



Circuit Rider Dispatch



Holston Conference of the United Methodist Church Foundation, Inc.

Reflections on 2013

By any measure 2013 was a year of great success in the Holston Conference Foundation. Our **Equity Growth Fund** was up **29.22%**, while our most popular option, the **Balanced Growth Fund** was up **18.18%**. The **Intermediate Income Fund** finished the year down **-.75%** (when interest rates rise, bond values usually fall) and the **Short-Term Income Fund** was up **.62%**. Total assets under management increased 16.8% in 2013 as many churches and donors established new investments, endowments, and planned gifts through the Foundation. At year-end we are at a new **all-time high** of **\$92,256,809**. We thank each of you and the support of the very talented and engaged [board of directors](#) for the chance to serve and excel.



PERSONAL PLANNER

Trusts to Protect Children

Trusts are an excellent way to provide for the support and care of children while protecting them. Two important reasons to create a trust are to care for minor children or [Read More](#)

SAVVY LIVING

What You Should Know About Your Parents' Finances

An advisor recently suggested that I speak with my parents about their financial situation and end-of-life plans so I can be better prepared when something happens to them. What is the best way to handle this and what do I need to find out? [Read More](#)

YOUR PLAN

Emma Fox

I was trying to think of a word that would express my first... [Read More](#)

WASHINGTON NEWS

Obama and Paul Support Economic Zones

At a January 9 White House meeting attended by Sen. Rand Paul (R-KY), President Obama announced five "Promise Zones." In the 2013 State of the Union Address, the President promoted the concept of economic empowerment zones. [Read More](#)

FINANCES

Stocks - Family Dollar Reports Quarterly Earnings [Read More](#)

Bonds - Treasuries Rise on Slow Jobs Growth [Read More](#)

CDs and Mortgages - Interest Rates Remain Largely Unchanged [Read More](#)

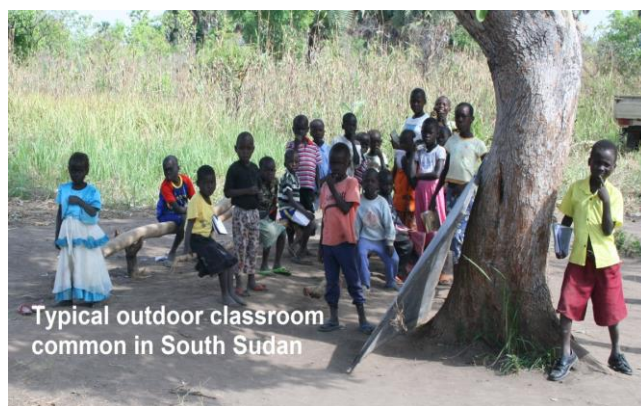
G.R.A.C.E. Home Matching Challenge Grant and South Sudan Update

In October of last year the Holston Conference Foundation announced a matching challenge grant of \$50,000 to fund the recently opened G.R.A.C.E. Home for Children. With the current conflict in South Sudan, uncertainty surrounds the local pastors trained by the Conference's missionaries and the orphans of G.R.A.C.E. Home and those who are watching over them. Fred and Libby Dearing's return trip to Yei has been postponed and they will work from the states as best as they can in such a troubling time.

Friends, now more than ever we ask that you continue to pray for South Sudan and continue to give to as the Lord leads you. Please pray for peace, the safety of the orphans, the employees and pastors and all of their families. Pray for Fred and Libby who are following the guidance of the General Board of Global Missions and the Holston Conference's direction to return only when it is safe to be back in South Sudan. Pray for wisdom as scheduled mission trips are also being postponed (including Paul Bowman's late January trip) until there is stability in the region.

To give online to the South Sudan Endowment, please click [here](#). If you wish to mail a check you may send it to: The Holston Conference Foundation, ATTN: South Sudan Endowment, PO Box 900, Alcoa TN, 37701.

For more information on adding to or creating endowments contact Roger Redding at rogerredding@holston.org or Paul Bowman at paulbowman@holston.org or call 865-690-8124. We stand with our donors, the administrative bodies of the United Methodist Church and the Dearings in earnestly seeking peace in South Sudan.



Holston Conference of the United Methodist Church Foundation, P.O. Box 900, Alcoa, TN 37701

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