



Highlights from Holston Annual Conference 2018

Holston Annual Conference met on June 10th—13th at Lake Junaluska. Here are some highlights of the conference:

- ★ The annual conference mission offering for refugees in South Sudan totaled \$104,884. An offering of \$55,327 was received for Change for Children, a fund that is split and distributed annually to aid children's ministries in Africa and Holston communities.
- ★ The annual "Hands-on Mission Project" concluded as Bishop Taylor blessed the truckloads of supplies, valued at \$215,681. Food, health, home and school supplies were collected by local churches to support children and families in Zimbabwe and Liberia. Our Scenic South district collected a total of 1,130 home buckets.
- ★ The body approved a 2019 budget of \$9.25 million.
- ★ Due to a typographical error on one of last year's proposed constitutional amendments, a revote had to be taken this year. The amendment supports women's equality around the world. Conference Lay Leader Del Holley explained that the results will not be released until all annual conferences have voted and the denomination releases the final result.

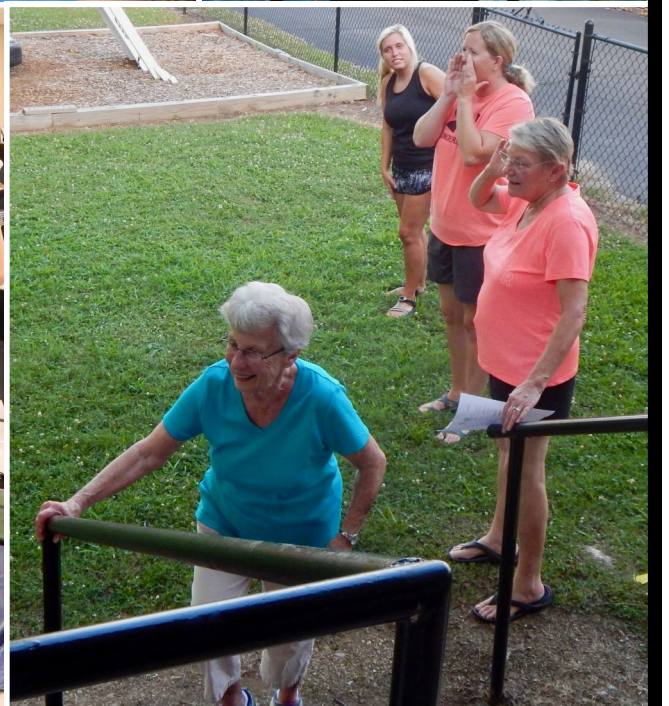
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From Pastor Todd, continued

- ★ There were three resolutions put forward this year:
 - The first – the “Resolution to Distribute Conference Managed Congregational Development Fund” was withdrawn by its author
 - A majority of the conference voted to table the resolution “Towards an Inclusive Reading of the Bible.”
 - The resolution “Equality Through Love” was substituted with a motion calling for the Holston delegation [to the called General Conference in 2019] to study the upcoming Commission on the Way Forward report and subsequently set up “listening posts” through the conference prior to the special General Conference next year.
- ★ The body approved the closing of two churches: St. Andrews UMC in Knoxville, Tennessee; and Bascom UMC in Lebanon, Virginia.
- ★ The conference ordained 12 elders and commissioned seven provisional elders and two provisional deacons. It also recognized two associate Members and licensed 15 local pastors. There were 24 clergy retirees this year and a total of 39 deceased clergy and clergy spouses were memorialized.
- ★ After a lengthy discussion on the floor, a paper ballot was taken on whether the conference should purchase the \$5.3 million facility known as “The Connexion” in Sevierville. The conference voted *not* to purchase. The number of ballots received was 771 against the purchase, 348 in favor, and two abstentions.
- ★ The Board of Pensions and Health Benefits report was approved, setting 2019 rates for the local church direct invoice for health insurance at \$844 per month.
- ★ In her “State of the Church” report, Bishop Mary Virginia Taylor praised Holston’s camp ministry (“one of the most dynamic camp ministries in the country”). She reported that 308 churches in Holston received new members on profession of faith in 2017, yet she was “deeply troubled” that 567 churches had received no professions of faith.
- ★ Alice Williams, a lay member of the Florida Annual Conference and a member of the Commission on the Way Forward, presented an update on the work and decisions of the Commission, and explained the three options going before the called General Conference in 2019. The options – and recommendation of the Council of Bishops – will be released in July (after it has been translated into other languages for non-English speaking global Methodists).



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL!





