Thank you Purchase District and the 2018 Memphis Conference Planning Committee for a wonderful event. I enjoyed talking to many of our retirees at the Board of Pensions luncheon and throughout all the sessions. Lane Camp did a wonderful job reporting and posting photos. You can view the entire album at:  www.memphis-umc.net/photoalbum/11474008

Festival of Wisdom and Grace
August 13-16, 2018

It’s not too late (but almost!) to register for the Festival of Wisdom and Grace at Lake Junaluska. Join others in the second half of life for a time of inspiration and renewal in the North Carolina mountains.

Workshops and programing include (in part): “Defining Your Purpose for the Second Half of Life” (Rev. Dr. Clayton Smith), “Every Step a Prayer” (Rev. Thomas R. Hawkins) and “Wisdom to Share” (Rev. Donna Gaither). The UMC Southeastern Jurisdiction Association for Older Adults (SEJAOA) will hold a meeting concurrent with this conference. For more information contact: Lake Junaluska (800) 222-4930

We extend a warm welcome to the Retiree class of 2018:

We are excited about our 2018 Retreat. I hope you plan on attending.

Each year your executive committee works hard to plan an inviting and fun retreat – this year is no exception.

In addition to our time of relaxation and fellowship we will be welcoming Rev. Allan Trull to continue recounting the civil war history of the TN River area. For this presentation we will be meeting high on Piolt Knob overlooking the river.

We will also be welcoming Marvin Cropsey from the United Methodist Publishing House. Marvin has led countless older adult retreats and workshops across the country. He was the editor of Mature Years magazine and the New International Lesson Annual.

New This Year!

The Retirees’ Executive Committee is offering scholarships on a first come basis. (Just check the box on the Reservation form – it’s that simple)

Lakeshore is extending the invitation for people who travel a long distance to arrive the evening before the retreat (Sunday evening). Note: you will be designated the set up and decorating committee – but the work is easy and the fellowship fun. Please contact Beverlyann Jetton if you plan to arrive Sunday Night. Since staff will not be on duty Sunday night we will all need to arrive together to make it easier for Gary and Vickie Lawson.
Reservations

Name(s) ________________________________________________________________

Address: __________________________________________________________________

Phone: (___) ___________ E-mail: ______________________________________________________________________

Special Dietary Needs? __________________________ Golf cart assistance needed? ____________

☐ Cabin 1 $72.50 per person. This is the most mobility assessable cabin
Twin beds, bring your own linen

☐ Calhoun & Hopper Lodges - $72.50/ person Dorm room style with single beds, bring your own linens

☐ Calhoun & Hopper Lodges – 1 person $87.50, 2 persons $151
Semi-private rooms, private bath, linen provided

☐ Kaigler Lakeside Lodge – 2 people $143
Room with two queen or full beds & private bath, shared living room. Linens provided

☐ Shanklin Cottage – 1 person $109, 2 people $143
Cottage with two bedrooms, each with two queen beds and private bath and a shared living room. Linens Provided

☐ Commuter - $30/person (includes 3 meals)

☐ Tent/ Trailer - $10/per site & $36.50/per person (4 meals)

☐ I am applying for a scholarship to cover 50% of the retreat costs

☐ I plan to arrive Sunday night and will serve on the set up committee

Make Checks payable to: Lakeshore UMA
Mail to: Lakeshore UMA, 1458 Pilot Knob Rd, Eva, TN 38333
Registration Deadline: Monday, September 18, 2017
Memorial

Jimmy Ray Debardelben, March 21, 1935 - March 6, 2018
Correspondence may be send to his wife Pat at: 55 Forest Village Place, Cordova, TN 38018

Dr. Gary Richard Drum, April 26, 1945 – March 31, 2018

Ava Jean Wildes, May 4, 2018  Correspondence may be sent to her daughter, Mary Ann Wildes, 516 Briarwood Dr., Pensacola, FL 32506

Joan D. Eickhoff, June 12, 1926 – May 8, 2018

Grace Jarrell Williams Russell, July 4, 1924 – June 1, 2018
Correspondence may be sent to her daughter Peggy Russell Rudolph, 2131 Anderson Dr. S.W., Decatur, AL 35603

