

2022 Book of Reports

Holston Annual Conference

June 5-8, 2022 • Lake Junaluska, NC

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

- Lay and Clergy Members of the Conference will register upon arrival at the conference site.
- Name badges will be distributed at the Registration sites (*see below*).
- Registration sites and times:
 - Sunday 1:30 pm - 6:00 p.m..... Bethea Welcome Center (Gaines Auditorium)
 - Monday..... 8:00 am - 4:00 pmHarrell Center (Room 202)
 - Tuesday..... 8:00 am - 2:00 pm Harrell Center (Room 202)

LAKE JUNALUSKA INFORMATION

Sunday 3:00 pm Housing Check-in: Hotel and Cottage Rental
Contact..... Emergency Dial: 911.....Phone: 828-452-2881.....Fax: 828-452-2225

MODIFIED MEAL PLAN

Meal tickets will be given to you at check-in based on the meal option that you chose when making your reservation. Please have them with you at all times so they can be presented to the Dining Room Attendant for entry. Keep in mind, these meal tickets are treated as cash. Your meal ticket color will reflect the building you are staying in during the conference, so please eat in the proper location to avoid long lines. All private meal functions will be charged separately by the sponsoring group or organization.

CONFERENCE SERVICES

Chaplain By Appointment Only Terrace, Room 213
Schedule an appointment..... KathyHeustess@holston.org or 843-421-3536

Prayer Room 7:00 a.m - 10:00 pm Room of Memory (*adjacent to Memorial Chapel*)

Child Care Children ages 6 months to rising 8th grade) (Space is limited)..... Wilson Children's Complex
Pre-Register deadline ... May 1, 2022 <http://ac.holston.org>
Questions..... CharlotteRiggins@holston.org or SusanGroseclose@holston.org

Nurse Station.....Harrell Center (Room 101)

Information Center (Messages).....Stuart Auditorium Lobby

Shop the World GiftsHarrell Auditorium

Display Area.....Harrell Auditorium

CONFERENCE OFFICES

BishopStuart Auditorium (*behind Stage, 1st room on the left*)

Communications StaffHarrell Center (Room 103)

Conference Secretary & StaffStuart Auditorium

Questions: CharolotteRiggins@holston.org

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SECTION I
INTRODUCTIONS AND ORIENTATION

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GREETING - BISHOP WALLACE-PADGETT

Dear Friends,

It is with excitement that I invite each of you to Lake Junaluska on June 5-8 for the 2022 Holston Annual Conference. Thanks in advance to Lake Junaluska staff and Holston Conference volunteers and leaders for their extraordinary hospitality. Also, thank you to the Annual Conference planning team for the countless hours and energy that they have invested in preparing for this week.

Bishop James Swanson and Dr. Tom Albin will be our primary preacher and teachers.

Currently serving the Mississippi Annual Conference, Bishop Swanson was the resident bishop of Holston from 2004-2012. We will be blessed with his preaching at our Monday evening Missions Celebration and teaching at our Tuesday evening prayer service.

Dr. Tom Albin is the owner and CEO for Albin Consulting. A United Methodist pastor who served as Dean of the Upper Room Chapel for 20 years, Dr. Albin will lead teaching sessions on prayer on Monday and Tuesday mornings.

This year our theme is “Pray Together.” Each church is invited to bring their Mission Offering for our partnership with the United Methodist Church in South Sudan to the Monday evening Missions Celebration.

I look forward to a great 2022 Annual Conference at Lake Junaluska. As always, it is a joy to serve as your bishop.

Blessings,

Debra Wallace-Padgett
Resident Bishop, Holston and North Alabama Conferences



== = = = END OF REPORT = = = =

HOLSTON ANNUAL CONFERENCE ORIENTATION GUIDE

1. What Is the Purpose of the Annual Conference?

- Annual Conference is a yearly meeting of Holston United Methodists (lay and clergy) for spiritual renewal and business and ministry decisions; also, appointments and ordination of clergy take place.
- 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.
- John Wesley desired Annual Conference to be a means of God's grace through Christian "conferencing."

2. Why Do We Have It?

- Historical – John Wesley initiated the practice of having "Conference" with the first Methodist clergy. The practice has continued and expanded. Annual Conferences are mandated by the United Methodist Constitution as outlined in Division Two – Organization of *The Book of Discipline*.

3. Who Calls It?

- The Bishop is responsible for seeing that it is carried out and sets the date. The Annual Conference sets the place.

4. Who Plans and Runs the Annual Conference?

- The Annual Conference Program Committee arranges and plans the Conference. The Bishop presides.

5. What Is the History of the Annual Conference?

- The first Annual Conference was on Monday, June 25, 1744.
- "The following persons being met at the Foundry – John Wesley, Charles Wesley, John Hodges, Henry Piers, Samuel Taylor, and John Meriton – after some time spent in prayer, the design of our meeting was proposed, namely, to consider:
 - what to teach;
 - how to teach; and
 - what to do, i.e., how to regulate our doctrine, discipline, and practice.

- But first it was inquired whether any of our lay brethren should be present at this conference, and it was agreed to invite from time to time such of them as we should think proper. 'Twas then asked, 'Which of them shall we invite today?' The answer was, 'Thomas Richards, Thomas Maxfield, John Bennet, and John Downes,' who were accordingly brought in."
- *John Wesley* – Edited by Albert C. Outler, Oxford
- The Holston Annual Conference of The Methodist Church was organized in 1824. There are history books by R. N. Price, I. P. Martin, Robert Hilten, and others.

6. What Rules Does the Annual Conference Use to Operate?

- Standing Rules in the Conference Journal.

7. Who Comes?

- Lay members, clergy, and members-at-large. There are an equal number of lay and clergy members. Lay members are elected at the charge conference of the local church/charge each year. Lay members at-large are elected annually at District Conferences. Other lay members are included based on positions and offices held within the districts and conference as outlined in the Discipline.

8. How Do I Participate?

- You must have an official name badge to vote.
- You may speak any time the chair recognizes you.
- Attendance at all sessions enhances participation, as listening to issues and reports being discussed is beneficial to knowing what is going on.
- Come prepared – read the Annual Conference *Book of Report*. and Conference Rules of Order as found therein.
- A local church, district, an individual, or any official board, agency, commission, council, committee, or ministry team may submit a resolution to be voted on at Annual Conference. These resolutions must be received by the Conference Secretary by March 1.

9. Is There Follow-up?

- Reporting Guides are available to help with reporting back to the local church. These guides will be distributed at the laity orientation session and appear in Section III - Resources of the *Book of Reports*. *The Call* will highlight daily events and be available during conference. Summaries and pictures will also be available on the internet (www.holston.org).

10. Where Do I Go to Register at Annual Conference?

- Lay and Clergy Members of the Conference are asked to register upon arrival at the conference site. Name badges and meal plan tickets will be distributed at the Registration sites. Please note registration sites and times can be found on the inside front cover of the *Book of Reports*.

11. What Will I Get When I Register at Annual Conference?

- An official name badge will identify you as a lay or clergy member of Annual Conference.

12. Theme:

- Pray Together

13. Who Do I See for What and Where?

- Additional Conference-related information can also be found at the back of Stuart Auditorium at the information desk.
- Restrooms are located on the lake side of Stuart Auditorium and in Harrell Center on both floors.
- Meals on Lake Junaluska grounds may be included as part of your room cost for certain accommodations or purchased separately at Terrace or Lambuth (please note Modified Meal Plan).
- Lost and Found centers are located at the Information Center in the lobby of Stuart Auditorium and the Registration Desk in the Foundation for Evangelism (Sunday) or Susan Todd Lounge at Harrell Center (Monday through Wednesday mid-morning).

14. Spiritual Needs

- A Chaplain is available to meet with you by appointment. Please check the information desk at the back of Stuart Auditorium for more information. The Chapel Room of Memories is open from 7 am - 10 pm for prayer. (Chapel is located next to Stuart Auditorium).

15. Daily Guidance

- Conference worship daily – A Worship Book will be distributed at registration and should be brought to all sessions.
- Daily devotions and scriptures of your own choosing.

16. Fun

- Golf, tennis, walking, paddle boats, fishing, rocking chairs, youth center (for teenagers), Lake Junaluska Bookstore and Cafe.
- Maggie Valley shops and attractions.
- Waynesville shops and attractions.
- Check with Lake Junaluska Administrative Office located across from Stuart Auditorium for more information on area activities and recreational opportunities or check the display racks located in Terrace and Lambuth.

17. Special Events / Fellowship Schedule

- Orientation as scheduled in the *Book of Reports*. Special breakfasts, lunches, and dinners, and Fellowship times are listed on the inside back cover of the *Book of Reports* and please also note Modified Meal Plan.

18. More Questions? How to Get Answers.

- Before Conference – call the Annual Conference Connectional Ministries office at 865-690-4080 (toll-free at 866-690-4080) or call your district office.

19. Medical Concerns

- Go to information desk at Stuart Auditorium. For emergencies, call 911, or go to the emergency room at the hospital in nearby Waynesville.
- Check at the front desk where you are staying. First aid kits may be found at each place of lodging at Lake Junaluska. Emergency number at Lake Junaluska is (828) 452-2881.

20. Making Sense of the Material Maze

- Attend your District Pre-Conference Briefing or view the briefing online at ac.holston.org.
- Attend the Laity Orientation Session on Sunday afternoon.
- Read the Annual Conference *Book of Reports*.
- Don't hesitate to ask questions if there is something you don't understand.
- Pray continually (1 Thessalonians 5:17).

21. How to Get Around

- Trolleys and buses operate on the grounds before and after all sessions.
- Walking is always an option.
- Parking is available on the main road with trolley service to bring you to the auditorium, the parking lot on the left side of the Stuart Auditorium, or behind the Lake Junaluska Administrative Office located across from Stuart Auditorium.

22. Lake Junaluska Resources

- Use Map available at Registration or at the Information Desk at the back of Stuart Auditorium.
- Go to Administrative Office located across the street from Stuart Auditorium.

23. Where to Stay (on or off the Lake Junaluska grounds)

- Call Lake Junaluska for housing (828/452-2881 or 800/222-4930).
- Call or visit the websites of the Maggie Valley or Waynesville Chamber of Commerce for housing options nearby.

24. What If I Want to Make or Speak on a Motion?

- See Rules of Order

25. How to Get an Issue Before the Conference

- Before Conference – Any church or district committee, commission, council, board, agency, ministry team, or individual may send a resolution to the Conference Secretary. Call the Conference Secretary's Office at 865-690-4080 (toll-free at 866-690-4080) if you have any questions. The deadline for resolutions was March 1. This deadline is published in The Call the first of the year.

26. Buzz Words and What They Mean

- AC...Annual Conference
- AP...Appalachian District
- BOLM...Board of Lay Ministry
- BOM...Board of Ordained Ministry
- Cabinet...The Bishop, District Superintendents, and, when appropriate, other conference staff. The Cabinet under the leadership of the Bishop is the expression of superintending leadership in and through the Annual Conference. Appointment Cabinet – The Bishop, Executive Assistant to the Bishop and District Superintendents; Extended Cabinet – The Bishop, Executive Assistant to the Bishop, District Superintendents, other conference staff, and Conference Lay Leader.
- CCFA...Conference Council on Finance and Administration
- CCYM...Conference Council on Youth Ministries
- CLM/LM...Certified Lay Minister – A lay minister that has received specific training and certification that will enhance the quality of ministry to small membership churches and expand team ministry in churches.
- CLL...Conference Lay Leader
- Connectional...A network of interdependent relations among persons and groups on local, regional, national, and international levels of The United Methodist Church.
- CM...Cinch Mountain District
- CRM...Camp and Retreat Ministries
- Conference Lay Leader...Primary representative of the laity of Holston Conference. Elected by the Annual Conference. Chairs Conference Board of Lay Ministry.
- Deacon...Deacons are ordained to a lifetime ministry of the Word, Service, Compassion, and Justice, to both the community and the congregation in a ministry that connect the two.

- Deaconess...A lay woman who, in response to God's call and on recommendation of the General Board of Global Ministries, is commissioned by a Bishop to share faith in Jesus Christ through ministries of love, justice, and service. Deaconesses form a covenant community rooted in Scripture and informed by history, driven by mission, ecumenical in scope and global outreach. Deaconesses serve the church in any capacity not requiring full clergy rights. They are related to the General Board of Global Ministries. A lifetime commitment to mission is presumed.
- Diaconal Ministers...This consecrated lay ministry exemplifies the servanthood every Christian is called to live in both church and world.
- Discipline...(The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church – 2016) “The Discipline is the book of law of The United Methodist Church. It is the product of the many General Conferences of historic religious bodies which now form The United Methodist Church.” It is published every four years, after each General Conference.
- DS...District Superintendent
- DT...Discipleship Team (to discern a vision and ministry direction for the Conference).
- Elder...Elders are ordained to a lifetime ministry of Service, Word, Sacrament, and Order. They are authorized to preach and teach God's Word, to administer the sacraments of Baptism and Holy Communion, and to order the life of the church for Mission and Ministry. They begin this calling as Provisional Members.
- General Conference...The legislative body of The United Methodist Church, composed of an equal number of elected lay and clergy delegates. It meets every four years and is the only body that can speak officially for the denomination.
- HI...Hiwassee District
- Home Missioner...Lay man who is the counterpart of the Deaconess (see above).
- Jurisdictional Conference....A regional conference held every four years and attended by elected delegates, an equal number of lay and clergy. The business primarily involves the election and assignment of Bishops.
- Lay Leader....A function in the local church, carried out through a position elected by the Charge Conference, and who serves as the primary lay representative of the members of the local church. The Lay Leader has specific responsibilities detailed in the Discipline. Districts and Annual Conferences also elect lay leaders to serve as the primary representatives of their lay membership.
- Lay Members to Annual Conference....Lay members are elected at the charge conference of the local church/charge each year, and lay members at-large are elected annually at District Conferences. Other lay members are included based on positions and offices held within the districts and conferences as outlined in the Discipline.
- Lay Missioners....Committed laypersons, mostly volunteers, who are willing to be trained and work in a team with a pastor-mentor to develop faith communities, establish community ministries, develop church school extension, programs, and engage in congregational development.
- Lay Servants....Laypersons who complete lay servant training courses to serve the local church or charge in any way in which their witness or leadership and service inspires the laity to deeper commitment to Christ and more effective discipleship. Local Church Lay Servant has completed the basic training course; Certified Lay Servant has completed the basic and one advanced training courses for lay servant.
- Lay Speakers....Lay speakers are professing members of a local church or charge who are called and equipped to serve the church in pulpit supply by preaching the Word when the pastor is unavailable. Certified lay speakers will complete a course of study determined by the annual conference committee on Lay Servant Ministries.

- Local Pastor....A clergy person, serving under license, issued by the resident Bishop, who is authorized to perform all the duties of an ordained pastor, including the Sacraments, while assigned to a particular charge under the supervision of a District Superintendent.
- Ministry The ministry of Christ is given to all Christians by virtue of their baptism (not reserved for clergy only).
- MV...Mountain View District
- NR...New River District
- NOW...Nurture, Outreach, and Witness ministry areas
- Ordination...The act of conferring ministerial orders, presided over by a Bishop. The authorization of the church for the practice of the Word, Sacrament, and Order.
- PRC...Personnel Resources Committee (recruits, employs, deploys, and evaluates staff of the Conference).
- Quadrennium...The official four-year period beginning January 1 following each General Conference, during which The United Methodist Church implements General Conference legislation.
- SEJ...Southeastern Jurisdiction
- SM...Smoky Mountain District
- SS...Scenic South District
- TR...Three Rivers District
- TV...Tennessee Valley District

- UMC...United Methodist Church
- UMM...United Methodist Men
- UWF...United Women in Faith (*formerly United Methodist Women UMW*)
- WLI...Wesley Leadership Institute – A Conference initiative that creates educational opportunities for clergy through a Wesleyan perspective.

27. Fashion: What to Wear?

- Casual clothes are fine for all occasions; always wear a smile. God loves you!

28. Youth

- Each district sends two youth members to the Annual Conference session.

29. Children (ages 6 months to rising 8th grade)

- Wilson Children’s Complex. (Space is limited)
- Pre-register by: May 1, 2022 at <http://ac.holston.org>
- Questions? charlotteriggins@holston.org or susangroseclose@holston.org

30. Etiquette

- In Stuart Auditorium, please move toward the center of each section for seating, rather than taking up aisle seats.
- Avoid congregating at the entrances and exits, and avoid distracting conversations inside and outside the auditorium when Conference is in session.

Prepared by, Holston Conference Board of Lay Ministry

== == END OF REPORT == ==

**HOLSTON ANNUAL CONFERENCE
JUNE 5-8, 2022**

DEBRA WALLACE-PADGETT
Resident Bishop, Presiding

PRAY TOGETHER

SCHEDULE AND AGENDA

SUNDAY - June 5, 2022

- 1:30 pmRegistration open
4:00 pmLaity Session – Stuart Auditorium
5:00 pmClergy Session – Stuart Auditorium
5:45 pmDinner
7:15 pmOrdinands, Provisionals, and Associate Members meet at the chapel for pictures
7:30 pmSponsors and Cabinet line-up for Ordination Service
7:45 pmService of Ordination and Commissioning
 Presentation of Local Pastors' Licenses
 Commissioning of Deaconess
 Bishop Debbie Wallace-Padgett, preaching and presiding

After worship ...Rehearsal for Conference Choir in chapel

**HOLSTON ANNUAL CONFERENCE
JUNE 5-8, 2022**

DEBRA WALLACE-PADGETT
Resident Bishop, Presiding

PRAY TOGETHER

SCHEDULE AND AGENDA - *continued*

MONDAY - June 6, 2022

- 8:30 am Morning Worship with Bible Study & Holy Communion
Break
- 9:45 am Morning Meeting
Hymn
Welcome from Lake Junaluska
Organizing Motions
Adoption of Agenda
Setting Bar of Conference
Election of Ushers/Tellers
Report from Committee on Rules of Order
Blessing of Hands-On Mission Kits
Bishop's Address to Annual Conference
Conference Lay Leader Report
Stand-Up Break
Conference Council on Finance and Administration - Initial Budget Presentation
Personnel Resources Committee
Closing Prayer for the Meeting
- 12:00 pm Lunch Break
Conference Choir Rehearsal
- 2:00 pm Afternoon Meeting
Memorial Service
Break
Hymn
Safe Gatherings Certification
Discipleship Team - Witness – Denman Awards
Board of Higher Education and Ministry - Francis Asbury Award
Commission on Equitable Compensation
Closing Prayer for Meeting
- 5:15 pm Dinner Break
- 7:00 pm Evening Worship Service - Mission Celebration

**HOLSTON ANNUAL CONFERENCE
JUNE 5-8, 2022**

DEBRA WALLACE-PADGETT
Resident Bishop, Presiding

PRAY TOGETHER

SCHEDULE AND AGENDA - *continued*

TUESDAY - June 7, 2022

- 7:15 am 5K Run/1 Mile Walk (*Outside of Stuart Auditorium*)
- 8:30 am Morning Worship with Bible Study & Holy Communion
Stand-Up Break
- 9:40 am Morning Meeting
Children's Ministry
Discipleship Team - Youth
Discipleship Team - Outreach/Advocacy
Discipleship Team - Nurture
Board of Pensions
Trustees
Holston Conference Higher Education and Ministry
Emory & Henry College
Tennessee Wesleyan College
Recognition of Wesley Foundations
United Women in Faith
Break
Retirement Recognition
- 12:00 pm Closing Prayer for the Meeting
Lunch Break
- 2:00 pm Afternoon Meeting
Hymn
Board of Ordained Ministry
Committee on Petitions and Resolutions
Break
Conference Council on Finance and Administration - Budget Presentation for Approval
- 4:40 pm New business
- 5:00 pm Closing Prayer for the Meeting
Dinner Break
- 7:00 pm Prayer Together

**HOLSTON ANNUAL CONFERENCE
JUNE 5-8, 2022**

DEBRA WALLACE-PADGETT
Resident Bishop, Presiding

PRAY TOGETHER

SCHEDULE AND AGENDA - *continued*

WEDNESDAY - June 8, 2022

09:00 am Morning Meeting
Hymn and Prayer
Congregational Development
United Methodist Men
Dismantling Race Task Force
Nominations
Holston Conference Foundation
Commissioning of Appalachian Trail Chaplain
Sexual Ethics and Boundaries Committee
Cabinet Report
Minute Question #76 “Where and When Shall Annual Conference Be Held?”
Thank You and Acknowledgements
Break
Sending Forth / Fixing of Appointments
Adjournment

2022 HOLSTON ANNUAL CONFERENCE - ORGANIZING MOTIONS

Annual Conference Roll Call:

- I move that the registration constitutes the roll call and record of attendance. Excused clergy will be noted and recorded in the Journal.

Legal Limits for Voting and Business:

- I move that the legal voting and business limits of the 2022 Holston Annual Conference be the stage area, sections one (1) through ten (10), and pews of the George R. Stuart Auditorium.

Agenda:

- I move that the Schedule/Agenda as printed and included in the Annual Conference *Book of Reports* constitute the Agenda for the 2022 Session of the Holston Annual Conference, subject to any necessary changes and/or amendments by the Chair.

Reports:

- I move that reports found in the Annual Conference *Book of Reports* that do not require action and other reports submitted for information, subject to editorial corrections, be ordered to record and be published in the 2022 Conference Journal.

Ushers/Tellers:

- I move that the list of ushers and tellers as found in the *Book of Reports* and any necessary changes made since that printing by the Head Usher/Teller, be elected as the Ushers/Tellers of the 2022 Holston Annual Conference.

Submitted by, Rev. Terry Goodman, Conference Secretary / Director of Clergy Services

== == == END OF REPORT == == ==

NOMINATIONS FOR USHERS/TELLERS

Head Usher/Teller:

- Tony Collins (C)

Appalachian District

- Richard Davis (C)
- John L. Grimm (C)
- Adam T. Love (C)
- Timothy Robinson (C)
- Patricia B. Tipton (C)
- Mary B. Baker (L)
- Vicki Young (L)

Clinch Mountain District

- *No names presented*

Hiwassee District

- Bert E. Beria (C)
- Gilbert Butler (C)
- David M. Grant (C)
- Curtis David McKee (C)
- D. Layne Pennington (C)
- Andy Bender (L)
- Leslye Beria (L)
- Robert Donaghy (L)
- Sherra Kinder (L)
- Rick Lay (L)

Mountain View District

- Bodhi Der Parunakian (C)
- Robert (Butch) Carmichael (L)
- Celeste Coward (L)
- Ron Self (L)

New River District

- Rick Clark (C)
- Dina L. Clower (C)
- Rachel Lee Collins (C)
- Donald Shelor (C)
- L. Knox Wimberly (C)
- Joanna Corvin (L)
- Lauren Gunnell-Beck (L)
- Duane Minnick (L)
- Angela Sowers (L)
- Martha Jane Waddell (L)

Scenic South District

- Winfield Davis (C)
- Kim Dunn (C)
- Amy Suzanne Nutt (C)
- Darrin Hering (L)
- Dan Young (L)

Smoky Mountain District

- Matthew Hall (C)
- Thomas Gilbert Harris (C)
- Kenneth Lambert (C)
- Melissa R. Smith (C)
- Monty Walton (C)
- Brian Burnette (L)
- Susan Daffron (L)
- Amanda L. Kitts (L)
- Brad Lunde (L)
- Dennis Reid (L)

Tennessee Valley District

- Teresa Atkins McClure (C)
- Eric Bronkala (C)
- T. Chase Crickenberger (C)
- James D. Gass (C)
- Denna Marie Hornby (C)
- Stephanie Parrott (C)
- Jack Barry (L)
- Marcia Barton (L)
- Jonathan Cooper (L)
- Joyce Emile (L)
- Leigh Ann Fluker (L)
- Carol Guthrie (L)

Three Rivers District

- Susan N. Arnold (C)
- Estel Williams (C)
- Amy Blumberg (L)
- David Frost (L)

Submitted by, Rev. Terry Goodman,
Conference Secretary / Director of
Clergy Services

== == == END OF REPORT == == ==

**SECTION II
REPORTS**

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

Dear Friends,

I am happy to report that our annual conference is scheduled for the friendly and familiar environs of Lake Junaluska. After two years of virtual and hybrid annual conferences, we are once again going to be seeing each other face to face. If you still desire to wear a mask, I will at least see you eye to eye. I look forward to gathering in the Stuart Auditorium for a time of worship, fellowship, and the business of the annual conference.

This *Book of Reports* contains all the reports from the various leadership groups within the annual conference as well as reports from those external groups (seminaries, colleges, etc.) with which we have an association. Please be sure to bring this book with you to the sessions. The various presenters will be referencing their reports that are found within this document.

In addition, on Tuesday, May 31st, you will also be able to download a copy of the Member Resource Guide that will provide you more information about the Lake Junaluska experience and share last minute errata and addenda that might occur. Please be sure to bring a copy of that document to the sessions as well.

I pray that you are preparing yourself for a time of seeing old friends and, perhaps, making new ones as we gather for The Holston Annual Conference at Lake Junaluska this June.

Submitted by, Rev. Terry Goodman, Conference Secretary / Director of Clergy Services

= = = END OF REPORT = = =

I CABINET - REPORT OF THE DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENTS

Greetings in the name, grace, and love of God. As I begin, these words of the Apostle Paul to the church at Rome come to mind.

11 Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord.[a] 12 Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. 13 Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers. (Romans 2:11-13)

Thank you for all you have done in this Conference year to live into Paul's words. It has not been an easy year. The COVID-19 pandemic waned then unleashed again. Political unrest continued. Mental health and substance abuse issues continued to spike. Russia's invasion of Ukraine raised anxiety worldwide. And, of course, the tensions regarding General Conference issues continue.

In some ways, it was a continuation of last year. And words like be patient, persevere, be ardent, are more than appropriate. Providing for needs and extending hospitality are actions we, as a Conference, have not abandoned, even when we may have found it difficult to rejoice in hope. This year brought challenges, but it also brought new opportunities to embody Christ in our world.

In September, Bishop Mary Virginia Taylor retired. We thank her for her faithful years of service not only to the Holston Conference, but also to the wider United Methodist Church. Upon her retirement, we received new episcopal leadership as Bishop Debra Wallace-Padgett now leads Holston and the North Alabama Conference. Bishop Wallace-Padgett hit the ground running and celebrated a "District Day" in each of our nine Districts. She brings new eyes and a fresh set of energy to her work.

In addition to getting to know Holston, Bishop Wallace-Padgett brought a new emphasis to Holston. Having worked with Spiritual Leadership Inc. previously, she has introduced the process to Holston and the Extended Cabinet has been meeting one day each month for an intensive study of the program which will be extended to churches, districts, laity, and pastors going forward. The intent of the SLI program takes us into a deep dive into who we are and helps us refocus on our mission. SLI has three distinct tenets of Loving, Learning, and Leading. It mirrors one of Bishop Wallace-Padgett's key driving points of developing spiritual leaders.

Another emphasis Bishop Wallace-Padgett brought to Holston is one we are sharing with the North Alabama Conference. Beginning in January, we joined together in a program called Read Together where we read the same Biblical passages each day and will read through the Bible in a year.

We are using the theme of Pray Together for Annual Conference and for work in this coming year. It is important for us to read and pray as we strive to grow in Christ. Doing it together as an Annual Conference initiative is powerful as people all over the Conference join together in this emphasis.

I recently read an article by Jonathan Graf on "The Benefits of Praying Together." He listed three benefits of praying together:

- Praying together invited the presence and power of the Holy Spirit.
- Praying together increases the faith of a congregation to believe God for the miraculous.
- Praying together moves people from seeking their own purposes to desiring God's purposes.

How could this simple act empower us as Christ followers and as an Annual Conference? Could it not help the Holston Conference put more focus on being healthy congregations actively making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world?

That should be our passion. But as we know, the issues at the General Church level have created much debate, discourse, and questions about where our Church is headed especially with the decision to postpone the next General Conference until 2024. Tensions which were already heightened have magnified. Will we divide? What is going to happen? We seem to have more questions than answers at the moment. Could we embrace this quote from John Wesley himself? "Though we cannot think alike, may we not love alike? May we not be of one heart, though we are not of one opinion? Without all doubt, we may. Herein all the children of God may unite, notwithstanding these smaller differences." (Sermon 39 Catholic Spirit)

As your Cabinet, we work for all the people called Methodist in the boundaries of the Holston Conference. Together, we seek to help people know Christ and grow in Christ. We work to equip laity and clergy to embody Christ in a world that desperately needs the hope, love, and grace God offers everyone in Jesus Christ. Though we may not all agree on all the issues our hope is that we would all be working for the same purpose under the same calling.

I would echo Paul's words to the church at Rome: Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

Submitted by, Jeffrey W. Wright, Dean of the Cabinet

== == END OF REPORT == ==

I RESOLUTIONS FOR CLOSURE(S)
RESOLUTION FOR CLOSURE OF DUCKTOWN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
DUCKTOWN, TENNESSEE
HIWASSEE DISTRICT
HOLSTON CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

WHEREAS, the Ducktown United Methodist Church, located at 316 College Street Ducktown, TN, in the Hiwassee District faithfully served the community and the Conference, offering the grace and salvation of Jesus Christ since 1853; and

WHEREAS, there are insufficient source of income to maintain the building, increasing liability, and

WHEREAS, 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

WHEREAS, 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

WHEREAS, at a called church conference of the Ducktown United Methodist Church on September 13, 2021, members voted unanimously to close, and

WHEREAS, on September 13, 2021, the congregation held a worship service of celebration and thanksgiving, and

WHEREAS, consent to closure was granted on October 18, 2021 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

WHEREAS, on September 11, 2021, the congregation held their final community gathering, and

WHEREAS, there is no plan to have any subsequent worship services, and

WHEREAS, 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 Debbie Wallace - Padgett and a majority of district superintendents, celebrating the ministry of this church, do hereby authorize the closure of the Ducktown United Methodist Church, and

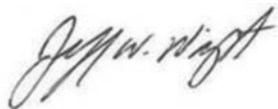
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the remaining members be transferred to First United Methodist Church in Copperhill, TN or a church of their own choosing, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED 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

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED 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

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any remaining assets be transferred to the Board of Trustees of the Holston Annual Conference, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of the Holston Annual Conference be requested to dispose of the Ducktown United Methodist Church property, real and personal, tangible and intangible, in its sole discretion.



Rev. Jeff Wright, Dean of Cabinet



Bishop Debbie Wallace-Padgett, Resident Bishop

= = = = **END OF RESOLUTION** = = = =

**Resolution for Abandonment
Sinking Springs United Methodist Church
Bristol Tennessee
Clinch Mountain District of the Holston Conference**

Whereas, the Sinking Springs United Methodist Church, located in the Clinch Mountain District of the United Methodist Church, has served the Bristol Community and the Holston Conference offering grace and the salvation of Jesus Christ, since 1890,

Whereas, the congregation of Sinking Springs United Methodist Church has not held worship services in the building located at 208 VI Ranch Road, Bristol Tennessee 37620, since 12/27/2020, and

Whereas, members of the congregation have died, moved away, or become unable to attend the ministry of the church in the present location, and,

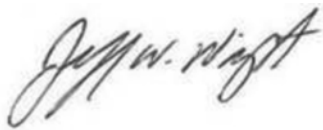
Whereas, the Clinch Mountain District Board of Church Location and Building, and the Clinch Mountain District Trustees, have agreed to use the building and property at Sinking Springs, for missional purposes, and

Whereas, the presiding bishop, and a majority of the district superintendents consent to the abandonment of Sinking Springs United Methodist Church,

Therefore, be it resolved, that the District Superintendent be directed to collect all deeds, records, and official documents from the abandoned church as is required by paragraph 2549.4 of *The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church 2016*, and

Therefore further be it resolved that the furnishings and fixtures of the Sinking Springs United Methodist Church be distributed by the Clinch Mountain District and the Holston Conference for use in future divine worship and the mission of The United Methodist Church, and

Therefore be it resolved that the Clinch Mountain District Trustees will manage the property as a missional location for the Clinch Mountain District to further the work of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.



Rev. Jeff Wright, Dean of Cabinet



Bishop Debbie Wallace-Padgett, Resident Bishop

== == == END OF RESOLUTION == == ==

**Resolution for Closure of Shiloh United Methodist Church
Located at 111 Shiloh Church Road, Sneedville, TN 37869
Mountain View District of Holston Conference of The United Methodist Church**

Whereas, the Shiloh United Methodist Church, located at 111 Shiloh Church Rd, Sneedville, TN, Hawkins County in the Mountain View District faithfully served the community and the conference, offering the love, mercy, grace and salvation of Jesus the Christ since 1850

Whereas, there is insufficient source of income to maintain the building, increasing liability and

Whereas, the Shiloh United Methodist Church no longer serves the purpose for which it was organized, (The Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church 2016 paragraph 2549.1.a and,

Whereas, 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, paragraph 2549.1.b), and Whereas, when there are no longer persons to be found for this responsibility the property can be declared abandoned.

Whereas, the conditions exist that indicate the building is no longer maintained with a lapse in insurance and no report to the Charge Conference is made giving valid reasons for closure.

Whereas, the District Superintendent may bring the property before the Annual Conference to declare it abandoned without further consultation

Whereas, at a called church conference of the Shiloh United Methodist Church on October 17th, 2021 at 9am where no remaining members showed up after receiving certified mail and calls and two weeks' notice,

Whereas, also the Mountain View District Board of Church Location and Building, having all Disciplinary requirements met by internet and after careful examination concurred with closure on October 25th 2021

Whereas, circumstances exist that require immediate protection of the Shiloh United Methodist Church's property for the benefit of the denomination (The Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church 2016, paragraph 2549.3.b).

Therefore, be it resolved that the presiding Bishop Debra Wallace-Padgett and the nine District Superintendents, celebrating the ministry of Shiloh United Methodist Church, do hereby authorize the closure of Shiloh United Methodist Church and

Be it further resolved that the remaining 4 members are already attending other churches and one is deceased.

Be it further resolved 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

Be it further resolved that the furnishings and fixtures be distributed at the discretion of the District Superintendent or the Trustees of the Holston Annual Conference, and

Be it further resolved that any remaining assets be transferred to the Board of Trustees of the Holston Annual Conference, and

Be it further resolved that the Board of Trustees of Holston Annual Conference be requested to dispose of the



Bishop Debra Wallace-Padgett
Resident Bishop of the Holston Conference

November 11, 2021
Date



November 11, 2021

= = = = **END OF RESOLUTION** = = = =

**Resolution for Abandonment
Laurel UMC
31063 Blossom Road
Damascus VA 24236
Clinch Mountain District of the Holston Conference**

Whereas, the Laurel United Methodist Church, located in the Clinch Mountain District of the United Methodist Church, has served the Damascus Community and the Holston Conference offering grace and the salvation of Jesus Christ, for many years.

Whereas, the congregation of Laurel United Methodist Church has not held services at 31063 Blossom Road, Damascus VA 24236 since before 2017, and

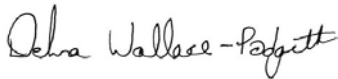
Whereas, members of the congregation have died, moved away, or become unable to attend the ministry of the church in the present location, and,

Whereas, the presiding bishop, and a majority of the district superintendents' consent to the abandonment of Damascus United Methodist Church,

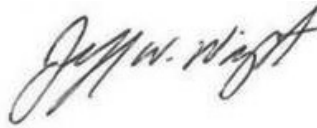
Therefore, be it resolved, that the District Superintendent be directed to collect all deeds, records, and official documents from the abandoned church as is required by paragraph 2549.4 of *The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church 2016*, and

Therefore further be it resolved that the furnishings and fixtures of the Laurel United Methodist Church be distributed by the Clinch Mountain District and the Holston Conference for use in future divine worship and the mission of The United Methodist Church, and

Therefore be it resolved that the Laurel United Methodist Church be closed immediately and the property be transferred to the Trustees of the Holston Conference of the United Methodist Church.



Bishop Debra Wallace-Padgett



Reverend Jeffrey W. Wright

February 24, 2022
Date

February 24, 2022
Date

== == END OF RESOLUTION == ==

**Resolution for Abandonment
Ester United Methodist Church
Castlewood VA
Clinch Mountain District of the Holston Conference**

Whereas, the Ester United Methodist Church, located in the Clinch Mountain District of the United Methodist Church, has served the Castlewood Community and the Holston Conference offering grace and the salvation of Jesus Christ, for many years.

Whereas, the congregation of Ester United Methodist Church has not held services at 41 Parsonage Lane, Castlewood VA since before 2017, and

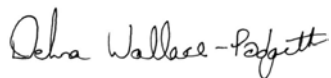
Whereas, members of the congregation have died, moved away, or become unable to attend the ministry of the church in the present location, and,

Whereas, the presiding bishop, and a majority of the district superintendents consent to the abandonment of Ester United Methodist Church,


Therefore, be it resolved, that the District Superintendent be directed to collect all deeds, records, and official documents from the abandoned church as is required by paragraph 2549.4 of *The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church 2016*, and

Therefore further be it resolved that the furnishings and fixtures of the Ester United Methodist Church be distributed by the Clinch Mountain District and the Holston Conference for use in future divine worship and the mission of The United Methodist Church, and

Therefore be it resolved that the Ester United Methodist Church be closed immediately and the property be transferred to the Trustees of the Holston Conference of the United Methodist Church.



Bishop Debra Wallace-Padgett



Reverend Jeffrey W. Wright

February 22, 2022

Date

February 22, 2022

Date

== == == END OF RESOLUTION == == ==

**Resolution for Closure
Due to Abandonment
Speaks Chapel United Methodist Church
Rose Hill, VA
Appalachian District**

Whereas, the Speaks Chapel United Methodist Church, located at 120 Blue Hollow Road, Rose Hill, VA in the Appalachian District, has served the community and the Holston Conference, offering grace and the salvation of Jesus Christ, for many years.

Whereas, the Speaks Chapel United Methodist Church has not held any services since 2017, and

Whereas, members of the congregation have either died, moved away, or decided to no longer be a part of the church and

Whereas, the Appalachian District Board of Church Building and Location has given it's consent for closure, and

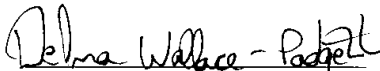
Whereas, the presiding Bishop, and a majority of the District Superintendents have given their consent for the closure of the Speak's Chapel United Methodist Church,


Therefore, be it resolved, the the District Superintendent be directed to collect all deeds, records, and official documents from the abandoned church as is required by paragraph 2549 of *The Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church 2016*, and

Therefore, be it further resolved that the furnishing and fixtures, of the Speaks Chapel United Methodist Church be collected and distributed by the Appalachian District of the Holston Conference for use in future divine worship and in the mission of the United Methodist Church, and

Therefore be it resolved that the Speaks Chapel United Methodist Church be closed and the property be transferred to the Trustees of the Holston Conference of the United Methodist Church.

Signed this day, March 7, 2022,


Bishop Debra Wallace-Padgett


Reverend Jeffrey W. Wright

March 7, 2022
Date

March 7, 2022
Date

== == == END OF RESOLUTION == == ==

**Resolution for Closure
Due to Abandonment
York's Chapel United Methodist Church
Jonesville, VA
Appalachian District**

Whereas, the York's Chapel United Methodist Church, located at 162 York Drive, Jonesville, VA in the Appalachian District, has served the community and the Holston Conference, offering grace and the salvation of Jesus Christ, for many years.

Whereas, the York's Chapel United Methodist Church has not held any services since 2019, and

Whereas, members of the congregation have either died, moved away, or decided to no longer be a part of the church and

Whereas, the Appalachian District Board of Church Building and Location has given it's consent for closure, and

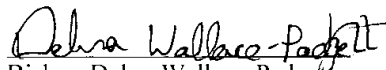
Whereas, the presiding Bishop, and a majority of the District Superintendents have given their consent for the closure of the York's Chapel United Methodist Church,

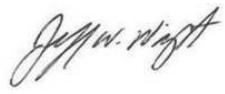
Therefore, be it resolved, the the District Superintendent be directed to collect all deeds, records, and official documents from the abandoned church as is required by paragraph 2549 of *The Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church 2016*, and

Therefore, be it further resolved that the furnishing and fixtures, of the York's Chapel United Methodist Church be collected and distributed by the Appalachian District of the Holston Conference for use in future divine worship and in the mission of the United Methodist Church, and

Therefore be it resolved that the York's Chapel United Methodist Church be closed and the property be transferred to the Trustees of the Holston Conference of the United Methodist Church.

Signed this day, March 7, 2022,


Bishop Debra Wallace-Padgett


Reverend Jeffrey W. Wright

March 7, 2022
Date

March 7, 2022
Date

= = = = **END OF RESOLUTION** = = = =

**Resolution for Closure
Due to Abandonment
Exeter United Methodist Church
Exeter, VA
Appalachian District**

Whereas, the Exeter United Methodist Church, located at 1817 Oakdale Street, Exeter, VA in the Appalachian District, has served the community and the Holston Conference, offering grace and the salvation of Jesus Christ, for many years.

Whereas, the Exeter United Methodist Church has not held any services since 2017, and

Whereas, members of the congregation have either died, moved away, or decided to no longer be a part of the church, and

Whereas, the Appalachian District Board of Church Building and Location has given it's consent for closure, and

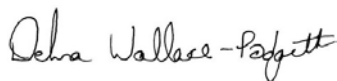
Whereas, the presiding Bishop, and a majority of the District Superintendents have given their consent for the closure of the Exeter United Methodist Church,

Therefore, be it resolved, the the District Superintendent be directed to collect all deeds, records, and official documents from the abandoned church as is required by paragraph 2549 of *The Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church 2016*, and

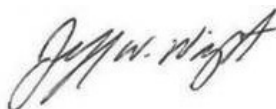
Therefore, be it further resolved that the furnishing and fixtures, of the Exeter United Methodist Church be collected and distributed by the Appalachian District of the Holston Conference for use in future divine worship and in the mission of the United Methodist Church, and

Therefore be it resolved that the Exeter United Methodist Church be closed and the property be transferred by the Trustees of the Holston Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church back to the Virginia Coal & Iron Company and its successors per the deed signed in 1959.

Signed this day, March 7, 2022,



Bishop Debra Wallace-Padgett



Reverend Jeffrey W. Wright

March 7, 2022
Date

March 7, 2022
Date

== == == END OF RESOLUTION == == ==

Resolution for Abandonment
Chatham Hill United Methodist Church.
151 Mill Dam Road
Saltville VA 24370

Whereas, the Chatham Hill United Methodist Church, located in the Clinch Mountain District of the United Methodist Church, has served the Saltville Community and the Holston Conference offering grace and the salvation fo Jesus Christ, for many years

Whereas, the congregation of Chatham Hill United Methodist Church has not held services as a United Methodist Church at 151 Mill Dam Road since before 2017, and

Whereas, the members of the congregation have died, moved away, or become unable to continue the ministry of the church, and

Whereas, the presiding bishop, and a majority of the district superintendents consent to the abandonment of Chatham Hill United Methodist Church.

Therefore, be it resolved that the District Superintendent of the Clinch Mountain District of the United Methodist Church, be directed to collect all deeds, records, and official documents from the abandoned church as is required by paragraph 2549.4 of *The Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church 2016*, and

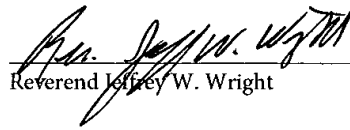
Therefore, be it resolved that the furnishings and fixtures of the Chatham Hill United Methodist Church be distributed by the Clinch Mountain District and the Holston Conference for us in future divine worship and mission of the United Methodist Church, and

Therefore, be it resolved that the Chatham Hill United Methodist Church be closed immediately and the property be transferred to the Trustees fo the Holston Conference of the United Methodist Church.



Bishop Debra Wallace-Padgett

March 22, 2022
Date



Reverend Jeffrey W. Wright

March 22, 2022
Date

== == == END OF RESOLUTION == == ==

**Resolution of Abandonment of Rheatown United Methodist Church
Three Rivers District
Holston Conference of the United Methodist Church**

Whereas, Rheatown United Methodist Church located at 345 Rheatown Road, Chuckey, TN, in the Three Rivers District faithfully served the Holston Conference, offering grace and salvation of Jesus Christ for many years, and

Whereas, Rheatown UMC held its last worship service on October 20, 2019, there was no plan to have any subsequent worship service, and no one returned for worship when churches were allowed to gather once again following Covid shut-down, and

Whereas, the church no longer serves the purpose for which it was organized according to the Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church 2016, P2549.1a), and

Whereas, 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, (Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church 2016, P2549.1b), and

Whereas, there is insufficient income to maintain the building and grounds, increasing liability, and

Whereas, an approval of closure was granted by the Three Rivers District Board of Buildings and Church Locations, and

Therefore Be It Resolved that the Bishop and the majority of District Superintendents of the Holston Annual Conference, celebrating the ministry of this church, do hereby consent to the closure of Rheatown United Methodist Church, and

Be It Further Resolved 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

Be It Further Resolved that the furnishings and fixtures be distributed to the churches of the Three Rivers District or the discretion of the District Superintendent of the Trustees of the Holston Annual Conference, and

Be It Further Resolved that any remaining assets be transferred to the Board of Trustees of the Holston Annual Conference, and

Be It Further Resolved that the Board of Trustees of the Holston Annual Conference be requested to dispose of the Rheatown United Methodist Church property, real and personal, tangible and intangible, in its sole discretion.

Signed this day, March 22, 2022.



Bishop of the Holston Annual Conference _____

Dean of the Cabinet  _____

= = = = **END OF RESOLUTION** = = = =

= = = = **END OF REPORT** = = = =

EXTENDED CABINET, SPIRITUAL LEADERSHIP INCORPORATED (SLI) REPORT

As Bishop Debra Wallace-Padgett started her ministry in the Holston Conference she had a couple of goals in mind: 1) listen to the members of Holston, and 2) help the people of Holston Conference become increasingly effective at being and making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. To help her accomplish her second goal, she asked Spiritual Leadership Incorporated (SLI), a coaching company she has worked with many times, to meet with and train her Holston Conference Extended Cabinet. Led by Craig Robertson and Scott Larsen, SLI began meeting with the cabinet in October 2021, on a monthly basis.

SLI is leading the cabinet through a process to help us increase our capacity to develop “Passionate Spiritual Leaders” who in turn can lead local churches and local ministries into making “Passionate Spiritual Disciples.” The cabinet invests time in loving (spiritual formation and worship), learning (studying organizational development) and leading together. This Wesleyan approach is essential for building trust and understanding and creating environments that foster transformation. We fully expect the conference to become increasingly fruitful in the work of Discipling.

After six months of working with SLI, we have identified and named one of our largest obstacles to making disciples, and that is a lack of focus in our disciple making process. However, we also recognize we have many gifted and passionate people, as well as incredible resources. Our goal is to align these persons and resources around agreed missional priorities and to bring our focus back to the mission of making disciples. We all agree this simple idea could produce powerful and effective results.

We are also aware this simple idea is only simple in theory. We understand there are many more obstacles than a lack of focus. The denominational struggles, the unexpected pandemic and the lack of trust that exists throughout our world are just a few, major, obstacles that have had a negative impact upon us this year. However, it is easy to blame outside obstacles for our lack of focus. Nevertheless, as we began taking a deep dive into the ministries of Holston, we had to admit our ability to be successful in our mission and reach our vision has ebbed and flowed or has been inconsistent at best.

Yet, we believe this work of aligning our people and resources will give us the maximum ability to make “Passionate Spiritual Leaders” and teams. We began creating criteria for what would constitute a healthy team. Then we started looking at and comparing those criteria with our current ministries. We quickly came to the realization there is not enough available information and consistent characteristics to evaluate, prioritize and appropriately resource the 80+ teams and affiliates that make up the Conference. So, we have begun to gather information and have conversations with our teams and affiliates.

We are hoping, through our work, to provide a clear and simple understanding of these ministries and ministry partners. To do this, we need to start by clarifying our relationships and expectations. There are some affiliates that have a strong connection to the Conference, while others are more distant. Some of these ministries and/or partners desire a more significant connection, while some desire less.

Affiliate organizations utilize important resources of the Conference in the form of time, money and focus. Therefore, it is important for the Conference to discern how these organizations align with the priorities of the Annual Conference.

The following are types of agreements we believe will help us clarify the expectations and focus, create alignment across the work of the Conference, and treat our affiliates with care knowing the relationships were forged with good intent and wanting to encourage people to effectively work where God has called them.

HOLSTON CONFERENCE MINISTRY AFFILIATION TYPES

Ministry of the Conference

- Some of our ministries currently categorized as affiliates of the Conference are more appropriately labeled ministries of the Conference. We want to treat them as a team of the Conference/District and include them appropriately in the Missional Priorities.

Affiliate Type One relationship with the Holston Conference

- Robust relationship.
- The ministry/organization is in alignment and contributing to the stated mission, vision and values of the Holston Conference.
- The ministry/organization’s leadership will be in relational accountability with the Conference through traditional roles or ones that are created to better serve the expectations and missions. This is not a voting member of a board but true accountability through reporting to a Conference designated person. The governing board will make changes in bylaws to allow for relational accountability.
- The ministry/organization’s leadership will enter the process of aligning priorities and developing a new partnership agreement that allows for the ongoing evaluation of our partnership, and the performance related to the mission and priorities of the Conference.
- This type of relationship may require the utilization of United Methodist General Church Affiliation Agreements.
- This type of relationship may require changes to the Conference’s Standing Rules.
- This type of relationship may involve funding or asset-sharing based on the agreement.
- This type of relationship may have a person who is Clergy, Extension Ministers or others appointed by the Conference serving in this ministry.
- The ministry/organization’s leadership will communicate strategies, glory sightings and other important communications regularly.

Affiliate Type Two relationship with the Holston Conference

- This type of relationship requires a formal mutual agreement and is developed where both organizations outline and agree to enumerated expectations.
- The organization’s mission and vision are not contrary to the stated mission, vision, and values of the Holston Conference.
- These organizations do not fall under the corporate umbrella of the Conference and are not considered to be supervised, managed, led, or insured by the Conference.

- The Conference does not appoint leaders to this type of relationship.
- The Holston Conference brand is not shared.
- The Conference and its people may elect to resource the Type Two organizations through money or time, but it is without official/formal ties.

Affiliate Type Three relationship with the Holston Conference

- There is a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). No formal agreement is needed. These relationships are not official or affiliated with the Holston Conference.
- Type Three relationships do not fall under the corporate umbrella of the Conference and are not considered to be supervised, managed, or led by the Conference.
- The Holston Conference brand is not shared.
- The Conference and its people can elect to resource the Type Three organizations through money or time, but it is without official/formal ties.
- Connections could be at a local level.

We understand this process of reviewing our ministries and ministry partners will take many months to complete, but once the initial review is finished, we will have a better understanding of how each ministry and affiliate helps us achieve our mission and vision as well as how we, Holston, help them achieve their mission and vision.

At the time of this report, our Relational Ministry teams are being formed and trained to meet with our ministries and ministry partners. We hope to have met with at least 10 ministries and confirm their relationship type by our 2022 Holston Annual Conference.

In parallel with this work, the Extended Cabinet is working to clarify and refine the capacity building systems of the conference and expect to share more on this work in the coming months. Please join us in praying for God’s presence to be our guide.

Submitted by, Craig Robertson and Tim Jones
On behalf of the Holston Conference Extended Cabinet

== == END OF REPORT == ==

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, Rev. Dr. Tim Jones, and the entire conference communications staff. The Holston Communications staff has remained committed to providing excellent, balanced coverage of events related to General Conference, Annual Conference, and happenings throughout Holston.

The following highlights encapsulate the ways Holston Communications is enabling and enhancing communications efforts at every level of the annual conference:

- Ben Smith was hired on March 28 as Multimedia Specialist.
- Donna Hankins has moved to our full-time Database Administrator.
- The Communications team worked with CFA, our Conference Lay Leader, and with Bishop Wallace-Padgett to create a pipeline of regular communications through blogs, videos, and email newsletters.

- Conference cybersecurity has been enhanced with equipment upgrades and additional monitoring services.
- Communications is working on a discipleship process with coaching from the Spiritual Leadership Institute (SLI).
- The Communications team is preparing new training opportunities for local churches and ministries across the conference for the 2022/2023 AC year.
- Communications staff will work with local churches to help create video marketing clips for social media and the web to increase social media reach and promote ministry events.
- A brand update is planned for the coming year, with a new Holston Conference Logo and color scheme.

The Communications team has worked tirelessly in the past year to provide essential information and services to Holston’s clergy and churches in unprecedented and tremendously challenging circumstances. We pray God’s continued blessing on the efforts of the Communications team as they help us tell the story of God’s love for all the world, revealed in Jesus Christ.

Submitted by, Timothy Hankins, Chair

== == END OF REPORT == ==

III COMMITTEE ON CONGREGATIONAL DEVELOPMENT (CCD)

The work of Congregational Development and Revitalization is never finished. Every local church is always in some stage of development and revitalization. For over thirty years this work has been a priority for Holston Conference and is the result of our conference putting a great emphasis on resourcing churches.

There are projects across the conference that you have supported. From Scenic South to Clinch Mountain, grants have been made to assist local churches in making disciples for Jesus Christ.

It is a joy to report that Magnolia Avenue is having worship every Sunday at 5:00pm followed by a community meal. Magnolia Avenue hosts a free medical clinic every Monday. Vestal UMC is having Sunday worship after several years of being closed. Jellico UMC now hosts the Tennessee Valley Coalition to End Homelessness, an important ministry in the Jellico community. Alexander Memorial in Bishop, Virginia is another congregation that our conference supports. It has done amazing work in the community around it to assist so many families in need. These are just some of the churches you have supported.

Valley Church continues to grow and is now averaging over 100 at Sunday morning worship. Your support of the Builders Club will help to make this important new church start a reality. We commend the work of John Gargis as he leads Valley Church, and we applaud Tim Jackson the pastor and Paul Jones the worship leader at Magnolia Avenue and Vestal.

We give thanks for your prayers and support. There is even more revitalization needed after the pandemic has created a challenge to so many of our churches. We must look at the opportunities that lie ahead and the possibilities that we as Holston have to make a difference for the Kingdom.

Submitted by, Becky Hall, Chairperson & Rusty Taylor, Director

== == == END OF REPORT == == ==

V BOARD OF LAY MINISTRY

The Conference Board of Lay Ministry, is comprised of District Lay Leaders, Conference Presidents of United Methodist Men, Women, and Youth, Conference Director of Lay Servant Ministries, and members-at-large. The role of this board is to provide leadership and connectional relationships throughout the Conference. The aspects of this include fostering the work of laity in their churches, home, workplace, community, and world by promoting programs and training that cultivates the biblical basis for lay life.

We encourage laity to use their God-given talents in a variety of ways such as outreach, missions, teaching, youth mentoring, working with persons who are homeless, sharing their faith with others for the Kingdom, and working together with their clergy. These are just a few of the ways to serve.

There are avenues of training for laity including Lay Servant Ministries. This includes training for Lay Servants, Lay Speakers, and Certified Lay Ministers. All of these learning opportunities and curriculum equip laity to be informed and confident in the Christian work that they do in their areas.

These last two years have been a challenge to all of our churches, laity, and clergy due to the COVID-19 pandemic. It has been challenging to stay connected, keep our congregants safe, and serve missionally in our communities. New ways of doing worship and reaching people have evolved, as well as creative ways to reach new folks. Our churches have prevailed. It has been exciting to see how our churches have remained persistent in their efforts to live out their missions. Our Lay Servant Training went to Zoom, and over 400 persons participated.

One of the traditional roles the Board of Lay Ministry at Annual Conference is to provide opportunities for prayer at Lake Junaluska. We plan to continue that this year by using the prayer room and will have materials to share prayer requests and hold one another in prayer during our time together. The Board members divide the prayer request cards and continue to pray for those needs.

Our *Book of Discipline* affirms that the ministry of the laity is one of the significant evangelistic tools for our congregations of the United Methodist Church. We desire to help make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Submitted by, Becky G. Hall, Conference Lay Leader

== == == END OF REPORT == == ==

VI DISCIPLESHIP TEAM - VI.a MISSIONS TEAM

God is on the move!

The Mission Ministry Team celebrates all that God is doing as the people of Holston go out in missions to joining with what God is already doing in the world. We celebrate the reports from our missionaries and those missions in the local church which are impacting and transforming the world for the sake of the Gospel. The Mission Team realizes 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 Chinzvende (Ishe Anesu)
- 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 Dowling Soka (Alaska Missionary Conference)
- Lyn and Sharon Fogleman (Mission Society/South Sudan/Uganda)

The following reports were submitted to celebrate the on-going missions throughout the Conference.

Submitted by, Rev.Thomas Hancock, Chair

== == == 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 fifth year serving as pastors on your behalf 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 and Mary Lemings (the Willow Community Food Pantry director and assistant) to help coordinate the many church and community ministries that take place through the pantry. The food pantry serves some 170 to 210 families each month. Since the beginning of the pandemic we have operated as a drive through even on days where the temperatures hit -20. In addition our sack pack weekend food ministry has grown to 80 children each week. We are also a distribution center for government food boxes and the church provides water, firewood, gas vouchers and other forms of emergency assistance to those in need. We also partner every year with the Willow Community Library to provide lunches and food bags for children who take part in the summer reading program.

Willow UMC serves an area the size of Chattanooga with a population of 2000. We are at the center of the dog mushing world. The weather is extreme with many feet of snowfall each winter. Many people live on edge, some in dry cabins, some off the grid, many in extreme poverty. 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. We become pastors to the whole community. We are glad to be back worshipping in person in the sanctuary here each Sunday after quite a season of outdoor worship and online services. We are also delighted to be able to continue to post services for our “online church family” each week. Our services may be found on Facebook, YouTube and at www.willowumc.org. We would like to invite our Holston family to join us each week online as you are able. We may be reached at 423-202-5143 or DWLNGSK@yahoo.com.

We are thankful for the amazing support the Holston conference has given to the ministries here in Alaska across the years. In 2021 Holston Churches and individuals contributed \$41,584 to the ministries here in Willow either through the Advance, through online giving or through direct donations. This is about 1/3 of the funding that we must raise annually from outside donors to make our work here possible. What a gift the Holston Conference has been to the whole Willow Community! You enable us to provide food and hope, warmth and love to so many, strength and faith for one more day. We are also thankful for all the Holston VIM teams throughout the years that have come our way. It was a special delight to have the Giles County Parish VIM team this past summer. And we enjoyed hosting 2 mission interns from Munsey UMC. We are also deeply grateful to Holston churches for the ways you support our “in kind” projects, sending beautiful handmade scarves and hats, warm gloves and socks, beautiful new clothing, school supplies, gift cards for teachers and parcel post auction boxes. We would be glad to “Zoom” with your group or to send a video message to your congregation to use in worship to share more about our work here in Alaska. We delight in being your “outpost of mission” here in Alaska.

We are thankful for all who support this ministry through the Conference 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!

Submitted by, Rev. Christina and Rev. Joe-d DowlingSoka, Co-Pastors

== == == END OF REPORT == == ==

VI.a.3 PROJECT CROSSROADS

This past year we were able to receive teams to help serve in our ministries. We worked in accordance with CDC and local protocols to ensure the safety of the families we serve. We had five teams during the summer and fall that performed outside rehab which consisted of handicap ramp construction and porch rehab as well as roof membrane over one trailer. The teams also helped gut the house on Walker's Creek so that we can rehab it and utilize it as our Guest House once completed. We had to take out all the floors and joist and several of the interior walls. We will begin the rehab in stages as soon as weather permits this spring. We are anticipating more teams during our 2022 season.

We delivered firewood to 21 families this winter until we were out of dry wood. Beaver Ridge UMC came and helped with wood cutting and splitting during the spring and fall of last year as well as a group from Pennsylvania. The local Presbyterian church youth worked one day in the fall to help split and stack wood that is green so we will have it available for next year.

We had students from the Emory and Henry College, School of Health Sciences start back in the clinic with me this past Fall. I have two students on the two afternoons that I am in clinic and get to help teach them in the clinic setting. We had our RAM (Remote Area Medical) clinic this past year at the Mountain Empire Airport. Even with the CDC restrictions we were able to provide dental, vision, hearing, and medical care for about 500 individuals in the two-day event. This year we are having to move our RAM clinic to an indoor setting and Emory and Henry College has been most gracious to host the clinic at the main campus and make this the permanent site for our clinic annually.

We delivered all the cleaning buckets and hygiene kits that were in stock by the middle of September due to flooding in Tennessee and Hurley. This past fall we have been picking up buckets and kits to begin restocking in preparation for the next call from Jim Fetzer to respond to a disaster area. This is an ongoing hands-on mission project year-round for our churches now because there is more hurricanes and flooding than in years past. Where at one time we would have 2,000 to 2,500 buckets on hand, we are lucky to have 1,000 before we are called on again. We appreciate the churches willingness to put these together and have them available for us to pick up at their district offices so we can be ready at any time.

This is the year that I recertify for my building trade licenses as well as complete my two-year continuing medical education cycle for my licensure for the state of Virginia. This enables me to continue the services that we provide through our ministries in Southwest Virginia, rehab and medical. I appreciate the support of the Holston Conference and local churches that enables me to be in mission ministry through Project Crossroads. We appreciate your support; financial, prayers and presence that enables us to serve those in our communities.

Submitted by, Harry Howe, Executive Director
(Holston Conference Church and Community Worker)

== == == END OF REPORT == == ==

VI.a.6 SOUTH SUDAN

The following was submitted from Arua, Uganda, as the Dearing's and a Holston mission team returned to support the people of South Sudan after a long absence due to Covid.

In concert with the rest of the world, due to COVID-19, the opportunities for the people of South Sudan both in country and northern Uganda were minimal at best. Although life was a struggle, we are pleased to report that the leadership of the United Methodist Church of South Sudan, both lay and clergy, have risen to the challenge even in our absence on the ground. What might have been detrimental to our brothers and sisters of South Sudan has turned into an opportunity for them to take leadership of the church, such as caring for the children, continuation of education, and leadership development.

The GRACE children are now in boarding school, both primary and secondary, receiving physical, spiritual, emotional, and educational knowledge. Even though GRACE Home is no longer a physical location, we continue to support the GRACE children thanks to donors throughout the Holston Conference. The GRACE children are grateful and understand that their support comes from Holston Conference. It encourages them and gives them hope for the future. In addition to that, two GRACE Home students were elected "Head Boy" and "Head Girl" at their school. Multiple students also serve in leadership positions in the school.

Since being in refugee status in Uganda, a priority for our South Sudanese brothers and sisters has been education and leadership development. We are pleased to report that in addition to the children of GRACE Home being in boarding school, we now have three ordained elders and seven more will be ordained at annual conference in 2022. On March 17, 2022, nine pastors received their diplomas in theology. In addition to that, four are enrolled at a degree program, four are working towards their diploma, and five are enrolled in course of study. We have seen our pastors excel and rise to the challenge during this time. We are also educating lay individuals including one nursing student, eight secondary students, and three staff in post-graduate studies. These milestones would not be possible without the support of Holston Conference. In South Sudan, opportunities to nurture and grow

leaders was a challenge, but because of the educational environment in Uganda we have identified and encouraged lay and clergy leaders from our churches. For example, our finance manager Jaka Joice was elected president of the United Methodist Women for Uganda/South Sudan annual conference and elected as a delegate to general conference. We firmly believe that because of working with our South Sudanese family that they are identified by the Uganda/South Sudan annual conference as significant leaders and recognized denomination wide.

For those who have been familiar with our work in South Sudan since 2006, the following is a major accomplishment. Through Fred and Libby Dearing's mentorship and others before them, we anticipate and celebrate that in Fall 2022 the Bishop of the Ugandan/South Sudan conference will appoint a South Sudanese as district superintendent of the South Sudan district. For 16 years, the South Sudan United Methodist Church has looked to Holston for leadership and development both in South Sudan and Uganda in exile. As we transition into the South Sudanese becoming the leaders of the church, we look forward to the opportunities to continue to fulfill our commitment to them and the shared priorities of education and leadership development. We anticipate future opportunities for our South Sudanese brothers and sisters in Christ through the support of Holston Conference.

We are reminded of the verse, Deuteronomy 31:6 "Be strong! Be fearless! Don't be afraid and don't be scared by your enemies, because the Lord your God is the one who marches with you. He won't let you down, and he won't abandon you." God gave the people of South Sudan hope in 2016 as they fled their war-torn country. Though the future is uncertain in their homeland, God's faithfulness will one day find the chains of oppression and strife broken through the reconciliation of hearts of all humanity. In celebrating the opportunities God has provided to the people of South Sudan through Holston, we give thanks to God for the opportunities our relationship with our brothers and sisters in South Sudan has provided for the people of Holston.

Submitted by, South Sudan Advisory Team

== == **END OF REPORT** == ==

VI.a.7 JUBILEE

Jubilee Project has remained open and busy during the Covid-19 pandemic. We have been blessed with donations of food from local individuals and churches, Feeding America of NE Tennessee and Mid-West Food Bank in Morristown. We continue to give food boxes to families once each month, participate in a Mobile Food Pantry once a month at Flat Gap, and were pleased to be part of an effort by Feeding America and Governor Bill Lee's wife Maria on June 29, 2021. Jubilee Project also partnered with Feeding America of NE Tennessee and One Accord to provide Thanksgivings boxes and with Fairview UMC to provide Christmas buckets to area families. Families in Hancock County have been blessed with food!

Jubilee was privileged to host Appalachia Miles for Smiles on May 6-7, 2021. Miles for Smiles brought their mobile dental clinic and vision clinic, and worked with Ballad Health and ETSU to provide blood sugar and blood pressure screenings and mammograms. Vision clinicians returned in June to fit the glasses that participants selected at their appointments. We are looking forward to hosting Appalachia Miles for Smiles in May, 2022.

Jubilee is also getting ready for mission teams. Because of relaxed restrictions from the Conference, we are once again hosting work teams to do work on the outside of Hancock County homes. We had one team at the end of July in 2021, and have three teams scheduled so far for 2022. We are excited about working with Mission Teams again.

