

# HOOSIER UNITED METHODISTS together

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Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.  
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## Invention pours water on thirsty people around the world

By Kathy L. Gilbert  
A UMNS Report

A family in southern Indiana is providing safe drinking water mixed with a generous portion of “living water” to parched people around the world.

New Life International, a non-profit Christian ministry started in the 1970s by Byron and Yvonne McGuire in Underwood, Ind., is the birthplace of the McGuire water purifier, a system that turns unsafe water into safe drinking water using salt and a 12-volt battery.

Their eldest son, Duvon McGuire, invented the system which produces chlorinated water and destroys viruses and bacteria. The water purifiers have provided thousands of gallons of safe drinking water for people in more than 60 countries.

“What we are trying to do is not just bring safe water on a humanitarian level, but as Christians to also be the salt that makes people thirsty for living water,” said Duvon McGuire, a member of New Chapel United Methodist Church, Jeffersonville, Ind.

### Life experiences

Two major events gave McGuire a thirst to contribute to the world’s water need.

As a young boy, he almost died by drinking contaminated water in Ecuador where his parents worked as missionaries. Later, as a student at Asbury College in Kentucky, he spent a summer working in a hospital in India and saw firsthand how unsafe water led to human suffering.

Armed with a chemistry degree, he went to work on an idea for a simple, cost-effective water purifier designed to withstand harsh environmental conditions.

Operated on a 12-volt power supply, the system can provide enough water for 10,000 people and can disinfect up to 50 gallons of water per minute—all using less electrical power than a normal street light. One purifier potentially can save an entire village for as little as a penny per person, per day.

McGuire’s invention got its first real-life test in 1998 when Hurricane Mitch hit Honduras. A family member working as a missionary in Honduras told him that



A UMNS photo by Scott Stockton.

United Methodist Duvon McGuire demonstrates his water purification invention as villagers install a system in Ndola, Zambia. Using salt and a 12-volt battery, the systems have provided thousands of gallons of safe drinking water for people in more than 60 countries.

the hurricane had left behind a severe water crisis.

Packing up 30 of his purifiers, McGuire took them to Honduras for use in schools, churches and orphanages. Since that time, the Christian outreach ministry started by his parents has become one of the largest to provide safe water to the world.

### Missionary roots

Byron and Yvonne McGuire served as United Methodist missionaries at the Navajo Methodist Mission School, Farmington, N.M., in 1961 and went on to work with an interdenominational radio ministry in Costa Rica and Ecuador, bringing with them their five children.

When they returned to the United States, they bought a farm in southern Indiana, intending to use their “scenic, peaceful” land as a place to nurture Christians and to teach non-Christians about God and Jesus Christ. The area was ideal for picnics, games, fishing and campfires.

“Byron used to do devotional hayrides where he would just stop and point out God’s creation along the way,” said Yvonne McGuire of her late husband, who died in 2007.

She and son Duvon have continued the ministry, which she

called “a work of faith,” particularly because of the years her son and his young family devoted to developing the purifier without paying employment.

“It has been a sacrifice for him but it has been well worth it,” she said. “Countless lives have been saved because of it and will continue to be.”

### Evangelism tool

Many United Methodist churches, as well as other denominations, have become part of the ministry over the years.

## Indiana’s Black United Methodists endorse Beard for episcopacy

Black United Methodists in the Indiana Area encourage North Central Jurisdictional delegates to support **the Rev. Dr. Frank Beard** for the episcopacy. Beard currently serves as superintendent of the Kokomo District in the North Indiana Conference.

South Indiana Conference Black Methodists for Church Renewal (BMCR), North Indiana Conference Black Methodists for Church Renewal and the Black United Methodist Pastors (BUMP) of the Indiana Area recently gave their joint endorsement for Beard

Two brothers, Edsel and Dallas Richards, head up a volunteer team at Morton Memorial United Methodist Church, Clarksville, Ind., assembling the purifiers in the church basement. The purifiers go out as quickly as they are built due to earthquakes, mudslides, floods and manmade disasters such as wars that leave much of the world without potable water.