Bernice LaVernia Walker, September 2, 1933 – June 19, 2018
Correspondence may be sent to her husband, Rev Joseph Walker, Sr., 7910 Hwy. 69 S. Springville, TN 38256

Carol Montgomery, February 23, 1941 – June 19, 2018
Correspondence may be send to her husband, Ed Montgomery at 101 Skyline Dr., Munfordville, KY 42765

Norma Jean Hill Clark, June 7, 1928 – June 20, 2018
Correspondence may be sent to her son, Dr. Richard Clark, Memphis Conference Office, 24 Corporate Blvd, Jackson, TN 38305

Thomas George Small, Nov 13, 1935 – June 20, 2018
Correspondence may be sent to his wife, Shirley at 12244 Hernando Rd., North Point, FL 34287

Thomas Wright Pillow, Jan 13, 1936 – July 16, 2018

From the Mail Bag

Lula Bingham is keeping busy in Shreveport, Louisiana. She writes: “I live in a beautiful two bedroom apartment at The Stiles, Glen Retirement Community and enjoy many activities such as bingo, bean bag baseball, and playing bridge. I am involved in THREE United Methodist churches. I am a member of Noel Memorial United Methodist Church where I enjoy a great Sunday School Class. Noel has a van that picks me up at The Glen. I also enjoy a Tuesday night Bible Study group at Grace Community U.M.C. where my
daughter Betsy was on staff for two years. Becky has since been appointed to St. Luke’s U.M.C., so I got involved in their Upper Third group every month. I alternate worshiping at Noel and St. Luke’s. I am very excited that David and Cindy have moved to Shreveport. David is serving St. Luke’s as a Lay Pastor for Recovery Ministries.”

Marge Vaughn tells me that there isn’t much news in her family. She continues to live in her home in Jackson, TN. She enjoys walking every day – even if it is with a walker. She has great friends that call her, and her children visit frequently. She writes: “What more can I say, except that God is good all the time!”

Richard & Pat Smith recently moved to Frankfort, KY to be near their grandchildren. Upon retirement from fulltime ordained ministry (January 1, 2017), Richard worked for 15 months with Urban Ministry Initiative, a ministry which he founded. Pat fully retired from her part-time psychiatric nurse practitioner work in April of this year. Pat's mother, Eloise Webb, 92 years old, died on April 12 after many weeks of declining health. She had lived in Paducah for the last 20 years. Pat and Richard moved to Frankfort officially April 20th and are elated to be just one mile from their grandchildren, Grayson (9) and Asher (5). Their daughter Leanne and son-in-law Adam along with Grayson and Asher, are active members of First U.M.C. in Frankfort where Richard and Pat will make their church home. Their son, Clay, lives and works in Nashville in computer engineering.

Russell and Carroll Gallimore (Jackson, TN): Carroll and I are back from the 2018 Senior Olympics in Franklin, TN. For the 17th year, I gave the Invocation for the athletes' Torch and Oath Ceremony. I was also fortunate to win medals in all five of my events: two Gold, two Silver, and one Bronze. The Gold medals were in shuffleboard doubles and horseshoes. The Silver medals were in shuffleboard singles and mixed doubles table tennis (where I played down 22 years in the 60-65 age bracket!) The Bronze medal was in men's table tennis doubles, playing down in the 75-79 age bracket...I usually play in the 83 age group. I'm shooting for my 20th year in 2019. Carroll, as usual, was my number one cheerleader.

I am excited to welcome two new reporters to our staff: Robert Gardner of Paris, TN and Philip Jackson of Ripley, TN. I hop you enjoy calling and meeting new people.

Reporter Jacque Stricker

Harold and Jacque Stricker (Cottage Grove, TN) have been busy with family. Our middle son, who lives in Albuquerque, has cancer and isn’t doing well. His wife had been ill for several years and passed away last summer. During her illness he let his health slide and didn’t go to the doctor like he
should have. We do what we have to especially when it’s family. Our youngest daughter has Lyme disease. It is now affecting her neurological system. She has had one seizure and we are afraid to leave her alone. I go to Kentucky frequently to help with the family (especially the 23 month old twins). She is now in Arizona for treatment and will be there approximately 14 weeks, leaving the family in Kentucky. Our daughter has five children, adopted two, and has taken in these twins because the parents are on drugs. She also takes in all the other children in the area overnight, or for a week, whatever is needed. Our other three children are doing well. Our grandchildren are growing up in the Lord and we feel blessed. Harold hasn’t had time for climbing trees, or having me on the tractor helping him up in the tree or bring down a tree (ugh). We are like others: mowing and mowing and mowing. Between mowings, I pick a few blueberries. Our yield is down from previous years due to the late freeze. The few things I planted in the garden (corn, tomatoes, squash and bell peppers) are not doing very well. I am hopeful to have enough corn for our family reunion, which is my main objective. Despite my complaints, we are doing well and thank God for the many blessings He has given us.

