

in memoriam:**Toy W. Singleton**

MORRISTOWN, Tenn.

Toy W. Singleton, 82, died Dec. 13, 2001, at Morristown Hamblen Healthcare System. He was a retired minister who served several churches throughout the Holston Conference for 45 years.

The Rev. Singleton is survived by wife, Clarise; brother, Millard of Morristown; sons David Singleton of Ooltewah, Tenn., and Ron Singleton of Ducktown, Tenn.; a granddaughter; great-granddaughter; and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held Dec. 15 at First Morristown UMC with the Rev. Doug Smith and the Rev. Richard Patterson officiating. A graveside service for family and friends was held Dec. 16 at Hamblen Memory Gardens. Memorials may be made to First UMC, 101 E. First North St., Morristown, TN 37814. ■

exchange:**HAYESVILLE, N.C. –**

Position available:

Coordinator of Spiritual Formation Ministries, Hinton Rural Life Center.Contact hinton@dnet.net or (828) 389-8336.**What's Your Size?**

The Call uses the following symbols to identify articles about small, medium or large churches:

- ☉ Churches with average 85 or fewer in principle weekly worship service(s)
- ☪ Average 86 to 225 in worship service(s)
- ☉ Average 226 or more in worship service(s)



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snapshot:© 2001 Photo by Charles Wigley, *The Call***Lighting the Advent candles:**

CHATTANOOGA, Tennessee:

Staci Thompson lights Advent candles at Brooks Memorial UMC in the Chattanooga District. ☉

calendar:
Church development conference
January 24 - 25

The Bishop's Conference on Starting New Congregations will take place Jan. 24-25 at the Clarion Inn, Gatlinburg, Tenn. Speakers include Steve Compton (New Church Director, North Carolina Conference), Dick Freeman (New Church Director, North Alabama Conference), and Denny Buwalda (New Church Development Director, West Michigan Conference). Leadership also includes Holston Bishop Ray Chamberlain and Holston Director of New Church Development John Ripley. For more information, contact Ripley at (865) 690-4080 or johnripley@holston.org. Or visit www.holston.org, click on drop menu, then "Builders Club."

Ministers' Convocation
February 18-21

The 2002 Holston Ministers' Convocation will be held Feb. 18-21 at Lake Junaluska Assembly in North Carolina. The theme is "Proclaiming the Present God: in Crisis, in Culture, in Community." Appearing will be the Rev. William McClain, Wesley Seminary, and the Rev. Roger Swanson, Florida Conference director of operation evangelization. Brochures with complete information will be mailed to Holston ministers on Dec. 27. In the meantime, visit www.holston.org and click on "Wesley Institute/Upcoming Events." ■

**C-mail:****More about the newspaper's new format**

■ **I miss** the church-wide news in the new *Call*. And it seems there is not conference news from more churches, but rather longer articles about a few churches. I am not sure the longer articles will be read. When people open *The Call*, they look for stories about their churches or their areas. The former edition was better!

Rev. Dan Kelly
Knoxville, TN

■ **I was disappointed** to learn that some readers preferred the old format of *The Call* rather than the makeover. Since I have been a member of the Communications Team for many years I supposed I am prejudiced, but I believe [the new format] is one of the best things to happen to our conference newspaper. Folks all over Holston told us they wanted more local news. This new format does that in a fresh new way that not only appeals to members but also to the unchurched who aren't familiar with our denomination. The national news is important and we still have wire stories available. For those who desire more national news, there are numerous forms of this news easily available. I hope those who are pleased will voice their congratulations to our excellent in-house communications staff.

Rev. Gaye W. King
Williamson Chapel UMC
Maryville, TN

■ **We just received** the Dec. 7 edition of *The Call*. It was great! Bishop Chamberlain's "Perspective" was interesting and inspiring. The Pastoral Letter from the Council of Bishops indeed cleared the air for so many who were disturbed by and upset about the Associated Press article. Looking forward to the next issue.

Robert M. Humphreys
Brainerd UMC
Chattanooga, TN

■ **I like** the new look with more "white space" and more color throughout. It's easier and much more inviting to read. I believe this new format ranks *The Call* right up there near the top of the conference newspapers. However, I miss the volume of national church news. And I am a bit confused by the church-size markers. I guess I just can't see the point.

Rev. Laura Trent
Coordinator for Local Church Ministries
Hinton Rural Life Center
Hayesville, NC

■ **I love** the new look of *The Call*. It is very readable and grabs your interest quickly with the use of color and Dion Dykes' layout. Expanded coverage of conference news makes it more interesting for the local churches, but I appreciate the inclusion of some national and world news as well. We need to retain our connectivity to the General Church in this way. Keep up the good work!

Betty N. Barton
Administrative Assistant
Johnson City District UMC

Have an opinion?

► *The Call* welcomes feedback from readers on all conference-related topics. Write C-Mail, Holston Conference, P.O. Box 32939, Knoxville, TN 37930-2939, fax 865-690-3162, or TheCall@Holston.org. ■