New Life International has become a center for hands-on training in water purification. Mission teams, medical staff and relief workers come to the Indiana hub

to acquire water purifiers for the needy.

Crestwood (Ky.) United Methodist Church purchased two McGuire water purifiers. The church’s mission team, led by Jim Pearson, have installed one system in the Dominican Republic and one in Appalachia, close to the United Methodist Red Bird Mission. Another mission team plans to install another at Centro Metodista in Costa Rica in early April.

“The source of pure water is a tool of evangelism,” Pearson says.

### Spiritual dimension

On March 22, the United Nations observes World Water Day to draw attention to the shortage of safe drinking water around the world.

“With approximately 25,000 people dying each day from water-borne diseases, this urgent humanitarian crisis is a challenging opportunity for New Life International and financial supporters to make a difference in bringing safe water to a thirsty world,” said Duvon McGuire.

While some people think it is futile to try to change a world that will always have poor people, McGuire doesn’t believe that is Christ’s intent.

“I think God’s people are the right ones for this job,” he said of providing water to impoverished people. “The spiritual dimension cannot be left out.”

*Kathy Gilbert serves as a United Methodist News Service news writer based in Nashville, Tenn.*



Beard

According to SIC BMCR Caucus Chairman, the Rev. James C. Anyike, “Dr. Beard has rendered faithful and diligent servant-leadership to the Church for many years. Having personally served as a pastor in the North Indiana Conference, I’ve observed how his gifts and graces enhance the life of the Church in the Conference and Indiana Area. Just as he is a blessing to the Indiana Area, we believe he will be a blessing to the total Connection.”

Beard has led the North Indiana Conference Delegations to two General Conferences and serves on several connectional boards and agencies, including on the General Board of Discipleship. He also serves this year as the president of the North Indiana Conference’s Cabinet.

Beard, 50, is a native of Blytheville, Ark. He moved with this family to Elkhart, Ind. in 1966.

Continued on page 2

## Time for cease-fire in the worship wars

It is time for a cease-fire in the so-called worship wars which have plagued many of our churches. What are those "worship wars?" They are the seemingly endless arguments about the best way to worship God. Some battles in those worship wars have dealt with differing styles of music, with one side desiring more traditional and formal music while the other side wants contemporary or casual music.



musical instruments, a veritable war of pipe organs verses drums and keyboard and guitars. Other battles have dealt with the location of the worship in the sanctuary, in fellowship hall or in an off-site venue like a movie theatre. Some of the battles even have dealt things as trivial as whether the pastors and worship leaders should wear robes.

It is time for these silly battles and arguments to end, so I am declaring a Cease Fire, and I invite every church to join me. I

"It is time for these silly battles and arguments to end..."

receive a constant barrage of letters and e-mails which bring these worship wars to my attention, and frankly I am tired of it. Cease fire! Stop! Enough!

The wonderful story in the Gospel of John about Jesus' conversation with the Samaritan woman should remind us, as Jesus says, that "those who worship must worship in Spirit and in Truth." Jesus was dealing with the question of the Samaritan woman about the worship wars of that time – between the Jews who worshipped God in Jerusalem and the Samaritans (half-breed Jews) who worshipped God at other holy sites. In response to her questions, Jesus says that it does not matter about the location or the style of worship. Worship is about praising God in Spirit and in Truth. And just in case we might think Jesus was being hard on those Samaritans, during Holy Week we read that Jesus cleansed the

temple in Jerusalem, too, and declared that worship is all being in a house of prayer.

Jesus refused to take sides in the worship wars of that day, and I suspect that Jesus refuses to take sides in the worship wars of our day. Do you really think Jesus cares whether or not the worship leader wears a robe? Can you image that our choice of music really is a concern to Jesus? I just can't picture that these are real issues for those who follow Jesus.

