clergy that submitted comments, and the male clergy who participated in this important project. We hope that it will be used to help train Staff and Pastor Parish Relations Committees to both prevent sexual harassment and respond appropriately with accountability when it does occur. We seek to honor the stories of those who have experienced the pain and devastation of sexual harassment.

The Sexual Ethics & Boundaries Task Force has an expanding vision of creating an environment in which Holston clergy and laity will flourish in an environment of safety, health, and wellbeing. The desire is to be proactive with a focus on prevention, advocacy, and collaboration – going beyond compliance. The vision includes fostering conference wide policies and procedures that will be a benchmark for best practices. We envision a sustainable conference structure that includes regular policy reviews and updates; quadrennial pastoral sexual ethics training with annual refreshers; safe sanctuaries and boundary training; response team ministry; teaching healthy sexuality to teens using United Methodist curriculum; and joining with Holston’s COSROW in developing ongoing trainings in sexual harassment for local church leaders and clergy. Our hope is to encourage pastoral and lay leadership excellence for healthy, grace-filled and accountable congregations across the Holston Conference.

Respectfully submitted by,

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XIII.d CONFERENCE RESPONSE TEAM - FORMERLY CWART

The Conference Response Team (formerly CWART) seeks to serve congregations and pastors of the Holston Annual Conference. We serve as the response team who works with congregations immediately following alleged clergy or church staff misconduct. The Team consists of laity and clergy from throughout the conference. Our work as a response team is a short-term, immediate response in order to provide safe and active listening to church members and staff. Our goal is to allow the congregation to be heard, to grieve, and to begin the healing process so that they can move forward and grow as a vital congregation. The team also serves as advocates and works with alleged victims of clergy abuse. The team assigns an advocate for anyone who is a survivor of the misuse of power by clergy. When sacred trust is broken, victims often experience a crisis, including a crisis of faith. The team helps survivors understand their rights as the complaint process unfolds and an investigation takes place. Response team ministry works quietly and confidentially.

The Conference Response Team was formerly named The Congregational Wellness and Advocacy Response Team. The name change is meant to simplify our language. However, the basic function of this team remains intact. Following a consultation with Dr. Karen A. McClintock in May of 2019 a decision was made by the Response Team leadership to review the scope of service and procedures for the team. Reverend Kathy Heustess, Reverend Carole Martin, Reverend Faith Ramer, and Reverend Robert Ruth conducted this review. The result of this review is a clearer focus for the Response Team as it seeks to serve the congregations of the Holston Conference.

During the past year several new persons have agreed to serve on the Conference Response Team. We are grateful to the 18 clergy and laity who are graciously willing to serve on the Team. At least one congregation requested the services of the Response Team in the past Conference year.

Training for Conference Response Team members is scheduled for April 24, 2020. With regular continuing education opportunities, we are hopeful that we will continue to learn and grow as a team. We will continue to promote and inspire congregational leaders to use healthy communication toward healing and wholeness as they endeavor to make disciples for Jesus Christ. If you believe your congregation might benefit from the ministry of the Conference Response Team, please contact your District Superintendent. Your request will be evaluated and referred to the response team.

Respectfully submitted by,
Rev. Robert Ruth, Chairperson, Conference Response Team Chairperson, Rev. Kathy T. Heustess, Coordinator

END OF REPORT

XIV THE CONFERENCE STRATEGY TEAM (CST)

“Because as one Body of Christ, we recognize that we are stronger working together, we commit ourselves to nurturing a trusting relationship. One way we do this is by intentionally communicating the stories that reveal the value of our connectional relationship and by strengthening this vital relationship....”

These words introduce the very first element of the Comprehensive Conference Strategy plan for Holston Conference under the heading “Re-Connecting the Connection.” It was by no accident that the goal of strengthening our relationships was the first and primary vision of our overall strategy when the Strategy Team first gathered in 2015. The remaining six elements of the Comprehensive Conference Strategy plan all serve to nourish this primary objective because our calling to share God’s love to make disciples of Christ for the transformation of the world requires the strength of the collective Body of Christ working together for this common purpose.

As we face the future in the headwinds of divisiveness, polarization and conflict both inside and outside the Church, the importance of strengthening our connection has never been more crucial.

Since the adoption of the Comprehensive Conference Strategy plan by the Holston Annual Conference in 2017, the Holston Conference Strategy Team has been working to implement all seven of the elements of the Comprehensive Strategy Plan.
Perhaps the most visible accomplishment was the reduction and restructuring of the twelve districts that had largely remained static for almost 50 years into nine districts with refreshed identities. More important, the restructuring process was conducted through an evaluative discernment-based process that will continue to be used to ensure that the Districts of Holston Conference are structured for optimal fruitfulness in mission and ministry.

Perhaps the most important accomplishment of the Comprehensive Conference Strategy implementation was the conference-wide launch of “Missional Hubs” in February of 2019, with a follow-up training of trainers in February of 2020. The concept of sub-district structures is not new, and several districts were operating various versions of sub-district missions, but the Missional Hubs initiative comes from a new and broader vision. As the Conference Strategy Team sought to understand the 2012 United Methodist General Conference mandate that District Superintendents are to serve as “Chief Missional Strategists” for their districts, the notion of Missional Hubs emerged as an ideal structure through which this goal could be accomplished. Furthermore, Missional Hubs could also serve to strengthen our “Connection” by nurturing the relational bonds among our churches and parishes and broadening the scope of ministries that would otherwise be unattainable by individuals working independently.

If the mission and ministries of Holston Conference were to be fruitful, our ability to communicate between and among each other had to continue to evolve and align with these new structures. Accordingly, the “Communications” element of the Comprehensive Conference Strategy plan is reflected in the reformulation of the Conference online presence, not just in how we interface with this technology through the new Conference website that was recently launched, but also by building the infrastructure that allows us to innovate in the way we meet, share information and distribute resources for the mission and ministry of Holston Conference. Presently, the expansion of communication capabilities continues to evolve as new project management applications, church and district links and accessibility are incorporated into our conference life.

The Conference Strategy Team has also faced various challenges in our efforts to fully implement other elements of the Comprehensive Strategy Plan. Chief among the challenges has been our effort to examine the structure of our conference teams and committees - and the conference staff that serve them – in the midst of anticipated changes in our denomination. We move into the future in faith and a recommitment to our clear and unalterable calling to make disciples of Christ for the transformation of the world, but without greater clarity as to how Holston Conference will be affected by these changes, the Strategy Team determined that our efforts were most prudently directed toward fortifying those elements that were most critical and attainable while cultivating the opportunity for change once some of these uncertainties became known.

With God’s great providence, the Holston Conference Strategy Team was able to discern that the Comprehensive Conference Strategy must be able to incorporate change into its function. Accordingly, the Comprehensive Conference Strategy plan was engineered to be recalibrated every four years to be agile and adaptive to the shifting challenges faced by the Church.

Thus, in 2020, the task of bringing the vision of the Comprehensive Strategy Plan to its full fruition will be passed along to a new Strategy Team chosen by the new presiding Bishop of Holston Conference. To the yet unknown leaders of Holston Conference who will now shoulder the mantle of this important work, the Conference Strategy Team encourages us all to sustain the work of the new Team with our prayers, support and supplication for God’s continued guidance as we collectively strive to be fruitful field workers sharing the love of God to make disciples of Christ for the transformation of the world.

Respectfully submitted by,
Mike Eastridge, Chair & Bishop Dindy Taylor, Tim Jones, Willie Kitchens, Amy Sumrall, Micah Nicolaus, Rick Cherry, David Scyphers, Becky Hall, Mike Sluder, Don Hanshew, Rusty Taylor, Leanna Johnson, Jeff Wright, Sandra Johnson.

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XIV HOLSTON FOUNDATION

The Holston Conference Foundation Holding Company was formed in 2014 by the Holston Conference Foundation pursuant to the Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church as a non-profit religious corporation for receiving, holding, managing, leasing, selling, conveying, and otherwise disposing of real estate and other assets received as charitable contributions. The first real estate gifts were received in 2015. The Holding Company has served churches and districts by managing gifted real property relieving them of the liability. Real estate taxes, insurance protection, maintenance issues, and other operating expenses are all covered from residential rental and commercial lease income generated by properties held from a single estate which will be liquidated eventually to be added to The Gerry and Avery Norwood Endowment managed through the Holston Foundation.

The total value of three properties held by the Holding Company at year-end 2019 is approximately $2,132 million. Projected annual income from real estate leases is just over $118,700. In 2019 the Holding Company sold two properties for $128,352.04. Negotiations on a third property were held with a potential sale in 2020.

