

FOUNDATION

FORUM

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BUSH HOLLEY *A Man's Man*

Lawrence (Bush) Holley was a bit different. He wore a fu manchu and slept on a 30-year-old free couch in his living room with a gun under his pillow. In his prime, he was a motorcycle enthusiast, maybe even a motorcycle pioneer. He wore black leather and carried a hawk-bill knife in his boot and knew how to use it. I heard one gentleman who said as a youth growing up in Greeneville that he learned how to walk on the other side of the street if he saw Bush coming. Bush Holley may not have been a guy that you dreamed about sitting next to you at church, but his life can teach us all a lesson about the dangers of reading a book by it's cover.

Bush was no doubt a man's man. He had a bit of an outlaw image, but in fact he was an early motorcycle cop in Greene-



Bush Holley at Trinity UMC

ville and also served as chief of the local police auxiliary. He loved motorcycles, but he also loved the Lord. Bush was a very private man. He was an Indian motorcycle dealer from 1938-1941 and ran a Harley Davidson dealership from 1947-1958. While he stayed away from the church in his young adult and middle-age years, he found his way back after his wife, Lena's, death. Bush sat on the very back row. Bush also knew the value of a dollar and never saw much benefit in wasting time or money. He hated debt.

As Bush aged, he mellowed and so did his demeanor and image. He faced some health issues. He had to be hospitalized and the ladies in his Sunday school class went to visit him at home after his discharge. His house was not neat...they worried he had no food or means to care for himself so they rotated bringing food and just checking to make sure he was getting along. Bush said he did not need any help, but it meant the world to him. It meant that he mattered and that his church cared!

Bush Holley died in early 2008 at age 93. Jaws dropped when Bush Holley's will was read. He left \$10,000 to the church cemetery where his parents were buried and left over a half a million dollars to Trinity United Methodist Church with no restrictions in place. The church has improved facilities, eliminated a mortgage, and even set aside funds for the future with a fund in the Foundation. Bush Holley left a legacy and you can, too!

If you or your church are interested in learning more about legacy gifts and opportunities, please contact the Holston Conference Foundation.



Bush Holley back in the day

Cliffs Notes



CLIFF AMOS

Don't store treasures for yourselves here on earth where moths and rust will destroy them and thieves can break in and steal them. But store your treasures in heaven where they cannot be destroyed by moths or rust and where thieves cannot break in and steal them. YOUR HEART WILL BE WHERE YOUR TREASURE IS. MATTHEW 6: 19-21

BOBBY LEE COLLIER

Bobby Lee Collier was an art teacher whose creativity bloomed not only among the school-children, but in her flower gardens and home cooking. Neighbors and friends admired Bobby's roses, her banana pudding, and the many ways she shared her gifts through her church and community.

Bobby was a devoted wife, whose husband, Jim, was a builder. She helped build the business by decorating Jim's newly constructed homes until a tragic fall left him painfully disabled in the 1980s. Bobby lovingly cared for Jim for many years, selling their home and moving into a condo and planting flowers on their reduced lot.

Bobby was a frugal woman, who encouraged others to spend carefully and give generously. She once gave a neighbor's child a \$5 bill along with advice for safekeeping. "Put this in your shoe," she said. The child, now an adult, never forgot the gift or the moment.

On March 1, 2010, Bobby died. She was 94 years old. She had no children of her own, yet she left a six-figure gift through life insurance that will benefit many at St. Paul United Methodist Church for many years to come. The Holston Conference Foundation played an integral part in helping St. Paul maximize the value of the policy.



Bobby & Jim Collier

At Bobby's memorial service, Rev. Cliff Amos placed a booster seat on her casket. "Bobby didn't have any children in this life," Cliff said during his emotional eulogy, "but she's going to have a lot of spiritual children because of her gift."

A portion of Bobby's gift has been invested through Holston Conference Foundation and will support many ministries through her beloved Knoxville church, located in the Fountain City area. Before she passed away, Bobby was intentional in deciding how her careful savings could be used to provide programs and other extensions of Jesus' love for the

people who would come after. She also designated a part of this gift to place stained-glass windows in the sanctuary of the church in their memory.