So, I am declaring a Cease-Fire, and I am asking that we focus, instead, upon worshipping the Lord in Spirit and in Truth, and making our places of worship, wherever they may be, into a house of prayer.

Bishop Michael J. Coyner

Indiana Area of

The United Methodist Church

"Making a Difference in Indiana and around the world"

Continued from page 1

### Beard for episcopacy

Beard was ordained as a probationary clergy member of the North Indiana Conference in 1982 and as an Elder in 1985. He has served churches in Winchester, Ky., Middletown, Ky., and in Indiana at Anderson New Hope, Kokomo Beamer, Elkhart Faith as associate pastor, and Walnut Creek. The Bishop appointed him to the North Indiana Cabinet in 2004.

Concerning other NCJ episcopal candidates, the members of the North Central Jurisdiction Committee on Native American Ministries recently endorsed **the Rev. Dr. Jerry DeVine**, as an episcopal candidate. DeVine, of Battle Creek, Mich., has been instrumental in raising awareness of Native American Indian concerns in society and in The United Methodist Church. He currently serves as superintendent of the Albion District in the West Michigan Conference

Other candidates previously endorsed by their conference delegations (in alphabetical order) include:

**The Rev. Dr. David Alan Bard** of the Minnesota Conference. Bard is senior pastor of First United Methodist Church of Duluth, Minn., and has served as superintendent of the conference's Northwest District (1998-2005). He was ordained an Elder in 1986.

**The Rev. Dr. Timothy Bias** of the Illinois Great Rivers Conference. Bias is directing (senior) pastor of First United Meth-

odist Church in Peoria, Ill. He was ordained an Elder in 1981 by the West Virginia Conference and has served churches in West Virginia and Illinois and as Director of Evangelism Ministries, General Board of Discipleship, Nashville, Tenn.

**The Rev. Randolph Cross** of the Dakotas Conference. As a pastor with 28 years of experience in a wide range of ministry settings, he has held appointments across both North and South Dakotas and currently serves as both the Lower James River District Superintendent and Dakotas Conference Director of Leadership Development and Connectional Ministries.

**The Rev. Laurie Haller** of the West Michigan Conference delegations. She is highly regarded as a leader of deep spiritual integrity, according to those endorsing her. Haller, of Grand Rapids, Mich., currently serves as superintendent of the Grand Rapids District.

**The Rev. Dr. Larry Pickens** of the Northern Illinois Conference for 23 years, having been ordained as an Elder in 1987. He has served as a pastor in Illinois, on the United Methodist Judicial Council and as the General Secretary of the General Commission of Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns, from July 2004 to Dec. 2007.

For more information about the NCJ Conference and these episcopal candidates, log on to [www.ncj2008.org](http://www.ncj2008.org) and click on Episcopal Candidates.

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# together

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## Easter to Pentecost – a waiting room

As Christians, we are in another in-between time in the life of the church. We have celebrated Easter and are in the 50-day waiting period until Pentecost. Lent is the beginning, but Easter is not the end. Easter is only midway to Pentecost. Pentecost is our birthday as Christians.

On Easter, Jesus was raised from the dead and received a new body, a new existence. The disciples of Jesus, both women and men, were discovering what that meant through the empty tomb and through His appearance in the upper room, on the road to Emmaus, by Lake Galilee and His ascension. Their realization came at Pentecost with dancing flames, one of the signs of The United Methodist Church. Pentecost is the birth of the church with the coming of the promised Comforter – God's Holy Spirit, realized by

Jesus and now realized by the disciples – from 12 to 120 to 3,000 and today to millions.

I liken this season of Easter to a waiting room, any waiting room. The place where we anticipate what is coming. When I am ill, that waiting room is at the doctor's office where I anticipate being well again. When I travel, that waiting room is the airport gate area where I anticipate the event to which I am traveling or the family members I will soon see again.

Sometimes that waiting room is joyous, like when I waited for the birth of my sons. Sometimes that waiting room is extremely sad, like when I waited for the funerals of my parents.