We invite churches and organizations to discuss with us the advantages of utilizing the Holston Foundation Holding Company for future gifts. Following the foundation’s gift acceptance policies, the Holding Company serves as a pass through option for real estate carrying the liability and management until the property is sold. This resource opens the door for churches who otherwise may turn down a gift of real property and for donors who wish to capitalize on the tax advantages of giving appreciated assets.

Respectively submitted by,
Paul Bowman, Treasurer
John Anderson, President

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The Foundation continues to steward endowments set up by generous individuals and offers grants from them to churches and institutions not only in the Holston Conference but worldwide. Also in 2019 the Foundation distributed $6,053,030 which included $4,827,801 to churches and ministries per their request; $1,119,937 in grants, scholarships and charitable entities and $105,292 to individuals named as gift annuity/trust beneficiaries.

We continue to meet with prospective donors who contact Foundation staff about leaving a legacy to the local church. Part of our mission is to equip not only the donor with the best possible option that fits their individual need, but to help churches educate their members on how to give. This involves the stewardship support we give pastors and lay leaders as well as the very popular seminar, Provide & Protect.

While the denomination continues to struggle with moving forward in uncertain times, the Holston Foundation remains a constant in the life of the church. With an independent board of directors and governance, the Foundation is uniquely positioned to continue to meet the investing and planned giving needs of all churches, members of the Holston Conference or any who should remove themselves from the denomination.

We are very pleased to also report that the Holston Foundation received the Outstanding Foundation award from the Association of Fundraising Professionals, Great Smoky Mountain chapter last November. This designation is a direct reflection on the staff’s commitment and hard work as well as the leadership of the Foundation.

Respectively submitted by,
Paul Bowman, Executive Director
John Anderson, Board President

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XIV EAST TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY - WESLEY FOUNDATION BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Greetings from the ETSU Wesley Foundation! It is my joy to share with your some of the wonderful ways Holston Conference has been present for the college students and young adults in the Tri-Cities this year!

Our year of ministry began when Rev. John Ousley retired in June 2019 after serving ETSU Wesley for 9 years. We thank God for John and Lisa and their faithful service to the Wesley Foundation. ETSU Wesley has been served by many gifted pastors and we thank God for all of them and their continued encouragement and support of our ministry.

At ETSU Wesley, our motto is “OFFERING CHRIST to and CHANGING LIVES of YOUNG ADULTS.” We do this by investing in student leaders and equipping them to be leaders in the church. ETSU Wesley has a long tradition of this kind of discipleship as now countless alumni serve in leadership roles throughout our conference and connection.

Campus ministry is so vital as college students are at a crucial stage in life. One of the many joys of our ministry is to see the community that develops. New students start the fall semester as strangers and soon find a home and a family. Lifelong friendships are developed every year and students share experiences that develop and deepen their faith. On our second worship service of the fall semester a new student shared with me that she had never been to church in her life. She pointed to communion and said, “last week I didn’t even know what this was.” Through the year, we journeyed with her as she learned about faith. We have also journeyed with students as they are beginning to discern a call to ministry and seeking out their future vocation. Here are some highlights from this year at ETSU Wesley Foundation:

- In May 2019, 12 students attended the end of the year mission trip to Four Corners Native American Ministries on the Navajo Reservation in Shipwreck, New Mexico, a General Board of Global Ministries supported mission site. Our mission team provided home repair for a Navajo family, served at the local Day Care Center, and completed some landscaping projects at Shiprock United Methodist Church. Thank you to all the area churches who helped with fundraising for this mission trip!
- Our weekly worship service happens on Tuesday nights with a free meal provided by local churches at 7PM. The meal is followed by a small group time and our worship service where the word is proclaimed and table shared starts at 8PM. Special thanks to all of the churches who prepared and served meals to the students. We averaged over 30 in attendance for our Tuesday night worship service and dinner in the fall and early spring semesters. Special focus worship nights included guest speakers:
  - September 24th: Rev. ShannonMarie Langston Berry shared about asylum seekers at the Texas Mexico border.
• October 8th: Kyle Smith, Sophmore, ETSU, with Rev. Chris Brown, Colonial Heights UMC, shared about the Conference trip to Zimbabwe
• November 5th: Rev. Lauri Jo Cranford shared about women serving in ministry.
• Our annual Barbecue and Auction raised nearly $12,712 this year. Since 2001, we have raised $396,379 through this event! Thank you for your support and continued support for the next one! Also, special thanks to First Johnson City UMC for purchasing and cooking the delicious barbecue! The next Barbecue and Auction will be Sunday, September 27th. This will be on a Sunday afternoon from 12:30PM to 4:30PM.
• Wesley students visited and lead worship at over 10 churches this year sharing about our ministry.
• Our fall retreat at Camp Bays Mountain and winter retreat at the FEET FIRST Conferences both included 14 participants!
• A free lunch was provided every Monday for students at the Wesley Foundation.
• Every week we handed out free cookies on both Northeast State Community College and ETSU campuses inviting students to Wesley.
• This year 7 students lived at the Wesley House and the Wesley apartment. These students served in leadership roles and agreed to a covenant to live in Christian community.
• Throughout each week students were invited to take part in different small groups and Bible studies that are provided.
• We are blessed with a fantastic worship band led by Matt Sanders and friends!
• The Bedford Transou Book scholarship fund was established in 2004. This book scholarship fund is available to ETSU Wesley Alumni who actively participated in the Wesley Foundation while completing their undergraduate studies at ETSU. Eligible candidates are those who are going to seminary or pursuing other Christian related postgraduate studies. Since 2004, the Bedford transom book scholarship fund has given out $23,468.51 in book scholarship support! Donations to this important mission fund are still being encouraged and accepted.

For every way you have supported and sustained our ministry, thank you. I am so grateful for the opportunity to serve as the Director of ETSU Wesley and I am excited as we prepare and vision for the future!

Submitted by,
Caleb Frazier, Director

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XIV RADFORD UNIVERSITY - WESLEY FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ask any Wesley Foundation student what Wesley means to her/him and the summary answer will be “a-home-away-from-home”. While speaking in worship several years ago, I used that phrase as a descriptor of our ministry. After worship someone came to me and challenged that premise as being an insufficient purpose for campus ministry. As I reflect on the UMC mission statement, I am convinced that a home/haven/sanctuary for college students is exactly what campus ministry should be and is. Home is the first place we learn about God, Christian values, commitment, loyalty, trust, and basically, about love. Home is the place most of us actually become disciples of Christ. How appropriate then, that college ministry should also be defined by love. We all know many familiar phrases or paraphrases about home. Home is where you go when you can’t go any place else…home is the place where you go that they have to take you in…home is where the heart is… just three revealing statements that exemplify our ministry.

Having a place to go to feel safe and connected is huge when you’re on your own. What a blessing that Wesley/home is that place college students can go when they have tapped out all other resources on campus. For many freshmen, college is seen as a proving ground for untired experiences. Suddenly, they are faced with complete, unrestricted freedom to make all their own choices. The majority try a few new things without compromising values and traditions. Others however, think they want to explore new ideals and principles to depend on in their lives. How appropriate for the Wesley Foundation to be there to remind them that a relationship with Jesus Christ is truly what they have been searching for all along. Wesley students are present in the dorms, the apartments, and other places to patiently listen, share and care for their friends as they grapple with values, beliefs and choices. They often find themselves in a position to boldly share their own beliefs and stories of how God is working in their lives. First they must gain trust, then they can show that Jesus works for them and for others; then, and only then can they share that the Wesley Foundation ministry is a place to go to share hospitality and sanctuary in the name of Christ.

Being accepted on a college campus is no small matter. Statistics show that being alone with no sense of connection is one of the top reasons students leave college during the first semester. Connection with other students, acceptance, and a place to be welcomed are key elements of the ongoing hospitality at the Radford
Wesley Foundation. Our students work to find ways to openly and passionately affirm those who may not readily find a niche or whose lives may be complicated by special circumstances or whose backgrounds may set them apart from the majority of students. As well, this acceptance and sense of home-as-haven translate to mission beyond the campus community for us. Students reach out to the disenfranchised in the Radford area and beyond through their bi-monthly mission projects and mentor work with children. Hunger awareness has also been a persistent theme at Wesley this year. The students shared in packaging 10,000 meals with Grove UMC. They continue to take part in the To Our House ministry for the homeless in our area. Each semester we cook and serve a Saturday afternoon meal to the hungry as a part of the Community Table project of the churches in Radford.

