Once again Lakeshore United Methodist Assembly proved to be the perfect place for our annual Retirees’ Retreat. Although a little too early for the fall colors and a little too warm for a campfire we enjoyed the relaxing fellowship of the hilltop retreat. Thank you Lakeshore for your wonderful hospitality!

A beautiful autumn afternoon saw us at Pilot Knob enjoying the displays at the Tennessee River Folklife Center and watching the river slowly flow by. Alan Trull shared tidbits of history from the Civil War.

We enjoyed evening entertainment with Barry Scott who presented a program of illusion. He skillfully wove the Gospel into his presentation.

Our Guest speak was Marvin Cropsey who spent 43 years with the United Methodist Publishing House. During his career he was editor of the New International Lesson Annual and the Mature Living magazine. We enjoyed his insights as we examined the life of Moses, the decisions he made and his response to stress and opportunity. God may not have used us to part the Red Sea or feed the multitude but perhaps we know something about leading a stubborn and rebellious people!

David Comperry led us in worship and Holy Communion.
Memorials

Donald Kenneth Barnett: February 13, 1947 – August 3, 2018
Correspondence may be sent to his wife Elizabeth at 1213 Woodgate Rd, Humboldt, TN 38343

Lorene Thomas: November 28, 1924 - August 8, 2018
Correspondence may be sent to her daughter Connie Bond, 4001 Crystal Rd, Union City, TN 38261

Bobby Wayne Rose: April 19, 1943 – August 10, 2018
Correspondence may be sent to his wife, Vickie Rose at P.O. Box 308, Medina, TN 38355

Donna Marie White German: September 17, 1944 – August 24, 2018
Correspondence may be sent to her husband, Walter, at 31 Lake Cove, Jackson, TN 38305

Paul Lynn, Jr.: January 25, 1952 - September 5, 2018
Correspondence may be sent to his wife, Grace, at 265 Beckham Lane, Statonville, TN 38379

Gene Looney Davenport: October 9, 1935 – September 9, 2018
Survived by his daughters: Pamela Graf and Deborah Leavitt

Henry Weber: November 3, 1929 - September 10, 2018 (member of North Indiana Conference)

Barry Roberts: January 19, 1951 – September 18, 2018
Correspondence may be sent to his wife, Ruth at 118 Park Lane Drive, Paducah, KY 42003

From the Mail Bag

Shirley Small (North Point, FL) called and wanted to extend her gratitude for the many people who sent cards or expressed their sympathy when Tom passed away. She said each person was a blessing and each card brought a little more comfort. She received a beautiful floral arrangement from the Mississippi River District. Tom was buried in Indiana near family. Shirley had an opportunity to visit with family in Illinois, Indiana, and Michigan. At this time Shirley plans to remain in North Point where she and Tom had an active ministry and many friends.

Walter and Linda Mischke (Memphis, TN) write that they are enjoying living at the Trezevant Episcopal Retirement Center.
Whitney Caldwell (Milan, TN) says she stays very, very busy chasing after her three-year-old great-grandson five days a week (now that’s one way to get your exercise!). Her entire family (all 22 of them) still live in Milan and she is blessed to see them often.

Nancy Wheatley (Huntingdon, TN) reports that $850 was raised for Lakeshore U.M.A. during the Dossie Wheatley Memorial Golf Tournament in September.

A. Clay Kelly (Brewton, AL) is serving the Harmden Ridge U.M.C. in the Alabama-West Florida Conference. He enjoys being near his family. This June he and his wife made a trip to the Canadian Rockies. They especially enjoyed a tour of the magnificent Butchart Gardens in Brentwood Bay, British Columbia. The gardens, often called the “sunken gardens”, were developed in 1912 in a former limestone quarry.

Ed and Ruth Endsley (Benton, IL): Ed and Ruth keep very busy during their retirement. They are active members of the First Church of the Nazarene where Ruth has been a member for over 50 years. Ed grew up in the Nazarene church and feels comfortable worshiping there. He often fills-in for the pastor or teaches Sunday School. The Endsleys have several trips planned for this fall. They started October off with the Retirees’ Retreat at Lakeshore. In late October, Ruth’s son, Mark, will be installed as the new pastor of the First Church of the Nazarene in Sebring, FL. Ruth and Ed plan to be present for that service. Later in the fall they have a trip planned to the Cincinnati area to visit Ed’s college roommate. When they are not traveling, they both enjoy serving on the Jefferson County Historical Society in Mt. Vernon, IL. They serve as docents in the historical village. The Endsleys live in a rural, heavily-wooded area and enjoy seeing a wide variety of wildlife in their yard.