The Jubilee Water Ministry has been very busy because we contract with local contractors. We have cleaned out springs and worked with Run4Water to connect water to local homes, installed two septic systems, and contracted to drill four wells in 2021. We also purchased a truck and water tank and system so that volunteers can deliver Sneedville City water to county residents with water tanks. The families with tanks usually use countertop purification systems, and we have provided those to at least two individuals.

Our women's ministry continues to meet every other Thursday morning, and we enjoy the time together. We do not have a meal, but have time for joys and concerns, prayer, and a devotion led by one of the participants. We are so blessed to be able to meet again in person in the meeting room downstairs, and are looking forward to touring area historical sites this spring and summer.

Jubilee Youth went through a transition in programming. Staff are now working with Hancock Elementary Afterschool participants with arts and crafts activities every Tuesday afternoon. We enjoy planning the projects, and the students are excited and creative in their efforts. We thank God for this opportunity to work with the students and to share God's love in word and action.

Jubilee Project has also been blessed with financial support throughout the pandemic. We thank you for your donations, and ask that you continue to include Jubilee Project in your budgets. Checks can be sent to P.O. Box 657, Sneedville, TN, 37869, or donations can be made on-line at jubileeproject.holston.org. If you need more information about our needs, please sign up for our newsletter at jubileeprojectsneedville@gmail.com or call us at the office at 423-733-4195. We look forward to hearing from you!

Submitted by, Lisa Nichols, Church and Community Worker



== == **END OF REPORT** == ==



Courtesy of Heifer International



The Advance

formerly Advance Specials

Advancing hope in Christ's name

Holston Annual Conference 2023

www.holston.org

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

	GBGM Code	Holston Project #
<i>Jeanne Ntambo</i>	Code: 14176Z	939
Country: Democratic Republic of Congo		
<i>Gaston Ntambo</i>	Code: 14177Z	940
Country: Democratic Republic of Congo		
<i>The Rev. Bill Lovelace</i>	Code: 11872Z	054
Country: Lithuania		
<i>Helen Roberts-Evans</i>	Code: 3021129	705
Country: Liberia		
<i>Missionaries Around the World</i> (Any Amount)	Code: 00779Z	075

(Other missionaries may be supported by Holston churches. Inquiry should be made through the Conference Mission Sec.)



Courtesy of New Horizon School in Paraguay



Courtesy of Africa University ~ Graduation and Certified Maize Seed Development

	GBGM Code	Holston Project #
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 Theological Seminary Scholarship (\$1,500 per year)	Code: 15021B	203
E. Paraguay		
New Horizon School	Code: 3021089	421

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.



Courtesy of United Methodist Volunteers in Mission (UMVIM) - Work Project

**GBGM
Code**

**Holston
Project #**

United States Advance

**GBGM
Code**

**Holston
Project #**

- A. Missionaries Assigned to Holston Conference**
Christina DowlingSoka Code: 931511 874
- B. Appalachian Ministries Network**
Code: 982041 007
- C. Appalachia Service Project**
Code: 982050 092
- D. Four Corners Native American Ministries, Shiprock, NM**
Code: 581254 023
- E. Henderson Settlement, Frakes, Kentucky**
Code: 773365 088
- F. Hinton Rural Life Center, Hayesville, NC**
Code: 731372 042

- G. Willow, Alaska Church & Community Ministry**
Code: 931520 264
- H. Red Bird Mission, Inc., Beverly, Kentucky**
Code: 773726 010
- I. Society of St. Andrew, Big Island, VA**
Code: 801600 029
- J. United Methodist Volunteers in Mission, SEJ Jurisdiction, Birmingham, AL**
Code: 901875 043
- K. Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference Parish Partners**
Code: 583634 056



Courtesy of Appalachia Service Project -Home Repair



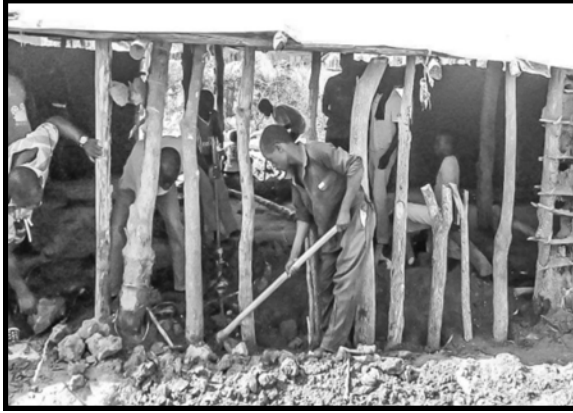
Courtesy of Society of St. Andrew-- Farm Produce. Crop Drop

UMCOR Advance

**GBGM
Code**

**Holston
Project #**

- A. Heifer Project, Living Gift** Code: 982532 031
- B. UMCOR Disaster Response in U.S.**
Code: 901670 026
- C. UMCOR Emergency Relief (Around the World)**
Code: 982450 050
- D. World Hunger / Poverty** Code: 982920 016



Courtesy of Fred Dearing (South Sudan) – Church expansion in Invepi Refugee Camp

Holston Annual Conference Offering *South Sudan Refugees*

Holston
Project #

F. Habitat for Humanity Ministries			
Loudon County			099
G. Hispanic Ministries within Holston Conference			093
1. Galax, VA			541
2. Smoky Mountain District			542
3. Mountain View District			543
H. Holston Conference Camps			
1. Camperships			
Bays Mountain	238	Dickenson	437
Lookout	276	Wesley Woods	275
2. Camp Development Funds			
Bays Mountain	101	Dickenson	236
Lookout	078	Wesley Woods	113
3. Annual Ministry Funds			
Bays Mountain	486	Dickenson	488
Lookout	487	Wesley Woods	489
4. Camp in the Community			869
5. Camp & Retreat Ministries			870
I. Holston United Methodist Homes for Children			
1. Dermid Family Services, Bristol, VA			103
2. Holston Home, Greeneville, TN			002
J. Neighborhood Centers			
1. The Bethlehem Center			079
2. Wesley House Community Center			080
K. Student Aid, Conference Scholarship Grants			
1. Emory & Henry College			085
2. Tennessee Wesleyan University			125

Conference Advance

		Holston Project #
A. Persons in Mission assigned to Holston Conference		
<i>Harry Howe</i>	Marion, VA Code: 982926	020
<i>Paul Priest</i>	Costa Rica	N/A
<i>Fred and Libby Dearing</i>	South Sudan	719
<i>Lisa Nichols</i>	Jubilee Project Code: 982953	330
<i>Nancy Chinzvende</i>	Zimbabwe	919
<i>David Warden (salary)</i>	Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conf.	925
B. Asbury, Inc.		091
C. Campus Ministry and Wesley Foundations		
<i>(Be sure to indicate which ministry you are supporting)</i>		
1. ETSU		064
2. Radford University		127
3. UT Knoxville		305
4. UT Chattanooga		313
5. UVA at Wise		061
D. Disaster Relief Within Holston Conference		143
E. District Advance <i>(Indicate which project)</i>		



Courtesy of The Bethlehem Center



Courtesy of Wesley Foundation at Radford University

Conference Advance *Continued*

Holston
Project #

L. Support for Action Ministries

1. Appalachian Dist. Church & Community Renewal	141
2. Appalachian Trail Chaplaincy	847
3. Bishop Mission Initiative	936
4. CASA of East TN, Inc.	493
5. CASA Corridor of East TN	611
6. Celebrate Recovery North	917
7. Coalition for Kids, Inc.	133
8. Community Youth Outreach, 1st UMC, Johnson City	906
9. Contact 211	886
10. Crossroads Medical Mission	364
11. Elk Garden School Community Ministries	937
12. Emerald Youth Foundation-Just Lead	014
13. Everfree	N/A
14. GATE-Gateway to Independence	612
15. Good Samaritan Ministries, Inc.	066
16. Help For Haiti Children's Shelter	913
17. Interfaith Health Clinic	492
18. Jubilee Project, Inc.	015
19. Morgan Scott Project	013
20. Mountain Top	N/A
21. Nuba Mountains-Sudan	N/A
22. Project Crossroads Ministries	047
23. Proverbs 8:27 Mission (formerly The Hunt House)	918
24. Serving Our Neighbors (SON)	923
25. SIFAT-Alabama	670
26. Strength for the Journey	300
27. Susannah's House	830
28. Unity Center	151



Courtesy of Crossroads Medical Mission ~ Staff

Holston
Project #

M. 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

N. World Ministries

1. Freedom Global	924
2. South Sudan Projects	537
3. Global Hope Partners	490
4. Magdy Bassaly— Ambassadors for Christ International	501

O. "Change for Children"

012



Courtesy of Morgan Scott Project— Backpack Ministry



Courtesy of InterFaith Health Clinic ~ Staff



Holston Annual Conference 2023

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VI.b NURTURE MINISTRY TEAM

The Nurture Team works with conference level ministry teams across Holston to find ways to help congregations and leaders grow in their discipleship of Jesus Christ.

We are blessed to witness God's work throughout the churches of Holston through our ministries with children, youth, young adults, and older adults. Longtime ministries, such as Resurrection and Jubilation, continue to provide needed ways to build unity and increase faithfulness. We are also happy to welcome new ministries such as Cultivate Faith for our kids.

We are proud of our camping ministries that continue to thrive. Each year thousands of children and youth experience the love of Christ at our four traditional camps and Camp in the Community. Our camping staff continue to reach out to local congregations after kids make first-time or renewed commitments to Christ, so those decisions may be celebrated at the local church level and discipleship continue to be cultivated.

We are thankful for this year's conference-wide Read Together initiative and look forward to the up-coming Worship Together focus. In conjunction with that work, we look forward to offering another worship conference with the same kind of logistics and programming that came with the one we spilt between Mafair in Kingsport and Kodak back in 2014.

We are thankful for your continued interest and support of your Holston Nurture Team. Your commitment to growing disciples of Jesus Christ throughout Holston and our larger connection is inspiring.

Submitted by, Adam Love, Chair

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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

Join the Holston Conference Children's Ministry Team in this new season of hope as we partner with you and launch a new initiative - CULTIVATE FAITH.

It is our understanding of reading scripture, especially in Deuteronomy and in Philippians, that God creates and calls families to be the primary place of faith formation for children.

“Love the Lord with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk on the road, when you lie down, and when you get up.” (Deuteronomy 6:5-7, NIV)

“Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me or seen in me - put into practice. And the God of peace will be with you.” (Philippians 4:9, NIV)

Cultivate Faith is leading children in their faith journey every day, even in the mess, even in the chaos, even in the middle of a busy schedule. Cultivate Faith is incorporating faith into our daily practices, that grow spiritual habits that last a lifetime. Cultivate Faith is modeling your personal relationship with Jesus Christ with children. Cultivate Faith happens in conversations with children that make a big impact, Cultivate Faith is the small daily and weekly faith steps with children that leads to big faith, Through this initiative, our focus is to help families grow and develop spiritual practices and daily habits to cultivate faith in their own lives and the lives of their children.

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 2021 annual conference offering was \$36,708.53. We are grateful for a surplus balance that allowed us to award grants in February and August. Eight grants to churches and organizations were awarded for a total of \$19,000. In addition, half of the 2021 offerings were placed with Holston Conference Foundation to provide future funding for international ministries with children. Camp in the Community, which yearly receives a block Change for Children grant, was awarded in 2021, \$25,000 which served approximately 700 campers in both of their summer programs – Camp in the Community and Camp is Where the Heart Is. Thank you, Holston Conference for your generous support of children and families! For more information about the Holston Children's Ministry Team or to offer suggestions or comments please contact susangroseclose@holston.org or meliawarren@hixsonumc.org.

The Holston Children's Ministry has had very exciting meetings in 2021-2022 and we are looking forward to how the Holy Spirit is going to lead in the next steps!

We are so thankful 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, Melia Warren, Chair

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VI.b.2 CONFERENCE COUNCIL ON YOUTH MINISTRIES

We celebrate the many ways that God has worked through Holston Conference Youth Ministries in the last year! The Conference Council on Youth Ministries (CCYM) has met virtually and has been busy advocating for the youth of our area. CCYM felt strongly that the offering from Resurrection 2022 needed to go back into the hands of local youth groups that have been struggling over the past 2 years. At the time of this report, we are receiving grant applications and awards will be made by April 2022. CCYM has also decided to offer local mission opportunities throughout our conference in the Fall of 2022. Youth of Holston will have the opportunity to make a difference right here!

We were able to gather in person for Assembly 2021 at Tennessee Wesleyan University. Our scripture for the week was Micah 6:8 and youth in 6-12 grades explored

what it means to do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with God. Young people shared their gifts, spent time in family groups and played. It was a great week and we look forward to being back at TWU June 27- July 1, 2022!

We were also able to gather in person for Resurrection 2022. It was so good to be Together Again! Youth shared talents and were challenged and encouraged by the messages throughout the weekend.

As we look forward, we are excited to see the many ways that God is moving in the lives of young people in Holston Conference.

Submitted by, Laura McLean, Associate Director, Connectional Ministries for Youth and Young Adults

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VI.b.4 CAMP AND RETREAT MINISTRY BOARD

Our summer 2022 theme at our Holston Camps, Camp Bays Mountain, Camp in the Community, Camp Dickenson, Camp Lookout, and Camp Wesley Woods, is “Light of the World” based off of Jesus’ sermon on the mount found in Matthew 5.

It is common knowledge that many have suffered both mentally and physically the last two years in our pandemic-stricken world. In our ministry, we have seen the impact on our young persons in the conference. There have been moments of deep sadness, of scary darkness for many persons.

In the midst of these times of darkness, our camps closed in 2020 to help mitigate the spread of Covid-19, and were fortunate to open in 2021 with Covid-protocols in place. We were extremely thankful to have zero cases of Covid at our camps in 2021!

We had 1,804 campers attend one of our five Holston summer camps in 2021. Of those campers, 300 made a first time profession of faith, and 381 rededicated their lives to Jesus Christ. 51% of our campers attend a United Methodist Church, and 49% of our campers attend another

denomination or do not attend church. Over 2/3 of our campers attended camp on some form of scholarship. A large majority of donors to our scholarship funds attend a Holston United Methodist church.

In Matthew 5: 14-16, Jesus shares, 14 “You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. 15 Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. 16 In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.”

Holston Conference churches have certainly been a light for our conference camps. Between sending campers, donation, sharing about our ministry from your pulpits, our conference churches remain our greatest partner in ministry. In 2022 we look forward to sharing the love of Christ in the glory of creation thanks to you all.

Submitted by, Mary Thompson, Holston CRM Executive Director & Dave Grant, Chair of Holston CRM Board of Directors

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VI.b.5 OLDER ADULT MINISTRY TEAM

We are celebrating Jubilation's 20th Anniversary on May 2-4, 2022! Unfortunately, because of Covid-19 we had to postpone our celebration in 2020 and in 2021. We are planning a grand celebration as we gather again with delicious food, inspiration, fellowship, information, and fun in the beautiful Smoky Mountains! Thanks, to the design team who makes this retreat possible – Bill Cochran, David and Louise Coulter, Joan DeTar, Janice Groseclose, Nancy and Larry Hobbs, Russell Martin, Joyce Marion, Deb Miller, and Karen Wood. At the time this report was written, we are anticipating slightly over a 50% capacity with plans to live stream the main sessions for those unable to attend in person. Throughout the event, we will be sharing videos of a number of key leaders over the past twenty years. We will laugh and cry with Cathy L. Phillip's personal, inspiration stories of God's abiding love and faithfulness. We will sing our praises to God as we are led by Wesley Rouse and Byran Underwood. We will create healthy rhythms as we drum with Gaye King, explore the humor of Jesus with Bishop Looney, create practices of mindfulness with Maggie Cooper, and explore ways to protect our assets with LeRae Collins. King's Cadence, former Lake Junaluska Singers, will entertain us on Tuesday evening. We are delighted that Bishop Wallace-Padgett and her husband; Lee will be with us and serve as communion celebrants in our closing worship service.

Throughout the pandemic, we have periodically posted on the Jubilation and Adult Ministry/Holston Conference Facebook page news articles and webinars as our local church leaders ministered with senior adults through this pandemic.

The isolation, loneliness, and grief that this pandemic

created for so many older adults and their families, especially those that live in assisted or skilled care facilities is heart-wrenching. I have and continue to be involved in communication with families and various leaders in the field of aging, as together we re-imagine ways that we can more effectively minister with, advocate for, and provide ministries so that individuals can live well and age well.

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, assisted, or skilled care 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.

Submitted by, Reverend Susan Groseclose

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VI.c.3 STATUS AND ROLE OF WOMEN MINISTRY AREA

Challenging the UMC for the full and equal participation!

The General Commission on the Status and Role of Women (GCSRW) is one of thirteen general agencies of this church. We are called to be an advocate, catalyst, and monitor for gender justice and inclusiveness within the UMC. The Commission advocates the full participation and inclusion of all women in the church, challenges the church to confront institutional sexism, and helps church leaders address issues of sexual ethics. Our mission is to challenge The United Methodist Church at all levels to work for full and equal participation of women in the total life of the denomination, including ordination of women, equal access to policy-making and recognition that Jesus Christ calls men and women alike to salvation, liberation, discipleship and service in church and society.

The Holston Conference's Commission on the Status and Role of Women (COSROW) 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 light of the past two years and the Covid-19 Pandemic, many of the planned activities were either suspended or changed to later dates due to the pandemic. COSROW is slowly returning to planned activities within a virtual platform. By moving to a virtual platform, COSROW has been able to continue to connect with clergy women throughout the globe. The Holston Conference COSROW continues to monitor, educate, and celebrate the efforts of clergy women. We worked with the conference sexual ethics team to create a video showcasing examples of sexist and disparaging comments clergywomen in the Holston Conference have experienced that has been viewed throughout the conference and the Connection and is available on the Holston COSROW website. This video was made available throughout the conference. We continue to work to help eliminate the practice of gender and ethnic discrimination within the Holston Conference and beyond.

Holston's COSROW committee, by a majority vote, endorsed Rev. Sharon Bowers as an episcopacy nominee for 2020 which has been delayed to 2024.

Holston Annual Conference COSROW continues to align itself closely with the General COSROW and recently participated in the following:

- a series of Lunch & Learn Annual COSROW Trainings centered around issues such as sexual ethics, the Me Too Movement, Clergy women salary and visioning for clergy women and the future. One specific training, was the "I Am Her" Women's Leadership Summit, "Intersectionality and Clergy Compensation lead by Dr. Magaela Bethune presenting her findings from the 2020 Salary Study.
- Do No More Harm is presented by the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women to provide guidance when there is a concern or complaint of sexual misconduct in The United Methodist Church. We acknowledge that sexual misconduct is perpetrated by clergy and by laity.
- Women by The Numbers which is a three-part series of reports on gender disparities in 2020 clergy compensation, the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women (GCSRW) explored the disparity in compensation of clergywomen and clergymen using 2020 U.S. compensation data from the denomination. Despite the trend of women constituting over half of The United Methodist Church (UMC) membership (Pew Research Center, 2015; General Council on Finance and Administration, 2020), women are significantly underrepresented among active, fulltime UMC clergy and are paid significantly less than UMC clergymen (Bethune, 2021). Study findings also suggest that, for some conferences, disparity manifests not only in the ways in which clergy are compensated by gender, but perhaps also in the situation of UM clergywomen in general. For example, clergywomen are likely to have fewer years of service and are less likely to be serving in clergy capacities that are compensated more substantively (e.g., elders in full connection), which seem, in some cases, to impact the salary and other compensation outcomes of clergywomen at large. In pursuit of equity, it is strongly recommended that conferences and jurisdictions critically examine their policies and procedures that directly influence the ways in which clergy are compensated. Additionally, though, it is advised

that factors influencing the overall situation of clergywomen (e.g., appointments, ordination processes, pipelines to ministry, etc.) also be reviewed, such that they may better support the participation,

- March is Women’s History Month, and we offered a special focus on various women who have promoted hope and healing through the Church and beyond by means of their vocations, callings, and ministry to others. Holston Conference Clergy Women & Emory & Henry alumnus: Brenda Carroll, Jodi Ihfe, Beverly Robinette, and African American Holston Conference clergy, Charlotte Williams and Annette Warren participated in a college lyceum regarding women and clergy vocation. This month, we asked the Holston Conference to consider how they might take inspiration from these stories of women in the Holston Conference and engage your own local ministry opportunities.
- As Chair of the Holston Conference COSROW, Rev. Sharon Bowers scheduled to attend district meetings in all nine districts to highlight COSROW and to make available the various resources to clergy in the conference. To date, she has spoken in the New River Valley, the Tennessee Valley and the Smoky Mountain districts.
- A Clergy Women: A Day with the Bishop was held on April 2, 2022, She Walks: “When & Where We Enter” was held on for all conference clergy women, active and retired to meet our new bishop, Rev. Dr. Debra Wallace Padgett and to help to cast a vision for clergy women in the Holston Conference now and in the future. The program included a commemorate celebration of Methodist itinerate preacher, Sojourner Truth and her call to agitation, advocacy and activism for women. Also, attendees were reminded of the special highlights of women in the Holston Conference entering into places and spaces of empowerment. The Holston Conference COSROW is committed to fostering and creating “Women Empowerment Zones” where women can flourish in their God-given calling and vocations.

- Also, Holston Annual COSROW in conjunction with the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women will celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women (GCSRW), whose work seeks to enable full and equal participation of women in the life of the United Methodist Church, locally, nationally, and internationally. In celebration of fifty years of GCSRW, we also celebrate the many ways in which women have served others and brought hope and healing to families, communities, and congregations. In this year, the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women (GCSRW) marks its 50th year in advocating for women in the life of the Church, leaving in its history a trail of incredible ministry programs and projects that have challenged and continue to provoke the Church to consider how it can achieve full and equal participation of women.

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

Submitted by, Rev. Sharon L. Bowers, Chair



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VI.c.7 CONFERENCE REPRESENTATIVE TO HOLSTON HOME FOR CHILDREN



HOLSTON UNITED METHODIST HOME FOR CHILDREN

2019-2020 ANNUAL REPORT

For 125 years Holston Home has provided help to thousands of children. Founded by Mrs. Elizabeth Wiley in the Wesleyan tradition, she always worked hard to see that those who had no hope became those who God intended them to be.

During the past year we have cared for a total of 665 children and their families in the boundaries of the Holston Conference: 31 in Brumit Center (Preparation for Adult Living), 242 in residential care, 43 children were reunited with their families, 259 students at River Academy, 167 in foster care, and 221 preschool children in the Early Childhood Education Centers. Our Christian Life program remains a foundation for all of our services. During the year 39 youth made first-time professions of faith and 98 were baptized.

The campus school acquired a new name – River Academy. River Academy is an accredited and licensed private Christian school that employs certified teachers and uses State-approved curriculum. Twenty youth earned high school diplomas and 13 enrolled in college or vocational school.

The Ron Jones Sports Field was a dream of a former Board member that was fulfilled after his death, through a gift of his widow, Donna Jones. The field is designed to play a variety of outdoor sports and games and is built on Wesley Drive across from The Rock, our Christian Life Center. This is the first facility of its kind in the history of Holston Home. It was a beautiful sight to see the children play their annual Turkey Bowl game dressed in uniforms and being officiated by high school football referees.

Worship services are held every Sunday morning at The Rock, and many children came to know Jesus in a way that changed their lives. The Book of James states that “Religion that pleases God the Father must be pure and spotless. You must help needy orphans and widows and not let this world make you evil.” (James 1:27 CEV)

We are grateful for your contributions through Fifth Sundays, Advance Specials and other contributions. We continue to depend upon your gifts. We will help as many children as you are willing to support with your gifts.

We invite Church groups, individuals and friends to visit our campus at 404 Holston Drive, Greeneville, TN 37743.

Bradley S. Williams
President

Rev. Charles A. Hutchins
Director of Church Relations and Estates

*Providing hope and healing for a brighter future by sharing the love of Jesus
with children and families struggling with life's challenges.*

404 Holston Drive, Greeneville, TN 37743 • 423-638-4171 • www.HolstonHome.org



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VI.c.9 AFRICAN AMERICAN MINISTRY TEAM

The African American Task Force is where Ubuntu becomes reality. Ubuntu means “I am because we are, and we are because I am.”¹ The African American Task Force is dedicated to pick up the mantle of service and sacrifice on this journey knowing that we are empowered by the spirit of resistance and resilience of the ancestors who surrounds us.

The African American Task Force has been on the wall doing the work of where we are unapologetic to situate faith, ministry, and theology in the public discourse on reparatory justice. The African American Task Force seeks to advocate, promote, and visualize black excellence and black greatness in the black church and the struggle for black liberation and justice in the Holston Conference.

In 1800 the laws against black lives were so vicious that there was no state within the U.S. in which black people could educate their children, earn a living, find proper housing, exercise voting rights, or exist in dignity without a constant brutal struggle. Sadly, not much has changed in the 21st century.²

Black people have historically been cast as monolithic in this country. In essence, the actions of one, especially negative actions, are seen as the actions of the entire community. If one steals, all Black people are seen as thieves. If one person is unmotivated and performs poorly on the job, the entire race is deemed shiftless and lazy. If one person commits a crime, the entire Black race is cast as criminals by most media and white society.³

Yet, since the summer of 2020 there has been a renewed reckoning and fervor around racial justice to address centuries of foundational and systemic racism in America grounded in faith. For the moment, African Americans and black churches are finally recognized and acknowledged. Those of us who have been doing this work simply ask ourselves, how long will this interest last?”

In this moment we must create a world that is held accountable for past harm such as enslavement, Jim and Jane Crow, colonialism, and genocide, because these past harms create the present conditions of mass criminalization, school to prison pipeline, genocide, gentrification, police terrorism, and other abuses that impacts our future.

Therefore, the African America Task Force in Holston Conference must become ground zero, because so much

that was constituted at the foundation of this nation must move in favor toward reparatory justice.⁴ We move with intentionality in reconstituting that which should have never been in the first place. Holston Conference must become the epicenter of what needs to be learned, unlearned, and undo must begin.

The role of the African American Task force is to create a paradigm shift to focus on equity, justice and positive change. Therefore, we embrace Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. idea that there must be a revolution of values and that change happens through transformation and radical truth telling.

Radical truth telling can’t be celebrated as an appendage, as a commemorative date, but is rooted in Godliness. This transformation calls for the Methodist church in general and Holston Conference to assess the way in which public policy and local policy has been complicit in the sustaining of these systems of white domination, white hegemony, and white privilege towards dismantling racism for the purpose of reparatory justice. Consequently, any discussion of racial reconciliation can only be possible if we can have a world where truth is no longer held hostage and racism is no more.⁵

Truth telling is the perquisite of where we stand at this moment in time. The truth is collectively, African Americans are living in the valley of the shadows of death where the spiritual forces of evil, the horrors, and trauma are unleashed upon us in ways untold. Yet, because of the cloud of witnesses that are in the Heavenly Stands that are watching, waiting, and cheering us on we are able to keep the faith and let nobody turn us around.⁶

Ase,
Submitted by, Rev. Charlotte S. N. N. Williams,
Chairperson

1 Ani, Marimba. *Yurugu: An African-centered Critique of European Cultural Thought and Behavior*. Africa World Press, Inc. Trenton, New Jersey, 1994.

2 Bell, Derrick. *FACES AT THE BOTTOM OF THE WELL: The Permanence of Racism*. Basic Books: New York, 1992.

3 Holland, M. Roger. *Spirituals Radio Project: How A Grand Vision Of Jesus On A White Horse Signaled Triumph Over Slavery*. April 19, 2021. [www. CPR Classical.com](http://www.CPRClassical.com)

4 The Harvard Law School Reparatory Justice Initiative (RJI) was founded to explore what it means to repair social relationships defined by historical harms.

5 Dr. Iva Carreathers National Secretary of the Samuel Dewitt Proctor Conference.

6 Quote by Rev. Dr. Jeremiah Wright



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VI.c.10 BLACK METHODISTS FOR CHURCH RENEWAL (BMCR)

Black Methodists for Church Renewal (BMCR) is one of five official United States based ethnic caucuses of The United Methodist Church. It works to elevate the causes of the Black Church, its membership, advocate for issues within and outside of the Church that affect them and increase diversity within Church leadership.

OUR MISSION

Our mission is to raise up prophetic and spiritual leaders who will be advocates for the unique needs of Black people in The United Methodist Church.

OUR PURPOSE

We, the people called Black Methodists for Church Renewal, Inc., 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.

BELIEF #1 - To empower Black Methodists for effective witness and service among pastors, laity in local churches, conferences, schools, and the larger community.

BELIEF #2 - To expose latent and overt forms of racism in all local, regional, agencies and institutions of The United Methodist Church.

BELIEF #3 - To keep before the Church the crucial issues facing us by initiating action and supporting Church agencies which realistically deal with the needs

of Black people, i.e., issues spelled out in "The Findings of Black Methodists for Church Renewal" and the other occasional documents adopted by BMCR.

BELIEF #4 - To encourage and involve Black Methodists and others in the struggle for economic and social justice.

BELIEF #5 - To act as an agitating conscience on all boards and agencies of The United Methodist Church in order to keep them sensitive to the needs and expressions of a "genuinely" inclusive and relevant Church.

BELIEF #6 - To initiate, develop, and implement strategies and instruments for the development, maintenance, and growth of strong Black local churches.

BELIEF #7 - To provide an instrument through which we can educate and cultivate the Black constituency of our Church toward a greater knowledge of missions within the U.S., Africa, and within the Caribbean.

Submitted on behalf of Holston Conference Black Methodists for Church Renewal,
Donna M. Mosby, Caucus Coordinator



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VI.c.11 STRENGTHENING THE BLACK CHURCH FOR THE 21ST CENTURY (SBC-21)

The Holston Conference's Strengthening the Black Church for the 21st Century (SBC-21) continues to work with the predominantly Black churches (the churches whose membership is at least 80 % Black regardless of the ethnicity of the lead pastor). This initiative is going into its fifth year and has experienced some difficulty due to the effects of COVID-19. The new administration at the General Church, the Rev. Dr. Mike Bowie has suggested that "if there ever was a sense of urgency for the African American church, it is now". The pandemic has issued a major blow to the Black church and to individuals who identify as Black. Generally, it is the shared belief that the pandemic of COVID-19 has also revealed the virus of racism and injustices.

Strengthening the Black Church for the 21st Century is a transformational learning model that enables annual conferences or local congregations to partner and share its gifts of vitality with other congregations and other annual conferences that are seeking church growth. Under the new leadership we have a new design model.

The new design for the Strengthening the Black Church is three fold:

1. ReImagine-Deliver powerful tools to effectively develop teams and ministry leaders in areas you will be able to apply right now,
2. ReVitalize-Introduce ways to leverage relationships, connections, and interpersonal interactions to drive growth and innovation, and
3. RePurpose-Lead you and your team to explore your core values and traits to become effective in leadership.

Holston Conference began working with SBC-21 under a previous model and we are now transitioning to their new model, Strategy Collaborative Coaching Network with a new mission, vision and purpose.

- The mission is to transform and sustain vital Black Congregations and Black Pastors including those in cross racial appointments for making disciples of Jesus Christ who are sent to serve in a hurting world.
- The vision is to support innovation and excellence of Black clergy and Black congregations for the challenges and opportunities for the 21st century and beyond.
- The purpose is to offer coaching, consulting, training, and strategic planning as tools to reinvent and re-imagine the future for United Methodist Black churches.

Holston Conference SBC-21 is comprised of both clergy and laity have participated in various online trainings and look forward to what this next year has to bring. The Black churches in the Holston Conference are part of more than 2,400 African-American churches and approximately 432,354 African Americans in the United Methodist Church in the United States.

This year we received a new Bishop, Rev. Dr. Debra Wallace Padgett and we have met with her and she has made a commitment to look at the "State of the Black Church" in the Holston Conference. We began by meeting with her on November 8, 2021 and were able to discuss over twenty items of importance including but not limited to: cross racial appointments, covert racism, Black churches without pastors, allegations of difficulty appointing Black pastors, Black clergy succession, cabinet and extended cabinet's commitment to dismantling racism and the conference's need to become more spiritual as we learn to view racism as a structural, systemic and spiritual matter. We are pleased to welcome Bishop Wallace Padgett and look forward to our joint work of antiracism. In addition to welcoming her to Holston, we endeavor to work hand in hand with her to live out our commitment to "justice for all". We are pleased that Bishop Wallace Padgett has affirmed her commitment to the presence of SBC-21 in the Holston Conference and has publically stated that "racism is a sin". Her espoused values make it much easier to partner to do the work of social justice. Holston SBC-21 is committed to working with the Black Methodist for Church Renewal in the Holston Conference to embrace the 2019 resolution passed at Annual Conference, A Seat at Every Table which calls for full inclusion of African Americans in the life, mission and work of the Holston Conference.

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.

Submitted by, Rev. Sharon L. Bowers, Co-Chair & Rev. Dr. Barbara Doyle, Co-Chair.

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VI.c.12 PEACE WITH JUSTICE

We have not been able to meet the past 2 years during Annual Conference but we will be gathering this year. PWJ will host a meeting on Tuesday, June 7th, at noon in Room 319 in the Terrace Hotel.

We continue to work on eradicating racism in the UMC and several folks recently attended a series of Zoom gatherings with people from the Western Carolina Conference. We hope to use this as a model for Holston. These sessions, dealing with racial healing and reconciliation, were excellent. We are committed to this ongoing work and will continue to offer workshops, Bible studies and programs.

During the Pandemic we have attended many Zoom sessions with Emory & Henry students and faculty and have supported their efforts for inclusion and diversity.

The Conversations on Race group has continued to meet and we have also been active in local schools as advocates and as volunteers. We have engaged with Holston United Women of Faith in their ongoing work with the school- to- prison pipeline and their work for equity for all students. We condemn the use of nuclear weapons in any capacity and are in prayer for Ukraine and its people.

Please contact Pat Bellingrath if your church or group would like to host a program on any of the above mentioned issues.

Submitted by, Patricia Bellingrath, Peace with Justice Coordinator, Holston Outreach and Advocacy Team

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VI.d STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY TEAM

The Stewardship Ministry Team and its associated ministries reemerged with new focus, purpose, and energy in 2021. After the limitations and challenges brought on by the first year of the pandemic in 2020, we recalibrated and found a new path forward. Working in concert with the Holston Foundation and its office of stewardship, we initiated a major new ministry in Holston.

The origin of the ministry came out of conversations with Wespath, wherein we learned of the new Saving Grace – A Guide to Financial Well-Being curriculum and its potential to significantly help clergy grow their personal financial skills and to aid them in becoming stronger financial leaders in the churches they serve. Out of these initial conversations came further dialogue with Holston’s Board of Ordained Ministry, Office of Clergy Services, and Financial Services Office. All agreed to the potential of this new ministry to strengthen pastors and churches in Holston, and the green light was given to go forward. The project received a grant from the Lilly Endowment, and a working partnership was formed between the stewardship office of the Holston Foundation, the Board of Ordained Ministry, and the Conference Stewardship Team.

The Holston Clergy Financial Well-Being program has emerged out of this work and planning. The project will continue over three years. The comprehensive program has three parts:

1. **RESIDENCY IN MINISTRY (RIM) PROGRAM:** Holston’s initial RIM program was launched in September 2021 and concluded in April 2022. Seventeen first and second-year provisional elders received fifteen hours of financial stewardship, leadership, and communication training. Multiple leaders are involved in providing this training.
2. **CLERGY COHORT GROUPS:** In late summer 2022, several clergy cohort groups launch, offering the Saving Grace curriculum. Groups will be offered for ordained clergy and local pastors and will meet via Zoom over six sessions. These small groups will explore the full Saving Grace curriculum and work toward increasing participants’ personal financial well-being and stewardship leadership in churches. We hope to continuously launch cohort groups over a three-year period. An effort will be made to identify young clergy as priority participants in the cohorts.

3. **WESPATH WEBINARS:** Beginning in 2022, we will periodically offer webinars hosted by Wespath. These will be open to all Conference clergy and lay staff. The webinars will help clergy and lay staff to navigate the Wespath website and serve as an introduction to resources available through EY Wise. The free webinars will be offered in multiple sessions and include live Q & A sessions. The webinars will be recorded and available on archive for those who are unable to attend live.

In addition to the Clergy Financial Well-Being initiative, we continue to offer stewardship support in other ways. The Holston Foundation website provides many relevant stewardship resources at www.holstonfoundation.org. Articles encouraging generosity and faithful stewardship regularly appear in the Holston Foundation’s newsletter, The Circuit Rider Dispatch, and the Holston Conference’s publication, Clergy Connexion.

With more promising conditions regarding the pandemic, stewardship ministries are again going out to local churches and Holston’s districts to preach and to offer stewardship programs. And we continue to offer stewardship grants to churches to strengthen their stewardship and generosity efforts.

Finally, we are excited about a two-day, on-site stewardship event being envisioned for Holston pastors and churches in the fall of 2022. More news to come! Our thanks are offered to the continuing support of the Holston Foundation and Holston Conference in providing stewardship leadership in Holston. We especially thank Mr. Paul Bowman, Holston Foundation President, the Rev. Richard Edwards, Director of Stewardship, Ms. LeRae Edwards Collins, Holston Foundation Director of Communications, and the Holston Conference Stewardship Team for their support.

Submitted by, Troy Forrester, Chair

== == == END OF REPORT == == ==

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

Appalachian District

Gold	Silver	Bronze	Honorable Mention
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Crossroads UMC	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• East Stone Gap UMC• First Broad Street UMC• Gate City UMC	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Colonial Heights UMC• Mafair UMC• Morrison Chapel UMC• Rock Springs UMC	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• First UMC Church Hill• First UMC Surgoinsville• Grange Hall UMC• Holston View UMC• Ketron Memorial UMC• Rye Cove UMC• Salem UMC• Smyth Chapel UMC

Clinch Mountain District

Gold	Silver	Bronze	Honorable Mention
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Not applicable</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Elizabeth UMC• John Wesley UMC• Main Street UMC	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Alexander UMC• Byars-Cobbs UMC• First UMC-Richlands• Pleasantview UMC• St. Luke UMC• Trinity UMC• Wharf Hill UMC	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chilhowie• Lebanon UMC• Mt. Hermon• Riverside UMC• Seven Mile Ford UMC• Lebanon-Chilhowie• State Street UMC

Hiwassee District

Gold	Silver	Bronze	Honorable Mention
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Not applicable</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• First UMC, Dayton	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Jones Chapel UMC• Luminary UMC• First UMC, Sweetwater• Apison UMC	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Allen Memorial UMC• Niota UMC

Mountain View District

Gold	Silver	Bronze	Honorable Mention
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Not applicable</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Trinity, Greeneville	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Not applicable</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Love's Memorial• Pruitt Hill• Tate Chapel

VI.e CHURCHES OF EXCELLENCE IN EVANGELISM - *continued*

New River District

Gold

- *Not applicable*

Silver

- Mt Ephraim
- Randolph Avenue
- Dublin
- Bethel-Grace

Bronze

- Brynes Chapel-Mechanicsburg
- Bishop's Chapel
- Mt Mitchell
- Pearisburg First
- Pulaski First

Honorable Mention

- Bluefield First
- Mt Zion-Elk Creek
- Lebanon
- Forest-Elk Creek
- Crossroads-Elk Creek
- Bethel Memorial-Elk Creek
- Parrott
- Thornspring
- Central-Bland
- Max Meadows
- Rockford
- Virginia Avenue
- Bear Spring
- Auburn
- Salem-Elk Creek
- Shiloh-Woodlawn
- Woodlawn

Scenic South District

Gold

- Trenton
- White Oak
- Eastdale Village

Silver

- Welch Chapel

Bronze

- Red Bank
- Washington Hills
- Wauhatchie
- Harrison

Honorable Mention

- Jones Memorial
- Stephen's Chapel
- Signal Crest

Smoky Mountain District

Gold

- Alcoa, First UMC
- Cokesbury UMC

Silver

- Union Grove (Blount) UMC
- Colonial Heights UMC
- Vonore UMC
- Sevierville, First UMC

Bronze

- Middlesettlements UMC
- St. Paul (East) UMC
- Webb's Creek UMC

Honorable Mention

- Kodak UMC
- Seymour UMC
- Meadow UMC
- Gatlinburg, First UMC
- Peck's Memorial UMC
- New Salem UMC
- Trentville UMC
- Pleasant Hill (Knox) UMC
- Tuckaleechee UMC
- Burnett Memorial UMC
- Shults Grove UMC

VI.e CHURCHES OF EXCELLENCE IN EVANGELISM - *continued*

Tennessee Valley District

Gold

- *Not applicable*

Silver

- Central UMC, Lenior City
- Concord United
- Fountain City UMC
- Memorial UMC, Clinton
- Middlebrook Pike UMC
- Valley Church

Bronze

- Bethel UMC, Amherst
- Christ UMC
- Irwin's Chapel
- Jacksboro UMC
- Rocky Top UMC
- Second UMC

Honorable Mention

- Asbury UMC Clinton
- Beaver Ridge UMC
- Cedar Lane UMC
- Church Street UMC
- Haven Chapel UMC
- First Farragut UMC
- Kingston UMC
- Mt. Zion UMC
- Oliver Springs UMC

Three Rivers District

Gold

- *Not applicable*

Silver

- Trinity, Greeneville

Bronze

- *Not applicable*

Honorable Mention

- Love's Memorial
- Pruitt Hill
- Tate Chapel

== == == END OF REPORT == == ==

VI.e.1 SMALL MEMBERSHIP CONGREGATION TEAM

The mission of the Small Church Membership Committee of the Holston Conference is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world, so they will be more vital in mission and ministry and bear fruit within their local churches. The group, chaired by Pastor Annette Warren, determined that the traditional United Methodist Church classification of a small church as one with less than 125 in average attendance. Following a review of current statistics, the committee 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.” The pandemic has been hard on churches and their congregations logistically, socially, spiritually, financially and emotionally. Congregations have been driven further out of the church doors this year to accommodate social-distancing polices and safety guidelines. Many of the conversations today still revolve around a revised interpretation of the HUB

(Hope, Unity, and Blessings). Ultimately, the group’s Hope is that the expansion of trust and cooperation across all levels will build Unity, which in turn, will provide love and Blessings. Sometimes this love comes through intense prayer. In Scripture, God often cultivates ministry partnerships through the seed of prayer, one church praying for another. My hope in the near future as the pandemic diminishes that the committee will be able to meet in person with more details to come for the small membership church. Any questions and concerns may be directed to the chairperson or any committee members.

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

== == END OF REPORT == ==

VI.e.2 HISPANIC / LATINO LEADERSHIP TEAM

³⁵ for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ³⁶ I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.’ ³⁷ Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? ³⁸ And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? ³⁹ And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?’ ⁴⁰ And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.’ Matthew 25:35-40

It is with great appreciation that we celebrate the work of the established Spanish language congregations and new missions in Holston Conference who are reaching out to their communities, including:

- First UMC – Dayton, TN
- White Oak UMC – Red Bank, TN
- Casa de Dios – Knoxville, TN
- Manantial de Esperanza – Knoxville, TN
- San Juan – Maryville TN
- Roca Eterna – Maryville, TN
- El Ministerio del Espiritu Santo – Sevierville, TN
- Iglesia Rios Agua Viva – Morristown, 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

We give thanks for other mission outreaches that are happening across Holston Conference and for other collaborations and partnerships in this area between Holston churches. We continue to be encouraged by the growing interest shown across Holston conference in reaching out to our Spanish speaking neighbors.

For 30 years the Hispanic/Latino Leadership team has supported our local churches and pastors, and also provided grants to help local English speaking churches reach out to 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

== == == END OF REPORT == == ==

VI.e.2 Equipo de Liderazgo Hispano/Latino de la Conferencia de Holston

³⁵ “Porque tuve hambre y me disteis de comer; tuve sed y me disteis de beber; fui forastero y me acogisteis; ³⁶ estuve desnudo y me disteis de vestir; estuve enfermo y me atendisteis; estuve en la cárcel y me visitasteis”.

³⁷ Entonces los justos le responderán: “Señor, ¿cuándo te vimos hambriento y te dimos de comer, o sediento y te dimos de beber? ³⁸ ¿Y cuándo te vimos forastero y te acogimos, o desnudo y te vestimos? ³⁹ ¿Y cuándo te vimos enfermo o en la cárcel y te visitamos?” ⁴⁰ Y el Rey les responderá: “En verdad os digo que en cuanto lo hicisteis a uno de estos mis hermanos más pequeños, a mí lo hicisteis.” Mateo 25:35-40

Así que es con gran aprecio que celebramos el trabajo de las congregaciones y misiones en español establecidas en Holston que están acercándose a sus comunidades, incluyendo:

- First UMC, Dayton, TN
- White Oak UMC, Red Bank, TN
- Casa de Dios, Knoxville, TN
- Manantial de Esperanza, Knoxville, TN
- San Juan, Maryville TN
- Roca Eterna, Maryville, TN
- El Ministerio del Espíritu Santo, Sevierville, TN
- Iglesia Rios Agua Viva, Morristown, TN
- Todos Los Niños de Dios, Unicoi, TN
- Manantial de Vida, Abingdon, VA
- Puerto del Cielo, Galax, VA
- Nacimiento de Fe, Hillsville, VA
- First UMC, Pulaski, VA

Damos las gracias por otros acercamientos misioneros que están ocurriendo en la Conferencia de Holston, y por otras colaboraciones y asociaciones en esta área entre las iglesias de Holston. Continuamos siendo alentados por el creciente interés mostrado en toda la Conferencia de Holston en acercarnos a nuestros vecinos de habla hispana.

Durante casi 30 años, el Equipo de Liderazgo Hispano/Latino ha apoyado a nuestras iglesias y pastores locales y también ha proporcionado subvenciones para ayudar a las iglesias locales de habla inglesa a llegar de nuevas maneras a sus vecinos de habla hispana. También estamos proporcionando fondos para ayudar a la formación y el desarrollo de nuestros pastores de habla hispana.

Estamos interesados en hablar con cualquier persona de la Conferencia de Holston que esté interesada en desarrollar o ayudar con los ministerios hispanos/latinos y el alcance comunitario. Por favor, póngase en contacto con nosotros si desea participar en nuestro trabajo o si podemos ayudarle en su ministerio.

Presentado Por, Mike Feely, Chair
865-719-9715 revfeely@yahoo.com

== == == END OF REPORT == == ==

VI.f COMMITTEE ON SEXUAL ETHICS AND BOUNDARIES

The Holston Conference takes a strong stance on the practice of healthy boundaries and sexuality by our clergy. We would like to thank the Cabinet for its support of our work. I would also like to thank all those serving on the Committee.

This year, our main focus has been on planning the Quadrennial Sexual Ethics and Boundaries Training that our clergy are required to take. Four years ago, we were easily able to gather in person for these trainings. While we are grateful that in-person gatherings are possible again, we know that many are still cautious. Much of our energy has been spent envisioning what form the training will take this year. At the time of this writing, we do not know exactly what form the training will take. By the time you read this, we hope to have details in place. Our hope is that each Pastor will learn something that is valuable to your ministry and to your local church. Misconduct anywhere makes ministry more difficult everywhere.

Lastly, we are continuing our ongoing work. We worked to train Licensed Local Pastors on both our Sexual Ethics Policy and Social Media Policy. We are continuing to develop tools to use the Sexual Harassment video to help guide discussion in Local Churches and among Pastor Parish Relations Committees. Material is also being developed for the local churches to help outline our reporting policies. Thank you all for your support of our work over the past year.

Submitted by, Rev. Caleb Pitkin, Chair

== == END OF REPORT == ==

A word from the Secretary of the Annual Conference regarding Sexual Ethics and Boundaries: Quadrennial Training

Each quadrennium, for many years, the annual conference has provided a mandatory Sexual Ethics and Boundaries training. After consulting with Bishop Wallace-Padgett and the appointive cabinet, we will be offering this training on the following dates:

- 9/8/2022 (Thurs) Online
- 9/9/2022 (Fri) Ooltewah UMC, Chattanooga, TN
- 9/10/2022 (Sat) First Farragut UMC, Knoxville, TN
- 9/12/2022 (Mon) State Street UMC, Bristol, VA
- 9/22/2022 (Thurs) Online
- 10/4/2022 (Tues) Online
- 10/22/2022 (Sat) Online

Please note that we are offering both a virtual and an in person element for these trainings. You only need to attend either a virtual or an in-person event--not both. You should also note that there will be size limitations on the virtual events. We are setting the maximum group size at 50. The slots will be filled on a first come basis. The

virtual sessions will require viewing videos and reading ahead of the online session. You will also need to engage in online interaction with other members of the group. These will be monitored by the presenter and he will certify that you have participated at an appropriate level with the material.

The in-person events will be limited in size based on the venue of the event and are also a first come event.

The cost of these trainings will be borne by the annual conference. The only cost for the in-person events will be for the lunch meal.

Attendance at this event is mandatory for all pastors under appointment in the annual conference. This includes those pastors that are serving in an extension ministry or an appointment beyond the local church. Retired ministers, except those serving, are exempt from this training. Please note, that with three in person and four online options there are no make-up sessions.

Submitted by, Rev. Terry Goodman, Conference Secretary

== == END OF REPORT == ==

VII BOARD OF ORDAINED MINISTRY (BOM)

The Board of Ordained Ministry continued to do its work in 2021 as the pandemic continued; albeit differently, as we did in 2020. Technology has become a tool we never imagined we would use to the degree we have. I am grateful for our own Board of Ordained Ministry Members, and Conference staff who have enabled us to continue our work; especially as we conducted all interviews for Commissioning, Full Connection, and recommendations for Associate Members by Zoom in 2021. Many organizations have had to look at their processes during this time and our Board certainly has. We now find ourselves considering what best practices we developed during the last two years that we wish to continue as we anticipate returning to In-person interviews in the Fall of 2022.

The work of the Board of Ordained Ministry is certainly not limited to those nominated and elected to serve there, nor is it limited to the Conference Office staff persons who provide essential support for our work. We could not do the work we do without those who do the work of discernment in the local church with those feeling called to ministry, those who serve on the District Committees on Ministry, the District Registrars, the District Administrative Assistants, and the District Superintendents who continued to work at identifying and certifying candidates for ministry. It is important to remember that this work is not solely the work of clergy but includes many laity from our Annual Conference who serve on our Conference Board and District Committees on Ministry. I want to express my appreciation for the many hours laity and clergy spend in meetings, reading candidate materials and interviewing candidates for Certification, for Associate & Provisional Membership, and Full Connection Membership. I also want to express our appreciation to Sue Weber, Brandy Williams and Terry Goodman who ensure our work is carried out smoothly. We are sad to say “good-bye” to Sue Weber who has now retired, and we wish her well in her retirement.

Throughout the year, our teams find there is an ongoing need to refine our policies, in order to provide consistency and clarity in the many areas in which we are charged with communicating with laity and clergy of our Annual Conference. Again, my thanks to those who give many hours for this work of ongoing refinement.

Despite the continuing pandemic our teams have continued to assess, interview, and certify candidates. We held a Candidacy Summit. Local Pastor Licensing School, Course of Study and Seminary Classes have continued. Distribution of Materials and Interviews for those seeking Associate, Provisional and Full Connection Membership in the Annual Conference continue to take place as well.

Many of our clergy missed having the annual Ministers Convocation in February of 2021 but were able to regather in 2022. As is true with so much, we experienced the loss of not having the opportunity for connection with our clergy colleagues and the opportunity to grow together at Convocation, Annual Conference and District Clergy gatherings.

At the 2021 Annual Conference we acknowledged the retirement of twenty-two clergy whose combined ministry was a total of 545.75 years of service to God’s Church.

On Friday, August 27, we were able to gather with limited numbers for a Service of Ordination and Commissioning at First Broad Street, Kingsport. That evening Bishop Taylor led the Commissioning of 13 Provisional Members, the Ordination of 2 Full Connection Deacons, the Ordination of 10 Full Connection Elders, and the Recognition of 2 Associate Members.

Despite the challenges the pandemic continued to present, we have pressed on, and we remained adaptive in our work together. The work of “making disciple of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world” goes on!

Submitted by, Rev. Mickey W. Rainwater, Chair

== == == END OF REPORT == == ==

The following is informational and is designed for sharing with pastors and local churches.

FAQ's

1. What is Safe Gatherings?

Safe Gatherings is a process wherein a person has a background check, sexual predator list check, motor vehicle check, credit check, reference check, and undergoes a 2 hour training in issues related to boundaries.

2. Is Safe Gatherings the same as Safe Sanctuaries?

No. It is not. It is unfortunate that the names are so similar. Safe Sanctuaries references the policies that each local church is tasked with creating that relate to boundary issues in the local church. Safe Gatherings is a tool that could be used as part of a Safe Sanctuary policy, but is not a policy. It is the background check process.

3. Why are we discussing/focusing on Safe Gatherings?

Safe Gatherings has been used to screen all persons that enter the Candidacy stage since late 2019. It has provided the background, motor vehicle, sexual predator registry, and credit check that is required for candidates by the *Book of Discipline*. It has also been used in relation to Other Fellowship pastors to meet the *Book of Discipline* requirements. After discussion in the cabinet and with the Board of Ordained Ministry, it has been decided that ALL ministers of the annual conference will be Safe Gatherings certified (have completed the Safe Gatherings process.) This should be seen as an expression of the concern and care that the Cabinet and BOM have for the churches of our annual conference.

4. Will this be a requirement?

Yes. It will. The Bishop and Cabinet feel strongly that all of our ministers should engage in a background check process and that the churches should know that their pastors have successfully completed the Safe Gatherings certification process.

5. When does this requirement begin?

We are informing the pastors and the churches of this requirement so that pastors can begin the certification process on January 1, 2023. By the time pastoral consultations happen in the fall of 2023, all pastors should be able to present to their District Superintendent a copy of their Safe Gatherings certification. We give this lead time to allow pastors and churches to plan for the cost of this certification to be placed in their 2023 budgets.

6. How much does the Safe Gatherings certification cost?

Currently, the cost is approximately \$75 for a certification that lasts for three years. You should note, however, that in some circumstances it might cost more depending on where the pastor may have lived (i.e. out of country adds cost) in the last seven years.

7. Is this a one time cost?

No. This is not a one time cost. Part of the Safe Gathering process is that every three years, the person must complete the process again. This provides a fairly up-to-date picture of the background of the pastors serving our churches.

8. What if I forget to get certified in three years?

As part of the process, you will be informed by Safe Gatherings that your three year certification is about to expire and that you need to once again go through the certification process.

9. I have never even received a speeding ticket and have no trouble with boundary issues, why do I have to be certified?

We understand that for most all of the pastors, this is probably true. However, there are always the outliers that may have had issues that never got reported. For the safety of our churches the Safe Gathering process will help us better insure that the outliers, who have issues, are effectively tagged and we can address issues that might have happened that could cause problems in the parish.

Submitted by, Rev. Terry Goodman, Conference Secretary / Director of Clergy Services

== == == END OF REPORT == == ==

VIII GROUPS RELATED TO THE CABINET AND ORDAINED MINISTRY

VIII.d CENTER FOR WELLBEING SUPERVISORY COMMITTEE

Greetings on behalf of The Holston Center for Wellbeing Supervisory Committee! Our committee has the pleasure of supporting the ministry of Rev. Kathy Heustess, Director of the Holston Center for Wellbeing and Pastoral Counselor for the Holston Conference.

During this past year, Kathy engaged in the work of counseling throughout the Holston Conference in a variety of ways. First, Kathy led four clergy groups. The groups were held in Chattanooga, Knoxville, Johnson City, and Emory, VA . Each clergy group met both in person and by Zoom. The following books were read by participants in the group: Tempered Resilience, The Gifts of Imperfection, and Freeing Jesus.

Second, Kathy met this year with individual clergy members, clergy families, and church staff members. While some counseling sessions were conducted in person, a larger percentage of sessions this year were conducted virtually using Telehealth.

In addition to counseling and leading clergy groups, Kathy has given presentations on boundaries at Local Pastor Licensing School. She has also met with clergy in the Three Rivers District and Scenic South Districts

to talk about clergy health. Resources used for the clergy health sessions have come from a study done in North Carolina as well as a book entitled Faithful and Fractured.

In the past year, The Holston Center for Wellbeing introduced podcasts by Rev. Dr. Mark Hicks. Mark formerly served in Holston Conference but now serves elsewhere. His background is in both pastoral work as well as counseling.

Kathy has continued her work with the Sexual Ethics and Boundaries committee. This group has been working on a service of reconciliation, a packet of resources, and a letter to congregations receiving a woman pastor. The other team Kathy has worked with this year is the Critical Incident Response Team.

The Holston Center for Wellbeing Supervisory Committee continues to be pleased to support all the ways Kathy provides pastoral care in the Holston Conference. We are blessed to have Kathy available to listen to us and teach us.

Submitted by, Rev. Laura Plaster, Chair

= = = = END OF REPORT = = = =

VIII.e CRITICAL INCIDENT RESPONSE TEAM (CIRT)

The Critical Incident Response Team (CIRT) is composed of laity and clergy who respond, at the request of the bishop and district superintendents, to traumatic incidents that occur in local congregations. This includes incidents such as: 1) clergy or staff misconduct, 2) extreme clergy/congregation conflict, 3) the traumatic death of a clergy or staff member.

CIRT serves in a supportive capacity in these situations by providing a safe, confidential environment for congregations to process their experiences as they pertain to the critical incident. CIRT also makes recommendations to the bishop, district superintendents, and church leadership regarding positive ways for churches to move forward in their mission following a critical incident.

CIRT responded to three critical incidents in Holston Conference during 2021.

Members of CIRT receive training each year to assist them in their duties. In 2021, Dr. Karen McClintock provided a one-day training seminar on helping people to overcome trauma.

I wish to express my appreciation to the laity and clergy who serve on CIRT for the care they give to the churches of The Holston Conference.

Submitted by, Rev. Bob Ruth, CIRT Coordinator

= = = = END OF REPORT = = = =

IX CONFERENCE COUNCIL ON FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION (CCFA)

Thank you to 683 churches for your faithfulness to the church and our mission in paying at least a portion of the 10% tithe. This enabled Holston Conference to fund the many ministries within the conference budget to make a difference in the lives of people in our communities and around the world. Tithe receipts were up \$248,187.48 which is 3.15% percent over 2020 for total receipts of \$8,132,395.33. The approved budget for 2021 was \$8,742,252.

After receiving budget requests, CCFA met in early March to develop a 2023 budget to submit to the Annual Conference for approval. At this meeting, CCFA made three significant decisions related to the budget to be submitted. The first is to submit a budget with almost all ministry areas funded at 100% rather than asking ministry areas to cut budgets as has been the custom in the past few years. Related to that, CCFA gives priority funding to Holston ministry areas with shortfalls being absorbed in the amount sent to GCFA for conference apportionments. Next, CCFA requested Personnel Relations Committee immediately freeze all administrative level hiring to include replacing personnel who exit existing positions and that either the Conference Strategy Team reactivate the Sub-Committee on Conference Staffing or PRC undertake a comprehensive study on the level of staffing needed in Holston. Third, the recommendation coming from CCFA for salaries of district superintendents is to recommend that district superintendents salaries be the same as for 2022 as there is further study done on the formula used in past years.

RECOMMENDATIONS AND GUIDELINES

In light of shrinking tithe contributions, with 55 of our churches paying no tithe in 2021 and an additional 110 paying no tithe in 2020 or 2021, a task force made up of representatives from cabinet, CCFA, and Board of Pensions was formed and charged with researching whether or not the 10% tithe continues to be the way to fund ministries of the conference and general church. After researching options including returning to an apportionment system or tithe with apportionments to general church the recommendation is to continue our current system. Based on the recommendation of this task force, 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 has referred the formula used for the past few years for study and revision and recommends a one year freeze on salaries of district superintendents. For 2023 we recommend the salary of the district superintendents to be \$107,486.00 which is the same amount as 2022.
- 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. Any requisition in excess of \$10,000 requires signature of head of team, committee, council, board and the corresponding staff representative.

- 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 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 2022 Conference Journal will be contracted by the office of the Secretary of the annual conference and the price announced. 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 2022 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 member with those clergy who are not serving in the local 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.