She grew up at Andersonville United Methodist Church, but for 29 years she and Jim were members at St. Paul UMC. At Bobby's memorial service, Jane Allen remembered how her friend was "like a white tornado" in her service and commitment to the United Methodist Women.

"Not only was she so talented and capable, she was so willing," Jane said. "As an artist, she was gifted in decorating, but she could also outwork

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all of us when we had cleaning days. Can you imagine what a positive role model, mentor, and blessing she was to all the young people whose lives she touched teaching art at Gibbs High School”

Alice Greene lived across the street from Bobby and Jim and benefited from the couple’s kind acts. They watched over Alice’s children, landscaped her yard, and brought over home-cooked food. Just like good grandparents do! “Everything they did was from heart,” Alice says. “They pinched pennies and never bragged about anything they had. They treated me like a daughter and Jim even

packed my car for the hospital when I was pregnant with the second child.”

Before Bobby died, she included in her handwritten wishes that she wanted to have fellow church member, Cliff Amos, participate in her funeral along with St. Paul’s pastor, Rev. Don Ferguson.

“It was a great honor to me,” Cliff said. “Nobody would have thought that Bobby could have left that kind of money, but her heart was where her treasure was. It wasn’t about the money, it was about the ministry. We can all do our part, and Bobby has shown us the way.” The Collier’s had this gift planned for many years.



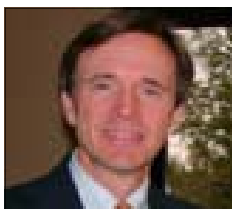
SEPTEMBER SIZZLES!

This year has been a bit volatile in the financial markets with a very positive first quarter followed by a steep decline in the second quarter and a third quarter, which ended with a sizzling September! The S&P 500 was up 8.67% during the month...the best September since 1939 and the third best month of any kind 10 years.

The Foundation’s BALANCED GROWTH FUND, by far the Foundation’s largest fund offering with over \$53 million invested is up 5.71% YTD at the end of September. The INTERMEDIATE INCOME FUND was up 7.67% YTD and the SHORT-TERM INCOME FUND was up 2.43% YTD with each fund outperforming its benchmark. The EQUITY GROWTH FUND, the Foundation’s smallest fund offering was up 10.75% in the third quarter, and is up 4.27% for the year.

With interest rates continuing to linger near all-time lows, we are particularly pleased that the SHORT-TERM INCOME FUND has excelled and provided an excellent yield for spending accounts associated with endowments and other accounts with a short-term focus.

We are indeed grateful for the great care, insight, and leadership of our staff and board. Our Investment Committee continues to monitor our results and continually seek ways to enhance our results while providing cost-effective and efficient options for our churches, institutions, and special-purpose funds. We are all at your service and hope you will call on our staff to assist your church or ministry in exploring investment options or to examine spending policies or any other way we might help you build a better future!