Agnes Butler (Paducah, KY): If you know Agnes, you know she keeps very busy! Between keeping the yard up, church activities, and enjoying her granddaughter, Lexi, (age 16) and a four-year-old great-grandson, there never seems to be enough hours in the day. Lexi is now a junior in high school and is an honor student. She is looking forward to a ten day mission trip to Peru in 2019. Healthwise, Agnes has much for which to be thankful. In 1998 she was diagnosed with a very aggressive cancer. In September she celebrated her 20-year anniversary cancer-free! Agnes says, “When God has a plan for your life, He won’t be defeated!”

Evelyn Brady (Hernando, MS) reports that the most exciting thing to happen to her this year is celebrating with her daughter, Carla, as she became a great-grandmother of beautiful twin boys. Evelyn has enjoyed living in a Methodist Assisted Living unit for the last four years. She is near two of her children. Evelyn’s late husband, Charles, was the first editor of the News ‘N’ Views.
Daly Thompson (Franklin, TN) writes: I originally retired from the Memphis Conference in 1996 and retired a second time in 2016 after serving Johnson's Chapel United Methodist Church in Brentwood, TN. Since that time, I am writing monthly devotionals, and working on an autobiography. I have also had the opportunity to travel to Canada and the Pacific Northwest, California, several New England states, Virginia, Washington, D.C. and surrounding states, North and South Carolina, and now vacation each winter on the gulf coast of Florida. I recently returned from a two-week tour of England and Scotland where we enjoyed visiting many beautiful cathedrals and castles.

Craig and Marilyn Ramsey (Milan, TN) reported: We are busier than normal with church and other activities. In the middle of October, we will be going to Branson for a family reunion and then on to Denver to visit our son and his family. Both grandsons play football so we will see them play before the season ends. Yard work and container gardening takes up a lot of our time, although this summer it has been extremely hot. Seems like a better idea to stay indoors. Craig still does the hand bells at church and UMW occupies my “spare” time. When you retire, you don’t really get vacations, holidays, or free weekends, but we can’t complain. Other than that, we are doing fine in Milan.

Russell and Carroll Gallimore (Jackson, TN) announce the arrival of their grand-daughter, Mary Michael “Mia” Gallimore on September 12 at Germantown Methodist. She weighed 2 lbs. 14 oz. and was 16-1/4 inches long. She is still in Neonatal ICU but now weighs just over four pounds and has grown an inch. She has graduated from the incubator to a crib!

Paul & Jimmie Phillips (Jackson, TN) shares with us that Jimmie will be having total knee replacement in October. Please keep them in your prayers.

Reporter Deborah Morris

Kendrick & Ruby Lewis (Benton, KY) - Brother Kendrick seems to be a very active retiree. He was sharing with me all of the organizations/activities in which he is involved. These include Senior Citizens, helping at a car lot and hospital auxiliary. As so many of our minister retirees do, he also does some “fill-in” work when needed in churches. He recently made a trip to Sikeston, Missouri to eat at Lambert's with three of his friends. When asked if the food was great, his quick reply was "OH YES." It sounded like he had a great time.

Betty Jo Masters (Memphis, TN): I enjoyed talking to Betty when I called. She is doing fine and is still teaches Sunday School at St. Luke's in Memphis. Her family is spread out – Dallas,
Atlanta, and Memphis. Apparently, they have been scattered further than that in the past, so she is glad to have them in just three cities. In September, Betty was a speaker for United Methodist Women's Annual Day in Memphis. She said she had a good time and was pleased to be asked.

Kathleen Masters (Stone Mountain, GA) is a retired deacon but retirement is not slowing her down one bit. My call caught her in the middle of missionary training which will be continuing through October. Perhaps we will have another opportunity to get to know each other.

David & Deborah Morris (Humboldt, TN) are ready for some cooler weather as I am sure almost everyone else is also. David's diabetic wound problems seem to be a bit better now but healing is slow. He continues to enjoy writing and working on his computer.