Submitted by, Carolyn L. Kidd, President & F. Richard Cherry, Treasurer

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Holston Conference of The United Methodist Church Benevolent Giving Comparison

Categories	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017
3000 - Peace With Justice	\$ 1,411.32	\$ 2,384.50	\$ 2,420.94	\$ 3,815.92	\$ 3,162.78
3100 - Native American Ministries	\$ 3,027.00	\$ 3,059.50	\$ 2,763.00	\$ 4,219.70	\$ 2,549.01
3200 - World Communion	\$ 4,941.00	\$ 2,115.50	\$ 3,617.07	\$ 5,864.43	\$ 5,433.82
3300 - UMCOR Sunday (One Great Hour)	\$ 15,264.50	\$ 5,753.00	\$ 21,705.65	\$ 24,805.78	\$ 25,543.46
3400 - Methodist Student	\$ 1,350.00	\$ 2,578.00	\$ 2,634.88	\$ 2,687.75	\$ 1,989.62
3500 - Youth Service Fund	\$ 407.50	\$ 175.00	\$ 1,267.25	\$ 508.55	\$ 553.50
3600 - Human Relations Day	\$ 1,497.00	\$ 3,672.23	\$ 2,693.10	\$ 3,323.62	\$ 2,969.01
4000 - AC Special Sunday Offerings	\$ 170.00	\$ 405.00	\$ 220.00	\$ 225.00	\$ 220.00
5000 - International Advance Specials	\$ 126,433.83	\$ 72,142.96	\$ 98,346.71	\$ 92,369.63	\$ 97,825.05
5100 - United States Advance Specials	\$ 71,191.05	\$ 90,896.31	\$ 80,377.52	\$ 100,202.34	\$ 72,964.09
5200 - UMCOR	\$ 384,544.78	\$ 273,851.59	\$ 271,909.80	\$ 331,177.88	\$ 804,737.69
6000 - Conference Initiated	\$ 672,227.68	\$ 557,165.58	\$ 867,459.58	\$ 879,817.23	\$ 1,136,606.08
7200 - World Service Special Gifts	\$ 170.00	\$ 145.00	\$ 170.00	\$ 100.00	\$ -
Total Benevolences	\$ 1,282,635.66	\$ 1,014,344.17	\$ 1,355,585.50	\$ 1,449,117.83	\$ 2,154,554.11

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Membership Statistics - January 1 - December 31, 2021

District	1	2a	2b	2c	2d	2e	2f	3a	3b	3c	3d	3e	3f	4	
	Total Professing Members Reported at the Close of Last Year - 2020	Received this year by Profession of Faith through Confirmation - 2021	Received this year by Profession of Faith Other Than through Confirmation - 2021	Membership Restored by Affirmation of Faith - 2021	Added by Correction - 2021	Transferred in from another United Methodist Church - 2021	Transferred in from a Non-United Methodist Church - 2021	Removed by Charge Conference Action - 2021	Withdrawn from Professing Membership - 2021	Removed by Correction - 2021	Transferred out to another United Methodist Church - 2021	Transferred out to a Non-United Methodist Church - 2021	Deceased - 2021	TOTAL PROFESSING MEMBERS Reported at the Close of This Year - 2021	Gain (Loss) in EOY Membership during 2021
AP - APPALACHIAN DISTRICT	14,114	18	40	7	19	34	21	2	5	76	23	48	321	13,778	(336)
CM - CLINCH MOUNTAIN DISTRICT	12,233	27	7	0	0	26	21	0	13	92	28	21	190	11,970	(263)
HI - HIWASSEE DISTRICT	12,570	11	43	1	7	46	18	23	9	19	33	24	183	12,274	(296)
MV - MOUNTAIN VIEW DISTRICT	13,729	34	17	0	5	31	15	138	22	95	38	38	219	13,459	(270)
NR - NEW RIVER DISTRICT	16,486	15	19	8	22	15	13	6	78	61	38	21	271	16,675	189
SM - SMOKY MOUNTAIN DISTRICT	21,692	48	52	14	96	88	44	5	19	192	61	47	227	21,254	(438)
SS - SCENIC SOUTH DISTRICT	21,415	40	23	31	14	73	54	0	52	56	51	35	245	20,693	(722)
TR - THREE RIVERS DISTRICT	13,331	58	28	9	122	50	26	36	17	4	22	17	169	13,312	(19)
TV - TENNESSEE VALLEY DISTRICT	28,626	61	105	3	9	156	63	83	44	42	89	52	335	28,384	(242)
2021 DISTRICT STATISTICAL TOTALS:	154,196	312	334	73	294	519	275	293	259	637	383	303	2,160	151,799	(2,397)

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LINE ITEM PROPOSED BUDGET 2023

Holston Conference of The United Methodist Church Proposed 2023 Budget Requests Description	2021 Actual Expenditures	2021 Approved Budget	2022 Approved Budget	2023 Proposed Budget
Cabinet	\$1,423,523	\$1,507,019	\$1,534,402	\$1,549,402
Communications	\$463,423	\$373,232	\$463,137	\$577,776
Information Technology	\$90,928	\$100,000	\$194,114	\$116,600
Ministry Teams	\$1,229,004	\$1,268,117	\$1,264,696	\$1,268,472
Emerging Ministries	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Annual Conference	\$81,918	\$103,125	\$105,175	\$183,975
Commission on Archives and History	\$45,000	\$29,000	\$27,750	\$27,200
Board of Ordained Ministry	\$240,286	\$279,047	\$268,931	\$289,853
Board of Higher Education	\$672,077	\$675,593	\$590,068	\$577,691
Groups Related to the Cabinet and BOM	\$163,766	\$201,956	\$185,043	\$187,133
Financial Services	\$624,636	\$602,724	\$619,529	\$522,877
General Church Apportionments/SEJ	\$2,366,804	\$2,529,500	\$2,504,874	\$2,635,240
Lay Ministries	\$400	\$3,200	\$2,750	\$2,750
Pensions/Trustees/Eq Comp/Episcopal	\$508,109	\$503,718	\$504,292	\$522,877
Congregational Development	\$481,230	\$566,021	\$477,491	\$427,242
Totals	\$8,391,103	\$8,742,252	\$8,742,252	\$8,889,088

Budgeted Financial Statement for Period 12 - December

Company#: 1 Name: Holston Conference of the UMC

Fiscal Year Beginning 1/1/2021

Fund Name: 1 Holston Conference General / Department Name: 110 CABINET

Account # Description	Actual YTD 2021	Budget 2021	Budget 2022	Proposed 2023
10043100 Meeting Expenses	\$18,585	\$27,000	\$23,220	\$23,220
10043201 Travel, Meals, Lodging Clinch Mtn	\$2,665	\$9,379	\$8,066	\$8,066
10043202 Travel, Meals, Lodging Appalachian	\$7,569	\$13,997	\$12,037	\$12,037
10043203 Travel, Meals, Lodging Scenic South	\$0	\$6,887	\$5,923	\$5,923
10043204 Travel, Meals, Lodging Hiwassee	\$7,517	\$7,272	\$6,254	\$6,254
10043205 Travel, Meals, Lodging Three Rivers	\$0	\$3,961	\$3,406	\$3,406
10043207 Travel, Meals, Lodging Tennessee Valley	\$879	\$6,383	\$5,489	\$5,489
10043208 Travel, Meals, Lodging Smoky Mountain	\$2,256	\$5,904	\$5,077	\$5,077
10043209 Travel, Meals, Lodging Mountain View	\$11,144	\$6,313	\$5,429	\$5,429
10043212 Travel, Meals, Lodging New River	\$1,559	\$12,904	\$11,099	\$11,099
10046300 Emerging Ministries Training	\$38,231	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$40,000
10046500 Moving Expenses	\$4,708	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$4,000
10047702 New DS Training	\$3,472	\$500	\$500	\$500
10049500 Miscellaneous Expense	\$790	\$1,250	\$1,250	\$1,250
990075000 Salaries	\$1,324,148	\$1,376,269	\$1,417,652	\$1,417,652
Total Cabinet	\$1,423,523	\$1,507,019	\$1,534,402	\$1,549,402

Budgeted Financial Statement for Period 12 - December**Company#: 1 Name: Holston Conference of the UMC****Fiscal Year Beginning 1/1/2021****Fund Name: 1 Holston Conference General / Department Name: 150 COMMUNICATIONS**

Account # Description	Actual YTD 2021	Budget 2021	Budget 2022	Proposed 2023
11043100 Meeting & Travel Expenses	\$464	\$550	\$550	\$400
11043700 Dues & Subscriptions	\$23,413	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$2,000
11043900 Advertising/Promotion	\$20	\$250	\$250	\$200
11044200 Continuing Ed and Training	\$862	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$3,000
11045500 Communications Hardware/Equipment	\$12,509	\$6,000	\$6,000	\$7,500
11045700 Communications Software	\$11,695	\$0	\$0	\$0
11045749 Postage	\$0	\$50	\$50	\$50
11045750 Travel - Director - Communications	\$3,079	\$10,500	\$10,500	\$5,000
11049500 Miscellaneous Expense	\$736	\$0	\$0	\$0
Publications Expenses				
12043200 Meals & Travel	\$2,497	\$5,500	\$5,500	\$2,750
12043300 E-mail hosting for the Call 2	\$474	\$0	\$0	\$500
12043500 Design & Printing	\$356	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$1,500
12049500 Free Lance Writing/Photo/Misc.	\$336	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$1,000
14043600 Web/Internet Development Expenses	\$0	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000
14043605 Video Development	\$4,205	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$3,000
Sub-total Communications Salary				
990075000 Salaries	\$402,776	\$331,382	\$421,287	\$545,876
Total Communications	\$463,423	\$373,232	\$463,137	\$577,776

Budgeted Financial Statement for Period 12 - December**Company#: 1 Name: Holston Conference of the UMC****Fiscal Year Beginning 1/1/2021****Fund Name: 1 Holston Conference General / Department Name: 175 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

Account # Description	Actual YTD 2021	Budget 2021	Budget 2022	Proposed 2023
22043204 Travel-Director-Information Technology	\$0	\$0	\$1,500	\$1,500
22043206 Internet T-1 Charges- Alcoa	\$2,143	\$0	\$0	\$2,300
22043208 Service/Support	\$17,294	\$60,000	\$75,000	\$85,000
22043209 Web Page Hosting	\$7,761	\$8,000	\$6,000	\$6,000
22043210 License & Fees - Domain Renewal	\$549	\$500	\$800	\$800
22043212 Software Purchases	\$4,787	\$6,500	\$21,000	\$6,000
22043213 Hardware Purchases/Past Leases	\$1,320	\$25,000	\$16,000	\$15,000
22043214 Maintenance	\$150	\$0	\$0	\$0
22043500 Technology Grants	\$56,923	\$0	\$0	\$0
990075000 Salaries	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Information Technology	\$90,928	\$100,000	\$120,300	\$116,600

Budgeted Financial Statement for Period 12 - December

Company#: 1 Name: Holston Conference of the UMC

Fiscal Year Beginning 1/1/2021

Fund Name: 1 Holston Conference General / Department Name: 260 DISCIPLESHIP & MINISTRY

TEAMS

Account # Description	Actual YTD 2021	Budget 2021	Budget 2022	Proposed 2023
11043200 Meetings, Meals, Travel Expense	\$0	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200
Leadership Holston	\$0	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000
11043540 African American Ministry Team	-\$550	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
11043570 Travel - Director - Connectional Ministries	\$2,262	\$9,000	\$9,000	\$8,000
11043571 Travel - Associate Director - Connectional Min.	\$2,805	\$7,000	\$7,000	\$7,000
Subtotal	\$4,518	\$20,200	\$20,200	\$19,200
52045003 Meet the Missionaries	\$0	\$500	\$0	\$0
52045008 Mission Cultivation	\$0	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$2,000
52045009 Church & Community Workers	\$73,200	\$106,000	\$106,000	\$106,000
52045020 Missionary Itineration	\$0	\$500	\$1,650	\$500
52045021 Annual Conf Mission Advance Team	\$0	\$7,500	\$5,000	\$5,000
62045018 VIM Committee	\$0	\$100	\$0	\$0
TOTAL MISSIONS MINISTRY TEAM	\$73,200	\$115,600	\$113,650	\$113,500
NURTURE TEAM				
81043110 Meeting Expenses	\$326	\$150	\$150	\$150
81043120 Consultations and Workshops	\$225	\$3,000	\$0	\$0
81043130 Design & Printing	\$15	\$250	\$250	\$250
81043150 LEAD Kids	\$0	\$2,550	\$1,750	\$1,750
81043160 Children's Day	\$0	\$500	\$500	\$500
81043180 Travel - Coordinator - Childrens Ministries	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Sub-total Children's Ministry Team	\$566	\$6,450	\$2,650	\$2,650
91043100 Operating CCYM T/O Designated	\$25,656	\$26,650	\$16,500	\$20,000
91043140 Travel - Coordinator - Youth Ministries	\$572	\$4,000	\$2,000	\$3,000
Total Sub-total Council on Youth Ministries	\$26,228	\$30,650	\$18,500	\$23,000
Adult Ministry				
100043100 Older Adult Ministry	\$29	\$1,350	\$1,100	\$1,500
100043101 Travel - Coordinator - Older Adult Ministries	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
100043107 Young Adult Ministry Grants	\$0	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$0
100043111 Clergy/Spouse Retreat	\$0	\$1,000	\$0	\$0
100043114 AT Chaplaincy	\$0	\$1,500	\$0	\$0
Total Sub-total Adult Ministry	\$29	\$5,350	\$2,600	\$1,500
Camping Office				
111043103 Office Expenses (Telephone, Supplies, Postage)	\$60,500	\$60,500	\$47,970	\$47,970
Camping Staff Support & Benefits				
112043101 Salaries and Benefits T/O Designated	\$487,255	\$487,255	\$490,468	\$499,302
Outreach Advocacy				
121043200 Meetings, Meals, Travel Expenses	\$0	\$250	\$150	\$150
122045005 Emerging Ministries	\$0	\$800	\$800	\$800
122045006 Training and Networking Events	\$0	\$200	\$200	\$200
Total Sub-total Out Reach Advocacy	\$0	\$1,250	\$1,150	\$1,150
132042006 Virginia Chaplaincy Service	\$21,600	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000
132042008 Poverty Action Team	\$6,750	\$7,000	\$7,000	\$7,000
Total Sub-total	\$28,350	\$27,000	\$27,000	\$27,000

Holston Conference General / Department Name: 260 DISCIPLESHIP & MINISTRY TEAMS - *Continued*

Account # Description	Actual YTD 2021	Budget 2021	Budget 2022	Proposed 2023
142045002 Holston Camp Scholarships	\$900	\$3,600	\$3,500	\$3,500
Ethnic Camping Grants	\$2,700	\$500	\$500	\$500
142045003 Handicap Accessibility Grants	\$422	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000
Total Sub-total Grants	\$4,022	\$6,100	\$6,000	\$6,000
162044103 Prison Ministry	\$0	\$2,700	\$2,500	\$2,500
162044104 Ethnic Minority Local Church Relations	\$3,500	\$3,150	\$3,000	\$3,000
162044106 Creation Care Task Force	\$0	\$500	\$500	\$500
Emerging Ministry Opportunities	\$0	\$26,650	\$16,250	\$0
162044108 Strength for the Journey	\$0	\$4,500	\$4,500	\$4,500
162044109 Native American Ministries	\$0	\$500	\$500	\$500
Total Sub-total Grants	\$3,500	\$38,000	\$27,250	\$11,000
Stewardship Ministry Team				
171043101 Meeting Expenses	\$0	\$400	\$400	\$200
Clergy Financial Workshop	\$0	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$0
171043107 Stewardship Travel Expenses	\$6,066	\$5,000	\$0	\$0
Clergy Financial Education	\$0	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$0
171043121 Stewardship Materials/Supplies	\$0	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
Events	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,000
Financial Skills Training	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$800
Stewardship Grants	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$4,000
Stewardship Training	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,000
171043127 Stewardship Summit Leadership Expenses	\$0	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$0
171043129 Provisional Elders Financial Training	\$0	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$0
171043150 Stewardship Cont. Ed.	\$0	\$500	\$500	\$3,500
Total Stewardship Ministry Team	\$6,066	\$15,900	\$10,900	\$13,500
WITNESS MINISTRY TEAM				
184043100 Meeting Expenses	\$4	\$0	\$5,200	\$0
184043102 Smaller Membership Churches/Rural Churches	\$0	\$1,000	\$1,500	\$1,500
184043103 Church Program Grants	\$24,000	\$26,000	\$28,000	\$26,000
184043104 Hispanic Ministries	\$89,200	\$90,000	\$90,000	\$90,000
TOTAL WITNESS MINISTRY TEAM	\$113,204	\$117,000	\$124,700	\$117,500
990075000 Salaries	\$426,650	\$363,512	\$394,508	\$395,050
Total Ministry Teams	\$1,229,004	\$1,268,117	\$1,264,696	\$1,256,472

Budgeted Financial Statement for Period 12 - December**Company#: 1 Name: Holston Conference of the UMC****Fiscal Year Beginning 1/1/2021****Fund Name: 1 Holston Conference General / Department Name: 265 ANNUAL
CONFERENCE SESSIONS**

Account # Description	Actual YTD 2021	Budget 2021	Budget 2022	Proposed 2023
33743101 Meeting Expense	\$39,807	\$3,500	\$3,600	\$4,000
Childcare	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$9,200
Meals	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$10,000
Special Meals	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$6,500
AV Setup	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$12,500
Nursing	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,000
Golf Cart Rental	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$650
Meeting Space	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$6,000
Postage	\$0	\$125	\$75	\$125
Training, Travel, Lodging Conf Sec	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$3,000
Regional and National Meetings	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$500
33743102 At-Large Delegates Expense	\$912	\$32,000	\$32,000	\$32,000
33743103 Conference Leaders Housing	\$8,036	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$35,000
33743105 Printing	\$2,032	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$12,000
33743106 Supplies/Materials	\$638	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$1,500
33743107 Program Expense	\$18,069	\$8,500	\$7,500	\$7,500
33743108 Honorariums	\$0	\$1,000	\$1,250	\$3,000
33743109 Stoles & Bibles for Ordained	\$2,323	\$500	\$750	\$1,000
33743110 New Clergy Training	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
33743111 Miscellaneous Expense	\$331	\$6,000	\$5,000	\$2,500
33743112 Alternate Delegates to Gen Conf	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$6,000
33743115 Voting Expense	\$9,770	\$0	\$0	\$30,000
Total Annual Conference Sessions	\$81,918	\$103,125	\$101,675	\$183,975

Budgeted Financial Statement for Period 12 - December**Company#: 1 Name: Holston Conference of the UMC****Fiscal Year Beginning 1/1/2021****Fund Name: 1 Holston Conference General / Department Name: 360
COMMISSION ON ARCHIVES & HISTORY**

Account # Description	Actual YTD 2021	Budget 2021	Budget 2022	Proposed 2023
41041002 Contractual Services	\$45,000	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$25,000
41041003 Membership Dues	\$0	\$4,000	\$500	\$200
Equipment	\$0	\$0	\$2,000	\$2,000
Meals and Travel	\$0	\$0	\$250	\$0
Total Archive and History	\$45,000	\$29,000	\$27,750	\$27,200

Budgeted Financial Statement for Period 12 - DecemberCompany#: 1 Name: **Holston Conference of the UMC**

Fiscal Year Beginning 1/1/2021

Fund Name: 1 Holston Conference General / Department Name: 370 BOARD OF ORDAINED MINISTRY

Account # Description	Actual YTD 2021	Budget 2021	Budget 2022	Proposed 2023
10043102 Meeting Expense	\$1,603	\$5,000	\$6,000	\$6,000
10043103 Travel/Meals/Lodging	\$0	\$10,000	\$2,500	\$10,000
10043104 Travel-Director-Clergy Services & Conf Sec.	\$350	\$3,500	\$2,500	\$3,000
10043105 Regional & National Meetings	\$40	\$3,750	\$1,750	\$3,750
10043107 Miscellaneous	\$54	\$0	\$0	\$0
10043200 Continuing Education: Director of Clergy Services	\$9	\$3,000	\$2,000	\$3,000
10043201 Staff Training & Development	\$0	\$1,500	\$1,000	\$1,000
Total Administration (subtotal)	\$2,056	\$26,750	\$15,750	\$26,750
10046001 Ministerial Assessment	\$607	\$16,000	\$16,000	\$16,000
10046002 Licensing School	\$8,771	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000
10046004 Bishop's Ordination Retreat	\$0	\$750	\$1,000	\$1,000
10046005 Ordination	\$198	\$0	\$0	\$0
10046006 Seminary Visits	\$0	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$6,000
10046007 Vocational Discernment/Candidacy Summit	\$0	\$4,000	\$1,000	\$1,500
10046008 Sexual Ethics Training	\$500	\$0	\$0	\$0
10046010 Contractual	\$400	\$1,400	\$4,600	\$7,100
10046050 Residency in Ministry	\$0	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000
10046250 Eight Year Assessment	\$0	\$5,000	\$1,000	\$1,500
10046265 Clergy Gathering	\$0	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$2,000
10046300 Miscellaneous Office Expense	\$4,623	\$5,000	\$4,000	\$4,000
10046350 Unplanned Initiatives	\$0	\$7,500	\$2,500	\$6,000
10047009 BOM Training	-\$350	\$0	\$0	\$0
10049500 Supplies	\$115	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subtotal	\$14,864	\$55,650	\$46,100	\$55,100
990075000 Salaries	\$223,366	\$196,647	\$207,081	\$208,003
Total Board of Ordained Ministry	\$240,286	\$279,047	\$268,931	\$289,853

Budgeted Financial Statement for Period 12 - DecemberCompany#: 1 Name: **Holston Conference of the UMC**

Fiscal Year Beginning 1/1/2021

Fund Name: 1 Holston Conference General / Department Name: 380 BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION

Account # Description	Actual YTD 2021	Budget 2021	Budget 2022	Proposed 2023
61043100 Meeting, Meals, Travel Expense	16.91	1,000.00	820.00	0.00
62042002 ETSU	20,250.00	20,520.00	16,826.00	17,000.00
62042003 Radford University	20,250.00	20,520.00	16,826.00	17,000.00
62042004 UT Chattanooga	20,250.00	20,520.00	16,826.00	17,000.00
62042005 UT Knoxville	20,250.00	20,520.00	16,826.00	17,000.00
62042006 UVA College at Wise	20,250.00	20,520.00	16,826.00	17,000.00
Total Sub-total Wesley Foundation Program	101,250.00	102,600.00	84,130.00	85,000.00
62043001 Capital Improvements	45,000.00	45,000.00	36,900.00	37,000.00
Total Sub-total Capital Improvements	45,000.00	45,000.00	36,900.00	37,000.00
63042001 Emory & Henry	50,000.04	50,000.00	10,000.00	0.00
63042002 Hiwassee	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
63042003 Tennessee Wesleyan	50,000.04	50,000.00	10,000.00	0.00
63043001 E & H Campus Ministry	7,200.00	0.00	5,904.00	6,000.00
63043002 Hiwassee Campus Ministry	0.00	7,200.00	0.00	0.00
63043003 TWC Campus Ministry	7,200.00	7,200.00	5,904.00	6,000.00
Total Sub-total - Conference Colleges	114,400.08	114,400.00	31,808.00	12,000.00
Total Board of Higher Education	260,666.99	263,000.00	153,658.00	134,000.00
Sub-total Board of Higher Ed Salaries				
990075000 Salaries	411,427.60	412,593.00	436,410.00	443,691.00
Total Sub-total Board of Higher Ed Salaries	411,427.60	412,593.00	436,410.00	443,691.00
Total Board of Higher Education	672,094.59	675,593.00	590,068.00	577,691.00

Budgeted Financial Statement for Period 12 - December

Company#: 1 Name: Holston Conference of the UMC

Fiscal Year Beginning 1/1/2021

Fund Name: 1 Holston Conference General / Department Name: 480 GROUPS RELATED TO CAB & BOM

Account # Description	Actual YTD 2021	Budget 2021	Budget 2022	Proposed 2023
Comm on Healthy Sexuality & Pastoral Excellence				
Executive Committee	\$0	\$3,000	\$2,250	\$2,250
COSROW	\$0	\$4,000	\$3,000	\$3,000
Pastoral Training	\$0	\$7,000	\$5,250	\$5,250
Safe Sanctuaries/Boundary Training	\$0	\$1,000	\$750	\$750
CWART	\$0	\$3,500	\$2,625	\$2,625
Created by God Healthy Sexuality for Teens	\$0	\$1,500	\$1,125	\$1,125
Subtotal	\$0	\$20,000	\$15,000	\$15,000
13000201 Travel/Lodging/Meals-Director	\$1,614	\$8,500	\$8,500	\$8,500
13000202 Travel/Lodging/Meals-Assoc. Director	\$26	\$100		\$0
13000301 Continuing Education-Director	\$269	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$2,500
13000310 Supervisory Committee	\$0	\$250	\$0	\$0
13000311 Staff Supervision	\$0	\$400	\$900	\$900
13000331 Telephone	\$0	\$1,750	\$1,750	\$1,750
13000332 Office Supplies	\$789	\$950	\$950	\$950
13000333 Office Rent/Utilities/Maintenance	\$18,135	\$17,016	\$17,016	\$17,016
13000334 Office Equipment/Renovation	\$674	\$700	\$700	\$700
13000336 Advocacy Training	\$117	\$1,500	\$0	\$0
13000337 Cell Phone Charges	\$780	\$600	\$780	\$780
13000338 CWART	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
13000340 Misc/Contingency/Testing	\$0	\$100	\$100	\$100
13000341 Professional Fees	\$717	\$775	\$775	\$775
Total subtotal - Pastoral Counseling Office	\$23,120	\$35,141	\$33,971	\$33,971
Sub-total Groups Related Salaries				
990075000 Salaries	\$140,646	\$126,815	\$136,072	\$138,133
Total Sub-total Groups Related Salaries	\$140,646	\$126,815	\$136,072	\$138,133
Totals	\$163,766	\$181,956	\$185,043	\$187,104

Budgeted Financial Statement for Period 12 - December
Company#: 1 Name: Holston Conference of the UMC
Fiscal Year Beginning 1/1/2021
Fund Name: 1 Holston Conference General / Department Name: 590 CFA

Account # Description	Actual YTD 2021	Budget 2021	Budget 2022	Proposed 2023
21043201 Financial Services Travel	\$133.61	\$12,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
22043208 Service/Support	\$9,505.71	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$9,505.71
22043209 Data Base	\$14,235.41	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
22043211 Training	\$593.90	\$5,000.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
22043212 Software Purchases	\$12,035.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
32143101 Office Supplies	\$21,699.79	\$20,250.00	\$20,250.00	\$20,250.00
32143103 Postage	\$12,827.01	\$22,000.00	\$22,000.00	\$22,000.00
32143105 Printing	\$209.85	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
32243104 Cellular Telephone	\$10,304.08	\$11,000.00	\$11,000.00	\$11,000.00
33243106 HCSA Expense	\$0.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
33343102 Office Rent	\$151,920.00	\$151,923.00	\$151,923.00	\$151,923.00
33543101 Equipment Purchases	\$2,189.20	\$1,300.00	\$1,300.00	\$2,000.00
33543102 Equipment Repairs	\$235.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
33543103 Maintenance Agreement Charges	\$6,045.72	\$10,650.00	\$10,650.00	\$10,650.00
33543104 Copier, Postage Machine Lease	\$9,535.08	\$19,500.00	\$19,500.00	\$19,500.00
33643101 Staff Meetings/Relations	\$5,811.76	\$2,600.00	\$2,600.00	\$2,600.00
33643102 Personnel Resource Team	\$0.00	\$4,600.00	\$4,600.00	\$4,600.00
General and Jurisdictional Conference	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00
33643103 Nominations Committee Meeting	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
33643104 CFA Meeting Expense	\$0.00	\$1,100.00	\$1,100.00	\$1,100.00
33643105 Legal Expense	\$20,146.65	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$36,000.00
33643106 Audit Expense	\$28,400.00	\$28,500.00	\$28,500.00	\$30,000.00
33643107 Miscellaneous Expense	\$595.48	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$1,000.00
Total subtotal Conference Offices	\$306,423.25	\$299,423.00	\$289,923.00	\$341,628.71
33843101 Transfer to Journal Fund	\$6,936.00	\$7,000.00	\$7,000.00	\$7,000.00
Total Conference Administration	\$313,359.25	\$306,423.00	\$296,923.00	\$348,628.71
990075000 Salaries	\$491,276.30	\$476,301.00	\$502,606.00	\$438,660.00
Transfer to Pension Cost 960/0110	-\$180,000.00	-\$180,000.00	-\$180,000.00	-\$180,000.00
Subtotal	\$311,276.30	\$296,301.00	\$322,606.00	\$258,660.00
Total Financial Services	\$624,635.55	\$602,724.00	\$619,529.00	\$607,288.71

Budgeted Financial Statement for Period 12 - December
Company#: 1 Name: Holston Conference of the UMC
Fiscal Year Beginning 1/1/2021

Fund Name: 1 Holston Conference General / Department Name: 510 GENERAL CHURCH APPORTIONMENTS

Account # Description	Actual YTD 2021	Budget 2021	Budget 2022	Proposed 2023
11042000 World Service	1,044,706.28	1,292,525.00	1,657,731.00	1,292,525.00
12042000 Black College Fund	139,029.79	187,081.00	223,341.00	187,081.00
13042000 Africa University Fund	31,082.72	42,059.00	49,983.00	42,059.00
14042000 General Administration Fund	123,486.02	159,174.00	196,842.00	159,174.00
15042000 Interdenominational Cooperative Fund	24,044.79	5,596.00	43,789.00	5,596.00
17042000 Episcopal Fund	287,636.69	518,999.00	490,922.00	518,999.00
18041000 Ministerial Education Fund	266,055.79	404,823.00	559,905.00	404,823.00
19042000 Jurisdictional Conference Fund	20,819.00	24,983.00	24,983.00	24,983.00
Total General Church Apportionments	1,936,861.08	2,635,240.00	3,247,496.00	2,635,240.00

Budgeted Financial Statement for Period 12 - December

Company#: 1 Name: Holston Conference of the UMC

Fiscal Year Beginning 1/1/2021

Fund Name: 1 Holston Conference General / Department Name: 591 BOARD OF LAITY

Account # Description	Actual YTD 2021	Budget 2021	Budget 2022	Proposed 2023
10043100 Meeting Expense	\$0	\$350	\$1,400	\$1,400
10043700 Dues & Subscriptions	\$400	\$1,400	\$500	\$500
10043720 Clergy Abuse Task Force	\$0	\$1,000	\$350	\$350
10045501 Assoc. Meeting Expenses	\$0	\$450	\$500	\$500
TOTAL BOARD OF LAITY	\$400	\$3,200	\$2,750	\$2,750

Budgeted Financial Statement for Period 12 - December

Company#: 1 Name: Holston Conference of the UMC

Fiscal Year Beginning 1/1/2021

Fund Name: 1 Holston Conference General / Department Name: 610 Pension/Trustees/Eq Comp/Epis

Account # Description	Actual YTD 2021	Budget 2021	Budget 2022	Proposed 2023
21043100 Meals & Travel	289.38	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00
21043400 Umbrella/B & M Insurance	43,312.26	60,000.00	60,000.00	50,000.00
21043500 Worker's Comp Insurance	8,798.00	9,500.00	9,500.00	9,500.00
TOTAL BOARD OF TRUSTEES	52,399.64	71,000.00	71,000.00	61,000.00
31041000 Salary Supplements	186,745.94	165,000.00	165,000.00	175,000.00
31041003 Supplements-Mission Aid	0.00	35,000.00	35,000.00	35,000.00
31041004 Supplements-Cooperative Parish	0.00	4,500.00	4,500.00	4,500.00
31041005 Meeting Expense	0.00	500.00	500.00	500.00
31051000 Sustentation Payments - Salary	202,076.84	157,000.00	157,000.00	175,000.00
Total subtotal	388,822.78	362,000.00	362,000.00	390,000.00
CONF COMMITTEE ON EPISCOPACY	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
51041000 Meeting, Meal, & Travel Expense	0.00	50.00	50.00	50.00
Episcopal Housing	33,000.00	33,000.00	33,000.00	33,000.00
Episcopal Administrative Cost Share	28,668.00	28,668.00	29,242.00	29,826.84
TOTAL CONF COMMITTEE ON EPISCOPACY	61,668.00	61,718.00	62,292.00	62,876.84
EPISCOPAL DISCRETIONARY FUND				
71041000 Bishop's Discretionary Fund	5,218.65	9,000.00	9,000.00	9,000.00
TOTAL EPISCOPAL DISCRETIONARY FUND	5,218.65	9,000.00	9,000.00	9,000.00
Total Trustees/ EQ Comp/Episcopal	508,109.07	503,718.00	504,292.00	522,876.84

Budgeted Financial Statement for Period 12 - December

Company#: 1 Name: Holston Conference of the UMC

Fiscal Year Beginning 1/1/2021

Fund Name: 1 Holston Conference General / Department Name: 620 CONGREGATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Account # Description	Actual YTD 2021	Budget 2021	Budget 2022	Proposed 2023
122046000 Special Ministries Salary Fund	\$83,510	\$90,000	\$90,000	\$90,000
123031000 Preaching/Sermon Academy - Income	\$0	-\$2,200	\$1,000	\$1,000
123043102 Preaching/Sermon Academy - Expense	\$600	\$4,400	\$4,400	\$4,400
123043210 Travel - Director - Church Dev/Stewardship	\$8,943	\$10,000	\$5,000	\$5,000
123043405 New Church Strategy Support	\$0	\$3,600	\$2,000	\$2,000
123043410 Strategic Revitalization	\$0	\$9,000	\$2,000	\$2,000
123043415 Natural Church Development	\$335	\$700	\$300	\$300
123044201 Leadership Training	\$50	\$1,000	\$500	\$500
123044205 Meetings, Meals, Travel Expense	\$2,724	\$5,700	\$3,000	\$3,000
123044208 Demographics/Research/Planning	\$4,330	\$9,750	\$4,284	\$4,284
123049500 Miscellaneous Expense	\$22	\$100	\$500	\$500
124041000 Church Extension Grants	\$205,020	\$217,000	\$158,223	\$158,223
TOTAL CONGREGATIONAL DEVELOPMENT	\$305,535	\$349,050	\$271,207	\$271,207
Sub-total Congregational Dev Salaries				
990075000 Salaries	\$175,695	\$216,971	\$206,284	\$156,035
Total Congregational Development	\$481,230	\$566,021	\$477,491	\$427,242

== == == END OF REPORT == == ==

2021 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

(100% Tithe paid plus satisfied 4 mission requirements)

411653 Alley's Chapel UMC
 411287 Appalachia UMC
 416713 Bethel UMC
 411881 Chalybeate Springs UMC
 417240 Colonial Heights UMC
 417034 Crossroads UMC
 411505 Dryden UMC
 416906 Emory UMC Kingsport
 416928 Fall Branch UMC
 417067 First Broad Street UMC
 416848 First UMC Church Hill
 411711 First UMC Jonesville
 411802 First UMC Pennington Gap
 417488 First UMC Surgoinsville
 410410 Fort Gibson UMC
 411607 Gate City UMC
 416941 Glen Alpine UMC
 965687 Hales Chapel UMC
 416974 Hermon UMC
 411573 Ingles Chapel UMC
 417001 Kendricks Creek UMC
 417023 Kingsley UMC
 411551 Legion Memorial UMC
 417182 Mafair UMC
 416850 McFerrin UMC
 412191 Midway Memorial UMC
 417205 Morrison Chapel UMC
 411744 Nickelsville UMC
 411345 Nottingham UMC
 416746 Old Union UMC
 412145 Prospect UMC
 417466 Ross Campground UMC
 411414 Rye Cove UMC
 411697 Smith's Chapel UMC
 417103 St Luke UMC
 966000 St Mark UMC Kingsport
 411447 Tacoma UMC
 411323 Trinity UMC Big Stone Gap
 412065 Trinity UMC Wise
 416952 Valley Center UMC
 417320 Vermont UMC

100% TITHE PAYER CHURCHES

(Did not satisfy all missions)

411755 Campground UMC
 416826 Cassidy UMC
 411232 Chance's Chapel UMC
 416883 Clouds Bend UMC
 411403 Coeburn UMC
 411436 Crab Orchard UMC
 411482 Dungannon UMC
 411527 East Stone Gap UMC
 416861 Elm Springs UMC
 412282 Flatwoods UMC
 416963 Grange Hall UMC
 416985 Holly Springs UMC
 411664 Holston View UMC
 416872 Lebanon UMC
 417331 Logans Chapel UMC
 411208 McClure's Chapel UMC
 412236 New Hope UMC
 417353 Okolona UMC
 411824 Pound UMC
 417400 Rock Springs UMC
 411538 Seminary UMC
 411471 Slant UMC
 411813 St Charles UMC
 411961 St Paul UMC
 411367 Three Bells UMC

2021 FIVE STAR CHURCHES AND 100% TITHE CHURCHES - *continued*

Clinch Mountain District

FIVE STAR CHURCHES

(100% Tithe paid plus satisfied 4 mission requirements)

410204 Abingdon UMC
 410693 Beech Grove UMC
 410135 Brumley Gap UMC
 421561 Burkes Garden UMC
 410124 Carvosso UMC
 410523 Chilhowie UMC
 421685 Clearview UMC
 417730 Dailey's Chapel UMC
 410875 Davis Memorial UMC
 965893 Ebenezer UMC
 421184 Elk Garden UMC
 421504 First UMC Richlands
 410762 Lebanon Memorial UMC
 410534 Lebanon UMC Chilhowie
 420954 Midway UMC Cedar Bluff
 410556 Mountain View UMC Chilhowie
 420998 New Cove UMC
 410226 Pleasant View UMC Abingdon
 410363 Reynolds Memorial UMC
 410751 Rich Valley UMC
 410498 Ridgedale UMC
 421036 Roberts Chapel UMC
 410328 St Luke UMC
 410408 State Street UMC
 421696 Steelesburg UMC
 410272 Three Springs UMC
 410671 Wallace UMC
 410237 Wyndale UMC
 411050 Zion Hill UMC
 410578 Zion UMC Damascus

100% TITHE PAYER CHURCHES

(Did not satisfy all missions)

421140 Belfast UMC
 410374 Campground UMC
 965916 Charles Wesley UMC
 410784 Church Hill UMC
 421014 Crabtree UMC
 422224 Elizabeth UMC
 410682 Greendale UMC
 410886 Greenwood UMC
 421628 Looney's Chapel UMC
 421583 Main Street UMC
 410330 Mary's Chapel UMC
 410795 Mountain View UMC Abingdon
 420910 Mt Hermon UMC Tazewell
 420852 Mt Olivet UMC Tazewell
 411015 Paperville UMC
 417810 Pleasant Hill UMC Tazewell
 411152 Quarry UMC
 410977 Shady Grove UMC
 410385 South Bristol UMC
 410716 Tate's Chapel UMC (had large gift)
 410421 Trinity UMC Bristol
 410443 Virginia Avenue UMC Bristol
 411141 Washington Chapel UMC
 410465 Washington Springs UMC
 421071 Wesley UMC Saltville
 422202 Wharf Hill UMC
 410192 Willis Chapel UMC
 410113 Wright's Chapel UMC

Hiwassee District

FIVE STAR CHURCHES

(100% Tithe paid plus satisfied 4 mission requirements)

413628 Allen Memorial UMC
 413710 Benton UMC
 413732 Carlock UMC
 414007 Decatur UMC
 414122 Evensville UMC
 413880 First UMC Copperhill
 419124 First UMC Madisonville
 413641 Keith Memorial UMC
 414474 Mt Zion UMC
 414350 Pleasant Hill UMC
 966454 Reed Chapel UMC
 414337 Spivey UMC
 414406 Tasso UMC
 414177 Ten Mile UMC
 413674 Union Chapel UMC

100% TITHE PAYER CHURCHES

(Did not satisfy all missions)

413606 Apison UMC
 413867 Black Fox UMC
 413765 Charleston UMC
 413798 Chilcutt UMC
 414042 Englewood UMC
 419248 Forkners Chapel UMC
 413878 McDonald UMC
 414202 Niota UMC
 414224 Ooltewah UMC
 413891 Pleasant Grove UMC Cleveland
 414361 Spring City UMC
 414521 Spring Creek UMC
 414463 Vine Grove/Mt Olive UMC
 414417 Wesley Memorial UMC Cleveland
 414100 Wesley Memorial UMC Etowah

2021 FIVE STAR CHURCHES AND 100% TITHE CHURCHES - *continued*

Mountain View District

FIVE STAR CHURCHES

(100% Tithe paid plus satisfied 4 mission requirements)

966396 Boyd Chapel UMC
420692 Burchfield Memorial UMC
420145 Caton's Grove UMC
420522 Cedar Grove UMC New Market
420670 Cedar Grove UMC Rutledge
420123 Chestnut Hill UMC
420247 Christ UMC
420214 Economy UMC
420167 First UMC Dandridge
420305 First UMC Jefferson City
420407 First UMC Morristown
417422 First UMC Rogersville
420761 First UMC White Pine
441262 Glendale UMC
420293 Hardin's Chapel UMC
396374 Hartman's Chapel UMC
418938 Joppa UMC
419911 Mary's Chapel UMC
420497 Mt Pleasant UMC Greeneville
395871 Mt Zion UMC
420613 Mulberry Gap UMC
420475 Ottway UMC
420602 Parrottsville UMC
420646 Pine Grove UMC
420794 Pleasant Hill UMC
419944 Romeo UMC
418951 Shiloh UMC Rutledge
420817 St Clair UMC
965973 Tate Chapel UMC
395277 Trinity UMC Greeneville
420351 Trinity UMC Morristown

100% TITHE PAYER CHURCHES

(Did not satisfy all missions)

420338 Antioch UMC
418995 Beth Car UMC
420076 Bogart's Chapel UMC
420566 Bybee UMC
396135 Edward's Chapel UMC
420544 First UMC Newport
420327 George Street UMC
395938 Grant UMC
420282 Hills Union UMC
415332 Mountain View UMC Claiborne
420316 Mt Hope UMC
419977 New Market UMC
420577 Pleasant Valley UMC
420681 Rutledge UMC
415560 Tazewell UMC
418984 Union UMC
420043 Wesley's Chapel UMC Greeneville

2021 FIVE STAR CHURCHES AND 100% TITHE CHURCHES - *continued*

New River District

FIVE STAR CHURCHES

(100% Tithe paid plus satisfied 4 mission requirements)

422383 Aldersgate UMC
 421823 Auburn UMC
 421207 Bailey UMC
 422361 Belspring UMC
 417956 Bethel UMC
 965530 Bethel UMC Bluefield
 421867 Bishop's Chapel UMC
 421880 Bridle Creek UMC
 422714 Camp Bethel UMC
 422485 Carter Street UMC
 421652 Edgewood UMC Pearisburg
 417967 Fairview UMC
 422075 Falling Branch UMC
 422086 First UMC Galax
 422122 First UMC Hillsville
 421402 First UMC Pearisburg
 422406 First UMC Pulaski
 422053 Floyd UMC
 422213 Forest UMC
 423002 Fort Chiswell UMC
 418211 Fulton UMC
 422656 Glenwood UMC
 421218 Green Valley UMC Eggleston
 422543 Grove UMC
 422532 Huddle Memorial UMC
 418233 King's Grove UMC
 422793 Leonard Memorial UMC
 422758 Liberty Hill UMC
 418255 Marvin UMC
 422281 Max Meadows UMC
 418095 Morgan's Chapel UMC
 422873 Mountain Plains UMC
 417978 Mt Mitchell UMC
 418552 Mt Olivet UMC
 422326 Mt Pleasant UMC
 417832 Mt Zion UMC Bland
 965665 New Mt Olive UMC
 421878 Oakland UMC
 418118 Parrott UMC
 417923 Shiloh UMC Bland
 422645 St Paul UMC
 422601 Thornsprng UMC
 421435 Tip Top UMC
 422736 Willis UMC
 422623 Woodlawn UMC
 421457 Wrights Valley UMC

100% TITHE PAYER CHURCHES

(Did not satisfy all missions)

422100 Asbury UMC
 421231 Bear Springs UMC
 422235 Bethany UMC
 421856 Bethel UMC
 421424 Big Stoney UMC
 422304 Byrnes Chapel UMC
 421947 Calvary UMC
 422680 Cedar Hill UMC
 421891 Central UMC Bland
 422064 Cold Springs UMC
 965984 Crossroads UMC
 421754 Eatons Chapel UMC
 418313 Ebenezer UMC
 421047 First UMC Bluefield
 422042 Fries UMC
 422918 Goshen UMC
 421388 Kathleen Memorial UMC
 422190 Lebanon UMC
 422155 Longview UMC
 417991 Mountain View UMC
 418472 Mountain View UMC
 421275 Mountain View UMC Eggleston
 418610 Mt Ephraim UMC
 422771 Mt Olivet UMC
 422428 Mt Olivet UMC Pulaski
 422348 Mt Vale UMC
 422576 Mt Zion UMC
 422177 Mt Zion UMC
 418632 New Bethel UMC
 418494 Newbern UMC
 965780 Oak Grove UMC
 421812 Pilot UMC
 418415 Providence UMC
 418131 Rockford UMC
 421526 Rocky Gap UMC
 422097 Salem UMC
 417898 Salem UMC Bland
 417912 Shady Grove UMC Bland
 418574 Shiloh UMC
 421834 Sidney UMC
 422463 Wesley Memorial UMC
 422667 West End UMC
 422805 West Galax UMC

2021 FIVE STAR CHURCHES AND 100% TITHE CHURCHES - *continued*

Scenic South District

FIVE STAR CHURCHES

(100% Tithe paid plus satisfied 4 mission requirements)

413047 Brooks Memorial UMC
 412943 Chapel Hill UMC
 412681 Christ UMC
 414144 Fairview UMC
 412464 First-Centenary UMC
 412588 Lookout Mountain UMC
 413003 McKendree UMC
 413060 New Salem UMC
 413127 Pikeville UMC
 413162 Rising Fawn UMC
 413184 Sand Mountain UMC
 412794 Signal Crest UMC
 413220 Signal Mountain UMC
 412806 Simpson UMC
 414304 Soddy UMC
 412726 St Elmo UMC Chattanooga
 412761 St Luke UMC Chattanooga
 413300 Sulphur Springs UMC

100% TITHE PAYER CHURCHES

(Did not satisfy all missions)

412737 Bethlehem-Wiley UMC
 413721 Burks UMC
 412420 Eastdale Village Community UMC
 412486 Flintstone UMC
 413253 Lou's Chapel UMC
 414496 Savannah UMC
 413322 Trenton UMC
 413344 Wauhatchie UMC
 412497 Whiteside UMC

Smoky Mountain District

FIVE STAR CHURCHES

(100% Tithe paid plus satisfied 4 mission requirements)

418905 Binfield UMC
 419363 Broadway UMC
 419762 Camp Ground UMC
 419033 Cedar Bluff UMC
 417683 Cokesbury UMC Knoxville
 418040 Colonial Heights UMC Knoxville
 417843 Ebenezer UMC Knoxville
 419421 Fairview UMC
 418927 First UMC Alcoa
 419066 First UMC Gatlinburg
 419443 First UMC Maryville
 419011 Fox UMC
 419022 Friendsville UMC
 419204 Green Meadow UMC
 419523 Meadow UMC
 419352 Middle settlements UMC
 419647 Mountain View UMC
 419000 Murphy's Chapel UMC
 419374 New Hope UMC
 419545 New Salem UMC
 418643 Pleasant Hill UMC Knoxville
 419682 Pleasant Hill UMC Sevierville
 419578 Roberts UMC
 419738 Seymour UMC
 419170 Shults Grove UMC
 415126 Trinity UMC Lenoir City
 419807 Tuckaleechee UMC
 419820 Vonore UMC
 419773 Walden's Creek UMC
 419751 Wears Valley UMC

100% TITHE PAYER CHURCHES

(Did not satisfy all missions)

419625 Burnett Memorial UMC
 419408 Carpenters UMC
 419237 Fenders UMC
 418186 Hillcrest UMC
 419283 Immanuel UMC
 419168 Logan's Chapel UMC
 419660 Luretta UMC
 414760 Martel UMC
 419534 Middle Creek UMC
 396055 Sand Branch UMC
 419501 St John UMC
 396077 St Paul East UMC
 420748 Trentville UMC
 419454 Union Grove UMC
 419842 Walland UMC
 419716 Webb's Creek UMC

2021 FIVE STAR CHURCHES AND 100% TITHE CHURCHES - *continued*

Tennessee Valley District

FIVE STAR CHURCHES

(100% Tithe paid plus satisfied 4 mission requirements)

417945 Bearden UMC
414680 Beaver Ridge UMC
395951 Bethel UMC Amherst
414703 Bradbury UMC
415104 Central UMC Lenoir City
418027 Church Street UMC
414884 Concord UMC Knox
418107 Emerald Avenue UMC
395995 Fairview UMC Knoxville
418164 Fountain City UMC
414964 Grigsby Chapel UMC
966374 Haven Chapel UMC
414714 Heiskell UMC
415002 Jacksboro UMC
414953 Jonesville UMC Roane
415343 Kern Memorial UMC
418266 Lonsdale UMC
418288 Macedonia UMC Knoxville
415274 Midtown Valley UMC
415228 Mt Hermon UMC Knox
415230 Mt Zion UMC Claiborne
966363 New Century UMC
415308 Oakdale UMC
418324 Oakwood UMC
415081 Rocky Top UMC
418701 Rutherford Memorial UMC
418404 Second UMC
415503 Solway UMC
415525 Sunbright UMC

100% TITHE PAYER CHURCHES

(Did not satisfy all missions)

415434 Asbury Chapel UMC
415161 Hansard Chapel UMC
414986 Harriman UMC
418244 Lincoln Park UMC
414827 Memorial UMC Clinton
418608 Middlebrook Pike UMC
415387 Oliver Springs UMC
415115 Pleasant Grove UMC Union
415547 Swan Pond UMC

Three Rivers District

FIVE STAR CHURCHES

(100% Tithe paid plus satisfied 4 mission requirements)

415924 Chuckey UMC
416837 Cross UMC
415981 First UMC Elizabethton
410922 First UMC Mountain City
416804 Hulls Chapel UMC
395734 Jearoldstown UMC
416382 Limestone UMC
416405 Marvins Chapel UMC
416303 Munsey Memorial UMC
416495 Roan Mountain UMC
415855 Rockhold UMC
416041 Valley Forge UMC
416063 Watauga Point UMC
410933 Wesley Chapel UMC Mtn City
416358 Wesley Memorial UMC
417513 Wheeler UMC
420098 Zion UMC

100% TITHE PAYER CHURCHES

(Did not satisfy all missions)

396432 Albright UMC
416371 Asbury UMC
416017 Austin Springs UMC
415902 Cedar Grove UMC
410955 Doe Valley UMC
416438 Embreeville UMC
416473 Enterprise UMC
416347 Fairhaven UMC
420134 Gethsemane UMC
416121 Grace UMC
416201 Gray UMC
416006 Hunter UMC
416360 Jonesborough UMC
416416 Mt Wesley UMC
416028 Slagles UMC
966567 St Paul UMC
416507 Sulphur Springs UMC
416176 Valley View UMC
410911 Valley View UMC
965995 West Market Street UMC

== == == END OF REPORT == == ==

2020 FINANCIAL AUDIT

Consolidated Financial Statements

CONFERENCE TREASURER OF
HOLSTON ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF
THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH,
INCORPORATED

Year Ended December 31, 2020

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INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' AUDIT REPORT

Council on Finance and Administration
Holston Annual Conference of the
United Methodist Church, Incorporated
Alcoa, Tennessee

We have audited the accompanying consolidated financial statements of the Conference Treasurer of Holston Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church, Incorporated, which comprise the consolidated statement of financial position as of December 31, 2020, and the related consolidated statements of activities and cash flows for the year then ended and the related notes to the consolidated financial statements.

Management's Responsibility for the Consolidated Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the consolidated financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of consolidated financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditors' Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the consolidated financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the consolidated financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the consolidated financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditors' judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the consolidated financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditors consider internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the consolidated financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the consolidated financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Basis for Qualified Opinion

The accompanying consolidated financial statements do not present the expenses by their functional classification as required by the Financial Accounting Standards Board ASU 2016-14, *Presentation of Financial Statements of Not-for-Profit Entities*.

Qualified Opinion

In our opinion, except for the effects of the matter described in the Basis for Qualified Opinion paragraph, the consolidated financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Conference Treasurer of Holston Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church, Incorporated as of December 31, 2020, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Emphasis of Matter

As discussed in Note Q to the financial statements, Conference Treasurer of Holston Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church, Incorporated has restated its net assets at of December 31, 2019 to record properties held for resale which were not previously recorded. Our opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.

Mitchell Emert + Hill

August 4, 2021

CONFERENCE TREASURER OF
HOLSTON ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF
THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, INCORPORATED

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

December 31, 2020

ASSETS

Cash		\$ 2,202,359
Investments:		
Money market accounts	\$ 65,938	
Pooled mutual funds	19,671,144	
Notes receivable	<u>664,156</u>	20,401,238
Apportionments receivable		513,587
Accounts receivable, net of allowance for uncollectible accounts		113,821
Deposits		5,000
Property and equipment, net of accumulated depreciation		<u>5,181,443</u>
		<u>\$ 28,417,448</u>

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

LIABILITIES

Accounts payable		\$ 445,626
Due to affiliated organizations		2,012,048
Accrued liabilities		3,000
Paycheck Protection Program		1,147,700
Note payable		1,296,469
Postretirement benefit obligation		<u>11,562,721</u>
		16,467,564

NET ASSETS

Without donor restrictions	\$ 4,561,977	
With donor restrictions	<u>7,387,906</u>	<u>11,949,883</u>
		<u>\$ 28,417,448</u>

See the accompanying notes to the consolidated financial statements.

CONFERENCE TREASURER OF
HOLSTON ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF
THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, INCORPORATED

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

Year Ended December 31, 2020

	<u>Without Donor Restrictions</u>	<u>With Donor Restrictions</u>	<u>Totals</u>
SUPPORT AND REVENUE			
Apportionments from member churches	\$ 7,896,382	\$ 0	\$ 7,896,382
Contributions	4,664,371	1,171,870	5,836,241
Registration and fees	267,716	0	267,716
Pension and insurance payments	11,105,796	0	11,105,796
Investment gain	986,482	693,660	1,680,142
Miscellaneous income	307,785	0	307,785
	<u>25,228,532</u>	<u>1,865,530</u>	<u>27,094,062</u>
Net assets released from restriction	<u>1,550,411</u>	<u>(1,550,411)</u>	<u>0</u>
	26,778,943	315,119	27,094,062
EXPENSES			
General and jurisdictional apportionments	3,516,999	0	3,516,999
Appointment cabinet	1,272,119	0	1,272,119
Ministry teams	1,036,390	0	1,036,390
Conference missions	751,058	0	751,058
Youth council	233,613	0	233,613
Camping and retreat ministries	1,696,273	0	1,696,273
Board of Higher Learning	575,705	0	575,705
Outreach advocacy	436,974	0	436,974
Board of Ordained Ministry	211,713	0	211,713
Conference administration	1,597,113	0	1,597,113
Healthcare	10,860,282	0	10,860,282
Pension	4,370,338	0	4,370,338

See the accompanying notes to the consolidated financial statements.

CONFERENCE TREASURER OF
HOLSTON ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF
THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, INCORPORATED

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

(continued)

Year Ended December 31, 2020

	<u>Without Donor Restrictions</u>	<u>With Donor Restrictions</u>	<u>Totals</u>
Loss on value of property held for sale	399,900	0	399,900
Other	512,031	0	512,031
	<u>27,470,508</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>27,470,508</u>
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	(691,565)	315,119	(376,446)
NET ASSETS AT THE BEGINNING OF THE YEAR, as restated	<u>5,253,543</u>	<u>7,072,785</u>	<u>12,326,328</u>
NET ASSETS AT THE END OF THE YEAR	<u>\$ 4,561,977</u>	<u>\$ 7,387,906</u>	<u>\$ 11,949,883</u>

CONFERENCE TREASURER OF
 HOLSTON ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF
 THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, INCORPORATED

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

Year Ended December 31, 2020

CASH PROVIDED(USED) BY		
OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Change in net assets		\$ (376,446)
Adjustments to reconcile change in net assets to net cash (used) by operating activities:		
Depreciation	\$ 102,033	
Donated property	(1,734,825)	
Loss on value of property held for sale	399,990	
Unrealized gain on investments	(1,038)	
Decrease in:		
Apportionments receivable	137,964	
Accounts receivable	10,918	
Prepaid expenses	36,362	
Increase(decrease) in:		
Accounts payable	57,383	
Due to affiliated organizations	(266,637)	
Accrued liabilities	(4,775)	
Postretirement benefit obligation	(949,057)	
	<u>(2,211,682)</u>	<u>(2,211,682)</u>
NET CASH (USED) BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES		(2,588,128)
CASH PROVIDED(USED) BY		
INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Increase in investments	(702,863)	
Proceeds from sale of abandoned properties	1,204,825	
Payments received on notes receivable	<u>931,724</u>	
NET CASH PROVIDED BY INVESTING ACTIVITIES		1,433,686

See the accompanying notes to the consolidated financial statements.

CONFERENCE TREASURER OF
HOLSTON ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF
THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, INCORPORATED

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

(continued)

Year Ended December 31, 2020

**CASH PROVIDED(USED) BY
FINANCING ACTIVITIES**

Proceeds from Paycheck Protection Program	1,147,700
Principal payments on long-term debt	<u>(74,883)</u>

**NET CASH PROVIDED BY
FINANCING ACTIVITIES**

1,072,817

NET (DECREASE) IN CASH

(81,625)

CASH AT THE BEGINNING OF THE YEAR

2,349,922

CASH AT THE END OF THE YEAR

\$ 2,268,297

NONCASH TRANSACTIONS

Issuance of notes receivable

\$ 10,500

CONFERENCE TREASURER OF
HOLSTON ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF
THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, INCORPORATED

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 2020

NOTE A - DESCRIPTION OF ORGANIZATION

Holston Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church, Incorporated (the Conference) is one of the basic organizational bodies in the global United Methodist Church. The Conference consists of 9 districts in Tennessee, Georgia and Virginia and includes 157,199 members in approximately 862 United Methodist Churches. The Conference provides administrative and program services to churches, clergy and laypeople within its geographic boundaries. Primary among these services are ordination and assignment of ministers, volunteer training, new church development and the collection and remittance of funds for local, regional and international ministries. The consolidated financial statements present only the operations, activities and transactions of the Conference Treasurer's offices. District, camping activities and other ministry operations are maintained by separate organizations controlled by the Conference; however, they have not been included in the consolidated financial statements. During the year ended December 31, 2012, Holston Conference Holding Company, Inc. (the Holding Company), was formed for the purpose of receiving, holding, managing, selling and otherwise disposing of real property, fixed assets and furnishings of United Methodist Churches and other related organizations operating under the authority or governance of the Conference. The Holding Company is a separate legal entity operating under the authority of the Conference. The activities of the Holding Company have been included in the consolidated financial statements of the Conference.

NOTE B - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in the consolidated financial statements and accompanying notes. Although these estimates are based on management's knowledge of current events and actions they may undertake in the future, actual results could differ from those estimates. Estimates are used when accounting for fair value of pledges, allowances for uncollectible receivables, depreciation, health insurance liabilities, allocation of expenses, and contingencies, among others.

CONFERENCE TREASURER OF
HOLSTON ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF
THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, INCORPORATED

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(continued)

December 31, 2020

Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents consist of cash and interest-bearing deposits. For purposes of the consolidated statement of cash flows, the Conference considers cash on deposit with financial institutions and all cash investments with original maturities of three months or less to be cash and cash equivalents.

At December 31, 2020 cash and cash equivalents consisted of the following:

Cash	\$ 2,202,359
Investments: Money market accounts	<u>65,938</u>
	<u>\$ 2,268,297</u>

Property and Equipment

Property and equipment are recorded at cost or estimated cost if actual cost is not available. Donated property and equipment are recorded at the estimated fair value at the date of receipt. Depreciation is calculated using the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the assets, which range from five to forty years. Depreciation expense for the year ended December 31, 2020 was \$102,033.

The Conference's policy is to capitalize all acquisitions of land, buildings and equipment costing \$2,500 or more.

As required by the United Methodist Church's policy, the Conference receives the church property when a church is closed or abandoned. The Conference holds the church property with the intention of selling it and using the funds for Conference operations. At the Conference's discretion, a portion of sale may also be returned to the district in which the property was located. When the property is received, the Conference records the fair market value of the property as a contribution. Fair market value is estimated based on recent market transaction on similar assets that are observable or that can be corroborated by observable market data (Level 2 of the valuation hierarchy). During the year ended December 31, 2020, the Conference received several properties with fair market values totaling \$1,734,825. Two of these properties were sold during the year ended December 31, 2020 for amounts totaling \$1,204,825.

CONFERENCE TREASURER OF
HOLSTON ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF
THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, INCORPORATED

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(continued)

December 31, 2020

At December 31, 2020 property and equipment consisted of the following:

Land	\$ 589,753
Buildings	4,138,810
Property held for sale	1,730,000
Equipment	<u>122,407</u>
	6,580,969
Less accumulated depreciation	<u>(1,399,527)</u>
	<u>\$ 5,181,443</u>

Support and Revenue

Apportionment revenue, a principal source of revenue and support, represents amounts paid by member churches to fund Conference initiatives and operating expenses. The Conference records revenue during the year based on actual funds received. Final revenue and receivables for the current year are recorded at year-end, based on subsequent receipts collected in January that relate to the prior year. Accordingly, there is no need to consider or record an allowance for uncollectible apportionments. Receivables are never considered delinquent and no interest is charged on receivables. Apportionment revenue does not include amounts collected from member churches to be passed on to the general United Methodist Church.

Contributions are recorded as support when cash or other assets are received. Contributions are considered to be available for unrestricted use unless specifically restricted by the donor. Gifts of cash and other assets that are designated for future periods or restricted by the donor for specific purposes are reported as support with donor restrictions. When a donor restriction expires, that is, when a stipulated time restriction ends or purpose restriction is accomplished, net assets with donor restrictions are reclassified to net assets without donor restrictions and reported in the consolidated statement of activities as net assets released from restrictions. Restricted grants and contributions whose restrictions are met in the same reporting period as they are received are reported as unrestricted. Revenue from services is recognized when the service is rendered.

Accounts receivable includes billings to each member church of the Conference with a full-time minister for health insurance and pension costs. An allowance for uncollectible accounts receivable is provided based upon historical trends. The allowance for uncollectible accounts at December 31, 2020 was \$450,000. Pension and insurance payments for ministers and lay employees are billed monthly and are recorded as revenue when billed.

CONFERENCE TREASURER OF
HOLSTON ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF
THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, INCORPORATED

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(continued)

December 31, 2020

Contributions of property and equipment and other long-lived assets with explicit restrictions that specify how the assets are to be used, including cash contributed to acquire such assets, are recorded as restricted support. Absent explicit donor stipulations about how long those long-lived assets must be maintained; the expiration of donor restrictions is reported when the donated or acquired assets are placed in service.

Notes Receivable

Notes receivable represent funds advanced to churches within the Conference. Notes receivable also includes amounts due from the sale of abandoned churches. Notes receivable are stated at unpaid principal balance. Interest on notes receivable is recognized over the term of the loan. Notes receivable are secured by deeds of trust for property with a fair market value in excess of the respective loan amount. The Conference's relationship with its borrowers is unlike that of a typical commercial lender. The Conference may make loans to borrowers which would be unable to secure financing from commercial sources. The ability of each borrower to pay the Conference may depend on the contributions the congregation receives from its members. Therefore, payments to the Conference may depend on the continued growth in membership of the borrower, and on the maintenance of adequate contributions by individual members, as well as prudent management of the borrowers of their finances. The Conference may also accommodate partial, deferred, or late payments more readily than commercial lenders. Such loan practices may result in lower collections than a commercial lender and a higher loan delinquency rate.

CONFERENCE TREASURER OF
HOLSTON ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF
THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, INCORPORATED

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(continued)

December 31, 2020

NOTE C - INVESTMENTS

Investments at December 31, 2020 consisted of the following:

Money market accounts		\$ 65,938
Pooled mutual funds		19,671,144
Notes receivable:		
Current	\$ 35,970	
Long-term	446,863	
Other note receivable:		
Long-term	181,323	664,156
		\$ 20,401,238

The framework for measuring fair value provides a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value. The hierarchy gives the highest priority to unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (level 1) and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs (level 3). The three levels of the fair value hierarchy under Financial Accounting Standards Board's Accounting Standards Codification 820, *Fair Value Measurement*, are described as follows:

Level 1: Inputs to the valuation methodology are unadjusted quoted prices for identical assets or liabilities in active markets that the Conference has the ability to access.

Level 2: Inputs to the valuation methodology include

- Quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets;
- Quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in inactive markets;
- Inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset or liability;
- Inputs that are derived principally from or corroborated by observable market data by correlation or other means.

Level 3: Inputs to the valuation methodology are unobservable and significant to the fair value measurement.

CONFERENCE TREASURER OF
HOLSTON ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF
THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, INCORPORATED

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(continued)

December 31, 2020

Investments in equity securities, debt securities and pooled mutual funds are reported in the accompanying consolidated financial statements at fair value. Of the total investments, \$14,307,300 was held at the Holston Conference Foundation and \$6,093,938 was held at Wespath. Money market accounts held with the Holston Conference Foundation are valued using quoted prices in active markets for identical assets (Level 1). Fair value for pooled mutual funds have been calculated based on the net assets of the underlying pool of securities (Level 2). Fair value for notes receivable have been calculated based on the unpaid principal balance (Level 3). For further information regarding the fair value measurement and types of investments held by Wespath see the annual report of Wespath. For further information regarding the fair value measurement and types of investments held by the Holston Conference Foundation see the annual report of the Holston Conference Foundation.

	Fair Value Measurements Using			
		Quoted Prices In Active Markets for Identical Assets (Level 1)	Inputs Other than Quoted Prices that are Observable for the Asset or Liability (Level 2)	Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)
	Fair Value			
Money market accounts	\$ 65,938	\$ 65,938	\$ 0	\$ 0
Pooled mutual funds	19,671,144	0	19,671,144	0
Notes receivable	664,156	0	0	664,156
	\$ 20,401,238	\$ 65,938	\$ 19,671,144	\$ 664,156

CONFERENCE TREASURER OF
HOLSTON ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF
THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, INCORPORATED

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(continued)

December 31, 2020

Realized and unrealized gains and losses are determined on the basis of specific identification. Investment income for the year ended December 31, 2020 consisted of the following:

Interest and dividends	\$ 148,220
Realized gain	1,530,884
Unrealized gain	<u>1,038</u>
	<u>\$ 1,680,142</u>

NOTE D - LIQUIDITY AND AVAILABILITY OF FINANCIAL ASSETS

The Conference had the following financial assets available at December 31, 2020:

Cash	\$ 2,202,359
Investments	20,401,238
Apportionments receivable	<u>513,587</u>
	<u>\$ 23,117,184</u>
Financial assets at December 31, 2020	\$ 23,117,184
Less net assets unavailable for general expenditures within one year, due to restrictions from donors for time or purpose restrictions	(7,387,906)
Less net assets designated by members of the Board of Trustees	<u>(3,463,473)</u>
Financial assets available to meet cash needs for general expenditures within one year	<u>\$ 12,265,805</u>

As part of their liquidity management, the Conference structures its financial assets to be available as its general expenditures, liabilities and other obligations come due.

CONFERENCE TREASURER OF
HOLSTON ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF
THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, INCORPORATED

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(continued)

December 31, 2020

NOTE E - INCOME TAX STATUS

The Conference is exempt from federal income taxes under section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code, except on unrelated business income. The Conference believes that it has appropriate support for any tax positions taken, and as such, does not have any uncertain tax positions that are material to the consolidated financial statements.

NOTE F - LONG-TERM DEBT

Note payable to a bank, due in monthly installments of \$8,763, including interest of 5.02% per annum, through February 2031, secured by real property	\$ 832,654
Note payable to a bank, due in monthly installments of \$2,278, including interest of 3.0% per annum, through January 2026, remaining principal due January 5, 2026, secured by real property	463,815
	1,296,469
Less current maturities	(77,343)
	\$ 1,219,126

Future maturities of long-term debt are as follows:

Year Ending <u>December 31,</u>	
2021	\$ 77,343
2022	81,086
2023	85,015
2024	89,013
2025	93,464
Thereafter	870,549
	\$ 1,296,469

Interest paid during the year was \$30,379, none of which was capitalized.

CONFERENCE TREASURER OF
HOLSTON ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF
THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, INCORPORATED

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(continued)

December 31, 2020

NOTE G - CONCENTRATIONS OF CREDIT RISK

Financial instruments that potentially subject the Conference to concentrations of credit risk consist primarily of cash and cash equivalents and accounts receivable. Cash and cash equivalents are maintained in demand deposit accounts which, at times, may exceed federally insured limits. The Conference has not experienced any losses and does not believe it is exposed to any significant credit risk on such accounts. By their nature, all such financial instruments involve risk, including the credit risk of nonperformance by counterparties. Exposure to credit risk is managed through various monitoring procedures. At December 31, 2020 the Conference had no major concentrations of credit risk except for uninsured bank deposits and notes receivable, including its investments at Wespath and the Holston Conference Foundation.

NOTE H - CONTINGENCIES

The Conference is primarily self-insured, up to certain limits for health claims. The plan includes all participating Conference employees as well as affiliated congregation clergy. The Conference has purchased stop-loss insurance, which will reimburse the Conference for individual claims that generally exceed \$200,000 annually. Claims are expensed as incurred. The total claims expense under the program was approximately \$11,000,000 for the year ended December 31, 2020 with approximately \$450,000 in claims payable at December 31, 2020.

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NOTE I - NET ASSETS

Net assets with donor restrictions at December 31, 2020 consisted of the following:

Superannuate endowment (clergy retirement supplement)	\$ 107,710
Builders Club	3,400,923
College scholarship	1,538,050
Porter scholarship endowment	14,610
Annual Conference offering - Sudan	301,364
Gatlinburg wildfires	25,921
Episcopal office	90,324
Ministerial education fund	595,819
Matte K. Bowman pension endowment	199,508
AIDS scholarship fund	39,800
Ishe Anesu Project for Underprivileged Children	25,386
Appalachian Trail outreach ministries	22,578
Disaster relief	134,464
Camp Lookout endowment	17,185
Holston Conference CEF	4,708
Church Builders grant funds	666,348
Phil and Georgia Millet endowment	44,557
Maynard scholarship endowment	27,979
Camping endowment	<u>130,668</u>
	<u>\$ 7,387,906</u>

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Net assets without donor restrictions are designated by the Conference for the following purposes:

Pension endowment	\$ 394,821
Camping endowment	749,845
New church real estate endowment	588,155
Trustee endowment	504,598
Superannuate endowment	329,167
Camp Lookout endowment	17,185
Justice with Peace	5,963
Hispanic ministries	4,693
Change for Children	98,201
Strength for the Journey	14,558
Jubilation	35,758
Aids fund scholarships	39,801
Annual conference	202,931
Abolishing poverty conference	1,673
Holston Conference CEF	4,708
Ministerial education fund	139,901
Trustee local church sales	302,381
Academy for Spiritual Formation	1,130
Older adult ministries	353
Lead Kids	6,016
Other projects	7,604
Stewardship annual events	555
Ministers convocation	<u>13,476</u>
	3,463,473
Undesignated	<u><u>1,098,504</u></u>
	<u>\$ 4,561,977</u>

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December 31, 2020

NOTE J - NET ASSETS RELEASED FROM RESTRICTIONS

Net assets were released from donor restrictions by incurring expenses satisfying the following restricted purposes:

Builders Club	\$ 116,000
Episcopal office	70,326
Ministerial education fund	768,970
Appalachian Trail outreach ministries	1,692
Ishe Anesu Project for Underprivileged Children	32,806
Phil and Georgia Millet endowment	1,633
Maynard Scholarship endowment	1,007
Porter Scholarship endowment	515
Matte K. Bowman pension endowment	45,909
Disaster relief	833
Church Builders Spend Account	285,505
Annual Conference offering - Sudan	219,645
Camping	<u>5,571</u>
	<u>\$ 1,550,411</u>

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NOTE K - PENSION PLANS

The Conference and its local churches participate in three separate multiemployer pension plans covering substantially all clergy and eligible lay employees in the Conference. Conference clergy entering service prior to December 31, 1981 participate in a defined benefit multiemployer pension plan (Pre-82). Conference clergy that have creditable service between January 1, 1982 and December 31, 2006 participate in a multiemployer defined contribution plan (MPP). Contributions to the MPP plan are no longer made; however, the MPP plan could have unamortized liabilities based upon the annuity rates that have been granted to retirees. Clergy that have served from January 1, 2007 through the present are currently receiving pensionable wages as a part of the Clergy Security Retirement Program (CRSP) which is a multiemployer defined benefit and multiemployer defined contribution plan. Each of these three plans is administered by Wespath Benefits and Investments and are rated and required to be funded on an actuarial basis each year. A participant may be enrolled in all three pension plans based upon their years of service. As part of the connectional system, and since the pension plans are multiemployer plans, any unfunded liability is not a legal obligation of the Conference, but is an obligation of the United Methodist Church. While the unfunded liability is computed for each conference, the multiemployer plans do not require any individual conference to fund its liability and they do not provide recourse against any individual conference that fails to fund its liability. However, each individual conference is required to complete an annual financial plan that determines the funding sources available to retire any deficits and meet current year obligations.