David Goodson
*Investment Committee
Chairperson*



Will Pugh
President

FOUNDATION FLASHES

- ... On June 1, Roger met with financial leaders at Auburn UMC in Riner, Virginia to explore endowment and estate planning issues and opportunities. Special thanks to **Rev. Kathy Hale**.
- ... On June 6, Cliff met visited Tyner UMC in Chattanooga. What an exhilarating time to speak on “*Seizing the Moment*” to plan your legacy of love to the church. The PERSONAL INFORMATION BOOKLETS went like hot cakes! Special thanks to **Dr. Robert Haskins**.
- ... On June 13, Cliff visited Bearden UMC in Knoxville. Special thanks to **Rev. Mike Sluder** for a memorable Sunday before Conference to speak on “*The Gift of Giving*”. Also a special thanks to **Wanda Moody** and **David Rodgers**.
- ... On June 20, Cliff visited Gate City UMC in Virginia. A special delight to be with the home folks and to appear on TV. Special thanks to **Rev. Emmit Wilson** and **Tom & Liz Bowen** for the offer to feed me.
- ... On June 27, Cliff visited Sycamore Tree UMC in Maryville. How excited to be in a fairly new church and see the outpouring of generosity. The PERSONAL INFORMATION BOOKLETS went over well. Special thanks to **Rev. Jeff Wadley**.
- ... On June 29, Roger met with a crowd at Dutch Valley UMC in the Oak Ridge District to talk about estate planning, generosity, and the role the Foundation can play in serving as a resource for the church. Special thanks to **Rev. Charles Dawn**.
- ... On July 4, Cliff visited Abingdon UMC. What a joyful time with a great Sunday school class and a warm welcome to preach about giving and estate planning. Special thanks to **Rev. Walter Weikel** and to **Madge Greer** (widow of Rev. John Greer).
- ... On July 11, Cliff visited Rising Fawn UMC. Thanks so much for gathering the Sunday school class and the warm reception. Special thanks to **Rev. Michael Watson**.
- ... On July 18, Cliff visited East Ridge UMC. The church did an outstanding job of getting ready for Vacation Bible School! The services tied in beautifully with leaving a legacy for your church and the children! Special thanks to **Rev. Ken Sauer**.
- ... On July 18, Roger led worship services at Central UMC in Bean Station and at Rutledge Pike UMC, focusing on generosity. It was a treat to see **Wayne Shirley** again in Rutledge.
- ... On July 20, Roger met with the newly formed Endowment Committee at First UMC in Jefferson City to explore ideas to enhance awareness and results. Thanks to **Jane Albright** for her leadership of this very impressive committee and to **Rev. Doug Wilder** for his support.
- ... On July 25, Cliff visited First UMC in LaFollette, Tennessee. Special thanks **Rev. Dr. Kenny Faught** for a great opportunity to share extravagant giving with such generous folks.
- ... On August 1, Cliff visited Welch’s Chapel UMC in Dunlap, Tennessee. Special thanks to **Rev. Doug Silvers** for such a great opportunity to preach stewardship. It was received with much enthusiasm!
- ... On August 3, Roger met with financial leaders at First UMC in Maryville to examine investment returns and options and to explore expanded opportunities to educate church members about estate and planned giving opportunities. Special thanks to **Reverends Brenda & Larry Carroll** for opening this door.
- ... On August 8, Cliff visited White Oak UMC in Chattanooga. Special thanks to **Rev. Amy Cook** for a delightful opportunity to worship and preach about the future. PERSONAL INFORMATION BOOKLETS were given out by the handfuls!

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- ... On August 17, Roger met with financial leaders at Brainerd UMC, Chattanooga, to review endowment histories, procedures, and policies to assist the church in meeting some current and pressing needs in the future. Thanks to **Rev. Dennis Flaugher** for pressing forward.
- ... On August 28, Cliff attended the Maryville District Clergy Meeting. Special thanks to District Superintendent, **Rev. Carol Wilson** for the invitation.
- ... On September 5, Cliff visited Grace UMC in Soddy Daisy, Tennessee. Special thanks to **Rev. Claire Travis Sauer** for letting me fellowship with a lot of children and young people about the future.
- ... On September 12, Cliff visited Auburn UMC, in Riner, Virginia. What an exuberant time with the Consecration Sunday and dinner. Special thanks to **Rev. Katy Fox**...the future looks bright.
- ... On September 19, Cliff visited with Middlesettlements UMC in the Maryville District. Special thanks to **Dr. Joe Black, Rev. Rex Rogers**, and Cliff's friend, **Dale**, (cliff's barber) for an opportunity to express my gratitude for an enthusiastic crowd and a good dinner. The legacy of giving is doing well.
- ... On September 19, Cliff visited Ooltewah UMC. Special thanks to **Rev. Ramon Torres, Eric Light, and Rev. Amy Nutt** and "the gang" for a super dinner around giving. The Praise Band was exhilarating and anytime you have that many preachers on the stage...one is going to talk about giving!
- ... On September 20, Roger visited with a brand new Endowment Committee being organized at First UMC in Dandridge. Thanks to **Rev. Jay Ferguson** for his knowledge and interest in the future ministry of the church.
- ... On September 26, Cliff visited Panther Springs UMC. The Praise Band was "oh so good!" It set the time for a wonderful worship time concentrating on giving to the Lord and making plans that count. Special thanks to **Rev. Danny Hensley**. A special "hello" to **Jimmy & Lou Peoples** and also retired pastor and his wife, **Rev. & Mrs. Bob Copeland**.
- ... On September 26, Roger led two worship services at First UMC in Gatlinburg. Special thanks to **Rev. Jane Taylor, B.Z. Lane, John Clayton**, and great friend and former board member, **Dot (& Ralph) Egli** for their leadership and support.
- ... On September 27, Roger met with the Endowment Committee at First UMC in Marion, Virginia to review tools to improve their spending policies. Special thanks to **Rev. Jonathan Jonas** for his encouragement.

