

HOLSTON HAPPENINGS

newsletter
FALL, 2017



PROVIDING HOPE
AND HEALING FOR A BRIGHTER FUTURE...



A publication of
Holston United Methodist
Home for Children

FROM THE PRESIDENT



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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Each day I see our youth experience something new or hear how a child has had a real breakthrough in some area of his or her life, I feel such incredible gratitude for friends like you who support our efforts. There is a sense of disappointment for me that you are not able to see God's handiwork firsthand, as He takes your prayers and gifts to transform young lives. I realize that God is always at work and not just in the lives of the youth we care for today but in the generational impact of children served over these last 122 years.

This reality was so well stated by a lady who recently sent us a letter about her grandmother. Here is part of her letter:

"My grandmother spent part of her childhood at your home for children. Although she does not speak of her past very much, she speaks highly of the opportunity that was afforded to her while in your care. Most important was the foundation of faith instilled in her. She celebrated her 90th birthday this April, and she is still a shining beacon of faith, a matriarch of a large and good family (66 members). She is confident yet humble, wise, modest and strong, particularly in faith.

Without the foundation Holston Home gave her, none of us would be who we are. We are a group strong in faith; we are ministers, musicians, artists, writers, professors, advocates, athletes, bankers, veterans and nurses. We work in medical, legal and professional settings. Some have served overseas, some serve here at home. Like my grandmother, I too am grateful she was fortunate to live at Holston Home because it gave me the gift of my father and the role model of the kind of woman I want to be."



I hope you are beaming with pride to think that we are part of a ministry that has been loving and teaching children "in the ways they should go" for so many years. I am thankful for God's timeless and enduring love, and how He has used Holston Home and amazing people like you to be His vehicle to share hope and healing. I wish I could forward this letter to everyone who served this little girl many years ago, but I suspect the Lord will have to do that for me. However, the next best thing is to share it with the people who are making a difference for tomorrow's grandmothers and great-grandfathers — each of you. Could there be a better honor for us than having a legacy of lives still improving because we understood the importance of this ministry and were fully committed to it?

I pray that you experience the joy and fulfillment of how God is using you now and throughout the generations ahead. Thank you for the difference you are making and thank you for what it will mean to children long after we're gone. May God bless you and your families!

In Christ,

Just around the corner...Thanksgiving



On the heels of Thanksgiving...Christmas!

12 You are invited! **DEC**

Please join us for the **Christmas Community Night** at Holston Home on Tuesday, December 12th at 6 PM.

Family photos with Santa
Hot Chocolate ❄ Cookies
Horses ❄ Face Painting ❄ Crafts
Yuletide Carols

The Christmas season at Holston Home is a time chock-full of cheer and festivities as we celebrate the birth of Jesus and the new life that His life brings within us.

As the temperatures grow colder, the warmth in our hearts for our youngsters and for our community grows, too.

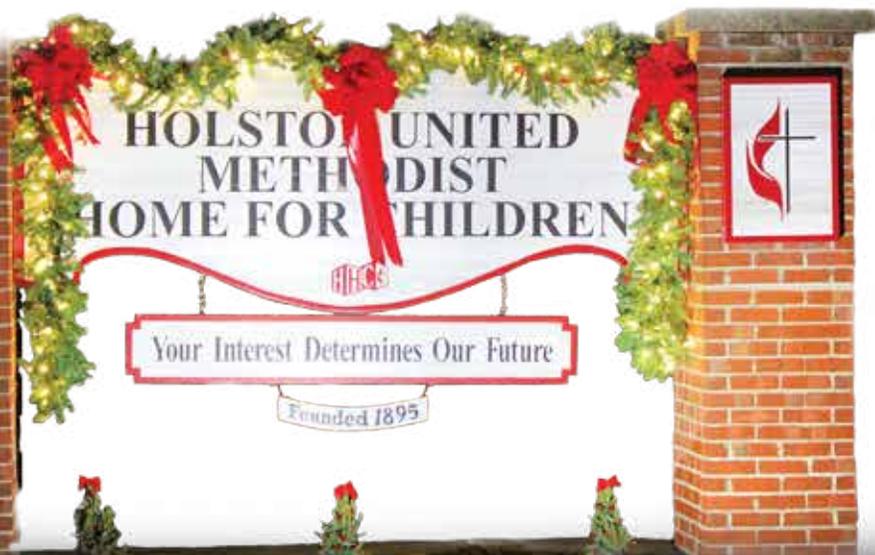
Help Us Buy Presents!