**Reporter Glenn Hill**

Al Doyle (Franklin, TN): I had my quarterly conversation with Brother Al this morning. He said he was slow and weaker, but doing “pretty good.” His family is well and he enjoys seeing his grandchildren as often as he can – but not often enough. He explained one grandchild was in New York, and one just started graduate school at Suwanee. His son, Lloyd, is serving in his third year at First UMC of White House, TN.

Paul & Carolyn Clayton (Jackson, TN) report that they were able to spend a delightful week in August with their children and grandchildren at the YMCA of the Rockies, Estes Park, Colorado, in the Rocky Mountain National Park.

From the Kentucky Hills, Glen and Georgia Ann (Murray, KY): Where did the summer go? Beverlyann Jetton called to remind me to call my retirees’ list so I decided to start that process today (Sept. 24). Georgia and I tend to stay busy with everyday routines, work, eating out, church, mowing, and did I mention eating out, among other activities that make up our days. It is good, for we have good health that enables us to do most things we desire to do. I am thankful I have no prescribed medications to take. Georgia has one and we take a lot of supplements and vitamins. I’m still at work selling portable buildings and carports. In July, I filled the pulpit on three Sundays for our preacher, Tim Escue, who fulfilled his duties of attending the Course of Study School at Emory University in Atlanta. He was glad to get back home and we were glad to have him back. In August, we helped Al and Janis Butler, of Jackson, celebrate their anniversary at Boyettes’s at Reelfoot Lake. I performed their wedding ceremony on the walkway over the water eight years ago. It is good to see the couples we’ve married add years to their marriages. We lost a 54 year-old nephew on August 1. He was the son of Phil and Vanesia Hill, now of Paris, TN. A memorial service was held at Johnson’s Chapel UMC near Paris. Georgia and I hosted her 56th high school reunion at our home church on August 9th. We had 42 people present for that happy event. League Bowling started up
again in August. We are not pro-bowlers but we enjoy the friendships and the challenges, and sometimes they are BIG challenges... I was privileged to play the piano for a three-night Revival at Bethesda, one church of a five-point charge to which Dr. Wayne Lamb appointed me in 1969. To me, it is a new congregation for there are less than 10 folks still there from that era. It is a vibrant and growing congregation led by the Rev. Emily Muzzall Walker. Georgia’s aunt, Doris Sunshine Robertson, (real name but I called her Granny Gert) 94 years old, passed away in August. She was the oldest member of Martin’s Chapel UMC where we attend. We were glad to have our daughter, Melissa, and David Cearfoss, and their son, Jonathan and his wife, Jenny, with us for a short visit that same weekend. Our other two Marietta, Georgia grandchildren could not get off work to make the trip. This fall things have slowed down somewhat except for the rain. We have had a lot and still expect more tomorrow. We have a lot for which to be thankful and want to remember the less fortunate who face the storms of life (of many kinds). We pray that God will provide them the strength, the will and patience to confront each day as He gives them. May God be with all of you retirees and especially those who continue to spread the Good News to the nations.

Nancy Wheatley (Huntingdon, TN): I talked with Nancy today. She said that she was doing very well but could not say that for her automobile. She was rear-ended in an accident recently which totaled her car. She escaped from under the seat belt with bruises and a cut. We are thankful for that, Nancy. She also reported that the last Memorial Golf Tournament honoring her late husband and our friend, Dossie Wheatley, had been held and raised $850 for Lakeshore. She wishes to extend her gratitude to Mark Matheny and Bill Vaughn for organizing this special event. Nancy plans to attend the Wheatley reunion which will be held at Gatlinburg in October. She reported her grandson, Kevin’s youngest son, will be married November 3rd. Kevin’s daughter has returned from working with the Peace Corp in Africa.

Steve & Christie Callicoat (Jackson, TN): Steven said he and the family were doing well and hanging in there with East Trinity and the three Wesley communities with which he works. They are kept busy by the grandchildren as they go to most of their soccer and football games.

