

..... And the angel said to them: "Be not afraid, for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy which will come to all the people. For to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a babe wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among men with whom he is pleased." (Luke 2:10-14)

We find ourselves in the midst of the Advent Season as we joyfully await the arrival of the Christ-child. Can you feel the excitement? Christmas Day is just around the corner. Indeed, Christmas is a time of hope and new joy where the baby born in Bethlehem captures the attention of the whole world. May you be in tune with the angelic songs and with great enthusiasm boldly declare the old, old story of God's love manifested through the birth of His beloved son.

Grace and Peace.

Adam

District At-Large for 2010 Holston Annual Conference

District Youth/Young Adult (Ages 12-17, 18-30):

Carrie Hopper
 Katie Grugin
 Sarah Williams, Alternate
 Sarah Moog, Alternate

District Lay Leader:

Jeff Kile

District UMM President:

Bill Smith

District UMW President:

Jonnie Faye Ball

At-Large Delegates:

Megan Lange (Central, LC)	Brenda Tate (Rugby Road)	Beverly Bastian (Moore's Gap)	Pauline Baird (Solway)
C.R. Aiken (Jacksboro)	Kate Meacham (First, OR)	Charles Millican (Midtown Valley)	Ron Milligan (Heiskell)
Diane James (Midtown Valley)	Joe Thompson (Lake City)	Jim Abbott (Oliver Springs)	Jay Deakin (Bradbury)
Ella Smith (Rugby Road)	Melanie Hall (Luminary)	Virginia Evans (Asbury Chapel)	Betty Lenoir (Solway)
Janetta Hamby (Asbury Chapel)	Debbie Farmer (Bradbury)	Peggy Campbell (Valley View)	Dale Hensley (Bradbury)
Patrick Campbell (Midtown Valley)	Norma Smith (Concord)	Barbara Hall (District Office)	

Alternates for At-Large Delegates:

Viola Woods (New Century)	Charlene Asbury (Beaver Ridge)
Jean Hutchenson (St. Mark)	Dennis ValWormer (Trinity, LC)

DISTRICT NEWSLETTER VIA E-MAIL

The Oak Ridge District Newsletter will be sent via email to everyone that we have current email addresses on file. Please help us in this effort to save the district postage money. If you would still like to receive a hard copy of the newsletter, please contact the District Office to be taken off the email list.

Matthew 21:28-32
"Which did the will of the Father?"

***We are looking at two sons in this tale,
of several thousand years ago.
Since then there's been millions of boys,
went laughingly down to hell below.***

***Both of these boys were bad boys.
I think they had a good dad.
But the message the Gospel is telling,
everyone ended up sad.***

***That's not the way God planned it.
Families were promised abundant living.
We couldn't ask for a better Father,
than the one who is forever giving.***

***We need to take a heart searching pause,
and ask about our own will to serve.
The two in the story took all that dad had.
That's really low. What nerve!***

***Church vows are thrown in garbage cans,
by both boys and girls, the same.
It's hard to offer forgiveness,
when there's no display of shame.***

***To those who skip along the path,
that ends in Hell's domain.
There's still time to tend dads garden,
and be in the family once again.
We'll keep a light burning.
(11-11-09 Rhoads)***

Joys and Concerns

Our prayers and congrats are offered for:

- ✦ Rev. Jim Titcome, who had heart surgery.
- ✦ Rev. Jake Beeler, who will have lung surgery.
- ✦ Rev. Leah Burns, who had back surgery.
- ✦ Anna Cole, daughter of Rev. Kevin & Nancy Cole, who will have heart surgery.
- ✦ Rev. Knox & Paige Wimberly, upon the birth of their daughter, Gracianna Marie, who was born on 10/13/09
- ✦ Rev. Brad & Rebecca, upon the birth of their daughter, Felicity Ann, who was born on 9/21/09.

Our prayers and sympathy are offered for:

- ✦ The family of Francis Cate, who passed away on November 23, 2009.