RUTH CREASY FLESHMAN

Making a Lasting Difference

Ruth Creasy was born in Jenkinjones, West Virginia and moved to Bluefield in 1925 where her family became very active members of the Methodist church. Her parents gave the lot in 1946 for Virginia Avenue United Methodist Church. Ruth eventually married Elmo and they supported the church with their time and treasure. She sang in the choir, cleaned the kitchen and both of them served in many leadership capacities. They lived just half a block from the church and became life-long friends of many of the pastors. Ruth and Elmo were not into possessions, but were very interested in life and God's word. Elmo died in 1987 and Ruth lived another 20 years before passing away in 2007.



Ruth & Elmo Fleshman

Have you ever been mad at your church? Ruth for whatever reason got a little upset with her church or pastor or God so much so that in her will she asked that her funeral service not be held at the church. But here is the rest of the story...while she may have been upset...deep down inside she loved her church so much that she left a very significant trust fund to benefit maintenance of the church. Through her estate she also created

THE RUTH CREASY FLESHMAN & A. ELMO FLESHMAN ENDOWMENT that will make annual distributions to Holston Home, a scholarship to Hiwassee College for a student from Bluefield, and to Asbury for retired ministers and spouses. Special thanks to Rev. Ray Amos, Sr., Bluefield UMC, for connecting the Foundation with Ruth's niece, Sara Metcalfe, in order to finalize this lasting legacy.

LINDA BIRD WRIGHT

The Lord is in All of This

The Rev. Linda Bird Wright has been through so much in the last two years, one would expect her to be changed. But here she is, on a good day between chemotherapy treatments, serving chicken salad sandwiches on her deck and talking about Sudan. She is not defeated. In fact, she's ready to hurl her suitcase on a plane to cross the ocean. "I would move over there tomorrow if I could," says the pastor. "What I saw there was not a desperate situation. What I saw was a glorious opportunity, literally dropped into our laps by God. "We have the chance to have an effect on the lives of young people – to transform an entire nation with the love of Jesus."

Linda is still Linda, and she's got a lot on her plate, despite Stage 4 lung cancer and a recent full-time appointment as associate pastor at First-Centenary United Methodist Church in Chattanooga. Wright has given \$92,000 in her husband's memory to build a Holston Conference guest house in Yei, Sudan. She's also got her eye on other ways to share God's love in a place where she sees so much potential.

TRAGIC MONTHS

Eighteen months ago, Sudan was barely on Wright's radar screen. She was a Holston pastor who had served Soddy UMC and Unicoi UMC, among others. At Annual Conference in June 2009, Wright was on stage alongside Bishop James Swanson serving as a secretary, just as she has for many years past.

Many people were surprised to see her familiar face in Stuart Auditorium, because 2009 was a tragic year. After surviving a bout with Stage 3 lung cancer, Wright was on her way to Chicago for a denominational meeting when her husband was killed in a car accident. Walter Lee "Walt" Wright III, age 73, died in a single-car accident between Decatur and Dayton, Tenn., on March 18, 2009. He was driving from a doctor appointment in Chattanooga back to where his wife was appointed at Unicoi UMC. "I got the call on my cell phone, at the Knoxville airport," says Wright. She was married to the



Linda Bird Wright

retired pilot for 44 years. They met when she was a Delta Air Lines flight attendant in the 1960s.

