

camp news:

Confirmation retreats
available in March

Youth counselors, ministers and educators are encouraged to bring their confirmation youth to "Claim the Name" retreats scheduled at Holston Conference camps in March 2002.

The retreats are designed to supplement the confirmation programs taking place in the local church. They can also be a central focus to build upon for churches without formal confirmation classes.

Cost of the event is \$40 per confirmand, \$20 per adult. Confirmation class leaders (pastors and/or educators) must attend. Adult counselors must also attend to supervise confirmands of same gender at a ratio of at least one to five. Fees include lodging, three meals per day, snacks, insurance and program expenses. Registration deadline is two weeks prior to the event.

Retreat planners will be using "Claim the Name" confirmation resource materials by Cokesbury. A detailed reservation packet is available upon request from Holston Conference Camping, P.O. Box 2506, Johnson City, TN 37605, and (423) 928-2156. Or, contact the directors of these host campsites:

- **March 1-2:** Buffalo Mountain, Jonesborough, Tenn., Christina Dowling-Soka (423) 753-6678
- **March 15-16:** Wesley Woods, Townsend, Tenn., David Leach (865) 448-2246
- **March 15-16:** Dickenson, Fries, Va., John Ousley (276) 744-7241
- **March 22-23:** Lookout, Lookout Mountain, Tenn., Don Washburn (706) 820-1163

Holston camps
retain accreditation

JOHNSON CITY, Tenn.—Conference leaders were notified Oct. 22 that Camp Buffalo Mountain and Camp Wesley Woods have met accreditation standards of the American Camping Association.

The camps join two other Holston Conference camps, Lookout and Dickenson, achieving accreditation under standards revised in 1998.

The American Camping Association is a national organization that serves as an accrediting agency for organized camps. Meeting national standards is a critical component of delivering "all the quality camping experience that our children and their families demand and deserve," said the Rev. Randy Pasqua, Holston director of camping and leisure ministries.

"The boards and the staff of these camps deserve the congratulations of the conference for this high and important achievement."

Holston camps served more than 3,100 children in summer 2001, an increase from 2,851 in 2000. The 2002 camping theme is "In the Majesty of the Earth." ■

new church development:



It all began in the New Testament ...

Planting new churches among new population groups has been the church's priority since the first church in Jerusalem sent Barnabas to Antioch to see what God was doing among the Gentiles.

Barnabas found just the right person who understood these new believers in Paul of Tarsus. After about a year it was time to build a congregation of believers who were the first to be called Christians.

Paul and Barnabas were commissioned to set sail to Cyprus to preach the gospel. (*Acts 11, 12, 13*)

Churches starting churches has been the pattern since the first century. This method of multiplication has its roots in the New Testament.

The mission of starting new churches is continuing in Holston, where this challenge is a priority among conference leaders. This priority will be the focus of the Bishop's Conference on



By John Ripley

New Church Development," offered in Gatlinburg on Jan. 24 and 25, 2002. Leaders from across the United Methodist Church will provide leadership: Steve Compton of the North Carolina Conference; Denny Buwalda, West Michigan Conference; and Dick Freeman, North Alabama Conference.

One estimate is that Holston Conference needs to start nine new churches each year to keep up with

growth in population.

To register for the "Bishop's Conference on New Church Development," log on to the conference website at www.holston.org; email sueweber@holston.org; or call (865) 690-4080.

► *The Rev. John Ripley is the conference's director of new church development.* ■

conference calendars:

They make nice Christmas gifts

KNOXVILLE, Tenn.—A few Holston Conference 2002 calendars are still available from the communications office.

Make checks to "Holston Conference" and send \$8 per calendar to: Holston Calendar, P.O. Box 32939, Knoxville, TN 37923. ■

Snapshot:



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in memoriam:

Charlie D. Mehaffey
MAGGIE VALLEY, N.C.

Charlie Mehaffey, 99, died Oct. 25 at his Maggie Valley residence. The Rev. Mehaffey was a retired minister who had served many churches in the Holston Conference.

Funeral services were held Oct. 28 at Maggie Valley UMC with the Rev. Vince Mehaffey, the Rev. Al Mehaffey and Gene Mehaffey officiating. Burial followed at Garrett-Hillcrest Memorial Gardens.

He is survived by two sons, Gene Mehaffey of Hilton Head, S.C., and Al Mehaffey of Waynesville, N.C.; two grandchildren; two stepgrandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to Maggie Valley UMC or to Peachtree UMC Building Fund. ■

Election Day Quilt

► **TOWNSEND, Tenn.**—Members of Tuckaleechee UMC show off a homemade quilt for sell at a fall festival held on Nov. 7.

Funds raised from selling crafts and baked goods at the festival will be used for United Methodist Women missions. Moving the annual event to Election Day improved attendance, organizers said. Tuckaleechee is located in the Maryville District. ■

exchange:

KNOXVILLE, Tenn.:

The Holston Conference seeks a **Director of United Methodist campus ministry.** Must be active United Methodist (lay or clergy) with a college degree (post-graduate work desirable but not required). The director is responsible for working with students to develop and implement a program of activity consistent with the mission of the campus ministry, representing the campus ministry to the university community and to the Campus Ministry Association, supervising any support staff, ensuring upkeep and maintenance of the building housing the campus ministry, and overseeing residents and use of the facilities by outside persons or groups. The director should be committed to campus ministry. She or he should possess appropriate organizational, administrative, and counseling skills and work effectively with local United Methodist Churches, the related districts, and the Holston Conference and its agencies. The director is accountable to the Director of Connectional Ministries and the Board of Directors of the campus ministry.

Ordination as a deacon or elder in the United Methodist Church is helpful, but not required. The campus minister is an employee of Holston Conference. Position will begin on July 1, 2002. Salary is negotiable. Submit a cover letter and resume to Campus Ministry Search Committee, c/o Anne Travis, Director of Connectional Ministries, P.O. Box 32939, Knoxville, TN 37930-2939. The review of resumes will begin on Dec. 10 and continue until the position is filled. ■

KNOXVILLE, Tenn.:

Growing United Methodist Church seeks **part-time Children's Director.** Person with experience and commitment to Christian faith and the United Methodist Church. Effective relational skills and ability to cast vision for children is necessary. Send resume to: Search Committee, First UMC, 3316 Kingston Pike, Knoxville, TN 37919, fax (865) 525-5264, or Helen@knoxvillefumc.org. ■

SUNBRIGHT, Tenn.:

Executive Director wanted for Morgan-Scott Project, a Christian cooperative serving two counties. Bachelor's degree or comparable education or experience. Must demonstrate organizational skills, program development skills, effective oral and written communication skills, ability to coordinate community outreach and cooperative activities, and financial management accountability. Successful applicant will be required to live in Morgan or Scott County. Starting salary in the mid 20s, plus benefits, negotiable, commensurate with experience. Send resume by Dec. 15 to: P.O. Box 177, Sunbright, TN 37872. ■

SURGOINSVILLE, Tenn.:

First UMC of Surgoinsville seeks a **part-time Youth Director.** Application deadline is Dec. 10. Call (423) 345-2279. ■