Eastertide is our spiritual waiting room. We wait in faith and anticipate what God has in store for us.

For Hoosier United Methodists

we are in several waiting rooms right now. We are waiting for the coming of General Conference in Fort Worth, Texas, at the end of this month. These ten days every four years determine the forward movement of our church. The leaders of this General Conference have made careful plans to make this a joyous conferencing together, yet there will always be contention for we are human.

Whether or not this will be a Pentecost experience will depend on the delegates of the General Conference, and if they are open to the leading of the Holy Spirit. Or, will they be more intent on preserving an institution and their own desires? As we wait, let us pray for our North Indiana Conference and South Indiana Conference delegates – for their physical strength, for their spiritual discernment and for their openness

to the leading of God's spirit in the life of the church.

We are waiting for the coming of our own annual conference sessions later this spring at West Lafayette and Bloomington. Immediately before us is a report by the Imagine Indiana Design Team. The report proposes to bring our two annual conferences into unity with each other. The plan makes monumental changes in structure and function for a new Indiana Conference in order to bring resources closer to our congregations and bring our congregations and pastors closer to each other. (See page 5.)

Whether or not this plan is approved, God's spirit already moves between our two conferences, uniting us in mission and witness with

a new growing reality. Hopefully, we wait to see what God is planning for us as we live into the Spirit of Christ for this century. We must have a change of heart to regain the Spirit of Christ in our communities who know less and less of Christ and His church. To live out Pentecost, we must risk the experience of Pentecost.

Waiting rooms are not necessarily easy places to be. They come with anxieties, fears, anticipations, as well as hope, reconciliation and redemption. They are places to live into new realities. They are places where God's presence is made known as we anticipate a door opening and a voice calling our name.

Welcome.  
Daniel R. Gangler



## Indiana Schools of Christian Mission to be held in July

Both North Indiana Conference and South Indiana Conference Schools of Christian Mission will be held at North Manchester College in North Manchester and the University of Indianapolis during July. Both will offer a one-day school as well as a four-day school. Here is information for both schools. More information will be coming soon.

### North Indiana

The North Indiana Conference United Methodist Women announces the 2008 School of Christian Mission to be held Wed., July 9 for the Drive-In Day and Wed. evening, July 9 through Saturday,

July 12 at Manchester College, in North Manchester, Ind.

The 2008 theme is "Living the Sacred: Psalm 21:1" including these studies and leaders: "I Believe in Jesus Spiritual Growth" with the Rev. Dr. Derek Weber; "Israel and Palestine" with Dr. James Dwyer, Dona Lou Imler, Robert Epps and Nancy Myers; "Giving Our Hearts Away – Native American Survival" with the Rev. John Adams, Susan Jennys, the Rev. Evelyn Taylor-Haney, LaDonna Weber, and the Rev. Jon Walters. Other leaders include:



Music Leader, Kelly Sellers; Chi-Mi-Ca (Children's Program) with Mary Margaret Willbanks and Joan Schell; and Yo-Pe-Mi-Ca (Youth Program) with the Rev. Jeaninne L. Walker.

More information for the North Indiana School can be found by logging on to: [www.gb-gm-umc.org/nicumw/scminformation.html](http://www.gb-gm-umc.org/nicumw/scminformation.html)

### South Indiana

The South Indiana Conference School of Christian Mission will be held on the campus of the University of Indianapolis, July 26-

Super Saturday Session or July 27-30 Weekday School. The 2008 Theme is "Living the Sacred."

Studies this year include: Spiritual Growth Study, "I Believe in Jesus" with Bishop Michael Coyner; Geographic Study: "Israel-Palestine" with the Rev. Mary Wilder Cartwright and the Rev. James Dwyer; Current Issue Study: "Giving Our Hearts Away: Native American Survival" with the Revs. Dr. P.T. Wilson and Billie Nowabbi; Young Women's Study: "Giving Our Hearts Away: Native American Survival" with Rita Gaither-Gant. Youth Study: "Walking in These White Man Shoes" with Kathy White and chil-

dren's study: "Creator Sang a Welcoming Song" with and Barbara King.

