



# MEMORIAL MESSENGER

www.memorialumc-clinton.com

August, 2017

## District Survey for Holston Conference Strategy

*Pastor's Note: Today I have received two pieces of information from the Holston Conference Strategy Team. One piece was in the mailbox and the second was an email I received. This information, but more importantly, our replies are essential for us as United Methodists in the Holston Conference. For this reason, I am setting aside the draft of an article I had started for this time sensitive information. A link to the survey will be provided in the information that follows. However, I received a paper copy of the survey in the mail. Paper copies of the survey will be available in the church office. Remember all surveys must be returned by **August 15, 2017**.*

The Holston Conference Strategy Team, ("HCST") is excited to be in mission with you to explore innovative and contemporary ways to bring people into a transformative relationship with Jesus Christ. As you may know, our Conference has adopted a Comprehensive Strategic Plan to make significant changes that will help us all to be more fruitful in mission and ministry for the Kingdom of God.

One of the key components of this plan is to redefine the location and boundaries of our Districts while consolidating them from 12 to 9 Districts. We need your help in making sure the Bishop and the Cabinet have a complete understanding of the factors that make your district area unique as they determine the actual boundaries.

We have therefore prepared a Survey for you to complete before the deadline of **August 15, 2017**.

We are preparing this Survey to make certain that everyone in Holston Conference receives this opportunity to provide input into this decision-making process.

This is just the first step in the process of implementing the Comprehensive Conference Strategy Plan and we hope that you will participate in future activities as well. To keep up with developments of the Plan, please follow updates on <http://Strategy.Holston.org>, and follow us on Facebook Holston Conference Strategy Team

Finally, we ask for your prayers for guidance and clarity of discernment as we all move together into a new future that God has prepared for Holston Conference.

Your Holston Conference Strategy Team  
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LMW3RCD>

Blessings,  
Pastor Donna

## YUMS (Young United Methodist Students) News

School is right around the corner. For me, the best thing about that is seeing you on a regular basis!

### **Blessing of the Backpacks, Sunday August 6<sup>th</sup>**

Encourage your child to bring his or her backpack to the service for a special time of blessing. We'll be providing backpack tags!

### **Wednesday Night Kick-Off, August 9<sup>th</sup>**

How better to start the school year than in prayer? We will begin the school year with a Prayer Walk around our church and school communities. **Jeremiah 29:12--*Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you.*** Dinner begins in the Fellowship Hall at 5:30 PM, and we'll remain in the Fellowship Hall with youth and adults for this special event that will take us to the streets!

### **August Wednesday Night Line-Up**

Starting August 16th, we'll begin our regular Wednesday night programming. We meet at 6:00 PM on the third floor in the YUMS Room. We're starting our school year with a series on Courageous People of the Bible. Our memory verse for this unit is Psalm 27:14—*Hope in the Lord! Be strong! Let your heart take courage! Hope in the Lord!*

8/16—Courageous Disciples

8/23—Courageous Queen

8/30—Courageous Friend

9/6—Courageous Daniel

### **Camp-Out VBS 2017 Wrap-Up**

Thank you so much for your support of our Vacation Bible School! We had 16 children attend and at least TWICE than many adults and youth providing helping hands. Children traveled through different stations (music, art, outdoor games, Bible adventure, and campfire) throughout our church building. Elementary students decorated 20 baby bibs to be donated to Susannah's House, a recovery center for mothers challenged by addiction. Our prayer is that children know that Jesus is the light and that they will shine this light wherever they go. We learned much from this endeavor! If you have specific suggestions or feedback regarding this year's event, please let me know.

Blessings,

Leanne

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(865) 257-2946

## **YOUTH NEWS**

We welcome all youth in the 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades.

Our main activity is Bible study on Wednesday evenings from 6:00-7:15 p.m. This year our Wednesday programming will be a little different than from our past years. This year, we anticipate participants to mainly be in the lower or the higher grades. Therefore, we will have two learning and discussion groups which are appropriate to the age of the participant. Since there will be special activities where we will all be one group, we will spend the month of August as one group with ice breakers and group building activities. We will conclude each evening with a devotion.

Special activities (mission and fun) will also be planned throughout the year. Special activities in the past have included, Resurrection, Parking cars at the Antique Festivals, work day at Camp Wesley Woods, Movies, Parties, and Corn mazes.

Sunday School is every Sunday at 9:00 a.m. Sunday School lessons will be planned for all grade levels to learn together. (continued on page 4)

**MEMORIALS**

**IN MEMORY OF**

Nancy Sword

Alice Kincaid

**GIVEN BY**

V.L. and Pat Stonecipher

Phil and Pat Wenk

**FUND**

Ida Gamble Scholarship

Food Pantry

**IN HONOR OF**

Harper Maxwell

**GIVEN BY**

Mark, Donna and Corey Medley

**FUND**

Christmas Boxes

**REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS**

Pat McBryde, Otto and Marie Briscoe, Lee Wysor, Deloris Johnson, and Chuck Green. Our Pastor, Church and Church Families; Our Nation's Service Men, Women, and



**Flower Donors for August 2017**

August 6 Elenora Edwards  
August 13 Jim and Libby Freels  
August 20 Bill and Alice Connell  
August 27 Bill and Gail Gallaher

**CONGRATULATIONS TO:**

Aaron and Jenna Thrasher on the birth of their son Jeremy Louis Thrasher on June 28, 2017. His grandparents are Tom and Nancy Thrasher.

**OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS ARE WITH:**

Becky Williams and family on the death of her sister, Nancy Sword, on June 19th.

The family of Alice Kincaid who passed away on June 26th.

**THANK YOU**

I want to extend my heartfelt and sincere gratitude to everyone for their acts of kindness and prayers extended to my family when our sister Nancy Sword died. All were gratefully appreciated.

Rebecca Williams

**AUGUST 2017 CALENDAR**

- Thur., Aug. 3 5:30p Food Pantry
- Sun., Aug. 6 8:30a Prayer in the Sanctuary  
9:00a Sunday School  
10:00a Morning Service  
Psalm 17:1-7, 15; John 8:12
- Tues., Aug. 8 6:30p Finance Committee Mtg., Yak Room
- Wed., Aug. 9 5:30p-6:00p Dinner in FH  
6:00p-7:15p Prayer Walk
- Sun., Aug. 13 8:30a Prayer in the Sanctuary  
9:00a Sunday School  
10:00a Morning Service  
Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b  
Matthew 14:22-23
- Wed., Aug. 16 5:30p-6:00p Dinner in FH  
6:00p-7:15p Adult Bible Study  
6:00p-7:15p YUMS  
6:00p-7:15p Youth  
7:30p Chancel Choir Practice
- Thur., Aug. 17 5:30p Food Pantry
- Sun., Aug. 20 8:30a Prayer in the Sanctuary  
9:00a Sunday School  
10:00a Morning Service  
Psalm 133, Matthew 15:10-20
- Wed. Aug. 23 5:30p-6:00p Dinner in FH  
6:00p-7:15p Adult Bible Study  
6:00p-7:15p YUMS  
6:00p-7:15p Youth  
7:30p Chancel Choir Practice
- Sun., Aug. 27 8:30a Prayer in the Sanctuary  
9:00a Sunday School  
10:00a Morning Service  
Psalm 124, Matthew 16:13-20
- Wed., Aug. 30 5:30p-6:00p Dinner in FH  
6:00p-7:15p Adult Bible Study  
6:00p-7:15p YUMS  
6:00p-7:15p Youth  
7:30p Chancel Choir Practice

**August 6, 2017**

Students (Preschool, Elementary, Middle School, High School, College and Post Graduate) are asked to bring their backpacks and supplies. We will bless the backpacks along with the Anderson County Depot supplies we have collected. Students and teachers will receive backpack tags for the coming year. The congregation will have the opportunity to become prayer warriors for our students. Crosses with a student's name will be given to those who wish to pray for a student this school year.

## YOUTH NEWS

(continued from page 2)

### **Blessing of the Backpacks**

Sunday, August 6<sup>th</sup>, bring your backpack to worship. A special time of blessing will be a part of the service.

### **Prayer Walk**

On August 9<sup>th</sup>, we will participate in the all church Prayer Walk. The meal will begin at 5:30 pm and then participants will be divided into groups to walk around town and pray for our community schools. Please wear shoes appropriate for walking.

### **August 30<sup>th</sup>**

We will be preparing and serving the Wednesday Night meal. There will be a sign-up sheet for the help needed.

### **Wednesday Night Study Schedule**

- 08/09** Prayer Walk – Praying for our schools and our students
- 08/16** Ice Breaker and Group Building Activities with a Devotion
- 08/23** Ice Breaker and Group Building Activities with a Devotion
- 08/30** Ice Breaker and Group Building Activities with a Devotion

### **Information and Permission Forms**

On August 16<sup>th</sup>, Information and Permission Forms and Behavioral Covenants will be distributed for the 2017-2018 year. Please return these forms by August 30<sup>th</sup>. A new form must be completed and on file each year!

Blessings,

Pastor Donna

[RevGoofy96@gmail.com](mailto:RevGoofy96@gmail.com)

(865)457-2287 (office)

(423)967-5365 (cell)

## Back to School Prayer Walk

Wednesday, August 9<sup>th</sup> will be an evening of prayer for our community and our schools. We will begin the evening with dinner at 5:30 p.m. Following dinner, all participants will divide into groups and we will walk and pray for our community. We will stop at the elementary school, the middle school, and the football field to pray for our elementary, middle, and high school programs, teachers and students. All are invited to join us on this prayer walk. Please dress appropriately for the weather on this evening.

### **Memorial United Methodist Church**

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**Office Hours**  
Monday - Thursday  
9:00 a.m. - Noon and 1:00 p.m. to 3:00

#### Serving God's People

Donna Hester  
Joshua Allen  
Leanne Hennessey  
Andrea Fritts  
Dawn Walker

Pastor  
Music Director/Organist  
Children's Activity Coordinator  
Secretary  
Housekeeping/Custodian

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