Funeral arrangements were made for the beloved United Methodist at his home church, Central UMC in Knoxville. An old friend, the Rev. Ray Robinson, was chosen to officiate. Robinson and his wife, Jane, drove to Unicoi to visit with the widow. On their return trip home from Unicoi to Maryville, Ray Robinson was fatally injured in a car accident. Walt Wright's funeral was held March 22. Ray Robinson's funeral was March 24.

The hurt continued. When Linda Wright arrived at Annual Conference, her cancer had returned and was progressive. Yet she took her seat next to her bishop as he presided over the four-day meeting. As Wright worked, she listened to the reports of Holston's ongoing mission work in Yei, Sudan. Something happened. "I just felt the Lord saying, 'Linda, you can do something about this,'" says Wright,

who had traveled many countries with her husband.

Realizing that some mission needs are easier to fund because they tug at people's heartstrings -- while some needs have less emotional appeal -- Wright approached Swanson and asked, "What do you need help with?"

GOD'S CALLING

Bishop Swanson said he was "overwhelmed with joy" when Wright approached him -- "for Linda, as she sought to listen to God for a way to honor Walt, and for us, as we were challenged to answer the opportunity the Lord had given us."

At the time, Holston was preparing to send the Revs. Boo and Phyllis Hankins to Sudan for a two-year assignment. Although churches were generous in supporting Sudan since Holston formed a covenant relationship with the East Africa Conference, there wasn't enough money to build a house where the Hankins could live. Holston was forced to rent an UMCOR house for their extended stay.

Swanson says he told Wright about the need for a residence,

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and her answer was, “I believe God wants me to build the house in Sudan.” Holston leaders were euphoric. They immediately wanted to announce the gift at last year’s Annual Conference. Wright, still raw with grief, wouldn’t allow it. “I couldn’t handle people then,” she says (and even a year later, had to be coaxed to share the story). “The gift was done at God’s calling. It wasn’t for the public.” She wasted no time, however, in donating the money through the Holston Conference Foundation and joining in construction plans. She quickly named the dwelling-to-be, “The Captain’s House.”

Wright smiles when she explains why the “The Captain” is more than a career title, but the name that his five grandchildren knew him by (“Cap’n”). His wife and children also used it as an affectionate nickname. The four children, now ages 31 to 41, gave their blessing for a Sudan house to be built in their father’s memory. Wright’s 86-year-old father, Johnny Bird, is handcrafting a wooden plaque that will bear The Captain’s name on the front door.

WIDE-OPEN OPPORTUNITY

Despite her illness, the pastor made plans to travel to Sudan soon after Annual Conference. She was placed on a February mission team that was investigating the possibility of building an orphanage. Instead of being overwhelmed by the need in Sudan, Wright was buoyed. “Wow, it’s such a wide-open opportunity, like a clean slate,” she says. “Such a beautiful people, an open country. You can see God’s hand there. I would love to live there and work.” (Her doctor won’t permit it.)

During her visit, the guest house site was dedicated with the singing of a Sudanese children’s choir. The celebration included the burial of a time capsule containing a stone and a pair of wings. The stone pendant came from the Sea of Galilee; Walt Wright always wore it after a Society of Biblical Studies trip with his wife. The wings were part of his pilot’s uniform.

“If Walt had been at the dedication in Sudan, he would have been in the middle of the children’s choir, singing and clapping, because he was like that,” his wife explained. “So, the wings represent his travels around the world and his love for people. The stone represents his love for the Lord.”

Today, Wright lives alone in Hixson in a house on the Chickamauga Creek. She’s just returned from a trip to East

Africa with Delphine Swanson and Libby Dearing (the decorating divas) to pick out and deliver furnishings for the Captain’s House.

Last year, her prognosis was not good. Now, she says bluntly, “I’m living on borrowed time ... I was supposed to be dead six months ago.” She endures chemotherapy each month with little complaint. “I have two options,” she explains. “I can do the chemo, or I can die in six months. I love my grandchildren and children, and I enjoy being with my friends. I don’t see it as particularly heroic that I chose to live.”