Richard Denton (Brownsville, TN): I enjoy talking with Brother Richard as I did today. Considering all that he has been through, he always has positive points to show us. He said he was slowly making progress as he improves walking with a new leg. He, being a people-person, said he is considering a Senior Living community where he won’t be responsible for his meals and will be convenient in many ways. He said the family was doing well. Daughter, Pam, is now teaching in Bartlett School and son-in-law Barry Diebold is still Chief of Police in Brownsville. Their middle son, Stephen, is getting married in November and is a manager at the Wal-Mart in Ripley. Richard is getting ready for the 4th and final sock before the casting of a leg. In all his difficulties, Richard asks us to remember our friend, the Rev. Dick Haley who is not doing well. Send your prayers for all of them.
Robert and Jackie Gardner (Paris, TN) have been fighting a family of raccoons that have taken up residence in their attic. Their solution: playing loud music and frequently blowing an air horn. Both the raccoons and their neighbors have moved out!

Steve and Deb Webb (Murray, KY) ask for your prayers as Deb continues to struggle with Lymph edema following treatment for cancer. (Cards of encouragement can be sent to Deb at: 73 Riviera Courts, Murray, KY 42071)

Freddie and Sherryl Moore (Memphis, TN): Freddie recently celebrated his 75th birthday. He remains active, preaches occasionally, and serves as a foster grandparent and mentor at a daycare center.

Tommie and Charlotte Martin (Sharon, TN) are doing well. They have been busy this summer keeping their garden.

Linda McLargin (Memphis, TN) is happy and enjoying her retirement. Medically, she is doing better than ever. Although she is taking dialysis treatments once a week, she is no longer considered a diabetic. She says, “That machine is doing its job!” She is very proud of her three grandchildren. Parks is a junior at Ole Miss, Anna Claire is a freshman at UT, Chattanooga, and Ian is in the seventh grade and lives in Florida. Linda enjoys volunteering and the fellowship of the nearby Holy Communion Episcopal Church.

John and Karen Lee continue to enjoy living at the Go Ye Village Retirement Center in Tahlequah, Oklahoma. Although they are a minority group in the middle of the capital of the Cherokee Nation, they have found the Indian culture to be friendly, gracious and accepting of their “Arkansas-Tennessee” (John) and Michigan (Karen) backgrounds. They have met many wonderful people. In addition to being active in the Tahlequah Cornerstone Church, Karen teaches a ladies Bible class every Friday. John serves as a chaplain at the Northeastern Health Center Hospital. They have also ministered at the Cornerstone Church in Muskogee, OK. On December 15th, John is inviting family and friends to help him celebrate Karin’s 80th birthday. The reception will be held in the Go Ye Village restaurant facilities.

Mary and I are always on the go, sometimes too fast. I stumped my toe at the Nashville Costco and did a three-point landing: knee, elbow and finger. No broken bones but a severely bruised ego. Two employees offered to help me up. For the first time in my life, I accepted the offer. I have started what I call 'Church of the Internet'. It is not a church of course. It is a place where shut-ins or anyone finding it difficult to attend a regular service can connect. I
encourage their stories of faith. I give a brief easy-to-follow devotion. I am very pleased with the response and will soon reach 300 members. There will never be money involved. I have a new book entitled “Words to Touch the Heart”. It has 99 uplifting quotes and is suitable as gifts for shut-ins or anyone needing a lift to their spirit. It is available for $6.50 plus postage.

**Herbert Bennet (Hollow Rock, TN):** Herbert reports he may be classified as disabled but feels he is doing alright for 94. He misses his wife he added with a tear in his voice. (Aliene passes away 2 years ago).

**Zolan & Faye Clayton (Selmer, TN):** Zolan is in rehab following a brain bleed/stroke. At 78, Zolan is strong and working toward recovery. Faye is an excellent caregiver spending many hours a day at the rehab center. We pray for a full recovery for him and many active years to come.

**Jerry & Dot Carr:** After settling their daughter's estate (It was reported last issue they had lost their daughter to cancer) they moved to the Heritage at Brentwood, TN which is a life care facility. They report they are doing well and feeling very much at home. They extend best wishes to everyone! Gratefully and joyfully they remain steadfast in the Lord.

**Calvin & Judy Clark (Shelbyville, KY) report:** “After several visits to the hospital this year, we are finally doing well. Calvin will celebrate his 78th birthday on September 28th, with the help of our two grandsons ages 5 and 7. We get to see them about once a week and there is always a little “something” in the cupboard for them. Our life has changed a little with the loss of our little dog a few months ago. We had her for twelve years and she was a big part of our family. She brought us a lot of joy, but life moves on and we are thankful for each day that she was with us.