The risks of participating in multiemployer defined benefit pension plan are different from a single-employer plan in the following respects:

- Assets contributed to the multiemployer plan by one employer may be used to provide benefits to employees of other participating employers.
- If a participating employer stops contributing to the plan, the unfunded obligations of the multiemployer plan may be required to be borne by the remaining participating employers.
- If an employer chooses to stop participating in one of the multiemployer plans, it may be required to pay a withdrawal liability to the multiemployer plan.

Contributions to the various multiemployer plans during the year ended December 31, 2020 were as follows:

Pre-82	\$ 1,537,271
CRSP - Defined Benefit	<u>2,045,332</u>
	<u>\$ 3,582,603</u>

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As church plans, all pension plans the Conference participates in are exempt from Titles I and IV of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 and, therefore, not subject to Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation requirements. The multiemployer plans may be terminated by the sponsor at any time. Upon termination of the multiemployer plans, the sponsor has the authority to distribute the plan assets in accordance with the terms of the respective plan documents.

Following is funding information related to the three plans based on the actuarial valuations performed as of January 1, 2018 to establish contribution rates for the year ending December 31, 2020. Because the Conference controls some aspects that affect funding levels of the Pre-82 plan, an actuarial valuation to determine Conference-specific contributions and the information presented below represents only the Conference's portion of the Pre-82 plan's assets, liability and funded status. The MPP and CRSP plan information is not obtained on a conference specific basis and the amounts reported below cover the entire multiemployer plan and all participating conferences.

	<u>Pre-82</u>	<u>MPP</u>	<u>CRSP – DB</u>
Actuarial value of assets	\$ 20,013,008	\$ 3,997,635,453	\$ 2,049,273,913
Funding liability	<u>(24,911,396)</u>	<u>(3,718,398,163)</u>	<u>(1,913,258,514)</u>
Funded status	\$ (4,898,388)	\$ 279,237,290	\$ 136,015,399
Funded ratio	80%	108%	107%

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NOTE L - POSTRETIREMENT BENEFITS

The Conference has elected to provide medical and dental benefits to eligible retired employees, their spouses and dependents. To be eligible a retiree must have attained the age of 55 and must have participated in the Conference health insurance program for the 10 years immediately preceding retirement, and be covered by the Conference insurance program at the time of retirement. Pastors and their dependents who qualify under these conditions must contribute to the cost of this benefit. The Conference contributes between \$156 and \$1,695 annually to the cost of this benefit dependent upon the years served by the pastor and contributes between \$1,482 and \$2,251 annually for surviving spouses (also based on years of service). At December 31, 2020 the unfunded postretirement benefit obligation liability amount was \$11,562,721.

The change in accumulated postretirement benefit obligation for the year ended December 31, 2020 was:

Active employees not fully eligible to retire		\$ 1,016,007	
Active employees fully eligible to retire		2,717,463	
Retirees		<u>8,778,308</u>	
Unfunded postretirement benefit obligation at January 1, 2020			12,511,778
Current year activity:			
Service cost	\$ 46,911		
Interest cost	683,807		
Actuarial loss	(565,459)		
Benefits paid	<u>(1,114,316)</u>	<u>(949,057)</u>	
Unfunded postretirement benefit obligation at December 31, 2020			<u>\$ 11,562,721</u>

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The unfunded postretirement benefit obligation consists of:

Active employees not fully eligible to retire	\$ 945,595
Active employees fully eligible to retire	2,139,189
Retirees	<u>8,477,937</u>
	<u>\$ 11,562,721</u>

The unfunded postretirement benefit obligation at December 31, 2020 was \$11,562,721 of which, \$1,087,016 was a current liability and \$10,475,705 was a noncurrent liability. Unrecognized amounts and amortization amounts in the following year consist of prior service cost. A medical trend rate of 8.0% is anticipated during the year ended December 31, 2020 and an ultimate trend rate of 5% is anticipated to be achieved by the year ending December 31, 2021. The discount rate used to value the end of year accumulated postretirement benefit obligation is 6%.

Estimated future benefit payments, net of employee contributions, are:

<u>Year Ending December 31,</u>	<u>Estimated net payment</u>
2021	\$ 1,058,068
2022	1,087,406
2023	1,059,404
2024	1,032,836
2025	995,872
2026 to 2031	5,155,037

For nonfunded plans, employer contributions equal benefit payments for the next fiscal year.

These estimates are based on facts as they existed as of December 31, 2020. Historically, these benefits have been provided; however, the Conference could elect to change the level of future benefits. Beginning on January 1, 2016, the Conference's contributions were no longer based on a percentage of the estimated cost of benefits; instead, the Conference began to contribute a fixed dollar amount toward retiree benefits dependent on years of service.

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NOTE M - EPISCOPAL OFFICE FUNDS

Effective January 1, 2006, the Conference administered the financial affairs for the Episcopal Office of the Holston Conference. Prior to that date, revenue and expenses were accounted for by the Episcopal Office of the Holston Conference and reported independently of the Holston Annual Conference. The following is a summary of activity for the Episcopal Office of the Holston Conference for the years ended December 31, 2020 and 2019:

	2020	2019
Net assets at the beginning of the year	\$ 95,962	\$ 145,194
Received from General Council	64,689	86,252
Expenses:		
Salaries and related expenses	\$ 55,025	\$ 53,785
Occupancy	6,996	0
Staff travel	1,744	39,291
Professional entertainment	354	32,340
Office expenses	2,794	1,607
Business expense	3,412	8,460
	70,325	135,484
Net assets at the end of the year	\$ 90,324	\$ 95,962

NOTE N - ENDOWMENT

The Conference maintains ten individual funds that have been established for the benefit of various ministries of the Conference. Its endowment includes both donor-restricted funds and funds designated by the Conference Council on Finance and Administration (CCFA) to function as endowments. Net assets associated with endowment funds, including funds designated by the CCFA to function as endowments, are classified and reported based on the existence or absence of donor imposed restrictions.

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Spending Policy

CCFA has a policy of appropriating for distribution each year 0% to 5% of its endowment fund's average fair value of the prior 3 years through the calendar year-end preceding the fiscal year in which the distribution is planned. In establishing this policy, CCFA considered the long-term expected return on its investment assets, the nature and duration of the individual endowment funds, many of which must be maintained in perpetuity because of donor restrictions, and the possible effects of inflation. CCFA expects the current spending policy to allow its endowment funds to grow at a nominal average rate of 3% annually, which is consistent with CCFA's objective to maintain the purchasing power of the endowment assets as well as to provide additional real growth through investment return.

Investment Return Objective, Risk Parameters and Strategies

The Conference has adopted investment and spending policies approved by CCFA, for endowment assets that attempt to provide a predictable stream of funding to programs supported by its endowment funds while also maintaining the purchasing power of those endowment assets over the long-term. Accordingly, the investment process seeks to achieve an after-cost total real rate of return, including investment income as well as capital appreciation, which exceeds the annual distribution with acceptable levels of risk. Endowment assets are invested in a well-diversified asset mix, which includes equity and debt securities that are intended to result in a consistent inflation-protected rate of return that has sufficient liquidity to make an annual distribution of 0% to 5% of a three-year market value average, while growing the funds if possible. Investment risk is measured in terms of the total endowment fund; investment assets and allocation between asset classes and strategies are managed to not expose the fund to unacceptable levels of risk.

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Strategies Employed for Achieving Objectives

To satisfy its long-term rate-of-return objectives, the Conference relies on a total return strategy in which investment returns are achieved through both capital appreciation (realized and unrealized) and current yield (interest and dividends). The Conference targets a diversified asset allocation that places a greater emphasis on equity-based investments to achieve its long-term return objectives within prudent risk constraints.

Spending Policy and How the Investment Objectives Relate to Spending Policy

The Conference has a policy of appropriating for distribution each year 0% to 5% of its average endowment fund's average fair value of the prior 3 years through the calendar year-end proceeding the fiscal year in which the distribution is planned. In establishing this policy, the Conference considered the long-term expected return on its investment assets, the nature and duration of the individual endowment funds, (many of which must be maintained in perpetuity because of donor restrictions), and the possible effects of inflation. The Conference expects the current spending policy to allow its endowment funds to grow at an average rate of 3% annually, which is consistent with the Conference's objective to maintain the purchasing power of the endowment assets as well as to provide additional real growth through investment return.

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Changes in endowment net assets for the year ended December 31, 2020 were as follows:

	<u>Donor Restricted Endowments</u>	<u>Board- Designated Endowments</u>	<u>Totals</u>
Endowment net assets at the beginning of the year	\$ 1,890,184	\$ 3,503,994	\$ 5,394,178
Distributions	(2,147)	(1,416,120)	(1,418,267)
Investment return:			
Investment income	23,839	19,895	43,734
Net realized and unrealized gain	164,589	549,120	713,709
Other changes:			
Transfers out	<u>(13,378)</u>	<u>(73,119)</u>	<u>(86,497)</u>
 Endowment net assets at the end of the year	 <u>\$ 2,063,086</u>	 <u>\$ 2,583,770</u>	 <u>\$ 4,646,856</u>

Endowment net assets are presented in the accompanying consolidated financial statements as investments.

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NOTE O - PAYCHECK PROTECTION PROGRAM

In April 2020, the Conference applied for and received forgivable loan amounts totaling \$1,147,700 through the Paycheck Protection Program which was administered by the Small Business Administration as part of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act. In order for these funds to be forgiven, the funds may only be used for payroll, employee pension, health insurance, rent and utilities expense. Additionally, these funds are not legally forgiven until the Conference applies for forgiveness and the Small Business Administration approves forgiveness. Management believes it will meet the forgiveness requirements, however, the requirements for forgiveness had not been met as of December 31, 2020. Accordingly, the loan is reported on the statement of financial position as a loan payable.

NOTE P - CORONAVIRUS

Beginning in March 2020, a public health crisis related to a novel strain of coronavirus (COVID-19) significantly impacted the national, state and local economies. The impact of the coronavirus is ongoing and the Conference's management is continuing to evaluate the impact on the financial position, liquidity and results of operations of the Conference.

NOTE Q - RESTATEMENT

Net assets at December 31, 2019 was restated to record a property held for resale which was not previously recorded. The effect of this restatement is as follows:

Net assets at December 31, 2019, as originally reported	\$ 11,266,328
Record property held for resale	<u>1,060,000</u>
Net assets at December 31, 2019, as restated	<u>\$ 12,326,328</u>

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NOTE R - SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

The Conference has evaluated subsequent events through August 4, 2021, the date the consolidated financial statements were available to be issued, and determined that no subsequent events have occurred that require adjustment to or disclosure in the consolidated financial statements.

== == == 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

HEALTH BENEFIT PLANS:

- Holston Self-Insured Health Plan (Administered by Blue Cross / Blue Shield of Tennessee and Epiphany RX)
- Retiree Health Plan (Medigap Supplement with Dental, Optional Vision, and Optional Part D Drug Plan Administered by Amwins)

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 voted to raise the PSR from \$601 to \$611 for calendar year 2023.

The Ministerial Pension Plan (MPP) 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.

The Clergy Retirement Security Program, our current plan, 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 ¼% 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.

United Methodist Personal Investment Plan (UMPIP) 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.

Comprehensive Protection Plan (CPP)

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:

- Sherrell Boles
- Steven Gott
- Gerald S. Henry
- Ralph Horak
- Susan Lankford
- Roger Mathess
- Jeff Moncier
- Ronald Ramsey
- Lyle White
- John Wilson

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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 2021 is projected to be \$36,000 to be funded by Tithe/Askings.

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 2 of the 2022 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 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 and complies with ACA guidelines.

For all covered individuals, plan types, coverage options, network preferences, and optional coverages may be modified during the open enrollment period (October 15 – November 15 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. Maximum FSA annual contribution amounts will be communicated during Open Enrollment and may differ from the IRS maximum contribution limit.

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.

The 2023 Health Insurance Rates will be set by October 1, 2022 and will be communicated via mail, email and the Conference website. This is a change from previous years; but changing the timeline will allow the Board of Pensions to shop for the most competitive rates for the plan participants, which will save our participants and our churches money on premiums.

Retiree Medical Plan

In accordance with ¶ 639.6, *The Book of Discipline* 2016, the Conference provides Conference clergy persons, who have retired in accordance with ¶ 357.1, ¶ 357.2b, ¶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 Amwins, a leading global specialty insurance distributor. 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. The aforementioned stipend will cease to be offered effective January 1, 2023 due to the rising cost of health care and the reduction in the number of churches/ congregations that can support the cost of supporting the stipend expense.

Health Insurance Plans Eligibility and Financial Responsibility Policies

Definitions

“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.

“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.

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.

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.

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.

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. When a clergy member retires, he/she can no longer participate in the active plan unless qualifying for the early retiree plans (prior to age 65). A retired clergy who is Medicare eligible cannot participate in the active employee plan, but may participate in the retiree Medigap supplement program offered through Amwins at their own expense.

Reports

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 Medicare eligible retirees must be enrolled in Medicare Parts A and B to be eligible for the Retiree Medigap Plan offered through Amwins.

(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 - All Medicare eligible spouses must be enrolled in Medicare Parts A and B to be eligible for the Retiree Medigap Plan offered through Amwins.

(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 - All Medicare eligible surviving spouses must be enrolled in Medicare Parts A and B to be eligible for the Retiree Medigap Plan offered through Amwins.

(ii.) Not Medicare Eligible - Surviving spouses 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 either the Retiree Medigap Plan nor the active employee Health Insurance Plan.

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 Wespah (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. The rates for the 2023 health insurance plans will be determined by October 1, 2022. These rates will be made available on the Conference website and sent to all participants in the health insurance plan via email and USPS mail during Open Enrollment (October 15 – November 15).

1. Active Clergy Members

The local church or salary paying unit is responsible for payment of the blended premium rate for all appointed clergy 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 and complies with ACA guidelines. 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. Reports

5. Clergy Retirees

For several years, the Board of Pensions and Health Benefits has provided a subsidy for a portion of the Medicare supplement premiums for retirees and their spouses/surviving spouses. Due to rising medical costs and the continued restraints on our churches’ financial means, the Board of Pensions voted in 2019 to decrease the retiree health insurance stipend over the course of three years.

In 2023, the Board of Pensions will no longer offer a subsidy/stipend toward the retiree Medicare supplement health insurance premium. By contracting with Amwins to facilitate the retiree health insurance plan in 2022, the reduced stipend (from \$1,500 per year to \$750 per year) was negligible to the retiree (premiums only went up a few dollars). In 2023, the subsidy/stipend will not be offered, so the individual retiree can expect, at the least, an increase of \$62.50 per month to their Medicare supplement plan.

The retiree is responsible for paying the health insurance premiums of the Medicare Supplement HIP in accordance with the premium schedule. Early retirees who opt to remain covered under the active plan at COBRA rates will be responsible for the monthly premium based on the premium schedule.

Lay participants are not eligible 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.

7. Surviving Dependents

Surviving dependents will be responsible for paying 40% of the total premium amount until such time as they qualify for Medicare.

Delinquencies:

Billings for health insurance are processed within the first ten days 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.

Reports

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 2023 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 the upcoming General Conference.

The following pages include:

- Resolution Relating to Rental/Housing Allowances for Retires or Disabled Clergypersons

Submitted by, Rev. Dr. Jonothan David Tabor, Chair; Rick Cherry, Treasurer; Julie Graham, Benefits Administrator

RESOLUTION RELATING TO RENTAL HOUSING ALLOWANCES FOR RETIRED OR DISABLED CLERGYPERSONS

The Holston Annual Conference (the “Conference”) adopts the following resolutions during the 2012 session of Annual Conference taking place June 10-June 13, 2012, relating to rental/housing allowances for active, retired, or disabled clergypersons of the Conference:

WHEREAS, the religious denomination known as The United Methodist Church (the “Church”), of which this Conference is a part, has in the past functioned and continues to function through ministers of the gospel (within the meaning of Internal Revenue Code section 107) who were or are duly ordained, commissioned, or licensed ministers of the Church (“Clergypersons”);

WHEREAS, the practice of the Church and of this Conference was and is to provide active Clergypersons with a parsonage or a rental/housing allowance as part of their gross compensation;

WHEREAS, pensions or other amounts paid to active, retired, and disabled Clergypersons are considered to be deferred compensation and are paid to active, retired, and disabled Clergypersons in consideration of previous active service; and

WHEREAS, the Internal Revenue Service has recognized the Conference (or its predecessors) as the appropriate organization to designate a rental/housing allowance for Clergypersons who are or were members of this Conference and are eligible to receive such deferred compensation;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

THAT an amount equal to 100% of the pension or disability payments received from plans authorized under The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church (the “Discipline”), which includes all such payments from the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits (“GBOPHB”), **during the years 2012 and all subsequent years until it is rescinded** for each active, retired, or disabled Clergyperson who is or was a member of the Conference, or its predecessors, be and hereby is designated as a rental/housing allowance for each such Clergyperson; and

THAT the pension or disability payments to which this rental/housing allowance applies will be any pension or disability payments from plans, annuities, or funds authorized under the Discipline, including such payments from the GBOPHB and from a commercial annuity company that provides an annuity arising from benefits accrued under a GBOPHB plan, annuity, or fund authorized under the Discipline, that result from any service a Clergyperson rendered to this Conference or that an active, a retired, or a disabled Clergyperson of this Conference rendered to any local church, annual conference of the Church, general agency of the Church, other institution of the Church, former denomination that is now a part of the Church, or any other employer that employed the Clergyperson to perform services related to the ministry of the Church, or its predecessors, and that elected to make contributions to, or accrue a benefit under, such a plan, annuity, or fund for such active, retired, or disabled Clergyperson’s pension or disability as part of his or her gross compensation.

NOTE: The rental/housing allowance that may be excluded from a Clergyperson’s gross income in any year for federal income tax purposes is limited under Internal Revenue Code section 107(2) and regulations thereunder to the least of: (1) the amount of the rental/housing allowance designated by the Clergyperson’s employer or other appropriate body of the Church (such as this Conference in the foregoing resolutions) for such year; (2) the amount actually expended by the Clergyperson to rent or provide a home in such year; or (3) the fair rental value of the home, including furnishings and appurtenances (such as a garage), plus the cost of utilities in such year.

Clearing the Clouds: Clergy Housing Allowance

Wespath Benefits and Investments (Wespath) recognizes the unique and often complex nature of clergy taxes. The following information is designed to help clear some of the gray when thinking about a housing allowance. It pertains to active clergy living in an owned or rented home, active clergy living in a parsonage and retired clergy.

What does the housing allowance permit?

The housing allowance permits duly ordained, commissioned, or licensed clergy in the exercise of their ministry• to exclude a portion of their compensation when reporting gross income for federal income tax purposes. The amount excluded must be used to provide housing. Additionally, there are limits on what can be claimed as housing expense. For more details including the current tax law and the Clarification Act of 2002, go to [The Warren Case: Clergy Housing and You](#) on our website.

Is the Housing Allowance a deduction or exclusion?

The housing allowance is an exclusion from income, not a deduction. This means that the amount claimed is never reported to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) as part of your annual income. A housing allowance can be taken only if the amount to be excluded is officially designated as a housing allowance by your congregation or church organization through a resolution, meeting minutes or a budget before compensation is paid for the tax year to which it applies. If you are a retired clergy person, your annual conference is the church entity that designates the housing allowance for your pension payments. However, you are not necessarily entitled to exclude from your income the entire amount designated as a housing allowance. You may exclude from your income only the **smallest** of the following amounts:

- the amount designated in advance of your expenditures as your housing allowance for the current tax year;
- the amount spent for your primary residence (mortgage principal and interest, utilities, taxes, insurance, furnishings, maintenance, etc.); or
- the current fair rental value of your home, including furnishings, plus the current year cost of your utilities (no matter whether your home is owned or rented).

If you are a pastor living in a parsonage provided by the church, you may exclude the annual fair rental value of the parsonage from your gross compensation for federal income tax purposes. (In the absence of Internal Revenue Code section 107(1), you would owe income tax on the fair rental value of the parsonage, even though you do not pay rent to live there.) In addition to the free use of the parsonage, your church may grant you a parsonage or housing allowance to pay for things such as furniture or utilities. Make sure you meet with your church prior to the current tax year to designate your parsonage or housing allowance. You may not exclude from income any expenses incurred before the allowance is designated for a given tax year, so get it documented before January 1 each year to maximize your eligible expenses.

If you are a retired pastor receiving annuity payments (or taking one or more lump sum distributions) from a Wespath retirement program, you may qualify for a clergy housing allowance exclusion. The exclusion applies to distributions of contributions made while you were serving under call, including their accumulated earnings. The same rules for determining the excludable amount for active clergy also apply to you, with one twist. While the local church generally designates a housing allowance for active clergy, your annual conference designates this amount for retirees. You may exclude from taxable income the **smallest** of the following three amounts:

- the amount designated during the prior tax year by your annual conference as the housing allowance for the current tax year (generally conferences designate up to 100% of your pension payments from Wespath);
- the amount spent for your home (mortgage principal and interest, utilities, taxes, insurance, furnishings, maintenance, etc.); or
- the current fair rental value of your home, including furnishings, plus the cost of utilities (whether you own or rent your home).

Note: Distributions rolled out of a Wespath retirement plan to an Individual Retirement Account or non-church related program may not be eligible for a housing allowance exclusion. If you used your distribution from a Wespath plan to purchase a commercial annuity, however, payments from that annuity generally qualify for a housing allowance exclusion (consult your annual conference's housing allowance designation for retirees). Your clergy housing allowance exclusion ends at your death. IRS rules do not allow your surviving spouse or beneficiaries to claim it.

¹ A clergy person must be recognized as a minister of the gospel under Internal Revenue Code section 107, which may exclude certain deacons, especially those in extension ministries.

Navigating through the complexity of clergy taxes and housing allowance rules can indeed feel like you are traveling through a fog with no direction. Certainly there are many other aspects of taxes to consider when determining the housing allowance exclusion such as its impact on housing equity, social security tax and taxes on retirement distributions. To further shine the light on your situation, consult a qualified tax adviser knowledgeable about the unique tax situations for clergy.

== == END OF REPORT == ==

X.b BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Boy Scouts of America Lawsuit: For those churches who took part in this process, thank you for registering your vote. Your Trustees give thanks to the Conference Ad Hoc Committee that has provided guidance that we fully support. The current agreement protects all our churches from any future legal action with this situation and provides a settlement fund for those who were abused. Without this agreement, local churches, and the conference could be sued for any of these sins prior to 1976.

Sexual Misconduct Insurance: Considering the significant number of churches in our conference that still carry no coverage in this area, options to increase protection for our children, our churches, and our pastors is being explored through a joint group of Conference leaders, the Cabinet, and the Trustees.

Property Updates

- Properties that in process of being closed/abandoned: Ducktown (Hiwassee), Sinking Springs (Clinch Mountain), Shiloh (Mountain View), Laurel (Clinch Mountain), New Cove (Clinch Mountain), Ester (Clinch Mountain), Speak's Chapel (Appalachian), York's (Appalachian), and Exeter (Appalachian)

- Sales in Process: Riceville UMC (Hiwassee), Lone Mountain UMC (Mountain View), Mount Olivet UMC (Clinch Mountain),
- Sales Completed: St. Luke's (Tennessee Valley), Arthur UMC (Mountain View), Riceville Parsonage (Hiwassee), Piney Grove (Hiwassee), Shoun's (Three Rivers), Virginia Avenue (Tennessee Valley), Oak Grove (Clinch Mountain), Moore's Gap (Tennessee Valley), and Whitwell (Hiwassee).

Hiwassee College: The lawyers are still completing the final work on this property so that the endowments can be transferred to the conference and those funds can be administered as requested.

Finances as of December 31, 2021

- Trustee Endowment \$545,867.91
- Trustee Undesignated Endowed Fund \$74,386.74
- Trustee Spend Account \$18,036.65
- Episcopal Residence Fund \$578,385.04

Giving thanks for your continued work for Jesus, David McLain, Chair; Brian Burch, Secretary

=== **END OF REPORT** ===

X.c COMMISSION ON ARCHIVES AND HISTORY (CAH)

The Commission met virtually in August to consider a request by Bluff City UMC members that we recommend to the Conference Trustees the purchase of a small piece of property that is attached to Edward Cox House property, which property came on the market with short notice. The commission recommended that purchase. Unfortunately, the Conference Trustees were not successful in buying it and it has now changed hands. A driveway access across the Conference property is being utilized by the new neighbors without agreement. I have asked Jack Hurlbert of Bluff City to contact the new neighbors and make some arrangement with them and try to build a good relationship with them.

We asked the CFA to include money in the budget for the new year that would pay Daniel Ferkin's salary at Tennessee Wesleyan and provide some money to purchase some archival quality boxes for storage. In addition

we asked for an amount to cover annual dues for the Southeastern Jurisdiction Historical Society. These dues cover cost for someone from our conference to attend the SEJ Historical Society meeting if one is offered.

The position of Conference Historian is vacant with the death of long-time Conference Historian, the Reverend Roy Howard. The commission has not recommended anyone to serve in this position at this time, so it will remain vacant for a while.

The Holston Conference will turn 200 years old in 2024 and so far there are no plans to celebrate that milestone. The commission welcomes ideas.

Submitted by, Rev. Dr. Bradley H. Scott, Chair

=== **END OF REPORT** ===

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 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 or recommend pay increases for clergy above the minimum levels. That is the responsibility of the local church.

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.

District	Church	Salary Supplement	Mission Aid	Coop. Parish
AP	Dungannon Circuit	\$6,500.00		
AP	Ketron Memorial	\$1,250.00		
AP	Nickelsville	\$3,355.00		
AP	Surgoinsville First	\$13,775.00		
CM	Addilynn Memorial	\$3,825.00		
CM	First, Bristol	\$1,896.00		
CM	Madam Russell/Tate	\$1,696.00		
CM	Russell County Parish	\$2,000.00		
HI	Apison	\$8,321.00		
MV	Grants Chapel	\$14,000.00		
MV	O&S Chapel	\$5,072.66		
MV	Pruitt Hill/Tate Chapel	\$12,000.00		
MV	Riverview Circuit	\$6,674.00		
NR	Draper Circuit	\$3,277.00		
NR	New River Circuit	\$6,248.00		
SS	Flintstone/Ft. Oglethorpe	\$20,000.00		
SS	Rising Fawn - Hayton's	\$7,973.00		\$900.00
SS	Simpson	\$2,500.00		
SS	St. Elmo	\$22,500.00		
SM	Beulah	\$5,000.00		
TV	Rockwood/Chevront	\$5,000.00		
TV	Valley View/Heiskell	\$2,744.50		
TR	Bluff City/St. Paul	\$7,500.00		
TR	Carter County Parish			\$900.00
TR	Cedar Grove/Ebenezer	\$4,500.00		
TR	Telford/Asbury	\$5,625.00		
TR	Valley Eg - Roane Mfm	\$2,000.00		
	Total	\$175,232.16	\$0.00	\$1,800.00
	2021 Budget	\$165,000.00	\$35,000.00	\$4,500.00
	Difference	\$(10,232.16)	\$35,000.00	\$2,700.00

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 can succeed in this. We trust the cabinet in determining charge alignments and the appointment of clergy that assist those churches.

We realize, that in the past, many, if not most churches, use our recommendation for increases in minimum salary as the recommendation for all clergy. That is not our role and churches who pay above minimum levels must determine themselves cost of living increases and merit pay amounts for their clergy.

CATEGORIES TO BE FUNDED AND SCHEDULE OF MINIMUM SALARY LEVELS FOR 2023

For full-time service by Conference Members:
 Full Member (M.Div.) or equivalent degree.....\$46,500
 Provisional Member/Associate Member.....\$43,000

For Service as Full-Time Local Pastors:
 Master of Divinity (M.Div.)/Completed Studies ...\$40,000
 In Process of Completing Studies\$37,000

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.

The Commission on Equitable Compensation requests a budget of \$390,000 for Cabinet use.

.....20222023
Salary Supplement	\$165,000
Supplements – miss.....	\$35,000
Supplements – coop	\$4,500
Meeting Expense.....	\$500
Sustentation Pay.....	\$157,000

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.

ARREAGE POLICY

¶ 624 of The 2016 *Book of Discipline*, entitled Payment Obligation, explains the steps that should be taken when a church or charge is unable to pay any portion of the pastor's Full Compensation when due. ¶ 624.2 allows each annual conference to establish an arrearage policy to deal with situations that arise (or have arisen in the past) where a church or charge failed to provide portions or all of a pastor's compensation. ¶ 625.2.d entitled Equitable Compensation, also references the conference arrearage policy. ¶ 624.1 states: "Each church or charge has an obligation to pay the base compensation, the benefits adopted by the annual conference, and other ministerial support (including housing) adopted by the charge conference, to its pastor(s). If it becomes apparent that a church or charge will be unable to so provide the base compensation, support, and benefits adopted by the charge conference, the church or charge SPRC chair, finance chair, or treasurer, shall immediately notify, both in writing and verbally, the pastor, district superintendent, and congregation. This communication shall indicate all avenues explored to meet the base compensation, support, and benefits, including requesting consideration for a short-term emergency subsidy grant from the Equitable Compensation Fund (¶625.7)."

The Commission on Equitable Compensation recommends that the Holston Annual Conference approve the following Arrearage Policy in accordance with ¶624.2 and ¶625.2.d of The 2016 *Book of Discipline*.

HOLSTON CONFERENCE ARREAGE POLICY

Any church that is unable to pay its pastor's salary and/or benefits when due must notify, both verbally (within 24 hours) and in writing (within 3 days), the pastor and district superintendent. Written notification can include email. Upon receipt of such notice, the district superintendent will notify the Conference Commission on Equitable Compensation of the issue for its expeditious disposition.

The statute of limitations for filing a claim for funds from the annual conference (i.e., notification to the DS) for any salary arrearage is 90 days from the date of the initial arrearage. Once an appointment ends, the pastor no longer has claim on the local church for compensations funds (¶342.4, Discipline).

Further, churches or charges with full-time clergy which are in arrears to the annual conference with respect to benefits payments (pension and insurance) will be reported in the annual conference Handbook and Journal as “churches receiving equitable compensation.” These specific churches or charges will be reported based on the following methodology: If the total balance due as of December 31 of the current year is greater than the total balance due as of December 31 of the previous year, said church or charge will be reported as a church or charge having received Equitable Compensation Funds. The amount recorded in the report will equate to the total difference between this year’s total balance due and last year’s total balance due. Churches with benefits arrearage who pay their pastor(s) above minimum cash compensation have 18 months from January 1 to pay the previous year benefits in full or reduce base salary to the conference minimum cash compensation.

Submitted by, Bruce Galyon, Chair

== == END OF REPORT == ==

X.f COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS (CON) - 2021 - 2024 QUADRENNIUM

I CABINET

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

a. *Appointment Cabinet:*

Resident Bishop; 9 District Superintendents; Executive Assistant to the Bishop (2016 BOD ¶¶417-425).

b. *Extended Cabinet:*

Appointment Cabinet; Conference Secretary/ Director of Clergy Services; Director of Connectional Ministries; Conference Treasurer/ Director of Administrative Services; Director of Congregational Development; Director of Communications; Executive Director, Holston Conference Foundation, Chair of the Conference Strategy Team, and Chair of the Board of Ordained Ministry. The Conference Lay Leader shall be invited to attend meetings of the extended cabinet.

Chair..... Bishop Debra Wallace-Padgett
 Executive Assistant to the Bishop..... Open
 Dean of the Cabinet **TBD**

Appointment Cabinet (District Superintendents)

Lauri Jo Cranford (TR)	Angela Hardy Cross (MV)	Ann P. Robins (TV)
Jason Gattis (SM)	Hugh Kilgore (HI)	Jane Taylor (CM)
Kimberly M. Goddard (NR)	Reed Shell (SS)	Jeffrey Lambert (AP)

Extended Cabinet (all of the above as well as:)

Conference Lay Leader.....	Rebecca ‘Becky’ Hall
Conference Secretary/Director of Clergy Services.....	Terry D. Goodman
Conference Treasurer/Director of Administrative Services.....	F. Richard “Rick” Cherry
Director, Congregational Development & Revitalization	Susan Arnold
Director, Connectional Ministries.....	Michael “Mike” G. Sluder
Director, Communications.....	Timothy “Tim” W. Jones, Jr.
President, Holston Conference Foundation	Paul Bowman
Chair, Board of Ordained Ministry	Mickey Rainwater
Chair, Conference Strategy Team	Mike Eastridge

II COMMUNICATIONS ADVISORY COUNCIL

Service agency of the entire Conference.

Total Membership = 16

9 elected members, Cabinet Representative, Director of Communications, Communications Administrative Assistant, Digital Media Specialist, Database Manager, Print Media Specialist, Editor of The Call (2016 BOD ¶¶609, 646). Related to Council on Finance and Administration and Annual Conference.

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

(C) Leah Burns (TV)(1)	(C) Frank Trexler (SM)(2)	(C) Will Shelton (NR)(1)
(C) Timothy Hankins (SM)(2)	(L) Clayton Hensley (TV)(2)	(L) Leslie Webb (CM)(1)
(L) Fred H Gault (SS)(1)	(L) Caroline Lamar (TV)(2)	(L) Betty Yeomans-Barton (TR)(2)
(C) Edna Lopez (SM)(1)		

Ex-Officio Members:

Editor, The Call.....	Annette Spence
Communications Administrative Assistant.....	Madasun Loy
Digital Media Specialist	Ben Smith
Database Manager	Donna Hankins
Print Media Specialist.....	Millie Meese
Director of Communications / Staff Resource.....	Timothy Jones
Cabinet Representative	Mike Sluder

III COMMITTEE ON CONGREGATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Total Membership = 13

12 elected members, Cabinet Representative.

Chairperson..... (L) Rebecca ‘Becky’ Hall (SS)
Vice-Chairperson (C) Ronnie Collins (NR)
Secretary (L) Steve Gross (TR)

(C) Brooke Atchley (CM)(2)	(C) Tim Paul (TV)(2)	(C) Drew McCallie (SS)(1)
(C) Stephen DeFur (SM)(2)	(L) Steve Gross (TR)(2)	(L) Rebecca ‘Becky’ Hall (SS)(2)
(C) Ronnie Collins (NR)(2)	(C) Palmer Cantler (TV)(1)	(L) Willie Kitchens (SS)(2)
(C) Karen Black (NR)(1)	(C) Will Lauderback (SS)(1)	(L) Byron Williamson (TV)(2)

Ex-Officio Members:

Staff Resource **Susan Arnold**
Cabinet Representatives..... Ann P. Robins

IV BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND CAMPUS MINISTRY

Total Membership = 13

11 elected members, 1 from the Young Adult Ministry, Cabinet Representative (2016 BOD ¶634). Related to the Discipleship Team, Council on Finance and Administration, 1. Wesley Foundations, and 2. Conference Colleges.

Chairperson..... (C) Aaron Atchley (TR)
Vice-Chairperson (C) Beth Sullivan (SS)
Secretary **TBD**

(C) Misti McCreary (AP)(2)	(C) Ila Schepisi (NR)(2)	(L) Haden Scott (MV)(2)
(C) Beth Sullivan (SS)(2)	(C) Nathan Irwin (SM)(2)	(L) Matthew McDaniel (Radford)(2)
(C) Aaron Atchley (CM)(2)	(C) Gary Ihfe (TR)(2)	(L) Kayla Carico (TV)(2)
(L) Jason Onks (TR)(2)	(L) Stuart French (SS)(2)	

Alternate:..... (C) Alex Thompson (HI)

Young Adult Team Representative..... Meri Grant (TV)

Ex-Officio Members:

Staff Resource Laura McLean, Mike Sluder
Cabinet Representative Angela Hardy Cross

V BOARD OF LAY MINISTRY

(Related directly to Annual Conference)

The Conference Lay Leader is the elected leader of conference laity (2016 BOD ¶607.1).

Total membership 22

9 District Lay Leaders; presidents of United Methodist Men, United Methodist Women, United Methodist Youth; Resident Bishop, Conference Director of Lay Servant Ministries; 2 cabinet representatives; 5 members-at-large; Conference Lay Leader. The Board may elect up to three associate 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. (2016 BOD ¶631)

The Conference Lay Leader shall be the chairperson of the conference Board of Lay Ministry (2016 BOD ¶607.3).

Chairperson..... Rebecca ‘Becky’ Hall (SS)

Vice-Chairperson Rick Lay (HI)

Secretary **Amy Blumberg (TR)**

District Lay Leaders:

Sue Tilson (CM)(2)

Christi Stapleton (AP)(1)

Dobbin Callahan (SS)(1)

Rick Lay (HI)(2)

Jennifer Mongold (TR)(1)

Glenda Eastridge (SM)(2)

Linda West Schumann (MV)(1)

Renni Morris (TV)(1)

Deborah Neal (NR)(2)

Bill Fleisher (NR)(1)

Conference Presidents:

United Methodist Men..... **TBD**

United Women in Faith Donna Mosby (TV)

United Methodist Youth..... Meri Grant (TV)

Members-at-Large:

Amy Blumberg (TR)(1)

Kelly Price (MV)(2)

Velena Wheatly (AP)(2)

Cecil Flournoy Sr. (SS)(1)

Alex Wilson (SM)(1)

Ex-Officio Members:

Resident Bishop Bishop Debra Wallace-Padgett

Conference Director of Lay Servant Ministry Bobby Stair

Staff Resource Rick Cherry

Cabinet Representatives..... **TBD**, Rebecca ‘Becky’ Hall

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. (2016 BOD ¶630)

Chairperson (C) Elizabeth ‘Liz’ Hamilton (AP)
 Vice-Chairperson (C) Randall Wright (AP)
 Secretary (L) Lori Sluder (SM)

(C) Elizabeth ‘Liz’ Hamilton (AP)(2)	(L) Heather Vaughn (TR)(1)	(C) Timothy Hankins (SM)(2)
(C) Joshua Swanson (AP)(2)	(L) Scott Burnette (SM)(1)	(C) Ginger Isom (SM)(2)
(C) Stephanie Parrott (TV)(1)	(L) Marva Wheeler (CM)(2)	(C) Randall Wright (AP)(2)
(L) Renni Morris (TV)(2)	(C) Betsy Switzer (HI)(2)	(L) Lori Sluder (SM)(1)

Ex-Officio Members:

Resident Bishop Bishop Debra Wallace-Padgett
 Conference Lay Leader..... Rebecca ‘Becky’ Hall
 Chair, Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministry..... Aaron Atchley
 Director of Connectional Ministries Mike Sluder

Chairpersons with vote:

Missions Ministry Team Tom Hancock
 Nurture Ministry Team Adam Love
 Outreach/Advocacy Ministry Team..... **Brenda Carroll**
 Stewardship Ministry Team..... Troy Forrester
 Witness Ministry Team Ray Amos, Jr.

Representatives without vote (named by respective groups):

Board of Ordained Ministry..... Elizabeth Hamilton
 Communications Advisory Council..... Donna Hankins
 Staff Resource Mike Sluder
 Cabinet Representative **TBD**

VI.a MISSIONS MINISTRY TEAM

Total Membership = 14

12 elected members, Ex-Officio: Conference Secretary of Global Ministries, Cabinet Representative (2016 BOD ¶633). Sub-groups to be determined by Missions Team in consultation with Discipleship Team.

Chairperson (C) Tom Hancock (AP)
 Vice Chairperson..... (C) Jerry Russell (SM)
 Secretary **TBD**

(C) Chris Brown (AP)(2)	(C) Robert Nyaga (CM)(2)	(C) Dina Clower (NR)(1)
(C) Randy Frye (AP)(2)	(L) Kellie Bracken (SS)(2)	(C) Tom Hancock (AP)(2)
(C) Beth Tipton (AP)(2)	(C) Jerry Russell (SM)(2)	(L) John Redmond (TR)(1)
(L) Charlotte DeLozier (TV)(2)	(L) Angela Love (SS)(1)	(L) Jimmy Manis (SM)(1)

Ex-Officio Members:

Chair, Advance..... Norma Smith
 Chair, Church and Community Worker Committee Leann Miller
 Coordinator of South Sudan Missions..... Danny Howe
 *District(s) Mission Secretaries Chair, Native American..... **TBD**
 UMW Representative Marsheine McClurg
 Volunteer in Mission Coordinator..... **TBD**
 Director Connectional Ministries/Missions/Conference Secretary of
 Global Ministries/Staff Resource/Cabinet Representative Mike Sluder

VI.b NURTURE MINISTRY TEAM

Total Membership = 18

12 elected members, Representatives of the 4 Ministry Teams/Board with vote (Children's, Council on Youth, Young Adult, Camp and Retreat), Board of Lay Ministry Representative, Cabinet Representative. Other representatives to be determined and named by Nurture Team in consultation with Discipleship Team.

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

(C) Adam Love (AP)(2)	(L) Alan Eleazer (SM)(2)	(C) Josh Kilbourne (SS)(2)
(L) Lisa Howard (TV)(2)	(C) Lisa Bryant (CM)(2)	(L) Leanna Johnson (TR)(2)
(C) Ken Sauer (SS)(2)	(L) Tina Morgan (HI)(2)	(C) Sarah M. Slack (SM)(2)
(L) Prue Oxendine (CM)(2)	(C) Samuel Dzobo (MV)(2)	(L) Linda Jackson (AP)(2)

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	TBD
Board of Lay Ministry Representative	Rebecca 'Becky' Hall
Cabinet Representative	Mike Sluder

VI.b.1 CHILDREN'S MINISTRY TEAM

Total Membership = 11

9 elected, 2 Ex- Officio: Cabinet Representative, Staff Resource Person.

Chairperson..... (L) Melia Warren (SS)
Vice Chairperson..... (L) Lindsey Piercy (TV)
Secretary (L) **Ashley Wade (SS)**

(L) Melia Warren (SS)(2)	(L) Heather Hayes (TV)(1)	(L) Sherri Smith (SM)(2)
(C) T. J. Burdine (MV)(2)	(L) Katherine Redman (CM)(2)	(L) Barbara Patterson (NR)(1)
(L) Lindsey Piercy (TV)(2)	(L) Ashley Wade (SS)(2)	(C) Jake Herron (HI)(1)
(L) Margaret Fraizer (AP)(1)		

Ex-Officio Members:

Staff Resource	Susan Groseclose
Cabinet Representative	Mike Sluder

VI.b.2 CONFERENCE COUNCIL ON YOUTH MINISTRIES

Total Membership = 30

2 youth per District, 1 adult per District, Coordinator of District Coordinators, Cabinet Representative, Staff-Coordinator of Youth Ministries (2016 BOD ¶649).

CCYM President..... (L) Meri Grant (TV)
Coordinator of District Coordinators (C) Pat Tipton (AP)
Coordinator of Youth Ministries (L) Laura McLean (SM)
Cabinet Representative (C) Mike Sluder (SM)

VI.c OUTREACH / ADVOCACY MINISTRY TEAM

Total Membership = 19+

12 elected members plus the five ministry area chairpersons required by Discipline: Religion and Race, Church and Society, Status and Role of Women, and Christian Unity and Inter-Religious Concerns, Disability Concerns/Relationships Ministry Area, and chairpersons or representatives of other groups related to Outreach / Advocacy. Cabinet Representative (2016 BOD ¶629), Staff Resource.

Chairperson **(C) Brenda Carroll (TV)**
 Vice Chairperson..... **(L) Barbara Hodges (MV)**
 Secretary **TBD**

(C) Daniel Castillo (SM)(2)	(L) Barbara Hodges (MV)(1)	(L) Charlotte McKee (SS)(2)
(L) Linda Clark (TV)(2)	(L) Carolyn Haerr (HI)(2)	(C) Leah Burns (TV)(2)
(C) Brenda Carroll (TV)(1)	(L) Kelly Price (MV)(1)	(C) Linda Rozar (TR)(2)
(L) Gretchen Hakola-Penn (TV)(2)	(C) James Bailes (TV)(1)	(C) J. Steve Patterson (CM)(1)

Chairperson, Religion and Race Ministry Area (L) Charlotte McKee (SS)
 Chairperson, Status and Role of Women (C) Sharon Bowers
 Chairperson, Creation Care..... (L) Jan Berry (SM)
 Chairperson, Christian Unity and Inter-Religious Relationships
 Ministry Area (L) Diane James (TV)(1)
 Chairperson, Disability Concerns (C) Brian Burch (NR)(1)

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 Valerie Ohle
 Chairperson, Strength for the Journey Dennis Loy
 General Board of Church and Society Don Hanshew
 President, **United Women in Faith** Donna Mosby
 Staff Resource Mike Sluder
 Cabinet Representative Ann P. Robins

VI.c.1 RELIGION AND RACE MINISTRY AREA

Total Membership = 14+

12 elected members, Cabinet Representative (2016 BOD ¶643) Staff Resource, Sub-Groups related to and determined by Religion and Race Ministry Area.

Chairperson (L) Charlotte McKee (SS)

(C) Walter Cross (TV)(2)	(L) Elizabeth Hernandez-Lopez (NR)(2)	(C) Evelyn Harris (SS)(1)
(L) David Lee (CM)(2)	(C) Terryl James (SS)(1)	(L) Charlotte McKee (SS)(2)
(C) Elston McLain (NR)(2)	(L) Terry Mullins (CM)(2)	(C) Bobby Black (TR)(2)
(L) Dahyam Olivera (SS)(2)	(L) Tepa Bigham (HI)(2)	(L) Nathaniel Watson (TR)(2)

Ex-Officio Members:
 Representative, Hispanic Ministry..... Mike Feely
 Staff Resource / Cabinet Representative..... Mike Sluder

VI.c.2 CHURCH AND SOCIETY MINISTRY AREA

(Chair) (2016 BOD ¶629).

Chairperson (C) Don Hanshew (NR)(2)

VI.c.3 STATUS AND ROLE OF WOMEN MINISTRY AREA

(Chair) (2016 BOD ¶644).

Chairperson (C) Sharon Bowers (CM)

VI.c.4 CHRISTIAN UNITY AND INTER-RELIGIOUS RELATIONSHIPS MINISTRY AREA

(Chair) (2016 BOD ¶642).

Chairperson (L) Diane James (TV)

VI.c.5 DISABILITY CONCERNS

(Chair)(2016 BOD ¶653).

Chairperson (C) Brian Burch (NR)

VI.c.6 STRENGTH FOR THE JOURNEY TEAM

*Total membership = 12
9 elected, Ex-Officio Cabinet Representative, staff, Founding Director.*

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

(L) Steve Reis (TR)(1) (L) Joseph Rhymer (CM)(2) (L) Ann Stuart (TV)(2)
(C) Heidi Parunak (MV)(1) (C) Jan Thomas (TV)(2) (L) Rob Saunders (MV)(2)
(C) Dennis Loy (TV)(2) (L) David Frost (TR)(2) (L) Betty Yeomans-Barton (TR)(2)

Alternate Members: (L) Amy Blumberg (TR)(1)

Ex-Officio Members:
Founding Director Dot Avers
Staff Resource Mike Sluder
Cabinet Representative Lauri Jo Cranford

VI.c.7 CONFERENCE REPRESENTATIVE TO HOLSTON HOME FOR CHILDREN

Chairperson (C) Barbara Clark (SM)

VI.c.8 NATIVE AMERICAN MINISTRIES TEAM

*Total Membership = 10
9 elected members, Cabinet Representative (2016 BOD ¶654). With the goal of at least one person from each district and preference given to persons with Native American ancestry.*

Chairperson (C) Valerie Ohle (SM)
Vice Chairperson (L) Myra Buffaloe (TV)
Secretary TBD

(C) H. Michael Somers (AP)(1) (C) Valerie Ohle (SM)(2) (L) Myra Buffaloe (TV)(1)
(C) H. Wayne Cook (SS)(1) (C) Kristie Banes (MV)(1) (L) Bonnie Seiber (TV)(1)

Ex-Officio Members:
Cabinet Representative Mike Sluder

VI.c.9 AFRICAN AMERICAN MINISTRY TEAM

Total Membership = 8

6 elected members, Ex-Officio: Representative, Religion and Race and Director of Connectional Ministries.

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

(C) Bobby Black (TR)(2) (C) Charlotte Williams (SS)(2) (L) Susan Montgomery (TV)(2)
(C) Estel Williams (TR)(2) (C) Paige Wimberly (NR)(2) (L) Deborah Neal (NR)(2)

Ex-Officio Members:
Representative, Religion and Race Walter Cross
Director of Connectional Ministry Mike Sluder

VI.d STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY TEAM

Total Membership = 15

12 elected members, Cabinet Representative, Staff Resource, Director of Connectional Ministries

Chairperson (C) Troy Forrester(TV)
Vice Chairperson (C) Martha Scott (TV)
Secretary (C) Susan Arnold (TR)

(C) David Jackson (CM)(2) (C) Carol Alley (AP)(2) (C) Martha Scott (TV)(1)
(C) Robert Countiss (CM)(2) (C) Will Conner (HI)(1) (L) Sabine Collins (TV)(1)
(C) Troy Forrester (TV)(2) (C) Susan Arnold (TR)(2) (L) Sheri Hagood (SM)(2)
(C) Chuck Griffin (TV)(2) (C) Debbie Stokes (SS)(2) (L) Alex Fesmire Shelton (NR)(2)

Ex-Officio Members:
Director of Connectional Ministries Mike Sluder
Staff Resource Richard Edwards
Cabinet Representative Paul Bowman

VI.e WITNESS MINISTRY TEAM

Total Membership = 17

12 elected members, Chairpersons of Committee on Small Membership Congregation Team and Hispanic/Latino Ministry Leadership Team, Director of Congregational Development & Revitalization, Director of Connectional Ministries, and Cabinet Representative

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

(C) Ray Amos, Jr. (CM)(2) (C) David Hall (SS)(2) (L) Emily Ballard (TV)(2)
(C) Kristen Burkhart (TV)(2) (C) Scott Layer (TV)(2) (C) Dave Whaley (HI)(1)
(C) Will Lauderback (SS)(2) (L) Joyce Moore (CM)(2) (L) Dan Young (SS)(1)
(C) Maria Grimm (AP)(2) (L) Elaine Hawkins (NR)(2) (C) Don Smith (TR)(1)

Ex-Officio Members:
Chairperson, Small Membership Congregation Team..... Annette Warren
Chairperson, Hispanic/Latino Leadership Team Mike Feely
Director of Congregational Development & Revitalization / Staff **Susan Arnold**
Director of Connectional Ministries / Staff Mike Sluder
Cabinet Representative Jane Taylor

VI.e.1 SMALL MEMBERSHIP CONGREGATION TEAM

Total Membership = 10

9 elected members, Cabinet Representative

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

(C) Braxton Cotton (SS)(1)	(C) C. Scott Spence (CM)(2)	(L) Terry Frerichs (SM)(2)
(C) Caroline Hawthorne (CM)(2)	(C) Michael Teague (CM)(2)	(L) Dan Duggar (MV)(2)
(C) Layne Pennington (AP)(2)	(C) Annette Warren (CM)(2)	(L) Donna Mosby (TV)(2)

Ex-Officio Members:

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

VI.e.2 HISPANIC / LATINO LEADERSHIP TEAM

Total Membership = 13

12 elected members, Cabinet Representative

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

(C) Marta Cogburn (MV)(2)	(C) Susana Lopez (SM)(2)	(L) John Clayton (SM)(1)
(C) Debra Dickerson (SS)(2)	(C) Jim Goddard (NR)(2)	(L) Kacye Castenir (SM)(2)
(C) Barbara Farmer (CM)(2)	(C) Bradley Stapleton (AP)(2)	(L) Mike Feely (SS)(2)
(C) Javier Hernandez-Torres (NR)(2)	(C) Ramon Torres (HI)(2)	(C) Todd Adams (TR)(2)

Ex-Officio Members:

Staff Resource Annette Spence, Mike Sluder
Cabinet Representative Jane Taylor

VI.f COMMITTEE ON SEXUAL ETHICS & BOUNDARIES

Total Membership = 13

9 elected members, Ex-Officio: Representative – Board of Ordained Ministry, Director-Center for Wellbeing (with vote), Director- Office of Clergy Services / Staff Resource and Cabinet Representative.

Chairperson **(C) Caleb Pitkin**
Vice-Chairperson **(C) Clair Sauer**
Secretary **(C) Timothy Hankins**

(C) Caleb Pitkin (SS)(2)	(C) Timothy Hankins (TV)(2)	(C) Sharon Bowers (CM)(2)
(C) Leah Burns (TV)(2)	(C) Clair Sauer (SS)(1)	(L) Moises Martinez (CM)(1)
(L) Donita Denton (TR)(1)	(L) Judy Cole (TR)(1)	(L) Harold Bryson (SS)(1)

Ex-Officio Members:

Representative, Board of Ordained Ministry Robert Countiss
Center for Wellbeing, Director..... Kathy Heustess
Conference Secretary / Staff Resource Terry Goodman
Cabinet Representative Lauri Jo Cranford

VII BOARD OF ORDAINED MINISTRY (BOM)

Total Membership = up to 55

Up to 48 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 (2016 BOD ¶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; 2 District Superintendents appointed by Resident Bishop. The Board shall select its own officers. (2016 BOD ¶635, ¶306-309)

Chairperson Mickey Rainwater*
 Vice-Chairperson Don Hanshew*
 Secretary Lauri Hale*

Divisions:

Chair, Division of Elders David Graybeal*
 Co-Chair, Division of Local Pastors and Associate Members Susan Arnold*
 Co-Chair, Division of Local Pastors and Associate Members Chuck Starks*
 Chair, Division of Deacons, Diaconal Concerns & Professional Certification Rebekah Fetzer*

Committees:

Chair, Provisional Mentoring and Recruitment Committee (RIM) Dennie Humphreys*
 Co-Chair, Psychological Assessment Committee (PAC) Mary C. Thompson*
 Co-Chair, Psychological Assessment Committee (PAC) Christopher J. Brown*
 Chair, Conference Relations Committee (CRC) Bradley H. Scott*
 Chair Vocational Discernment Committee (VDC) Bradley K. Hyde*

(FE) Susan N. Arnold (TR)	(FE) Gary W. Grogg (SS)	(FD) Stephanie Parrott (TV)
(FE) Aaron D. Atchley (TR)	(FD) Susan L. Groseclose (SM)	(FE) Mickey W. Rainwater (SM)
(FE) Sharon Bowers (CM)	(FE) Elizabeth 'Liz' Hamilton (AP)	(FE) Bradley H. Scott (HI)
(FE) Mary K. Briggs (TV)	(FE) Donald R. Hanshew (NR)	(FE) William R. Shelton (NR)
(FE) Christopher J. Brown (AP)	(RE) Dennie D. Humphreys (MV)	(FE) Michael G. Sluder (SM)
(FE) Thomas John 'T.J.' Burdine (MV)	(FE) Bradley K. Hyde (TV)	(FE) Crystal Salyers Smith (TR)
(FE) J. Robert Countiss (CM)	(FE) Timothy W. Jones (SM)	(FE) C. Scott Spence (CM)
(AM) Walter H. Cross (TV)	(FE) Adam T. Love (AP)	(FE) Charles W. Starks (SS)
(FE) Barbara A. Doyle (CM)	(FE) Nathan A. Malone (SS)	(FE) James Russell Taylor (SM)
(FD) Rebekah Fetzer (SM)	(RD) Glenna B. Manning (TV)	(FD) Mary C. Thompson (HI)
(FE) David W. Graybeal (HI)	(FE) Micah Joel Nicolaus (HI)	
(L) Robert Ergenbright (SM)	(L) Laura McLean (SM)	(L) Lee Sherbakoff (TV)
(L) Lauri Hale (TR)	(L) Deborah Neal (NR)	(L) Ralph Skinner (TV)

Ex-Officio Members:

Chair, Order of Elders Sharon Bowers*
 Chair, Order of Deacons Stephanie Parrott*
 Co-Chair, Fellowship of Associate Members and Local Pastors **TBD***
 Co-Chair, Fellowship of Associate Members and Local Pastors Wayne Cook*
 Director of Clergy Services / Administrative Registrar / Staff Resource Terry Goodman
 Cabinet Representatives Jane Taylor, Reed Shell

* Denotes Board of Ordained Ministry Executive Committee (BOMECE)

VIII GROUPS RELATED TO THE CABINET & ORDAINED MINISTRY

VIII.a ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW COMMITTEE

Total Membership = 5
3 elected clergy in full connection and two alternate clergy in full connection, nominated by the Bishop and elected by the Clergy Session.
(2016 BOD ¶636)

- Chairperson..... (C) Brent Hall
- (C) Brent Hall (TV)(2) (C) Janet Edwards (TV)(2) (C) Carole Martin (AP)(2)

VIII.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 (2016 BOD ¶2703.2).

- (L) Mary B. Baker (AP)(2) (L) Nan Carver (TR)(2) (L) Michael A. Eastridge (TR)(2)
- (C) John H. Graham (CM)(2) (L) Alan Hawthorne (NR)(2) (L) Bob Lilly (SM)(2)
- (C) Charles William Maynard (SM)(2) (C) Adam E. McKee (SS)(2) (C) Robert Kariuki Nyaga (CM)(2)
- (L) Kelly Price (MV)(2) (L) Mike Slimbarski (TV)(2) (C) Melissa R. Smith (SM)(2)
- (C) Jonothan David Tabor (TV)(2) (C) Mary Elizabeth Tipton (AP)(2)

VIII.c ORDER OF DEACONS, ORDER OF ELDERS

(2016 BOD ¶306-309)

VIII.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, Board of Ordained Ministry, and sub-groups related to and determined by the Center for Wellbeing Supervisory Committee.

- Chairperson..... (C) Laura Plaster (CM)
- Vice Chairperson..... **TBD**
- Secretary **TBD**
- (C) Sharon Bowers (CM)(2) (C) Elizabeth Hernandez-Lopez(NR)(1) (C) Cynthia Frye (CM)(2)
- (L) Jim Lewis (SS)(1) (C) Laura Plaster (CM)(2) (C) Eric Bronkala (TV)(1)
- (C) Steve Patterson (SM)(1) (C) Brenda Carroll (TV)(1)
- Alternate..... (L) Greta Smith (SM)(1)
- Representative, Board of Ordained Ministry Sharon Bowers
- Representative, Partners in Crisis Nancy Ridenour
- Ex-Officio Members:
- Cabinet Representative Hugh Kilgore, Lauri Jo Cranford
- Director of Clergy Services / Staff Resource..... Terry Goodman

VIII.e CRITICAL INCIDENT RESPONSE TEAM

(formerly CWART)

Chairperson..... (C) Bob Ruth (AP)

VIII.e MINISTERS' CONVOCATION DESIGN TEAM

Total Membership 12

6 elected members chosen by the Convocation Design Team, Chair-Order of Deacons, Chair-Order of Elders, Chair(s)-Local Pastors and Associate Members, Director of Clergy Services, Administrative Assistant to Director of Clergy Services.

Chairperson..... (C) Laura Plaster (CM)
Vice Chairperson..... **TBD**
Secretary **TBD**

(C) Laura Plaster (CM)(2) (C) Andrew Lay (HI)(2) (C) Misti McCreary (AP)(2)
(C) Barbara Doyle (CM)(2) (C) H. Wayne Cook (SS)(1) (C) Will Shelton (NR)(2)

Ex-Officio Members:

Chair, Order of Deacons Stephanie Parrott
Chair, Order of Elders Sharon Bowers
Co-Chairs, Local Pastor Associate Member Susan Arnold, Charles Starks
Cabinet Representative Hugh Kilgore, Lauri Jo Cranford
Director of Clergy Services / Staff Resource Terry Goodman
Administrative Assistant / Staff Resource **TBD**

IX CONFERENCE COUNCIL ON FINANCE & 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. (2016 BOD ¶¶611, 612)

President..... (L) Carolyn Kidd (CM)
Vice President (C) Todd Chancey (SM)
Secretary (C) Michael Vaughn (AP)

(C) Sherrell Boles (TV)(2) (C) Janet S. Sweet (AP)(2) (L) Nat Foster (TV)(2)
(C) Jeremy McMillan (AP)(1) (C) Michael Vaughn (AP)(2) (C) Todd Chancey (SM)(2)
(L) George Scott (MV)(1) (L) Andy Nelson (TR)(1) (L) Carolyn Kidd (CM)(2)
(C) Timothy Hale (NR)(1) (L) Mary Baker (AP)(2) (L) Johnnie Bridges (TV)(1)
(C) Chuck Starks (SS)(2) (L) Robert Denney (TR)(1) (L) Steve Walling (TV)(2)

Ex-Officio Members: (without vote)

Resident Bishop Bishop Debra Wallace-Padgett
Conference Treasurer / Staff Resource Rick Cherry
Director of Connectional Ministries / Staff Resource Mike Sluder
Cabinet Representative Jason Gattis

X ADMINISTRATION

X.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. (2016 BOD ¶639)

Chairperson..... (C) David Tabor (TV)
Vice Chairperson..... (L) Brent Clark (TV)
Secretary (C) **Brian Burch (NR)**
Treasurer (L) Rick Cherry

2022
(C) Will Conner (HI)
(L) Robert Dan Taylor (MV)
(L) Amy Westmoreland (NR)

2023
(L) Brent Clark (TV)
(L) Diana Galloway (TV)
(C) David Jackson (CM)

2024
(L) Dan Duggar (MV)
(C) Betsy Switzer (HI)
TBD

2025
(L) Linda Colvin (SM)
(L) Rick Cooper (TV)
(C) Jim Whedbee (TV)

2026
(L) T.J. Newby (SM)
(L) Allen Gorrell (CM)
(C) David Tabor (TV)

2027
(L) Lisa Atkins (TV)
(C) Robert Burlingham (AP)
(C) Caleb Pitkin (SS)

2028
(L) Tom Strate (MV)
(L) Phyllis Herron (AP)
(C) Palmer Cantler (TV)

2029
(L) Josh Anderson (TV)
(L) Samantha Johnson (TV)
(C) Brooke Atchley (TR)

2030
(C) L. Knox Wimberly (NR)
(L) Helen McClaren (MV)
(L) Jacqueline Brown (SS)

Ex-Officio Members:

Pensions Director..... Rick Cherry
Chairperson, Joint Committee on Medical Leave (Incapacity)..... Brian Burch
Benefits Officer / Staff Resource..... Julie Graham
Consultant Trinity Advisors..... Chris Poynter / Drew Mann
Cabinet Representative Rick Cherry

X.b BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Total Membership = 16

12 elected members, Cabinet Representative; Ex-Officio, non-voting CFA representative, Resident Bishop and non-voting Staff-Conference Treasurer. The Board shall elect its own officers. (2016 BOD ¶¶640, 2512-2550)

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

(C) Brian Burch (NR)(2) (C) Jonathan Jonas (SM)(2) (L) David McLain (SS)(2)
(C) Bruce Galyon (TV)(2) (C) Sandra Johnson (MV)(1) (L) Renni Morris (TV)(2)
(C) Dan Gray (CM)(2) (L) Robert Reedy (AP)(2) (C) Richie Hayes (TV)(2)
(L) Ken Johnson (MV)(2) (L) Mary Frances Tucker (TV)(2) **TBD**

Ex-Officio Members:

Resident Bishop..... Bishop Debra Wallace-Padgett
Conference Treasurer / Staff Resource Rick Cherry
CFA Representative Carolyn Kidd
Cabinet Representative Lauri Jo Cranford

X.c COMMISSION ON ARCHIVES AND HISTORY

Total Membership = 14

9 elected members, Cabinet Representative, Historical Society Representative, Conference Archivist, Conference Historian and Staff-Conference Secretary. (2016 BOD ¶641).

Chairperson (C) Bradley H. Scott (HI)
Vice Chairperson..... (C) Ron Fisher (HI)
Secretary (L) Sue Tilson (CM)

(C) Ron Fisher (SM)(2) (C) David St. Clair (CM)(2) (C) Bradley H. Scott (HI)(1)
(C) Charles Maynard (SM)(2) (L) Harold Hartman (TV)(2) (L) Madge Walker (MV)(2)
(C) Mike Hubble (HI)(2) (C) Tom Ballard (TV)(2) (L) Sue Tilson (CM)(2)

Ex-Officio Members:

Conference Historian **TBD**
Historical Society Representative..... Bradley H. Scott
Conference Secretary / Staff Terry D. Goodman
Cabinet Representative Kim Goddard
Conference Archivist Daniel Ferkin, MSIS

X.d COMMISSION ON EQUITABLE COMPENSATION

Total Membership = 14

10 elected members [an equal number of lay and clergy members], Executive Assistant to the Bishop, one District Superintendent-(Sustentation Funds), Staff-Conference Treasurer, Staff-Director of Clergy Services/Conference Secretary. (2016 BOD ¶625).