Missing Walt, she admits, is sometimes harder. “He was the one who was there for me when I had cancer the first time,” she says. “Grieving is cyclical. It’s the little things that you miss most. Like Sunday after church, that was our life together. Now, coming back to an empty house ...”

Holston leaders say they are awed by Wright’s witness – and excited about the Captain’s House, as well as other Sudan projects Wright wants to jump-start.

“It is my hope that future teams will be able to stay at the Captain’s House and save us money on lodging for those teams,” Swanson said. “It will provide a central meeting place for the pastors of Sudan and a place where learning can take place. The house will also be a significant signal to the people of southern Sudan that we are in this for the long haul.”

“I am so touched by her generosity and all the hurt and loss,” says Roger Redding, executive director of the Holston Conference Foundation. “Most of us just take for granted so much about life. She has inspired so many, and I hope her journey and example will encourage others.” That would be alright with her, says Wright, as long as people remember, “This is not about Linda. I want to emphasize the Lord in all of this.”

In addition to the plaque created by her father, Wright’s sister is creating a needlepoint wall-hanging for the Captain’s House. Linda Wright says the message will include ISAIAH 40:26: “*Lift your eyes and look to the heavens: Who created all of these?*” Further down in ISAIAH 40, verse 31 seems to reflect the strong-willed pastor who in turn reflects her Lord:

“But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.”

This story originally appeared in *THE CALL* and is reprinted and updated by permission. Special Thanks to Annette Spence and to Linda Bird Wright for allowing us to share this story.

\$TEWARDSHIP MATTERS



BILL KILDAY
Director of Stewardship

STEWARDSHIP TRAINING IN SAN ANTONIO



**Class of 2010 - Stewardship Training
San Antonio, Texas**

The Foundation is pleased to have been responsible for two recent successful Stewardship-related initiatives benefiting the Holston Conference. On September 15-17, 2010, 18 hand-selected pastors received stewardship training at the feet of Dr. Michael Reeves in San Antonio, Texas. This is the third group of pastors we have sent for training with Michael and I think this may have been our best event to date. Several participants shared their experience...

"This workshop was detailed, theologically grounded, and relevant to today's issues...one of the most helpful things I have been to."

"What a tremendous help to focus my thinking around my role as a leader in stewardship. To whoever funded, this....thank you!"

"This session helped me to solidify a large base of scripture around which we can track tithing."

2010 STEWARDSHIP TRAINING ATTENDEES

Todd Randall Adams
John Scott Brady
James Robert Countiss
Lauri Jo Cranford
Eric Lawrence Doolittle

David William Graves
Laurence V. Hesser
Alice Virginia Isom
Sandra J. Johnson
Jonathan Baine Jonas

Gerald Lynn Jones
Micah Joel Nicolaus
Richard Lee Richter
Bradley Howard Scott
Gregory Stewart Smart

Melissa Rose Smith
Jonathan David Tabor
Jeffery Lynn Wadley

LOVETT WEEMS STEWARDSHIP WORKSHOP



Rev. Lovett Weems

The Foundation, in conjunction with the Conference Stewardship Team, also sponsored Stewardship training in the Conference for pastors and lay leaders at two workshop sites. On October 2, 2010, First Farragut United Methodist Church hosted about 130 attendees and another 135 attended an identical 4½-hour workshop on October 3, 2010 at Pleasant View United Methodist Church in Abingdon, Virginia. We are thrilled with the attendance and all the comments that continue to reverberate across the Conference.

Visit the Stewardship website (www.stewardship.holston.org) for the following handouts courtesy of THE LEWIS CENTER FOR CHURCH LEADERSHIP:

... *50 Ways to Encourage Faithful Giving*

... *50 Ways to Improve Your Annual Stewardship Campaign*

You can also sign up for a free e-mail newsletter from THE LEWIS CENTER at www.churchleadership.com

GOT GENEROSITY?