Harold called Joe Walker (Springville, TN) and spoke with Joe Jr. Right now, Joe Sr. is in the hospital. He will be going to Cane Creek for several weeks of rehab. As you know, Bernice passed away in June, leaving Joe Sr. after 63 years of marriage. He is doing alright, but missing Bernice. Joe Jr., has had shoulder surgery and is recovering. All those who have had shoulder surgery can sympathize and know what he is going through.

Zada Russ (Madison, TN) is doing well. She is thankful God is in control of the weather and not her. She is staying in most of the time to keep cool. She is doing a lot of reading and says she needs to get back into the groove and finish her ninth homeless mat. Zada weaves the mats out of discarded plastic bags. She had a short stay in the hospital but is doing just fine now. She wants to tell everyone hello and hopes everyone has a wonderful summer.

Richard and Mary Jane King (Paris, TN) are doing great. Rick has recovered nicely from a broken hip and with the therapy he is doing better than ever. They are getting ready to go to Lake Junaluska and are excited since they really haven’t been out of town in a long time. They are hoping everyone is enjoying their summer.

Mary Wright (Jackson, TN) has been “plugging along”. She went down to Decatur, AL for a visit with Jean Mathis, one of her four sisters. She hasn’t been sick at all so she feels really blessed.

Paul and Grace Lynn (Statonville, TN) are doing well. They went to Michigan for their granddaughter’s college graduation. They have family there and really enjoyed visiting with them. Their son-in-law that had a heart attack in February but is doing much better. The churches are growing. They had a couple baptized this last Sunday and have prospects for 5 new members. Both churches get along well and share in a 5th Sunday lunch. We are so glad Paul and Grace are here in the Memphis Conference.
H.B and Rosie Fields (Paris, TN) are also doing well. They went on a small vacation right after Conference and now getting back into the groove of things. He says he wakes up never knowing what to put on - His cowboy hat, his greasy mechanical hat, or his carpenter belt. At any rate, he’s thankful because he has no schedule. He gets up for “whatever”. The churches are doing well.

Reporter Glen Hill

Nancy Wheatley (Huntingdon, TN) has kept a busy schedule. She enjoys watching basketball, especially cheering on the Huntingdon High School girls’ team in the state tournament. After basketball comes golf. She enjoys the group she plays with, especially having her brother, Danny, join them. This is the first year in many, many years that Nancy did not attend Conference. She had an opportunity to travel to Washington D.C. with her daughter & son-in-law, Marianne and John Archer. She visited her grandson, Scott, who works as an architect in the D.C. area. Scott was an excellent tour guide.

Plans are being made for the annual Dossie Wheatley golf tournament. It will be at the McKenzie Carroll Lake Golf Course on September 20th. Tee times begin at 8:30 AM. All proceeds will go to Lakeshore. Contact Mark Matheny (memtheny@gmail.com) or Nancy Wheatley (nancyj42@charter.net) for more information.

Al Doyle (Franklin, TN): I spoke with Brother Al tonight who said he was doing pretty good for the circumstances. He reports that is family is doing well but are scattered all over: He has grandchildren living in Texas, New York, Alabama and even one in China. He always appreciates calls and prayers.