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

(C) Larry Carroll (TV)(2) (L) Jack Brewster (NR)(2) (C) Aaron Atchley (CM)(2)
(L) Teresa Gammons (MV)(2) (C) Bruce Galyon (TV)(2) (L) Mollianne Hubbs (SM)(2)
(C) Jim Oxendine (CM)(2) (L) Lee Sherbakoff (TV)(2) (C) Jason Ratliff (AP)(1)
(L) Mary Frances Tucker (TV)(2)

Ex-Officio Members:

Conference Treasurer / Staff Resource Rick Cherry
Executive Assistant to the Bishop..... Open
Director, Clergy Services / Conference Secretary / Staff Resource..... Terry Goodman
Sustentation Funds / District Superintendent / Cabinet Representative..... Jason Gattis

X.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. (2016 BOD ¶637)

Chairperson (L) Del Holley (SM)
Vice Chairperson..... (C) Robert Countiss (TR)
Secretary **TBD**

*(L) Rebecca ‘Becky’ Hall (SS)(1) (L) Del Holley (SM)(2) (C) Liz Hamilton (AP)(1)
(C) Robert Countiss (TR)(2) (L) Bryan Dantzler (SS)(2) (C) Walter Cross (TV)(1)
(L) Joyce Moore (CM)(1) (L) Oliver McBride (NR)(1) (L) Linda Franklin (MV)(2)
(C) Bill Rimmer (TV)(2) (L) Gary James (SS)(2) (L) Phyllis Ripley (MV)(2)

Appointed by the Bishop:

(C) Dennie Humphreys (MV) (L) Becky Jaquish (HI)(1) (L) Dee Ann Collins (TV)

Ex-Officio Members:

Cabinet Representative Rick Cherry
Members, Jurisdictional Committee (with vote) Emily Ballard, Kim Goddard

X.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, a member of the Order of Deacons, and additional lay and clergy persons for equalization of lay and clergy membership.

Chairperson Bishop Debra Wallace-Padgett
Conference Secretary Terry Goodman

District Superintendents **Jeffrey Lambert (AP)**, Jane Taylor (CM), Elihugh Kilgore (HI),
Angela Hardy Cross (MV), Kim Goddard (NR), Jason Gattis (SM), Reed Shell (SS),
Ann Robins (TV), Lauri Jo Cranford (TR)

Extended Cabinet Paul Bowman, Rick Cherry, Rebecca 'Becky' Hall, Terry Goodman, **Susan Arnold**,
Mike Sluder, Tim Jones, **Mike Eastridge, Mickey Rainwater**

Presidents:

United Methodist Men **TBD**
United Women in Faith Donna Mosby (TV)
United Methodist Youth Rep Meri Grant (TV)

Ex-Officio Members:

Chairperson, Discipleship Team Elizabeth Hamilton
District Representatives Christi Stapleton (AP), Sue Tilson (CM), Rick Lay (HI),
Linda Schumann (MV), Mike Holcomb (NR), Deborah Neal (NR),
Rebecca 'Becky' Hall (SS), Glenda Eastridge (SM), Remmi Morris (TV),
Jennifer Mongold (TR)

X.g COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS AND RESOLUTIONS

Total Membership = 12

9 elected members, Ex-Officio a member of the current Holston delegation to General Conference, the Secretary of the Annual Conference and a Cabinet Representative.

Chairperson (L) John Eldridge (TV)

(C) James Bennington (CM)(1)	(L) Matthew Roberts (AP)(1)	(L) Danny Tullier (SS)(2)
(C) Paul Seay (SM)(2)	(C) Monty Walton (SM)(2)	(L) Stephanie Strutner (TV)(2)
(C) Elston McLain (NR)(2)	(L) John Eldridge (TV)(2)	(C) Wil Cantrell (TV)(1)

Ex-Officio Members (without vote):

2020 Delegate for General Conference (named by Delegation) Rebecca 'Becky' Hall
Conference Secretary / Staff Resource Terry Goodman
Cabinet Representative Kim Goddard

X.h COMMITTEE ON RULES OF ORDER

Total Membership = 14

8 elected members (4 Lay and 4 Clergy) nominated by the Committee on Nominations and elected by the Annual Conference, 6 Ex-Officio members with vote: Resident Bishop, Conference Chancellor, Conference Secretary, Cabinet Representative, Executive Assistant to the Bishop, and Parliamentarian.

Chairperson..... (C) Bradley H. Scott (HI)

(C) Bradley H. Scott (HI)(2) (C) Stephen Hawkins (CM)(1) (C) David Jackson (CM)(2)
(L) Ginger Buchanan (HI)(1) (L) Nathan Rowell (TV)(2) (C) Paul Longmire (TR)(2)
(L) Donna Mosby (TV)(1) (L) Jim Wheeler (TR)(2)

Ex-Officio Members:

Resident Bishop Bishop Debra Wallace-Padgett
Executive Assistant to the Bishop..... Open
Conference Secretary / Staff Resource Terry Goodman
Chancellor..... John Eldridge
Cabinet Representative Mike Sluder
Parliamentarian Del Holley

X.i EPISCOPAL RESIDENCE COMMITTEE

Total Membership = 5

Chairs or Representatives of the Committee on Episcopacy, the Council on Finance and Administration, and the Board of Trustees, plus A Cabinet Representative and the Executive Assistant to the Bishop (Ex-Officio). (2016 BOD ¶638)

Chairperson or Representative, Committee on Episcopacy..... Del Holley
Chairperson or Representative, Board of Trustees David McLain
Chairperson or Representative, Conf. Council on Finance and Administration..... Carolyn Kidd
Cabinet Representative Rick Cherry

Ex-Officio Member:

Executive Assistant to the Bishop..... Open

X.j PERSONNEL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Total Membership = 18

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, Cabinet Representative, Resident Bishop (Ex-Officio).

Chairperson..... (C) Reed Shell (SS)
Vice Chairperson..... (L) Joe Harvey (AP)
Secretary **TBD**

(L) Benny Brewster (MV)(2) (C) Adam Love (AP)(2) (L) Kathy Hoard (MV)(2)
(C) Anthony Grills (CM)(2) (C) Reed Shell (SS)(2) (C) Terryl James (SS)(2)
(C) Jonathan Jonas (CM)(2) (C) Jared Wood (SS)(2) (L) Joe Harvey (AP)(2)
(C) Harry Layell (AP)(2) (L) Gail Catron (NR)(1) (L) Chris Lee (TV)(2)

Ex-Officio Members:

Resident Bishop Bishop Debra Wallace-Padgett
Chairperson or Representative, Committee on Episcopacy Del Holley
Executive Assistant to the Bishop..... Open
Conference Chancellor John Eldridge
Chairperson or Representative, Council on Finance & Administration Carolyn Kidd
Cabinet Representative Ann P. Robins

X.k PROGRAM COMMITTEE, ANNUAL CONFERENCE SESSION

Total Membership = 9+

Resident Bishop, Conference Secretary, Conference Lay Leader, President of United Methodist Men, President of United Women in Faith (formerly United Methodist Women), Chairperson of Discipleship Team, Director of Connectional Ministries, Chair of Religion and Race, Chair of COSROW, and a District Superintendent, chosen by the Cabinet, and additional members appointed by Resident Bishop as necessary

XI SUPPORT GROUPS

XI.a UNITED METHODIST MEN (UMM)

All men of local churches or charges chartered or unchartered within the bounds of the Annual Conference. (2016 BOD ¶648).

President **TBD**
Honorary President..... Bishop Wallace-Padgett
Northern Vice President Powell Kidd
Southern Vice President Daniel Taylor
Secretary..... James Sink
Treasurer..... Tom Mitoraj
Scouting Coordinator Rick Cherry
Prayer Advocate Tom Mitoraj
Staff Resource..... Rick Cherry
Cabinet Representatives **TBD**

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

XI.b UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH (UWF)

Formerly United Methodist Women

All members of local units within the bounds of the Conference. (2016 BOD ¶647)

President..... Donna Mosby
Vice President Margaret Forby
Secretary Jana Davison
Treasurer Mona Geer
Communications Coordinator TBD
Secretary of Program Resources..... TBD
Spiritual Growth Coordinator Pat Bellingrath
Education & Interpretation Coordinator . TBD
Social Action Coordinator..... Brittany Eastridge
Membership, Nurture &
Outreach Coordinator TBD
Committee on Nominations Chair .. Monica Sheppard-Viator
Archivist / Historian Carolyn Haerr
Legacy Fund Coordinator Tawana Teague
Ethnic & Cultural Diversity /
Language Coordinator Kacye Castenir
Mission u, Dean Susan Daffron
Mission u, Assistant Dean..... Lori Sluder
Deaconess Representative..... Mitzi Sadler-Thorne
UMW National Program
Advisory Group Representative..... Lynice Broyles
Cabinet Representative Kim Goddard
Bishop Debra Wallace-Padgett

District Presidents:
Appalachian Penny McClellan
Clinch Mountain Beverly Hayden
Hiwassee Cindy Mishtal
Mountain View Kelly Price
New River Mitzi Sadler-Thorne
Smoky Mountain Susan Daffron
Scenic South Karen Adair
Tennessee Valley Danielle Meyers
Three Rivers..... Joanne Peters

DISTRICT COMMITTEES ON ORDAINED MINISTRY (DCOM)

Nominated annually by the District Superintendent in consultation with the Chairperson or Executive Committee of the Board of Ordained Ministry and approved by the Annual Conference. (2016 BOD ¶666)

Appalachian (AP) District

(L) Mary B. Baker (Member)
(L) Martha. Bledsoe (Member)
(C) Christopher. Brown (Member)
(L) Joyce. Eberhart (Member)
(C) Pierce. Edwards (Member)
(C) Elizabeth Scott. Hamilton (Member)
(L) P Roger. Herron (Member)
(C) Nancy. Hobbs (Member)
(C) Harry. Layell (Member)
(C) Adam T. Love (Member)
(C) Bill R. Porter (Member)
(C) Timothy. Robinson (Member)
(L) Lana. Stallard (Member)
(C) Bradley K. Stapleton (Member)
(C) Amy Rebecca. Sumrall (Member)
(C) Janet Kay. Sweet (Member)
(C) Michael. Vaughn (Member)
(C) Jeffrey W. Wright (DS)
(L) John H. Wright (Member)
(C) Randall. Wright (Member)

Clinch Mountain (CM) District

(C) Raymond W. Amos (Member)
(L) Brenda. Ayers (Member)
(C) Sharon. Bowers (Member)
(C) Lisa C. Bryant (Member)
(C) Barbara A. Doyle (Member)
(C) Dale M. Gilbert (Vice-Chair)
(L) Eddie. Harrison (Member)
(C) Natalie. Justice (Member)
(C) Robert. Kariuki Nyaga (Member)
(C) Larry. Lusk (Member)
(L) Heda. Quillin (Member)
(C) Laura R. Rasor (Member)
(L) Vickie. Scyphers (Member)
(C) Paul Daniel. Seay (Member)
(C) C Scott. Spence (Member)
(C) David T. St Clair (Member)
(C) Jane Elizabeth. Taylor (DS)
(C) Annette. Warren (Member)
(C) Carolyn. Whitaker (Member)
(C) Sharon Wiley. Wright (Member)
(L) Donnie. Yates (Member)

Hiwassee (HI) District

(L) Robert. Donaghy (Member)
(C) Charles D. Ensminger (Member)
(L) Kay A. Freeman (Member)
(C) David M. Grant (Member)
(C) David W. Graybeal (Member)
(C) William W. Hedrick (Member)
(L) Rebecca. Jaquish (Member)
(C) Dwight S. Kilbourne (Member)
(C) Elihugh. Kilgore (DS)
(L) Rick. Lay (Member)
(C) Terril D. Littrell (Member)
(C) Micah Joel. Nicolaus (Member)
(C) D Layne. Pennington (Member)

Hiwassee (HI) District - continued

(C) Kenneth L. Scoggins (Member)
(C) Bradley H. Scott (Member)
(C) Mary. Thompson (Member)
(C) Michael. Travis (Member)

Mountain View (MV) District

(L) John. Allen (Member)
(C) Roger. Crim (Member)
(C) James. Fain (Member)
(L) Linda. Franklin (Member)
(L) Mark. Gapetz (Member)
(C) Angela M. Hardy Cross (DS)
(C) Leroy. Henry (Member)
(C) Dennie D. Humphreys (Member)
(C) Sandra J. Johnson (Member)
(C) Dixie J. Kelley (Member)
(C) Jason. McIntosh (Member)
(L) Nancy. Renner (Member)
(L) Zerudia. Rogers (Member)
(C) Charles Raymond. Spell (Member)
(C) Sarah. Varnell (Member)
(C) David. Vaughn (Member)
(C) David S. Woody (Member)

New River (NR) District

(C) Steven A. Aker (Member)
(C) Brian C. Burch (Member)
(C) Ronnie Gray. Collins (Member)
(C) James E. Goddard (Member)
(C) Kimberly M. Goddard (DS)
(C) Timothy. Hale (Member)
(L) Marva. Hickman (Member)
(C) L Rodney. Lawson (Member)
(C) Darlene J. Marshall (Member)
(L) Michael. McMahon (Member)
(C) William Donald. Scott (Member)
(C) William R. Shelton (Member)
(C) Lon F. Tobin (Member)
(C) Teresa. Tolbert (Member)
(L) Rick. Waddell (Member)
(C) Paige Pearson. Wimberly (Member)

Smoky Mountain (SM) District

(C) Lisa. Blackwood (Member)
(L) Robert. Ergenbright (Member)
(C) Ronald. Fisher (Member)
(C) Jason N. Gattis (DS)
(C) Timothy. Jones (Member)
(L) Amy. Large (Member)
(C) Charles D. Ledger (Member)
(C) Eugene. Lovell (Member)
(L) Kay. Phillips (Member)
(C) Sarah. Slack (Member)
(C) Melissa R. Smith (Member)
(C) Magan. Stubblefield (Member)
(C) Donald. Watkins (Member)

Scenic South (SS) District

(L) Dobbin. Callahan (Member)
(L) Rebekah. Ducote (Registrar)
(C) Dennis W. Flaughner (Member)
(C) Gary W. Grogg (Member)
(C) W David. Hall (Member)
(C) Evelyn Boutz. Harris (Member)
(L) Ginger. Housley (Member)
(C) Justin R. Keating (Member)
(C) Nathan A. Malone (Member)
(C) Adam E. McKee (Member)
(C) G Keith. Moore (Member)
(C) Caleb. Pitkin (Member)
(C) Laura Anderson. Shearer (Member)
(C) Reed L. Shell (DS)
(C) Gregory S. Smart (Member)
(C) Charles W. Starks (Member)
(C) Jared. Wood (Member)

Tennessee Valley (TV) District

(C) Timothy J. Best (Secretary)
(C) Sherrell E. Boles (Member)
(C) Mary K. Briggs (Member)
(C) Walter H. Cross (Member)
(C) Keith T. Hampson (Member)
(C) Charles C. Harrison (Member)
(C) Donna M. Hester (Member)
(C) Bradley K. Hyde (Member)
(L) Sherry E. Livengood (Member)
(C) Glenna B. Manning (Member)
(L) Renni. Morris (Member)
(C) Stephanie. Parrott (Member)
(C) Ann Robins (DS)
(L) Mike. Slimbarski (Member)

Three Rivers (TR) District

(L) Sally. Blackburn (Member)
(L) Lynice. Broyles (Member)
(C) Ricky H. Clowers (Member)
(C) John W. Crabtree (Member)
(C) Lauri Jo Cranford (DS)
(C) Caleb Raymond. Frazier (Member)
(L) Wendell Dell. Gates (Member)
(C) Douglas. Grove-DeJarnett (Member)
(C) Paul Gene. Humphrey (Member)
(C) Jodie Elizabeth. Ihfe (Member)
(C) Kimberly. Isley Selby (Member)
(C) Leann Kaye Frazier. Miller (Member)
(C) Richard D. Mullan (Member)
(C) Linda W. Rozar (Member)
(C) Crystal Salyers. Smith (Member)

DISTRICT BOARDS OF CHURCH LOCATION AND BUILDING

Nominated by the District Superintendent in consultation with the District Nominating Committee, if one exists, and elected annually by the Annual Conference. (2016 BOD ¶2519)

Appalachian (AP) District

Class of 2022..... Jack Edwards (Chair), Harry Layell, Garrett White
Class of 2023..... Ricky Begley, Larry Hobbs, Jeff Wadley
Class of 2024 **TBD**

Clinch Mountain (CM) District

Class of 2022..... Leonard Smith, Betty Webb, Jim Lyttle
Class of 2023..... Zach Hash, Danny Ruble (Chair), Scott Spence
Class of 2024 **Ed Ashley, Patricia Sauve, E. Crighton Smith**

Hiwassee (HI) District

Class of 2022..... Jerry Franitza, Rick Lay, Dave Whaley
Class of 2023..... Wayne Hickman, Ramon Torres, Arthur Bigham
Class of 2024 **Edith Jones, Donna Tisdale, Wendell Whaley**

Mountain View (MV) District

Class of 2022..... Bill Brown, Michael Cutshaw, Larry DeVault, William Rimmer
Class of 2023..... Guy Jones, Tom Rush
Class of 2024 **Linda Franklin, Alice Virginia ‘Ginger’ Isom, Douglas Jennings**

New River (NR) District

Class of 2022..... Ronnie Collins, Neal Hammons, Tim Smith (Chair)
Class of 2023..... GW Catron, Bill Webb
Class of 2024 **TBD**

Smoky Mountain (SM) District

Class of 2022..... Tim Paul, Garry Ferraris
Class of 2023..... Susan Daffron, Brad Lunde
Class of 2024 **Belinda Kenny**

Scenic South (SS) District

Class of 2022..... Keith Moore, Braxton Cotton, Daniel Oakley
Class of 2023..... John Bridger, Josh Kilbourne, Linda Gaddis
Class of 2024 **TBD**

Tennessee Valley (TV) District

Class of 2022..... Steve Walling (Chair), Tommy Schumpert, Mary Longworth
Class of 2023..... Jonathan Cooper, Kara Scheetz, David Gass
Class of 2024 **Rob Asbury, Thomas T Ballard, Lilly Rayson**

Three Rivers (TR) District

Class of 2022..... Liz Hughes, Butch Jones
Class of 2023..... Mark Laughlin, Linda Rozar
Class of 2024 **David Doan, Olen Haynes**

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.

XIII.a APPALACHIAN TRAIL CHAPLAIN TASK FORCE (2020-2023)

<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>
Mary Palmer	Debbie Cummings
David Smith	Matt Hall

XIII.b DISMANTLING RACISM TASK FORCE OF THE DISCIPLESHIP TEAM

The membership consists of 18-25 persons. Preferably at least two 2 people per district. Ex-Officio being the Resident Bishop, Communications Committee Representative, and three Cabinet representatives. The role of this taskforce is to assist the Cabinet in helping to lead the Conference in identifying and dismantling racism.

(C) Josh Swanson (AP)(1)	(C) Missy Belote (AP)(1)	(C) Laura Plaster (CM)(1)
(C) Robert Nyaga (CM)(1)	(C) Andrew Lay (HI)(1)	(C) Brenda Bell-McAdams (MV)(1)
(C) Don Hanshew (NR)(1)	(C) Charlotte Williams (SS)(1)	(C) Drew McCallie (SS)(1)
(C) Barbara Clark (SM)(1)	(C) Sarah Slack (SM)(1)	(C) Jimmy Sherrod (TV)(1)
(C) Leah Burns (TV)(1)	(L) Jacqueline Westfield (HI)(1)	(L) Carrie Hopper (TV)(1)
(L) Anthony Oliveira (NR)(1)	(L) Brett Jonas (SM)(1)	(L) Donna Mosby (TV)(1)
(L) Steven Reis (TR)(1)	(L) Betty Yeomans-Barton (TR)(1)	

Ex-Officio Members:

Resident Bishop	Bishop Debra Wallace-Padgett
Communications Committee Representative.....	Ben Smith
Cabinet Representative	Angela Hardy-Cross, Mike Sluder, Tim Jones

XIII.c AFFILIATION TASK FORCE

The membership consists of 9 persons as listed below.

Resident Bishop	Bishop Debra Wallace-Padgett
Appointment Cabinet, Dean.....	TBD
Conference Trustee, Chair	David McLain
Conference Treasurer.....	Rick Cherry
Conference Benefits Officer.....	Julie Graham
Connectional Ministries, Director.....	Mike Sluder
Conference Chancellor.....	John Eldridge
Conference Secretary	Terry Goodman
.....	Sharon Bowers

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.

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

(C) Amy Sumrall (MV)(2)	(C) Micah Nicolaus (HI)(2)	(L) Rick Cherry (TV)(2)
(C) Don Hanshew (NR)(2)	(C) Mike Sluder (SM)(2)	(L) Mike Eastridge (TR)(2)
(C) Rusty Taylor (SM)(2)	(L) Rebecca ‘Becky’ Hall (SS)(2)	(C) Willie Kitchens (SS)(2)
Bishop Debra Wallace-Padgett	(L) Leanna Johnson (TR)(2)	(C) Charles Maynard (SM)(2)
(C) Jeffrey Wright (AP)(2)	(L) David Scyphers (CM)(2)	

TRUSTEES AND DIRECTORS OF CONFERENCE RELATED INSTITUTIONS AND AGENCIES

HOLSTON FOUNDATION

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

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

Ex-Officio Members: Bishop Debra Wallace-Padgett, Rick Cherry

Panel of 2020:

John Anderson, Gary Bagnall, Brad Bower, David Goodson, Dr. Laurence Hesser, Charles Stewart, Mark Walker

Panel of 2021:

Mike Hinchler, Jim Johnston, Cheryl Light, Wanda Moody, Beth Peacock, Mike Reynolds, Mike Stice, Mary Frances Tucker

EAST TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY - WESLEY FOUNDATION BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Chairperson..... Anna Kapoor
Vice-Chairperson Abraham McIntyre
Secretary Rachel Barnett
Treasurer Kay Farmer
Executive Committee, Chair..... Adam Love
Trustees Committee, Chair Butch Jones
Scholarship Committee, Chair..... Kathy Feagins

John Botts	Estel Williams	Haden Scott
Susan Arnold	Michael Vaughn	John Redmond
Leah Adonalfi	Lauri Hale	Carolyn Kerr
Jodie Ihfe	Nathan Dugger	Sarah Varnell
Liz Hamilton	Jeff Wadley	Paul Bowman

Ex-Officio Members:

Campus Minister, ETSU Wesley Foundation Caleb Frazier
Operations Director, ETSU Wesley Foundation Jess Sanders
District Superintendents..... Lauri Jo Cranford (TR), **Jeff Lambert (AP)**
Angela Hardy Cross (MV)
Board of Higher Education (C) Aaron Atchley (CM)
Staff Resource Laura McLean

RADFORD UNIVERSITY - WESLEY FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President..... Matt McDaniel
Vice-President..... Alan Ashworth
Secretary Dina Deaton
Treasurer Cory Schepisi
Students..... Lizzie Klink, Tori Pate, Ashley Verburg
Alternate..... **TBD**

Panel of 2022 Dina Deaton, Michael Hunt, Serounian Keir, Joe Mack Taylor
Panel of 2023 Carli Dotson, Donna Judy, Heather Rowland, Ron Mady
Panel of 2024 Alan Ashworth, Billy Caldwell, Matt McDaniel, Christi Wayne
Panel of 2025 Bob Boggess, David Coulson, Cory Schepisi, Hali Thorne

Ex-Officio Members:

Campus Director, Wesley Center Jan Nicholson Angle
District Superintendents..... Jane Taylor (CM), Kim Goddard (NR)
District Wesley Foundation Reps..... June Totten (CM), Christi Wayne (NR)
District Presidents of UMW..... Donna Camper (CM), Mitzi Sadler-Thorne (NR)
District Lay Leaders..... Sue Tilson (CM), Mike Holcomb (NR), Deborah Neal (NR)
Pastors, Radford Churches..... **TBD** (Carter St.), Don Smith (Central), Jan Nicholson-Angle (Grove),
TBD (New Mt. Olive)
Conference Staff Representative..... Laura McLean
Board of Higher Ed. & Campus Ministry Rep..... Ila Schepisi

UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE, CHATTANOOGA - WESLEY FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chair..... Dobbin Callahan
Vice Chair **TBD**
Treasurer **TBD**

Stuart French	Halley Andrews	Jeff Taylor	Steve Barham
Deanna Prather	Bill Gotschall	Beth Long	Chris Dover
Dwan Austin	Barbara Kitchens		

Ex-Officio Members:

Campus Director, Wesley Center G. Keith Moore
District Superintendents..... Reed Shell (SS), Hugh Kilgore (HI)
Conference Staff Representative..... Laura McLean

UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE, KNOXVILLE - WESLEY FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chairperson Jenny Fowler
Vice-Chairperson **TBD**
Secretary Misty McComas
Treasurer Ralph Skinner

Elected Members:

Kathy Lafollette	Harold Hicks	Brenda Carroll	Melissa Smith
Bill Heustess	Dennis Loy	Danielle Myers	Jacob Reedy
Linda Hampton Parker	Chris Black	Jo Lobertini	

Ex-Officio Members:

Campus Minister, Wesley Foundation Exec. Director Mary K. Pope Briggs
District Superintendents Ann Robins, Jason Gattis, Angela Hardy Cross
Conference Staff Representative..... Laura McLean
Board of Higher Education Campus Ministry Rep..... Aaron Atchley
Student Members Sam Stockard, Abby McDaniel, Isabella Mangano

UNIVERSITY OF VA-WISE - WESLEY FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chairperson Ken Purscell
Vice-Chairperson Susan Herron
Secretary Ben Harding
Treasurer Kenny Spurlock

Ex-Officio Members:

District Superintendents **Jeffrey Lambert (AP)**, Jane Taylor (CM)
District Lay Leader Christi Stapleton (AP)
District UMM President Powell Kidd (AP)
District UMW President Penny McClellan (AP)
Pastor Trinity, Wise UMC Phillip Bates
Member Emeritus Vacant

Ex-Officio Members: (without vote)

Campus Minister M. Beth Tipton
Conference Staff Liaison Laura McLean
Student Representatives Andrew Helton
Board of Higher Education, Liaison **TBD**

Members Sean Bailey, David Goodman, Maria Grimm, Ben Harding, Susan Herron
..... Nancy Hobbs, H. Rae Mullins, Casey Page, G. Pete Purdue, Kenneth Purscell,
..... Timothy Robinson, Kenny Spurlock, Randall Wright

Panel of 2021 Kenneth Purscell, Susan Herron
Panel of 2022 Timothy Robinson, Casey Page, G. Pete Purdue, Nancy Hobbs
Panel of 2023 Maria Grimm, Randall Wright, H. Rae Mullins
Panel of 2024 Sean Bailey, David Goodman, Ben Harding, Kenny Spurlock

== == == END OF REPORT == == ==

X.g COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS AND RESOLUTIONS (CPR)

The Committee met by zoom on March 1, 2022 and reviewed all 14 Resolutions in the order they were received.

RESOLUTION 01..... Moratorium on Church Trials in the Holston Conference

Whereas,

- the specially called 2019 General Conference of The United Methodist Church (UMC), meeting in St. Louis, passed the Traditional plan relative to the human sexuality matters facing the UMC; and
- Discipline ¶ 341.6 prohibits pastors from performing same sex weddings and Discipline ¶ 304.3 prohibits self-avowed practicing homosexuals (as defined by the *Book of Discipline*) from serving as ministers in The United Methodist Church; and
- the Discipline calls for violations are to be punished through the bringing of a complaint under Discipline ¶ 2702 of The UMC *Book of Discipline*; and
- a way forward for The UMC relative to human sexuality remains uncertain and in flux; and
- charging pastors with violations to Discipline ¶ 341.6 of the “No Same Sex Weddings” ban would cause harm to the individual pastor and to congregations and members of The UMC; and
- under Discipline ¶ 304.3, self-avowed practicing homosexuals (as defined by the *Book of Discipline*) are prevented from serving as clergy in the Holston Conference, resulting in the loss of effective ministers from ever serving in the Holston Conference; and
- Bishop Kenneth H. Carter, former President of the UMC Council of Bishops, has suggested that there be a moratorium on church trials;

Be it resolved,

- the Holston Annual Conference encourage the Bishop, the Holston Conference Board of Ordained Ministry and District Committees on Ministry to delay punitive action(s) on church trials relative to violations of Discipline ¶ 341.6 and Discipline ¶ 304.3 until the first Holston Annual Conference following the delayed 2020 General Conference and/or 2024 General Conference, to give clergy time to evaluate their moral and spiritual beliefs in light of changes that may occur at the delayed 2020 General Conference and/or 2024 General Conference, affecting the *Book of Discipline*.

Name	Signed On	Count
Amy Blumberg	12/15/2021	1
Betty Yeomans-Barton	12/15/2021	2
Caryl Russell	12/15/2021	3
Charles Neal	12/15/2021	4
Charlie Barton	12/15/2021	5
Cheryl Heisey	12/15/2021	6
Courtney Valentine	12/15/2021	7
Danny Tullier	12/15/2021	8
David Harrill	12/15/2022	9
Dawn Chesser	12/15/2021	10
Debera Dickerson	12/15/2021	11
Donald Rickels	12/15/2021	12
Edha Meadows-Brown	12/15/2021	13

Name	Signed On	Count
Ginny Case	12/15/2021	14
Glenda Eastridge	12/15/2021	15
Gregory Smith	12/15/2021	16
Jeff Kile	12/15/2021	17
Leslie Pusey	12/15/2021	18
Nancy Deatherage	12/15/2021	19
Patricia Bellingrath	12/15/2021	20
Rev. Bodhi Der Parunakian	12/15/2021	21
Robert Keener	12/15/2021	22
Steven Salazar	12/15/2021	23
Sue Schmadebeck	12/15/2021	24
Todd Cox	12/15/2021	25
Valerie Ohle	12/15/2021	26
David Schoeni	12/16/2021	27
Donna Schroder	12/16/2021	28
George Hixson	12/16/2021	29
Thorny Shattuck	12/16/2021	30
Tina Keener	12/17/2021	31
Scarlet Farr	12/18/2021	32
Martha Collins	12/19/2021	33
Riley Dickerson	12/22/2021	34
Brennen Smith	12/26/2021	35
Damien Young	12/26/2021	36
Julie Ward	12/26/2021	37
Karla Kurtz	12/26/2021	38
Kelda Lush	12/26/2021	39
Madison Manuel	12/26/2021	40
Maegan Mullinax	12/26/2021	41
Marc Gamble	12/26/2021	42
Maribel Marulanda	12/26/2021	43
Pedro Anaya	12/26/2021	44
Rev. Dr. Peggy Meade	12/26/2021	45
Suzuki Kirisaki	12/26/2021	46
Sylvia Friedl	12/26/2021	47
Tyler Lewelling	12/26/2021	48
Amanda Bryant	12/27/2021	49
Brenda Carroll	12/27/2021	50
Brian Steele	12/27/2021	51
Brittany Tullier	12/27/2021	52
Cheri Harr	12/27/2021	53
Daryl Stephens	12/27/2021	54
Deborah Bowman	12/27/2021	55
Deborah Ellis	12/27/2021	56
Deborah Yeomans-Barton	12/27/2021	57
Doug Poe	12/27/2021	58
Edith Hall	12/27/2021	59
Evan Badwal	12/27/2021	60
Jonathan Ryan	12/27/2021	61
Julya Johnson	12/27/2021	62
Kathleen Conley	12/27/2021	63
Iaj hu	12/27/2021	64
Louis Vegard	12/27/2021	65
Martin Rogers	12/27/2021	66
Melodye Gerdman	12/27/2021	67
Phil Mason	12/27/2021	68
Rafael Garate	12/27/2021	69

<u>Name</u>	<u>Signed On</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Signed On</u>	<u>Count</u>
Rory Walsh	12/27/2021	70	Becky Myatt	12/31/2021	129
Ruth Lawson	12/27/2021	71	Brian Newhart	12/31/2021	130
Stephanie McGee	12/27/2021	72	Douglas Haseltine	12/31/2021	131
Susan Johnson	12/27/2021	73	Gregory Wellman	12/31/2021	132
Teresa Gambrell	12/27/2021	74	Kevin Murphy	12/31/2021	133
Will Johnson	12/27/2021	75	Lydia Haseltine	12/31/2021	134
Yasmine Horton	12/27/2021	76	Nancy Brock	12/31/2021	135
Joe-d DowlingSoka	12/28/2021	77	Retta Overturf	12/31/2021	136
Lansing Hill	12/28/2021	78	Rhonda Wells	12/31/2021	137
Lisa Bryant	12/28/2021	79	Tom Brock	12/31/2021	138
Marla Bishop	12/28/2021	80	Kate Ambrose	1/1/2022	139
Mary K. Briggs	12/28/2021	81	Laurie McNeece	1/1/2022	140
Nate Roark	12/28/2021	82	Sara Bryant	1/1/2022	141
Paula Sandoval	12/28/2021	83	Dr. Joe Smiddy	1/2/2022	142
Ann Reego	12/29/2021	84	Lizbeth Smiddy	1/2/2022	143
Dennis Loy	12/29/2021	85	Bob Funke	1/3/2022	144
Emalie Love Egan Dockery	12/29/2021	86	Eliza Boyce	1/3/2022	145
Erin Gamble	12/29/2021	87	Carol E. Gentry	1/4/2022	146
Frank Trotter	12/29/2021	88	Martha Funke Funke	1/4/2022	147
George Odle	12/29/2021	89	Amanda Onks	1/5/2022	148
Gina Kinkaid	12/29/2021	90	Margaret Deans	1/5/2022	149
James Sessions	12/29/2021	91	Melissa Moback	1/10/2022	150
James Welch	12/29/2021	92	Randolph Cupp	1/13/2022	151
Jennifer Craig Fowler	12/29/2021	93	Larry McNatt	1/16/2022	152
Jill Alliman	12/29/2021	94	Stan DeBord	1/16/2022	153
Lala Smith	12/29/2021	95	Vernon Williams	1/16/2022	154
Lee Garrott	12/29/2021	96	Dan Young	1/17/2022	155
Mel Loyd	12/29/2021	97	Diego Rafael	1/17/2022	156
Pat Keyes	12/29/2021	98	Kyla Powell	1/17/2022	157
Patricia Parr	12/29/2021	99	Renee Mclaughlin	1/17/2022	158
Penney Helms	12/29/2021	100	Noemi Carter	1/21/2022	159
Rebecca Littleton	12/29/2021	101	Kimberly Williams	1/25/2022	160
Rebecca Yarosh	12/29/2021	102	Leanna Johnson	1/25/2022	161
Rebekah McGrady	12/29/2021	103	Lisa Weikel	1/29/2022	162
Rev. Anna Golladay	12/29/2021	104	Amy Yearly Holmes	2/3/2022	163
Ryan Russell	12/29/2021	105	David Martin	2/10/2022	164
Stacey McDonald	12/29/2021	106	Emily Simmons	2/10/2022	165
Stephanie Strutner	12/29/2021	107	Glenn Culp	2/10/2022	166
Stephen Doyal	12/29/2021	108	Jane Whitaker	2/10/2022	167
Tresa Childs	12/29/2021	109	Kristine Bowers	2/10/2022	168
Angela Luckic	12/30/2021	110	Rev. Barbara Clark	2/10/2022	169
Debbie Fritts	12/30/2021	111	Sydney Aldrich	2/10/2022	170
Elise Egan	12/30/2021	112	Kathy Brock	2/11/2022	171
Gail Preslar	12/30/2021	113	Rhonda Stallings	2/11/2022	172
Harrison Turner	12/30/2021	114	James Hardy	2/12/2022	173
Heather Wilson	12/30/2021	115	Kristine Buchanan	2/12/2022	174
Jesse Turner	12/30/2021	116	Linda "Dead Red" Spartans	2/12/2022	175
John Garland	12/30/2021	117	Delilah January	2/13/2022	176
Maggie Gainey	12/30/2021	118	John St'Patrick	2/13/2022	177
N David Roberts Jr	12/30/2021	119	Lizzy Haight	2/13/2022	178
Pamela Emerson	12/30/2021	120	Mia Arias	2/13/2022	179
Pat Turner	12/30/2021	121	Shequita Howard	2/13/2022	180
Sarah Pietruszka	12/30/2021	122	Sydney Clemmer	2/13/2022	181
Sybil Smith	12/30/2021	123	Wayne Cook	2/14/2022	182
Sydney Cooper	12/30/2021	124	Grace McDonald	2/16/2022	183
Valerie Beard	12/30/2021	125	C. Don Jones	2/26/2022	184
Victoria Welch	12/30/2021	126			
Wes McConnell	12/30/2021	127			
Zane Scott	12/30/2021	128			

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION 01:

The Committee concurs with this Resolution and urges its adoption by the Conference, primarily because it does not tie the hands of the Bishop and only seeks to delay any punitive action, not completely squelch it. On the other hand, there may be difficulty in implementing this delay, as there is a time limit for action to be take, once a formal charge is laid. Nonetheless, the Committee felt this Resolution was symbolic of the need to go slow and be sensitive as the UMC anticipates a General Conference which will likely end in a Church division.

Submitted by, John Eldridge, Chair

== == END OF RESOLUTION == ==

RESOLUTION 02.....A Resolution Encouraging Discernment

Whereas,

- Discipline ¶4, Article IV of the Constitution of The United Methodist Church (UMC) recognizes that all persons are of sacred worth; and
- Jesus invites us to read scripture through the lens of the Gospel message as expressed in Matthew 22: 37-40, ““You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.”; and
- Scripture calls for diversity in ministry by persons viewed as outcasts according to religious laws as is illustrated by Paul’s proclamation, “There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus” (Galatians 3:28); and
- in the Wesleyan tradition, we believe that the Holy Spirit continues to speak to us through prayerful examination of Scripture, tradition, experience, and reason, and we conclude that all persons are equally valuable in the sight of God; and
- the Social Principles of the UMC state, “We deplore acts of hate or violence against groups or persons based on race, color, national origin, ethnicity, age, gender, disability, status, economic condition, sexual orientation, gender identity...” (Discipline ¶162); and
- on May 7, 2018, the United Methodist Council of Bishops proposed allowing individual ministers and regional church bodies to decide whether to ordain LGBTQ ministers and perform same-sex weddings; and
- the called 2019 General Conference adopted the Traditional Plan relative to matters regarding human sexuality facing The UMC; and
- Discipline ¶304.3 prohibits self-avowed practicing homosexuals (as defined by the *Book of Discipline*) from serving as ministers in The UMC, and Discipline ¶341.6 prohibits ministers from performing same-sex weddings; and
- Discipline ¶304.3 states that self-avowed practicing homosexuals (as defined by the *Book of Discipline*) are prohibited from serving as ministers in the Holston Conference, resulting in the loss of effective and prospective ministers from ever serving in Holston Conference; and
- charging ministers with violations to Discipline ¶341.6 of the “No Same-Sex Weddings” ban would cause harm to individual ministers, to congregations, and to members of The UMC; and
- a way forward for The UMC in matters relative to human sexuality remains uncertain and in flux;

Be it resolved,

- the Holston Annual Conference encourage the General Conference delegates to the delayed 2020 General Conference and/or 2024 General Conference to prayerfully discern how they may support legislation that removes discriminatory language and the restrictions and penalties in the Discipline regarding ministry of and with LGBTQ persons.

Name	Signed On	Count
Amy Blumberg	12/15/2021	1
Barry Wallace	12/15/2021	2
Betty Yeomans-Barton	12/15/2021	3
Caleb Pitkin	12/15/2021	4
Caryl Griffin Russell	12/15/2021	5
Charles Neal	12/15/2021	6
Charlie Barton	12/15/2021	7
Cheryl Heisey	12/15/2021	8
Courtney Valentine	12/15/2021	9
Danny Tullier	12/15/2021	10
David Harrill	12/15/2021	11
Dawn Chesser	12/15/2021	12
Debra Dickerson	12/15/2021	13
Donald Rickels	12/15/2021	14
George Odle	12/15/2021	15
Ginny West Case	12/15/2021	16
Gregory Smith	12/15/2021	17
Judith Anna	12/15/2021	18
Judy Lovely	12/15/2021	19
Laurie McNeece	12/15/2021	20
Leslie Pusey	12/15/2021	21
Marla Bishop	12/15/2021	22
Nancy Phillips Deatherage	12/15/2021	23
Patricia Bellingrath	12/15/2021	24
Rebekah McGrady	12/15/2021	25
Robert Keener	12/15/2021	26
Sue Schmadebeck	12/15/2021	27
Todd Cox	12/15/2021	28
Valerie Ohle	12/15/2021	29
William L Dockery	12/15/2021	30
Andrew Contreras	12/16/2021	31
Angel Gonzalez	12/16/2021	32
Ashley Cartagena	12/16/2021	33
Carlos Guzman	12/16/2021	34
Celia Ferguson	12/16/2021	35
Charlie Glass	12/16/2021	36
Cheri Harr	12/16/2021	37
Christina DowlingSoka	12/16/2021	38
Christina Draper	12/16/2021	39
David Schoeni	12/16/2021	40
Deborah Yeomans-Barton	12/16/2021	41
Donna Schroeder	12/16/2021	42
Ector Cervantes	12/16/2021	43
Hector Sarabia	12/16/2021	44
Joe-d DowlingSoka	12/16/2021	45
Karen German	12/16/2021	46
Lori Ivy	12/16/2021	47
Luis Zermeño	12/16/2021	48

Name	Signed On	Count	Name	Signed On	Count
Maria Castillo Mason	12/16/2021	49	Jennifer Fowler	12/29/2021	109
Marie Perelman	12/16/2021	50	Jerri Ewell	12/29/2021	110
Omar lopez	12/16/2021	51	Jill Alliman	12/29/2021	111
Pavan Vemulakonda	12/16/2021	52	Linda Ray	12/29/2021	112
Ron Matthews	12/16/2021	53	megan watson	12/29/2021	113
Rosemary Borrego	12/16/2021	54	Pat Keyes	12/29/2021	114
Teresa Glick	12/16/2021	55	Penelope Helms	12/29/2021	115
Thorny Shattuck	12/16/2021	56	Rebecca Yarosh	12/29/2021	116
Verna John	12/16/2021	57	Rev. Anna Golladay	12/29/2021	117
William Avila	12/16/2021	58	Richard Armbrister	12/29/2021	118
Zach Hash	12/16/2021	59	Rick Russell	12/29/2021	119
Brenda Carroll	12/17/2021	60	Robert Jones	12/29/2021	120
Cynthia Del Cul	12/17/2021	61	Shannon Love	12/29/2021	121
Marc Gamble	12/17/2021	62	Stephanie Strutner	12/29/2021	122
Mary K. Briggs	12/17/2021	63	Stephen Doyal	12/29/2021	123
Ricardo Rodriguez	12/17/2021	64	Tyler Lewelling	12/29/2021	124
Tina Keener	12/17/2021	65	Vanessa Sherwood	12/29/2021	125
Victor Moreno	12/17/2021	66	Angela Luckie	12/30/2021	126
Martha Collins	12/19/2021	67	Debbie Fritts	12/30/2021	127
Cynthia Castaneda	12/22/2021	68	Gail Preslar	12/30/2021	128
Jason Marcenich	12/22/2021	69	Harrison Turner	12/30/2021	129
Riley Dickerson	12/22/2021	70	Jason Rizk	12/30/2021	130
vincent cherian	12/22/2021	71	Jesse turner	12/30/2021	131
Cora McMichael	12/26/2021	72	Jessica Johns	12/30/2021	132
Lala Smith	12/26/2021	73	Joseph Valdez	12/30/2021	133
Lynne Overall	12/26/2021	74	Joy Eastridge	12/30/2021	134
Margaret Denney	12/26/2021	75	Maggie Gainey	12/30/2021	135
Robin Venner	12/26/2021	76	Michael Vaughn	12/30/2021	136
Daryl Stephens	12/27/2021	77	N David Roberts Jr	12/30/2021	137
Debbie LaFleur	12/27/2021	78	Patricia Turner	12/30/2021	138
Don Hanshew	12/27/2021	79	Sarah Pietruszka	12/30/2021	139
Doug Poe	12/27/2021	80	Sydney Cooper	12/30/2021	140
Eden Campbell	12/27/2021	81	Valerie Beard	12/30/2021	141
Emalie Love Egan Dockery	12/27/2021	82	Vikki Welch	12/30/2021	142
Julya Johnson	12/27/2021	83	Wes McConnell	12/30/2021	143
Karla Kurtz	12/27/2021	84	Zane Scott	12/30/2021	144
Kathleen Conley	12/27/2021	85	Agim Demirovski	12/31/2021	145
Laurel Worthington	12/27/2021	86	Becky Myatt	12/31/2021	146
Martin Rogers	12/27/2021	87	Douglas Haseltine	12/31/2021	147
Nickolas Mckenzie	12/27/2021	88	George Hixson	12/31/2021	148
Sean Hammond	12/27/2021	89	Kevin Murphy	12/31/2021	149
Stephanie Parrott	12/27/2021	90	Lydia Haseltine	12/31/2021	150
Will Johnson	12/27/2021	91	Retta Overturf	12/31/2021	151
Yasmine Horton	12/27/2021	92	Tom Brock	12/31/2021	152
Chuck Cardwell	12/28/2021	93	Jocsan Perez	1/1/2022	153
Glenda Peck	12/28/2021	94	Kimberly Figueroa	1/1/2022	154
Lansing Hill	12/28/2021	95	Kitty Loewen	1/1/2022	155
Lisa Bryant	12/28/2021	96	Milton H Nelson	1/1/2022	156
Marla Grandolph	12/28/2021	97	Joe Smiddy	1/2/2022	157
Nate Roark	12/28/2021	98	Liudmila Prieto Jorge	1/2/2022	158
Paula Sandoval	12/28/2021	99	Lizbeth Smiddy	1/2/2022	159
Rev. Seth O'Kegley-Gibson	12/28/2021	100	Paola Lopez	1/2/2022	160
abygale saddler	12/29/2021	101	adelia pages	1/3/2022	161
Brennan Smith	12/29/2021	102	Bob Funke	1/3/2022	162
Bryan Underwood	12/29/2021	103	david rooker	1/3/2022	163
Erin Gamble	12/29/2021	104	Nancy Thelot	1/3/2022	164
Frank Trotter	12/29/2021	105	Wes Delo	1/3/2022	165
geraldyne north	12/29/2021	106	Martha Funke	1/4/2022	166
Gina Kinkaid	12/29/2021	107	Yonatan Martinez	1/4/2022	167
James Welch	12/29/2021	108	Amanda Onks	1/5/2022	168

<u>Name</u>	<u>Signed On</u>	<u>Count</u>
Patsy Barnett	1/8/2022	169
Melissa Moback	1/10/2022	170
Keshaundra Mosbly	1/14/2022	171
Alan Eleazer	1/16/2022	172
Amy Kite	1/16/2022	173
Bodhi Der Parunakian	1/16/2022	174
Diana Brown Taylor	1/16/2022	175
Edha Meadows-Brown	1/16/2022	176
Janet Powell	1/16/2022	177
Katey Carr	1/16/2022	178
Larry McNatt	1/16/2022	179
Vernon Williams	1/16/2022	180
Abigail Cunningham	1/17/2022	181
Anita Berryman	1/17/2022	182
Barbara Hodges	1/17/2022	183
Dan Young	1/17/2022	184
Maegan Mullinax	1/17/2022	185
Renee Mclaughlin	1/17/2022	186
Will Wise	1/19/2022	187
Noemi Carter	1/21/2022	188
Kimberly Williams	1/25/2022	189
Leanna Johnson	1/25/2022	190
Michelle Stroescu	1/26/2022	191
Lisa Weikel	1/29/2022	192

<u>Name</u>	<u>Signed On</u>	<u>Count</u>
Matt Strutner	1/29/2022	193
Abraham Rios	1/31/2022	194
Amy Yeary Holmes	2/3/2022	195
Barbara Clark	2/10/2022	196
David Martin	2/10/2022	197
Glenn Culp	2/10/2022	198
Lee Garrott	2/10/2022	199
Kirstine Buchanan	2/12/2022	200
Wayne Cook	2/14/2022	201
rachael lamothe	2/20/2022	202
C. Don Jones	2/26/2022	203
Edha Brown	2/27/2022	204
Kathryn King	2/27/2022	205

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION 02:
The Committee does not concur with this Resolution.
The Committee appreciates the request for prayer and discernment but felt that discernment with an end goal is not discernment. That is, it is simply not appropriate to tell people what outcome should come from a discernment process.

Submitted by, John Eldridge, Chair

== == == END OF RESOLUTION == == ==

RESOLUTION 03..... Holston Conference Resolution in Response to the Protocol for Reconciliation and Grace Through Separation

Whereas,

- A Protocol for Reconciliation and Grace through Separation has been submitted to the 2020 General Conference, which has been rescheduled for August 29 – September 6, 2022.
- The Protocol states, “After careful reflection, discussion, and prayer, the United Methodist Church and its members acknowledge fundamental differences regarding our understanding and interpretation of Scripture, our theology, and our practice. The February 2019 Special Session of the General Conference did not resolve our differences related to the full participation of LGBTQ + persons in the life of the Church. The United Methodist Church is at an impasse, individual members as well as the Church at large have been injured, and the Church’s witness and mission are being impeded.”
- In recognition of this harmful impasse, the Protocol proposes, “restructuring and separation as the best means to resolve our differences, making provisions for The United Methodist Church to move forward as two or more separate entities, each of which remains true to its theological understanding while recognizing the dignity, equality, integrity, and respect of every person. This proposal was crafted in recognition of the regional contexts and divergent points of view within the United Methodist Church and as a faithful step that maintains the possibility of continued cooperation around matters of shared mission and interest, enabling each of us to live out our faith authentically.”
- Holston Annual Conference agrees with these principles and envisions with the “Protocol “, an amicable separation in The United Methodist Church that would provide a pathway to new denominations of the Methodist movement and a restructuring of The United Methodist Church. These new denominations, though separate, “will continue the rich heritage of the Methodist movement, while being free to share their respective witnesses for Christ unhindered by those with whom they have been in conflict.”
- The Protocol defines a new Traditional Methodist Denomination as “a New Methodist Denomination that maintains the current stance of the 2019 *Book of Discipline* regarding the definition of marriage and ordination standards related to lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer + and other persons.”
- The delegate heads of 14 conferences in the Southeastern Jurisdiction (including Holston’s) have previously announced publicly their affirmation for the proposed separation plan for the future of The United Methodist Church. The plan is entitled “Protocol of Grace & Reconciliation Through Separation.”

- The Council of Bishops has expressed public support of the Protocol,
- An initiative within Holston has now been organized to possibly promote a Discipline change as an alternate to support of the consideration and passage of the Protocol (as evidenced by the current posted petition/resolution by UMCNext Holston). Therefore, our Annual Conference reinforcing these past statements of support for the Protocol is desirable before GC 2022 starts.

Be it resolved,

- That Holston Annual Conference endorses consideration of the Protocol for Reconciliation and Grace through Separation as the path forward and urges its adoption substantially unchanged.
- That the Annual Conference is urged to substantially follow all other provisions of the Protocol as may be adopted by the General Conference in 2022 so as to facilitate fair implementation.
- That Holston Annual Conference calls upon all its members and constituents to treat one another with respect, honesty, openness, consideration, and Christian love during this process. No one shall hinder the proper sharing of accurate, detailed information with members and congregations under the provisions of the Protocol, so that all concerned may make informed decisions on their membership and alignment. In the words of John Wesley, we may not think alike, but we may truly love alike, as we act according to our consciences in furthering the mission of our Lord Jesus Christ (as adopted by the Protocol).

Submitted by, Leamon Lawson, Delegate, February 5, 2022

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION 03:

The Committee does not concur with this Resolution. The Committee is certainly familiar with the “Protocol”, but to recommend to Holston’s delegation that they support the “Protocol” it fails to consider the fact that because no one knows what the “Protocol” will look like once it is translated into legislation and vetted by a General Conference committee(s) as well as being discussed and no doubt amended on the floor of the General Conference. Moreover, the fourth “Whereas” in this Resolution suggests that Holston Conference agrees with the “Protocol”; that could be the case, but it is unknown what the will of the entire Annual Conference is.

Submitted by, John Eldridge, Chair

== == END OF RESOLUTION == ==

RESOLUTION 04..... Resolution for New Interim Spending/Income Finance Reports for Holston Conference

Whereas,

- Laity, clergy and churches have little access to timely routine and detailed finance reports for Holston Conference other than annually (Annual Conference -AC),
- Data already exists for sharing without additional cost or requiring a referral to study (delay), or subsequent approval of the group possibly over-riding the vote on the resolution. Historically, results for items referred to agencies for review/study are seldom located afterwards.
- Email distribution lists (or data bases) for AC 'members' and church laity officers exists as collection was required in the 2021 church charge conferences (verified email addresses). "When completing this new form, be sure to list the person's current address, phones, and email. Please be sure that your Lay Member(s) and alternates to Annual Conference has a confirmed current email address and mailing address. These persons will need to be contacted in January with important AC information." From 2021 charge conference instructions from our conference secretary.: Therefore, distribution to laity officers and 'members' will be facilitated by these required conference data and distribution lists.
- Groups of Camping & Retreat, Trustees, Conference Council on Finance and Administration (CCFA) spend or manage significant money beyond the official approved budgets,
- Good business/organization practices support more sharing with all within the conference,
- Nothing reassures an organization more than timely open transparency on all issues - financial and otherwise. We address financial reports in this resolution.

Be it resolved,

- that the Camping & Retreat organization provide quarterly detailed summaries of income sources and spending directly to all churches and distributed directly to all laity officers {then made available to all church membership) and clergy. Clergy will not be the distribution route to laity.
- that Trustees provide quarterly detailed itemized summaries of property under management, closed churches and other property sales, 'depreciation' changes, who sold to, amounts received and disposition of all funds. Reports will be distributed directly to all churches, all laity leaders/AC members (then made available to all church membership) and clergy. Clergy will not be the distribution route to laity.
- that the Conference Council on Finance and Administration (CCFA) provide quarterly detailed summaries of all conference income and all spending to all churches and directly distributed to all laity leaders/AC members (then made available to all church membership) and clergy. Clergy will not be the distribution route to laity. A 'budget' of around \$9 million is presented and approved by the Annual Conference, while the actual income/spending/management is around \$28 million - audit report. All need to be reported with detail for clarity,
- that the Conference Council on Finance and Administration (CCFA) schedule the annual audits such that results are available by a target of July 1 of each year (if at all possible) and provide to all churches and distributed directly to all laity leaders/AC members (then made available to all church membership) and clergy. Report must be distributed and not just 'available upon request' as is the current practice in many cases,
- that the Conference Council on Finance and Administration (CCFA) restructure the audit reports to provide more detail in the reports and categories for easier understanding of income/spending to all. Target date for this is 2023 for the 2022 audit.
- that the Conference Council on Finance and Administration (CCFA) issues comments with the audit reports that explain any discrepancies in categories between the audit report and the approved budget each year. As an example, the line item for apportionment paid - general Church - in the approved budget is and has been significantly lower than the same line item in the audit report over the history of 11 years of audits. Differences are not explained by specialty income items being combined. The specific example of this apportionment difference for 2020 (from AC Journal and audit report): Budget payment approved and made - \$2,400,574 and audit reported payment - \$3,516,999. This difference is \$1,116,425 and is not explained. Prior years differences vary significantly but all are beyond the approved budget total.
- that the Conference Council on Finance and Administration (CCFA) issue an annual statement concerning the financial stability of the conference funds and commitments to be shared in the Annual Conference and published in the Journal. Past audits have implied solvency concerns. The conference has spent more than income (almost \$2 million) in each year over the past 10 years-based on audit reports through 2020). Investment levels have continued to drop. Target for this is the 2022 audit.
- that details of all these reports are left to the various organizations subject to requests for changes after the first reports are reviewed and provided adequate detail are included.

- that we see no reason nor any rule that would delay this resolution’s implementation {due to being ‘studied’ by the various organizations). Data exists, distribution lists exist, and these interim reports should require minimal summary and sharing implementation.
- that adoption would direct the reports to start as of the end of the quarter following the Annual Conference, 2022 and then each normal annual quarters thereafter: December 31, March 31, June 30, September 30 following approval. (unless otherwise noted) It is understood a delay in distribution time may occur, but a target should be two weeks after the dates listed. If some unforeseen delay is experienced with starting these reports, a full accounting of the reasons and a revised schedule will be shared with the churches. In no case would a delay of more than one quarter seem reasonable.
- that any organized efforts to discourage, delay or discredit this request could be viewed as a questionable activity to all voting ‘members’, clergy and observers. Rule 22 (referencing ‘referral to the Council of Finance and Administration for a recommendation before Annual Conference considers’) refers to budget increases or changes. This request does not require this process as it simply specifies a different distribution of existing information which is a normal responsibility of the various groups. Flexibility is provided herein as details that are left to the organizations, as long as the data is distributed as specified.
- Please note that an audit report only looks at using consistent accounting techniques.

Submitted by, Leamon Lawson, Feb. 7, 2022

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION 04:

The Committee does not concur with this Resolution and recommends its referral to the Conference Council on Finance and Administration (CCFA). The reason for the Committee’s non-concurrence is that the information sought is already available. The financial reports and Audit are available on the Conference website (see QR code below). The Committee does not believe that it would be wise to use resources to create more reports, when the information sought is already available.



or browse to:
<https://www.holston.org/audit-financial>

Submitted by, John Eldridge, Chair

== == == END OF RESOLUTION == == ==

RESOLUTION 05..... Resolution for a Revised Clergy Election Process (and enhanced laity/clergy process) for Delegates to the General Conference (with modified conference floor election guidelines).

Whereas,

- the clergy and laity election processes are different (in some important details) for delegates to the General Conference,
- the clergy process is cumbersome and time consuming given the large number of clergy that could run,
- many other conferences have procedures paralleling the proposed, some in use for years without Discipline questions,
- the clergy process does not give the voting clergy any detail as to the individual or their visions for the church or conference.
- the Discipline (and Addendum to The *Book of Discipline* of The United Methodist Church, 2016) does not specify a separate process for the two groups,
- the clergy and laity voting processes are covered by the rules of the conference, therefore approval of this resolution should be by a joint AC vote of both.
- this process should be revised. (and the outline below is a guide for the rewrite of the rule committee for implementation).

Be it resolved,

- the clergy process should be revised to parallel that of the laity,
- the Orders of Elder and Deacon - or other - will provide a listing of eligible clergy candidates by January 31 of election years in the normal manner,
- only the interested clergy (from that list) will then be responsible to individually apply to be a candidate for election in a similar manner to laity and using a similar application form. This in no manner restricts anyone desiring to run for election!
- the form for nominations shall include the name, address, occupation (for laity), local church and district, current photograph, and a biographical sketch-vision for the conference/church of no less than five hundred (500) words provided by the nominee (sketch preferably could be longer for both- to give adequate information for voters),
- the forms for candidates from clergy and laity will be submitted by March 1 (as now for laity) for inclusion in the *Book of Reports*,
- the submitted information will become part of the *Book of Reports* for the election years so all voters can have access before the Annual Conference,
- further nominations from the floor of the Annual Conference will be accepted for both laity and clergy after the conference opens (and not from the individual clergy or laity sessions),
- the floor nominated individuals will then immediately submit the same 500 plus word sketch to be shared with AC members before any voting starts (if they accept the floor nomination),

- a formal ‘meet and greet’ process will be organized so that all voters can have adequate time to meet and talk to all the candidates prior to any elections occurring,
- the floor nominated individuals (if they accept the nomination) will then be added to the other candidates for one master list for each, clergy and laity, which will be provided in print to the AC members before any elections take place,
- the process from this point on will remain basically the same as the current procedure in that – clergy will elect clergy and laity will elect laity,
- however, all election times will be published at least 4 hours before taking place to provide adequate time form voters to be present,
- this revised process is fully consistent with the Discipline and will provide an enhanced election process for clergy (and laity) for delegates to the General Conference,
- the expanded biographical sketch-vision for the conference / church will provide valuable information for voters as they decide who deserves support. Otherwise, voters have little basis to guide votes. These positions, both clergy and laity, are very important to the Church but historically voters are provided little to base a vote on. That needs to be changed.
- the rules committee shall revise the procedure(s) using the guidelines in this resolution. Approval of the revised rules will take place at the next AC, as normal.
- the revised process will be in effect for the next election for delegates to the General Conference.
- a request for these changes was made to the Rules Committee in 2021 and might be presented for AC 2022. However, that is not known or expected, and this resolution is still valid at this point and deserves approval.

Submitted by, Leamon Lawson Feb. 15, 2022

Now additional material is provide for understanding this resolution by the Resolutions committee and the Annual Conference voters:

1. Addressing the second point in the 2021 review: noted that all Order of Elders and Deacon are automatically eligible for election to General Conference. This is true and the proposed resolution so state. The requirement that from all of the new 600 eligible, only those that have an interest in election, will apply and supply the same materials as laity. All this information will only enhance the knowledge of those voting in the conference so a basis for votes is established.

This in no way restricts the eligibility. The changes in handling of floor nominations, submitting of information, and full candidate lists before any votes are take, will only enhance the haphazard process now in use. What good is a floor nomination when voters are not informed adequately to allow a knowledgeable vote? The process must have a candidate list (laity and clergy) all on equal footing to earn votes. Voting times should also be set in the agendas so votes can be in attendance. It is noted that no laity nominee from the floor were elected in the 2019 AC. I am not familiar with the clergy but do not recall nominations from the floor (just lots of confusion with ballots for about 600 with numbers only!).

2. Addressing the third point in the 2021 review: ‘approving this Resolution would be in violation of the Discipline’. We are rather confused that our review committee with the conference Chancellor, the conference secretary, three current delegates (one clergy, two laity), a district superintendent, and 6 additional review members apparently read the Discipline as having to be revised! To facilitate now, I am including the applicable sections in an attachment for reference. In addition, I am attaching a process outline from the Florida Conference as an example and have provided at least 5 copies of identical or very similar procedures from other conferences to the rules committee again for reference.
3. Addressing the last point in the 2021 review: ‘It would also require a change in the Holston Conference Rules’. Of course, this would require a revision of the Holston Conference Rules and it was my understanding that approval of a resolution was a direction to implement the resolution-thus change the rules as needed before the next election year. Hopefully, that is true. Rules and proposed changes are a normal part of each AC.
4. Overall, I again express sadness with the 2021 evaluation of a resolution that sought to improve operation and the integrity of the Annual conference election process. It is a moot point as the much-abbreviate 2021 new business time limit prevent its presentation to the Annual Conference.
5. All voting members and clergy will be looking forward to hearing the committees review for this resubmitted resolution for 2022.
6. Attachments: Discipline and Errata (2016-2019 approval) sections. Florida Conference process outline, and of course the other conference process copies are available in the rule committee already. A number of Resolution committee members are also members of the rules committee.

Attachments:
 Discipline and Errata:
 The *Book of Discipline* of The United Methodist Church, 2016-Errata (May 17, 2019)

¶34, page 36, line 17. After the first sentence, and “Such elections shall include open nominations from the floor by the annual conference, and delegates shall be elected by a minimum of a simple majority of the ballots cast.”

The paragraph will now read: The annual conference shall elect clergy and lay delegates to the General Conference and to its jurisdictional or central conference in the manner provided in this section, Articles IV and V. Such elections shall include open nominations from the floor by the annual conference, and delegates shall be elected by a minimum of a simple majority of the ballots cast. The persons first elected up to the number determined by the ration for representation in the General Conference shall be representatives in that body. Additional delegates shall be elected to complete the number determined by the ration for representation in the jurisdictional or central conference, who, together with those first elected as above, shall be delegates in the jurisdictional or central conference. The additional delegates to the jurisdictional or central conference shall in the order of their election be the reserve delegates to the General Conference. The annual conference shall also elect reserve clergy and lay delegates to the jurisdictional or central conference as it may deem desirable. These reserve clergy and lay delegates to the jurisdictional or central conferences may act as reserve delegates to the General Conference when it is evident that not enough reserve delegates are in attendance at the General Conference.

This constitutional amendment was duly approved by the General Conference and the requisite two-thirds affirmative vote of the aggregate number of members of the several annual conferences present and voting, and those votes were canvassed by the Council of Bishops meeting in May 2018 and announced according to *The Book of Discipline*, ¶59 ¶46,

Discipline Statement

¶34. Article III – The annual conference shall elect clergy and lay delegates to the General Conference and to its jurisdictional or central conference in the manner provided in this section, Articles IV and V.70 The persons first elected up to the number determined by the ratio for representation in the General Conference shall be representatives in that body. Additional delegates shall be elected to complete the number determined by the ration for representation in the jurisdictional or central conference, who, together with those first elected as above, shall be delegates in the jurisdictional or central conference. The additional delegates to the jurisdictional or central conference shall in the order of their election be the reserve delegates to the General Conference. 71 The annual conference shall also elect reserve clergy and lay delegates to the jurisdictional or central conference as it may deem desirable.

These reserve clergy and lay delegates to the jurisdictional or central conferences may act as reserve delegates to the General Conference when it is evident that not enough reserve delegates are in attendance at the General Conference. 72

¶35. Article IV – The clergy delegates to the General Conference and to the jurisdictional or central conference shall be elected from 73 the clergy members in full connection and shall be elected by the clergy members of the annual conference or provisional

68. Amended 1996.69. See Judicial Council Decisions 78, 79, 132, 405, 406, 525, 532, 534, 552, 584, 690, 742, 782, 862. 70. See Judicial Council Decisions 4655, 592. 71. See Judicial Council Decision 352. 72. Amended 1992. 73. Amended 1996.

annual conference who are deacons and elders in full connection, associate members, and those provisional members who have completed all of their educational requirements and local pastors who have completed course of study or an M. Div. degree and have served a minimum of two consecutive years under appointment immediately preceding the election. 74

¶36. Article I. – The lay delegates to the General and jurisdictional or central conferences shall be elected by the lay members of the annual conference or provisional annual conference without regard to age, provided such delegates 75 shall have been processing 76 members of The United Methodist Church for at least two years next preceding their election, and shall have been active participants in The United Methodist Church for at least four years next preceding their election, 77 and are members thereof within the annual conference electing them at the time of holding the General and jurisdictional or central conferences. 78

Historical

Florida Annual Conference’s Election Procedures for Electing Delegates to the General and Jurisdictional Conferences. Judicial Council review in 1977!

