

FOUNDATION

FORUM

Volume 10, Issue 1

SPRING / SUMMER 2010

A FAMILY TRADITION

Love and Generosity

Lucille Winkler's love of Sneedville United Methodist Church was a family tradition. Her great grandfather, T.J. Harrison, Sr. dreamed of seeing a "new" Methodist Church in Sneedville during his lifetime and ultimately gave the land for the church. Lucille's aunt, Sallie B. Harrison Hatfield and her husband, George Hatfield, gave the first \$500 donation to build the new church, which was matched by her grandfather, T.J. Harrison, Jr. Lucille's mother died of scarlet fever when she was only one month old. She was raised by her grandparents and tenderly cared for by Sallie and George Hatfield. She was ultimately adopted late in life by Sallie Hatfield,

who had no other children. Lucille was brought up to love Sneedville United Methodist Church and its people. She was a self-taught musician and had a beautiful singing voice, which she shared with the church.

She married Earl Winkler, who was a teacher and ran the post office in Sneedville. Lucille was doted on and certainly loved by Sallie Hatfield, who adopted her as her own daughter. Sallie created three charitable remainder trusts in the Foundation that after her death and Lucille's will now fund a seminary scholarship, capital improvements at Panther Springs UMC and ministries of the Foundation. These philanthropic life lessons and the Harrison family's traditional love and



Earl & Lucille Winkler

devotion to Sneedville United Methodist Church certainly helped to shape Lucille's own estate plan.

Lucille loved Sneedville United Methodist Church and its people. Through the years she quietly gave special gifts to the church to add a handicap-access ramp and many other special capital needs. Due to her declining health, the ability to visit from her home in Morristown decreased, but she made one last visit "home" in early July 2009. During this visit, she declared her intent to provide a significant gift to the church through her will. She stated to her pastor, Scott Ketron, and to long-time friend, Claude Collins, that she wanted

to make sure that this legacy was always there to continue making a difference for the church and its facilities. Lucille provided an outright gift of \$25,000 for special projects and two additional gifts in the following days to add chimes to the church before she passed away on July 26.

Since the Foundation cared for Sallie Hatfield's trusts, Lucille's daughter, Gail Daniel, (co-executor of the estate) and the estate's attorney approved that the Foundation receive the \$300,000 bequest and steward those funds to permanently benefit Sneedville United Methodist Church. The tradition of generosity continues. Contact us if we can assist with your legacy.

SUDAN . . . JUST ADD WATER

Thank you for your faithfulness, generosity, and partnership with us in this placed called “Elephant Land”. While four wells (bore holes) have already been dug through Holston Conference efforts in Southern Sudan, arrangements are being made to drill the next five. It has taken us nine months to get to this point, but all your efforts are going to start paying off real soon. Our goal is to provide clean water at each of the 17 church sites plus the parsonage in Yei.

The number one need here is water...clean water. Most of the people have to walk miles for water and then it is often found in muddy swamps or ponds, which they share with animals. Several mentioned how their people were made sick drinking dirty water, especially the children. As you may know, our step-gap measure was the mission team that recently brought 34 water filters (two for each church).

The well by our house site will be drilled next followed by Kupera, where many, many children currently have to walk four miles for water. After that is Yondoro, Gwiria, and Libogo. Pray with us about the rest...every church has requested help as clean water literally means life. We have told our pastors and leaders that good news is coming soon. Jesus is the Water of Life.