Richard Denton: The phone number I had for Richard is incorrect but with stealth detective work (and Facebook) I found his daughter Pam Denton Diebold. She reports that Richard is recovering from recent surgeries and is expecting to go back to his own home in Brownsville soon. Send prayers up for Brother Richard (and a card: 186 Lakeview Drive, Brownsville, TN 38012)

Glenn & Georgia Ann Hill (Murry, KY): The Hills of Kentucky attend Martin’s Chapel U.M.C. in Murray, KY. We were happy to have had the Rev. Steve Cavitt as our guest preacher for our 182nd Anniversary celebration speaker. Bro. Steve, Teresa, Georgia and I go “way back.” Our preacher, Tim Escue, is at Emory for the Course of Study this month. I have filled in three Sundays for him. He will be back in the pulpit latter this month and I am sure the congregation is ready for his return. We enjoyed attending Annual Conference in Paducah. It is always good to see old friends and make new ones. We attended several of the sessions, worship experiences and had great fellowship. I am still active selling Eagle Buildings and Quality Outdoor Products (carports, barns, etc.) in Murray and was happy that May 2018 turned out to be my second best month in my three years with the company. It fulfills a need I enjoyed in my active ministry – contact with people. Sadness and happiness came in June with the loss of a member of our bowling team. Randy Bennett is being missed already. I assisted Robert Baker with his funeral. Randy was a dedicated and beloved member of South Pleasant Grove U.M.C. The happiness was caused when I officiated the wedding of another South Pleasant Grove member, Miss Darrah Clark, and Mr. Cody Jackson at her home place. Georgia and I attended the sixth birthday party of our oldest great-grandchild, Sawyer Lee Hill. They get older
much too fast! After celebrating the birthday we headed to Georgia to visit with our daughter, Melissa Cearfoss, and family. We enjoyed celebrating the fourth of July with them, but it was a short visit as I had to be at work in Murray, KY the next morning (and I made it - on time!) Hope all are enduring the hot summer as we are and thank God for bountiful rain we have had this summer. May God send blessings your way.

**Reporter Pat Calhoun**

**Tommy & Beverly Jowers (Dyersburg, TN)** enjoyed having their son and his family visit from Tazwell, Virginia. Their son and his wife have an eight month old baby girl who got a rocky start on life arriving at only two pounds. The Jowers’ are planning a 13 day bus tour of several of the western states latter this year. (Ed’s. Note: - and as always, we are looking forward to seeing some of their pictures).

**Elizabeth Nance** has moved from the Memphis Conference and is living in Aiken, South Carolina with her daughter, Carol. Elizabeth also has a granddaughter and two great-grandchildren living nearby. The last two years have been full of adjustments after her husband, Dub’s death. She is thankful for the 62 years that they shared and praises God for the good health she enjoys.

**Cecil and Theron Kirk** are living in Cane Ridge, TN, just outside of Nashville. They enjoyed being back on this side of the river for Annual Conference. In August they are planning a trip to North Carolina to visit their son. October brings the Retirees Retreat at Lakeshore which they look forward to attending.

**Jim and Pat Calhoun (Dyersburg, TN)** are also looking forward to the Annual Retirees Retreat. Pat will be leading our “Welcome Back – It’s Good to See You” icebreakers. She puts a great deal of time in planning and we enjoy the activities. Of course, we have no plans of letting her retire!

**NEW Reporter Robert Gardner**

**Robert and Jackie Gardner (Paris, TN)** became the proud grandparents of Tristan Isaiah who arrived into this world at seven pounds, ten ounces, a healthy set of lungs and a hearty appetite. They are also anticipating and preparing for the next phase of their life as “empty nesters” as their youngest son goes to Middle Tennessee State University this fall. He plans to major in finance and marketing. Robert is enjoying retirement as one of the best seasons of his life.

**Charlotte Mansfield (Cordova, TN)** is doing well and enjoys receiving and reading the News ‘N’ Views to see what everyone is doing. She appreciates all the effort that is put into publishing this newsletter.
William and Janet Miller (West Paducah, KY) reports that all is well on their end of the conference. William was reappointed to serve the McKendree church in McCraken County, KY.

**Reporter Gail Gaddie**

The Jordans (Nesbit, MS) are having a quiet summer. In May we joined Kay's three siblings and their spouses to celebrate her youngest brother, Bob's, retirement by spending a week on Topsail Island near Wilmington, N.C. We enjoyed great seafood, visiting a couple of antebellum homes, time on the beach, and great spring weather. Best of all we enjoyed each other's company. Back in Nesbit, Kay continues to volunteer at the Desoto Literacy Council teaching English, assuming the responsibilities of Lay Leader at Trinity U.M.C., and caring for grandson, Daniel, when needed. Craig has been busy with summer chores, riding his horse when weather permits, and volunteering with an equine therapy program, Southern Reins, near Hernando. In August, Craig will join their son, Michael, for a father-son weekend in Denver to see Cardinals-Rockies baseball and in late August Craig resumes his teaching responsibilities at Rhodes College.