I appreciate the good people of Holston Conference for giving your hearts in commitment to ministry for and with college students. We are grateful for the general funding, our amazing facility. Using the Capital Funds Grant and private donations, we have just completed a $63,000 renovation in our kitchen. Thanks to all who gave money, volunteered time and skill and prayed for this major accomplishment. Thank you also for providing a home to those who could so easily be disconnected, but instead find a bold, passionate and joyful witness to the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Submitted by,
Martee Buchanan, Director

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XIV UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE, KNOXVILLE - WESLEY FOUNDATION

Greetings to you from your Wesley Foundation at the University of Tennessee at Knoxville (UTKWF)! We have had an amazing year and have felt and seen the results of your prayers and generous giving. This has been a year of major spiritual and numerical growth for students, staff and the board.

We have spent the past year repairing and rebuilding as part of the college campus ministry cycle. We have had seven students to graduate in the past two years. We currently have 27-35 students worshiping with us. We have approximately 35-50 different students in our building each week. Many use our building to study, grab a bite to eat, practice band, fellowship, spiritual development and formation or just to hang out. We see and sense vitality and growth at the UTK Wesley Foundation.

One of our strategic goals was to increase diversity at the WF. We have witnessed an increase in African and Asian American student attendance at the UTKWF. We have done this in part by developing organic ministries in addition to Wednesday night Bible study and Sunday evening Worship service. We have a two key organic efforts, a Basketball Ministry and a Dungeons and Dragons Ministry. Also, we have started a Fresh Expression Dinner Church Outreach with the Historic Wesley House Community Center in the Mechanicsville, Lonsdale, Beaumont area of East Knoxville. We have approximately 40-60 parents and young children attend this event and four student leaders help with this ministry.

Submitted by,
Keith Moore, Director

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XIV UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE, CHATTANOOGA - WESLEY FOUNDATION

Greetings from your United Methodist Campus Ministry in Chattanooga!

Thanks to all of our local churches who support the work of the Wesley Center with their prayers, their presence, their gifts and their service. The 2019-20 academic year was, to say the least, unique. In spite of that we took care of many students by feeding them on your behalf in both word and deed. We would like to highlight our new partnership with the Truth Seekers Sunday School class at Hixson UMC. They have decided to take on the serious issue of food insecurity among college students by collecting food for us to distribute on the campus of UT Chattanooga.

We also wish to thank the congregation of Bethlehem-Wiley UMC and Rev. Willie kitchens for their continued partnership in offering an additional worship opportunity called the Funtion on Monday evenings. It invites young adults to participate in and provides them with a safe space where they can share their talents and find their function in worship.

On behalf of the students, staff and Board of the Wesley Center at Chattanooga, we thank you for your support.

Submitted by,
Keith Moore, Director
Our finances have remained steady and we have increased our budget in 2019 through grant writing and board member giving and staff tithing. For 2020, we are organizing our expanded Board of Directors to focus on fundraising and “friend raising,” as well as improving our financial standing and operating systems.

We have the awesome opportunity to increase our capacity as we develop competent student leadership. We are starting two programs to prepare students for careers in ministry and seminary. We are working with Bobby Stair to be part of a new program for campus ministers to develop lay servants. We have had one student complete lay servant training and have two scheduled to attend the upcoming training. We previously trained a certified lay minister to help at the UTKWF however, she relocated to Mississippi. Also, we have written a grant to take students to regional seminaries for an immersion experience as a seminary student.

We have recently formed a UTK Wesley choir with approximately 15 members in the choir and look forward to serving the Holston Conference. We have held several leadership retreats and have developed a freshmen leadership Bible study. We have incorporated an overall leadership model of Character Based Leadership utilizing 10 key character traits.

We work directly with the campus ministry council to participate in joint campus ministry opportunities. Specifically, we work in a mainline partnership with Tyson House (Episcopalian/Lutheran) and UKIRK (Presbyterian) to provide joint activities for our students and other students on campus. Recently we offered “Ashes to Go” on the Pedestrian Walk Way for random students. We reached over 100 students. During Holy Week, the three ministries work together to hold a movable feast and fellowship that is enjoyed by all.

We also provide an alternative spring break missions trip. In 2019, we went to St. Simons’s Island and served the city of Brunswick, GA. We painted street signs, relined a soccer field for at risk youth and spent a day at an adult day care providing services like window washing, general cleaning and providing listening ears to talkative senior adults.

Our flagship program for 2020 is the Patio Ministry that was partially funded by First Knoxville UMC. The Patio Ministry is designed to be an informal gathering place for students to meet and greet and serve as an initial gathering place to engage the 100-200 students that walk past our ministry every day who are not currently a part of the UTKWF.

The UTKWF is about “Knowing God/Christ and making God/Christ Known” to as many students as possible. We are committed to giving students lifelong skills (spiritual direction/formation/coaching) to help them experience an abundant life-long relations with God/Christ and preferably the United Methodist Church.

We are on the front line making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. We are training students to serve God in various aspects of their lives: on the job, in the home and in ordained ministry. We are glad to have you join us in thought, word, and deed as we begin the next quadrennial in which we will celebrate our 100 year anniversary of campus ministry.

We continue to celebrate our heartfelt relationships with churches in the Tennessee Valley, Smoky Mountain, and Mountain View districts and eagerly await the upcoming year. Please join us in prayer and presence helping us to meet the growing needs of our community. Through student interns, service projects, collaborative mission trips, worship experiences, and social justice efforts, our students and local church leaders have had the opportunity to learn from one another and to combine our resources for effective ministry.

We are looking forward to the coming year to continue to live out our faith story of service and love to the greater Knoxville community. We are excited to see what God is going to do in the lives of the people called Methodist at the UTK Wesley Foundation. We feel confident and hopeful about the future of the UTKWF. We have some amazing student leaders who love Jesus and want to help others do the same. Please continue to keep us close to your heart and pray for us as we commit to faithfully executing the call of God with our students and friends in campus ministry at The UTKWF.

Submitted by,
Rev. Sharon Bowers, Executive Director

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XIV UNIVERSITY OF VA-WISE - WESLEY FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

What a year this has been at the Wesley Foundation at UVA Wise! Thank you, Holston Conference, for continuing to support this campus ministry that is a vital part of United Methodist mission and ministry. Through the Wise ministry, leaders are equipped for the church, and enabled to be innovative in outreach. Individuals are invited to have a relationship with God, through Jesus Christ, by the power of the Holy Spirit moving in their lives and among the Wesley student group. A faculty and staff group regularly meets to spur one another on in love via discussion and prayer. Support is offered for those who have experienced family members dealing with addiction to alcohol. God is present in a mighty way in Wise, Virginia. The world is transformed as disciples of Jesus Christ are made and equipped to carry and tell the Good News!

There has been much change at the Wesley Foundation at UVA Wise this year. The college has undergone many changes, including adopting a new logo and official school colors. Some rooms at the Wesley building were transitioned to be more purposeful. In March, the college adjusted all classes to an online format. Wesley followed suit and adjusted all group worship, nurture, and witness, to online formats. Outreach was amended to help people engage in ministry while being away from each other physically. For the students, whose lives are full of transition and change at this stage of life, this was an added and unexpected change. Wesley continued to offer support, encouragement, and faith-growth opportunities despite the many challenges.

Here are some highlights from this year at UVA Wise: The year included weekly gatherings for worship, study, prayer, and support. Wesley Fellowship, a student organization, met each Thursday for supper and worship. The faculty and staff prayer group also met each Thursday during the lunch hour. Al-Anon, a support group for family members and friends of alcoholics met weekly in the Wesley building. After more than two years working toward developing a career clothing closet, Smiddy’s Closet (named for the UVA Wise mascot) opened officially on February 19, 2020. Current students are eligible to receive a complete head-to-toe outfit per year that is professional and appropriate for presentations, interviews, and other career opportunities. Wesley partnered with several student groups, committees, and departments at UVA Wise to offer a variety of special programming throughout the year. Short-term mission trips were offered as opportunities to engage the world during both fall and spring breaks.

During the spring semester programming was focused on sharing the stories of how God has moved, is moving, and how we expect God to move in our lives. One powerful evening a testimony was shared by a young adult who was thriving with a family until drugs took over. She shared about the realities in and near Wise, Virginia, regarding the drug epidemic. She shared how God moved mightily and she is in recovery. She opened the eyes of several folks around the table. Furthermore, she opened the door for a student to contact me and seek help. The transformation of the world can happen one life at a time.

God is active and moving in the lives of students, faculty, and staff, through the Wesley Foundation at UVA Wise ministry. Thank you, again, Holston, for enabling God to do great things through this, YOUR outreach and mission at a rural college in southwest Virginia.

Submitted by,
Rev. M. Beth Tipton, Director

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XV OTHERS
XV AFRICA UNIVERSITY

Africa University continues to celebrate God’s amazing grace. In 2019, Africa University’s story was one of resourcefulness, investment and ministry growth.