**Reporter Jacque Stricker**

**Harold and Jacque Stricker (Cottage Grove, TN) missed the Retirees Retreat (and we really missed not being with the Retirees). We so much enjoy the fellowship and support of the group. This may have been only the second or third retreat we have had to miss. This time it was due to the uncertainty with our son in Albuquerque. I am afraid some miscommunication gave the impression we lost our son, but the care and love from the cards we received was truly felt and appreciated. The only communication we are able to have is through emails because the cancer is in his throat and into the brain. The last communication we had he said his brain clarity had improved recently, but it will be short lived. Hospice is coming to his home, so that helps with his strength. Our daughter is home now from Arizona where they did
treatments to try to help with the Lyme disease. While she was there, her doctor felt she needed an MRI and they found a lesion on her brain. They recommended that she see a neurologist when she came home. The doctor has increased her seizure medication, so we are hoping this will help. Our family’s faith in God is strong, and even though we may not like what is happening, we are not walking alone and all will turn out for God’s glory. We just finished a four-night “Community Revival” at the Cottage Grove School with Cedar Hill Baptist Church, Cottage Grove Baptist Church, Olive Branch and Cottage Grove Methodist Churches. This was to reach the community for Christ but not sure whether it was “church” people who came or others. The main thing was coming together as one for Christ and now they are talking about doing this next year with the prospects of an annual event.

So happy to hear that Joe Walker, Sr. (Springville, TN) is home now and doing much better. He is still receiving intense rehab, so Harold was unable to visit with him. We are thankful he is doing so well, and Harold hopes to visit with him soon.

Our prayers are with Grace Lynn (Statonville, TN) and family in the loss of Paul. We pray God’s love and peace be with them during this time. The few times I spoke with Paul, he was always excited about the churches he was serving. He will be missed.

I talked with Mary Wright (Jackson, TN) and she is doing well. She hasn’t been sick and is able to go church when someone can take her. Mary and her son, Keith Wright, recently went to a funeral for Mary’s niece in Martin. I asked Mary how Keith was doing, and she said he was doing fine, just trying to keep her out of trouble.

Mary Jane and Richard King (Paris, TN) are doing well. Rick is doing much better after having surgery for a broken hip last fall. Mary Jane said in a couple of weeks they will be headed toward Lake Junaluska.

H.B and Rosie Fields (Paris, TN) are well and spending a lot of evenings waiting at the school for their grandchildren following after-school practices or band competition. H.B. says his bed calls him about nine in the evening so waiting until 11 or 12 o’clock is hard on an “old” man. H.B. said he was finishing up on fixing a car and has two more waiting for him. The church at Eva, TN is going well. They lost a few members but also gained a few.

We visited Covie Byars at Paris Health Care. She looked so pretty waiting for her daughter to come and bring her some chicken. She said the food there is good, but she’s not real fond of green beans or peas. She would love to hear from you. Her address is: 300 Volunteer Dr., Rm 411, Paris, TN 38242
**Reporter Marcia Tate**

Bill & Marcia Tate (Jackson, TN) report: We were busy during the month of September with wedding plans for our son. They were married Sept. 22 and Bill was honored to officiate. We are so happy for them. We celebrated the day with many friends and family. On Oct. 1 & 2 we attended the Retirees’ Retreat. There were fewer in attendance this year, but it was an enjoyable experience for all who attended. If you have never been to one of the retreats you should put it on your calendar for next year. It is sure to be a blessing. We are trying to clean out the garage and organize things. It is also time to do the fall cleanup in the yard.

**Reporter Deborah Matthewson**

Deborah & Harry Matthewson (Memphis, TN): Our vacation this summer was one of the best and most memorable we have ever experienced. It was just the right blend of green mountains, blue ocean, history, and family time all rolled into one. We visited Virginia Beach about a week before Hurricane Florence struck. After a relaxing time we moved on to tour Montpelier (home of James and Dolly Madison) and climbed up Kill Devil's Hill, which is a very steep and large sand dune, where Wilbur and Orville Wright flew the first airplane. We were also able to visit Morgantown, West Virginia, where I was born and raised for the first 16 years of my life. We turned northward and visited Shankstown, Pennsylvania, and the 9/11 Flight 93 Memorial. Although the airplane crashed in the field, the United States Capitol was saved. We also spent one day touring the HUGE replica of Noah's Ark in Williamstown, Kentucky, 40 miles south of Cincinnati. The Ark is the same size and dimensions of the original Ark. I was blessed to spend a day with an old friend and her husband. I was in their wedding 43 years ago, and had not seen them since. Harry and I still continue with our animal rescue ministry and will be doing a Blessing of the Animals service in observance of St. Francis of Assisi this coming weekend at Hollywood Feed Store.