This school is designed for mission committee members, lay leaders, pastors, United Methodist Women members, young women, youth and children. Activities will include: Mission studies, worship, music, UMW officer update, mission update, mission education resources, videos, hands-on mission project, fellowship and a banquet.

For more information check out the *Southwind* newsletter by logging onto: [www.gb-gm-umc.org/sicumw/](http://www.gb-gm-umc.org/sicumw/).

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Disputes Fox's stats

(Concerning the story about Dr. Eddie Fox in March issue.) First I will have to say, I know the four percent he refers to and worship with them every day of the week, not just on Sunday. But I would like to challenge the percent he refers to as "sharing faith" in The United Methodist church. I tend to believe he meant to say 96 percent of United Methodists share their faith. And by the way, it is "United Methodist." We are united in the Lord's work to spread His Word. We all know surveys have a tendency to be inaccurate and as I see it, this one is way off. Did it fire me up? Yes! As I am with my faith everyday. Our little church, Mineral UMC in Bloomfield, Ind., relates the message of faith, love and hope in oh so many ways. In fact this year and last year we put together a Lenten Devotional to SHARE OUR FAITH, with everyone we could reach out to.

We take care of our neighbors, friends and community with faith and hope based services. All the faith sharing ideas we need are in the Bible, the curriculum has already been written. Yes there are some who sit quietly in the pews and are less active "sharing" but they too, are living their faith in the lives they lead. We can't all be evangelists.

I appreciate the opportunity to share my faith, in response to article about Evangelist Eddie Fox.

– Jeanine Mowery,  
Evangelism Chairperson  
Mineral UMC, Bloomfield, Ind.

### Demolition in the West Bank

In response to the story about Caterpillar divestment (March 2008 issue), yes, it came up (during a General Board of Global Ministries study tour of the West Bank), and we saw Caterpillars everywhere. I have pictures of a home

that was demolished and talked with a man whose home had been demolished. His brother's (house) had been demolished twice. An access road was built through the middle of their land that their family has owned for 300 years..

There are a number of resolutions going to (United Methodist) General Conference regarding Israel/Palestine. Resolution 292 has to do with Holy Land Tours. Resolution 323 calls on the United States, as permanent member of the UN Security Council, to accept the authority of Security Council resolutions, to refrain from vetoing resolutions and abide by Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 as well as other relevant UN resolutions and International Court of Justice rulings.

More than 700 homes are demolished each year. The Israeli military uses Caterpillars to demolish them even before the belongings are out of the house. One man told us of running into the house ahead

of a Caterpillar to snatch up and save his six-month-old daughter.

Another home I saw had belongings strewn around, with a single shoe sticking up out of the debris.

There are Israelis who are against the demolition of homes and have stood in front of the Cat-

terpillars in defense of the Palestinian homeowners. They have formed a group called The Israeli Committee Against House Demolitions (ICAHD). They, along with other Israelis and Palestinians, want a just peace for all.

Nancy Richmond, pastor  
Lima/Scott UMC



Photo courtesy of Nancy Richmond  
Pictured on a North Indiana Conference study tour to the West Bank, Israel, are from left to right Barney Stahl, Conrad Damian, Rev. Jim Dwyer (now with General Board of Global Ministries), Rev. Byron Kaiser. In front is the Rev. Nancy Richmond of Lima-Scott UMC.

## Oakwood Inn, property returns to church

SYRACUSE, Ind. – Members of the Oakwood Foundation for Adult Ministries board announced Wednesday, March 19 they returned the property, formerly known as Oakwood Park, to the North Indiana Conference of The United Methodist Church. The foundation said it was no longer able to operate the Oakwood Christian Retreat & Conference Center in Syracuse as an adult Christian ministry.