Thank you, Bishop Mary Virginia Taylor, the Cabinet and the committed lay and clergy leaders who nurture vitality in the local congregations of the Holston Conference, for all that you do to affirm the United Methodist connection and global mission. The gracious support of the Holston Conference resulted in an 80.72 percent investment of the asking to the Africa University Fund apportionment in 2019. Thank you for your ongoing prayers and gifts. Your generosity is helping Africa University to deliver on its mission—nurturing, educating, and equipping leaders who think for themselves, are contextually relevant and have a passion to serve. Since opening in 1992, Africa University has trained more than 9,000 graduates who lead and serve across sub-Saharan Africa and beyond. These young people are equipped to be ethical, responsible and responsive leaders who can discern their calling and determine how to address the needs of their communities.
Institutional Update:

- Africa University has an annual student population of around 2,800. There are 25-30 African nations represented in the student body each year.
- The university’s three colleges operate as centers for teaching, research, innovation, community engagement and enterprise development.
- Africa University is still the only university in Zimbabwe accredited to offer online degree programs.
- Students, faculty and alumni contribute ground-breaking solutions to Africa’s current challenges with interventions that include graduate programs in migrant and refugee protection, articulated by refugee students, as well as doctoral level training for military chaplains in Africa.
- Africa University is transitioning to solar energy provision on its main campus. With the support of the General Board of Global Ministries of The United Methodist Church, a residence hall for women and a new wing of the student union building—gifted to the university by the Dallas, Texas-based Highland Park United Methodist Church—will be the first solar-powered facilities on the campus.

Africa University affirms its commitment to The United Methodist Church, its Cross and Flame, and the denomination’s global mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world, in every season and despite a shifting social landscape.

Through its faithfulness, the Holston Conference invites and encourages new partners to join in the mission and change the world. By giving freely, Holston United Methodists walk alongside their neighbors, participate in bringing dreams to life, and help to shape an abundant present and future for more of God’s people. Holston Conference, you have heard story after story about how Africa University is nurturing difference-makers. Thank you for responding with love and generosity.

Thanks to your stewardship of God’s blessings, Africa University has gone beyond what some thought was possible. “The things which are impossible with men are possible with God.” Luke 18:27 NKJV

Submitted by,
James H. Salley, Associate Vice Chancellor for Institutional Advancement, Africa University Development Office jsalley@gbhem.org 615.340.7438

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created a “rule of life” to guide their days together, emphasizing prayer, fellowship, and celebration. A house chaplain—a Candler faculty member or church leader—supports them and shares in the journey. The ten students who took part this year describe feeling a richer sense of community and deeper connections to God and one another in the midst of their busy lives. It is clear that this fulfills a need for our seminarians, and we eagerly anticipate the program’s growth in the coming years.

Candler’s student body continues to reflect the diversity and breadth of the Christian faithful, with an enrollment of 470 from 12 countries and 38 states, with 40 percent people of color (U.S.) and a median age of 27 among MDivs. Students represent 42 denominations, with 45% of all students and 50% of MDivs coming from the Methodist family.

We offer six single degrees and ten dual degrees pairing theology with bioethics, business, international development, law, public health, and social work. Our Doctor of Ministry degree is 90 percent online, so students can remain in their places of ministry while completing their degrees.

Candler draws strength and inspiration from its relationship with The United Methodist Church. Our ability to fulfill our mission of educating faithful and creative leaders for the church’s ministries throughout the world depends upon your prayers, partnership, and support. Thank you for the countless ways you advance this vital ministry in the life of our denomination. We invite you to visit us in person or online at candler.emory.edu.

Submitted by, Jan Love
Mary Lee Hardin Willard, Dean and Professor of Christianity and World Politics

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XV DUKE DIVINITY SCHOOL

Dean L. Gregory Jones, Dean of the Divinity School and Ruth W. and A. Morris Williams Jr. Distinguished Professor of Theology and Christian Ministry, had his term as dean extended for a full five years through 2023. The Duke Endowment awarded Duke Divinity School a $12 million grant in support of DDS’s three core priorities and traditions: Thriving communities enlivened by healthy congregations and gifted pastors, embodied wisdom through rigorous intellectual vitality, and creative institutions that inspire imaginative and transformative leadership including the Thriving Communities Fellowship program, which will provide 52 new full-tuition scholarships over the next four years.

Duke Divinity School launched the Duke Divinity: Black Pastoral Leadership Collaboration which will draw on original research in Black church traditions and historical examples of effective Black church leadership to train and build networks of effective leaders for the Black church of today and the future. The collaboration will be led by the Rev. David Emmanuel Goatley, research professor of theology and Black church studies and director of the Office of Black Church Studies at Duke Divinity School.

In 2019, Duke Divinity School welcomed 215 new students from 33 different states and seven other countries, including Canada, Malaysia, Singapore, South Korea, Taiwan, Thailand and Zimbabwe. The Master of Theological Studies (M.T.S.) and Master of Arts in Christian Practice (M.A.C.P.) degree programs received record enrollments of 35 students and 22 students respectively. The Master of Theology (Th.M., 14 students), Doctor of Ministry (D.Min., 20 students), and Doctor of Theology (Th.D., 4 students) all had strong enrollment. The D.Min. program was named the top online program by TheBestSchools.org. Duke Divinity’s new Certificate in Theology and Health Care will enroll 8 students, all of whom are fellows with the Theology, Medicine, and Culture (T.M.C.) Initiative at the school. The M.T.S. program also includes 8 students who are T.M.C. fellows, for a record year of 16 total fellows. The M.Div. degree program gained 110 new students, with minority students comprising more than 32 percent of the incoming M.Div. class, and Black students comprising 18 percent of the incoming M.Div. class. Female students made up 44 percent of incoming M.Div. students, while males were 56 percent. There were 24 denominations represented in the M.Div. entering class, with 42 percent affiliated with The United Methodist Church.

Two new faculty members, Brent Strawn and Brett McCarty, joined the DDS faculty in July 2019. Strawn, Professor of Old Testament, is an ordained elder in the North Georgia Conference. Strawn has a secondary appointment as a Professor of Law at Duke University School of Law. Prior to joining the Duke faculty, Strawn taught at Candler School of Theology at Emory University for eighteen years.
McCarty, Assistant Research Professor of Theological Ethics, is a theological ethicist whose work centers on questions of faithful action within health care. He is associate director of the Theology, Medicine, and Culture Initiative at Duke Divinity School, and he holds a joint appointment in the School of Medicine’s Department of Population Health Sciences.

Randy Maddox, William Kellon Quick Professor of Wesleyan and Methodist Studies, general editor of the Wesley Works Editorial Project, and elder in the Dakotas Conference, retires at the end of the 2019-2020 academic year.

United Methodist faculty member Brittany Wilson received tenure and promotion to the rank of Associate Professor.

Tito Madrazo joined the administrative leadership of the Divinity School as Senior Strategist for the Hispanic House of Studies. He will also serve as a consulting faculty member.

The Hispanic-Latino/a Preaching Initiative is currently in its fifth year of providing high quality theological education to current and aspiring Hispanic-Latino/a ministers. 21 students from multiple denominations are taking courses with us this year.

The Duke Endowment has also awarded Duke Divinity School a grant of $5.5 million over five years to cultivate meaning and purpose across diverse professional schools at Duke. The Lilly Endowment has also awarded grants to Duke Divinity School to coordinate initiatives on “Thriving in Ministry” and “Thriving Congregations” across the United States.

Duke Divinity School has a partnership with Huntingdon College and Virginia Wesleyan University to create streamlined admissions process and private campus events in order to better equip students from those institutions with a calling to serve the church. In an effort to expand access for quality theological formation to students, pastors, and lay leaders in the Nashville Episcopal Area, DDS is also partnering with the Turner Center at Martin Methodist College to offer theological training for innovative and entrepreneurial ministries.

Respectfully submitted by,
L. Gregory Jones, Dean

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On July 1, 2019, Dr. John W. Wells became the 22nd president of Emory & Henry College following the retirement of President Jake B. Schrum. Schrum, a United Methodist clergy and member of the Texas Annual Conference, served over 28 years as president at three different United Methodist-related institutions, including Emory & Henry College, Southwestern University in Georgetown, Texas, and Texas Wesleyan University in Fort Worth. We are grateful for President’s Schum’s leadership over the past seven years and wish him and his wife, Jane, the best in their retirement as they transition to Decatur, Georgia.