Generosity is one of the nine fruits of the spirit. It is a spiritual virtue gained from joyful gratitude for what God has done for us. True generosity comes from the understanding that God owns everything and the desire to use the resources God has entrusted to us in a manner that would please God. To learn more about how to become a more generous person or how to inspire generosity in your church, we invite you to visit www.generosity.holston.org for the Holston Conference Foundation and the Holston Conference Stewardship Team. You will find many resources, ideas, tools, and links to inspire and equip you and your church.



From the Director's Chair

Over the past year we have witnessed turmoil in the world and a great deal of fear about the economy, oil spills, and experienced all kinds of worry. That said despite the negative headlines and nightly news, there is still Good News to share and much to be grateful for.

Despite all the upheaval, dozens of churches and very generous people have stepped forward to give life and hope to the children and villages through the new United Methodist Churches being formed in Southern Sudan. While lack of roads and bridges (and the rainy season) have slowed progress...the work continues! The Captain's House has been completed and new mission teams and ministries are scheduled. God is not finished with us yet.



The "new" bore hole 500 yards from Pukuka UMC

Assisting with the wells and sanitation-related projects in Sudan is just a small part of what the Holston Conference Foundation is about. Our main mission is to invest, manage, promote, and educate people and churches in our Conference about special-purpose funds, endowments and bequests. As you can gather from scanning the other articles in this newsletter, we are constantly on the road visiting churches, committee meetings, or in living rooms listening and sharing ideas and tools to help encourage generosity and the stewardship of special-purpose funds. We are assisted by a wonderful board of dedicated volunteer board members who give generously of their time, talent, and resources to help strengthen the church and its ministries.

If we might be of service to you, please contact us and let us help you explore the opportunities. If we can assist you in your plans for your church or favorite ministry, please let us know. We are at your service!

- Roger Redding
Executive Director



JUST A NOTE . . .

To our Sudan Donors, Churches and Friends

"Everytime (we) think of you (we) give thanks to (our) God. Whenever (we) pray (we) make (our) requests for all of you with joy, for you have been (our) partners in spreading the Good News about Christ...certain that our God, who began the good work within you, will continue His work until it is finally finished...when Jesus Christ returns.

(PHILIPPIANS 1:3-6)

Boo & Phyllis Hankins

MARGARET LOVING SENIOR GRANTS AWARDED IN 2010

Broad Street UMC	1,000	“Taste of Jubilation”
Church Street UMC	1,500	“Kay Center” Program
Community UMC	1,500	Community Food Pantry
Concord UMC	4,000	“CADES” Adult Day Services
First Oak Ridge UMC	3,000	“Keystone” Adult Day Program
First UMC - Bristol	2,500	Parish Nurse Program
First UMC - Narrows	2,500	“Sunshine Senior Outreach” Program
First UMC - Rogersville	1,000	Manna Kitchen
Heiskell UMC	1,500	“JOY” Program with Exercise Classes and Bible Study
HC - Camp & Retreat Ministries	3,500	Adult Celebration Camp at Buffalo Mountain for adults with special abilities
HC - Camp & Retreat Ministries	2,500	Senior Adult Days at Camp Lookout
Holston Conference Senior Ministries	2,500	Older Adult Ministry Initiatives in the Districts
Luminary UMC	1,000	Health Fair for Senior Adults
Mt. Carmel UMC	1,200	Nursing Home Project
Pleasant View UMC	1,500	“Wesley Medical Clinic” provides free medical for elderly
Rural Retreat UMC	2,851	Parish Nurse Program
Spring City UMC	1,200	“Let’s Do Lunch” Senior Ladies Outreach Program
Stanley UMC	2,500	“ERS Connection” (Educational, Recreational, Spiritual)
Strawberry Plains UMC	795	“Conference on Aging: Growing Older and Living Stronger”
Telford UMC	3,000	“Handymen for Christ” - workday for elderly
Valley View UMC	2,000	“HOPE” Program
	\$ 43,046	

Congratulations to these grant recipients. The Foundation’s Grant Committee reviewed applications totaling over \$100,000 in making these selections. Another \$45,000 was awarded to Hiwassee, Tennessee Wesleyan and Emory & Henry colleges toward Loving Scholarships for the 2010-2011 Academic year.

