

## Frye, Travis will join, continued from page 1

"We've never gone to or served in ministries that we anticipated, but in every one of them, there was a clear reason why we went," Frye said, referring to his wife Vicki. "We could always look back and say, 'Here is how God was using us and our strengths in ministry.'

"I never expected to be doing this," Frye continued, "but I'm really looking forward to it. I'm glad the Bishop thought of me. But it's going to stretch me and change me and move me out of my comfort zone, which is how God uses us best."

Travis, age 61, will follow the Rev. Charles Lippse as Cleveland District superintendent. Lippse was appointed to lead Cleveland last fall, following the election of former Cleveland District Superintendent Mary Virginia "Dindy" Taylor to the episcopacy.

"I consider it an honor to be asked. It's kind of an awesome thing," Travis said, less than two hours after Swanson's telephone call. "I've thought of the new things I'll have to learn and the responsibilities of the job. It really hasn't sunk in yet."

Frye's pastoral record includes appointments in Wytheville District (Cedar Springs Charge, First Pulaski), Morristown District (First Morristown),

Chattanooga District (Harrison), and Kingsport District (First Broad Street). For three years, he has served as chair of Holston's Missions Team, traveling overseas to represent his conference or district numerous times. His home church is St. Andrews UMC in Knoxville District.

Frye's daughter, Erin, is a sophomore at the University of Tennessee. His son, William, is a senior in high school.

Travis' pastoral record includes appointments in Maryville District (Sweetwater Parish, Madisonville Circuit, Oakland-Meadow), Wytheville District (Blue Ridge Circuit, Dublin), Cleveland District (Tasso, Mount Carmel), Morristown District (Pine Grove Circuit), and Kingsport District (Cassidy). He currently serves on Holston's Pastoral Counseling Center Supervisory Committee and the Commission on Equitable Compensation and is chair of his District Council on Ministries. His home church is Mountain View UMC in Maryville District.

Travis and his wife, Teresa, have a daughter, Kymberly, who works for Clayton County schools in Georgia, and a son, Andy, who is a schoolteacher in Charlotte, N.C. The couple has two grandchildren. ■

## Holston gears, continued from page 1

Curtain nation, Swanson said. Since its independence in 1991, God has raised up 12 Methodist congregations in Latvia. A special video on Latvia will be available at district offices beginning March 15. Congregations are encouraged to view the video.

In April, local church treasurers will receive envelopes designated for the May 5 special offering. The envelopes should be brought to Annual Conference by the congregation's clergy or lay representative. Annual Conference will be held June 12-15 in Lake Junaluska, N.C.

Meanwhile, districts are receiving their assignments for helping missions led by Mary and Herbert Zigbuo in Liberia and Maria Humbane in Liberia. As in past conference projects, the supplies and assign-

ments will be varied. For example, Big Stone Gap District will collect scissors, notebook paper, rulers and other school supplies for Ishe Anesu in Zimbabwe. Oak Ridge District will collect soap, aspirin, ponchos and other health supplies for persons in Liberia.

Brochures will be distributed to districts explaining the assignments and how supplies should be collected between now and June 10, Holston missions leaders said. The brochure may also be downloaded at <http://missions.holston.org>, or call the conference missions office at (865) 690-4080 for more information.

"I am counting on you; the people of Latvia, Zimbabwe and Liberia are counting on you; but most of all, the Lord is counting on us," Swanson said. ■

## Asbury sells, continued from page

As part of the agreement, Smith/Packett will honor all current resident contracts. Residents will not be displaced as a result of the sale and will be kept informed as the transition takes place, as will employees, according to an Asbury press release.

In addition, Smith/Packett will deed the Wytheville District superintendent's office, located on the Asbury Place campus, to the Wytheville District, officials said.

In a March 3 letter to Asbury supporters, Bowman referred to comments made by the Rev. Charles Starks, Wytheville District superintendent.

In his e-mail to Wytheville clergy announcing the sale, Starks wrote, "Our number one concern in this matter must be that the residents have the very best care and environment for their long-term needs."

Bowman added, "We concur."

The remaining Asbury communities will also benefit from the decision, which should allow Asbury to develop the financial strength needed to reposition its facilities and services, Bowman said.

"All Asbury campuses have significant facility and program upgrade needs if future residents are to be well served," he said.

The Asbury retirement network is affiliated with Holston Conference, but is operated as an independent, not-for-profit corporation. Asbury does not receive funding from the Holston Conference budget.

Smith/Packett is a for-profit development firm that focuses on health-care facilities including long-term care. The 22-year-old company currently has ownership in more than 30 facilities valued at \$200 million. ■

## announcement:

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### HOLSTON EVENTS & DATES

#### MARCH

Women's History Month

**10-12:** Ministers' Wives Retreat, Sevierville, Tenn.

**13:** Safe Sanctuaries training, Virginia Avenue UMC, Bluefield, Va.

**14:** Denman Evangelism Award nominations due

**20:** Palm Sunday

**20-22:** Jubilation spiritual event for older adults, Gatlinburg, Tenn.

**25:** Good Friday (conference offices closed)

**27:** Easter Sunday

#### APRIL

**2-3:** Transformation worship and spiritual retreat, Lake Junaluska, N.C.

**2-10:** Global Conflicts Youth Study Tour, New York City and Washington, D.C.

**7:** Safe Sanctuaries training, White Oak UMC, Chattanooga, Tenn.

**12:** Safe Sanctuaries training, Powell UMC, Powell, Tenn.

**15:** Change for Children application deadline

**17:** Native American Ministries Sunday

**19:** Senior Adult Day, Camp Lookout, Rising Fawn, Ga.

**23:** Buffalo Mountain Camp Benefit Golf Tournament

**24:** Safe Sanctuaries training, Crossroads UMC, Kingsport, Tenn.

**30:** F.U.E.L. Youth Worker Training, Keith Memorial UMC, Athens, Tenn.

#### MAY

**13-15:** United Methodist Women's Spiritual Experience, Lake Junaluska, N.C.

**14:** Children's Day - Camp Ahistadi, Camp Laurel, Camp Wesley Woods

**14:** F.U.E.L. Youth Worker Training, First Marion UMC, Marion, Va.

**22:** Peace With Justice Sunday

**29:** Holston Home Fifth Sunday offering

#### JUNE

**4:** Children's Day - Buffalo Mountain Camp, Camp Blackmore, Camp Lookout, Camp Dickenson

**12-15:** Annual Conference, Lake Junaluska, N.C.

**18-26:** Youth in Mission: Hurricane Disaster Recovery in Florida

**22:** Moving Day for transitioning pastors

#### JULY

**5-9:** Senior High Assembly, Emory & Henry College, Emory, Va.

**18-22:** Junior High Assembly, Hiwassee College, Madisonville, Tenn.

**18-22:** Worship Arts Ministry, Hiwassee College, Madisonville, Tenn.

**24:** Holston Conference Night at the Ballpark, Smokies Ballpark, Kodak, Tenn.

**28-30:** United Methodist Women's School of Mission, Lake Junaluska, N.C.

#### AUGUST

**12-14:** MK/PK Getaway, Camp Dickenson, Fries, Va.

For more information on these events, visit <http://upcoming.holston.org>. For corrections or additions, e-mail [thecall@holston.org](mailto:thecall@holston.org) or call Annette Bender at (865) 690-4080.