Before coming to Emory & Henry to serve as provost in 2017, Dr. Wells had served as Associate General Secretary for the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry at the worldwide United Methodist Church and as Executive Secretary of the National Association of Schools and Colleges of the United Methodist Church (NASCUM). He previously served as chief academic officer at Mars Hill University in western North Carolina and at Young Harris College, a United Methodist-related institution in northeastern Georgia, where he also served for one year as interim president. Dr. Wells is a graduate of Carson-Newman University, and received his master’s and Ph.D. in political science from the University of Tennessee.

Dr. Wells is no stranger to the Holston Conference. A native of northeastern Tennessee, Dr. Wells’ father, the late Rev. William Wells, was a Holston Conference pastor and graduate of Emory & Henry. Dr. Wells also served for many years as a local pastor at Austin Springs United Methodist Church near Johnson City, Tennessee prior to assuming the presidency at Emory & Henry.

Founded 184 years ago by the Holston Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church as Southwest Virginia’s first institution of higher education, Emory & Henry College has garnered a reputation for being a strong academic institution of national renown.

- U.S. News & World Report has again ranked Emory & Henry as the top national liberal arts college in the region. Emory & Henry climbed 14 spots in the national ranking of 215 colleges.
- The College has been recognized once again as a “College of Distinction” for 2019-20 and continues to be included in the national best-seller “Colleges That
Change Lives: 40 Schools that Will Change the Way You Look at Colleges.”

- Enrollment at Emory & Henry climbed to another record high last year, in part based on the increasing number of graduate students at our new School of Health Sciences in Marion, Va., which houses graduate programs in physical therapy, occupational therapy, and physician assistant studies. Total fall enrollment in 2019 stood at 1,292.

- The College has announced plans for a RN to BSN program and will begin accepting students for that program in the fall, subject to accreditation approval. In addition, we are developing a master’s in counseling degree that will focus on treating substance abuse, which is challenging our region. In accordance with professional standards, our master’s in occupational therapy will be transitioning to a doctor of occupational therapy program.

- Our College Chaplain, the Rev. Mary K. Pope Briggs ’86, and our Associate Chaplain, the Rev. Sharon Wiley Wright ’94, continue spiritual outreach to faculty, staff and students of all Christian denominations and other faiths. Chaplain Briggs oversees Spiritual Life programming while Associate Chaplain Wright works directly with our student groups and activities. A number of our recent graduates are attending or plan to attend divinity school at such distinguished destinations as Candler School of Theology at Emory University, Duke Divinity School, Illif School of Theology, and Wake Forest Divinity School.

- E&H continues to administer a grant from the GBHEM’s Young Clergy Initiative for a program called “ENGAGE.” Chaplain Briggs is directing this two-year program which received $160,000. Following the successful three-year program “Defining Moments,” “ENGAGE” is adding a program for Middle School students as well as a Church Leadership component. We are excited about this new initiative that supports young people in Holston Conference who are discerning a call to ministry. Pastors and lay person are encouraged to nominate persons for this program for rising contacting Chaplain Briggs at mkbriggs@ehc.edu. We continue to partner with the Holston Conference Board of Ordained Ministry and Conference Council on Youth Ministries, which is invaluable to the success of this important endeavor designed to help transform the ordained ministry across our denomination.

- The Office of Spiritual Life continues to work to build our interfaith initiative. We continue to provide programming for interfaith education and to encourage people to use our beautiful interfaith prayer room located in Memorial Chapel.

We have much to be thankful for as Emory & Henry continues to be recognized for its exceptional value, successful student achievements, and superior faculty.

- Blue Ridge Outdoors magazine has named Emory & Henry as a top outdoor adventure campus following its success in the annual top adventure school challenge.

We continue to be proud of all of our alumni who are making contributions in our Conference and beyond. Some notable alumni include: Bishop Richard C. Looney ’54, who was recognized with a service citation for his lifetime of service to the United Methodist Church by the College in the spring of 2020, and as of the writing of this report, Jeff Wright ’81, Appalachian District Superintendent; Mike Sluder ’83, Director of Connectional Ministries; Laura Lambert McLean ’03, Associate Director of Youth & College Ministries; LeRae Edwards Collins ’08, Director of Communications, Holston Conference Foundation; and Ken Luton ’68, Conference Pension and Health Insurance Administrator; as well as countless other United Methodist ministers, music directors, and lay leaders. We are also excited about the contributions and service of other special alumni, including Gary Reedy ’78, CEO of the American Cancer Society, U.S. Congressman Morgan Griffith ’80 (VA-9th), and California Senate Leader Toni Atkins ’84.

At Emory & Henry, we will continue to be the light our world needs. We will lead by example, with empathy and integrity, and treat each other daily with kindness, warmth and forgiveness. We will continue to be the college that changes lives and makes a difference.

I think that Methodists of the Holston Annual Conference who founded Emory & Henry 184 years ago would be impressed that our mission and commitment to the intellectual, spiritual and physical growth of our students has not wavered. They would have to be proud that our relationship with the United Methodist Church remains strong. I know they would be appreciative of the continuing support we receive from the Holston Annual Conference and its pastors and congregations, just as we are.

Emory & Henry is a special place with a rich history. I hope that you will continue to support our mission, recommend us to others, and keep us in your thoughts and prayers, as we will all of you.

Dr. John W. Wells, President

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Dear Colleagues in Ministry:

I am grateful to have one last opportunity to thank you for your moral, prayerful, and material support of the Boston University School of Theology (BUSTH), and also to highlight the promising future of the School as a new Dean joins our stellar faculty, staff, and students in summer 2020 to carry on the mission of the School in partnership with all of you.

Breaking News:

- **Students**: We continue to increase and celebrate diversity in our student body, creating opportunities for in-depth exchanges and a rich community life.
- **Faculty**: We welcomed two faculty this year: Filipe Maia as Assistant Professor of Theology, and Luis Menéndez-Antuña as Assistant Professor of New Testament. Both are extraordinary teachers who delight in working with students.
- **Scholarships**: We continue to offer free tuition to UMC registered candidates for ordained ministry, and to build student scholarships and housing as key priorities. BUSTH also offers leadership fellowships to support students in ethnic, gender, and sexuality studies: Raíces Latinas, Sacred Worth, Howard Thurman, Indigenous Studies, Korean Studies, Women in Leadership, and African Studies.
- **Two new Programs**: Faith and Ecological Justice (FEJ) and Raíces Latinas Program in Theology, Leadership, and Research (RL). FEJ leads programs to build ecological awareness, theological research, church collaborations, and community activism in ecological justice. RL sponsors programs to expand Latin American and Latinx theological study and research, and to enhance the leadership of students, young people, and leaders in Latino/Latina communities.
- **Online Lifelong Learning**: We have launched an exciting new program, offering online mini-courses, workshops, and reading groups for professional and spiritual enrichment.
- **Theology and the Arts Initiatives**: Exhibits highlight sacred spaces in Boston; wilderness photography; a 1619 visual lament of 400+ years of slavery; voices and faces of Colombia; and paintings of a gay man struggling with the church.
- **Campaign**: Our BUSTH development campaign concluded with the raising of $29.4 million to support students, faculty, and vital programs.
- **Website and Viewbook**: Check out our new BUSTH website (www.bu.edu/sth) and Viewbook.

Partnering for ministry and transformation:

- **Creative Callings**: In partnership with local churches, we seek to create “a culture of call.”
- **Engagement with the UMC**: Many of our students are delegates, volunteers, and singers in General Conference 2020.
- **Continuing Scholar Program**: BUSTH courses are open to alums and local clergy for small lifelong learning fees.
- **Doctor of Ministry**: The DMin in Transformational Leadership flourishes with lively student cohorts that are broadly ecumenical, culturally diverse, and global. The model includes intensives, online courses, and faculty mentoring.
- **Religion and Conflict Transformation Clinic**: The Clinic provides internships in local churches and organizations that foster just peacebuilding.
- **Travel seminars**: Immersion journeys open worlds to students in the borderlands of Arizona and Mexico, Cuba, Peru, Israel-Palestine, Civil Rights landmarks, and centers for ecological-spiritual renewal.
- **Ecumenical partnerships**: We now have four denominational Communities of Learning: Wesleyan/Methodist, Episcopal/Anglican, United Church of Christ, and Unitarian Universalist.
- **Partnership with Hebrew College**: Together we are able to enrich interreligious learning through joint courses and public events, and also co-sponsor The Journal of Interreligious Studies and the State of Formation for emerging leaders.

Taking action globally and locally:

- **Campus action**: Work to improve accessibility and sustainability. BUSTH is the first certified Green School in BU and is active in the Green Seminary Initiative. We have also been named as one of the “Seminaries that Change the World.”
- **Internships in global service and peacemaking**: Students participate in apprenticeship ministries across the world.