435, Decision Number 435

October 28, 1977

Request from the Florida Annual Conference for a Declaratory Decision on the Constitutionality of Its Election Procedures for Electing Delegates to the General and Jurisdictional Conferences.

Digest

The Procedures for nominating ministerial and lay delegates to the General and Jurisdictional Conferences for election by the Annual Conference adopted by the Florida Annual Conference on May 25, 1977, are constitutional.

Statement of Facts

The 1975 session of the Florida Annual Conference voted to request Bishop Joel D. McDavid to appoint a special committee to prepare procedures for nominating delegates to the General and Jurisdictional Conferences. The bishop complied, and the committee made a progress report which was printed in Volume I of the 1976 conference Journal. This progress report was revised, and as revised was approved by the 1977 session of the conference on May 25, 1977.

The procedures, which were submitted to the Judicial Council for review as to their constitutionality, were based upon the following sections for the Constitution and law in the 1972 Discipline: ¶12, 22-24, 38-40, 601-2, 608, 610, 614-16, 630, 631.22, 641.3, and 644; and upon Judicial Council Decisions Numbers 352 and 76.

Jurisdiction

The Judicial Council has jurisdiction under ¶2515 of the 1976 Discipline.

Decision

The Florida Annual Conference acted within its rights under Constitution when it approved procedures for the nomination of delegates to the General and Jurisdictional Conferences; and the procedures adopted are constitutional to the extent that no contrary legislation was enacted by the 1976 General Conference.

Current Florida Conference Election procedure outline

Announcing the list of nominees from the Florida Annual Conference for election to The 2020 General Conference Session

During the 2019 Annual Conference Session, we will be electing Lay and Clergy members who will serve as our representatives to the General Conference and Jurisdictional Conference Sessions. We will begin by electing eight (8) Lay and eight (8) Clergy members to serve as our delegates to the General Conference Session. We will then elect an additional eight (8) Lay and eight (8) Clergy members to serve as our delegates to the Jurisdictional Conference Session. Finally, members will elect six (6) Lay and six (6) Clergy members to be on stand-by as “Reserve” delegates in the event one of those elected above is unable to serve.

I am pleased to announce that 45 Lay members and 56 Clergy members of the Florida Annual Conference have completed the on-line self-nomination process for election to the 2020 General and Jurisdictional Conference Sessions. Below are links that will automatically direct you to the lists of Lay and Clergy nominees. There you will find a picture, a summary of their basic biographical information, their local and connectional Church involvement and their vision of/for The United Methodist Church in the future.

Second opportunity to self-nominate

Eligible members of the Annual Conference will have a second opportunity to nominate themselves for consideration as a delegate to the General and Jurisdictional sessions. The Election Procedures Committee will have tables set up to accept self-nomination forms during both the clergy and laity sessions, as well as the opting of the first session of Annual Conference. Forms will be available at those same tables.

Eligible laity and clergy may choose to download the appropriate self-nomination form from the link below to fill out at your leisure and present it to one of the representatives during the time blocks listed above. Blank forms will also be available at the same tables should you desire to fill them out at that time. I would suggest that laity bring a letter from your pastor verifying your membership to streamline the verification process. Once eligibility is verified, you will be presented with a ribbon to attach to your name badge, which indicates that you are a candidate for election. We will then provide those names to the members of the Annual Conference for consideration of election during the balloting process. As Methodists we are a people of prayer and seeking God's direction to move with the Holy Spirit. Please be in prayer for those who have and are still in discernment to serve as representatives on our behalf. Fast and pray for insight and wisdom as we make these decisions together that we can truly be a people who reflect and reveal the Kingdom of God, a people making disciples of Jesus Christ.

Additional Conference Procedure copies-available in Rules Committee.

2021 Resolution Committee Statement:

Committee Recommendation:

'The Committee recommends non-concurrence of new business item number four. The Committee felt that the thrust of this resolution may have merit, but such action would require a change in the Discipline, as all Order of Elders and Deacon are automatically eligible for election to General Conference. It would also require a change in the Holston Conference Rules.

Thus, because it would require a change in The Discipline, approving this Resolution would be in violation of The Discipline.'

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION 05:

The Committee does not concur with this Resolution and recommends referring the Resolution to the Clergy Session. The Committee felt that making the process of electing clergy delegates to General Conference in the same fashion as electing lay delegates to General Conference may be a good idea, but the Committee was very concerned about the requested details. For example, scheduling votes four hours in advance and requiring a biographical sketch of a nominee who has been nominated from the floor would delay an already cumbersome process. Moreover, how the clergy elect delegates to General Conference is probably best decided by the clergy, not the entire Conference.

Submitted by, John Eldridge, Chair

== == END OF RESOLUTION == ==

RESOLUTION 06..... Resolution Relating to government and corporate interest violating Native American land treaty rights

Whereas,

- the 2012 General Conference engaged in an Act of Repentance service as a first step in calling the church to acknowledge and seek forgiveness for past sins while launching a process of healing relationships with indigenous persons throughout the world, and
- the commitment to the process of repentance was continued at the 2016 General Conference through a recognition of the involvement of Methodists in the Sand Creek Massacre (2016 Book of Resolutions #3328), and the passage of seven additional resolutions specifically addressing Native Americans (2016 Book of Resolutions #3321, 3324, 3327, 3331, 3333, 3334, & 3346), and
- Resolution #3321.A (2016 BoR, page 327) states, the “General Conference of The United Methodist Church affirms the sacredness of American Indian people, their languages, cultures, and gifts to the church and the world,” and
- Resolution #3321.C (2016 BoR, page 328) specifically addresses “Sacred Sites,” and
- Resolution #3321 (2016 BoR, page 330) specifically addresses “American Indian Tribal Sovereignty,” and
- Resolution #3333 (2016 BoR, page 339-341) specifically addresses “Native American Religious Freedom Act” including the right to access sacred sites in remote areas and on public lands, and
- Annual Conferences have and are encouraged to continue this work in a variety of ways, and
- the Native American Ministries Committee (NAMC) of Holston Conference is committed to continuing the process of healing and reconciliation through its mission and vision, and
- the United Methodist Church, as the body of Christ, is committed to the Biblical mandate to “do justly and love mercy” and to the *Book of Disciplines* affirmation of the sacred worth of all persons, and
- one of the greatest challenges facing Native Americans today is invisibility, as identified in the recent report, *Reclaiming Native Truth*, researched by First Nations Development Institute and Echo Hawk Consulting, and
- while rarely seen on front page news, violations of laws protecting the air, water and soil, and violation of treaties including the right to hunt and fish on ceded lands in perpetuity continue in many places, and
- both state and federal governments support multinational corporations to enrich themselves instead of putting the best interests of the citizens first, and
- pipelines and mining are damaging the environment with unreported spills, methane flaring, and ash spills, and are creating sinkholes and damaging roads, affecting the health and safety of communities, and
- the trust status of Indian lands makes them most susceptible to having their land seized via executive order and without consultation, and
- the voice and influence of the Holston Annual Conference in support of organizations in the UMC such as Native American Comprehensive Plan (NACP) as well as the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) are integral to advocacy by and for Native Americans, and
- the voice and influence of the Holston Annual Conference through any and all means available are integral to persuading state and congressional legislators to honor the land rights spelled out in multiple treaties between Native American tribes and the U.S. Government are integral to advocacy by and for Native Americans, and
- Whereas, being called to be faithful to the Biblical mandate to advocate for those whose voices are not heard in the halls of power,

Be it resolved,

- that Holston Conference go on record as opposing government and corporate interests that violate Native American land and treaty rights.

Rationale for Resolution to the 2022 Holston Annual Conference Session

Relating to government and corporate interests violating Native American land and treaty rights Presented by the Holston Conference Native American Ministries Committee

Grounding Rationale

Indian tribes are distinct political entities whose inherent sovereignty predates the United States but has been limited in certain circumstances by treaty and federal law. This sovereignty is reflected in the government-to-government relationship between federally recognized tribes and the U.S. government.i

There are over 570 ethnically, culturally, and linguistically diverse federally recognized tribes in the United States. An estimated 6.9 million people identified as American Indian or Alaska Native (AI/AN) in the United States based on 2018 U.S. Census population estimates. While most Native Americans live in urban areas, Native Americans may represent a larger percentage of the population in some rural communities.ii

In 2018, the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights reported that—due to things like historical discriminatory policies, insufficient resources, and inefficient federal program delivery—Native Americans continue to rank near the bottom of all Americans in terms of health, education, and employment. Further, the COVID-19 pandemic has had a disproportionate impact on the health and economies of tribal communities.iii

Federal agencies are required, in certain circumstances, to consult with tribes on infrastructure projects (like pipelines) that may harm tribal natural and cultural resources.iv

Tens of thousands of American Indians and Alaska Natives do not have safe drinking water or wastewater disposal in their homes. Federal agencies provided about \$370 million for tribal water and wastewater projects in 2016. However, federal agencies with tribal-specific programs for water infrastructure (e.g., IHS, EPA, and USDA) didn't always prioritize projects in areas that lacked safe drinking water or wastewater disposal.v

Since explorers and white settlers began to appear in North America in the late 15th century, Native Americans have experienced a series of challenges against their reproductive, cultural, spiritual, political and environmental and, altogether, human rights. They have been forced from their homelands, first through land grabs by European settlers and later through the U.S. government's appropriation of Native territory (Isenberg 2000; Nabokov 1999) -- resettlement that resulted in involuntary livelihood changes. Additionally, Native populations experienced drastic population declines due to genocide, warfare, and introduced diseases (Fortune 1989; Nabokov 1999; Nies 1996). Five centuries later, the relationship between Native Americans and today's dominant culture remains exploitative as non Natives continue attempts to gain access to land, water, minerals and other raw materials from tribal governments (Nies 1996; Smith and Frehner 2010). Native American lands have increasingly become targets for unwanted land uses such as dump sites, nuclear and weapons testing facilities, and resource extraction (e.g. Hooks and Smith 2004, Leonard 1111997).vi

In 2016, Native communities protested the 1,172 mile long Dakota Access Pipeline. The protest was due to the fact that the pipeline was supposed to be built on the land of Indigenous communities, and was putting water sources that those communities depend on in danger. Water protectors were the frontline of this protest, dedicating their time to protecting the water source and upholding their treaties. As Potawatomi ecologist and botanist Robin Wall Kimmerer and environmental philosopher Kathleen Dean Moore explain, "it is possible to love land and water so fiercely you will live in a tent in a North Dakota winter to protect them."

The Stop Line 3 protests are an ongoing series of demonstrations in the U.S. state of Minnesota against the expansion of Enbridge's Line 3 oil pipeline along a new route. Over 800 water protectors were arrested between August 2020 and September 2021.

Water protectors at L'eau Est La Vie (water is life) camp resisted the Bayou Bridge Pipeline from 2017 until its completion in 2019.

Indian nations in Oklahoma have been in legal battles with Oklahoma's Gov. Stitt for some time due to Stitt's attempts to usurp or dissolve certain rights, boundaries, and more, thereby overriding the terms of the treaties and undermining tribal sovereignty. While the courts including the Supreme Court have upheld the rights of the Indian nations, this type of overreach by Governor Stitt and the State of Oklahoma is not uncommon, demands significant amounts of tribal financial resources and time that could be put to better use serving the nations' citizens, or, in some cases, costs those Indian nations that lack the financial resources to battle a state or major corporation in order to protect their rights.vii

i "Tribal and Native American Issues," US Government Accountability Office, <https://www.gao.gov/tribal-and-native-american-issues>

ii Ibid

iii Ibid

iv Ibid

v Ibid

vi Jamie Vickery & Lori M. Hunter, "Native Americans: Where In Environmental Justice Research?", Soc Nat Resour. Author manuscript; available in PMC 2017 Jan 1. Published in final edited form as: Soc Nat Resour. 2016; 29(1): 36- 52. Published online 2015 Jul 25. doi: 10.1080/08941920.2015.1045644

vii Joe Tomlinson, "Promised Land: Tensions Grow Between State and Tribal Leaders," January 5, 2022, Non Doc, <https://nondoc.com/2022/01/05/tension-grows-between-state-and-tribal-leaders/>

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION 06:

The Committee concurs with this Resolution, because it felt it is always appropriate to honor the land and treaty rights of Native Americans. Moreover, this Committee felt that because the Resolution does not dictate anything specific or a particular treaty, it is a broad statement of support for the land and treaty rights of Native Americans.

Submitted by, John Eldridge, Chair

== == END OF RESOLUTION == ==

RESOLUTION 07.....Resolution relating to two annual observance days relevant to the atrocities committed against Native Americans: Honoring Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls and Two-Spirits (May 5th) and Indigenous People’s Day in lieu of Columbus Day (2nd Monday in October)

Whereas,

- the 2012 General Conference engaged in an Act of Repentance service as a first step in calling the church to acknowledge and seek forgiveness for past sins while launching a process of healing relationships with indigenous persons throughout the world, and
- the commitment to the process of repentance was continued at the 2016 General Conference through a recognition of the involvement of Methodists in the Sand Creek Massacre (2016 Book of Resolutions #3328), and the passage of seven additional resolutions specifically addressing Native Americans (2016 Book of Resolutions #3321, 3324, 3327, 3331, 3333, 3334, & 3346), and
- Resolution #3321 (2016 BoR, page 319, paragraph 2) states, the “General Conference of The United Methodist Church affirms the sacredness of American Indian people, their languages, cultures, and gifts to the church and the world,” and
- Annual Conferences have and are encouraged to continue this work in a variety of ways, and
- the Native American Ministries Committee (NAMC) of Holston Conference is committed to continuing the process of healing and reconciliation through its mission and vision, and
- Native women, girls and two-spirits living on and off reservation suffer violence at a higher rate than other populations, and
- the historically inaccurate celebration of Columbus is seen as a Euro-American celebration of genocide of Native Americans who consider it a day of mourning and advocate that it be renamed Indigenous People’s Day to celebrate the First People of this land, and
- setting aside specific dates as special observances in the Conference, Districts, and Local Churches brings awareness and provides opportunities to educate and develop advocates in support of contemporary Native issues, and
- the voice and influence of the Holston Annual Conference and its Cabinet, District Offices, clergy, lay leadership, and local churches through statements of solidarity for the National Day of Awareness

- are integral to persuading state and congressional legislators representing Tennessee, Virginia, and Georgia to discontinue the observance of Columbus Day and, instead, rename the second Monday in October Indigenous People’s Day, and
- the Holston Annual Conference can and should speak out and speak up in all ways possible as allies against the sinful injustices of discrimination, harassment, and violence surrounding Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls and Two-Spirits, and
- the Holston Annual Conference wishing to live fully into the mandates to “do no harm” affirms that continuing to celebrate the Second Monday of October as “Columbus Day” is harmful and offensive to Native American United Methodists, Native American communities, and Native American and indigenous nations and people of the Western Hemisphere, and
- the Holston Annual Conference affirms that, by making a concerted effort to promote and participate in all ways possible both the National Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Native Women (May 5th) and Indigenous People’s Day (2nd Monday in October), the Conference through its Cabinet, District Offices, and local churches sets an example for and provides education to the larger community and its solidarity with the concerns and issues of Native American United Methodists, Native American communities, and Native American and indigenous nations and people of the Western Hemisphere;

Be it resolved,

- that Holston Conference will be encouraged to wear red on May 5th in observance of the National Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Native Women, and
- that Holston Conference shall cease to refer to the 2nd Monday in October as “Columbus Day” and refer to same as “Indigenous Peoples Day” from this time forward.

Rationale for Resolution to the 2022 Holston Annual Conference Session

Relating to two annual observance days relevant to the atrocities committed against Native Americans: Honoring Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls and Two-Spirits (May 5th), and Indigenous People's Day in lieu of Columbus Day (2nd Monday in October)
Presented by the Holston Conference Native American Ministries Committee

Grounding Rationale

“So justice is driven back, and righteousness stands at a distance; truth has stumbled in the streets, honesty cannot enter. Truth is nowhere to be found, and whoever shuns evil becomes a prey. The Lord looked and was displeased that there was no justice. He saw that there was no one, he was appalled that there was no one to intervene; so his own arm achieved salvation for him, and his own righteousness sustained him.” Isaiah 59:14-16

“Our nation was born in genocide when it embraced the doctrine that the original American, the Indian, was an inferior race. Even before there were large numbers of Negroes on our shore, the scar of racial hatred had already disfigured colonial society. From the sixteenth century forward, bloodflowed in battles over racial supremacy. We are perhaps the only nation which tried as a matter of national policy to wipe out its indigenous population. Moreover, we elevated that tragic experience into a noble crusade. Indeed, even today we have not permitted ourselves to reject or feel remorse for this shameful episode. Our literature, our films, our drama, our folklore all exalt it. Our children are still taught to respect the violence which reduced a red-skinned people of an earlier culture into a few fragmented groups herded into impoverished reservations.” - Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

The Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women (MMIW) movement began in Canada, has been adopted in the U.S., and has been expanded to include Girls and indigenous “Two-Spirits” (MMIWG2S). The movement acknowledges the exceedingly high rates of Native American and Alaska Native Indigenous women, girls, and two-spirit (LGBTQ+ who are considered sacred in Native American culture regardless of how they are perceived in the dominant culture) who go missing or are murdered every day. The problem of MMIWG2S is so profound that it is an epidemic.

Violence against Native women is more frequent and severe than among any other people in North America. i. In 2016 there were 5,712 Native American women reported missing via the National Crime Information Center in the United States of America. ii The Center for Disease Control and Prevention reports murder is the third-leading cause of death among Native American women. iii Additionally, it is widely accepted that Native American women are murdered at more than 10 times the national average. iv Experts say that even these startling numbers are likely an underestimate of the total number of Native American women affected by violence due to inadequate infrastructure for women to report and handle these incidents. v

In 2013, twenty-one-year-old Hanna Harris went missing after a 4th of July celebration with her family. Harris was a 2010 graduate of West High School in Billings, MT, and a mother of a 10-month-old son. Her family knew immediately that something was wrong, but struggled to get assistance from the local law enforcement because the local law enforcement didn't take Harris's disappearance seriously. Four days later, Harris was found murdered on the Northern Cheyenne Reservation.

Harris's birthday, May 5th, has been recognized by the United States Congress as a National Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Native Women. Indigenous leaders encourage supporters to wear red on that day. Red is chosen based upon cultural and spiritual traditions. It is believed that red is the only color the spirits see. Red is also symbolic of the women's blood that has been violently spilled unnecessarily; by wearing red, the spirits of the missing women will be called back to earth and laid to rest.

The death of Jalajhia Finklea, a MashpeeWamanoag tribal citizen and New England resident, is one of the more recent cases of a Native woman who suffered a tragic death. The seventeen-year-old went missing on October 20, 2020, the night before her eighteenth birthday. Her remains were discovered over a month later 1,350 miles from her home.vi Her kidnapping suspect was shot in a shootout with law enforcement, and little is expected to be learned about her tragic demise.

Native women, girls and two-spirits are being killed due to racially motivated hate crimes, gendered violence, and continued historical mistreatment. To date, law enforcement entities in thirty-seven states including Tennessee, Virginia and Georgia, have no records available regarding MMIWG25 cases, significantly contributing to the underreporting and unsolved case statuses. vii This is part of a larger systemic problem embedded in the history of the conquest and colonization of the Americas justified for too long by the Doctrine of Discovery, and historically and culturally inaccurate education regarding Columbus' discovery of the New World, the Thanksgiving story, the events surrounding the lynching of the Dakota 38, as well as the offensive celebration of Columbus Day that has led to the implicit bias of multiple generations of Euro-Americans against American Indians.

- i C. Crossland, J. Palmer, A. Brooks, & b. Aughter, "NIJ's Program of Research on Violence Against American Indian and Alaska Native Women," *Violence Against Women*, 19(6), (2013), <https://doi-org.ezproxy.bu.edu/10.117/1077801213494706>
- ii A. Lucchesi & A. Echo-Hawk, "Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls," *Urban Indian Health Institute*, (2019), p. 2., <https://www.uihi.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/Missing-and-Murdered-Indigenous-Women-andGirls-Report.pdf>
- iii Ibid.

- iv NICOA, "Inadequate Data on Missing, Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls," NICOA National Indian Council on Aging, January 21, 2019, <https://www.nicoa.org/inadequate-data-on-missing-murdered-indigenous-women-and-girls>
- v Lyndsey Gilpin, "Native American Women Still Have the Highest Rates of Rape and Assault," *High Country News - Know the West*, June 7, 2016, <https://www.hcn.org/articles/tribal-affairs-why-native-american-women-still-have-the-highest-rates-of-rape-and-assault>
- vi Levi Rickert, "The Death of Young Pregnant Mashpee Wampanoag Woman Is Tip of the Iceberg of MMIWG Epidemic," *Native News Online*, December 6, 2020, <https://nativenewsonline.net/opinion/the-death-of-young-pregnant-mashpee-wampanoag-woman-is-tip-of-the-iceberg-of-mmiwg-epidemic>
- vii *Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women, Native Women's Wilderness*, <https://www.nativewomenswilderness.org/mmiwg>

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION 07:
The Committee concurs with this Resolution. For this Conference to wear red in support with a National Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Native American women and to honor Native Americans by changing Columbus Day to Indigenous Peoples Day are both ways in which this Conference can be in solidarity with Native Americans.

Submitted by, John Eldridge, Chair

== == END OF RESOLUTION == ==

RESOLUTION 08..... Resolution Relating to Holston Conference Observance of Native American Ministries Sunday and Special Offering

Whereas,

- Native American Ministries Sunday is designated as a Special Sunday by the UMC, and
- Resolution #3321.A (2016 BoR, page 327) states, the “General Conference of The United Methodist Church affirms the sacredness of American Indian people, their languages, cultures, and gifts to the church and the world,” and
- Resolution #3321 (2016 BoR, page 329) specifically addresses “American Indian History and Contemporary Culture as Related to Effective Church Participation,” and
- Resolution #3321 (2016 BoR, page 330) states, “All annual conferences should promote the observance of Native American Ministries Sunday, and encourage local churches to support American Indian Sunday with programming and offerings,” and
- the Native American Ministries Committee (NAMC) of Holston Conference is committed to carrying out its mission and vision including providing education for clergy and laity relevant to Native Americans, providing resources and materials to assist clergy and worship leaders in planning NA Ministries Sunday programming, and reducing as much as possible the burden of said planning and programming on clergy and worship leaders, and
- it is in the best interest of Native American United Methodists, Native American communities, and the Native American Ministries of both Holston and the United Methodist church for the Annual Conference direct the Cabinet, District Offices and local churches to work cooperatively with the Native American Ministries Committee to increase the number of local churches contributing to the Native American Ministries Sunday special offering for the benefit of the ministries, missions, and other programs serving and led by Native American United Methodists and Native American communities,

Be it resolved,

- that the Holston Conference, its Cabinet, District offices, auxiliary organizations, and its local churches designate and observe Native American Ministries Sunday on the Sunday before Thanksgiving each year.

Rationale for Resolution to the 2022 Holston Annual Conference Session

Relating to Holston Conference Observance of Native American Ministries Sunday and Special Offering Presented by the Holston Conference Native American Ministries Committee

Grounding Rationale

The United Methodist Church traditionally designates the third Sunday of Easter as Native American Ministries Sunday in a season of numerous church holy days and other Special Sundays on the heels of Lent and Holy Week, and ahead of Annual Conference. For example in 2022, April 17 is Easter Sunday. May 1st is Native American Ministries Sunday (NA Ministries Sunday), May 8th is Mother’s Day and Festival of the Christian Home, May 22nd is Heritage Sunday, May 29th is Ascension Sunday, June 5th is Pentecost, and June 12th is Trinity Sunday and Father’s Day. Further, those pastors being reappointed have the additional burden of preparing their church for a change in pastoral leadership as well as packing and preparing to move themselves and their families to the next appointment.

While some larger churches with adequate staff and Worship Team support may be able to weather the flurry of all those “days,” it can be overwhelming for smaller churches with little or no staff, especially those churches that do not have a Worship Leader or Worship Team due to smaller congregations with a limited number of volunteers thereby leaving the majority of worship planning up to the Pastor.

Additionally and although the UMC provides free printed materials for promotion of the Special Sundays, their materials do not reflect the local native communities and populations within the Conference and also promote giving the NA Ministries Sunday special offerings directly to the GCFA fund, bypassing the Conference altogether. While conferences are required to give 50% of any NA Ministries Sunday special offerings collected to GCFA with the other 50% remaining in the conference to be used for ministry and programs relevant to Native Americans in the Conference under the direction of the Native American Ministries Committee (NAMC), there is no place on the GCFA on line donation page to enter the name of a donor’s conference and no statements indicating that GCFA will send 50% of the donation back to the appropriate conference for use within that conference.

Per the *Book of Discipline*, the NAMC’s primary role is to promote NA Ministries Sunday and the special offering. Between 2016 and 2021, less than 5% of churches in Holston Conference collected the special offerings each year. This has most likely been due to a lack of resources available to clergy and worship leaders for planning and, more importantly, gaining insight and knowledge of Native Americans indigenous to the lands of Holston Conference as well as the purpose and importance of Native American Ministries. This, combined with the inundation of numerous other observances during the same time period, may cause NA Ministry Sunday to be given a very low priority.

The Holston NAMC began re-organizing and reprioritizing in July 2021 and has provided a robust list of resources relevant to NA Sunday worship planning and Native Americans which is now included on its web page at Holston.org. The committee is also working to once again offer educational workshops for clergy, laity, and the community beginning in 2023, this time using a regional concept and 4-year cycle. The committee has divided the conference into three regions and will rotate the educational events through the regions, holding one event per year over a three-year period, then hold a larger conference wide event in the fourth year.

While those actions will help make worship planning easier for pastors and worship leaders/teams, the committee feels strongly that it would be in the best interest of all involved for Holston Conference to observe NA Ministries Sunday in November. Nationally, the entire month of November is designated as National Native

American Heritage Month resulting in a proliferation of promotional messaging, programming, and a heightened awareness in the general population. By moving Holston Conference's observance of NA Ministries Sunday to November, the Conference, Districts, and local churches would be able to capitalize on the civic and secular promotion of and educational resources available for National Native American Heritage month.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION 08:

The Committee does not concur with this Resolution, because the UMC has already designated Native American Sunday as one of the five special Sundays on the calendar. The Committee, nonetheless, appreciates the sentiment of the Resolution and encourages all local churches to observe Native American Sunday.

Submitted by, John Eldridge, Chair

== == == END OF RESOLUTION == == ==

RESOLUTION 09.....Resolution Relating to an observance of a Day of Remembrance for the Casualties of Indian Boarding Schools annually on October 6

Whereas,

- the 2008 General Conference of the United Methodist Church challenged all UMC churches to engage in An Act of Repentance and Healing Relationships with Indigenous Persons, and
- Resolution #3321.A (2016 BoR, page) states, the “General Conference of The United Methodist Church affirms the sacredness of American Indian people, their languages, cultures, and gifts to the church and the world,” and
- Resolution #3321.D (2016 BoR, page 328-329) specifically addresses the “Repatriation of Ancestors and Religious/Sacred Objects,” and
- in 1872, as the off-reservation boarding school program got underway, the Board of Indian Commissioners allotted 73 Indian agencies to several denominations including Methodists who were assigned fourteen agencies overseeing the welfare of 54,743 Indians, and
- on October 6, 1879, General Richard Pratt forcibly removed children from the Pine Ridge and Rosebud First Nations and opened a boarding school in Carlisle, Pennsylvania, and
- schools like Carlisle focused on eradicating the heritage, belief, and customs of Native Americans, thus depriving the native children and youth of their identity and heritage through adherence to General Pratt’s “kill the Indian, save the man,” “transfer the savage born infant to the surroundings of a civilization and he will grow to possess a civilized language and habit,” and
- assimilation based schools like Carlisle forced the boys to cut their hair, seized and destroyed the traditional clothing and property the children had brought with them, forbid the children to speak their Native languages, sing their traditional songs, or conduct their traditional spiritual acts and ceremonies, stripped them of their names and tribal identities and forced them to assume English names, and
- in addition to the cultural abuse of the children, life at the schools for the children was hard and often deadly with hundreds and possibly tens of thousands of children dying from disease and the harsh conditions, and
- of the children who died in the schools, many were buried at the schools, a large number without any form of record or marker that indicated their original name or tribe making it impossible for families to be notified or to claim the bodies of their children, as well as some in mass graves, and
- finding, identifying and returning the bodies of these children to their tribes and families is a long, laborious, heartbreaking process that can take from several months to several years or longer, and
- the churches of the Holston Conference of the United Methodist Church have committed to stand hand in hand embracing cultural diversity and celebrating each of our heritages, in continuing to confront the insidious sin of racism and to find pathways to ensure that our children, their children and the children yet to be born will find joy and honor to celebrate who they are - and from whom and where they have come as our God is a God who creates diversity with differing hues, differing languages, differing traditions and heritages, and Our God is a God who creates all and proclaims it good, and
- Micah 6:8 calls us to act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with God, Jeremiah 22:3 calls us to do what is just and right and to rescue from the hand of the oppressor the one who has been robbed, and Galatians 6:2 calls us to carry one another’s burdens to fulfill the law of Christ, and
- preventing the truth of the horrific acts of cruelty and deaths of Native children at boarding schools from being buried, ignored, or otherwise eliminated, advocating to continue efforts to return the bodies of the Native children to their family homelands from mass and individual graves wherever they are, speaking about the trauma that has been passed down from generation to generation in Native communities through this and other atrocities suffered in the colonization of the New World, and persevering in holding governmental and private institutions accountable seeks justice for the children who have been robbed not only of life but of being buried in their homelands according to their cultural traditions, and
- communal prayer, congregational and community education, acts of service, congregational and individual advocacy are the integral to obtaining justice for these children, their families, and their Native nations, and “bear fruits worthy of repentance.”

Be it resolved,

- the Cabinet, clergy, and laity leadership of Holston Conference churches adopt October 6 each year as a “A Day of Remembrance” for the casualties of Indian boarding schools.

Rationale for Resolution to the 2022 Holston Annual Conference Session Relating to an observance of a Day of Remembrance annually on October 6 Presented by the Holston Conference Native American Ministries Committee

“Bear fruits worthy of repentance!” - John the Baptist

Grounding Rationale

“Nearly 200 Native children lie buried at the entrance of the Carlisle Barracks in the “Indian Cemetery” - the first thing you see when entering one of the United States’ oldest military installations. It is a grisly monument to the country’s most infamous boarding school, the Carlisle Indian Industrial School, which opened in 1879 in Carlisle, Pennsylvania, and closed in 1918. Chiseled onto the white granite headstones, arranged in the uniform rows typical of veterans’ cemeteries in the U.S., are the names and tribal affiliations of children who came to Carlisle but never left. Thirteen gravestones list neither name nor tribe; they simply read “UNKNOWN.” i

Carlisle was just one school and not the first. The boarding school experience for Indian children began in 1860 when the Bureau of Indian Affairs established the first Indian boarding school on the Yakima Indian Reservation in the state of Washington. These schools were part of a plan devised by well intentioned, eastern reformers Herbert Welsh and Henry Pancoast, who also helped establish organizations such as the Board of Indian Commissioners, the Boston Indian Citizenship Association and the Women’s National Indian Association.

The goal of these reformers was to use education as a tool to “assimilate” Indian tribes into the mainstream of the “American way of life,” a Protestant ideology of the mid-19th century. Indian people would be taught the importance of private property, material wealth and monogamous nuclear families. The reformers assumed that it was necessary to “civilize” Indian people, make them accept white men’s beliefs and value systems.

By the 1880s, the U.S. operated 60 schools for 6,200 Indian students, including reservation day schools and reservation boarding schools. However, in the late 1870s it was felt that reservation schools were not sufficiently removed from the influences of tribal life. In the eyes of assimilationists, off reservation boarding schools would be the best hope of changing Indian children into members of the white society. For Col. Richard Henry Pratt, the goal was complete assimilation. In 1879, he established the most well-known of the off-reservation boarding schools, the Carlisle Indian School in Carlisle, Pennsylvania. As Headmaster of the school for 25 years, he was the single most impacting figure in Indian education during his time.

“Carlisle, and boarding schools like it, are remembered as a dark chapter in the history of the ill conceived assimilation policies designed to strip Native people of their cultures and languages by indoctrinating them with U.S. patriotism. But child removal is a longstanding practice, ultimately created to take away Native land. Although Carlisle is located in the East, it played a key role in pressuring the West’s most intransigent tribes to cede and sell land by taking their children hostage.” ii

“The opening of Carlisle marked a radical change not only for Standing Bear’s people but also with regard to Indian policy and the aims of U.S. imperialism.

During the late 19th century Plains Indian Wars, the Indian boarding school found its primary purchase. The bloody consequences of two bedrock U.S. institutions - African slavery and the killing of Indians - inspired Carlisle’s founder, Richard Henry Pratt, a military man, to embark on a bold experiment to solve the so-called “Indian question,” once outright extermination was no longer palatable. Like many of his peers, Pratt was a Civil War veteran turned Indian fighter. And he came to regard Indian killing as he had slavery - as unsustainable. A radical solution was needed.

Pratt transposed the Indian wars from the frontier to the boarding school. By removing Native children by the hundreds and then thousands from their families, he thought he could break the resistance of intransigent Native nations. Between 1879-1900, the Bureau of Indian Affairs opened 24 off-reservation schools. By 1900, three-quarters of all Native children had been enrolled in boarding schools, with a third of this number in off-reservation boarding schools like Carlisle. Pratt had turned Gen. Philip Sheridan’s murderous expression - “The only good Indian is a dead Indian” - into a new motto: “Kill the Indian, save the man.” Only the military could achieve that kind of goal.” iii

“The same year the United States celebrated its 100th birthday, at the Battle of Greasy Grass (known in U.S. history as Little Bighorn), a Lakota, Cheyenne and Arapaho alliance wiped out Col. George Armstrong Custer, Pratt’s former commander, and his 7th Cavalry. A U.S. military victory seemed unlikely. Tactics shifted to starving out the militant Lakotas by killing off the remaining buffalo herds, a primary food source, making reservation life not a choice but a necessity for survival. The next step was to undermine customary authority by weaponizing Native kinship systems against reservation leadership. “Carlisle was established to intern, so to speak, the children of leadership,” says Ben Rhodd, “to hold them as hostage, so that their fathers would not be so warlike and resist.” iv

One year after the first children from Pine Ridge and Rosebud (South Dakota) were taken to Carlisle, Spotted Elk, a principal leader from Rosebud visited the school: “Children wore Army uniforms, marched and did drills under the flag of the military that had killed so many of his people. He saw child soldiers, not students, and an Army base, not a school. Spotted Tail’s own son faced a court-martial for bad behavior and was confined to the guardhouse for a week, a military jail originally built to house prisoners during the Revolutionary War. Jail was entirely foreign to Lakotas, and corporal punishment for children was taboo. Out of protest, Spotted Tail withdrew his own children from the school. He wanted to take all the Lakota children with him but was prevented from doing so. It was clear to Spotted Tail that Carlisle taught children not to read and write, but rather to obey and submit.

Available data suggest that most of the students succumbed to illness or were sent home because of it and died there. Unsanitary conditions caused outbreaks of disease, and the lack of warm clothing and bedding added to the miserable conditions. In the first two years, 16 Native children died at Carlisle, and eight died after being sent home. Sent to recruit more students from Rosebud as an adult, Luther Standing Bear encountered resistance from grieving parents, because “so many had died there that the parents of the Indian boys and girls did not want them to go.”

In December 1880, Ernest White Thunder and Maud Swift Bear, children of prominent Rosebud leaders, died at the school. Their parents petitioned the commissioner of Indian Affairs to have their bodies returned home but were denied in an effort to discourage other parents from making the same request. While it was willing to expend resources taking children from their parents and shipping them to far-off boarding schools, the Indian Bureau considered it impractical to send their bodies home when they died.

When Spotted Tail visited Carlisle, a homesick Ernest White Thunder stowed away on the train home with him, hoping to escape. He was soon discovered and sent back. Shortly thereafter, sick and refusing both food and medicine, he died at the age of 13. “His father, Chief White Thunder, was very angry that he had not been notified that his son was even sick,” Standing Bear recalled. If they could not return his son’s body, the chief asked if “they might at least place a headstone over his grave.” According to Standing Bear, “Neither request was ever granted.” To this day, the site of his burial remains unknown.” v

The Canadian government said its indigenous residential schools, the last of which closed in 1996, carried out “cultural genocide.” Canada’s Truth and Reconciliation Commission has found at least 4,100 students died in the schools.vi

Preston McBride, a Dartmouth College scholar, has documented at least 1,000 deaths at just four of the over 500 schools that existed in the United States, including the non-boarding schools on Indian reservations. His research has examined deaths from 1879 to 1934.

The deaths were primarily from diseases made far more lethal in many of the schools because of poor treatment. The actual number of deaths is thought to be much higher.

“It’s quite likely that 40,000 children died either in or because of these institutions,” said McBride, who estimates that tens of thousands more children were simply never again in contact with their families or their tribes after being sent off to the schools.

“This is on the order of magnitude of something like the Trail of Tears,” McBride said, referring to the government’s forced displacement of Native Americans between 1830 and 1850. “Yet it’s not talked about.” Marsha Small, a Montana State University doctoral student, uses ground-penetrating radar to locate unmarked graves, including at the Chemawa Indian School cemetery in Salem, Oregon. The cemetery was left in disarray after original stone markers were leveled in 1960. So far she’s found 222 sets of remains but says much more work is required to have a full accounting. “Until we can find those kids and let their elders come get them or know where they can pay respects, I don’t think the Native is going to heal, and as such I don’t think America is going to heal,” Small said. vii

i Nick Estes, “The US Stole Generations of Indigenous Children to Open the West,” High Country News - Indigenous Affairs, October 14, 2019 (from the print edition), <https://www.hcn.org/issues/SI.17/indigenous-affairs-the-us-stole-generations-of-indigenous-children-to-open-the-west>

ii Ibid

iii Ibid

iv Ibid

V Ibid

vi Brad Brooks, “Native Americans Decry Unmarked Graves, Untold History of Boarding Schools,” Reuters-United States, June 22, 2021, <https://www.reuters.com/world/us/native-americans-decry-unmarked-graves-untold-history-boarding-schools-2021-06-22/>

vii Ibid

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION 09:

The Committee concurs with this Resolution because it is appropriate to do so. Too many Native Americas were abused at these Boarding Schools, and many died as well.

Submitted by, John Eldridge, Chair

== == END OF RESOLUTION == ==

RESOLUTION 10..... Resolution to Ask Holston Home to Withdraw Federal Lawsuit

Whereas,

- Holston Methodist Home for Children filed on December 2, 2021 in U.S. District Court in Greeneville, Tennessee, a lawsuit against a Health and Human Services rule that prohibits child-placement programs receiving federal funding from ruling out applicants based on qualities including religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and same-sex marriage status.
- Holston Methodist Home for Children stated they “made the decision to take legal action against a federal rule that has harmful implications for children and families,”
- President Bradley Williams stated “Children need loving and safe families to care for them after experiencing abuse, neglect or other traumatic events. For the last 126 years, Holston Home has answered that call along with so many other organizations in Tennessee and around the country. Faith-based agencies are now being expected to violate their deeply held religious beliefs in order to continue meeting this incredible need;”
- the agency stated in a press release that the federal rule would require Holston Home to place children with families that do not align with its statement of faith, such as non-Christian families, same-sex couples or unmarried, cohabitating couples;”
- children in non-Christian; with same sex couples; or with unmarried, cohabiting couples can and do receive the necessary love and support needed for healing and appropriate emotional and physical growth,
- research shows that children adopted into lesbian and gay families are as well-adjusted as children adopted by heterosexual parents, and follow similar patterns of gender development (Charlotte J. Patterson, PhD, a psychology professor at the University of Virginia) and 75 other studies reviewed by Cornell University found similar conclusions; Whereas, the decision by the Holston Methodist Home for Children will prohibit many children from receiving loving homes;
- Jesus demonstrated that all are loved unconditionally and accepted all without judgment;
- Jesus taught that our neighbors may be those our religion or culture eschews (Lk. 10:25-37; Mt. 15:22-28), and that in serving “the least of these,” we are in fact serving Christ (Mt. 25:31-46);
- Peter was told, “You must stop calling unclean what God has made clean.” (Acts 10: 28)
- we believe that “all persons are individuals of sacred worth, created in the image of God;”

Be it resolved,

- that Fifth Sunday donations and all promotional efforts that benefit the agency be ceased until Holston Methodist Home for Children withdraw their lawsuit and practice non-discrimination policies in adoptions

Submitted by, Ginny West Case, Green Meadow United Methodist Church, Smoky Mountain District

Count	Name	Signed
1	Ginny Case	12/11/2021
2	Rev. Valerie Ohle	12/11/2021
3	Laurie McNeece	12/11/2021
4	Julya Johnson	12/11/2021
5	Ron Matthews	12/11/2021
6	Fredrick Brabson	12/11/2021
7	L. Marinn Pierce	12/11/2021
8	Sue Schmadebeck	12/11/2021
9	BodhiDerParuna an	12/11/2021
10	Martha Collins	12/11/2021
11	Leanna Cate	12/11/2021
12	Gaye King	12/11/2021
13	Becky Ritter	12/11/2021
14	George Odle	12/11/2021
15	Cheri Allfrey	12/11/2021
16	Jason Stipe	12/11/2021
17	Lisa Tencer	12/11/2021
18	Zach Hash	12/11/2021
19	Wilson Shannon	12/11/2021
20	Carole Martin	12/11/2021
21	Lee Anne Hall	12/11/2021
22	Deborah Yeomans-Barton	12/11/2021
23	Lara Mccauley	12/11/2021
24	Charlie Kidd	12/11/2021
25	Martha Yeomans	12/11/2021
26	Betty Yeomans-Barton	12/11/2021
27	Lisa Weikel	12/11/2021
28	Tracy Yaste	12/11/2021
29	Brenda Carroll	12/11/2021
30	Michael Stinnett	12/11/2021
31	Nick Hollis	12/11/2021
32	Claude Robinson	12/11/2021
33	Tamma Rader	12/11/2021
34	Leigh Garrett	12/11/2021
35	Michael gentry	12/11/2021
36	Rae Ann Guinn	12/12/2021
37	Lauren Barber	12/12/2021
38	Dan Young	12/12/2021
39	Sherry Boles	12/12/2021
40	Ronnie Frazier	12/12/2021
41	Terri Lesueur	12/12/2021
42	Ginger Meadows	12/12/2021
43	Libby Burney	12/13/2021
44	Judy Lovely	12/13/2021
45	Linda Ousley	12/13/2021

Count	Name	Signed	Count	Name	Signed
46	Teresa Frazier	12/14/2021	106	Marisela Ramirez	12/15/2021
47	Olivia Haimani	12/14/2021	107	David Frost	12/15/2021
48	Rebecca E Yarosh	12/14/2021	108	Adam Griest	12/15/2021
49	Charles Brinkley	12/14/2021	109	Bobbie Flowers	12/15/2021
so	Nancy Lampe	12/14/2021	110	Noemi Carter	12/15/2021
51	Brian Yarosh	12/14/2021	111	Bill Nifong	12/15/2021
52	Donald Rickels	12/14/2021	112	Stacey McDonald	12/15/2021
53	Kristal Johnson	12/14/2021	113	Johnny Moretz	12/15/2021
54	Eva Price	12/14/2021	114	Sandy Miller	12/15/2021
55	Gail Brabson	12/14/2021	115	Danny Tullier	12/15/2021
56	Lynn H Batson	12/14/2021	116	William Canter	12/15/2021
57	Phyllis Eldridge	12/14/2021	117	Christian Class	12/15/2021
58	Sharon Bowers	12/14/2021	118	Freebandd Rapper	12/15/2021
59	Christie Peace	12/14/2021	119	Maria Cerda	12/15/2021
60	Blake Valentine	12/14/2021	120	Janeth Herrera	12/15/2021
61	Sheila Nunn	12/14/2021	121	Alfonso Turrubiarres	12/15/2021
62	Maria Cecilia Guerra	12/14/2021	122	raquel nova	12/15/2021
63	Kathleen Brown	12/14/2021	123	Mayra Garcia	12/15/2021
64	John Cagle	12/14/2021	124	Nick Gonzalez	12/15/2021
65	Glick Teresa	12/14/2021	125	Amy Bell	12/15/2021
66	Hildegard E Summerour	12/14/2021	126	Rin Bratsch	12/15/2021
67	Kristen Crosby	12/14/2021	127	Maribel Hernandez	12/15/2021
68	Kathleen Conley	12/14/2021	128	Berenice Lopez	12/15/2021
69	Amy Morehous	12/14/2021	129	Adrian Perez	12/15/2021
70	Anita Case	12/14/2021	130	Daisy Salamanca	12/15/2021
71	Kathy Trundle	12/14/2021	131	Gabriela Rodriguez	12/15/2021
72	Amanda Paletz	12/14/2021	132	Mesfin Solomon	12/15/2021
73	Amy Blumberg	12/14/2021	133	Nubia Zepeda	12/15/2021
74	Stephanie Parrott	12/14/2021	134	Jannet Huerta	12/15/2021
75	Will Johnson	12/14/2021	135	Marie Perez	12/15/2021
76	Kathryn Bauer	12/14/2021	136	Alexa Lopez	12/15/2021
77	Kristin Herbert	12/14/2021	137	Ricardo Parra	12/15/2021
78	Sarah Miazza	12/14/2021	138	Cesar Rosa	12/15/2021
79	Sandra Smith	12/14/2021	139	Novalys Rivas	12/15/2021
80	Charlie Glass	12/14/2021	140	Lili Diaz	12/15/2021
81	Gina Holloway	12/14/2021	141	Cesalis Vidal	12/15/2021
82	Ann Reego	12/14/2021	142	Yessica Castaneda	12/15/2021
83	Luke Ihnen	12/14/2021	143	Cecilia Cruz	12/15/2021
84	Becky Renfro	12/14/2021	144	Maria Maldonado	12/15/2021
85	Brennan Smith	12/14/2021	145	Bereket Tegegn	12/15/2021
86	William Campbell	12/14/2021	146	Rosmarlyn Rodriguez	12/15/2021
87	Bert Sams	12/14/2021	147	Eder Medina	12/15/2021
88	Erin Keck	12/14/2021	148	Mason Rathje	12/15/2021
89	Daryl Stephens	12/14/2021	149	Roxana Flores	12/15/2021
90	Tina Keener	12/14/2021	150	Jenesis Garcia	12/15/2021
91	Susan Fowlkes	12/14/2021	151	Brianda Carrillo	12/15/2021
92	Frances Wheeler	12/14/2021	152	Briceyda Diaz	12/15/2021
93	Paul Hotsinpillar	12/14/2021	153	Ana Vargas	12/15/2021
94	Jim Gass	12/14/2021	154	Elizabeth Cuevas	12/15/2021
95	Marilyn Henry	12/14/2021	155	Ivelisse Alicea Carmona	12/15/2021
96	Eileen Weber	12/14/2021	156	Jose Fernandez	12/15/2021
97	geraldyne north	12/14/2021	157	Otty Sanchez	12/15/2021
98	Amy Holmes	12/14/2021	158	Yosselyn Castro	12/15/2021
99	Cynthia Wooten	12/15/2021	159	Donna Haggans	12/15/2021
100	Peggy Augustine	12/15/2021	160	Hilary Lantigua	12/15/2021
101	Diane Hicks	12/15/2021	161	seairra weimer	12/15/2021
102	Peggy Meade	12/15/2021	162	Gabriel Guilbe Garcia	12/15/2021
103	Milton Nokes	12/15/2021	163	Frances Gonzalez	12/15/2021
104	Shelley Slachowitz	12/15/2021	164	Crysbel Fernandez	12/15/2021
105	Nashely Gomez	12/15/2021	165	Rivas Maria	12/15/2021

Count	Name	Signed
166	Yerin Lopez	12/15/2021
167	Mailey Hopkins	12/15/2021
168	may lopez	12/15/2021
169	Jonathan Contreras	12/15/2021
170	Dayana Campos	12/15/2021
171	Angela Williams	12/15/2021
172	Evelyn Villalpande	12/15/2021
173	Anthony Saenz	12/15/2021
174	Nygyu Highbui	12/15/2021
175	Norma Jaimes	12/15/2021
176	Maximo Calderon	12/15/2021
177	Yaini Alonso	12/15/2021
178	Jennifer Tapanes	12/15/2021
179	Paul Oliveros	12/15/2021
180	Yerandi Rodriguez	12/15/2021
181	Eli S.	12/15/2021
182	Giselle Flores	12/15/2021
183	Yoadinson Garcia	12/15/2021
184	Iris Castillo	12/15/2021
185	Edgar Rodriguez	12/15/2021
186	Kelvin Duran	12/15/2021
187	Lilibeth Leon	12/15/2021
188	Clara Vera	12/15/2021
189	Arturo Cueva naranjo	12/15/2021
190	Elena Ocampo	12/15/2021
191	Blanca Gutierrez	12/15/2021
192	Jacqueline Reyes	12/15/2021
193	Yessenia Velasquez	12/15/2021
194	Karla Cruz	12/15/2021
195	Sofia Echevarria	12/15/2021
196	Angel Rosario	12/15/2021
197	Kayla Scott	12/15/2021
198	Elise Lopez	12/15/2021
199	Yokasta Santana	12/15/2021
200	Hajar Abdelaziz	12/15/2021
201	Alejandra Garcia	12/15/2021
202	Yadira Marichal	12/15/2021
203	RioChanel Davis	12/15/2021
204	Raquel ZALDIVAR	12/15/2021
205	Da Meh	12/15/2021
206	Ada Espinal	12/15/2021
207	Dulce Ramirez	12/15/2021
208	Nathan Davis	12/15/2021
209	Jarony Jimenez	12/15/2021
210	Jose Cabral	12/15/2021
211	Michelle Bernal	12/15/2021
212	Carlos Serrano	12/15/2021
213	Yimis Martinez	12/15/2021
214	Adony Diaz	12/15/2021
215	Victor Corona	12/15/2021
216	Justin Truong	12/15/2021
217	Marjorie Ramos	12/15/2021
218	Vicki Gudenburr	12/15/2021
219	Lesli Arreaza	12/15/2021
220	Angel Vieites	12/15/2021
221	Yanira Membreno sanchez	12/15/2021
222	Yenis Avalos	12/15/2021
223	Thaw Poemei	12/15/2021
224	Yvette Canales	12/15/2021
225	Livan Lopes	12/15/2021

Count	Name	Signed
226	Zugeily Santiago	12/15/2021
227	Violeta Valladares	12/15/2021
228	Paola Santos	12/15/2021
229	David Garcia	12/15/2021
230	Mario Guerra	12/15/2021
231	Michell Ruiz Hernandez	12/15/2021
232	Jonathan Villalta	12/15/2021
233	Alexis Dawson	12/15/2021
234	Diana paola Vallejo	12/15/2021
235	Joheidy gonzalez	12/15/2021
236	Jessenia Perez	12/15/2021
237	Wynesha Smart	12/15/2021
238	Annet Gutierrez	12/15/2021
239	Kimberly Mendez	12/15/2021
240	Tannia Hernandez	12/15/2021
241	nevaeh craddock	12/15/2021
242	adriana Sanchez	12/15/2021
243	yosaris orellana	12/15/2021
244	Dayana Valdes	12/15/2021
245	Margarita Ramirez	12/15/2021
246	Colin Trowbridge	12/15/2021
247	EDWIN FLOREZ	12/15/2021
248	Jose Sandoval	12/15/2021
249	Caroline Lugo	12/15/2021
250	Victor Diaz	12/15/2021
251	jh w	12/15/2021
252	Arabelis Rosario	12/15/2021
253	Rosa Nunez	12/15/2021
254	Jatziry Sanchez	12/15/2021
255	Vanessa Leija	12/15/2021
256	Iveth Duenas	12/15/2021
257	Ghazal Blair	12/15/2021
258	Karely Camacho	12/15/2021
259	Rosanna caraballo	12/15/2021
260	Cony Garcia	12/15/2021
261	Melanie Oglesby	12/15/2021
262	Samuel Salguera	12/15/2021
263	Steven Gould	12/15/2021
264	Guadalupe Perez	12/15/2021
265	Jazmin Lopez	12/15/2021
266	Omayra Medina	12/15/2021
267	Luisa Nevarez	12/15/2021
268	Flavia Rendon	12/15/2021
269	Erika Soriano Sanchez	12/15/2021
270	Joel Jimenez alcantara	12/15/2021
271	Jesse Darkwa	12/15/2021
272	Ricardo Tovar	12/15/2021
273	Jose Ortiz	12/15/2021
274	Winifer Chavez	12/15/2021
275	Melanie Rodriguez	12/15/2021
276	Lupita Barrera	12/15/2021
277	Kelly Vess	12/15/2021
278	Carmen Orozco	12/15/2021
279	Javier Hernandez	12/15/2021
280	LATOYA MCMURRA	12/15/2021
281	Francely Duran	12/15/2021
282	Keissi Polanco	12/15/2021
283	Yeredy Betances	12/15/2021
284	Estarly Cedeno	12/15/2021
285	La'Daliah Pittman	12/15/2021

Count	Name	Signed	Count	Name	Signed
286	srila parikh	12/15/2021	346	Robert Sheffey	12/21/2021
287	Ariel Martinez	12/15/2021	347	Alice Lucas	12/21/2021
288	Berenice Garcia	12/15/2021	348	Niki Judy	12/21/2021
289	Jarlyn Portes	12/15/2021	349	Cody Sanders	12/21/2021
290	Ben Powers	12/15/2021	350	Alan Stevens	12/21/2021
291	Aleciram Selasor	12/15/2021	351	Bryan Underwood	12/21/2021
292	Dulce Garcia	12/15/2021	352	Holly Bland	12/21/2021
293	Dayer Navia	12/15/2021	353	Amy Drinnon	12/21/2021
294	Diana Ortiz	12/15/2021	354	Kelly Fry	12/21/2021
295	Ruth Blanco	12/15/2021	355	Haley Page	12/21/2021
296	Anjelica Garcia	12/15/2021	356	Jacob Fry	12/21/2021
297	Celeste M Cassin	12/15/2021	357	Michael Mullins	12/21/2021
298	Kim Hempstead	12/16/2021	358	Glenda Gray	12/21/2021
299	Margaret Denney	12/16/2021	359	Richard McConnell	12/21/2021
300	bobby gray	12/16/2021	360	Edgar Romero	12/21/2021
301	Tamra Smith	12/16/2021	361	Julia Ambrozavitch	12/21/2021
302	Edward Price	12/16/2021	362	Reagan Stinson	12/21/2021
303	Judi Davis	12/16/2021	363	Shelley Van Camp	12/21/2021
304	SD Hooks	12/16/2021	364	Ariatne Camacho	12/21/2021
305	Leila Pryor	12/16/2021	365	Tracy DeHerrera	12/21/2021
306	Susan Sneed	12/16/2021	366	Brandi Dobbins	12/21/2021
307	Gabriel Sneed	12/16/2021	367	vincent cherian	12/21/2021
308	ANDY Sneed	12/16/2021	368	chloe Yarosh	12/21/2021
309	Amanda Onks	12/16/2021	369	Jason Cruz	12/21/2021
310	Terry Byrne	12/16/2021	370	Jess Davis	12/21/2021
311	Leslie Pusey	12/16/2021	371	Corrina Sisk-Casson	12/21/2021
312	Daneirys Taveras	12/16/2021	372	Kathryn King	12/21/2021
313	Sandra Oaks	12/16/2021	373	Matthew Bland	12/21/2021
314	Lisa Cooper	12/16/2021	374	Emily Sullins	12/21/2021
315	Cheri Harr	12/16/2021	375	Rachel Lucas	12/21/2021
316	Jaime Davis	12/16/2021	376	Rachel Taylor Lee	12/21/2021
317	Bobby Towe	12/16/2021	377	Hunter Fish	12/21/2021
318	Glenda Peck	12/16/2021	378	Kevin Holmes	12/21/2021
319	Angie Bataille	12/16/2021	379	Chelsa Ervin	12/21/2021
320	Allison Hendrix	12/16/2021	380	Renee Skelton	12/21/2021
321	Rita White	12/16/2021	381	Patricia Talley	12/21/2021
322	Phil Mason	12/16/2021	382	Sharon Hipsley	12/21/2021
323	Rev. Douglas Grove-DeJarnett	12/16/2021	383	Khia Hudgins-Smith	12/21/2021
324	Lois Ann Smith	12/16/2021	384	John Ousley	12/21/2021
325	Jorge Cuevas	12/17/2021	385	Nick Norton	12/21/2021
326	Crystal Irwin	12/17/2021	386	Amina Mahmutovic	12/21/2021
327	Ann Hammond	12/18/2021	387	Brandon Arredondo	12/21/2021
328	Rick & Judy Brownlie	12/18/2021	388	Luke Roberts	12/21/2021
329	Leonard Brabson	12/18/2021	389	Timothy Paich	12/21/2021
330	Christine Barba	12/18/2021	390	Maricela Alonso	12/21/2021
331	Tyanna Rogers	12/18/2021	391	Germya Jackson	12/21/2021
332	Erica Jimenez	12/18/2021	392	Lilly Schester	12/21/2021
333	Olga Acevedo	12/18/2021	393	Cristyn De la cruz	12/21/2021
334	Carol Terrazas	12/18/2021	394	Miguel Machado	12/21/2021
335	Frances Raynon	12/18/2021	395	Erma Alegre	12/21/2021
336	Laura Ousley	12/18/2021	396	Stephanie Strutner	12/21/2021
337	Darlene Ousley	12/18/2021	397	Dennis Loy	12/22/2021
338	Patsy Matthews	12/18/2021	398	Matt Strutner	12/22/2021
339	Margaret Williams	12/19/2021	399	Tony Kyle	12/22/2021
340	Wayne Cook	12/19/2021	400	JoAnn Armbrister	12/24/2021
341	Amy Gregory	12/20/2021	401	Jane Delaney	12/24/2021
342	Kelsey Fish	12/21/2021	402	Analia Myers	12/24/2021
343	C. Don Jones	12/21/2021	403	Nichelle Pimentel	12/24/2021
344	Danielle Jenkins	12/21/2021	404	Patricia Bellingrath	12/24/2021
345	Lauren Vrettas	12/21/2021	405	Brian Smith	12/25/2021

Count	Name	Signed
406	Nathan Rowell	12/26/2021
407	Doug Spencer	12/26/2021
408	Jean Galyon	12/28/2021
409	Daniela Gallardo	12/28/2021
410	Elise Egan	12/30/2021
411	John Garland	12/30/2021
412	Gail Preslar	12/31/2021

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION 10:

Although it is difficult to ignore the fact that this Resolution has 412 signatures, the Committee does not concur with this Resolution. The Committee had great difficulty with the idea of the Conference dictating to its members and local churches to whom to donate their money. Granted, discrimination is certainly not endorsed, but the Conference only needs to encourage its members and local churches to prayerfully consider where their charity dollars go, not direct where to send and where not to send their charity dollars.

Submitted by, John Eldridge, Chair

== == == END OF RESOLUTION == == ==

RESOLUTION 11..... Resolution Seeking Explanation of Differences in Holston General Church Apportionment Payments as Published in Audit and Budet Reports

Whereas,

- the Conference General Church Apportionment payments are reported with significantly different totals in the annual audit reports and the annual budget reports,
- differences are evident from at least before 2012 to the latest audit report in 2020,
- the audit reports show receipt/disbursement of approximately \$29 million annually and official approved budgets are approximately \$10 million annually,
- requests for explanation of these significant differences in the 2021 Annual Conference were not adequately provided,
- the annual differences do not track the reported benevolent giving (if combined) by significant amounts (both negative and positive),
- no responses have been received from the CCFA to requests for explanation or clarification.
- the one public comment at last years Annual Conference had no relationship to the question asked or this difference,
- requests to seek clarification in the 2021 AC to the incorrect response were not recognized, thus confusing all in attendance,
- the total benevolent giving totals collected do not explain the differences,
- there is no entry or note in the audit or budget reports to aid understanding of the differences,
- the Annual Conference deserves a detailed explanation for totals reported with such differences,
- a table with the referenced numbers is provided as part of this document,

Be it resolved,

- that a detailed explanation be provided to the full Annual Conference during this 2022 session before it is closed,
- that an explanation be given, if possible, to the 2022 Annual Conference before the CCFA report/budget is submitted for a vote,
- that if a vote is taken on the proposed budget prior to receipt of a detailed report, that another vote be considered before final approval,
- that the explanation be detailed enough to fully explain to all members/clergy present the annual difference variances which range over \$1 million,
- that a reasonable follow up period be allowed for additional questions that the report may raise,
- that measures are considered for the future of these reports that provide more details for more understanding of numbers reported,
- that the audit reports be made available in a timelier manner and distribution than in the past,

- that answering requests for additional information be given a priority in the future.

Submitted by, Leamon Lawson Feb. 23, 2022.

COMPARISON OF HOLSTON APPORTIONMENT PAYMENTS BETWEEN THE BUDGET & AUDIT REPORTS, 2012 TO 2020

Year	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
Budget Payment	\$2,375,590	\$2,517,200	\$2,860,814	\$2,812,873	\$2,310,981	\$3,092,925	\$3,086,724	\$3,578,059	\$3,739,397
Audit payment	\$3,516,999	\$3,463,490	\$3,841,160	\$2,772,560	\$3,391,397	\$3,840,190	\$3,734,380	\$3,653,360	\$3,883,780
Audit payment									
Difference	\$1,141,409	-\$946,290	-\$980,346	-\$40,313	\$1,080,416	-\$747,265	-\$647,656	-\$75,301	-\$144,383
Adj. Benevolent	\$1,014,344	\$1,355,586	\$1,449,118	\$1,404,091	\$1,525,786	\$1,680,587	\$1,605,096	\$1,658,708	\$1,510,420
No Malaria								\$945,650	\$222,200
Hurricane relief				\$597,463					
Wildfire relief				\$153,000	\$325,000				
Benevolent-Total	\$1,014,344	\$1,355,586	\$1,449,118	\$2,154,554	\$1,850,786	\$1,680,587	\$1,605,096	\$2,604,358	\$1,732,620

Sources- Holston Conference audit reports, 2012-2020; Holston Conference Journals, 2012-2020.

Jurisdictional apportionment is approximately \$25,000 per year and is part of these totals.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION 11:

The Committee does not concur with this Resolution and recommends its referral to the Conference Council on Finance and Administration (CCFA). Again, the financial information sought is already on the Conference website, so there is no need for additional reports. As well, this Resolution asked for eight things to be done in its “Be it resolved” section. A Resolution should only ever request one, and at most 2, things to be accomplished.

Submitted by, John Eldridge, Chair

== == END OF RESOLUTION == ==

RESOLUTION 12..... Resolution to provide improved security and revisions to conference website/databases 2022

Much discussion and confusion was present at the 2021 Annual Conference when a 2020 resolution was reviewed concerning expanding the conference database. The submitter was prevented from participating in these discussions, so another resolution is being submitted to address some of these issues and new ones introduced. If there are any questions as to statements presented here, rewatch the video from the actual events as recorded at the 2021 Annual Conference plus attachments are included or referenced.

Several parts included in that resolution have since been implemented even if the resolution itself was rejected. However, the security which supposedly was the main reason for rejection, has been eliminated with the new website. If these were significant issues, then this should be improved ASAP.

Also, if the cyber bullying and protection from ‘bad actors’ is such an issue, then why allow the approximately 500 laity listed in the current new website/databases to be exposed? We say we must protect the other 700 + or so members/officials of churches but are unconcerned with the existing listings of around 500 laity. In addition, 700-1500 pastors and church office contacts are unprotected, so we assume they do not need protection either. This difference was never adequately explained and needs to be addressed soon if the risks are anywhere near those implied!

One significant point also is that the resolution was written around the old website which was protected by a login requirement. In other words, only conference people could be issued a login and use the information contained within. Given that one fact, then the concerns of cyber bullying and bad actors would have to apply to within the conference potential. That has not been addressed at all or that was not the issue of significance. This seems to be only an issue of control of information flow and not any other issue. That is concerning and should be to all the conference.

Also, a new resolution had been submitted in 2021 to address the differences in the new website/database differences but was also recommended for rejection. Presentation was prevented due to the much abbreviated new business time limitations.

Since there was no other workable mechanism for addressing these issues within the Annual Conference processes, another resolution was prepared and is submitted.

Whereas,

- the 2020 resolution to expand the conference database to include church officials and members to the Annual Conference was rejected in 2021 due to the following:
 - Concern for cyber bullying and bad actors within the conference.
 - Concern for requiring contact data that would reduce the individuals wanting to serve in church positions and to the Annual Conference.
 - Concern that minors contact information could be included (already is/had been).
 - Statements that the information was available on paper in the District Superintendents offices but only by an ‘approved’ request.
 - Statement that the individual church contact information ‘belonged to the individual churches and was controlled there’ and not part of the Annual Conference (per the conference communications director).
 - No options to explain or obtain comments from supporters was allowed in the AC discussion (per video recording of session).
- the individual steps in the rejected resolution along with current status are as follows:
 - Security in the 2020 website was provided by a login system that limited access of the data to conference clergy, Admin. Assistants, and conference office holders. The new website has no security and is subject to all significant concerns expressed at AC 2021. However, no distinction was made between the two systems. If a major concern with a login security system, why redesign the website/database without security?
 - The rejected resolution included requiring verified contact information from selected individual church officials and members to the Annual Conference and inclusion in the database. This is now a requirement for verified information from all per the 2022 Charge Conference instructions/reporting, so implementation was under way before this discussion. Apparently there were no issues with refusal to share this information or it would have been presented.
 - The rejected resolution stated that ‘by accepting a church office or position, it was a requirement to provide contact information’. By the 2021 charge conference guidelines/reporting, this has been implemented apparently with no concern. This had caused a concern expressed during the AC that approval would limit participation by local officials.