Oakwood, on the northwest shore of Lake Wawasee in northern Indiana, includes the 77-room

Oakwood Inn and restaurant, program center, academy center, a chapel and 42 acres dominated by tall oak trees.

The North Indiana Conference Board of Trustees officially received the property on March 19 in accordance with Oakwood Foundation by-laws and the action of the 1993 North Indiana Conference session of the church, when the Oakwood Foundation took possession of the property.

In court documents, the Oakwood Foundation said it would complete its commitments to ex-

... no longer able to operate the Oakwood Christian Retreat & Conference Center in Syracuse as an adult Christian ministry.

isting customers by continuing operations of the ministry through Labor Day of this year with financial assistance from the North Indiana Conference. The foundation will cease activities at Oakwood on Sept. 1. Individuals and groups

who wish to visit and use the facilities need to make arrangements with Oakwood to do so before Labor Day.

The Trustees of the North Indiana Conference voted to receive the property, with the approval of

Indiana Area Bishop Mike Coyner and Conference's district superintendents acting between annual conference sessions as prescribed by church law. The Trustees also voted to sell the entire property. After the property is sold and all debts are paid, the Board of Trustees will bring a proposal for its approval to the North Indiana Conference about the use of any net proceeds.

Oakwood Park was founded in 1893 by the Evangelical Church, a predecessor denomination of The United Methodist Church.

## Harry Denman Evangelism Awards nominees needed by April 11

BLOOMINGTON, Ind. – The Denman Evangelism Award is presented annually to a UM Clergy and Lay person in Annual Conference across the country for outstanding work in Christian Evangelism. The award is named for the late Dr. Harry Denman, a distinguished lay evangelist whom Dr. Billy Graham called "my men-

tor in evangelism." The awards are made possible by The Foundation for Evangelism, which was founded in 1949 by Dr. Denman.

The South Indiana Annual Conference will honor one clergy person and one lay person with the award during this year's Annual Conference session.

To make your nominations,

please download and complete the forms from the SIC Web site at [www.sicumc.org](http://www.sicumc.org) and return them to the South Indiana Conference Center by April 11. Mailing address: Jeanne Winters (Conf. Evangelism Chair), 1520 S. Liberty Drive, Bloomington, IN 47203. For more information, call 800-919-8160 or e-mail: [gschaar@sicumc.org](mailto:gschaar@sicumc.org).

## South Indiana Conference laity manuscript contest announced

Each year the South Indiana Conference Board of Laity offers the opportunity to all laity of the South Indiana Conference to express thanks and praise God by submitting a sermon manuscript for judging. The deadline for entries is April 30.

This year the theme is "One in Spirit, All in Ministry: In the Spirit of Fellowship." Manuscripts are judged on how well the theme is followed and developed, as well as the use of creative writing tech-

niques.

The author will present the winning manuscript at the Laity Session of the South Indiana Annual Conference session on Thursday, June 5 in Bloomington. Two other manuscripts will be given Honorable Mention.

Manuscripts are to be sent to Ike Williams, South Indiana Conference Lay Leader, 1515 Cool Creek Drive, Carmel, Indiana 46033-2318. Name, address, phone number, local church name

and district name should be on a cover letter. Manuscripts will be assigned a number and be judged anonymously by the selection committee.

The winners and two runners up will be notified by May 21. All entries must be postmarked by April 30. Additional information concerning the contest can be obtained by contacting Bob Pimlott, Columbus District Lay Leader at 812-273-3081 or by e-mail at [rpimlott1@verizon.net](mailto:rpimlott1@verizon.net).



## Wesley Foundation leads volunteers in sixth winterization event

WEST LAFAYETTE, Ind. – More than 230 volunteers participated this past fall at Purdue University in the Wesley Foundation's Six Annual Winterization on Nov. 11. The volunteers assisted 93 homeowner ready their homes for the winter by raking leaves, cleaning windows and clearing out gutters. Three months in planning, Wesley Foundation leaders were assisted by a dozen other campus organizations. For more information about Wesley Foundation, log on to [www.wesleyfoundation.org](http://www.wesleyfoundation.org) or call 765-743-5066.