Grace and Peace,

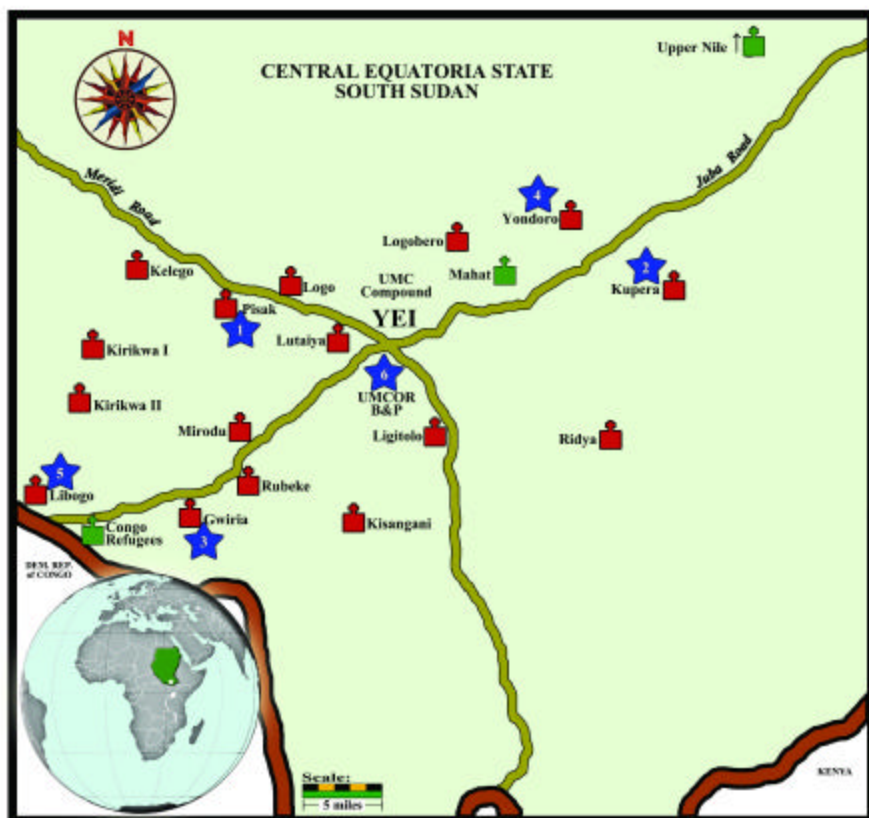
Boo & Phyllis Hankins



Phyllis & Boo Hankins



To view the Hankins' "Elephant Land" blog visit:
www.holston.org/ministries/missions/hope-sudan/



WELLS AND CHURCHES YEI, SOUTH SUDAN

Holston Conference Foundation Well Projects

1. Pisak - completed
2. Kupera
3. Gwiria
4. Yondoro
5. Libogo
6. Boo & Phyllis Hankins' Parsonage

Churches

Yei
Logo
Lutalya
Pisak
Ligitelo
Kelego (Kirikwa II)
Logobero
Mirodu
Kirikwa I
Ridya
Kupera
Yondoro
Rubeke
Gwiria
Libogo
Kisangani

Churches Forming

Mahat
Congo Refugees
Upper Nile



YOU CAN HELP! The Holston Conference Foundation as well as many individuals and churches have stepped up to raise and give funds toward the well project in Sudan. The First Marion UMW raised \$6,000 through a garage sale and the church added \$4,000 to totally fund a well for Kupera. A fund has been established in the Foundation to accept gifts of all sizes. We have another 10 wells to drill with an average cost of \$10,000 each. Our desire is that each cup of water that is provided will be offered in Jesus' name in gratitude for what God has so richly blessed us with here in Holston Conference. The funds will come because people understand that you cannot offer health or hope, or even have a home, without clean water. Checks may be made out to: **The Holston Conference Foundation, P.O. Box 900, Alcoa, TN 37701-0900.** Attach a note or indicate in the memo section: SUDAN WELLS. Each gift will be acknowledged.



2009 REPORT TO THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE



Will Pugh, Board President

Roger Redding, Executive Director

Looking back at 2009 we could certainly twist Charles Dickens' words to say, "*It was the worst of times and it was best of times.*" In early 2009 the stock market fell another 25% on top of the gut-wrenching drop of 2008. Then suddenly in March the S&P 500 began a 67% rally from its low point to finish the year with a 26.5% gain, the 11th best result in the past 50 years! Besides the rise in the markets, over \$4.9 million was added in new funds, gifts, and endowments invested through the Foundation to make this one of the best years in our history. At year end we reached a new record high of \$68 million in assets under management!

We are indeed grateful for the great care, insight, and leadership of our staff and board and especially our board's Investment Committee for helping us to not only weather the storm, but to prosper and grow. The BALANCED GROWTH FUND was up **19.77%**, the INTERMEDIATE INCOME FUND was up **1.86%**, the SHORT-TERM INCOME FUND was up **.74%**, and the EQUITY GROWTH FUND was up **29.47%**. Every fund option we offer beat its benchmark for the year!

While many make predictions about swings in the financial market, no one really knows what will happen over the short term! We continue to stress that each individual account should be invested according to its purpose...not based on market timing. Short-term purpose accounts should be invested in one of our short-term options, but special purpose funds and endowments intended to continue making a difference into the future (and at least the next 5-7 years to perpetuity) should be invested in a diversified mix of easy to understand assets. In addition, it is the policy of the United Methodist Church that investments should be made in a socially-conscious manner. This is why the Foundation's BALANCED GROWTH FUND is our single largest fund and the investment of choice for churches and institutions across the Conference. From 1960 through 2009 the S&P 500 returned an average annual return of 9.4%. The number of up days during this timeframe was 53%, while the number of down days was 47%. Even with the 26.5% return of 2009, the S&P 500 had 56% up days, while 44% were down. This means that markets do not rise in a straight line and that you have to be prepared to stay the course. Thankfully, most of our churches stayed the course with us and prospered along with their ministries! Already 2010 is off to a strong start.