Charles & Ruth Leist (Memphis, TN): Charles is struggling with Parkinson's Disease diagnosed two years ago. It is suspected that this disease went undetected for up to 10 years. Charles struggles with walking, standing, hearing, and has some issues with his sight. He had knee replacement surgery about 4 years ago and needs his other knee replaced, but he is not strong enough to undergo that surgery. He takes exercises in rehab to try to ease this knee. Ruth keeps busy with all the driving to the grocery store, doctors' appointments, and any other shopping. Their son, Carlton, and his wife, Jana, are very helpful in bringing home cooked meals and other support. Charles and Ruth reside in Wesley Highland Terrace on Highland Street near the University of Memphis. They welcome visitors, but ask you to call first (901-486-1455).
Fred Morton (Bartlett, TN) share with me a wonderful article he wrote in The Commercial Appeal on June 27, 2018. It was entitled “50 years later, It Was Time for me to March”. The article chronicles Fred’s experience as a Methodist minister serving in Memphis during the civil rights struggles of the 1960’s. Many of the issues we faced in the 60’s, we still face today. This summer, there has been a revival of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.’s “Poor People’s Campaign”. Several marches have occurred in the mid-south bringing attention to the need to “attack the root causes of poverty and racism”. Fred says that he “neglected to join the march 50 years ago – he was not going to miss this one”. Fred continues answering his call to be an advocate of the poor and marginalized by marching in rallies. He participated in three rallies held in Nashville this summer. The article is excellent and written from the heart. Its length made it difficult to include in The News ‘N’ Views. I wanted our readers to be able to read this article in its entirety as well as the follow up article written a month later.

The articles can be found at:


Joseph Skelton (Benton, KY): Joseph explained to me that he still struggles from the effects of a severe spinal infection that he sustained some time ago. This infection rendered Joseph weak and unable to walk without assistance. Joseph’s primary caregiver is his retired son-in-law. He also is assisted by his daughter, Christina Haltom.

Shirley Small (North Point, FL): Shirley is a recent widow, having lost her husband, Tom, in June of this year. Shirley shared how much she appreciates the cards, e-mails, flowers, and especially the prayers from members of the Memphis Conference. Shirley and Tom were married for 44 years. This is a time of adjustment for Shirley, but she realizes that God is always with her and that Tom is in Heaven and no longer suffering. Shirley is well established in her church and has friends where she lives in Florida. She enjoys her church life where she is active in mission, music, and children’s ministry. Additionally, Shirley enjoys walking on the beach and riding a bicycle with her friends. Shirley was not affected by the recent hurricanes. She is relieved that the red tide is finally leaving her beach on the west coast of Florida. She said
that red tide is caused by pollution, including plastics in the ocean and Gulf. This kills the fish, keeps people out of the water, damages the fishing industry, and impacts the wonderful local seafood restaurants. Shirley says, "Something needs to be done about the environment."

**Reporter Joe Moseley**

Things are going well with the Moseleys. Carol and I thank God daily for our restored health. Since my last report, we’ve been busy. I continue to preach at South Tipton County’s Bread of Life ministry on a regular basis. In October, we attended two reunions: my high school’s 55th and a WHBQ Radio get together with those who worked there in the late 70’s and early 80’s. In September, I preached homecoming services at St. Paul (Lauderdale County) and Marvin’s Chapel (Haywood). I also taught a five-week Methodist 101 class to young adults. It was supposed to be a three-week class but interesting questions and great discussion about the state of the United Methodist Church stretched it to five. It was one of the most interesting and rewarding classes I’ve ever done!!! In August we spent a week in Aruba and by the time you read this, we will have also attended a luncheon with former members of Frayser Heights United Methodist Church. This is something we’ve been doing for years. In January we’ve booked a cruise to the Bahamas. For all this, we continue to thank God for our health and ability to do these all these things. Blessings to all and remember, "Keep the faith, but not to yourself."