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July Birthdays

- 1 Hazel Grace Gardener
Rod Musgrave
- 7 Kyle Anderson
- 8 Vicki Hardesty
- 10 Patsy Irwin
- 11 Mike Anderson
Trudy Harper
- 15 Arnie Stulce
- 16 Carolyn Dobson
- 18 Andy Nelson
- 21 Tripp Mullins
- 24 Buck Johnson
Virginia Gill
Thomas Wood
Ron Jordan



July Anniversaries

- 1 Noel & Patsy Irwin
- 3 Chuck & Shelia Nelson
Jim & Daisy Mulkey
- 17 Joseph & Marti Hendrix
- 19 Jim & Virginia Gram
- 29 Sid & Vivian Parrott



August Birthdays

- 5 Nell Smith
- 6 Larry Garner
- 7 Noel Irwin
- 11 Gene Elliott
- 13 Paul Ed Parrott
Brynlie Dotson
- 16 Brody Dotson
Linda Reagan
- 17 Michelle Musgrave
- 18 Eleana Mullins
- 20 Kristen Woodall
- 21 JoAnne Posey
Caleb Nelson
- 26 Bob Wright
Allison Ellis

August Anniversaries

- 1 Carlos & Barbara Wilson
- 2 Paul Ed and Suzanne Parrott
- 14 Skip and Martha Sheeks
- 25 Kay & Vicki Hardesty



"We are not the same persons this year as last; nor are those we love. It is a happy chance if we, changing, continue to love a changed person."

~W. Somerset Maugham

LET'S PLAY

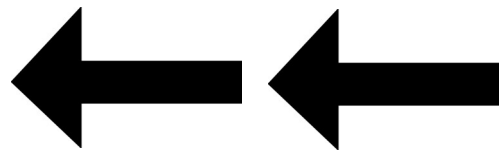
CAPTION THIS PICTURE!



What's going on between Sid and this furry fellow?

Think up a funny caption for this picture and email it to Pastor Todd at revjtodd@yahoo.com.

We'll run some of the best ones in the next edition of "The Vine."



Last issue's caption courtesy
of the Gram family:
"Now!
Let there be light!"



SODDY DAISY HISTORY MUSEUM

Did you know that Soddy Daisy has a History Museum? The Good Old Days Museum is located at 11298 Wall Street in the old Soddy Bank building on the corner of Depot and Wall Streets. It is open from 9:00 AM until 4:30 PM every Friday and Saturday. Admission to the museum is \$3.00 for adults and \$2.00 for children. Members of the Soddy Daisy Historical Association are always admitted free. Memberships to the museum are available for \$10.00 per year.

Upcoming events are:

June 30th: Ice cream social for the members of the Historical Association between 9:00 AM and 4:30 PM (you are welcome to become a member at that time).

July 4th: The museum will be open from 9:00 AM - 4:30 PM. They will also have a booth at the 4th of July Celebration at the ball fields by the lake. They will have a large wooden flag and will be taking pictures with this flag, as well as having information about Big Soddy Gulf, Poe's Tavern, and the museum. All four of the History of Soddy Daisy books (written by Steve Smith), as well as booklets on Big Soddy Gulf, will be available for purchase.

All proceeds will be used for the upkeep of the Museum. You're invited to come out and support these events.



COMING THIS FALL...

Pastor Todd's new Bible study includes power-hungry political leaders, child abuse, moral confusion, male politicians chasing women, senseless violence, social chaos, and uncertainty over the roles of men and women (to name just a few).

No, it's not about the headlines on the evening news!

It's the Old Testament book of

JUDGES

The study will begin on Tuesday, September 4 at 6:30 PM. We will cover the first half of the book this fall and the second half in the spring of 2019. ***Everyone is invited for a wild, weird, unpredictable ride with the ancient Judges of Israel!***



Sunday, July 1st

**NEW SERMON SERIES BEGINS!
IT'S HIP TO BE SQUARE**

"Scripture And The United Methodist Future"

Wednesday, July 4th

INDEPENDENCE DAY

Sunday, July 8th

**SERMON SERIES:
IT'S HIP TO BE SQUARE**

"Tradition And The United Methodist Future"

Sunday, July 15th

**SERMON SERIES:
IT'S HIP TO BE SQUARE**

"Reason And The United Methodist Future"

Tuesday, July 17th

AARP meeting

Thursday, July 19th

United Methodist Women

Sunday, July 22nd

**SERMON SERIES:
IT'S HIP TO BE SQUARE**

"Experience And The United Methodist Future"

JULY 23rd - 29th

**PASTOR TODD WILL BE VISITING FAMILY
IN VIRGINIA**

Sunday, July 30th

**Kathy Jones will be speaking and leading
worship**



"My early childhood memories center around this typical American country store and life in a small American town, including 4th of July celebrations marked by fireworks and patriotic music played from a pavilion bandstand."

~ Frederick Reines



Sunday, August 5th

**NEW SERMON SERIES BEGINS :
DOG DAYS**

"In The Doghouse"

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Sunday, August 12th

SERMON SERIES: DOG DAYS

"Sad As A Hound Dog's Eye"

ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD meeting

Thursday, August 16th

United Methodist Women

Sunday, August 19th

SERMON SERIES: DOG DAYS

"Every Dog Has Its Day"

CHURCH PICNIC

*This year's picnic will be held in the Friendship Hall.
Activities for children will be set up in the playground.*

Tuesday, August 21st

AARP meeting

Sunday, August 26th

SERMON SERIES: DOG DAYS

"I Double Dog Dare You!"