- The reasonable ability to communicate with specific church laity position holders is not available for church to church needs except at the discretion of the district superintendent or church pastors. This is still the standard restriction, except for At-large members and all committee laity members, numbering around 500.
 - Coordination amongst laity is critically important and should be improved by allowing contact information to be available in a login protected system. This is still not available even though conference personnel now have a database of AC members to send instructions to, but not available between laity.
- the rejected resolution directed the expansion of the online available data base to include:
- Council chair, Lay leader, SPR chairs with contact information. This is not implemented but only available from the DS and church pastor lists if requests for sharing is even granted. Apparently there is no need to communicate with these other than through the pastor.
 - Church/Charge Annual Conference ‘members’ with contact information. Interestingly, this has been implemented by the conference secretary except for conference use only. This was made a requirement with the 2021 charge conference reporting instructions and reports. We hope this is known by members.
 - At-Large ‘members’ to Annual Conference with contact information. This was and is still part of the online conference database. Now, no security is provided for this group of over 200, so ‘bad actors’ must not be a concern. So, why not all if this were a major concern for the additional 600-700 ‘AC members’?
 - An additional 300 laity committee members have all contact information available on the unprotected website. No concerns apparently with these so what is the difference with ‘AC members’?
 - Potential for laity communications, coordination and sharing between churches would be enhanced. The new communications database from conference to ‘AC members’ was implemented as an obvious value but no improved ability to easily communicate or share between churches. Only ‘official’ conference communications are allowed.
- Be it resolved,
- that Holston communications director and advisory council be instructed to review this situation within the next 4 months and report recommendations/ actions via written report to all churches. Review is to include:
 - Requirements, time to implement, cost and recommendation to provide a login protection provision to the new conference website/ databases. If you check other conferences, several have login access and protection.
 - Remember in reference to maintenance of these databases and costs, that local churches are imputing much data on a routine basis and no actual cost will be involved in the upkeep of these few additional pieces of data from each.
 - Explain logically the rationale under the current website/databases that 700 laity members to the AC are excluded due to security concerns but the 500 or so laity committee members and at-large members apparently do not have the same security concerns? Same for the 900 pastors and 800 church offices?
 - Proposal will at least include contact information for selected/all laity office holders in each church plus committee members and all members to the Annual Conference.
 - Proposal will at least include the capability to provide login credentials for all laity office holders in each church plus committee members and all members to the Annual Conference.
 - All laity could then access each other’s individuals contact information as needed without requesting permission of the District Superintendents or others. This would be identical to the provisions for all clergy in the conference. Conference personnel would also have access to all the data as now collected. Equality between laity and clergy is stressed in the conference, except here.
 - If members to the annual conference or any other laity are excluded from the proposal (inclusion or login access), provide a logical explanation for not including. This group is the one requiring more communications to organize the Annual Conference each year – and the At-large members have been included for some time. Church office holders and members to the AC potentially benefit more than others in being able to communicate amongst themselves but is resisted
 - Given that the reasons/concerns from discussions in 2021 AC covered cyber bullying, protection for ‘bad actors’, names belonging to local churches, etc. as reasons for not including members to AC, why is it acceptable to expose the almost 500 laity now on committees/at-large members, 900 pastors, and 800 church offices to the same potential? Explain the differences logically as no security now exists.
 - Since the reasons of cyber bullying, protection from ‘bad actors’, etc. was used when the website was login protected (2020 resolution review), are you saying that these threats come from within the conference? List specific examples of what has been experienced and what efforts have/are being made to manage and reduce.

- Why does the conference require all the data for contacting these laity officeholders (maintained mostly on paper) but have little/no history for ever communicating directly with them? Plus, conference now has a required database for members to the AC (established with the 2022 charge conference reporting requirements) but keep it inaccessible to those that are on it. Said database for members is apparently to send instructions only. This could be interpreted as being a method of censoring communications between equal laity, thus preventing sharing concerns, planning, and coordination. Explain please.
- Since security of this data is critical, use of emergency powers granted in AC 2020 to approve starting the recommended improvements immediately after the review and report should be given highest priority. To study longer and delay until 2023/2024 would seem to dismiss all the concerns expressed and could question motivation further.

Submitted by, Leamon Lawson February 28, 2022

Forms copies are referenced.

Resolution and Conference forms/instructions for the 2021/2022 Charge Conference. Excerpts plus refer to the forms.

Be it acknowledged that a number of items included in the 2020 resolution rejected have since been implemented in some form:

- Church Council chair, Church Lay Leader, Church SPR chair, Church delegate to Annual Conference, 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. All now required to be submitted via guidelines for the 2022 charge conference reporting. Said data for the members to the Annual Conference was used to create a database of these for conference communications use only.
- The 2021 Journal was devoid of contact information for all laity members reported there being different from all past years, as suggested in correspondence before the 2021 AC.
- The conference communications director stated that laity contacts were ‘owned by the local churches and should be managed there and only there’ but were required at conference level in 2022.
- The conference secretary was already in the process of implementing a number of items contained in this resolution:
 - 2021-Charge Conference reporting paperwork contained the following:
 - 2022 Officers, Leaders & Employed Staff for 2022-“Charge Conference
- It is important that this year’s form is used instead of older forms from previous years. When completing this form, be sure to list the person’s current address, phones, and email once.

- Pages 1-5 required for all churches.
- For your charge conference please prepare a complete list of all persons nominated for leadership.
- Please be sure that your Lay Member(s) and alternates to Annual Conference has a confirmed current email address and mailing address. These persons will need to be contacted in January with important AC information.
- This form must be turned in at district conference.”
- Instructions were from the conference secretary – ‘we must share important information about Annual Conference with ‘members’! We suppose there was not a need in the past? It is difficult to coordinate a group of 930 laity members without a communications network!
- The revised forms required confirmed emails and mailing addresses for laity from all churches as outlined in the rejected resolution,
- That the stated intent of the collection was to communicate from conference more easily by way of a data base although rejected in the resolution,
- It is acknowledged that the data base would improve the communications within the conference but that was the intent of the resolution, and it was rejected,

Attached 2020 Rejected Resolution copy

2020 Resolution for Conference On-line Data Base Expansion

Whereas:

- The Holston Conference has a people data base (church council chair, Lay leaders, SPR chairs, etc. with contact information) reported and maintained ‘on paper’,
- 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:
That this Annual Conference vote nonconcurrency.
That this, 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 online.

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 by, John E. Eldridge, Chair

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION 12:

The Committee does not concur with this supposed Resolution. The Committee addressed the same Resolution at the last Annual Conference and stands by its previous action. As well, the Committee recommends referring this Resolution to the Conference Communications Advisory Council. The Committee stands by its previous action. Finally, the Committee recommends a referral of this Resolution to the Conference Communications Advisory Council.

Submitted by, John Eldridge, Chair

== == == END OF RESOLUTION == == ==

RESOLUTION 13..... Resolution in Support of the Protocol of Reconciliation and Grace Through Separation

Whereas,

- a diverse group of United Methodist leaders, called together by the late Bishop John Yambasu and presided over by the renowned attorney Kenneth Feinberg, negotiated an agreement (the Protocol of Reconciliation and Grace through Separation, hereafter the “Protocol”) providing for an amicable and orderly separation of The United Methodist Church (hereafter “UM Church”);
- irreconcilable differences among the people of the UM Church have created a stalemate leading to declines in church membership, average worship attendance, financial support, and mission vitality;
- the UM Church’s very public dispute has tarnished the reputation of the Church catholic;
- the Protocol has been endorsed by nine major advocacy groups representing different sides of the conflict, including Africa Initiative, The Confessing Movement, Good News, Mainstream UMC, Reconciling Ministries Network, UMAction, UMCNext, Uniting Methodists, and the Wesleyan Covenant Association;
- the members of the team that negotiated and produced the Protocol included eight active Bishops of the UM Church, including past and current Presidents of the Council of Bishops (Gregory Palmer, Kenneth Carter, Cynthia Fierro Harvey, and Thomas Bickerton); and,
- the Protocol’s implementing legislation has been submitted to the Commission on General Conference by several annual conferences pursuant to ¶ 507 of *The Book of Discipline* of the United Methodist Church.

Be it resolved,

- that the Holston Annual Conference hereby supports and urges its General Conference delegates to vote for the passage of the Protocol of Reconciliation and Grace Through Separation when said legislation comes before the next General Conference session.

Rationale:

The irreconcilable differences in the UM Church have undermined the health and vitality of local churches. The differences also threaten the effectiveness and existence of its various general boards and agencies. The very public debate over our differences has also tarnished the reputation of the Church catholic. While other Protestant denominations facing a similar situation have engaged in rancorous and costly civil litigation over property and assets, our hope is to end our dispute in a spirit of reconciliation and grace as we part ways from one another. The Protocol provides a way for the people of the UM Church to act with integrity as we bless one another to live out our different visions of ministry. This resolution, while not binding, indicates the Holston Annual Conference’s support for the plan negotiated by a diverse group of UM Church leaders called the Protocol of Reconciliation and Grace through Separation.

Submitted by, The Rev. Charles W. Griffin III, on behalf of the Holston Wesleyan Covenant Association Board of Directors

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION 13:

The Committee does not concur with this Resolution for the same reason that it did not concur with the other “Protocol” Resolution. That is, although people are familiar with the “Protocol” as it now exists, no one knows what the provisions of the “Protocol” will be after it is translated into legislation and vetted by a General Conference committee(s) and debated and possibly amended on the floor of the General Conference.

Submitted by, John Eldridge, Chair

== == == END OF RESOLUTION == == ==

RESOLUTION 14.....Resolution Regarding Holston United Methodist Home for Children

Whereas,

- the United Methodist Church and the Holston Conference are no longer affiliated with the Holston United Methodist Home for Children, and
- the Holston United Methodist Home for Children has adopted practices which are not compatible to the United Methodist Church’s policy of ‘Do No Harm’, and
- the Holston United Methodist Home for Children has adopted practices which discriminate against LGBTQIA+ communities and against persons of non-Christian faith,

Be it resolved,

- the United Methodist Church and the Holston Conference will take legal steps to have the words United Methodist removed from the name of the Holston United Methodist Home for Children.

Submitted by, Amy Jo Blumberg, The Rev. Amy Yearly Holmes, Daryl Stephens, Leanna Johnson, Ginny West Case

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION 14:

The Committee does not concur with this Resolution and recommends referring it to the Extended Cabinet, as they are in on-going conversations with the leaders Holston home on this very issue.

Since the Conference has no legal authority over Holston Home, the Committee felt that it does make sense to ask Holston Home to remove “United Methodist” from its name. Nonetheless, the Committee had assertion over the Resolution’s request for “legal action” to get Holston Home to remove “United Methodist” from its name.

Submitted by, John Eldridge, Chair

= = = END OF RESOLUTION = = =

= = = END OF REPORT = = =



X.h COMMITTEE ON RULES OF ORDER (CRO)

The Holston Conference Committee on Rules met by virtual technology on Tuesday, March 1, 2022. Here is a summary of what we approved:

We agreed to the Bishop's request to add the Chairs of the Board of Ordained Ministry and the Conference Strategy Team to the Extended Cabinet. We also agreed to the Bishop's request to add a Parliamentarian to our conference list of officers and to the Committee on Rules.

We agreed to change the composition of the Native American Awareness Committee to 10 members (9 elected, one cabinet rep) with the goal of having one member from each district and inclusion of Native Americans when possible.

We agreed to expand the Board of Ordained Ministry up to 55 members.

We agreed to add a deacon in full connection to the Nominations Committee.

We received information from the Bishop's Task Force on Petitions, Resolutions, and New Business calling for a comprehensive look at how the conference handles these matters. The committee incorporated this task force's recommendations into our rules after some discussion.

In consultation with Dr. Leonard Young, parliamentarian of the GCFA, we rearranged our rules, renumbered them and made some additions for areas we had not previously addressed well. You will find in these rules the following changes:

Lay members from local churches and districts are elected to 4 year terms with any possible replacements serving the remainder of those terms.

Definitions of petitions, resolutions and new business were spelled out with updated procedures for handling these items in a way that is fair and manageable. Because of these changes we have provided a path for handling these items in 2022 and a different way for 2023 and afterward. We have defined who can present new business, how those items will be handled, and how they will be accounted for as the conference receives them.

We have developed a set of procedures for virtual Annual Conference sessions as well as a more transparent set of session rules of any session of Annual Conference, outlining rules of procedure and debate.

We had been asked to consider a new way of electing clergy delegates to General and Jurisdictional Conference and referred that matter to the chairs of the Orders of Deacon and Elder. Having not received any input back we proceeded to not change that process at this time.

We also had a matter referred to us to consider adding the possibility a maker of a motion might give a summary statement at the close of debate. Upon consideration we rejected that idea because it would constitute an additional speech in favor.

Submitted by: Rev. Dr. 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 *2016 BOD*) 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 ANNUAL 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 BOD ¶601).

Composition and Character is defined by (2016 BOD ¶¶602)

Organization is defined by (2016 BOD, ¶603) Function is defined by the (2016 BOD ¶604-606)

I. CABINET

- a. **Appointment Cabinet:**
Resident Bishop; 9 District Superintendents; Executive Assistant to the Bishop (2016 BOD ¶417-425).
- b. **Extended Cabinet:**
Appointment Cabinet; Conference Secretary/ Director of Clergy Services; Director of Connectional Ministries; Conference Treasurer/ Director of Administrative Services; Director of Congregational Development; Director of Communications; Executive Director, Holston Conference Foundation, Chair of the Conference Strategy Team, and Chair of the Board of Ordained Ministry. The Conference Lay Leader shall be invited to attend meetings of the extended cabinet.

II. COMMUNICATIONS ADVISORY COUNCIL, a service agency of the entire Conference.

Total Membership = 16
9 elected members, Cabinet Representative, Director of Communications, Communications Administrative Assistant, Digital Media Specialist, Database Manager, Print Media Specialist, Editor of *The Call* (2016 BOD ¶¶609, 646). Related to Council on Finance and Administration and Annual Conference.

III. COMMITTEE ON CONGREGATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Total Membership = 13
12 elected members, Cabinet Representative.

IV. BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND CAMPUS MINISTRY

Total Membership = 13
11 elected members, 1 from the Young Adult Ministry, Cabinet Representative (2016 BOD ¶634). Related to the Discipleship Team, Council on Finance and Administration, 1. Wesley Foundations, and 2. Conference Colleges.

V. BOARD OF LAY MINISTRY

(Related directly to Annual Conference)

The Conference Lay Leader is the elected leader of conference laity (2016 BOD ¶607.1).

Total membership = 22
9 District Lay Leaders; presidents of United Methodist Men, United Methodist Women, United Methodist Youth; Resident Bishop, Conference Director of Lay Servant Ministries; 2 cabinet representatives; 5 members-at-large; Conference Lay Leader. The Board may elect up to three associate 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. (2016 BOD ¶631)

The Conference Lay Leader shall be the chairperson of the conference Board of Lay Ministry (2016 BOD ¶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. (2016 BOD ¶630)

a. Missions Team

Total Membership = 14
12 elected members, Ex-Officio: Conference Secretary of Global Ministries, Cabinet Representative (2016 BOD ¶633). Sub-groups to be determined by Missions Team in consultation with Discipleship Team.

b. Nurture Team

Total Membership = 18
12 elected members, Representatives of the 4 Ministry Teams/Board with vote (Children's, Council on Youth, Young Adult, Camp and Retreat), Board of Lay Ministry Representative, 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 = 30
2 youth per District, 1 adult per District, Coordinator of District Coordinators, Cabinet Representative, Staff-Coordinator of Youth Ministries (2016 BOD ¶649).

3. Young Adult Ministry Team

Total Membership = 14
12 elected members, 75% or 9 of which are age 18 to 35, representing a cross-section of the Annual Conference, Cabinet Representative, Staff Resource (2016 BOD ¶650).

4. **Camp and Retreat Ministry Board**

Total Membership = 30

16 elected members, Ex-Officio: Resident Bishop, Cabinet Representative, Director of Connectional Ministries, Camp and Retreat Ministry Executive Director, 5 Site Directors, Chairpersons of 5 Site Boards

c. **Outreach / Advocacy Team**

Total Membership = 19+

12 elected members plus the five ministry area chairpersons required by Discipline: Religion and Race, Church and Society, Status and Role of Women, and Christian Unity and Inter-Religious Concerns, Disability Concerns/Relationships Ministry Area, and chairpersons or representatives of other groups related to Outreach / Advocacy. Cabinet Representative (2016 BOD ¶629), Staff Resource.

1. **Religion and Race Ministry Area**

Total Membership = 14+

12 elected members, Cabinet Representative (2016 BOD ¶643) Staff Resource, Sub-Groups related to and determined by Religion and Race Ministry Area.

2. **Church and Society Ministry Area (Chair)** (2016 BOD ¶629).

3. **Status and Role of Women Ministry Area (Chair)** (2016 BOD ¶644).

4. **Christian Unity and Inter-Religious Relationships Ministry Area (Chair)** (2016 BOD ¶642).

5. **Disability Concerns (Chair)** (2016 BOD ¶653).

6. **Strength for the Journey Team**

Total membership = 12

9 elected, Ex-Officio Cabinet Representative, staff, Founding Director.

7. **Conference Representative to Holston Home for Children**

8. **Native American Ministries**

Total Membership = 10

9 elected members, Cabinet Representative (2016 BOD ¶654). With the goal of at least one person from each district and preference given to persons with Native American ancestry.

9. **African American Ministry Team**

Total Membership = 8

6 elected members, Ex-Officio: Representative, Religion and Race and Director of Connectional Ministries.

d. **Stewardship Ministry Team**

Total Membership = 15

12 elected members, Cabinet Representative, Staff Resource, Director of Connectional Ministries

e. **Witness Team**

Total Membership = 17

12 elected members, Chairpersons of Committee on Small Membership Congregation Team and Hispanic/Latino Ministry Leadership Team, Director of Congregational Development & Revitalization, Director of Connectional Ministries, and 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

f. **Committee on Sexual Ethics and Boundaries**

Total Membership = 13

9 elected members, Ex-Officio: Representative – Board of Ordained Ministry, Director-Center for Wellbeing (with vote), Director- Office of Clergy Services / Staff Resource and Cabinet Representative.

VII. BOARD OF ORDAINED MINISTRY

Total Membership = up to 55

Up to 48 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 (2016 BOD ¶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; 2 District Superintendents appointed by Resident Bishop. The Board shall select its own officers. (2016 BOD ¶635, ¶306-309)

VIII. GROUPS RELATED TO THE CABINET AND ORDAINED MINISTRY

a. **Administrative Review Committee**

Total Membership = 5

3 elected clergy in full connection and two alternate clergy in full connection, nominated by the Bishop and elected by the Clergy Session. (2016 BOD ¶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 (2016 BOD ¶2703.2).

c. **Order of Deacons, Order of Elders**

(2016 BOD ¶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, Board of Ordained Ministry, and sub-groups related to and determined by the Center for Wellbeing Supervisory Committee.

e. **Ministers Convocation Design Team**

Total Membership 12

6 elected members chosen by the Convocation Design Team, Chair-Order of Deacons, Chair-Order of Elders, Chair(s)-Local Pastors and Associate Members, Director of Clergy Services, Administrative Assistant to Director of Clergy Services.

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. (2016 BOD ¶¶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. (2016 BOD ¶639)

b. **Board of Trustees**

Total Membership = 16

12 elected members, Cabinet Representative; Ex-Officio, non-voting CFA representative, Resident Bishop and non-voting Staff-Conference Treasurer. The Board shall elect its own officers. (2016 BOD ¶¶640, 2512-2550)

c. **Commission on Archives and History**

Total Membership = 14

9 elected members, Cabinet Representative, Historical Society Representative, Conference Archivist, Conference Historian and Staff-Conference Secretary. (2016 BOD ¶641).

d. **Commission on Equitable Compensation**

Total Membership = 14

10 elected members [an equal number of lay and clergy members], Executive Assistant to the Bishop, one District Superintendent- (Sustentation Funds), Staff-Conference Treasurer, Staff-Director of Clergy Services/Conference Secretary. (2016 BOD ¶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. (2016 BOD ¶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, a member of the Order of Deacons, and additional lay and clergy persons for equalization of lay and clergy membership.

g. **Committee on Petitions and Resolutions**

Total Membership = 12

9 elected members, Ex-Officio a member of the current Holston delegation to General Conference, the Secretary of the Annual Conference and a Cabinet Representative.

h. **Committee on Rules of Order**

Total Membership = 14

8 elected members (4 Lay and 4 Clergy) nominated by the Committee on Nominations and elected by the Annual Conference, 6 Ex-Officio members with vote: Resident Bishop, Conference Chancellor, Conference Secretary, Cabinet Representative, Executive Assistant to the Bishop, and Parliamentarian.

i. **Episcopal Residence Committee**

Total Membership = 5

Chairs or Representatives of the Committee on Episcopacy, the Council on Finance and Administration, and the Board of Trustees, plus A Cabinet Representative and the Executive Assistant to the Bishop (Ex-Officio). (2016 BOD ¶638)

j. **Personnel Resources Committee**

Total Membership = 18

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, Cabinet Representative, 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 Women in Faith (formerly United Methodist Women), Chairperson of Discipleship Team, Director of Connectional Ministries, Chair of Religion and Race, Chair of COSROW, and a District Superintendent, chosen by the Cabinet, and 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. (2016 BOD ¶648).

b. **United Women in Faith (formerly United Methodist Women)**

All members of local units within the bounds of the Conference. (2016 BOD ¶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.

RULES OF ORDER

1 NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

- 1.1 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.
 - 1.1.1 With the intent of embodying inclusivity and diversity the nominations committee shall seek to include at least one person of color on all conference leadership groups.
- 1.2 Conference leadership groups shall be organized into the following descriptive categories and hereinafter the term conference leadership group(s) shall include one or more of these categories: advocacy groups, agencies, boards, commissions, committees, councils, ministry areas, task forces and teams.
- 1.3 No person shall serve as an elected 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 Women in Faith (formerly 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.

- 1.4 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 of a Conference Leadership Group.
- 1.5 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.
- 1.6 Parliamentarians: The presiding officer may choose to appoint a parliamentarian and assistant parliamentarians to advise on matters of parliamentary procedure on an annual basis.
- 1.7 Conference Chancellor: In accordance with ¶603.8 of the 2016 *Book of Discipline*, the Conference Chancellor and any Associate Chancellors shall be elected quadrennially at the session of the Annual Conference immediately preceding the regular session of the General Conference on nomination of the Resident Bishop. If the Conference Chancellor is not otherwise a voting member of the Annual Conference, they shall be seated in the Annual Conference with privilege of voice but not vote in accordance with ¶602.10 of the 2016 *Book of Discipline*.
 - 1.7.1 Vacancies shall be filled according to ¶603.8 of the 2016 *Book of Discipline*, and shall be filled at the next session of the Annual Conference for the remainder of the current quadrennium.
- 1.8 The extended cabinet shall fill all mid-year vacancies which shall be confirmed at the next meeting of the Annual Conference.
- 1.9 Election to Conference Leadership Groups 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.
- 1.10 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.
 - 1.10.1 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 (2016 BOD ¶639.2). Members of the Board of Pensions shall not serve consecutive terms.
 - 1.10.2 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 quadrennium. A person who is ineligible for re-election to the same conference office because of the term-limit provisions of this Rule may be elected to serve in another conference office. A person who is ineligible for re-election to the same conference office because of the term-limit provisions of this Rule becomes eligible for election to that office again after the passage of a full quadrennium.
- 1.11 Members who fail to participate in the meetings and activities of a Conference Leadership Group may be removed and a successor named in the next report of the Committee on Nominations to the Annual Conference, unless the by-laws of the agency provide otherwise.
- 1.12 The chairperson, majority of members, or Resident Bishop may call a meeting of any Conference Leadership Group. The call of a meeting shall be coordinated with the Conference office and shall give the date, time, place, and purpose of the meeting. Unless a meeting is called at the Annual Conference, in order to report to the Annual Conference, a three day or greater notice should be given to members.

- 1.13 No person in the employ of a Conference agency shall be a voting member of a Conference Leadership Group which supervises the work of the agency by which that member is employed.
- 1.14 The Resident Bishop may designate a person to represent the Bishop on any Conference Leadership Group or other position, or any occasion where the Bishop deems it necessary. The Resident Bishop or designated person may charge a Conference Leadership Group or other conference entity to study or consider an issue that he/she believes is necessary to carry out the mission of the Conference.
- 1.15 There shall be a Committee on Nominations within each district, composed of the District Superintendent (who shall serve as Chair), District Lay Leader, District President of United Women in Faith (formerly United Methodist Women), District President of United Methodist Men, a representative of the District Youth Council, the Chairperson of the District Leadership Team or other structure, and the District Lay representative to the Conference Committee on Nominations. Additional representatives may be added by the District Leadership Team to ensure adequate representation. These district committees shall serve as a resource group throughout the year to supply appropriate names of clergy and lay persons to the Conference Committee on Nominations for service within the Annual Conference.
- 1.16 Members of the boards of directors of Asbury Centers, Inc., 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.
- 1.17 Members of the Board of Trustees of Holston Conference Colleges (Emory & Henry 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.
- 1.18 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.
- 1.19 Nominations for Conference Leadership Groups, and other groups amenable to the Annual Conference, from the floor are in order following the presentation of the Nominations/Spiritual Leadership Report.
 - 1.19.1 Nominations from the floor must be made in the form of a motion to amend the report and must maintain the composition and balance of the affected team as required by the 2016 *Book of Discipline* and/or the Standing Rules of the Holston Conference.

2 MEMBERS OF THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

- 2.1 The lay members of the Annual Conference shall be elected for four-year terms or until their successors are elected to provide continuity. Lay members shall serve at the meeting of the next Annual Conference following election.
- 2.2 In the case of a vacancy, the charge shall elect a replacement who shall serve for the remainder of the term.
- 2.3 The District Leadership Team in consultation with the District Youth Ministries Team shall elect youth members of the Holston Annual Conference. The young persons elected shall meet the requirements for election of all lay members as stated in 2016 BOD, ¶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.

- 2.4 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. Lay persons holding the following positions shall automatically be a member of the annual conference and do not need to be elected at the charge level or as a District Member at Large.
- 2.4.1 Diaconal ministers, active deaconesses and home missionaries under Episcopal appointment within the bounds of the Holston Conference, Conference President of United Methodist Men, Conference President of United Women in Faith (formerly United Methodist Women), the Conference Treasurer, the Annual Conference Parliamentarian,
 - 2.4.2 The Director of Connectional Ministries and Associate Director(s), Director of Communications, Conference Chancellor, Chair of the Committee on Rules of Order, Chair of the Discipleship Team, Chair of the Personnel Resources Committee.
 - 2.4.3 Chair of the Council on Finance and Administration, the Executive Director of the Holston Conference Foundation, the Conference Lay Leader, and other members of the Conference Board of Lay Ministry not otherwise elected as members of the Annual Conference shall be members of the Annual Conference.
 - 2.4.4 The conference director of Lay Servant Ministries, Conference Secretary of Global Ministries (if lay), and the remaining lay members that will be needed to achieve equalization are to be apportioned to the Districts on the basis of district lay membership, provided that the total number of lay members shall include youth delegates required by the Discipline, District lay leaders, District presidents of United Women in Faith (formerly United Methodist Women) and United Methodist Men, and Lay delegates and alternates to the General and Jurisdictional Conferences for the Quadrennium.
 - 2.4.5 The clergy membership shall consist of deacons and elders in full connection, provisional members, associate members, and local pastors under appointment. (2016 BOD ¶602, ¶32 Article I)
- 2.5. The Conference Secretary shall notify each District Superintendent of the number of lay members to be elected as a District Member at Large not later than sixty days following Annual Conference.
- 2.5.1 The additional persons apportioned to the Districts as District Lay Members at Large 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, District Lay Members at Large shall be elected in a manner determined by the District Leadership Team.
 - 2.5.2 A 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.
 - 2.5.3 The District Superintendents will be responsible for seeing that the District Lay Members at Large are elected and that their names and addresses are sent to the Holston Conference Secretary by January 15th of each year.

3 PROGRAM AND REPORTS

- 3.1 The Conference Secretary shall be responsible for preparing a memorial booklet. A memorial service for clergy members and spouses of clergy members, deceased during the year shall be held at each Annual Conference.
- 3.2 Proposed programs from Conference Leadership Groups that require Conference action shall be compiled and published and/or made available in electronic/digital format under the direction of the Office of the Secretary of the Annual Conference and distributed to all lay and clergy members of the Conference at least thirty (30) days before the opening session of the Annual Conference.
- 3.3 Reports not requiring conference action, from various committees, boards, teams, commissions, a agencies and groups recognized by the General Church that are to be included in the *Book of Reports* are due at the office of the Conference Secretary by March 15.

3.4 Consent Agenda

- 3.4.1 Agenda items and reports not requiring action by the Annual Conference, but presented 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.
 - 3.4.2 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 Standing Rules, and the Director of Connectional Ministries.
 - 3.4.3 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 and or the presiding officer.
- 3.5 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.
- 3.6 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 Women in Faith (formerly United Methodist Women), President of the Conference United Methodist Men, Chair of the Discipleship Team, Director of Connectional Ministries, Chair of Religion and Race, Chair of COSROW and a District Superintendent. The Director of Connectional Ministries shall convene this meeting and may, in consultation with the Resident Bishop, appoint additional members to serve on the Program Committee as needed. The Conference may make any change in the schedule necessary to facilitate its work.

4 MISCELLANEOUS GENERAL PROCEDURES

- 4.1 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 Women in Faith (formerly United Methodist Women), and United Methodist Men; the District lay leader; Diaconal ministers and pastors serving within the district; and such other persons as may be determined by the District Leadership Team.
- 4.2 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 the absence to the Conference Secretary.
- 4.3 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.

4.4 Conference Board of Trustees

- 4.4.1 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.
- 4.4.2 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.
- 4.4.3 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)

4.5 Standing Rules of the Annual Conference

- 4.5.1 The Committee on Standing Rules shall present the proposed standing rules, printed in the pre-conference Book of Reports each year for approval by the annual conference at the opening business session of the annual conference.
- 4.5.2 Any motion to amend the Standing Rules, as presented, must be in writing, lay over one day, and be reviewed by the Committee on Standing Rules before a vote is taken, and such motion must be approved by a two-thirds vote of the Annual Conference.
- 4.5.3 Changes adopted by the Annual Conference to the Standing Rules shall be effective immediately.
- 4.5.4 The Standing Rules of the Conference shall be printed in each edition of the Conference Journal and available on the Annual Conference website.

4.6 Committee on Petitions and Resolutions

- 4.6.1 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.
- 4.6.2 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.
- 4.6.3 Their recommendations and all materials must be in the hands of the Conference Secretary for the *Book of Reports* by March 15.
- 4.6.4 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. Once a recommendation has been made, then the item shall be brought back to the annual conference at a time to be determined by the presiding officer.
- 4.6.5 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.

4.7 Petitions, Resolutions and New Business

4.7.1 Definitions

- 4.7.1.1 A petition is a document directed towards the General Conference wherein it is stated that the Holston Annual Conference makes a specific recommendation/request for the General Conference to consider.
- 4.7.1.2 A resolution is a document directed towards the Holston Annual Conference wherein the annual conference is asked to take a public stance on an item or to engage in a specific behavior/action.
- 4.7.1.3 New business is an item directed towards a standing committee, group, task force or entity of the Holston Annual Conference asking that entity to consider an item or idea related to the area for which that entity has oversight.

- 4.7.2 Appropriate time, as decided by the Annual Conference Program Committee, will be allotted on the annual conference schedule for the discussion of petitions and resolutions. Any petition or resolution properly included in the *Book of Reports* that is not discussed during the Annual Conference session shall be automatically referred to the entity or entities, as determined by the Committee on Petitions and Resolutions, to which the petition or resolution would relate for the consideration by that entity. A report from the respective entities will be included in *Book of Reports* for the subsequent annual conference.

- 4.7.3 If the allotted time for Petitions and Resolutions has expired and there are still petitions or resolutions that have not been presented, a member of the annual conference may move for an extension of time with a majority of the annual conference in agreement with the motion.

4.7.4 Submission of Items of New Business

4.7.4.1 For the 2022 Holston Annual Conference

- 4.7.4.1.1 Items of new business will be submitted in writing to the Secretary of the Annual Conference on an approved form (which can be found at the Head Usher/Teller's station) between 9:00 am and noon on the first full day of Annual Conference. These items will be timestamped and addressed in the order of their receipt during the time allotted for new business during the annual conference session.
- 4.7.4.1.2 The Secretary of the Annual Conference will compile the submitted items and present them to the Committee on Petitions and Resolutions and the committee shall recommend concurrence, non concurrence, or referral on each item.
- 4.7.4.1.3 At the time stated in the agenda, 20 minutes shall be given for discussion of New Business items. Any item not discussed during that time will be referred to the appropriate Conference Leadership Group or entity.

4.7.4.2 Procedures for the 2023 Holston Annual Conference

- 4.7.4.2.1 Items of new business shall be submitted in written form to the Secretary of the Annual Conference by May 15.
- 4.7.4.2.2 The Committee on Petitions and Resolutions will examine each item of new business and determine the conference entity or entities to which the item relates.
- 4.7.4.2.3 The Committee on Petitions and Resolutions will present a report of its deliberations to the Secretary of the Annual Conference.
- 4.7.4.2.4 During the time for new business, the Secretary of the Annual Conference will publicly acknowledge each item of new business with a brief descriptor and inform the annual conference of the Conference Leadership Group or (entities) to which the item will be submitted for review and consideration.
- 4.7.4.2.5 The Conference Leadership Group or entities which receive items of new business will take up such items for discussion at an upcoming meeting and shall include in their next report to the annual conference a full description of their response to the suggested item of new business.
- 4.7.4.2.6 All items of new business will be printed in full in the *Book of Reports* for the subsequent annual conference.
- 4.7.4.2.7 Persons or groups are limited to the submission of no more than 2 (two) Petitions and/or Resolutions and/or items of New Business.
- 4.7.4.2.8 The submission of items of New Business, Petitions, and Resolutions shall be limited to the following entities.
- 4.7.4.2.8.1 Clergy and/or Lay members of the annual conference
 - 4.7.4.2.8.2 Local churches, through their governing structure.
 - 4.7.4.2.8.3 Local church groups: (Sunday School, UWF, UMM, UMYF etc.)
 - 4.7.4.2.8.4 Conference related institutions: (Wesley Foundations, Camping and Leisure Ministries, Conference Colleges, etc.)
 - 4.7.4.2.8.5 Groups identified in the conference standing rules and by-laws.
- 4.7.4.2.9 Should a non-conference related entity seek to submit a petition, resolution, or item of new business, it must do so via sponsorship by one of the above-named entities with clear indication that the submission is coming from a non-related entity and is being sponsored by an appropriate entity.

- 4.8 Omnibus Rule:** 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.

5 GUIDELINES FOR VIRTUAL SESSIONS

- 5.1 The Bishop and extended cabinet are authorized to direct the Annual Conference to conduct its business virtually and/or remotely.
- 5.1.1 Should the annual meeting of the Holston Annual Conference be held virtually, it will be conducted using a virtual meeting technology chosen by the Director of Communications. The meeting will begin promptly at the hour announced and order must be maintained at all times. This virtual meeting shall be considered the same as an in-person annual meeting.
- 5.2 Member Responsibility for Technology.
- 5.2.1 Members are responsible for ensuring that all necessary technology for their participation is sufficient and functional according to guidelines provided by the Director of Communications. This includes ensuring that necessary software such as the Zoom app is installed and functional on the device(s) which the member will use to participate in the session.
- 5.2.2 The validity of actions taken by the Annual Conference shall not be altered due to technical disruptions for individual members including, but not limited to, hardware or software failure, power failure, internet connectivity failure, and other similar disruptions.
- 5.2.3 The chair may cause or direct the disconnection or muting of a member's connection if it is causing undue interference with the meeting. The chair's decision to do so, which is not subject to appeal, shall be announced during the meeting and recorded in the minutes.
- 5.3 Use of Webinar Platform.
- 5.3.1 Screen name. Before or immediately upon signing into Zoom voting members need to assure that their name appears as "First Name Last Name" (i.e., Jane Smith) so they can be clearly identified by the Chair.
- 5.3.2 Signing In and Out. Members shall identify themselves as required to sign into the Internet meeting service and shall maintain Internet and audio access throughout the meeting whenever present but shall sign out upon any departure before adjournment. Prior to adjournment, members shall be able to re-enter the meeting after signing out.

6 CONFERENCE FINANCES

- 6.1 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.
- 6.2 All requests for Conference funds or monetary obligations by any Conference Leadership Group, 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.

- 6.3 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.
- 6.4 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. (2016 BOD ¶¶611-619)
- 6.5 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 apportionments 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.
- 6.6 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 proper officials of the Boards and Agencies. (2016 BOD ¶¶619)
- 6.7 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.
- 6.8 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.
- 6.9 The Conference Council on Finance and Administration shall be required to give thirty (30) days' notice to all Conference Leadership Groups prior to the annual meeting for budgetary review for consideration of the annual budget of the Conference.

7 JOURNAL OF THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

- 7.1 The Committee on Standing Rules 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, who shall serve as editor. The Conference Secretary shall, with the approval of the Council on Finance and Administration, enter into a contract to publish the Journal. All materials to be published shall be in the hands of the Editor within fifteen (15) days after the adjournment of the Conference.
- 7.2 The Conference Secretary shall be responsible for the distribution of the Journal. The District Superintendents may 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.
- 7.3 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. Other persons may place orders for the Conference Directory with payment through the Conference Secretary.
- 7.4 Receipts of Journal and Conference Directory sales shall be held in a carry-over account at the end of the fiscal year.

8 MOTIONS

- 8.1 All motions presented to the Conference and amendments to any paper or motion on the floor shall be in writing on a triplicate form approved by the Secretary. Copies of the form will be available at the desk of the Head Usher/Teller.
- 8.2 One copy will be maintained by the presenter of the motion, one copy shall be given to the Secretary of the annual conference, and one copy shall be presented to the presiding officer of the annual conference.

9 ELECTION PROCEDURES FOR DELEGATES TO GENERAL AND JURISDICTIONAL CONFERENCES

- 9.1 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 such request to limit consideration of eligibility shall be in a printed form and submitted to the Conference Secretary prior to stated deadlines for the *Book of Reports* and Programs.
- 9.2 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:
 - 9.2.1 I agree to be a nominee for General and Jurisdictional Conferences.
 - 9.2.2 I wish to be a nominee for the Jurisdictional Conference only.
- 9.3 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*.
- 9.4 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.
- 9.5 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.
- 9.6 Clergy and lay delegates elected to the previous General and Jurisdictional Conferences shall be delegates to special sessions of the respective conferences.
- 9.7 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.
- 9.8 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.

- 9.9 The names of all eligible clergy persons in the conference shall be printed in alphabetical order in the *Book of Reports*. 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.
- 9.10 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.

10 IN-PERSON ANNUAL CONFERENCE: RULES OF ORDER AND PROCEDURE

10.1 Except as described in this section, the Annual Conference session will be governed:

- 10.1.1 First, by the laws of the State of Tennessee, including any Executive Orders in effect at the time of the conference session;
- 10.1.2 Second, by the *Book of Discipline* in effect at the time of the Annual Conference;
- 10.1.3 Third, by the Standing Rules of the Conference;
- 10.1.4 Fourth, by the Rules of Order of the General Conference adopted by the most recent General Conference;
- 10.1.5 Finally, any situation not covered by the above shall be governed by the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised.

10.2 Annual Conference Rules of Order

- 10.2.1 These rules of order shall apply to all motions, legislations, resolutions, and other similar items which are properly brought before the Conference.
- 10.2.2 Debate shall be limited to three (3) two-minute speeches for the motion, legislation or report and three (3) two-minute speeches against.
- 10.2.3 A Call for the question may not occur until there have been three speeches in favor and three opposed, unless there is no one desiring to speak further on the motion.
- 10.2.4 During the entire Annual Conference, to allow for multiple voices to be heard, no individual member may speak more than two (2) times, provided that this limitation may be extended or removed by majority vote. Preference will be given to those who have not had an opportunity to speak. The number of times a member has risen to speak will be taken into consideration with regard to others who may wish to be heard. This rule shall be observed in both an in-person as well as a virtual annual conference setting.
- 10.2.5 A timer may be used to measure debate at the discretion of the Chair. At the expiration of the timer, the speaker's microphone may be automatically disabled.
- 10.2.6 Except for petitions and resolutions, the presentation of the motion, legislation or report by a Conference Agency shall not be considered a speech in favor.
- 10.2.7 All motions made during the annual conference business session shall be recorded and read by the Conference Secretary or Chair before any action or vote can be taken by the members of the conference. The chair shall attempt to clearly state what is being voted upon prior to any vote being taken so that all voting members may understand the effect of their vote before casting it. Motions shall be submitted in writing as directed by the Chair.
- 10.2.8 Members who wish to make a motion, raise a point of order or ask a question, or otherwise be acknowledged must first be recognized by the Chair. Upon recognition the member's microphone will be enabled to allow for him or her to address the conference.
- 10.2.9 When rising to speak to a matter currently under consideration, the member must clearly state whether the speech is in favor or in opposition to the motion under consideration.
- 10.2.10 Voting members once recognized may do any one of the following: make or second a motion, speak in debate, or ask a question. No speech may be followed by a motion.

10.2.11 Points of Order may be raised by any member of the annual conference, who must first cite the Standing Rule, The *Book of Discipline*, or Robert's Rules of Order they feel is being violated or questioned and then state the point as briefly and concisely as possible. The point, including the rule the member believes is being violated, must be included in the member's request to be recognized in the webinar platform and in an in-person session.

10.2.12 Members who wish to appeal a decision of the Chair must request to be recognized as directed by the Chair.

10.2.12.1 When requesting to be recognized in the webinar platform, it is the responsibility of the member raising the request for appeal to succinctly state the decision they are requesting to be appealed and how it violates our adopted rules or procedure of order or the current *Book of Discipline*.

11 VIRTUAL ANNUAL CONFERENCE: RULES OF ORDER AND PROCEDURE

11.1 In the event that the Bishop and Cabinet determine that the annual conference must be held in a virtual manner, the following items will be observed.

11.2 In addition to these virtual session rules, a virtual session shall also be governed by the rules found in Section 10: Annual Conference Rules of Order and Procedure.

11.3 Annual Conference Membership.

11.3.1 The clergy and lay members, including alternate lay members, with the right to voice and vote shall not be changed solely as the result of the change to a remote meeting format. The list of those clergy and lay members eligible to vote shall be made available at least five days prior to the session.

11.4 Presiding Officer: The Bishop will act as chair of the Annual Conference session, except in such circumstances when the Bishop relinquishes the chair to the parliamentarian or other individual which (s)he may designate.

11.5 Roll Call and Quorum: The call of the roll of the membership of the Annual Conference as required by ¶605 of the 2016 *Book of Discipline* and confirmation of a quorum shall be accomplished using the participant logon report within Zoom and email reports by satellite location facilitators. Members who log in electronically or participate in a satellite location shall be considered present and voting. Those counted as present and voting under this provision shall constitute a quorum.

11.6 Voting.

11.6.1 Voting members will be provided a meeting invitation and password approximately twenty-four (24) hours prior to the meeting which will allow them to enter the virtual meeting room. No voting member may share his/her login with anyone else and each voting member must sign in on a separate computer, Tablet, or smartphone in order to vote.

11.6.2 All votes shall be conducted according to the 2016 *Book of Discipline* of The United Methodist Church and the Standing Rules of the Holston Annual Conference except where the Standing Rules are suspended by these Session Rules.

11.6.3 Logs will be maintained for all votes and said logs will be kept confidential except as legally required.

11.6.4 The Chair shall have the discretion to determine the manner of vote.

11.7 Participation Concurrent with Proceedings: The meeting will be conducted in a manner that allows for members to communicate and to read or hear the proceedings of the meeting substantially concurrently with the proceedings.

11.8 Limitation of Agenda Items: Only items which appear on the agenda as listed in these Session Rules will be considered.

11.9 Right of Members to Speak.

- 11.9.1 All members will have the right to speak and address those in attendance.
- 11.9.2 In specific regard to the virtual session, a member must have entered the queue and been recognized by the chair in order to speak.
- 11.9.3 Members who wish to speak must include whether they wish to speak for or against a motion in their request to be recognized in the webinar platform.
- 11.9.4 Discussion, including questions and answers, must be directed to the Chair or through the Chair when these are in order.

11.10 Open Meeting: Proceedings of the Annual Conference session will be livestreamed and recorded for playback by members of the public in order to maintain an open meeting.

= = = END OF REPORT = = =

TASK FORCE TO EXAMINE PETITIONS, RESOLUTIONS AND NEW BUSINESS OCTOBER 18, 2021

Based upon our conversation, we make the following definitions:

A Petition is a document directed towards the General Conference wherein it is stated that the Holston Annual Conference makes a specific recommendation/request for the General Conference to consider.

A Resolution is a document directed towards the Holston Annual Conference wherein the annual conference is asked to take a public stance on an item or to engage in a specific behavior/action.

New business is an item directed towards a standing committee, group, task force or entity of the Holston Annual Conference asking that entity to consider an item or idea related to the area for which that entity has oversight.

Based upon our conversation, the following flow will occur in regards to items of New Business:

1. Items of new business will be submitted in writing to the Secretary of the Annual Conference on an approved form no later than noon on the first full day of Annual Conference.
2. The Secretary of the Annual Conference will compile the submitted items and present them to the Committee on Petitions and Resolutions.
3. The Committee on Petitions and Resolutions will examine each item of new business and determine the conference entity or entities to which the item relates.
4. The Committee on Petitions and Resolutions will present a report of its deliberations to the Secretary of the Annual Conference.
5. During the time for new business, the Secretary of the Annual Conference will publicly acknowledge each item of new business with a brief descriptor and inform the annual conference of the entity (entities) to which the item will be submitted for review and consideration.
6. Those entities which receive items of new business will take up such items for discussion at an upcoming meeting and shall include in their next report to the annual conference a full description of their response to the suggested item of new business.

7. All items of new business will be printed in full in the Book of Reports for the subsequent annual conference.

In terms of the number of items that any single person or group can submit as a petition or resolution, that number shall be limited to 2 items. Persons may submit as many items of new business as they deem appropriate.

In terms of who may submit petitions, resolutions, or new business items. Such submissions shall be limited to:

1. Clergy and Lay members of the annual conference.
2. Local churches, through their governing structure.
3. Local church groups: (Sunday School, UMW, UMM, UMYF etc.)
4. Conference related institutions: (Wesley Foundations, Camping and Leisure Ministries, Conference Colleges, etc.)

5. Groups identified in the conference standing rules and by-laws.

Should a non-conference related entity seek to submit a petition, resolution, or item of new business, it must do so via sponsorship by a person or one of the above named entities.

The Task Force will ask Rules of Order to modify the Standing Rules to include the above written items with the understanding that the Annual Conference may seek to alter these modified rules.

We will allot one hour at annual conference for the discussion of petitions and resolutions. Any petition or resolution not discussed by the annual conference will be automatically referred to the entity or entities to which the resolution would relate for their consideration and reporting at the next annual conference.

Submitted by, Task Force Members: Rev. Catherine Nance, Chair/Convener of the Task Force, John Eldridge – Chair of Petitions and Resolutions, Becky Hall – Conference Lay Leader, Rev. Terry Goodman – Secretary of the Annual Conference, Rev. Brad Scott – Chair of Rules of Order, Deborah Neal, Sue Tilson, & Rev. James Russell Taylor

== == == END OF REPORT == == ==

X.j PERSONNEL RESOURCES COMMITTEE (PRC)

Despite the prolonged impact of the pandemic, that continues to influence church activities, our conference staff is to be commended for their perseverance. In addition to the normal demands of ministry, our conference staff adapted to the changes in covid protocols from closed buildings, remote work, to mask mandates. What was once taken for granted was no longer assumed due to the pandemic. Programming was altered, office hours were adjusted, and other measures were considered in order to ensure the safety of all concerned. Staff quickly adapted to the art of zoom meetings in order to stay connected. At times they certainly were frustrated by all the adjustments and the length of time they were in place, but the staff continued to work to provide support for the ministries of the Holston Conference. The Personnel Resource Committee gives thanks for their faithfulness and diligence!

Once again there will be transitions in our staff due to the retirement of two person who have served faithfully. One of those persons is Sue Weber. For over 25 years Sue has been a steady presence in the office Congregational Development and the office of Clergy Services. Sue was also present at many registrations for various events in the days when we were holding in-person events. As we have begun to again meet in person, Sue has faithfully fulfilled her role in those gatherings. She will retire at the end of May, but true to her dedication to Holston, she will be helping with annual conference in June.

The second person, Rev. Rusty Taylor, is a son of Holston. He will retire from the current position of Director for Congregational Development at this annual conference. Since returning to Holston after several years in the South Carolina Conference were Rusty's wife, Bishop Dindy Taylor served, he has served faithfully in seeking to assist churches in revitalization and development. In addition to aiding several churches in revitalization projects, he led the effort for a new church plant in the Harden Valley area of Knox County.

We want to thank Sue and Rusty for their service to Holston and furthering the work of God's Kingdom! Be sure to thank them and continue to pray for them as they enter retirement.

The Personnel Resource Committee will be reviewing the overall staffing needs for Holston Conference. With the changing times in which we are living, we want to be flexible in how our conference staff is configured and able to respond to the ministry challenges in the future. We certainly urge you to pray for our staff as they seek to resource, guide and collaborate with the Holston Conference family of churches as we all strive to follow the path of Christ to make disciples and transform the world.

Submitted by, Reed L. Shell, Chair

== == END OF REPORT == ==

XI SUPPORT GROUPS

XI.b UNITED METHODIST WOMEN (UMW)

To the lay members and clergy of Holston Annual Conference, I bring you greetings on behalf of the women of Holston Conference United Women in Faith and offer this report for your consideration.

BREAKING NEWS: After five years of surveying over 24,000 United Methodists and other Christian women; in early March 2022 United Methodist Women launched its rebranding initiative which included a name change, a new look and logo, and new and improved programs. While United Methodist Women will remain the legal name of the organization, it will operate as United Woman in Faith. Rooted in a 153-year legacy, the changes seek to address the needs and life stages of current members and new women and expand options for membership and engagement. It also aims to maintain connection with current members whose local churches may choose to disaffiliate from The United Methodist Church, as well as be inclusive of women of other faith traditions who want to join the organization.

REFLECTIONS OF 2021: During the month of May, Holston Conference United Women in Faith (HCUWF) adopted The Charter for Racial Justice Policy and became recipients of The Charter for Racial Justice Policy Proclamation, presented by The Honorable Mayor Ed Mitchell, Blount County, TN. Meeting guidelines for the racial justice policy, a virtual presentation of a United Methodist Women National Mission Institution - Gum Moon Residence Hall, San Francisco, California, was held to learn and stand in solidarity with our Asian sisters. In addition, in August a virtual seminar entitled “Vision and Dreams- The Unfinished Business of The Unfinished Church” was held to learn and reflect on the racial history of the United Methodist Church.

In July, HCUWF engaged in learning together for the transformation of the world. The Mission u Team hosted its first ever virtual Mission u event: “Far More Here Than Meets the Eye!” The biblical focus of the event was 2 Corinthians 4:16-18. The Spiritual Growth Committee hosted a first ever conference-wide Call to Prayer and Self Denial program entitled, “She Leads: Empowering Women to Make a Difference” using the scripture reference Numbers 27:1-8. This September event served as a Mission Giving opportunity providing a means for women to be able to gain control of their lives and futures. Also, in September the Program Coordination Committee planned the 48th Annual

Meeting in a virtual setting featuring highlights of the year and conducting the business of the organization.

EARLY HAPPENINGS OF 2022: In January the Social Action Committee hosted a virtual event, “Do No Harm: Interrupting the School-to-Prison Pipeline.” As a result of this seminar, an advocacy group was organized and has been engaged in local activities with the intention of disrupting the school-to-prison pipeline and the circumstances that cause harm to school age children. We also held a first ever conference-wide Leadership Development & Officers Training, designed to provide information and resources to assist officers in serving and being leaders in the Church and in their communities.

DISTRICT HAPPENINGS, MEMBERSHIP & MISSION GIVING: HCUWF includes nine active District Units consisting of approximately 250 local units. Collectively they provide opportunities for the membership to engage in spiritual growth and leadership development, transformative educational activities and opportunities for service and advocacy. The impact to women, children and youth within Holston Conference is seen by the hands-on Mission work of the local units and districts through many organizations and agencies including Children Advocacy of Washington County, Wesley House, Jubilee Project, Bethlehem Center, Susannah House, Morgan Scott, Second Harvest, Holston Home for Children, Proverbs 3:27 and The River to name a few.

Direct services and Mission giving supports programs which include food pantries, delivering personal care items, providing support to local schools, bible study opportunities, clothing closets, and so much more is part of our vital work. Holston Conference United Women in Faith contributed a quarter million dollars in Mission Giving pledges to the National organization and nearly fifteen thousand in Holston Conference UWF giving in 2021. These funds are used to transform the lives of women, children and youth in the United States and around the world.

Submitted by, Donna M. Mosby, Conference President



== == **END OF REPORT** == ==

XIII TASK FORCES

XIII.a APPALACHIAN TRAIL CHAPLAIN TEAM

Whoever I came across on the trail, in camp or at the hostel I would talk to. I would usually ask their name, introduce myself and go from there. Being the Chappalachian would usually bring a laugh and inspire a question. People were genuinely interested and impressed that the United Methodist Church would send a chaplain out on the trail every year. I was impressed with the numbers of church people in general and United Methodists in particular. Frequently I would pray with people right on the trail.

Another conversation starter were the patches I wore on my shoulder strap. One of the patches is for the Chaplaincy. The other patch identified me as a friend of Bill W. Bill W. is the founder of Alcoholics Anonymous. For people in recovery that patch identified me as person they could talk recovery with. This is particularly important for people like me. We have a saying “meeting makers make it“. When I’m home I go to a 12 Step meeting nearly every day. Most people in recovery operate on a similar schedule. Spending eight months on a trail in the middle of rural

America makes it difficult to attend many meetings. Although we were frequently in town, the towns are small and usually only have one meeting a week. If the meetings on Friday and you’re in town on Tuesday you are out of luck. My Bill W. patch led to dozens of impromptu meetings on the trail, in camp and in the hostels.”

From Chris Estes 2021 Chaplain.

As a program with the help of the Holston Foundation was able to publish a devotional book from the experiences of our 2019 Chaplain Jack “Chappy Jack” Layfield thru hike. We believe this will allow us to better share the love of Christ with those not on the trail and to share the wonders of the trail with those searching to have a deeper connection to God and God’s own creation.

Submitted by, Matt Hall

== == == END OF REPORT == == ==

XIII.b DISMANTLING RACISM TASK FORCE OF THE DISCIPLESHIP TEAM

In June 2021, Bishop Taylor announced several new actions to be taken to dismantle racism and promote equity in the Holston Annual Conference. Among those actions was the creation of a Dismantling Racism Task Force. The Task Force seeks to put faith and love into action in the on-going work of racial justice for the systematic fair treatment of people of all races, resulting in equitable opportunities and outcomes for all. The Task Force is tasked with identifying racial and ethnic disparities in the Conference and then to recommend initiatives to address them.

The *Book of Discipline* of the United Methodist Church proclaims the value of each person as a unique child of God and the Church commits itself to the healing and wholeness of all persons. Further, the United Methodist Church recognizes that the sin of racism has been destructive to its unity throughout its history and continues to cause painful division and marginalization. In the aftermath of even more police killings of unarmed Black people, compounded by centuries of racism and white supremacy, we cry out for racial justice now.

We are pleased to announce the formation of the Dismantling Racism Task Force comprised of lay and clergy persons from each district, and two staff liaisons. Using the framing document provided by the Extended Cabinet, four work areas have been identified:

1. Resource Local Churches
 - a. This work group will focus on resourcing local churches by creating and making available items including but not limited to:
 - i. Books, podcasts, and articles on racism,
 - ii. Grants for Ministry anti-racism ministry initiatives,
 - iii. Guides for church committees and teams,
 - iv. Lists of teachers and preachers of color for pulpit supply or classes.
 2. Events and Training
 - a. This work group will focus on facilitating and providing training for the members of the annual conference and their communities by offering opportunities like:
 - i. Hosting city or countywide workshops, seminars, and panel discussions,
 - ii. Recommending training events for districts and/or local churches,
 - iii. Creating and providing a short-list of trust speakers to visit and train local churches,
 - iv. Hosting guest speakers on anti-racism for Annual Conference or other larger gatherings within the bounds of the Holston Annual Conference.
3. Communication
 - a. This work group will focus on communicating the needs of the Dismantling Racism Taskforce by:
 - i. Collecting information from other work groups and making the stories and information available as needed,
 - ii. Publishing upcoming initiatives and opportunities that address racism,
 - iii. Utilizing social media, The Call, and other print and digital medium to emphasize the work of the taskforce,
 - iv. Raising awareness in multiple avenues of the problem of racism and the work of antiracism in modern culture.
 4. Storytelling
 - a. This workgroup will inspire transformation in the persons of the Holston Annual conference through the art of storytelling by:
 - i. Collecting historical and modern stories of racism,
 - ii. Exposing racist roots systemically, culturally, and within local churches,
 - iii. Gathering the stories told by demographics and statistics in communities within the bounds of the Holston Annual Conference,
 - iv. Highlighting the work of persons of color in the Annual Conference.
 5. Assessment and Accountability
 - a. This workgroup will identify and confront racist tendencies and structures in the Holston Annual Conference by:
 - i. Developing or finding an assessment tool to help individuals, local churches, and the Annual conference discern racist tendencies,
 - ii. Examining the salaries and appointments of persons of colors relative to peers,
 - iii. Exposing inequitable representation on boards and committees at the conference and district levels,
 - iv. Creating an actionable pathway for individuals and local churches to learn to become antiracist following self-assessments.

We ask that you join us in praying unceasingly for this Task Force as we walk even more boldly into a new and necessary work of dismantling unjust systems and practices that perpetuate systemic racism within our churches and among our structural leadership. We know that for some this effort will not be enough. For others it will be perceived as too much. Still others will hope this work will just fade away. But it won't. We will proceed forward in spite of skepticism, anxiety, and apathy.

Friends, there must be a change of heart and a deepened commitment to be the people God has called us to be. There must be a change because of the One who has called us.

As the Council of Bishops said "This time – this time – it has to be different. We must change the story this time." There is no more time to wait.

Submitted, Rev. Leah Burns on behalf of the Dismantling Racism Task Force

== == END OF REPORT == ==

XIV THE CONFERENCE STRATEGY TEAM (CST)

Our Purpose is to evaluate the current life of Holston Conference and find more effective ways to express a contemporary and relevant vision for bringing people into a transformative relationship with Jesus Christ.

Mission Statement of The Holston Conference Strategy Team

We are now living into our sixth year of implementing the vast comprehensive plan adopted by Holston Annual Conference

In the face of the converging challenges facing our local churches, our Conference and our Denomination, the Holston Conference Strategy Team has worked to prioritize those elements of the Holston Conference Comprehensive Strategy Plan that best advance our mission to make disciples of Christ for the Transformation of the World. The compromise we made this past year to continue to fulfill our task to implement the Comprehensive Strategy Plan adopted by Holston Conference was to focus on just a few elements of the Plan that seemed most critical in the life of our Church.

As we like to note, the very first element of the Comprehensive Strategy Plan adopted by Holston Conference is 'strengthening the Connection' because we understand that what makes us fruitful is our collective spirit, experience and calling to be disciples of Christ. Accordingly, the HCST established online events for lay and clergy in March of 2021 to learn from each other and share our successes and failures in pursuing the mission and ministry of the Church in the face of the restrictive environment necessitated by

the COVID 19 pandemic. What emerged from these valuable conversations was a new initiative titled 'Re-Connect' led by the Conference Communications team. This initiative sought to make ministry ideas, inspirational stories, and innovative strategies available to everyone via virtual participation in online presentations. Our goal was to help our members recognize that we are not facing these challenges alone; the strength of our Church Connection is our unique opportunity to meaningfully collaborate for the benefit of everyone.

The second point of emphasis of the Strategy Team in 2021 was to pursue Item 4 of the Conference Comprehensive Strategy Plan: "Revitalizing Conference Life: Evaluating the Health of Our Committees, Boards and Agencies." The purpose of taking on the arduous task of identifying, assessing, and curating the list of the numerous committees, groups, tasks forces and ministries that make up the life of Holston Conference is to make sure that our Conference is ideally calibrated for efficient and meaningful work to advance the mission of the Church. In addition, plans were discussed for enhancing the means by which those who commit to serving on these committees, boards and agencies are equipped with the knowledge and vision to serve the specific function for which it was created within the larger body of Christ.

With a transition in our Conference Episcopal leadership in late Summer, the Holston Conference Strategy Team went into an indefinite hiatus to give Bishop Wallace-Padgett an opportunity to assess the broad task of visioning for the future mission and ministry of Holston Conference. Working in

conjunction with Spiritual Leadership Inc. and the extended Cabinet, some of whom also serve on the Holston Conference Strategy Team, we have been able to consider the existing structures, values and principles that undergird the mission and ministry of Holston Conference.

Through this valuable process of creative thought, assessment and discernment, the Conference Strategy Team is being strengthened for future continued implementation of the Strategy Plan while keeping in mind that the Comprehensive Strategy Plan was engineered to change, adapt and be responsive to the challenges our Conference faces as we move forward. The Strategy Plan is not an objective so much as it is a tool to help calibrate the Conference Mission to most fruitfully make disciples of Christ for the transformation of the world. This period of examination will ensure that the Strategy Team will be most effectively equipped to do so.

When the entire Holston Conference Strategy Team reconvenes at a point in the near future, it will be even better enabled to cultivate more effective ways to express a contemporary and relevant vision for bringing people into a transformative relationship with Jesus Christ.

Submitted by, The Holston Conference Strategy Team: Mike Eastridge, Chair, Tim Jones, Amy Sumrall, Willie Kitchens, Rick Cherry, Micah Nicolaus, Susan Groseclose, David Scyphers, Becky Hall, Mike Sluder, Don Hanshew, Rusty Taylor, Leanna Johnson, Jeff Wright, Sandra Johnson, and Bishop Debra Wallace-Padgett

== == END OF REPORT == ==

XIV TRUSTEES AND DIRECTORS OF CONFERENCE - RELATED INSTITUTIONS AND AGENCIES

XIV HOLSTON FOUNDATION

Since 1980, the Holston Foundation has served the local church through investments options, ministry grants, and leadership development for lay and clergy. 2021 offered new opportunities for the Foundation to strengthen its impact in the Holston area. Taking advantage of a climate still stymied by the pandemic, Holston Foundation's leadership focused on strategic planning, the board's recommended priorities, and new stewardship opportunities for pastors and churches.

Determined to be better prepared for the future, Holston Foundation's vision and mission was redefined through a year-long process of focus groups, surveys, and discussions. We adopted a new mission statement, seeking to 'promote generosity, educate and demonstrate faithful stewardship, and support churches and ministries doing the work of Christ.' We believe this will accomplish our vision of "seeking to inspire, empower, and equip churches, ministries, and individuals to transform the world in the name of Christ." This focus applies to not only churches in the Holston Annual Conference but also to those who may disaffiliate from the United Methodist Church but continue to be a part of the Methodist movement. I am proud of the Holston Foundation ministry and our talented staff who are committed to making a difference in the lives of others. The ministry of the Holston Foundation is one that inspires generosity and empowers churches and ministries to fulfill the Church's mission.

Highlights for 2021:

- Developed the Missional Impact Funding Policy to govern the large grants the Foundation makes each year from available reserves.
- Granted \$150,000 to higher education: \$50,000 to Emory & Henry for leadership development and \$100,000 to Wesley Foundations.
- Awarded over \$300,000 in grants throughout the Holston Conference from individual endowments created by donors for the benefit of students, missions, and outreach.

- Hired Carly McNulty as part of a succession plan with the eventual retirement of Brenda Mills, our long-time, faithful employee.
- Designed and directed the Residence in Ministry program for first and second-year provisional elders through the leadership of Rev. Richard Edwards, LeRae Collins, Rev. Mickey Rainwater and Rev. Dennie Humphreys. Participants worked through the Saving Grace curriculum which is a Wesleyan approach to personal finance and financial leadership skills for pastors.
- Debuted the new holstonfoundation.org website which contains more information on the above.

Market volatility returned after several years of the stock market in bullish territory; however, the disciplined, balanced approach by the Foundation's Investment Committee witnessed a 13% growth in our long-term investment fund in 2021. We also saw an increase of sales of parsonages with proceeds invested in the Balanced Growth Fund to provide housing allowance for clergy. This was encouraged by the Holston Foundation since most areas in the Holston Conference experienced a "sellers' market."

In 2022, the Holston Foundation is looking forward to providing grants and scholarships from those who leave a legacy, helping others with planned gifts, and preaching generosity from the pulpit.

Submitted by, Paul Bowman, President, Holston Foundation



== == END OF REPORT == ==

XIV EAST TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY - WESLEY FOUNDATION BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Greetings from the ETSU Wesley Foundation! It is my joy to share with you some of the wonderful ways Holston Conference has been present for the college students and young adults in the Tri-Cities this year!

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.

To provide insight into our year of ministry, I share a story recapping our fall 2021 semester written by Allison Winters, one of our student leaders majoring in journalism...

The 2021 fall semester at ETSU Wesley Foundation was full of highlights, changes, and growth! It kicked off with a fall retreat for Leadership Team members, sharing in a meal together, and attending worship at First United Methodist Church, Johnson City. Serving the community of Wesley, 19 students make up this fall’s Leadership Team.

“Wesley has a stronger community,” said freshman Molly McGill, who is also a leadership team member. “It has become easier to interact with people at Wesley, especially with it being more in-person again.”