Gail and Benny Hopper (Jackson, TN) took their 4 children and their spouses to Hawaii this July. There were nine adults in the group. They spent two wonderful weeks in Hawaii and had a great trip.

**Reporter Deborah Mathewson**

For Dale and Charlene Mills (White Bluff, TN), the first half of 2018 has been busier than usual. Their eldest son, Bobby, has moved back to Tennessee and bought a log house with a fishing lake in the front yard, near Hohenwald. After Charlene and Dale helped with the move, Dale has now volunteered to help take a census of the number of fish in the lake. Dale and Charlene attended their granddaughter, Elizabeth’s graduation. Elizabeth graduated with honors from Carson Newman University in Johnson City, TN. She has been accepted at Oxford University, England, where she will complete her Master's Degree next summer. She leaves for Oxford in late September and plans to make only one trip home at Christmas. Their grandsons, Matthew and Zachary, spent a few days in White Bluff, TN for spring break. Matthew is touring colleges for a major in music. He attended violin camp at Belmont University in Nashville. Dale and Charlene were able to attend the closing concert. Zachary has been accepted on a traveling soccer team in Greenwood, Tennessee, and they hope to see Zachary play soccer sometime this fall. Charlene is battling arthritis, diabetes, vertigo, and back problems, but she is still very, very active at Craggie Hope Church where Dale is preaching. Dale's grandmother used to say, "It is better to burn out than to rust out." Following her advice, "rusting out" does not seem to be an immediate problems for the Mills in the near future.
Joe and Mary Ann Piercey (Cordova, TN): Joe report that he and Mary Ann are thoroughly enjoying their retirement. Both are blessed with good health and "do as we please and what we want to do," says Joe. Right now Joe and Mary Ann are enjoying time in the Smokey Mountains where it is cooler than the Memphis area. Last year when Joe turned 80, he decided after 60 years, to give up preaching, marrying, and burying. He has given that over to his younger colleagues. He and Mary Ann are active in the Colonial Park UMC in Memphis. Mainly, Joe and Mary Ann are enjoying spending most of their time with all of their family, all of whom reside nearby in Shelby County. The next major celebration in the Piercey family will be their 59th wedding anniversary on August 22, 2018. CONGRATULATIONS!

Dennis and Judy Renshaw. This summer we are traveling in our 5th Wheel RV through Canada and Alaska. Canada has breathtaking scenery from snow-capped mountains to turquoise lakes like Lake Louise in Banff National Park. Dawson Creek, Alaska is the "0" Mile Marker for the Alaska Highway and traveling the highway provided many sightings of wildlife: deer, elk, bears, as well as a herd of bison on both sides of the road. As adventurers, we took the Klondike Highway to Dawson City from Whitehorse, waited three hours to cross by ferry to the Top of the Mountain Road. Driving this dirt and sometimes gravel road, with potholes and frost heaves for 130 miles took four hours. As we were coming down the mountain, we crossed the border into Alaska and spent the first night in Chicken (years ago gold miners wanted to name their newly built "town" after a local bird but no one knew how to spell its name but they could spell "Chicken--thus the name of the town). Moving on to Tok, we spent two nights at Sourdough RV Park...enjoying the evening entertainment of Pancake Throwing Contest for a free breakfast. Of the six winners of the 40 attempting the throw, both Dennis and Judy got a free breakfast!! Spent the next few days in the North Pole (close to Fairbanks) and saw Santa Land; reindeer; rode an authentic stern-wheeler Riverboat. A bush-type float plane landed by the boat and gave us an overview of his experiences; we saw an authentic sled dog kennel along the river and they shared their training process and gave us a demonstration as their dogs pulled a 4-wheeler with no engine; further along we experienced an authentic Athabasca Indian Village and got off the boat to hear more about traditions, see dwellings, how animal skins are used and much more. We traveled on to Denali National Park and were blessed to experience an eight hour narrated bus tour of a large portion of the park on a very clear day and saw Denali Mountain which is the highest mountain in North America at 20,310 feet. (Only 30% of visitors to Denali actually get to see the mountain due to weather conditions.) During the day we saw caribou, Dall sheep, moose, Grizzly bears and a falcon. At the time of the writing, we just arrived in Anchorage and have many more
anticipated examples of God's majestic beauty to experience as we move through Alaska and back through Canada to home.