Please consider making this Christmas one that the boys and girls of Holston Home will always remember.

Help us purchase gifts for children and youth (up to \$150 per child).

Contact Sue Bernier in the Development office at (423) 787-8753 for details.

Go to www.holstonhome.org for Wish List items and more opportunities to meet the needs of children at HUMHC.



Jesus Loves Me This I Know

HOLSTON HIGHLIGHTS

Recreation



Worship



Education



Work Ethic



Many things happen at Holston Home...all of them are making a difference in the lives of the children and families we serve.

2017 Friends of Children Sponsors

“Thank you” to all of our wonderful Friends of Children Sponsors for making our fundraising events possible. We appreciate your giving and generous hearts. You have been a blessing to the young people who we are called to serve.

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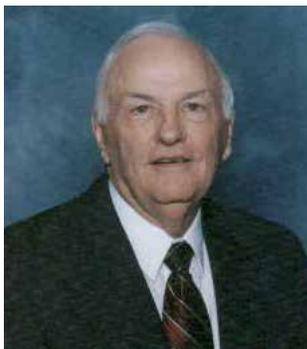
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MAKING A DIFFERENCE

DEAR AMBASSADORS,

I want to send a special thanks to the Ambassadors of Holston United Methodist Children's Home! You and your hard work gave us another wonderful year. I am deeply grateful to you for your dedicated efforts.

When I think of the work you do, I am reminded of George Whitfield, renowned English preacher and co-worker with John Wesley. Together, Whitfield and Wesley established Bethesda Orphanage in Savannah, Georgia. Whitfield became a true ambassador for the boys and girls who lived at Bethesda. Wherever he preached, up and down the trails of Colonial America or in the open fields outside of London, he seldom failed to mention the needs of the orphans and to take up a collection to support the work of the orphanage.



When you provide your fellow church members with information about the transformation that is taking place in the lives of boys and girls at Holston Home, they will sense the need and respond to the children by sacrificial giving to this great ministry. You will receive free promotional materials, and we ask that you get them into the hands of your church members before Fifth Sunday.

Your commitment to the children cared for by Holston Home is making a difference. That is the work of an Ambassador — working with the church and Holston Home to transform the lives of children, youth and families.

Thank you for a job well done, and may God bless you in a very special way in your ministry of love. Any time you have questions or need assistance from anyone on our staff, please do not hesitate to contact us.



Rev. Charles A. Hutchins
Director of Church Relations
and Estate Planning
James 1:27

Wills and Bequests

Dear Friends of Holston Home:

- Please send me information about "Wills and Bequests."
- Please contact me about a personal visit.
- I have provided for the Children's Home in my will or other estate-planning document.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Email _____

Mail to: Holston United Methodist Home for Children
Attention: Development
P.O. Box 188
Greeneville, TN 37744

For more information and help with your Estate Planning please call us at (800) 628-2986



Holston United Methodist
Home for Children
P.O. Box 188
Greeneville, TN 37744

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- I receive duplicate copies
- Address change
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Editor: Susan Bernier
susanbernier@holstonhome.org
(423) 787-8753

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

NEXT 5TH SUNDAY IS DECEMBER 31, 2017

A Glimpse Of History

In October of 1915, Reverend Michael Jordan Wysor (known as “M. J.”) was asked to serve temporarily as Superintendent of the Orphanage and Industrial School until someone could be named to that position. He was elected at an annual salary of not less than \$800 and not more than \$900. He soon became fondly known as “Daddy Wysor” (the only superintendent to be given that nickname by the students).



Life at the orphanage was busy. In 1915, a friend with whom Wysor corresponded was concerned that an unusual length of time elapsed before Wysor answered a letter he had

written. When the reply did arrive, it carried an apology: “I haven’t had time to draw a good, long breath. We are cutting cord wood, posts, and sawing lumber off the new land, and are making brick as well as running the farm.”

One of the most difficult problems which Wysor faced was the necessity of providing education for

the children. Teachers in the campus school doubled as matrons or secretaries and were demanding salary increases. In the fall of 1916, the board voted to send all school-age children to Greeneville city schools. This sudden increase in the number of students in the city schools caused a number of problems. After only two days, the Greeneville Board of Education proposed to pay the orphanage \$250 if the manager would maintain a school at the orphanage. The following year, the minutes of board meetings report that children above the fourth grade were sent to public schools. By 1918, an agreement was reached for the city to provide teachers for the orphanage elementary classes and high school students attended public schools or Hiwassee College, which, at that time, was both a high school and a two-year college.



–Eva Gray Hutchins