Spring applications for Loving and Redwine funds are available online under “Grants” at www.holston.org/foundation by **April 15, 2011**. Any applications received late will be held for our second round deadline in September.
- *Sandra Smith, Grant Committee Chairperson*



HARRY & MARGARET
GRIZZELL LOVING

MARGARET GRIZZELL LOVING of Bristol, Tennessee, died in 1995, but her legacy will positively impact youth and senior adults across the Holston Conference forever. We are honored to steward her Fund and implement her vision to assist young people and seniors.

Our Foundation is ready and eager to help you explore and steward your vision for a better world and a stronger church as well. If you would like to explore the creation of an endowment to benefit your church or a special ministry need or needs, call on us for a free confidential discussion of the options and opportunities.

THE CIRCUIT RIDERS SOCIETY



The Holston Conference Foundation has announced the creation of *The Circuit Riders Society* as a means of encouraging and recognizing individuals whose philanthropic plans and eternal generosity will support and enhance ongoing ministries of the church. Over the rest of 2010 and into 2011, we will make a concerted effort to educate donors and friends about the opportunity and will enroll those interested in following through as founding members.

Circuit Riders Society members are people who have felt God tugging at their heartstrings to make a lasting difference and have acted to leave a legacy through their estate plan, created an endowment, or made a significant current gift to support the ongoing ministry of their church, institution, agency or other missional need in the Holston area that is held or managed through the Foundation. All that will be required to join is a signed statement describing the gift and its purpose and/or a copy of appropriate documentation.

The circuit riders of old were Christ-centered, enthusiastic, hard-working individuals who gave their all to spread the gospel and spread Methodism across the American wilderness. Many would travel large circuits, most frequently by horseback with few of even the necessities of life, let alone any of the luxuries. Their mission was to move the church out to where the people were, no matter the physical demands or hardships thus the circuit rider became the key person in the growth of the church. The future was in their hands... now it is in yours!

WHY BECOME A CIRCUIT RIDER?

Circuit Riders will receive recognition by being included in special mailings and gatherings and will be listed on a plaque to be hung in the Holston Conference Center. A special member's certificate, pin, or other items might also be developed to help promote membership. More important than any reward is the example Circuit Riders set for others and the contentment and joy they experience from knowing that they have made a lasting difference.

The Apostle Paul in his letter to Timothy said it this way...

“Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds and to be generous and willing to share. In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life.” 1 TIMOTHY 6:18-19

We invite you to contact the Foundation to confidentially discuss your plans and the many ways and options to leave a lasting legacy and to become a founding member of the *Circuit Riders Society*.

HOW CAN I JOIN?

Simply fill out this form and return it or write or e-mail us with the same information. We also would be glad to listen to your plans or questions over the phone or make a personal visit to help you explore the many planning options.

Name(s): _____
 Address: _____
 City, State, Zip: _____
 Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____

I/We want to be a founding member of *The Circuit Riders Society*.

I/We have included OR I/We intend to include the Foundation in my/our plans through a:

- Will Trust IRA/Retirement Plan
 Life Insurance Current Gift Creation of an Endowment
 Other : _____

to benefit the following church, ministry, program, purposes etc.: _____

Please contact me about creating a named endowment or special purpose fund.

Please contact me about planning options or how my gift(s) might make a lasting difference.

Please contact me about: _____

Please list my (our) names on the plaque as: _____

Signature

Date

Signature

Date



Holston Conference of The United
Methodist Church Foundation, Inc.
P.O. Box 900
Alcoa, TN 37701-0900

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT

When asked why he wanted to pay half of his pastor's salary after he was baptized in Rocky Creek on November 19, 1854, Sam Houston replied, "My wallet got baptized too!"

Please contact us by mail or e-mail if we have your name or address wrong on the mailing label, or if you would like to be removed from our mailing list. If you would prefer to receive the *Foundation Forum* by e-mail, please let us know...we would be pleased to save the mailing costs.

THE HOLSTON CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH FOUNDATION, INC.

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