Staff-Parish Relations Committee Training

Members of the Staff-Parish Relations Committee and pastors are encouraged to attend our annual training event. This year we are holding a one day training session: **Saturday, January 23, from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon at First UMC, Oak Ridge.** We will be talking about the responsibilities of the committee as well as looking at direct invoicing information and how to develop a covenant between the pastor and committee.

Oak Ridge District

Clergy Meeting Schedule

2010

District Wide Clergy Meeting

First UMC, Oak Ridge
10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

January 14

**February
(No Meeting)**

March 11

April 8

May 13

**June
(No Meeting)**

The Witness Ministry Team welcomes the Rev. Rudy Rasmus and Bishop James Swanson to lead us through this inspirational and motivating event. We will celebrate the past year's theme and covenant to "Offer Them Christ" and invite Holston to the next steps toward Pentecost 2010.

Location: Cokesbury Center

Date: Feb. 19, 2010 - Feb. 20, 2010

Friday: 3-5 p.m. Optional Mission Outreach ("Grace bags" to Knoxville Homeless);
5-7 p.m. Registration; 7 p.m. Session I begins

Saturday: Bishop Swanson will conclude the conference by 3 p.m.

More information to come soon.

**Special Thanks to all Local Churches who are current in
Their giving to the 2009 District Askings . . .**
(As of 11/30: 91.60% Paid) (* Denotes 100% of Askings Paid)

*Andersonville	*Hansard's Ch.	New Tazewell
*Arthur	*Haven Ch.	*Norris
*Asbury Ch.	*Irwin's Ch.	*Oakdale
Beaver Ridge	*Jacksboro	*Oliver Springs
*Bell's Campground	*Jonesville	*Petros
Bethel (K)	*Lake City	*Pleasant Grove
*Cawood	*Lone Mt.	*Rugby Road
*Central LC	*Martel	*Sinking Springs
*Chevront	*Mayes	St. Mark
Concord	*Midtown Val.	*Sunbright
*Dutch Valley	*Moore's Gap	*Swan Pond
*Fincastle	*Mt. View	*Thompson Ch.
First Farragut	*Mt. Hermon	*Trinity, LC
*First, OR	*Mt. Pleasant	Valley View
*First, Oneida	*Mt. Zion	*Well Springs
*Good Shepherd	*New Century	Woods Chapel
*Grigsby Ch		

**Special Thanks to all Local Churches who are current in
Their giving to the 2009 Conference Fair Share . . .**
(As of 11/30: 91.60% Paid) (* Denotes 100% of Askings Paid)

Asbury Ch.	*Haven Ch.	New Tazewell
Bethel (K)	*Irwin's Ch.	*Norris
*Cawood	*Jacksboro	*Oliver Springs
*Central LC	*Jonesville	*Pleasant Grove
*Chevront	*Martel	*Rugby Road
Concord	*Midtown Val.	*Sinking Springs
*Dutch Valley	*Moore's Gap	*Swan Pond
*Fincastle	*Mt. Pleasant	*Thompson Ch.
First, OR	*Mt. Zion	Valley View
*Hansard's Ch.	*New Century	*Well Spring

Mobil Food Pantry

Where: Valley View UMC,
815 Old Edgemoor Lane,
Clinton, TN 37716,
945-3623, 963-5405, 945-5133
What: Second Harvest Mobile Food
Pantry, Tons of food for the needy.
When: Saturday, Dec. 19, 2009; 9 am
Director: Michael Heydasch
Pastor: Lewis Weaver

This event is open to all other churches
who wish to join Valley View in this effort
as well as to send needy for food as well.

UNITED METHODIST MEN: Do you
want information about the United Methodist Men?
Do you want to charter the group? Would you like to
join with some other churches to have a combined
UMM group? Do you have a UMM group at the
church and need to know what to do? Do you have a
President or a person in charge? The district office
would like to know what's going on with the UMM at
the churches. Please contact the district office if you
need information, if you'd like to start a unit, if you
have information that we could publish in this
newsletter, and if you have a President or a
representative from a men's group.