Commitment to justice:

- Faculty and students have been active in UMCOR efforts to support victims of hurricanes and fires, and in collaborative services to support people suffering the consequences of immigration practices, disability
inequities, or racial violence.

• In Town Hall meetings, the community has deep conversations on issues that divide, seeking to develop capacities for relating across difference and to create a community based on the dignity of all.

BUSTH looks to the future. We celebrate transformational leaders of the United Methodist Church, who love with their whole hearts and follow Jesus Christ with their whole lives. Your legacy and witness give us hope and courage for the future.

Blessings and gratitude,
Mary Elizabeth Moore, Dean

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XV GAMMON THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY (GAMMON/ITC)

Gammon Theological Seminary, located in Atlanta, GA, is the United Methodist constituent member of the Interdenominational Theological Center (ITC), a consortium of historically African-American theological schools. Gammon/ITC is a co-educational, professional graduate school of theology. Its faculty personifies vigorous scholarship, rigorous academic discipline, and significant research in the service of the church and other communities in the world. Gammon/ITC is the world’s premier resource for black church scholarship and faith-based solutions to the spiritual and socio-economic challenges confronting the African American community and beyond.

Founded in 1883 by the Methodist Episcopal Church and with assistance from the Freedman’s Aid Society, today Gammon Theological Seminary is one of the 13 theological schools of the United Methodist Church. The faculty and administration of Gammon/ITC create an environment in which critical thinking, investigative reflection, decision making, and responsible action are fostered. Gammon/ITC is a member of the Atlanta University Center Complex, the world’s largest enterprise of African American higher education. It is also a member of The University Center of Georgia and the Atlanta Theological Association. The school is fully accredited by the Association of Theological Schools and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. Gammon/ITC offers the following degree programs: the Master of Divinity, the Master of Arts in Christian Education, and the Doctor of Ministry. Admission is open to qualified men and women of the United Methodist Church.

The support of this Annual Conference helps Gammon/ITC students carry on a proud tradition. They are taught to think independently and communicate effectively. They are also challenged to become involved in finding solutions to problems that affect the human condition, and to become active in the community beyond this campus. Additionally, graduates of this institution are encouraged to maintain a lifelong desire for intellectual growth, spiritual development, and the acquisition of skills for the practice of ministry.

Gammon/ITC has had a very exciting and busy year living out its mission, which is to recruit, support and educate pastors and leaders for the United Methodist Church. Gammon Theological Seminary is extremely grateful to this Annual Conference for your support of theological education, and for your commitment to ensuring that God’s church will be served by persons who are called and trained to lead us forward.

Grace and Peace,
Ken J. Walden, Ph.D., President-Dean

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XV METHODIST THEOLOGICAL SCHOOL IN OHIO (MTSO)

Thank you for this opportunity to bring you news from MTSO.

Full-tuition scholarships extended to those pursuing United Methodist candidacy

MTSO and the school’s generous donors have pledged to extend a full-tuition pledge to all prospective students who are pursuing United Methodist elder or deacon candidacy. This pledge applies to qualified prospective students who apply by July 1 for the 2020-21 academic year. The MTSO admissions staff is happy to answer questions at 800-333-6876 or admissions@mtso.edu.

Two young scholars appointed to faculty
MTSO President Jay Rundell has announced the appointment of Tejai Beulah and Kyle Brooks to the faculty, effective July 1. Beulah has been appointed assistant professor of history, ethics, and black church and African diaspora studies. She earned her doctorate in American religious history from Drew University; a Master of Theological Studies degree from MTSO; a master’s degree in African American and African studies from Ohio State University; and a bachelor’s degree in English, history and gender diversity studies from Xavier University. Brooks has been appointed assistant professor of homiletics, worship, and black church and African diaspora studies. He has served for two years as a Louisville Institute postdoctoral fellow at MTSO while completing his doctoral dissertation in pursuit of a Ph.D. from Vanderbilt University with a concentration in homiletics and liturgics. He holds a Master of Divinity degree from Yale Divinity School, and an M.A. in Urban Education Studies and B.A. from Yale University.

Al Gore among participants at MTSO conference
In June 2019, more than 100 religious leaders, scholars, scientists and farmers gathered at MTSO for a three-day conference, “On Food and Faith: Ministry in the Time of Climate Change.” Former Vice President Al Gore, founder and chairman of the Climate Reality Project, participated in all three days of the conference, delivering a multimedia climate presentation during a plenary session.

Faculty offer reading recommendations
MTSO’s faculty members, who are widely published themselves, have compiled a list of theological books that shaped their lives and work. Their brief reviews cover titles from Down in the Chapel: Religious Life in an American Prison to Dakota: A Spiritual Geography. They are available online at www.mtso.edu/goodbooks.

Respectfully submitted by,
Danny Russell, Director of Communications

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XV TENNESSEE WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY

Faith In Service Programming
TWU’s “Love Thy Neighbor Project” is a direct service initiative focused on addressing food insecurity issues as part of a greater mission to eliminate poverty in the Athens and McMinn County communities. Specifically, the Love Thy Neighbor Project includes a campus and community food bank for food insecure community members throughout McMinn County, a weekend back sacks program for impoverished K-12 students in McMinn County, and a mobile food pantry to serve low-income communities in food deserts.

The Love Thy Neighbor Project also serves community members through partnerships with multiple organizations throughout the community. Three AmeriCorps VISTA Members oversee the three components of the Love Thy Neighbor Project, and TWU students, faculty, staff, and friends serve as volunteers.

Families in need can “shop” the client-choice food bank once per week, which focuses on providing fresh produce, dairy, and bakery items. Foods are also delivered to community partners each week to distribute to clients in need (ex: Women at the Well, Grace & Mercy Ministries, etc.). Status as a low-income household is determined by standards set by the USDA for household size and monthly income. Approximately 48 households are served each week through the campus food bank.

The Back Sacks program provides low-income students with food they might not otherwise receive for weekends and holidays. Each back sack contains a protein, canned vegetable, fruit cup, drink, breakfast item, and snacks. Students are identified by the guidance counselors and principals in our partner schools, McMinn County High School and Etowah City School. Approximately 70 back sacks are distributed to local children each week.

The Mobile Food Pantry provides low-income families with an average of 75 pounds of food, including fresh fruits and vegetables. The MFPs are set up like farmer’s markets and allow clients to “shop” for the items they want and will use. Status as a low-income household is determined by standards set by the USDA for household size and monthly income. The Mobile Food Pantry serves 130 families each month.

During our annual Day of Service in October, 306 faculty, staff, and students served twenty-five sites in McMinn, Monroe and Polk counties.

The Residence Life staff coordinated shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child in November. The TWU campus donated 140 shoeboxes with approximately 50 of the coming from the Nursing program. Additionally, the TWU campus community sponsored 37 local children for our annual Angel Tree campaign at Christmas.

During the first week of Christmas Break, 11 students, 1
Nursing faculty member and 1 Student Life staff member went to Kissimmee, Florida to volunteer at Give Kids the World. Give Kids the World is an organization that works with medically fragile children and their families with a free week in the Orlando area. Each member of the team performed approximately 20 hours of service over 3 days of service. They served food in the GKTW dining facility, operated rides, and assisted with nightly village socials.

Over Spring Break, 18 students, 3 Nursing chaperones and 1 Student Life staff member went to Granada, Nicaragua for outreach work with Straight Street International missions. The team conducted 6 medical clinics, assisted with 2 prison ministries, provided 6 feeding programs at local churches, led VBS-type activities at schools, and went to 6 homes to evangelize to the families. The group also attended service at Primera Iglesia Bautista Emanuel on Sunday.

Transitioning for the Future
The Spiritual Life and the Office of the Chaplain at Tennessee Wesleyan University has been in transition for the past couple of months. While this has been a transition for the university and students, it has provided us with an opportunity to revision the mission of Spiritual Life.

Spiritual life at Tennessee Wesleyan University this year was led by Todd Humbert for the fall semester and, in January, Reverend Skip White was appointed University Chaplain on a part-time basis. The program offered a number of large and small group activities. Large-group events have centered around our weekly Thursday 11:00 a.m. Chapel services. These services have featured a variety of speakers, including TWU faculty and students, and the student instrumentalists and vocalists of the Chapel Worship team.

Small group activities have focused on the activities of our three campus ministries, Wesleyan Christian Fellowship, Baptist Campus Ministries, and Fellowship of Christian Athletes, which form the core of the student-led ministry on campus. FCA, in particular, has seen tremendous growth, and has made a significant impact on the TWU campus.

Moving forward, we are dedicating ourselves to recruiting more United Methodist students from the Holston Conference and growing the profile of Tennessee Wesleyan University. This is will be an intentional effort to train students in both occupational and vocational ministries. We want to equip students to serve the church in a variety of ways.