**Martha & Jerry Wagley (Memphis, TN) report:** It has been awhile since we have contributed to News and Views. However, Jerry and I have enjoyed each edition and send appreciation to the reporters and to Beverlyann for her fine work. Our exciting news: Memphis First United Methodist Church celebrated their first Sunday in their new sanctuary on August 5th. It was a great day of celebration of God’s Faithfulness and the Faithfulness of the congregation at First. Our District Superintendent, Dr. Deborah Smith, gave an inspirational sharing plus led the Dedication. The fire of 2006 destroyed the sanctuary but not the church. Now, 12 years later, the Sanctuary is rebuilt. Jerry was the chairperson of the Building Committee and they worked very hard for about 17 months to make this a reality. Pastor Andy Rambo and I, along with several in the congregation, raised the funds needed to bring us to this point. There is no debt incurred. There is still finishing touches needed at this
time. To God be the glory! The mission of Christ continues through the ministry of Memphis First Church. You are welcome to worship with us, or come by and see the sanctuary.

**Reporter Bobbie Clarke**

**Kenneth & Gail Wilkerson (Johnson City, TN):** I enjoyed so my conservation with Ken and Gail. We shared stories about all the places we have served and people we have met along the way. We shared many memories and I am thankful for the friendship they extended to my John. They really loved the time they spent here in Jackson but also enjoy living in Johnson City.

**Philip & Julie Cook (Dyersburg):** I have never met Philip or Julie, but I enjoyed getting to know them a little better during our phone conservation. He has 3 grown and married children, 5 grandchildren, and 7 great-grandchildren. His wife, Julie, has 2 children. Her son is at the University of Washington studying geophysics and her daughter is a full-time missionary in Kampala, Uganda serving with Africa Inland Mission (AIM).

**Larry & Jenifer Daniels (Jackson, TN) are keeping very busy.** Jennifer still teaches at the Lexington High School. Larry is completing his eighth book. He is quite a scholar on the Civil War. His latest book is entitled: “Conquered; Why the Army of Tennessee Failed”. It will be published next spring by the University of North Carolina Press.

**Bobbie Clarke (Jackson, TN) would like to give a special thanks for all the love and care the Clarke family received during John’s illness and death.** Your love help sustain her during a very difficult time.

**Ed Note:** Bobbie reports that she loves calling the retirees on her list. She enjoys making new friendships and rekindling old ones. It is easy for her to find common ground even with people she has never met. She says it is fun exchanging stories of their ministries. One person commented, “Miss Bobbie, you must be a happy person – you talk like you are smiling”. Yep – that is Miss Bobbie!

**Reporter Pat Calhoun**

**Jim & Pat Calhoun (Union City, TN):** Jim was recently treated for chest pain and was admitted to the Union City Baptist Hospital. After closer examination, it was determined that he was suffering from pancreatitis and not a cardiac issue. He spent 2 weeks in the hospital, 4 days were in C.C.U. During his stay at the hospital, Jim experience some arrhythmias and his heart had to be shocked back into rhythm. Jim is now home, recovering and regaining his strength. Pat says they are deeply indebted to their church family and neighbors for all their support.
Paul Peck (Paducah, KY): This has been a difficult year of adjustment for Paul after the death of Ora Bell (Feb 17, 2017). He remains in his home and enjoys it when his Meals on Wheels and Home Health team comes by. He is moving about a little better with the aid of his walker.

Jeannie Penney (Jackson, TN): I spoke with Jeannie’s daughter, Teresa, and learned that Jeannie has had a difficult year. In addition to being diagnosed with Parkinson’s disease, she was hospitalized with pneumonia. During her illness, Jeannie says she appreciated both the support of her family and her church family (Northside U.M.C.) who provided hot meals every day for over 3 months. 2018 is also a time of celebrating and welcoming a new great-granddaughter, Bexley Jude Penney, daughter of Travis and Ashlee Penney. Travis is the pastor of Malesus U.M.C. and was ordained this year at Annual Conference. Jeannie was proud to share that she has three children, seven grandchildren, nine great-grands, and three great-great-grands. This summer brought some additional excitement as a tornado damaged her carport and car. Thankfully damage to the main house was minimal.

Shirley Lynn (Memphis, TN): I had the opportunity to talk with Shirley’s son, Billy. Shirley is living at the Kirby Pines Estate and is as cheerful and smiling as ever. Time may be slowing her down a little (as it is all of us!) but she continues to be a blessing to those around her.