Conference UMM President: Michael Smith
865-966-4109 michael_14479@msn.com
District UMM President: Bill Smith
865-354-4218 smith880@bellsouth.net

**Conference and District Books
Close**

January 11, 2010

This is the LAST day to submit
2009 apportionments and
District Askings. Must be
received by noon on 1/11/2010.

Holston Methodist Credit Union

- Membership in Holston Methodist Federal Credit Union supports Holston Conference Missions.
- Members of all United Methodist Churches in the Holston Conference are eligible for membership.
- Holston Methodist Federal Credit Union offers FREE Direct Deposit and FREE Automatic Deduction of Church Tithes.
- Add Holston Methodist Federal Credit Union to your weekly church newsletters.
- By using your Holston Methodist FCU Visa and/or MasterCard you save 25% on purchases at Cokesbury Bookstores. (Exclusions may apply-see store for details)

**ARE YOU RECEIVING THE
UMCOR HOTLINE EMAILS?**

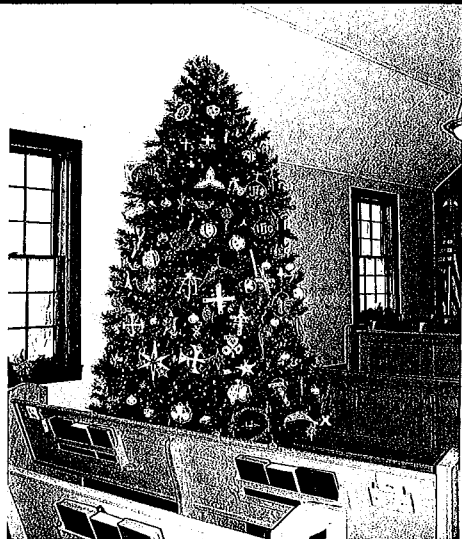
Email reports are sent weekly on United Methodist Committee on Relief activities around the world. This free email is available by sending a request to umcor@gbgm-umc.org, and requesting to be added to the UMCOR HOTLINE mailing list.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DECEMBER 2009

JANUARY 2010

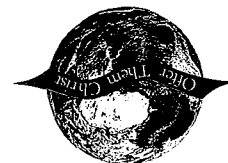
Fri 25 CHRISTMAS DAY!!
District Office CLOSED
12/24/09 - 1/04/10



Chrismon Tree Tradition at Solway UMC

The twelve foot Chrismon tree in the sanctuary of Solway UMC is special to the Solway congregation. The Chrismons were started 35 years ago and were made by the women of the church. Most of these ladies who made the beautiful Chrismons are no longer with us, and we are reminded of their dedicated service each year we decorate the tree for the first Sunday of Advent. You are cordially invited to visit us any Sunday morning during Advent, share in worship and enjoy our very special Chrismon tree.

Fri 1 NEW YEARS DAY!
 Tues 5 - Wed 6 CABINET MEETING
 Mon 11 Last day to submit 2009 apportionments to Conference & District
 Tues 12 End of Year Turn In (Schedule on website)
 Thurs 14 District Wide Clergy Meeting (First UMC, OR; 10:00am)
 Fri 14 - Sun 17 Resurrection (Gatlinburg, TN)
 Mon 18 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (Conference & District Offices Closed)
 Fri 22 - Sun 24 Resurrection (Gatlinburg, TN)
 Sat 23 S/PPR Training (First UMC, OR; 10:00am-12:00noon)
 Fri 29 - Sun 31 Divine Rhythm (Pigeon Forge, TN)



December 2009

Return Service Requested

706 S. Illinois Ave., Suite D102
 Oak Ridge, TN 37830-7969

The Oak Ridge District News



U.S. POSTAGE PAID
 PERMIT #105
 OAK RIDGE, TN
 NON-PROFIT ORG.