Molly McGill is also one of three freshman scholarship recipients. This year Wesley awarded scholarships to first-time freshmen who already had prior involvement with a United Methodist ministry. This semester brought back some familiar elements of Wesley Foundation community life, while also introducing new ones. The Wesley House was reopened in August allowing four students to live together in an intentional community, sharing in meals and a covenant together. Fellowship meals resumed on Tuesday nights for students to enjoy. Worship services were also moved to back inside the building. Wesley Foundation added two different Bible studies on Sunday nights, led by director Rev. Caleb Frazier and graduate student Hannah Pratt. Fellowship events and retreats returned this semester as well. Labor Day weekend students participated in a beach trip to Jekyll Island, Georgia, sponsored by Munsey Memorial United Methodist Church, ensuring safety by requiring vaccination and a negative COVID-19 test before the trip. Wesley also hosted several events safely on campus,

including a fall retreat, movie nights, Halloween and Christmas parties, a football tailgate, and Friendsgiving. “Friendsgiving was my favorite Wesley activity this semester,” said Ketura Roberts, a grad student, Wesley House resident, and long-time Wesley attendee. “It is a great community-based event with everyone sitting around the same table and sharing in the experience together.” We welcomed visits from members of the community and conference this semester, including the new Holston Conference Bishop and the Three Rivers

District Superintendent. Bishop Deborah Wallace-Padget and District Superintendent Lauri Jo Cranford joined Wesley for worship and bowling after the service early in the semester. Rachael Barnett, a Wesley alumna, shared with students about her experience as a Global Mission Fellow and how they could get involved with this program. Wesley gave back to the community by packing kits for hurricane relief and donating winter clothes for Bucky’s Food Pantry. Munsey Memorial also hosted a college mission fair where students learned about different ministry opportunities available in the Johnson City area. This year, Wesley became a place where several new students found refuge. With the fall semester being the first on-ground semester since before COVID-19, Wesley opened its door to members both old and new.

“I’m very grateful to have stepped foot into Wesley the first worship night,” said Emma Kate Montag, a new Wesley member. “I felt like I’m finally in a place where I belonged and knew everyone without feeling like an outcast.”

Thank you for all your contributions that make these events and opportunities possible to our community! We look ahead to 2022 with “a thrill of hope” at how God will continue to work through ETSU Wesley Foundation to offer Christ to and change lives of young adults in the Tri-cities! Looking towards the new year, the ETSU Wesley Foundation has new opportunities and events waiting for us. But this year could have never happened without the support of everyone involved. Thank you for all of your contributions-- whether that be time, money, or prayers-- we couldn’t have done it without you.

Allison’s story provides a great glimpse into our ministry this year. We worshipped every Tuesday night and gathered for Bible study on Sunday afternoons. We ended the year with 22 students serving on our student leadership team and 13 student interns!

We are all hopeful and planning for a strong semester of ministry in the fall of 2022. Would you consider helping us OFFER CHRIST to and CHANGE LIVES of YOUNG ADULTS for the 2022/2023 school year? Here are some ways we invite you to help...

- Commit to pray for ETSU Wesley throughout the year.
- Learn more about our ministry at www.etsuwesley.com
- If you know any students who will be attending college in the Tri-Cities, please help us connect with them. You can email us at etsuwesley@gmail.com.
- Also, please share our online new student guide at www.etsuwesley.com/newstudentguide.
- Consider giving to our annual campaign or capital campaign. You can give at www.etsuwesley.com/donate or donate by mail at: ETSU Wesley Foundation, 1100 Seminole Drive, Johnson City, TN 37604.

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 for and vision for the future!

Submitted by, Caleb Frazier, Director

== == END OF REPORT == ==

XIV RADFORD UNIVERSITY - WESLEY FOUNDATION BOARD OF TRUSTEES

What an amazing year this has been for The Wesley Foundation at Radford University. Yes, it has been a year of continuing to navigate masking and a pandemic. In addition, this has also been a year of celebration and transition. June witnessed Wesley students, alumni, board members, and the Radford community coming together to celebrate retiring director, Martee Buchanan. Martee was honored for her nearly half century of faithful ministry to The Wesley Foundation at Radford.

In July, Wesley welcomed Reverend Doctor Jan C. Nicholson Angle as their new director. Jan, a United Methodist elder, grew up in the Holston Conference. In addition to over 20 years serving local churches, she is a leadership coach, and a trained intentional interim ministry specialist. Jan has also served nearly six years in ministry in higher education as the Dean of the Chapel and Religious Life at Ferrum College in the Virginia Conference.

As July gave way to August, Wesley board members, alumni, and local church volunteers came together to offer their time and talents readying the Wesley grounds and facilities. When classes began, focus turned to meeting and empowering Wesley's returning students who then helped by inviting and recruiting new students into the Wesley family.

Programs and ministries at Wesley were expanded through the ongoing support of donors, and a \$20,000 grant from The Holston Foundation for "Student Leadership Development." These monies enabled Wesley to upgrade WiFi which has attracted more college students who are looking for fellowship, a place for individual and group studies, and faith formation opportunities. A \$9,000 GBHEM capital improvement grant assisted Wesley in making upgrades to parking spaces. The increase in parking will increase student participation and thereby enable Wesley to reach and be in ministry with even more students.

For Wesley, some traditions remain the same: weekly 'homecooked' meals, a Halloween mystery dinner, fellowship, hikes, and community service/outreach ministries. New ministry ideas are being born through students' visions and desires to connect and be in ministry with the greater community. Some new ministries born this academic year include: a community Trunk or Treat and, in the spring, an Easter Egg Hunt which was a joint effort between Wesley and one of our local churches. Other new ministries were a monthly Vesper service, and a student led Praise and Worship Coffee House. These new ministries are proving to attract alums, students, churches, the campus and local community.

To say, The Wesley Foundation at Radford University is back in full swing may be a bit of an overstatement but, through Christ, Wesley is experiencing new birth, making plans and looking forward to a future with hope. (Jeremiah 29:11)

Submitted by, Rev. Dr. Jan C Nicholson Angle, Director of The Wesley Foundation at Radford University

= = = END OF REPORT = = =

XIV UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE, CHATTANOOGA - WESLEY FOUNDATION

Thanks to all our local churches who support the work of the Wesley Center with their prayers, their presence, their gifts and their service. The 2021-22 has been as challenging as the previous year, but we kept moving forward and are ready to greet a new group of students for the fall semester of 2023.

In early August our student leadership team went on a retreat together at Unicoi State Park in Helen, GA to prepare for the year to come. We didn't understand at that time how the Delta and Omicron variants would impact our programming, but they were up to the task and their flexibility allowed us to adapt programming on the fly. While much of our weekly programming such as the Souper Thursday free lunch had to be put on hold again, the return of Thursday night Dinner and Devo helped get us back into the swing of having the building open. While the weather was good, we gathered outside around the fire pit to grill burgers, hot dogs, s'mores, and to share in a devotional each week. As the weather turned, we moved indoors. Monthly outings "just for the fun of it" also helped bring the group together. We also maintained our online presence with the Wesley Center's Daily Bible Readings. In October we had a fall retreat at Lake Junaluska and students looked at the question of being young and being a leader in the church. In May, we returned to St. Simons and Epworth by the Sea for the first time in two years for our end of the year week of reflection, and service.

The 2022/23 academic year will be an exciting one for the participants of the Wesley Center as students return and we find our way into the new normal. The incoming students along with our returning students will be the first to enjoy a new leadership development opportunity made possible by the gracious help of the Holston Foundation. It is going to be a good year.

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

== == END OF REPORT == ==

XIV UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE, KNOXVILLE - WESLEY FOUNDATION

Grace and peace to you in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit!

The past year has been one of many adventures and challenges, all of which have helped our community grow.

During the 2021-22 academic year, several things brought new energy to our ministry and to our Wesley community.

- We welcomed Erin Gamble as the Assistant to the Director.
- Students formed a Leadership Team.
- The resident area welcomed four students who quickly settled into their new homes.
- The Wesley Foundation building fully reopened and became a hub of fellowship and activity.

In order to prepare for the new year, we joined with the other Holston Campus Ministries and requested individuals, pastors, and churches to send us information about any students who would be attending our institutions in the Fall. The UTK Wesley Foundation thanks everyone who shared this information and who encouraged students to join our Wesley community.

Erin Gamble has added support in the areas of leadership and programming, supervising the building residents, overseeing the logistics of our ministries and activities, and assisting with fund raising and donor relations. Her perspective of being a recent graduate and a staff member helps us combine the best of who we are and who we want to become.

At UTK Wesley, we began our year with a leadership training retreat to organize our ministry and to equip our leaders to discern and lead us to be how God is calling Wesley to be in ministry. The leaders chose to focus on OUTward hospitality (inviting and welcoming), on INward growth (relationships with God and one another), and on AROUND programs (developing relationships through fun activities and missional outreach).

Through our IN-OUT-AROUND model, we are developing a new culture for our ministry. We are enjoying many of our pre-COVID traditions while developing additional meaningful experiences. Our spiritual focus is enhanced by many opportunities to share meals, watch movies and sporting events, and hang out.

We are grateful for the enthusiasm and commitment of our students, the strong and dedicated leadership of our Board of Directors, as well as the generosity and energy of many individuals, small groups, congregations, districts, and Holston Conference who support us with prayers, snacks, Sunday night meals, financial gifts, etc.

Submitted by, Mary K. Briggs, Executive Director



== == == **END OF REPORT** == == ==

XIV UNIVERSITY OF VA-WISE - WESLEY FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Wesley Foundation at UVA Wise is a ministry that nurtures the call to companionship with God through Jesus Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit in order to foster transformative changes in the lives of faculty, staff, students and all those they will impact. The Wesley Foundation is a place where the United Methodist Church has a ministry presence that is focused on making disciples for the transformation of the world. The Wesley Foundation is an open and inclusive Christian community of spiritual exploration. It is no secret that what one truly believes impacts all other aspects of life. The Wesley Foundation offers a safe place to discover oneself, how following Jesus should impact relationships with others, and how faith should inform living and service in the world.

The core of the Wesley Foundation at UVA Wise ministries is a student group called Wesley Fellowship. This group of college students meets together weekly to break bread, have theological discussions, complete service projects, and have fun. Students learn from the campus ministers and their peers. Students have been hesitant to participate in service-learning trips away from campus, especially those that involve overnight stays. This might be attributed to the ongoing pandemic. Ben Harding was hired as the Program Assistant and has primary responsibility for the weekly Wesley Fellowship group.

A second group of students has developed a weekly Bible study that is for students, by students, and with students. The students choose what to study and lead the discussion each week. The Wesley Foundation has provided Bibles and resources to aid in their endeavor. At the invitation of the student group, which is ecumenical and mostly freshmen, Beth Tipton attends the Bible study each week as a resource and contributor to discussion.

Faculty and staff are also an important part of the ministry at UVA Wise. Each week a small group gathers for study, discussion, and prayer. The group has completed curriculum-based studies (such as Adam Hamilton's "Why?" and "Creed") and has spent several weeks learning different methods of prayer.

Smiddy's Closet, a career clothing closet, has been

utilized by more than 20 students in the past year seeking attire for interviews or presentations. We expect this number to increase beginning in 2022 as the pandemic-related restrictions ease. Students have recently been able to browse the closet and try on clothing. This partnership with the UVA Wise Office of Career Discovery continues to thrive. We are exploring ways to include information about Smiddy's Closet in some class curriculum (such as orientation classes).

The Wesley Foundation at UVA Wise is experimenting with new ways to reach the campus community. Partnerships and collaboration with academic departments on campus have allowed Wesley to host discussions about a variety of topics from a faith perspective. Diversity and justice issues are being addressed in creative ways. Students want to make a difference in the world. Personal and communal spirituality is taught as vital for meaning and wholeness.

Thank you, Holston Conference, for continuing to support the Wesley Foundation at UVA Wise with your prayers, presence, support, and contributions. You help make possible the opportunities to flourish as a vital United Methodist mission and ministry. A special thank you this year goes to the Holston Foundation who has provided a much-needed grant to support collegiate ministries at Wise and throughout the Conference. The Wesley Foundation at UVA Wise is a spiritual home to many because of your support. Thank you.

Submitted by, Rev. M. Beth Tipton, Director



== == == **END OF REPORT** == == ==

XV OTHERS - XV AFRICA UNIVERSITY (AU)

You are the light of the world. A city on top of a hill can't be hidden. —Matthew 5:14 (CEB)

This year, The United Methodist Church marks 30 years of vibrant, transformative ministry through Africa University. Thank you, Holston Conference, for your faithfulness and generosity in bringing the dream of Africa University (AU) to life.

In celebrating its 30th anniversary, Africa University is honoring the past and looking to the future, while remaining true to its mission as the cornerstone ministry for United Methodist-related leadership development in Africa.

From the first conversations in 1984 to formal approval at the General Conference in 1988, the planting of Africa University required vision, faith, and bold action. Africa University found advocates and friends in the Holston Conference, across the denomination, and beyond. The “Dream is Alive” was the rallying cry as the first class of 40 students from six African countries began lectures in March 1992.

Africa University's journey from day one to the present is a shared story of being salt and light. Africa University is part of the Holston Conference's story—of a uniting, United Methodist dream come true—that restores hope, equips, and sends forth young leaders to shape an abundant life for themselves and for the communities they serve.

Much like the year that preceded it, 2021 affirmed that God's grace is sufficient in all circumstances. In January 2021, the students, faculty, and staff grappled with the sudden death of Africa University Vice Chancellor, Dr. Munashe Furusa. As the year unfolded, national lockdowns continued to restrict travel and damage livelihoods. Unable to be on campus, the students, faculty, and staff grieved, pivoted, supported, and encouraged each other, and persevered.

Africa University is grateful to the Holston Conference for investing 76.2 percent of its budget commitment to the Africa University Fund (AUF) in 2021. Thank you for graciously ensuring access to higher education for students who are unable to fund a college education on their own!

Against the backdrop of a global pandemic, Africa University harnessed new opportunities for missional engagement in 2021. The year's highlights include:

- Effective online-only teaching, learning and student assessment: About 99 percent of students participated in online learning. Enrollment held steady at 3,060 students and more than 500 graduates from 24 African countries were awarded degrees in July 2021.
- The installation of AU's fifth Chancellor: Bishop Gaspar João Domingos of the Western Angola Episcopal Area was elected Chancellor following the death of Bishop John K. Yambasu of Sierra Leone.
- Research and community service:
 - AU researchers received US\$2 million in funding for regional initiatives to eradicate malaria, tuberculosis, and other communicable diseases.
 - AU's students and graduates led, and showed their love of neighbor, with initiatives to feed hungry families, care for the environment, and improve the quality of life of legally blind parents and their children.
 - AU received the 2021 Jairos Jiri Humanitarian Award from the Government of Zimbabwe for its pandemic impact mitigation efforts.

Thank you, Holston Conference United Methodists, for letting your light shine for young women and men who would otherwise be left on the sidelines. “A city on top of a hill can't be hidden”. Similarly, AU's current students and its more than 10,000 graduates to date are that metaphor made real. Continue to walk alongside them, Holston Conference, as they hone their abilities, live fully into their God-given purpose, and join in the work of making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Submitted by, James H. Salley, Associate Vice Chancellor for Institutional Advancement
Africa University Development Office



== == == **END OF REPORT** == == ==

XV DREW UNIVERSITY - SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

In spring and fall of 2021, Drew Theological School began returning to its Madison, New Jersey, campus for some classes, meetings, and worship. As with many churches, in person events were held in spaces equipped for live-streaming or Zoom participation. The shift to remote learning during COVID-19 pandemic thus significantly expanded our online course offerings and accessible community events. Now, a number of students in Drew's masters programs will progress through their programs in U.S. and global locations far from New Jersey. This year, we welcomed 150 new students, again the largest class in a decade, and have a current enrollment of 376 students.

Drew cultivates pastors, preachers, deacons, activists, teachers, and thought leaders who are taking their place as the next generation of faith leaders and change agents. Diversity is a hallmark of our student body, including theological, vocational, age, and especially racial and national diversity both international--Asian, African, and South American and U.S.--black, white, Latinx, and Asian American--students. Our student body is truly global, with 35% of students from 21 different countries. For the first time in its history, Drew has an African student association, initiated by Drew Theological School students from 14 African countries, that is already contributing richly to the Drew community both on campus and online. We have welcomed new faculty in Latinx ministries and world Christianity. We have also seen an increase in United Methodist students particularly interested in the school's Gospel-inspired traditions of social justice

advocacy and widely inclusive ministry. We are proud that many United Methodist Global Fellows have recently chosen to continue their journey in ministry at Drew. Our UMC graduates are serving in Greater New Jersey, Eastern Pennsylvania, and New York conferences as well as conferences across the country.

The faculty is committed to continuing to develop the curriculum in ways that take seriously the wide range of lived experience and calls to ministry of the students that gather in our global classrooms. All degree programs at the Theological School include interdisciplinary courses that demand out-of-the-box thinking, apprenticeship training that addresses real-world issues, and modes of learning that promote adaptability and innovation. Our MDiv and MATM degrees include a required gateway year, vocational pathways, and experiential learning that develops and deepens adaptive leadership skills. The curriculum features a team-designed and taught interdisciplinary sequence of core courses reflecting the integration of the theological disciplines and practices characteristic of the life of faith. The faculty have also articulated shared values that are infused across the teaching and learning at Drew: a commitment to anti-racism; gender and sexual-identity equality; eco-sustainability and environmental justice; and interfaith understanding and cooperation.

Submitted by, Drew University Theological School;
Melanie Johnson-DeBaufre, Interim Dean

== == == END OF REPORT == == ==

XV DUKE DIVINITY SCHOOL

Edgardo Colón-Emeric, the Irene and William McCutchen Associate Professor of Theology and Reconciliation and director of the Center for Reconciliation, began his two-year term as the dean of Duke Divinity School on July 1. Colón-Emeric earned both his M.Div. and Ph.D. from Duke and has been a member of the faculty since 2008. He has served as the director for the Hispanic House of Studies and as the director for the Center for Reconciliation (CFR). Under his leadership, CFR expanded its capacities, partnerships, and areas of engagement, including convening the Americas Initiative. He also sought to strengthen connections between Duke Divinity and local Hispanic-Latino/a ministers and churches, often in partnership with The Duke Endowment's support for rural congregations and pastors in North Carolina. An ordained elder in the North Carolina Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church, he directs the Central American Methodist Course of Study and the Peru Theological Initiative and serves on the United Methodist Committee on Faith and Order and on both national and international Methodist-Catholic dialogues. He is the first Latino dean of the school.

This year the school launched several new programs to provide support for current and future students. A new partnership with North Carolina Wesleyan College will enable qualified undergraduates to take master's level courses at Duke Divinity School beginning in 2022. The Duke Accelerated Pastoral Formation Program offers select juniors and seniors the option to begin coursework toward Duke's Hybrid M.Div. or Master of Arts in Christian Practice (M.A.) degree programs while completing their baccalaureate degree. Funded by the support of the Kern Family Foundation, the Accelerated Program will help students lower educational debt incurred in the preparation for ministry process and accelerate their timeline to engaging the field of ministry. In the spring the school launched the Asian House of Studies, a formational community that will support Asian and Asian-American students; build a network of Asian and Asian-American students, alumni, and church leaders; and provide resources for Asian theological studies. Asian House of Studies is under the leadership of Sangwook Kim, a consulting professor and senior director of the Methodist House of Studies, and Jung Choi, a consulting professor and senior director of Wesleyan Formation Initiatives.

Three new certificates were approved this year, and all can be earned as part of the residential M.Div., Hybrid M.Div., M.T.S., and M.A. degree programs. The Certificate in Methodist/Wesleyan Studies is aimed at pan-Methodist/Wesleyan students who want to engage in robust and intentional training in Wesleyan theology and spiritual practice in preparation for leadership positions in Methodist and Wesleyan organizations and churches, such as the United Methodist Church, AME Church, AME Zion Church, and Korean Methodist Church. In the Certificate in Latinx Studies, students will practice and hone skills for ministry while becoming part of a learning community that is committed to Hispanic/Latinx communities and seeks to learn from Hispanic/Latinx traditions and cultures. The Certificate in Worship is designed to prepare Duke Divinity students to engage in practical formation and theoretical reflection on the worship of God in Christian congregations.

In January, the school announced 12 full-tuition fellowships to support incoming residential Master of Divinity degree program students who pursue a certificate in Black Church Studies or Latinx Studies. In addition to providing full-tuition scholarships, the Black Church Studies and Latinx Studies Fellowships provide vocationally specific formation and mentoring opportunities for the fellows and up to \$24,000 in stipend support and internship opportunities through the Office of Field Education. The fellowships begin in the fall of 2022.

The Office of Wesleyan Engagement announced the "Rediscovering the Heart of Methodism" project. This project is a missional initiative of the Divinity School with the support of the Kern Family Foundation. It seeks to nurture innovative leadership within the Wesleyan tradition as a constructive and hope-filled response to a turbulent ecclesial landscape. Supported by a gift from the Duke Endowment, the school launched To Heal the Wounded Soul, a project to strengthen Wesleyan pastors in the Carolinas who are Black, Indigenous, or people of color, including from the AME, AME Zion, CME, and UMC churches. Led by the Office of Black Church Studies and the Clergy Health Initiative To Heal the Wounded Soul will develop peer networks, support groups, and retreats to address the specific mental, emotional, and spiritual needs of this community.

This academic year Duke Divinity School welcomed the largest incoming class in the school’s history, with 259 new students from 31 different states and five other countries—India, Zimbabwe, Colombia, Mexico, and South Korea. Enrollment in the M.Div. degree program jumped to 133 students, up from approximately 110 students during each of the previous four years. The growth was heavily driven by the first cohort of 52 Hybrid M.Div. students. The Doctor of Ministry (D.Min.) welcomed 36 students, the Master of Theological Studies (M.T.S.) gained 33, and the M.A. saw 17 new students. The Master of Theology (Th.M.) enrolled 12 students, and the Doctor of Theology (Th.D.) enrolled seven new students. The Certificate in Theology and Health Care welcomed five residential students to campus and a large first cohort of 14 students in the hybrid version of the program. Across all degree programs at the Divinity School, 32 percent of the incoming class identified as a race or ethnicity other than white. Black students made up 18 percent of all students; Latinx students, six percent; Asian students, two percent; and American Indian students, two percent. Women made up 47 percent of incoming students across all programs.

Three new faculty members, with expertise ranging from the Reformation era in the history of Christianity, to Methodist and Lutheran studies, to Latinx theology, joined the faculty in 2021. Polly Ha is an Associate Professor of the History of Christianity whose work focuses on the history of Christianity and the construction of diverse confessional and ecclesiastical traditions in the Reformation and post-Reformation world. Ronald K. Rittgers is the Duke Divinity School Chair in Lutheran Studies and Professor of the History of Christianity, and his research interests include the religious, intellectual, social, and cultural history of medieval and early modern/Reformation Europe, focusing especially on the history of theology and devotion. Daniel Castelo, William Kellon Quick Professor of Theology and Methodist Studies, taught intensive Wesleyan theology courses in Mexico, Honduras, and Brazil, and then took a teaching post at a Mexican seminary for three years. He has been an active participant in the Central American Methodist Course of Study program and recently has served as a doctoral mentor for the Hispanic Theological Initiative.

We remain deeply grateful for the relationships among The United Methodist Church, this Annual Conference, and Duke Divinity School. We look forward to working with you in the task of preparing men and women for Christian ministry.

= = = END OF REPORT = = =

XV ELK GARDEN SCHOOL COMMUNITY MINISTRY

Elk Garden School Community Ministry has gone through a great deal of transformation this year. In April of 2021 we established an Advisory Board to be a leadership team to support the ministry initiatives, the Executive Director, staff and volunteers as we continue to serve and be the hands and feet of Jesus in Russell County.

We are doing a lot of exciting things at Elk Garden this year. We are currently working on converting one of our smaller rooms at the school into a prayer room for anyone who would like to go have an opportunity for quiet prayer. We are continuing to serve through our food pantry, thrift store and community garden. We are finally able to start back our quilting classes and will be starting back our Bible studies soon. Even though Covid-19 had to put a pause on some things, we continued to serve our community. In December of 2021 we prepared 100 meal kits for elementary school kids, so they could have meals to supplement the lunch meals they normally get during the school year. We are doing 225 meal kits for spring break. We are in the process of collecting school supplies and backpacks to help kids in the area get affordable school supplies and free brand new backpack. Those will be distributed in the fall. We hosted camp in the community in 2021 and we plan to do so again in 2022. That ministry is impacting our local kids in an amazing way!

We are also working to make our local community aware of job opportunities. We have a lot of people who are hurting and we are trying to help individuals get places of employment by making them aware of opportunities. We are hoping to expand that and give classes on being interviewed, and resume preparation in the future.

We are hosting church mission groups throughout the year. If your group would love to come we would love to have you! Coming to serve people in the margins changes you and impacts you in ways you can't even begin to imagine. We would love for you to come and be changed through serving at Elk Garden. Through prayers with The individuals who step through the doors of the school we hear the hurting and the needs that they are experiencing. We ask you to continue to pray for those individuals. Thank you to all who continue to support this incredible ministry. God is moving in incredible ways! Our plans for this year are to continue to move forward and serve and be the hands and feet of Jesus in Russell county.

Submitted by, Rev. Natalie Justice, Executive Director,
Elk Garden School Community Ministry

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XV EMORY - CANDLER SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

Since 1914, Candler School of Theology at Emory University has lived into our mission, educating faithful and creative leaders for the church's ministries throughout the world. This year, as we leaned into this critical work and continued to adapt to a world changed by the coronavirus pandemic, we imagined new possibilities for students who are called by God to pursue serious theological study and preparation for ministry. For some, opening avenues to graduate theological education requires moving financial obstacles, and for others, geography or family responsibilities may be the barriers. Candler is committed to assisting students in removing these barriers and opening new pathways to ministry.

An official seminary of The United Methodist Church, Candler holds true to the Methodist value of ecumenical openness, enthusiastically welcoming students from 43 denominations, with 45% of MDiv students coming from the Wesleyan tradition. Our student body reflects the diversity and breadth of the Christian faithful, with an enrollment of 466 from 16 countries and 38 states, 45% persons of color (U.S.), and a median age of 28 among MDivs. This diversity is a blessing, enriching our students and our larger community and providing a "learning laboratory" for ministry in the 21st century—ministry that reaches across difference, works to resolve injustice, and embodies Christ's love in and among us.

Candler offers six single degrees (MDiv, MTS, MRL, MRPL, ThM, DMin) and ten dual degrees. Our DMin is 90% online, so students can remain in their places of ministry while earning their degrees. Its high 87% completion rate illustrates both the quality of our students and Candler's commitment to their success. This year, we increased online offerings in other degrees as well. Now students can complete the Master of Religion and Public Life completely online; the Master of Religious Leadership with concentrations in Youth Ministry, Justice, Peacebuilding and Conflict Transformation, or Wesleyan Leadership and Heritage in a hybrid format; and MDiv students can complete core classes online. Plus, our new Remote Teaching Parish (RTP) program allows MDiv students who have jobs in ecclesial settings far from our Atlanta campus to take core classes online and complete their contextual education requirements at their place of ministry, participating in mentor-led online groups with other RTP students.

Alleviating student debt through generous financial aid is a top priority. In 2020-2021, we awarded more than \$6.8 million in financial aid, with 100% of MDiv and 98.5% of all students receiving support. All MDiv students who are certified candidates for ordained ministry in the UMC receive full-tuition scholarships, and all MDiv, MTS, MRL, and ThM students who are enrolled part-time or more receive a scholarship covering at least 50% of tuition for the length of their program.

Hundreds of laity and theology students alike have joined in classes and events offered through The Candler Foundry, our innovative program to make theological education accessible to all. Through short and semester-length courses taught by Candler faculty, videos and discussion guides to spark conversation in groups or one-on-one, and online panel discussions, those who want to delve more deeply into theology and the Bible have the chance to do just that. View the latest offerings at candlerfoundry.emory.edu.

Associate Dean of Methodist Studies the Rev. Dr. Anne Burkholder will retire from Candler at the end of the 2021-22 academic year. We are grateful to God for her energetic and skillful leadership in this vital area as she strengthened the connection between our students and conferences throughout the UMC, mentoring them as they discerned their call and navigated the ordination process.

Candler's ability to fulfill our mission to provide the church with the faithful and creative leaders it needs depends upon your prayers, partnership, and support. Thank you for the countless ways you advance this essential ministry in the life of our denomination. We invite you to visit us online at candler.emory.edu.

Submitted by, Jan Love, Mary Lee Hardin Willard Dean and Professor of Christianity and World Politics
Candler School of Theology, Emory University

== == == **END OF REPORT** == == ==

XV EMORY & HENRY COLLEGE

Dr. John W. Wells is in his third year as the 22nd president of Emory & Henry College. 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 186 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.

The Fall 2021 class saw record enrollment at Emory & Henry with 436 first year and transfer students. Spurred in part by the additions of the School of Nursing, the School of Business, continued growth at the Health Sciences campus, and the athletics transition to Division II, the College is working diligently towards sustainable growth.

Emory & Henry's athletic program will be transitioning to the South Athletic Conference in Division II. Emory & Henry has started visits to other colleges and has entered into partnership with the NCAA for compliance purposes. In January, President Wells and members of the athletic administration went to the NCAA conference in Indianapolis, and recently the NCAA visited for our Provisional Year I assessment. The institution remains excited about what the move to the South Athletic Conference does for the region.

Emory & Henry continues to be a college of choice in Southwest Virginia. We recently announced major construction plans including a new 144 bed apartment complex near campus, a new Equestrian Center off of Interstate 81 at Exit 26, and a new multi-sport complex off of Interstate 81 at Exit 26. The Equestrian Center will be an exciting addition to the Emory campus as students will no longer have to travel to Bristol, Virginia for Equine classes, practices, and competitions. The multi-sport complex will house men and women's track and field, men's and women's soccer, rugby, and other sports.

Emory & Henry has entered into a five-year partnership with Credo, a national higher education consulting firm, on their Moving the Needle Project. This project is aimed at significantly impacting retention and graduation rates.

Emory & Henry remains dedicated to its firm foundation and connection with the United Methodist Church. Our College Chaplain, the Rev. Sharon Wiley Wright '94, continues spiritual outreach to faculty, staff and students of all Christian denominations and other faiths. Chaplain Wright oversees Spiritual Life programming and works directly with student groups and activities. A number of our recent graduates are attending or plan to attend divinity school at such distinguished destinations as Wesley Theological Seminary and Duke Divinity School. We also have graduates who will pursue internships at mission and ministry sites in Oklahoma City and Atlanta. Last summer (2021) we began a Summer Internship Program that placed four students in local churches, including Alexander Memorial UMC in Bishop, Virginia and Reynolds Memorial and Hunt Memorial in Bristol, Virginia. Students developed relationships with staff and community members, participated in feeding and homeless ministries, organized a clothes closet, and participated in worship, youth, and children's ministries. The program will expand this summer to include an urban experience with Cokesbury UMC.

We currently have a core group of students who are interested in pursuing ministry as a vocation and we have been grateful for opportunities created by Rev. Jane Taylor and pastors in the Clinch Mountain District to provide them with experience preaching in local churches in Washington and Smyth counties. Associate Chaplain Rev. Sharon Bowers continues to provide leadership in the area of diversity, equity, and inclusion fostering a deeper connection with the Holston Conference. In addition, Rev. Bowers is deeply invested in the planning, development, and implementation of a women's center at Emory & Henry.

The Office of Spiritual Life continues to partner with the Religion Department to provide programming for interfaith education by connecting with regional houses of worship for conversations and experiences both on and off campus. and to encourage people to use our beautiful interfaith prayer room located in Memorial Chapel. In our special partnership with the Office of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion, we have partnered with churches and clergy in the Holston Conference to provide leadership, mentorship and vocational discernment through preaching, teaching and guiding our students, faculty & staff through the often difficult challenges of the pandemic.

The College was awarded a generous grant of \$50,000 from the Holston Foundation to offer Southwest Virginia high school students and Emory & Henry students from historically underrepresented backgrounds an opportunity to enhance their leadership skills. Leadership Emory & Henry is a new program designed to help motivate participants to develop and enhance quality leadership knowledge, skill, and ability while increasing awareness in diversity, equity and inclusion at school, work, home, play and in the community. The integration of these skills are important for students to eventually take out into the workplace and the communities in which they will "serve and grow." The \$50,000 gift from the Holston Foundation was presented to Emory & Henry College leadership by Holston Foundation leaders President Paul Bowman and Director of Communications LeRae Collins, a 2008 graduate of Emory & Henry. The initiative will begin in the summer of 2022.

Under Rev. Bowers' leadership in the Office of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion, Emory & Henry was the recipient of a grant of \$10,000 from the Lily Foundation through the Forum for Theological Education to support our Vocational Discernment Mentoring Program, Talk It Out. Our program is designed to meet the theological exploration vocational goals of interested students. We use the language of vocation and experience to guide students through the vocational process that is rooted in building a campus community as we provide our program cohort members a safe, non-threatening, cohort environment to learn about spiritual ways to change the world. We foster a mentoring relationship between faculty, staff and students that supports their development as part of a learning community and the retreat environment allows them the opportunity to come away from the hustle and bustle to consider their future vocation. Also, the retreat environment fosters specific practices of reflection focused on identity, learning and purpose. Talk It Out is grounded in creating life-long learning communities that enable members to theologically discern and engage in suitable vocations that honor God and others.

Also, as Emory & Henry endeavors to build a deeper relationship with the Holston Conference, Rev. Bowers and I are traveling throughout the conference promoting our 186 year connection. Having been a pastor at several churches in the Holston Conference, I have served as a guest preacher over the last year giving clergy an opportunity to spend the Sunday out of the pulpit. To date, we have already been in or are scheduled to be in all nine districts. This is an opportunity for the College and the Conference to connect in a more up close and personal way.

We are honored to have Rev. Sharon Bowers, Rev. David Jackson and Rev. Sharon Wright, elders in full connection in the Holston Conference firmly planted on Emory & Henry's campus living out their calling and vocation.

Emory & Henry is proud to partner with the SERO Project to host the 2023 HIV Is Not A Crime V Training Academy on June 4-7, 2023. We believe our commitment to social justice issues is best expressed in what we do more than what we say. HIV is Not A Crime (HINAC) is a biennial gathering of people living with HIV (PLHIV), HIV policy leaders, and other stakeholders, primarily from the United States, that educates and trains advocates to mobilize to end HIV criminalization, support PLHIV empowerment, and facilitate intersectional coalition building. HINAC particularly focuses on uplifting the work of PLHIV and PLHIV networks, and grassroots activists and networks engaged in racial, social, economic and gender justice movements.

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 Chase Crickenberger, '17, Associate Pastor at Fountain City UMC as well as countless other United Methodist ministers, music directors, and lay leaders.

Emory & Henry is a special place with a rich history. The Methodists of the Holston Annual Conference who founded Emory & Henry 186 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 and is growing deeper day by day. 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.

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. Finally, we have much to be thankful for as Emory & Henry continues to be recognized for its exceptional value, successful student achievements, superior faculty and highly competent staff. We look forward to your continued support of our mission and your referrals and recommendation to others now and in the future.

May God continue to hold us in the palm of God's hand, tightly woven together to provide compassionate service, excellence in education and justice for all.

Submitted by, Dr. John W. Wells, President

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XV GRACEINSIDE PRISON CHAPLAIN SERVICE

In 2022, GraceInside celebrates 102 years of mission ministry to incarcerated men and women. Our ministry brings the transformative love of Jesus Christ to inmates in the facilities of the Virginia Department of Corrections (VADOC). By offering the GRACE of Jesus Christ through our chaplains, we endeavor to transform lives INSIDE the prisons, and to save souls and protect the public safety by teaching inmates to embrace the light rather than darkness. Our ministry is only possible with the continued support of our valuable partners such as the Holston Conference of the United Methodist Church. The generous support of the Holston UMC is truly a special blessing each year!

GraceInside utilizes the funding from the Holston UMC to further Christian religious activities by ensuring that essential resources are available for our 34 chaplains as they seek to further the Kingdom for the 25,000 inmates in the 42 prisons of the VADOC. The Holston UMC support is a lifeline for our mission field.

The COVID-19 pandemic upended the structure and nature of faith-based activities throughout the VADOC. A 16-month lockdown of all facilities was in effect and only ended in July 2021. Chaplains and religious volunteers were denied admittance to the prisons. By the Grace of God, the VADOC allowed GraceInside's chaplains to telework, maintain unlimited email contacts with the prisoners at their assigned facilities (free of charge), and conduct crisis/pastoral care phone calls with inmates in emergencies. When obstacles arose, Jesus Christ tore them down and made a way when there seemed to be no way! Finally, in July 2021, the chaplains were readmitted into the prisons and religious activities resumed in an incremental, careful manner.

The pandemic has not gone away, however. The surge of the Omicron variant has also impacted prisons and resulted in a fresh wave of lockdowns at those facilities where infection rates soared. So far, GraceInside's chaplains have been allowed to remain on duty, most at their own request. Their dedication has come at a cost: to date five of our 34 chaplains (5% of our prison-based workforce) have tested positive for this new form of COVID-19. Please know that it will take more than a virus to deter our chaplains from bringing the Word and Presence of Christ behind prison walls. With the partnership of the Holston Conference, we will follow the injunction of the writer of Hebrews: "Let mutual love continue... Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them..." – Hebrews

13:1-3. Again we thank you for your many years of support and for walking with us in an often forgotten mission field. Our 2022 report would not be complete if we did not honor the ministry of a veteran chaplain who was suddenly – and unexpectedly – taken from us during the Christmas Season. Rev. Robby Burke (BGAV) served as GraceInside's Chaplain at Augusta Correctional Center (ACC) after many years at Coffeewood Correctional Center (CFCC). He combined his unique gifts of caring, compassion, wisdom and humor in his ministry to the nearly 1,300 incarcerated men that made up his "flock" at this large state prison. During the 16 long months when COVID-19 shut our chaplains out of the state prison facilities, Robby labored away, doing his best to provide "ministry from a distance" to the men at Augusta. His passion and compassion for his flock continued to burn brightly, and at times he felt intense guilt and a real urgency to get back into the facility. During these dark and intense times, Chaplain Robby spent endless hours writing and sending emails to the inmates at Augusta. They offered words of hope and encouragement, asked for prayer requests, etc. These outreach efforts were not in vain. Letters from inmates at Augusta reveal that many hearts, once formerly hardened, were proverbially turned to clay by this correspondence and were re-molded as vessels for Jesus Christ.

In the days before Christmas, Robby went to his doctor for a routine heart checkup. The results were anything but routine. He was immediately rushed to the local hospital for emergency quadruple coronary bypass surgery. The surgery appeared successful, but within days Robby experienced pneumonia, sepsis and renal failure. He passed away on December 30, 2021. He is sorely missed, but for all our grief, the undeniable fact is that Robby loved Jesus Christ, and his ministry was part of a great circle of God's love that started in heaven, brightened this world for a time, and returned Home. Indeed, "Will the circle be unbroken...by and by Lord...by and by."

We thank the Holston Conference of the United Methodist Church, and the wonderful men and women who comprise its ranks, for the support that helped make Chaplain Robby Burke's chaplaincy possible.

Holston Conference UMC-Affiliated GraceInside staff:
Chaplain Paul Ritter (Keen Mountain Corr. Ctr. & Marion Corr. Treatment Ctr.) & Chaplain Daniel Theiben (Restorative Housing Chaplain – Red Onion & Wallens Ridge State Prisons)

== == **END OF REPORT** == ==

XV GENERAL BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND MINISTRY

GBHEM seeks to promote innovative and experiential opportunities for transformative learning, higher education, and ministry formation worldwide. The agency works with key partners, churches, and institutions in Africa, Asia Pacific, Europe, and Eurasia, Latin American and the Caribbean, and North America to offer connectional, contextual, and collaborative programs to support the Church, the Academy, and the world. Among its various activities, GBHEM is responsible for two initiatives approved by General Conference: The Methodist Global Education Fund for Leadership Development (MGEFLD) – which includes the Grants and Scholarships Program (GRASP) – and the Central Conference Theological Education Fund (CCTEF). The agency also maintains Regional Hubs for Leadership, Education and Development (LEAD Hubs) in various locations around the world, has helped create and support the International Association of Methodist Schools, Colleges, and Universities (IAMSCU), and works with regional education associations on five continents. GBHEM is currently partnering with general agencies and other organizations to support important projects on COVID-19 vaccine equity, mindfulness and wellbeing, net-zero emissions, human rights, and the promotion of a culture of generosity throughout the United Methodist worldwide connection.

In 1972, The United Methodist Church reaffirmed its support of the 11 historically black colleges and universities related to the denomination by creating the Black College Fund and this year we celebrate its 50th Anniversary. Support for the Black College Fund supports the education of world-changing leaders by investing in the hopes and dreams of students from around the world. Continued support for the Black College Fund renews the vision for the next generation of transformational leaders.

We celebrate GBHEM awarding more than 2,250 students a total of \$4,084,979 in scholarships in 2021. These future leaders range from first year freshmen to doctorate level students across the denomination. We are grateful for the support received in recognizing United Methodist Student Day, World Communion Sunday, and Native American Sunday which helps fund a portion of our scholarships. The remaining funds for these awards come from gifts, annuities, and endowments GBHEM has invested and administered for decades.

Worldwide Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Access (WIDEA) is a strategic focus area for GBHEM to align its work with the mission and ministry of congregations and constituents around the world. This renewed commitment includes advanced staff development in intercultural competency, active listening, and a deeper understanding of and appreciation for difference so relevant programs and services may be developed, offered, and implemented more equitably and effectively.

GBHEM remains committed to building and sustaining collaborative cross-conference networks that foster collegiality and guide credentialing for ordained and licensed ministry. We have partnered with conference leaders to clarify the role of those in ministry while assisting in the interpretation and application of relevant paragraphs within The Book of Discipline. We have supported the work of recruiting, guiding, and credentialing candidates and clergy through the development of Passage - a comprehensive registry resource - as well as a virtual onboarding module for new district and conference board members.

Hundreds of years before amazon.com, John Wesley stuffed the saddlebags of circuit riders with books of theology and biblical interpretation—selling them to fund the movement while spreading it literally. GBHEM continues this innovative spirit by leveraging social enterprise opportunities and creative partnerships as a way of reducing its reliance on apportionments while continuing to focus on delivering the very best services, products, and programs to United Methodist constituents around the world.

The same spirit of service and leadership that first inspired John Wesley lives on in each of us. Today, GBHEM looks confidently to the future taking bold and creative action, remaining good stewards, and continuing to support The United Methodist Church in innovative and meaningful ways.

Submitted by, Greg Bergquist, General Secretary

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XV HINTON RURAL LIFE CENTER (HAYESVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA)

In 2021, Hinton Rural Life Center celebrated 60 years of serving annual conferences in the Southeastern Jurisdiction through equipping clergy and local churches (particularly small, rural churches) and offering opportunities for individuals and church groups to serve in Safe & Healthy Home Repair missions and/or come for retreats and renewal time, experiencing God's presence and blessing at our 33-acre campus in the Appalachian Mountains. (Check out Embracing Our Roots and Sharing the Fruits videos at www.hintoncenter.org/about-us to learn about Hinton's beginnings and the impact of our ministries.)

In this past year, with the support of local and mission team volunteers, as well as generous support of individual, organizational, and United Methodist local church support (Board of Global Ministries Advance Project #731372), Hinton was able to offer relational and impactful ministries. Highlights include:

- Completed 123 home repair projects on 25 different homes and 4 nonprofits in our area, prioritizing and addressing the health and safety of homeowners.
- Hosted over 400 mission participants.
- Installed vegetable gardens for homeowners to support their nutritional well-being.
- Provided over 570 loads of firewood to over 480 families/individuals, who heat primarily with wood.

- Premiered our House on Wheels (HOW) mobile teaching unit to promote home safety awareness and practices in our local community and with our volunteers.
- Provided local and missional leadership training for more than 35 adults and young people.
- Provided over 300 children with new clothes at Christmas through Christmas Care.
- Began installation and enhancements of trails and Sanctuary Gardens on our campus for individuals and groups to experience rest and renewal for mind, body, and soul.

In 2022, we launched Theotokos Confirmation Retreats in March and now offer a digital confirmation resource, Theotokos Connections, that is designed to be small church relevant and accessible, but available for any size church.

Submitted by, Jacqueline Gottlieb, CEO and President



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XV METHODIST THEOLOGICAL SCHOOL IN OHIO (MTSO)

With \$1 million grant, MTSO supports existing religious leaders and helps form new ones. MTSO has received a five-year grant of \$999,665 to establish “Connecting Pathways: A Multi-Faceted Approach to Strengthen and Sustain Current and Future Faith Leaders.” The project is being funded through Lilly Endowment Inc.’s Pathways for Tomorrow Initiative.

The project utilizes MTSO’s distinct strengths in two distinct parts. Part One, “Connecting Pathways: Congregations and Other Ministry Partners,” supports existing religious leaders, focusing on anti-racism training and resourcing. Working with partner organizations, MTSO helps faith leaders to assess land use and church food programs to assist in building community engagement. Part Two, “Connecting Pathways: Vocational Exploration Intensive for Young Adults,” invites young adults to imagine the possibilities for lifelong faith, offering experiential learning, theological reflection, worship, and relationships with healthy community leaders and vibrant faith communities. It introduces the whys and hows of ministry, connecting participants with faith leaders, including some of those involved in Part One of the project.

New initiative enhances scientific literacy for seminarians

MTSO has a longstanding commitment to preparing religious leaders who are conversant in and respectful of science. An important part of that effort is “Questioning Science with Good Faith: Shifting the Engagement of Science in Seminaries,” a project that integrates science into church history and theological studies curricula while also contributing to the public discourse on intersection of science and religion. The project is made possible by a \$75,000 grant from the American Association for the Advancement of Science Dialogue on Science, Ethics, and Religion program. The grant is funded by the John Templeton Foundation. In September 2021, MTSO offered an online, multi-professional conversation, “Pastors, Pandemics and Public Health: Building Collaborative Responses to COVID-19.”

Full-tuition scholarships extended to those pursuing United Methodist candidacy. MTSO and the school’s donors pledged to extend a full-tuition pledge to all prospective students who are pursuing United Methodist elder or deacon candidacy. The MTSO admissions staff is happy to answer questions about this initiative at 800-333-6876 or admissions@mtso.edu.

Submitted by, Danny Russell, Director of Communications

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XV SAFE GATHERINGS AND CONGREGATIONU



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We are pleased to be working with the Holston Conference as a resource for your churches.



Safe Gatherings is a comprehensive protection system for everyone who works with children, youth and vulnerable adults. We work with more than 10,000 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



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=== END OF REPORT ===

XV SAINT PAUL SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

Educating tomorrow's leaders by offering on-campus, online, and hybrid learning courses at a FLEXible schedule, Saint Paul School of Theology is a seminary of the United Methodist Church committed to the formation of people for innovative, creative ministry. Grounded in the academic study of faith and ministry, theology is practiced in a traditional classroom and a contextual curriculum.

As the global pandemic continues to bring challenges to our daily lives, Saint Paul School of Theology began the 2021-2022 academic year, again offering students an option to attend courses via Zoom or on-campus while maintaining safety protocols. Our weekly chapel service continues to be available online, allowing staff and students to come together as one institution where all are invited to create a sacred atmosphere from wherever they are. In addition to faculty and staff serving as chapel speakers, we were blessed to have alumni and special guest speakers Rev. Winter Hamilton of Manchester UMC, Rev. Delesslyn Kennebrew, Rev. Dr. Carol Cook Moore, and more. Chapel recordings are available on the Saint Paul YouTube channel for those who cannot join live.

Saint Paul staff and faculty continue to contribute to the academy, church, and society. This year, we have had many faculty and staff changes. After many years of tremendous service to students and the Seminary, Dr. James Brandt and Dr. Hal Knight announced retirement plans effective at the end of the 2021-2022 academic year. In addition, Dr. Jeanne Hoeft will step down from her role as Vice President of Academic Affairs and Dean at the end of the academic year but will continue as faculty. New additions to the Seminary family include Dr. Joshua Bartholomew, Assistant Professor of Ethics, Church and Society; Dr. Tiffany Nagel Monroe, Executive Director of the Oklahoma Campus; and Rabbi Michael Zedek, Rabbi-in-Residence.

The faculty of Saint Paul School of Theology maintains high standards of scholarship, research, publication, and engagement. Over the past year, their many activities and publications have been so numerous that space permits only the sharing of selected highlights.

- Dr. Nancy Howell, Professor of Theology and Philosophy of Religion and Oubri A. Poppele Professor of Health and Welfare Ministries, was re-elected to a second term on the Executive Committee of the International Society for Science and Religion. She also had an article published in a South African journal. With more than a decade of service, she serves on the Broader Social Impacts Committee of the National Museum of Natural History at the Smithsonian.
- Dr. Casey Sigmon, Assistant Professor of Preaching and Worship and Director of Contextual Education, was invited to be a writer for "Lent Another Way," an e-course, with The Plural Guild and The Many, and she offered the convocation address for Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School in Fall 2021. She also applied for and received a grant from the Wabash Center for Teaching to support my project entitled: "Resisting the Plagiarized Pulpit: Helping Students and the Professor to Find trust their voice through Artistic Instructional Design."
- This January, Dr. Joshua Bartholomew, Assistant Professor of Ethics, Church and Society, was the guest speaker at a Kansas City event, "Black Theology and the Black Panthers: A Conversation with Dr. Joshua Bartholomew." In addition, he was recently interviewed by Climate Central for the article "'A moral imperative': Monastic sisters in rural Midwest make faith-based case for climate action."

Saint Paul welcomed 45 new students for the 2021-2022 academic year. New student enrollment for the Fall semester increased by 44% (34 new students), with an overall increase for the year of 73%. With the COVID-19 pandemic still in our midst, prospective students previewed the Saint Paul community and curriculum via online visits. Students joined in community worship, attended classes, and participated in online discussions with current students to discern if Saint Paul was indeed their choice for theological education. Enrollment remained strong for the Master of Divinity (MDiv) degree program with promising growth in our newly designed Master of Arts in Theological Studies (MATS) and Master of Arts in Christian Ministry (MACM) programs.

In September, Saint Paul held the 2021 Harrington Lecture online featuring Dr. Eboo Patel. His lecture, "We Need to Build: Field Notes for Diverse Democracy," expanded knowledge and built skills, helping people become the kind of leaders our diverse democracy needs. In the Spring Semester, Saint Paul Evangelical Society, led by Dr. Hal Knight, hosted a forum given by Dr. Amos Yong, Professor of Theology and Mission, and Dean of the School of Mission and Theology at Fuller Theological Seminary, on "The Holy Spirit and People of other Faiths: Relational Christian Witness in the 2020s." Later in the semester, the Evangelical Society hosted a lecture featuring Dr. Joy Moore, Professor of Biblical Preaching and Vice-President for Academic Affairs and Academic Dean at Luther Seminary. And for the first time, on May 13, Saint Paul held a hybrid commencement celebration via Zoom, allowing graduates to come together from both the Kansas and Oklahoma Campuses with attendees viewing from around the country. We honored the 2022 Distinguished Graduate Award Winner and Commencement Speaker Dr. Stan Copeland during the ceremony.

For the 2021-2022 fiscal year, Saint Paul Course of Study (COS) School educated 228 individual students, 49 of which were new students, with approximately 550 registrations and offering a total of 50 courses. Serving 32 Conferences, including 94 Districts, 121 Full Time and 106 Part-Time Licensed Local Pastors comprised these registrations. Saint Paul Course of Study School welcomed new Regional Director Dr. Lucas Endicott. Dr. Endicott has been serving as Associate Director for the Office of Mission, Service, and Justice at the Missouri Annual Conference and lecturing at Central Methodist University. Due to the continuing pandemic, the school has continued its course offerings in both asynchronous and synchronous online formats. Utilizing this online format, we reached students in 24 states. Plans include an increase in the number of hybrid course offerings. This fiscal year has also ushered in the new ability of online registration completed by the student and access to their student account through Populi as used by Seminary students. All our students share the same benefits by integrating Course of Study School into Populi, making them a more integrated part of the Saint Paul experience.

Saint Paul Board of Trustees added two new members to their ranks: Ms. Debra “Debbie” Buzard, Director of Outreach Ministry at First United Methodist Church of Kearney; and Rev. Martin “Tino” Herrera, Congregational Care Pastor at UM Church of the Resurrection. Through a Board initiative related to diversity and inclusion, the Saint Paul Board of Trustees has devoted a significant portion of the last year’s meetings to church leaders with experience and expertise in creating more diverse and inclusive communities and organizations. Aiding Saint Paul’s trustees in better understanding these issues, the Board hosted the Rev. Dr. Benjamin Boswell in April 2021. Dr. Boswell, Senior Pastor of Myers Park Baptist Church in Charlotte, North Carolina, described the anti-racism work he has led in that community. The City of Charlotte awarded Dr. Boswell its Martin Luther King, Jr. Medallion for his work. In July 2021, Congressman Emanuel Cleaver II of Kansas City shared his perspective on the racial and social justice issues confronting our nation and the efforts he and his colleagues in the House of Representatives hope to undertake in response. With the Board’s assistance, led by Board Chair Rev. Dr. Tex Sample, the seminary focuses on its mission. Our trustees continuously enhance and evaluate the strategic plans to guide us into the future.

As we have happily reported in years past, Saint Paul is financially sound and operates with a balanced budget. These last years’ changes have established a solid financial foundation for years of sustainability. As always, we continue to be grateful for donations from the community that provide technology, scholarships, and evolving academic programs to students. Our significant investments in technology have allowed us to maintain a

hybrid educational delivery model providing a safe learning environment during the continuing pandemic.

Our aim has always been to utilize technology as a conduit to bring faculty and students together regardless of whether they are on-campus or joining remotely through Zoom. We took a hard look at the distance learning landscape during the pandemic to see how we could substantially enhance the classroom experience. After significant testing, we opted to replace our distance-learning classroom technology with Neat’s offerings, including technology still in development. All our classrooms began upgrades in Fall 2021 with offerings from Neat. Each smaller classroom added a 65” neat.board, a self-contained screen that functions as a full Zoom room, as well as an electronic whiteboard. Anything written or drawn on these boards is transmitted through Zoom to the screens in the classroom and remote Zoom participants. This content can also be saved and emailed to all participants. We implemented neat.bars in other classrooms that connect to our classrooms’ existing screens. We are currently implementing neat.bar pros, just released at the end of 2021, in each of our large classrooms. At Saint Paul School of Theology, we have always tried to be pioneers with distance-learning technologies. We are very early in the lifecycle of this stimulating and groundbreaking technology. We are thrilled to partner with Neat and Zoom in revolutionizing the classroom experience.

Saint Paul School of Theology is blessed to be your partner in ministry and help those seeking to discover more and answer the call. We are grateful for your support of our students and our seminary. May we continue to live into the call of Jesus Christ to be faithful witnesses for healing in these unsettled times and for generations to come.

President Neil Blair, Saint Paul trustees, faculty, staff, alumni, and students thank you for your prayers and support.

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Where Theology Meets Life



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XV TAG CHAPTER OF THE NATIONAL GAMMON ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

The Alumni of Gammon in Tennessee, Alabama, Georgia is known as The TAG Chapter of The National Gammon Alumni Association. The TAG Chapter applied for their charter December 7, 2020. The Charter was approved at the Spring meeting of The National Gammon Alumni Association in 2021. The chartering and founding members are Reverend Dr. Jacqueline M. Davis-Gines (2020), Reverend Amy Nutt (2020), and Reverend Charlotte S.N.N. Williams (2007).

The goal of the TAG Chapter is to promote fellowship among alumni and friends of Gammon, and to support and serve Gammon Theological Seminary, Gammon students and the National Gammon Alumni Association. We plan to host events, seminars, Gammon days and other activities to market Gammon in the Holston Conference and beyond. As part of our efforts, we will develop and maintain relationships with Gammon Alumni in our respective area. A particular focus is to provide support and advocacy for women in ministry, particularly Black women, and women of color.

We invite all Gammon Alumni and friends to join us and assist the TAG Chapter in supporting and promoting Gammon Theological Seminary. Please contact any of our leadership team for information on how to become a member of The TAG Chapter. Our current chapter leadership is listed below.

Submitted by, President – Reverend Jacqueline M. Davis-Gines, PhD, Vice-President— Reverend Charlotte S.N.N. Williams, Secretary — Pastor Terryl James, Treasurer – Reverend Evelyn Harris, Chaplain – Reverend Amy Nutt, Director of Research, Publications – Reverend Sharon Bowers, Director of Communications – Pastor Marcharkelti McKenzie

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XV UNITED THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

For the past 150 years, United Theological Seminary has educated men and women for Christian ministry within the historic traditions of the United Brethren, Evangelical United Brethren and United Methodist churches. On October 11, 1871, United Theological Seminary, then Union Biblical Seminary, held its first classes in Dayton, Ohio. From a starting class of 11 students, the seminary has grown to 488 students in its most recent academic year,* representing 39 denominations, 11 countries, and 39 states. Today's seminary serves a diverse student body that is 53% African American.**

On October 10, 2021, the seminary celebrated its 150th anniversary and burned the mortgage on its current campus facilities, freeing up \$400,000 annually to support student scholarships.

In 2021, United received a grant of \$1 million from Lilly Endowment Inc.'s Pathways for Tomorrow Initiative to expand the seminary's Houses of Study, which offer specialized master's tracks to equip students for the unique ministry needs of the communities, movements and denominations they serve. The seminary has introduced six Houses of Study, currently enrolling for 2022-23:

- Fresh Expressions, directed by Dr. Michael Beck;
- Mosaix, in partnership with Mosaix Global Network and directed by Rev. Chip Freed;
- Black United Methodist, directed by Dr. Vance Ross;
- Hispanic, 100% in Spanish for Spanish-speaking leaders, directed by Dr. Jorge Ochoa;

- Global Pentecostal, directed by Dr. Mark Chironna;
- and Global Wesleyan, directed by Rev. Gregory Stover.

Because United believes so passionately in this initiative, the seminary has dedicated additional resources to offer half-tuition scholarships for inaugural students in its Houses of Study programs.

United also introduced the Academic Dean's Scholarship, which provides 50% tuition for the duration of a master's degree program, and the Presidential Scholarship, awarding up to \$5,000 per year to new students.

In honor of United's 150th anniversary year, a generous donor gifted \$2 million to help graduating students reduce their educational debt. Each graduate in the 2021-22 academic year will receive up to \$20,000 toward student debt from theological and previous academic studies.

As United looks forward to the next 150 years with gratitude and anticipation, the seminary remains committed to the preparation of faithful and fruitful Christian leaders to make disciples of Jesus Christ.

Submitted by, Dr. Kent Millard, President

* Student data represent 2020-2021 headcount enrollment.

** Figure represents those who responded.

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XV WESLEY THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

Some days, it seems that we, and the religious, civic, and educational institutions we love, stand peering into the fog of an unknown future as questions resound: What does our collective future look like, and who will lead it? In the midst of these questions, Wesley remains committed to supporting pastors and churches and to preparing graduates to lead innovative ministries grounded in God's mercy and justice. We stand ready to accompany you on the path to which God is calling you.

Creating new models of education that respond to students' needs

Building on Wesley's strengths and responding to student needs, Wesley is pleased to announce two pathways for master's level students beginning in Fall 2022. For students who reside on or near campus, classes will continue to be offered each week on campus during daytime and evening periods. For students needing to remain in their own contexts, Wesley will offer a hybrid pathway that invites students to campus for a one-week intensive immersion each semester, with the remaining coursework being held online. Learn more about how you can be part of the Wesley community and the Washington, DC experience through these pathways at <https://www.wesleyseminary.edu/mdiv/>.

These course pathways also support our FlexMA, a degree program built to provide robust learning and theological formation for busy individuals that integrate faith, life, and professional experience with the flexibility needed to customize content and accommodate hectic schedules. Whether preparing for bi-vocational ministry in congregational and institutional settings, going deeper in one's own spiritual journey, or integrating faith and theology into an existing career or "third career" post-retirement, wherever God is calling, the FlexMA will help you prepare to respond fully. Learn more at <https://www.wesleyseminary.edu/flexma/>.

Research projects support congregational community engagement and envision future ministry

Four grants from the Lilly Endowment Inc, totaling \$5.25 million, undergird Wesley's research into and support of congregational thriving and innovation.

- A new five-year project through the Wesley Innovation Hub will have two main foci: a one-year Design Fellowship to equip young adult leaders and the Wesley Design Lab, featuring both in-person and online curricula, training, and other resources for congregational innovation. Young adults ages 23-29 years are invited to apply for the Design Fellowship, which will provide an \$8,000 stipend, community formation, spiritual direction, graduate-level courses in design thinking for ministry and hands-on experience leading innovation in congregations. Wesley will also be seeking creative persons of faith to be "Innovators in Residence" at Wesley and partner churches who have interesting challenges or opportunities for young adult ministry. To learn more: <https://www.wesleyseminary.edu/wesley-innovation-hub/>
- A second new grant will undergird Wesley's move toward comprehensive theological education for the whole church. Wesley will strengthen its existing excellent master's and doctoral programs while also expanding a suite of pre-degree, post-degree (continuing education), and non-degree courses to meet the current and emerging needs of spiritual leaders in their context.
- Now in its second year of The Source Collaborative, Wesley continues to work with congregations in adjacent UMC annual conferences to identify markers of thriving and pursue them. Congregations and coaches interested in joining the 2023 cohort should apply by Sept. 1, 2022 via innovation@wesleyseminary.edu.
- The Religious Workforce Project, run by the Lewis Center for Church Leadership, studies religious work in congregations across several denominations to understand current and future needs. Learn about emerging data at <https://religiousworkforce.com/>.

Using research and partnerships to reach and equip the next generation of ministers

Wesley is ready to work with you as we make theological education more accessible and relevant to the realities of ministry today. 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 on specializations in public theology, urban ministry, arts and theology, missional church, children and youth ministry and advocacy, or African American church leadership. Courses are available in person, online, and in intensive hybrid formats. Info at www.wesleyseminary.edu/admissions/try-a-class-3. Wesley provides \$2 million annually in scholarships via regular merit awards, ranging from 25% to 100% tuition with stipends, including full-tuition scholarships for qualified applicants recommended by WTS alumni, campus ministers, or Christian service ministries; Next Call in Ministry scholarships for students working in a non-ministry setting for at least 10 years; and Generación Latinx Scholarships for emerging Latinx leaders for ministries within and beyond the church.

Take your ministry to the next level

The Certificate for Children and Youth Ministry and Advocacy (CYMA) is a non-residential certificate completed in 12 - 15 months via online classes and up to two residential sessions (www.wesleyseminary.edu/admissions/cyma-3). The Certificate in Faith and Public Life explores the foundations of public theology, religious freedom, and civil discourse (www.wesleyseminary.edu/ice/programs/public-theology/public-life/).

Wesley's premiere Doctor of Ministry programs includes three new 2022 tracks: Ministry in a Digital Age; Justice, Compassion, and Witness in a Turbulent World (Cambridge, UK); and a program focused on Latinx ministry. In 2023, we will again see popular DMin tracks: the Cambridge UK track, Military and CPE Chaplains, Global Church Leadership program, Church Leadership Excellence and a ground-breaking track on Trauma. Visit www.wesleyseminary.edu/doctorofministry/.

Enrich your congregational outreach and explore new dimensions of ministry

The Lewis Center for Church Leadership conducts leading edge research for the local church. The Lewis Center's Leading Ideas e-newsletter and Leading Ideas Talk podcast is the go-to source for over 20,000 people in ministry each week. Subscribe at www.churchleadership.com.

The Community Engagement Institute 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, tpruski@wesleyseminary.edu.

The Center for Public Theology equips pastors, seminarians, people of faith, and the media to create spaces for civil dialogue at the intersection of religion and politics. Visit <http://www.wesleyseminary.edu/ice/programs/public-theology/>.

The Henry Luce III Center for the Arts and Religion works with students, religious communities, artists, and scholars exploring the intersection of the arts and theology. Visit www.luceartsandreligion.org. Stay connected

Contact us at (202) 885-8659 or admissions@wesleyseminary.edu and join the Wesley Community online via www.facebook.com/wesleyseminary, on Instagram [@wesleyseminary](https://www.instagram.com/wesleyseminary), on Twitter [@WesTheoSem](https://twitter.com/WesTheoSem), or sign up for our electronic newsletter.

Submitted by, Rev. Dr. David McAllister-Wilson, President



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**SECTION III
RESOURCES**

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**HOLSTON ANNUAL CONFERENCE
JUNE 5-8, 2022**

DEBRA WALLACE-PADGETT
Resident Bishop, Presiding

PRAY TOGETHER

SPECIAL EVENTS

SUNDAY, JUNE 5, 2022

1:30 pmRegistration opensBetha Welcome Center (Gaines Auditorium)

MONDAY, JUNE 6, 2022

7:00 amCabinet Breakfast Terrace (Room 316)

7:00 amDismantling Racism Prayer Memorial Chapel

8:00 amRegistration opens Harrell Center (Room 202)

12:00 pmHolston Order of Deacons Terrach (Room 316)

5:15 pmMission Dinner (*meet the Missionaries*) Terrace Auditorium

TUESDAY, JUNE 7, 2022

7:00 amHolston Reconciling Prayer Memorial Chapel

7:00 amExtension Ministries Breakfast Terrace (Room 316)

7:00 amTennessee Wesleyan Breakfast Terrace (Room 319)

7:00 amEmory and Henry Breakfast Harrell Center (Susan Todd Lounge)

7:15 am5K Run / 1-Mile Walk (*to benefit Conference Mission*) Stuart Auditorium (Outside)

8:00 amRegistration opens Harrell Center (Room 202)

8:15 amChange for Children Offering Stuart Auditorium (Outside)

11:00 amBoard of Higher Education Luncheon Harrell Center (Susan Todd Lounge)

12:00 pmAssociate Members & Local Pastors Luncheon Terrace (Room 316)

12:00 pmPeace with Justice Luncheon Terrace (Room 319)

1:00 pmHolston Retiree's Ice Cream Social Lawn (White Tent)

5:15 pmHispanic / Latino Dinner Terrace (Room 316)

Questions: CharlotteRiggins@holston.org



2022 Book of Reports

Holston Annual Conference