Reporter Jenna Garland

Jenna Garland (from the greater metropolitan area of Hazel, KY) enjoyed the Retirees’ Retreat at Lakeshore again this year. She appreciates Carol Craig’s willingness to be her chauffeur and drive her to Lakeshore. Jenna enjoyed the Civil War presentation held at Pilot Knob during the retreat.

Robert and Doris Sawell (Murray, KY) enjoyed a trip to Branson, MO. this summer. When I called, they were concerned about their sick dog. Our pets quickly become family members and we grieve when they are sick. Hope he is feeling better.

Faye Garrett (Murray, KY) has recently had a little heart problem but is feeling better. She enjoys having her grandson stay with her. Faye’s son works in North Carolina and helped evacuate a nursing home during the recent storm. So many people have been affected by hurricanes this year. We need to lift them up in our prayers (and support relief efforts like U.M.C.O.R.).
I was unable to reach most of the people that I was to call. With this warm fall weather, I hope they are out and about enjoying the sunny day before the onset of winter cold. I have recently returned from a trip to New England to see the changing of the leaves. A good friend and I flew to Boston to join a Globus Bus Tour of the New England states. Most of the leaves had not changed! One day near the border of Canada we saw beautiful red leaves, but they were the only ones! The rest were all still green. However, I still enjoyed the trip. Small New England towns are interesting, our other travelers were pleasant, the food (especially the lobster) was delicious, and the time spent with a longtime friend was priceless.

I talked with Oma Strickland. She and Bob live in Hickory Withe, TN. They enjoy country living, surrounded by pastures and woods with wild life, but are also close enough to walk at Wolfchase Mall in Bartlett, TN. Oma sings with the church choir and with the Memphis Symphony Chorus. She participates in ARISE 2 Read, a program that teaches reading through word recognition games, at South West Elementary in Fayette County, TN. Each helper is called a coach. She also works with the Archives in Fayette County. Bob had served the churches in Braden and Mason before I did so we have several mutual friends and we reminisced about those days.

Betty Young has lived in Newbern, TN, in the same house for over forty years. Her Methodist minister husband died young and she stayed in Newbern and taught high school English and raised her children. I taught English as well before going to seminary mid-life so we had much to talk about. The retired ministers and spouses in her area meet for lunch at Reelfoot Lake or the Grecian’s in Dyersburg on the fourth Thursday of each month at 11:30 a.m. from January to October. They will also meet in December. Please call Betty (731-627-6141) for the time and place in December.

I hope each of you are doing well and that you have wonderful Thanksgiving and Christmas times with you family and churches. May God continue to bless and use you. Grace and peace, Gail Gaddie.

Staying in touch … that is what the News ‘N’ Views is all about.

As you read the News, pray for your friends and colleagues. Addresses are available to you from your district office or from the conference office (731-664-8480). Share your news – we want to hear from you. Our goal is to contact each retiree every year. We frequently find our data base (Brick River) has outdated phone numbers or e-mail addresses. If you have not been contacted, please feel free to contact the editor, Beverlyann Jetton (contact info on address page).

Thank you to the Retirees’ Association Executive Committee for their faithful service. Tom Smith, President; Michael Blake, Vice President; Historian, Carol Craig; Members at Large: Russell Gallimore, Beverlyann Jetton, Vida McClure, David Comperry
A helping hand for those who have spent their lives serving the churches in the Memphis Conference…

The Memphis Annual Conference is now partnering with The Shepard’s Fund to offer a safety net for retired ministers when they or their spouse (or widow) encounters a health crisis. After having faithfully served God and His people, they should not carry financial worries due to a medical need. Retired ministers and their spouses can receive relief of up to $10,000 each year to help with bills and other financial concerns related to a health crisis.

The application process is easy. Retired clergy, retired clergy spouses, disabled pastors, and retired pastors who have children or guardianship of children with medical needs should contact the Conference Treasurers office or their District Superintendent to request an application. The application only requires basic information and a brief description of the need. From there the application will be returned to the Conference Treasurer who will send it to The Shepherd’s Fund. The Shepherd’s Fund will review it and work with their partner, Helping Hands Ministries to evaluate it. Helping Hands will contact the clergy and manage the grant from the Shepherd’s Fund, they often pay cost directly.

If you have any questions, contact Larry or Clare at the Conference Office, 731-664-5540.

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