**Harry & Deborah Mathewson (Memphis, TN):** Harry and I are braving the extreme Memphis heat and poor air quality as best as we can. I have managed the heat by swimming at the local YMCA outdoor pool. We have also been to Lake Chewalla near Holly Springs, Mississippi a couple of times and to a fun water park in Little Rock. We enjoyed a fun, patriotic July 4th celebrating with three friends at the Cracker Barrel, attending the patriotic concert performed by the Memphis Wind Symphony, and seeing the fireworks at the Germantown Park. The concert was directed by Barry Troubaugh, who is also band director of the Munford High School Band. Earlier in the day, we shared lunch with Harry's 91 year old mother and a family friend at Central Bar-B-Que on Summer Avenue. These activities have become part of our tradition. We are pleased that Harry’s mother is doing so well and is enjoying living at St. Peter Manor in mid-town Memphis. In August, Harry and I will begin our vacation visiting my cousins in Morgantown, West Virginia. We will also visit Virginia Beach, Williamsburg, and the Outer Banks of North Carolina, and finish up with a tour of the Ark in northern Kentucky. We look forward to our time away for renewal and especially being with my cousins whom I grew up with in the 1950's and 1960's. I have not been with them for 3 years.

**Reporter Joe Moseley**

**Ken and Martha Uselton (Millington, TN):** Martha and I enjoyed the week following annual conference in the mountains with our children and grandchildren. It was a great time as we celebrated the youngest grandson’s first birthday and we embraced the cooler temperatures while enjoying swimming, birdwatching, creek stomping and more with family. The evenings found us gathered around a fire-pit making s’mores, sharing stories and making memories. The Clopton Church shared its annual Freedom Fireworks event for the community on Saturday, June 30. It is a means of reaching out to our community as well as a fund raiser for our youth with the strong support of our men’s fellowship. We are fortunate to have the help of the Tipton County Rescue unit to help with parking and our local fire department was also on sight in case of an emergency. We estimated that approximately 800 were in attendance, which shows a continuing growth.

**Larry and Martha Finger (Boonville, MS):** Larry Finger and I spoke and he says they are just taking it easy and enjoying retirement. Larry is slowly but surely recuperating from triple bypass surgery. He teaches a Sunday School Class every Sunday.
Joe and Carol Moseley (Atoka, TN): The theme song in the Moseley household is Willie Nelson’s “On The Road Again.” After 3 years of recouping from health battles, Carol and I are able to travel and we have enjoyed a cruise, a trip to see Carol’s sister in Maryland then onward to Jamestown, Yorktown, & Williamsburg, VA. Just last month we were able to take the trip we had planned for 2015 & 16. Our 22 day adventure was to Wyoming, Montana, North & South Dakota. It was a fabulous trip that afforded us many amazing sights and experiences. I continue to enjoy preaching occasionally as well as teaching Sunday School at Munford First. I am also looking forward to preaching at St. Paul’s U.M.C. homecoming (Lauderdale County) in September. Blessings to one and all & remember, "Keep the faith, but not to yourself."

Reporter Deborah Morris

My news is very "slim pickings" this time. I have tried several times to reach people on my list with not much success. Anyway, here goes -

Jo Elliott (Henderson, TN): Jo was very glad to report that she has no health issues - congratulations to her! She attended Conference in Paducah, serving as a delegate from her church. This allowed her to see many people that she hadn’t seen for a while. Her church had Vacation Bible School in July and Jo enjoyed helping. Watching her great-grandchildren "keeps her going." She and her family have a garden which is keeping them busy right now. They all plan a trip to the mountains in the fall.

Ed and Ruth Endsley (Benton, IL): When I talked to Brother Ed, he was in Indiana at a camp meeting. The Endsley family is growing - Ed was very proud to announce that in April he became a great-grandparent for the first time - a little girl. His wife already had a great-grandson, but is proud to announce that she also has a great-grand daughter born in June. They have seen both of these babies, and are just thrilled beyond words. Ed was able to attend Conference in Paducah for a day. He was glad to see friends from his days in the Memphis Conference. He also said that they are planning on attending the Retirees Retreat in October.