Besides investing endowments in an appropriate fashion, careful attention must be given to the use of appropriate spending policies. We continue to be very busy educating committees about the wisdom of adopting a "0%-5% three-year rolling market value average" spending policy along with a short-term spending account for endowment funds. This process helps to protect the spending power of an endowment account from inflation and will keep you from a "feast or famine" mentality due to each individual year's market performance. This process is far superior to spending only interest and dividends and provides flexibility to continue spending from a fund even in uncertain times.

During 2009, our Foundation staff made nearly 200 presentations to church, district, and Conference functions on giving, getting, managing, investing, and spending funds for ministry. The Foundation also distributed \$2,991,383 in grants, earnings, and other funds back for mission and ministry through the churches and institutions we serve. We also met and talked with dozens of individuals about their own estate plans and the legacies that they are planning to leave behind. We also actively raised funds to dig wells in Southern Sudan. Many seeds were sown during the year that we hope will bear fruit in the days and years ahead.

Please know that we are your Foundation and we are pleased to be at your service. We invite you to visit our websites: www.holston.org/foundation and www.stewardship.holston.org or contact us at the Conference office in Alcoa. Generosity is contagious in the Holston Conference.

– Roger Redding
Executive Director

– Will Pugh
President

EDITH LEMING SKINROOD

A Legacy of Meeting "Some Needs"

EDITH LEMING SKINROOD had the looks of a movie star and the disposition of an angel. When she died on January 27, 2007 at the age of 93, she also left behind a legacy that will make a lasting difference for United Methodist students in the Holston Conference through a scholarship endowment created in the Foundation through her will.

Edith was the daughter born to Reverend William Henry Leming and Zelma Paralee Ogle Leming. According to cousin, Bobby Mize (Broadway UMC, Maryville) they spent many happy Ogle family reunions gathered at the Leming home at various locations of the Methodist parsonages. According to Bob, "Edith was one of the prettiest, sweetest, kindest, and loving ladies I have ever known.

Edith was always a studious person with a flair for art and poetry. She graduated from Hiwassee College in 1933. She taught school for a few years before taking a position as the assistant to Program Director at the Knoxville YMCA. As World War II began, she worked with the YMCA's USO and Red Cross program providing social programs and activities for service men and women on leave near their bases.

After the war, Edith worked at Oak Ridge where she met her first husband, Milton Kleintop. They married in 1954 and moved to Ohio where he became a professor at Whittenburg University. It was at Whittenburg where Edith continued her education and received her bachelor's degree.

Following Milton's death in 1972, she met Col. Floyd Pratt and they married in 1977. It was a short marriage as he died in 1979. Even though she mourned the deaths of



Edith Marian Leming Kleintop Pratt Skinrood

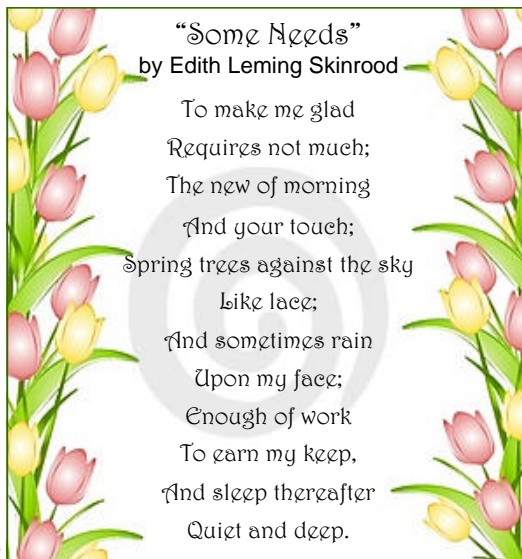
her husbands, she continued on with her life and interests. In 1983, she met Col. Norman Skinrood and they dated long distance before marrying. According to granddaughter, Taylor Skinrood, they were soulmates. Norman and Edith moved to Azalea Trace in Florida and spent many happy years together traveling, sightseeing, and visiting with family and friends before he passed away in 1993. Despite her own aches and pains,

Edith continued like the Energizer bunny through an active lifestyle with family and friends before her own passing in 2007. She was 'til the end a lady! Bob Mize officiated at a celebration of life service held at Macedonia UMC in Knoxville.

