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July 22, 2025

Greetings, Friends,

I don't have to tell many of you how important the work is at Hinton Rural Life Center. To those who have supported Hinton in the past through your financial gifts, volunteering, and/or booking a retreat, event, or mission experience at Hinton, your support lets me know that you or someone you care about have already been touched by Hinton in a meaningful way. As a new member of Hinton's Board of Directors, I am deeply grateful for the support of individuals, families, organizations, businesses, and churches that makes this impactful ministry possible and keeps it going and flourishing. THANK YOU!!!



Rev. Betsy Eaves Hinton Center Board Member

I saw first-hand the good work of Hinton in 1979, when I brought a youth group from Paducah, Kentucky, to serve through Hinton's mission outreach ministry in southern Appalachia. After that year, my life and ministry shifted to Louisiana for several decades, before retiring to Western North Carolina last summer.

When I rediscovered Hinton this year, I was amazed at how the good work of home repair for people living in poverty in Appalachia has expanded immensely, not just in terms of project numbers, but in the focus on leaving homes safer and healthier for those who live in them. I discovered that the 10 weeks of summer youth missions continues, but that, over time, the ministry has expanded to include even more year-round mission opportunities for youth, campus ministries, men's and women's groups, local volunteers, and intergenerational groups. I was excited to learn about: the educational component in Hinton's mission outreach that helps area residents learn about home repair and maintenance; poverty perspective activities for mission teams, community members, and other organizations; and Hinton's vital firewood ministry that keeps hundreds warmer in the winter. And, during these times when we all face challenges to our physical, mental, and spiritual health, Hinton offers opportunities to retreat, reflect, and renew.

Hinton Rural Life Center is a bright light in Southern Appalachia that the generosity of folks like you make possible. It is a light that continues to shine even beyond the local community, as those who come to Hinton take some of that light home, bringing new energy, new focus, new ideas, and often renewed commitments and passion for their own churches and communities.

Please join me in making a financial gift to support the ongoing, life-changing work of Hinton Center. Donations from individuals, churches, businesses, and organizations provide a critical component of the financial support that is needed. You can donate by check or use the easy online links (PayPal or credit card) at www.hintoncenter.org/donate. The site also provides information and opportunities for giving monthly (very significant!), tribute gifts, legacy giving, donor-advised fund giving, and donating through the United Methodist Advance. Thank you for your ongoing support of Hinton Rural Life Center!

Blessings,

Rev. Betsy Eaves