Currently, we are working on a variety of grant opportunities that will help move this mission forward as we engage our church in a new and uncertain time. Now more than ever it is important that we equip young people to be in leadership positions to help move the United Methodist Church forward.

Our ministries to students have been unique since the first of the year. We never could have anticipated how the world would change with the emergence of the Coronavirus. But, this time has been filled with challenges that have turned into great opportunities to be in ministry in some very creative ways. We have begun using digital Chapel, Zoom conversations, offering safe and isolated spaces to study and being in ministry with students who are learning remotely. While this has been challenging to get ahead of – we are very energized by the great opportunities that have been developed. There are brand new doors that have emerged while we are all learning how to live in this whole new world.

We are grateful for the support from the conference and the local churches that have overwhelmed us with resources, prayer and guidance. The students at Tennessee Wesleyan are grateful for your love and the opportunity to learn in a United Methodist University.

Submitted by,
Rev. Skip White, Chaplain

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In his book, *A New Church and a New Seminary*, President David McAllister-Wilson writes, “Leadership requires a seminary to foster both wisdom and courage.” For 138 years, that stance has been a hallmark of Wesley Theological Seminary. Now, during this challenging and divisive time in the church and society, Wesley remains committed to fostering wisdom and courage, preparing graduates to lead innovative ministries while remaining grounded in our biblical and theological traditions for the sake of God’s inbreaking kingdom. We are grateful for so many partners in this mission, and we look forward to what God will do in and through us as we seek to faithfully minister to the world in the future.

**Working toward God’s vision for the church:** Wesley is pleased to announce new opportunities for UMC congregations to explore, clarify, and pursue thriving in their communities. Through the *Thriving Congregations Initiative*, Wesley will work with three cohorts of regional congregations in a two-year process of prayer, community engagement, congregational visioning, and coaching, with the goal of following Jesus in mission and ministry. Interested congregations can contact innovation@wesleyseminary.edu for more information. This work, funded by a $1 million Lilly Endowment, Inc, grant, raises Wesley’s role as a leading research and development seminary for the whole church and complements Wesley’s other Lilly Endowment-funded projects focused on congregational vitality.

The *Religious Workforce Project* is an expansive study of the current and future nature of religious work, particularly in local congregations, so as to understand what opportunities and constraints may exist in the future and to adapt resources and training accordingly. Through the *Wesley Innovation Hub*, Wesley has worked with 18 congregations in the greater Washington area to experiment with ministries with young adults outside the church. Together, these projects forge insight into future ministry and local church development, influencing the way students are trained in master’s, doctoral, and course of study education, but also informing workshops, podcasts, articles, and training for church leaders working in their communities across the country.

**Is God calling you – or someone you know?** Research shows that the primary way people learn about and begin to consider seminary options is through their pastor or an alumnus. Whether you feel called or you know someone who does, **Wesley is ready to work with you** as we make theological education more accessible and relevant to the realities of ministry today—for laity and clergy, for those seeking a degree or certification or continuing education, and for ministry from within or beyond the church.

Wesley offers an 81-hour Master of Divinity, a 36-hour Master of Arts, and a 60-hour Master of Theological Studies, any of which can be focused around specializations in public theology, urban ministry, arts and theology, missional church, or African American church leadership.

For full time students, we offer modern and affordable on-campus housing and food service in the nation’s capital. Our *Community Engagement Fellows* program prepares students to engage in entrepreneurial, community-based ministry. Generous stipends are available for each Fellow while they complete their MDiv degree. Our 3+3 Fast Track BA/MDiv program with Shenandoah University allows students to complete both degrees in six years, entering ministry more quickly and with less debt. For people with work, ministry, and family commitments, **Wesley’s Master of Divinity degree can now be completed via online, weekend, short-term intensive, and weeknight courses in 5 years.** Check out upcoming flexible course offerings for Summer and Fall 2020 at www.wesleyseminary.edu/admissions/try-a-class-3.

Wesley works with each student to make seminary affordable. Thanks to the consistent support of graduates, congregations, and friends, Wesley provides more than $2 million annually in scholarships. In addition to our regular merit awards, ranging from 50% to 100% tuition with stipends, Wesley has released special additional scholarships. Inspired by the Young People’s Address at both the 2019 and 2020 General Conferences, **Rising Generation awards are full-tuition scholarships** for people recommended by Wesley alumni, campus ministers, or Christian camping or service ministries who feel called to leadership in the church as it is becoming. Recognizing that many people experience God’s call mid-career, Wesley is excited to offer its new **Next Call in Ministry scholarship** for students who have worked in a non-ministry setting for at least 10 years. In addition, the **Generación Latinx Scholarships are full-tuition awards** for emerging Latinx/Hispanic leaders for ministries both within and beyond the church.

**Take your ministry to the next level:** In addition to full
master’s degrees, Wesley offers graduate certificates for those preparing for specialized ministry! The new Certificate for Children and Youth Ministry and Advocacy (CYMA) is designed for people who work with and advocate for children and young people, whether in churches, schools, or non-profit organizations. The non-residential certificate can be completed in 12 to 15 months through online coursework and up to two residential sessions. For more information, visit www.wesleyseminary.edu/admissions/cyma-3. The Certificate in Faith and Public Life explores the foundations of public theology, religious freedom, and civil discourse through graduate courses. For more information, visit www.wesleyseminary.edu/ice/programs/public-theology/public-life/

Wesley is a leader in Doctor of Ministry programs in specialized tracks that can include international study. Wesley is pleased to offer two new Doctor of Ministry tracks for 2021: “Curating Community Through the Arts,” aimed to empower leaders with both conceptual and practical skills needed to utilize the arts in ministry that also generate and sustain communities; and our latest Cambridge, England-based DMin track, “For the Sake of the World: Church Transformation in Wesleyan Perspective,” for leaders concerned with exploring renewed ministry possibilities grounded in the life and ministry of John Wesley. The 2021 options are rounded out with new cohorts in our popular D. Min. programs, “Soul Care” and “Church Leadership Excellence.” Find out more or apply at wwww.wesleyseminary.edu/doctorofministry/.

Enrich your congregational outreach and explore new dimensions of ministry The Lewis Center for Church Leadership continues to be on the leading edge of research for the local church. The Lewis Center’s Leading Ideas e-newsletter is the go-to source for over 20,000 people in ministry each week. Stay on top of their latest developments by subscribing to their podcast or newsletter at www.churchleadership.com. Also look for new practical online courses at www.lewisonlinelearning.org.

The Community Engagement Institute at Wesley is celebrating its 10th anniversary in 2020. It embraces a vibrant vision to be the premier center for churches and faith-based organization engaging their communities. The innovative online Health Minister Certificate Program prepares congregations for public health work in their parishes. Contact Dr. Tom Pruski at tpruski@wesleyseminary.edu for more information or to register for future certificate classes.

The Center for Public Theology, situated on Capitol Hill and under the leadership of Distinguished Professor of Public Theology Mike McCurry, equips pastors, seminarians, people of faith, and the media to create spaces for civil dialogue at the intersection of religion and politics. For more information, visit http://www.wesleyseminary.edu/ice/programs/public-theology/.
The Luce Center for Arts and Religion (LCAR) is the only seminary-based program uniting arts and theology. This past year, LCAR was privileged to receive the Ralph and Birgitta Peterson Collection of Modern Religious Art, including works by Marc Chagall, Henri Matisse, Andy Warhol and others, brought to the center by new LCAR Director, Dr. Aaron Rosen. Visiting Professor Dr. Devon Abts brings a new component to Wesley’s commitment to the arts and theology with her expertise in poetry and theology. For information on upcoming workshops and show at the Dadian Gallery, visit www.luceartsandreligion.org.

Faculty leading the way: Our internationally regarded faculty are the heartbeat of transformative education at Wesley. Our faculty continue to advance theological scholarship with new research, publications, and courses. During this past year, we celebrated the ministries of four retiring faculty members: Drs. Deborah Sokolov, Eileen Guenther, Sam Marullo, and Lucy Hogan. We also welcomed exciting new scholars to the Wesley community: Aaron Rosen, PhD, as our Professor of Religion and Visual Culture and new Director of the Henry Luce III Center for the Arts and Religion (LCAR); Visiting Instructor of Practical Theology Timothy K. Snyder, as Senior Researcher at the Lewis Center for Church Leadership; and Devon Abts, PhD, who serves as Assistant Director and Visiting Assistant Professor at LCAR. This summer, we look forward to welcoming New Testament professor Dr. Laura C. Sweat Holmes.

Stay connected: Contact us at (202) 885-8659 or admissions@wesleyseminary.edu about how Wesley’s degree programs can equip you for your next step in ministry.