David and Deborah Morris (Humboldt, TN): Since May, we have spent much time in the doctor’s office with David. He is dealing with diabetic wounds on both of his legs. He is having to keep his legs elevated as often as possible and apply medicated dressings to them. It seems to be a never ending battle. We still are trying to get out some and walk indoors. Please keep us in your prayers.
Reporter Judd Mowery

Judd and Gale Mowery (Troy, TN): (Gale reporting) Greetings! We've had a busy summer so far this year. In May we went to our favorite regular vacation spot, Gulf Shores, and had a great time. We also attended the Collierville High School graduation of my grandson, Nathan Moore. He will be attending the University of Memphis this fall studying for a degree in engineering. For Memorial Day weekend we spent Saturday on Kentucky Lake with my niece and her husband, Rick and Christy Robinson. Both of my sons, Andy and Mike Moore and their families, along with my sister and her husband, Faye and John Brasfield, attended. It was a super fun day! We surprised Nathan with a graduation celebration. It was all good! Our Love and God's blessings to y'all

P.S. Since Judd usually writes this article, I just want to set the record straight. Since he makes my life sound like the 'life of Riley' (only senior adults would know what that means), I'm here to set the record straight! I sometimes work a whole week at the post office, and I don't watch nearly as much HGTV as he watches old western shows. HA!

Brady Whitehead (Springhill, TN): I called Brady and he reported that he is doing well and enjoying his retirement.

Michael Blake (Martin, TN): Time slips by so quickly in retirement. Not because time literally moves faster, but life's activities take longer to complete than when we were younger - at least that is one answer. Looking back on the calendar for the past three months, I am amazed what did happen and am I grateful. Another year has concluded in my position as treasurer of the Memphis Conference Relief Association. As the MCRA Board met before Conference, reports were given and decisions made. I shared a reminder that one more year will complete my three year commitment as treasurer. They are looking for a new treasurer to train with me until June 2019. Worship and funeral services are still part of my life as asked by pastors. For some twelve years, I have attended the same Covenant Group each week. Sundays I take my 95-year old mother to Freeman's Chapel U.M.C., worship with her, teach a newly formed college age Sunday School Class and print the church bulletins. In May, the clergy leadership asked me to become a part of a Chrysalis Flight. I accepted and attended team meetings. Martin First UMC men had their annual Crawfish Fundraiser. It was my first time eating crawfish. It was good after learning how to eat those steamed critters. My niece graduated from high school. It was a joy to watch her grow up, and now receive her diploma with plans for college this fall. I still belong to the Northwest Tennessee Photo Club and am still staying involved. The group calls me their 'Club Clergy'. Back in May, a week-long photo shoot was planned and the largest group went. I made reservations with them, but canceled at the last moment with an unexpected health issue that was resolved at the Germantown Methodist Hospital. The three day stay was enough and the doctors and nurses were exceptional and caring. And last, I just completed a weeklong stay at the Abby of Gethsemane outside of Bardstown, KY. The Trappist monks are a blessing to be around and I attend all seven daily
worship experiences. I am not sure, but this may be the seventh or eighth time I have received spiritual renewal and reflection at this monastery. Yes, time slips by so quickly.

The Passage of Time .... Remember when.......

1968
Long hair
Acid rock
Hoping for a BMW
Going to a new hip joint
Disco
Rolling Stones
Whatever

2018
Longing for hair
Acid reflux
Hoping for a BMW
Getting a new hip joint
Costco
Kidney Stones
Depends

Walter and Donna German (Jackson, TN): Walter enjoys being retired and getting to play golf with friends. He is teaching a Sunday School class at the Bemis U.M.C. and filling the pulpit at different churches. Walter and Donna will be going to visit their daughter, son-in-law and two grandsons in Richmond, Indiana. One of their grandsons is in high school and the other has completed three years of college at Ball State University, in Indiana.