During her lifetime, Edith loved culture, art, poetry, and many of the finer things in life, but she never forgot her roots and upbringing in Tennessee. In her will she created scholarships at Whittenburg College, West Point, and one in the Holston Conference Foundation that will benefit United Methodists students at Hiwassee College, as long as it remains in operation and is affiliated with the



Edith's parents, William & Zelma Leming. William served as a pastor in the Holston Conference.



church. Should Hiwassee close, the scholarship would benefit other United Methodist students who reside in East Tennessee.

Although Edith never had children of her own, she is survived by numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, stepchildren, and step grandchildren who she loved and who loved her. Nieces, Carolyn Chrisman and Karen Graves, served as co-executors of her estate and helped to follow through on her final wishes to help young people receive an education as part of her lasting legacy.

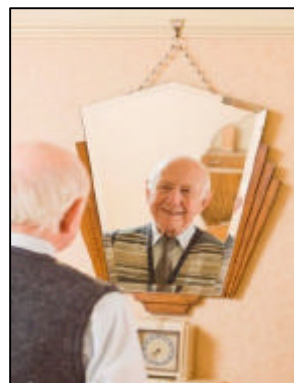
WHAT DOES YOUR PLAN REFLECT?

A good estate plan is like a mirror...it should reflect your core values as it will impact the people and causes you hold most dear.

Many church members experience dramatic changes in their lives, health, and financial assets and families, yet their plans (if they even have a plan) have not been reviewed or changed. Have you moved? Bought or sold property? Has a spouse or loved one passed away? Has your health changed? Have your properties or other assets been impacted by the economy?

If so, how have those changes impacted your plan and the legacy you want to leave behind? Can you recognize yourself and your values in the legacy you will leave?

The Holston Conference Foundation can assist you in answering these questions. We can provide you with free materials and/or even a complimentary discussion or visit to confidentially review your plans and ideas for a lasting legacy. The Foundation has also established the **Circuit Riders Society** to recognize those who have included a bequest or other planned gift or endowment to benefit their church or other area of ministry through the Foundation.



Contact us today or send your request for materials.

- ☐ Please contact me to discuss my legacy plans and options.
- ☐ Please send will/estate planning information to assist me in developing my legacy plan.
- ☐ I (We) have already included the church in my (our) plans.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____



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MARGARET LOVING SENIOR GRANTS

AWARDED IN 2009

Beaver Ridge UMC	\$ 1,000	Fellowship Garden
Broad Street UMC	1,500	Mini Jubilation
Concord UMC	4,000	“CADES” Adult Day Services
Community UMC	2,000	Community Food Pantry
First UMC - Bristol	2,864	Parish Nurse Program
First UMC - Rogersville	1,000	Manna Kitchen
First Oak Ridge UMC	1,200	Keystone Adult Day Program
Heiskell UMC	2,000	“JOY” Program with Exercise Classes and Bible Study
HC - Camp & Retreat Ministries	1,800	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 Foundation	2,500	Personal Information Record Booklets
Holston Conference Senior Ministries	2,500	Older Adult Ministry Initiatives in the Districts
Luminary UMC	1,000	Health Fair for Senior Adults
Mt. Olivet UMC	1,500	Shut-In Ministry providing video recorded church services
Parrottsville UMC	2,413	Help with cost of installation of elevator for disabled access to sanctuary
New Salem UMC	2,000	“Offering Them Christ” Outreach for senior adults
Rural Retreat UMC	2,020	Parish Nurse Program
Seymour UMC	1,000	“Older Adult Council” providing activities for senior adults
Spring City UMC	3,000	“Let’s Do Lunch” Senior Ladies Outreach Program
Trinity UMC	1,500	“Seniors On-Line” teaching senior adult computer skills
Valley View UMC	2,200	“HOPE” Program
Wesley House	3,000	“WISE” Program providing Bible study and senior activities
	\$ 44,497	

Congratulations to these grant recipients. The Foundation’s Grant Committee reviewed applications totaling over \$94,000 in making these selections. Another \$40,000 was awarded to Hiwassee, Tennessee Wesleyan and Emory & Henry colleges toward Loving Scholarships for the 2009-2010 Academic year.

Spring applications for Loving, Redwine, Henson, and other grant funds are available online under “Grants” at www.holston.org/foundation by **April 15**. Any applications received late will be held for our second round deadline of September 30.

- 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.



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FOOD FOR THOUGHT

"And if anyone gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones because he is my disciple, I tell you the truth, he will certainly not lose his reward.."

– MATTHEW 10:42

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.

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