



Hiltons Memorial youth sold fried apple pies to raise money for a mission trip: gleaned apples for the Society of St. Andrews.

District Roundup

NEWS FROM YOUR DISTRICT

Abingdon: When the Rev. Harry Hight and his 42-year-old shirt appeared in the Sept. 24 issue of *The Call*, Hight made an appeal for people who had signed his memorial shirt to contact him. He mentioned, specifically, a girl from First Maryville UMC, who signed his shirt in 1967. "I wonder what became of her?" he asked. Since then, the pastor of Lebanon (Chilhowie) Charge has heard from the former Trudy Williams, now a Presbyterian living in Knoxville. She didn't remember Hight, but she recalled her youth experiences at Camp Wesley Woods, Tennessee Wesleyan College, and Hiwassee College. "What I do remember is the effect the counselors had on me with their special understanding, unconditional acceptance, and endless listening," she wrote Hight in an e-mail. "Life was very hard during my middle/high school years. I was new to the area and struggling to fit in. Those camps were some of the only places where I found a group of kids and adults who took the time to get to know me. It made a lasting impact on my life."

Big Stone Gap: Twenty-three youth from Hiltons Memorial UMC participated in a St. Andrews Hunger Awareness Weekend near Roanoke, Va., Oct. 1-3. Pastor Will Shewey explains that instead of gleaning potatoes in fields that were flooded by Hurricane Jeanne, the youth worked in apple fields. To raise money for their trip, they sold fried apple pies. **M**

Chattanooga: At Vacation Bible School this summer, kids from Pikeville UMC set out to raise money to provide pizza parties for residents of Holston Home for Children. Leaders made a chart representing enough pizza for eight cottages, each with eight residents. Pikeville children earned extra money at home by doing chores. Whenever they reached a new fundraising



Pikeville kids raise money for pizza parties at Holston Home for Children's eight cottages. level, another pizza slice went on the chart. Missions Director Christine Wotowiec says about 20 kids ultimately earned \$220, which will buy pizza at Holston Home's fall festival on Oct. 21. **S**

Cleveland: At Carlock and Pleasant Grove UMC, the Rev. Joe Crockett has a congregational family that's interested in dirt-track racing. The family spends many Saturdays in Knoxville, watching and participating in races. "It doesn't matter if they get in at 3 a.m. on Sunday, they're always in church," Crockett says. Now, the family along with their pastor are interested in exploring a dirt-track ministry with other Holston members. Crockett's not sure what form the ministry should take yet: "I just thought maybe this is an opportunity I shouldn't pass up." Contact Crockett at (423) 263-2170 or crockjoe@usit.net. **S**

Johnson City: Eight years ago, Unicoi UMC sponsored a BRIDGE refugee family from Bosnia. This summer, the church was visited by the daughter of the family, who recently participated in a medical missionary trip to Nigeria. Dijana Talic spoke to Unicoi members about the trip and her hope to return to Nigeria for future ministry work. The congregation gave Talic, a student at Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine, a \$1,000 love gift. **M**

Kingsport: Glen Alpine UMC celebrated its 75th anniversary on Sept. 12 with guest preacher Rusty Taylor and his wife, Bishop Mary Virginia "Dindy" Taylor. The Rev. Taylor, who grew up at Glen Alpine, is now pastor at First Cleveland UMC. Bishop Taylor is resident bishop for the South Carolina Conference. About 350 attended the celebration. Average worship attendance: 200. **M**

Knoxville: Washington Pike UMC has added a third worship service to its offerings. The 11:30 a.m. "Open Door" service targets young adults and "late sleepers." In fact, a big sign on the church lawn says, "Late sleepers - We have a place for you." The Rev. Jim Bailes says that a recent promotional mailing was sent to new communities favored by young adults. "If just one person is led to Christ by this new service, it's worthwhile." **L**

Maryville: When six young people from Eden UMC asked to be baptized in Douglas Lake, they received a "hearty hallelujah" from the Rev. Mariel Myers. "Eden is blessed by through our young people," says Myers, "and we pray they will continue to follow in Jesus' footsteps." **S**

Morristown: Pastor Allen Shupe of Rutledge UMC reports that he rejoiced when a Sept. 26 offering resulted in \$1,497 for hurricane victims. Shupe's assessment: "Small church, big heart." **S**

Oak Ridge: First Oak Ridge UMC hosted a Kids for Kids Festival on the church lawn on Sept. 19. The ecumenical event included storytelling, songs, crafts, popcorn, "and a goat!" according to the district newsletter. The church plans for Kids for Kids to become an annual community event. **L**

Tazewell



Pisgah's working lighthouse receives attention from the community, while honoring soldiers.

Tazewell: Two years ago, Pisgah UMC built a lighthouse to accommodate its Vacation Bible School theme. The lighthouse stayed put until this summer, when church members

painted it red, white, and blue; added a flag; and put a beacon at the top to make it a working lighthouse. After collecting names of soldiers connected to the area, the congregation posted the names on the lighthouse and held a special patriotic service on Labor Day weekend. The service received lots of local press, reports Pastor Jared Wood. Community members are also impressed by the working lighthouse, which shines on the church at night. **S**

Wytheville: First Galax UMC celebrated its centennial homecoming on Sept. 26 with a former member as guest speaker: Emory & Henry President Tom Morris. The Emory & Henry Concert Choir sang, and five former pastors attended: Ann Blair, Don Nation, Ken Caraway, Nelson Woody, and Robert Hudson. About 300 attended. Average worship attendance: 150. **M**