Reporter Jenna Garland

I enjoyed going to Conference this year and getting to see many friends. I had a wonderful 4th of July at my cousin’s home. There were 77 at the Underwood (my family) reunion but it was also bitter sweet as five of my cousins as well as all my aunts and uncles have gone on to the Church Triumphant. Three of my cousins passed since right before Christmas and now I am the oldest in the family. Guess that makes me the matriarch of the clan. There were two new babies there and lots of little ones. My great nephew and his wife just completed adoption proceedings for their little boy. They have had him since he was 4 days old and he is over a year now. It takes a long time to get adoption finalized. They have two girls also that are adopted. Hope everyone has a good rest of this hot summer. I am thankful for air conditioning and all the other many, many blessings which we enjoy. We had a nice Purchase District picnic. Carol Craig and I sat with our new Pastor and his wife, Tony and Peggy Newman.

I had a nice conversation with Faye Garrett (Murray, KY). She said her son came from North Carolina and the whole family was together on the 4th of July. Everyone had a wonderful time. They don't get to be together very often so it was a real good time for Faye.
Dan Leslie (Kirksey, KY) emailed me. He said both he and Aileen are dealing with health issues but that he is looking forward to being at Mason's Chapel Homecoming in late July. Dan will be preaching at that event. He has been pastor at Mason's Chapel two different times.

Robert and Doris Saywell (Paris, TN): enjoyed going to Annual Conference at Paducah and they attended the fireworks at Murray on the 4th of July.

Carol Craig (Hazel, KY and Evansville, IN): Memorial Day weekend was spent in Memphis with son, Paul and his family. Granddaughter, Gracie, is adding new words daily. Her newest words are “super” and “flowers”. Carol also welcomed son, Dan, home from Ireland where his University Choir took top honors in the International Irish Choral Festival for the second year in a row. Not letting moss grow under her feet, Carol drove from Evansville to the Annual Conference in Paducah in June, and drove back to the Murray, KY area latter in June for a going away party for her pastor, April Arnold, then returned again in July to welcome incoming pastor Tony Newman (Mason Chapel U.M.C.). July 4th was spent at a block party in Evansville. Each month she visits Frank and Ann Gardner in Martin, TN so that she can attend the Mississippi River District retiree’s luncheon. Later this month Carol is looking forward to Mason’s Chapel Annual Homecoming. Mason’s Chapel was her late husband’s home church.

Reporter Tom Perkins

Dale and Charlene Mills (White Bluff, TN): are full of good news. He is seven years cancer free! Dale is preaching at Craggie Hope UMC which is just 30 miles from Nashville. Craggie Hope is likely the only church, UMC or otherwise, with that name. Quite a history behind that name if only space permitted inclusion here. Their youngest granddaughter is spending a year studying at Oxford in England. She is a Political Science major, but with a real interest in religion. They send their greetings

Thomas & Betty Bullock (Jackson, TN): are going strong. He is preaching at Moores Chapel in the Mississippi River District. He also conducts a 2:00 service each Wednesday at the 'Manor' in Humboldt. This leaves him enough time to meet with the retired ministers in the Jackson area for fellowship from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. each Tuesday at Perkins Restaurant.

Tom & Mary Perkins (Dyersburg, TN): are always finding new ministry related things to do. Mary has a wonderful line of craft items, featuring crosses and other items, which she displays and sells at craft shows. Tom sells his books, plaques and other gift items. He gives away his laminated inspirational messages wherever he goes. Tom loves filling in for vacationing preachers whenever and where-ever he is called.
New Reporter Philip Jackson

I didn’t have much luck making contacts with the list you gave me. (Ed’s note: Don’t worry – some quarters are diamonds others quarters are coal! Just calling the retirees communicates that they are important.)

Jean and I (Jackson) are busy helping keep up with our six month old grandson and a granddaughter who will be a senior in high school. We are looking forward to a family vacation with them soon in Orange Beach, Alabama.

Martha Corlew (Germantown, TN): is doing fine and is looking forward to a cruise coming up in September.

Reporter Marcia Tate

Bill and Marcia Tate (Jackson, TN): We went to the beach in early June with our family and had a wonderful time! We have been busy with VBS at church and helping with 2 other VBS for churches in our parish. Bill developed a Bakers cyst behind his left knee which is rather large. He is to have it taken care of on Tuesday. He has had a lot of pain in that leg. We attended Annual Conference in June and enjoyed visiting with friends. We are planning to take a few short trips this summer.

Memphis Conference of the United Methodist Church
24 Corporate Blvd.
Jackson, TN 38307

Return Service Requested