Ready to join in our mission? Find out more about how you can be part of the future of Wesley at www.wesleyseminary.edu/support/. Join the Wesley Community online via Wesley’s social media, www.facebook.com/wesleyseminary, on Instagram @wesleyseminary, and on Twitter @WesTheoSem, or sign up for our electronic newsletter, eCalling, at www.wesleyseminary.edu/ecalling.

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**XV UNITED THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY**

*No report submitted*

**XV HINTON RURAL LIFE CENTER**

Hinton Rural Life Center is a retreat and missions outreach agency of the Southeastern Jurisdiction (SEJ), with the mission statement: Inspired by Jesus Christ, Hinton Rural Life Center’s purpose is to engage individuals, congregations, and communities in transformation through retreat ministry and missional outreach.

Hinton Center is located in Hayesville, NC, on 33 acres of wooded property in the Appalachian Mountains. Situated on Lake Chatuge, Hinton continues its 50+ year tradition of hosting clergy and other individuals and retreat groups. With trails, outdoor labyrinth, scenic views, Hermitage cabins and retreat houses, chapel and meeting rooms, and delicious meals, Hinton provided space and place this past year for many throughout the Southeast to get away, breathe, draw closer to God and others, and be renewed in spirit and call.

As a missions outreach agency focused on improving long-term quality of life in the three-county area of Clay and Cherokee counties, NC, and Towns County, GA, Hinton provided individuals and groups with year-round opportunities to serve in our Safe & Healthy Home Repair ministry, Firewood Ministry, Garden Ministry, and Christmas Care. With funding from The Duke Endowment, and guided by our 2016 Quality of Life Study, Hinton continued to lead collaborative efforts with community partners to address challenges in our rural area. In addition to introducing mission teams to dynamics and perspectives of rural poverty, as well as the assets in our unique Appalachian culture, Hinton’s Safe & Healthy Home Repair ministry developed an assessment tool for pre-home repair visits. The assessment identifies areas of safety/health concerns of which the homeowner may not be aware, such as falling hazards, lack of smoke detectors, standing water, etc., that a mission team can address. As part of our educational efforts, Hinton Rural Life Center produced a Safe & Healthy Home checklist refrigerator magnet that is being distributed throughout the community and to the homeowners we serve, to better equip them in maintaining a safe and healthy home.

2019 ministry highlights included:
- 372 loads of firewood distributed
- 345 area children received Christmas Care gifts
- 1,000+ pounds of vegetables for dining guests & community food pantries
- 58 churches in mission outreach
- 949 mission outreach participants

There were additional initiatives throughout the year that supported Hinton Rural Life Center’s mission for engagement and transformation:
- Developed local leadership training courses for adults and youth.
- Provided conference offices with worship resources for Rural Life Sunday to share with local churches.
- Hosted and led Kentucky’s Residents in Ministry in a mission experience, as part of their residency requirements. Their week included home repair ministry, worship, presentations on rural poverty and Appalachian culture, and a seminar on pastoring in rural contexts led by Dr. Jonathan LeMaster-Smith.
- Produced a Sunday school/small group curriculum, with video, Cultivating Hope: Grow Where You’re Planted, with funding from The Duke Endowment. The curriculum is available for free on Hinton’s web site or by contacting Hinton Rural Life Center.

Dr. Jacqueline Gottlieb, Ed.D., President and CEO
828-389-8336 / info@hintoncenter.org
www.hintoncenter.org

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**XV GRACEINSIDE PRISON CHAPLAIN SERVICE**

*United Methodist affiliated GraceInside staff:*
- Chaplain Michael Blythe  
  (Greensville Corr. Ctr. – S-1 Cluster)
- Chaplain Donna Smith  
  (Greensville Corr. Ctr. – S-2 Cluster)
- Chaplain Paul Ritter  

*Methodist Representatives serving on GraceInside’s Board of Trustees:*
- Rev. Marilyn Heckstall, Liaison to the Bishop  
  (Virginia Conference UMC)
- Mr. Lindell Tinsley, Member at Large

Vacant seat designated for the Holston Conference UMC (per Bishop Taylor’s selection)

GraceInside’s mission to “save lives from the inside out” is realized by staffing 30 Chaplains in 30 of Virginia’s 45 state prisons. Among our greatest blessings has been the loyal support of the Conferences and local congregations of the United Methodist Church, which stood among our founding denominations in 1920. Our partnership with the Holston Conference has forged an enduring commitment to bring Christ into the prisons and transform the lives of incarcerated men and women. Because of the generous help of the Holston Conference, thousands of offenders have found a connection to Jesus Christ and His amazing grace. Our Chaplains minister through worship services, baptisms, Bible studies, grief groups, recovery programs and pastoral care. Considering that over 90% of Virginia’s prisoners are eventually released back into our communities, GraceInside strives to enhance public safety and to teach former criminals to depart from violence and to re-enter society by embracing Christian love instead of the world’s darkness and hatred. We endeavor to turn hearts of stone into hearts of flesh.

Here is a recent note received from C.F., a former offender: “I am at home writing this note because of the love and encouragement of a former Chaplain at Greensville Correctional Center. Suffice it to say that he taught me, through Jesus, to reach for my Bible instead of a gun or drugs. His counsel literally transformed my life and re-directed my eternal destiny.”

Regardless of the modern challenges that threaten to rend the fabric of our Christian unity, the commands of Jesus Christ transcend all controversies and schisms. Whether conservative or liberal, or something in between, all Christians acknowledge that Christ commanded His followers to minister to the imprisoned: “I was in prison, and ye came unto me” (Matthew 25:36b, KJV). Equally, as He hung in agony on the cross, Jesus assured the repentant thief who revered Him: “Verily, I say unto thee, Today shalt thou be with me in paradise” (Luke 23:43). Love so deep and eternal is beyond human understanding or any disagreements, and is indeed the first step of the “Stairway to Heaven.” Thank you for laboring with GraceInside, over the past 100 years, to build that stairway - soul by soul, tear by tear, prayer by prayer.

Submitted by,
Rev. J. Randy Myers, President
804.358.7650 / randymyers@graceinside.org

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Safe Gatherings is a comprehensive protection system for everyone who works with children, youth and vulnerable adults. We work with more than 8,000 churches and organizations across the country.

Upon successful completion of the Safe Gatherings application, background and reference checks (including the higher-level 7-year multi-county check), and online training program, each applicant will receive documentation of approval valid for three years.

The price per applicant for the individual church program available through the Holston Conference is $45. This includes:

- Online Application
- Electronic Reference Checks
- 4 Levels of Background Checks
- Online Abuse Prevention Training
- Safe Gatherings Approval

Faith-based online training for everyone in your organization

More than 40 courses
Sexual harassment, active shooter situations and more. Practical topics your staff and volunteers need to know about!

Cost-effective rooftop pricing + discount
Train everyone in your organization under one rooftop for one low price. **BONUS:** Holston Conference churches receive a 20% discount on Unlimited Package purchases!

Easy administrative tracking
Purchase, assign and monitor course progress—all in one easy administrative dashboard.

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SECTION III: RESOURCES

REPORTING GUIDE FOR LAY MEMBERS

¶ 251.2 of The Book of Discipline 2016: “The lay member(s) of the annual conference, along with the pastor, shall serve as an interpreter of the actions of the annual conference session. These persons shall report to the local church council on actions of the annual conference as soon as possible, but not later than three months after the close of conference.”

This guide is presented to assist you as you fulfill your responsibility to report to your local congregation about Holston Annual Conference 2020. We pray the guide will encourage you to keep a record of your experiences and perceptions, help you discover the heart and soul of the Annual Conference session, and assist you as you prepare your report and interpretation by suggesting topics and information that you might want to include. Remember to record both facts and your feelings to share.

While attending Annual Conference, be aware of the reports which indicate the state of the church, the dedication and work that is obviously reflected at all levels of leadership, how the decision-making process is used, and how the decisions reached will impact you, your local church, your district, and your conference. There may be controversy. Whenever concerned Christians meet to make decisions, some controversy often occurs. The important thing is how we handle this controversy.

Consider these suggestions for how you share, what you share and when you share with your local church:

How? A panel of you and other members who attended from your church; a discussion between clergy and lay members; an interview by someone in the congregation; an article in your church newsletter or bulletin.

What? All items that impact you, your church, your district, your conference; your overall impression of the spirit of the session; programs or ideas that made you enthusiastic; information that you feel your church can put to good use.

When? A Sunday morning worship service; adult Sunday school classes; Administrative Board or Church Council meetings; United Methodist Women or Men; a special all-church meeting.

Notes on Pre-Conference Briefing: