

HOLSTON HAPPENINGS

newsletter

SUMMER 2015

ARE YOU
ready for the
next Fifth Sunday?
It's Aug. 30th, 2015

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A publication of
Holston United Methodist
Home for Children

A Word from the President



As I watched Nate share the gospel with a church full of 200 children and adults from the surrounding areas of Chichicastenango, Guatemala, I thought back to eight days prior when the students and staff of our Beacon School gathered to pray over us before we left. When asked to share one thing we wanted the group to pray for, Nate made this request, "pray that I would not be afraid to share about Jesus." I stood there like a proud father as I watched God answer those prayers. The Holy Spirit gave Nate the courage and the words to proclaim the Good

News. Many in the crowd met Jesus for the first time and accepted His gift of forgiveness.

Earlier in the week, an urgent need for someone to teach the preschool class at a local childcare center was presented to our group. Without hesitation or any other takers, Shannon volunteered. Shannon currently attends Walter State Community College in Greeneville and her plan is to become a teacher. I watched her use broken Spanish and perfect love to make that classroom and those young faces come alive.

To say our mission trip was successful is so inadequate. God used our team to share the gospel and many Guatemalans met the Savior. Our kids made lifelong memories and lasting friendships with the people of Guatemala and the others who served along with us. The glory that it brought to our Heavenly Father through Vacation Bible Schools, church construction work, and providing medical treatment was thrilling.

Watching God work so specifically in all of us during our time in Guatemala was, perhaps, my greatest encouragement. It reminded me the God is not limited like we are. His plate is never too full and He is never too busy to help Nate gain confidence to share His love or give Shannon a taste of her future. He is just as interested in the details of your life and mine and wants to share life with us through the peaks and the valleys – and He has unlimited time, power, and resources to do it perfectly. I hope that truth encourages you today.

Thank you for your prayers and gifts for our ministry. God is using them in so many ways to make experiences like Nate's and Shannon's possible. There is no doubt that you are one of the resources that He uses to get involved in the individual lives of young people who are hurting. Thank you for being available.

In Christ,

Bradley S. Williams



HOLSTON HOME'S MISSION:

Holston United Methodist Home for Children provides hope and healing for a brighter future by sharing the love of Jesus with children and families struggling with life's challenges.

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Holston United Methodist Home for Children is a Christian institution in the Wesleyan tradition serving children without regard to race, religion or gender. Founded in 1895, Holston Home is a ministry affiliated with the Holston Conference of the United Methodist Church.

To protect the privacy of youngsters in our care, photographs of children in this publication may or may not represent actual youth residing here.

1.



SUMMER SNAPSHOTS

1. 2015 May Graduation

2. Prom

3. Bailing Hay

4. Cinco de Mayo!

5. Field Day

6. Students Learning at Beacon School

2.



5.



3.



4.



6.



Your support of Holston Home through Fifth Sunday is most important. Your contributions to the well-being of children helped by Holston Home have done wonders in the past and will do wonders again.

Holston Home on a Mission... Guatemala 2015

UPDATE



"I have been praying for an opportunity to take our kids out of the country on a mission trip since I came to Holston Home," said Abel Carrico, HHC's Director of Christian Life. "When Bradley approached me this spring with the chance to take a few of our students to Guatemala, I praised God for an answered prayer!"

The group of students, and a few staff, including President, Bradley Williams, joined a larger team from Fairview United Methodist Church. After weeks of preparation and fundraising, they were ready to board the plane.

"We spent the week doing construction and leading vacation bible school for the children," said Nate, a student at Beacon School. "My favorite was VBS though, because I really enjoyed playing with the kids."

This was the first trip out of the country for all of the Holston Home youth. While each of them came to Holston with their own stories, it was the first time to be faced with the stories of orphans around the world. "This experience changed my life," said Ben, who has been at HUHMC for two years.

Each member of the team returned with a story of how they saw God move in their hearts and in the hearts of others while they were in Guatemala. Shannon, who loves children and wants to teach preschool one day said, "Because of my trip to Guatemala I now know what God wants me to do with the rest of my life."

"Sometimes in life we feel like the 'least of these' and then we get the opportunity to go and help someone else. We no longer feel like 'the least of these' because we are blessing

others," said Carrico. Many children who come to Holston Home carry the weight of world on their shoulders. They come broken and abandoned and most of the time feeling like the "least of these." Taking a trip to Guatemala is only a piece of the picture that HUMHC wants to paint for the youth that come in to their care. "Serving others has an incredible way of allowing our students to see the bigger picture, to become others focused, and begin the process of changing their own stories," said Williams.

This experience would not have been possible without the faithful support of those who believe in the ministry of Holston Home. "If it hadn't been for the people who helped us get there, I would never have figured out who I am," said Shannon. Thanks to all who made this trip a reality. You can find pictures and videos of the trip on Holston Home's Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/HolstonHome.FCA>.

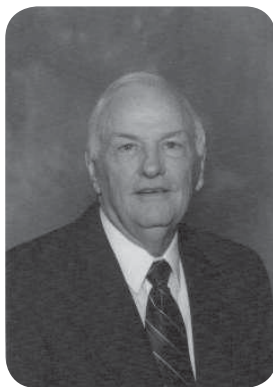
Making a Difference

Dear Ambassadors,

The idea of having an Ambassador in every United Methodist Church to represent the children of Holston Home to members of the local congregations was first conceived when Reverend Ronald Matthews joined the Holston Home staff in 1992 and charged with "strengthening the Home's grass roots contacts." Ron asked that an "ambassador" be named to every congregation throughout Holston Conference to promote the work of the Home within the local church.

It has been an effective way to inform, promote, and demonstrate what is happening in the lives of the 325 children we serve on a daily basis. Our Ambassadors also keep us connected with the local church.

Every day I realize just how important your job is. Our goal is to have Ambassadors in 100% of the churches in our Conference. Currently 73.5% of the 885 churches



have an ambassador.

Please help us reach the 100% goal. While being an ambassador is an important job, it is not a difficult one. Four or five times a year we send you promotional material and then you will work with your pastor to make sure these materials are placed in the hands of your members. We need you to help us keep your church informed of such needs as back-to-school supplies, Christmas for the children, and colthing needs.

We depend on you to help us make sure that your church participates in

the Fifth Sunday offering on August 30th. When I think of the gifts that are given to Holston Home through Fifth Sunday, I am reminded of the story of Jesus feeding 5,000 followers with the bread and fish that was available to Him. There really wasn't enough to feed everyone, but when Jesus blessed the gift of loaves and fish, there was more than enough to do the job. That's how God blesses Fifth Sunday gifts. Every gift combined with all other gifts and blessed by God can help a lot of children.

Blessings,

Rev. Charles A. Hutchins
Vice President for Development and Church Relations

Celebrating Patriot's Day at Holston Home



A special thanks to State Representative, David Hawk, for attending our "Patriot's Day Celebration!" Sandwiched between "Flag Day" and "Independence Day," this celebration gave us a chance to express how grateful we are to live in this great country and instill a deep love for our nation in the hearts of HHC children.

Do you need help planning your estate? Holston Home has experts on staff who can help you develop a well-designed plan. Please contact the Rev. Charles Hutchins for more information at (423) 787-8723.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2015



WORSHIP: Students from Holston Home made a joyful noise as they led worship at this year's Annual Conference. It was a wonderful experience for everyone involved.



CLEVELAND, TN



ABINGDON, VA

FRIENDS OF CHILDREN: HHC hosted fundraising luncheons in Cleveland, TN and Abigdon, VA earlier this summer. Guest speakers included Scottie Mayfield, Jim Street and Lois Clark, who are passionate about the mission of Holston Home. A special thanks to all of those who made these events a success.

FRIENDS OF CHILDREN

In Honor of...

Jerry Hagaman

Jerry Hagaman was one of 8 brothers and sisters who came to live at Holston Home. When Jerry passed away earlier this spring his daughter made a special trip to one of the places her father called home to scatter his ashes at HUMHC's cemetery.

The memorial ceremony took place during the annual Homecoming Celebration. After a nice lunch the group walked over to the cemetery and said goodbye to Jerry, whose ashes were spread in the land he helped cultivate as a young boy.

Mr. Bill Gauntley, former farm manager, gave the eulogy and Jerry's son-in-law, Jim, spoke a few memorable words. It was a sweet time for all the participants who also hold Holston Home close to thier hearts

Many Thanks to all of the churches that gave to the ministry of Holston Home this year.

A SPECIAL THANKS TO...



PORTER TIRE: Holston Home for Children is blessed to have Porter's Tire Stores support of our children. As a fourth generation family business, they understand the need for a strong family life.

BACK TO SCHOOL!!

CAN YOU HELP THE STUDENTS AT BEACON SCHOOL?

Wish List

- Manual Pencil Sharpeners (attach to wall)
- Dry-Erase Board Supplies (markers, erasers, etc.)
- Large Craft Paper Racks
 - Head Phones
 - Copy Paper
- TI 30X Calculators

To coordinate gifts and delivery, please call Nicole Rader in the Development Office at (423) 787-8753.

Visit www.holstonhome.org to see the entire list of items needed at Holston Home.

Visit us Online @ www.holstonhome.org

-OR-

Check us out on Facebook!

www.facebook.com/HolstonHome.FCA

Wills and Bequests

Dear friends of Holson Home:

- ☐ Please send me information about "Wills and Bequests"
- ☐ Please contact me about a personal visit. The best time to call me is _____ a.m. or _____ p.m.
- ☐ I have provided for the Children's Home in my will or other estate-planning document.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Primary phone _____ Cell _____ Home _____ Business _____

Alternative phone _____ Cell _____ Home _____ Business _____

Email _____

Mail to: The Rev. Charles A. Hutchins
Vice President for Development/Church Relations
P.O. Box 188
Greeneville, TN 37744

For more information and help with your Estate Planning please call :
Chris Cates, Planned Giving Officer
(423)-787-8725

Churches and work groups often plan day trips to Holston Home to see our beautiful campus, facilities and children. Your group is encouraged to visit. To arrange, please call Nicole Rader at (423) 787-8753.



Holston United Methodist
Home for Children
P.O. Box 188
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A Glimpse Of History

Children everywhere look forward to summer camp, and the children at Holston Orphanage were no different. The children who had been there before eagerly awaited their time to return, and the children who had never been there but had heard all about it were equally anticipating their turn to go.



Summer camp for children living at Holston Orphanage was Camp Hardin, or sometimes known as Camp Home. Superintendent J.L. Hardin acquired property 12 miles from Greeneville at the foot of Greystone Mountain, adjacent

to Cherokee National Forest. The original 76 acres were purchased from J.S. Jaynes on January 28, 1927. Four additional purchases of land increased the acreage to 180, all at an estimated cost of \$2,000.

A two-story lodge, with screened porches across both levels, accommodated 40 children (whether space for adult

staff was included or additional was not determined). A swimming pool was built from local stones and fed by a pipe which brought water down from the mountain. I can only imagine how cold the water must have been.

The children usually got to go to camp twice during the summer for two weeks each time. The clean, cool mountain air must have been a wonderful reprieve from the heat in town and the noise and dirt from the railroad that ran in front of the main campus. I'm certain Camp Hardin served well to revive and refresh children's spirits before returning to school - just as summer camps still do.

There was so much activity related to the new building program, when new residential buildings were provided for the children on the west side of campus, that Camp Hardin fell into disuse and was eventually sold. Traces of the lodge and swimming pool remain to tell the story.

~Eva Grey Hutchins

Holston Home for Children was founded in 1895 by Mrs. Elizabeth Wiley. She believed that every child should be provided with a safe home, a good education, and be given the opportunity to establish a relationship with Jesus Christ. We still believe in those principles.