## United Methodist Men set new strategies, elect officers

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—In the same year that the ministry of United Methodist Men is celebrating its 100th anniversary, annual conference presidents of United Methodist Men learned of new methods to reach men in the next 100 years.

Meeting Feb. 28-March 2, the National Association of Conference Presidents (NACP) of United Methodist Men, also elected new officers and set plans for their 2009 national gathering to be held in Nashville after a long tradition of meeting at Purdue University.

"I'm more excited than I've ever been before about men's ministry," said David Adams, top staff executive of the General Commission on United Methodist Men. While noting the long history of ministry through chartered groups of Unit-



ed Methodist Men, he said, "We need to be invitational and provide many entry points for men."

### Men's ministry specialists

To help churches launch new efforts in men's ministry, the commission has established a process whereby men can become "Men's Ministry Specialists." These specialists will be certified by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry following the recommendation and mentoring by their pastors, training experiences in men's ministry, a course

"We need to be invitational and provide many entry points for men."

—David Adams

in United Methodist history and polity, and experience in leading a local or regional event. There also will be an opportunity for people who have completed courses in Lay Speaking Ministries to receive additional training to become Men's Ministry Specialists.

### Tenth national gathering

The 10th national gathering will be held July 10-11, 2009, at Belmont University in Nashville. The two-day event will include speeches by Chicago Area Bishop

Hee-Soo Jung and Kevass Harding, pastor of Dellrose United Methodist Church in Wichita, Kansas. A planning team is negotiating with other nationally known speakers and singers. An informal worship service will be held on Sunday, July 12 for those remaining in the Nashville area.

### New officers

- ◆ John Dowell, president of the Southeastern Jurisdiction of United Methodist Men, was elected NACP president.
- ◆ Dean Holloman, president of

Oregon-Idaho Conference, was elected president of the Western Jurisdiction.

- ◆ Dan Ramsey, vice president of the South Central Jurisdiction, was elected president.
- ◆ L.W. Smith, chair of the Strength for Service Committee, was elected president of the Southeastern Jurisdiction.
- ◆ Lee Donley, president of the Detroit Conference, was elected president of the North Central Jurisdiction.
- ◆ Wayne Custer, president of the Northeastern Jurisdiction was reelected to that post.
- ◆ Carl Young, an attorney in Edmond, Okla., was elected president of the United Methodist Men Foundation. Robert Powell, Dotham, Ala., continues as executive manager

# Imagine Indiana Web cast brings more than 1,000 viewers

INDIANAPOLIS – Lights, camera, Imagine Indiana. Six members of the Imagine Indiana Design Team took to cyberspace Sunday evening, March 30 for Indiana Area UMC's first Web cast. It originated in Bishop Mike Coyner's office in Indianapolis.

The results were impressive. The Web cast was viewed by more than 1,000 United Methodists gathered in 30 Web cast down site churches. Another 138 computers were also plugged into the hour-long Imagine Indiana Report summary including a half-hour of questions and answers.

Producer Winton Long of The Omni Centre of Carmel, Ind. said, "Out of the 168 computers connected to the Web cast, 164 stayed with the entire program. That's rare. I have never seen that high of a percentage to stay with a program." Long and his wife, Sandra, run Omni Centre and are members of the Carmel UMC.

At the beginning of the program, both conference lay leaders Kayc Mykrantz of Logansport, the lay leader of the North Indiana Conference and Ike Williams of Carmel, the lay leader of the South Indiana Conference were joined by Kokomo District Superintendent Frank Beard for a 20-minute summary presentation of the Imagine Indiana Design Team report.

## Plan to unite

The proposal is a plan to unite the two Indiana conferences.

According to the Design Team

plan, the goal of the new conference is to "make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world." Williams said, "The Imagine Indiana Design Team believes that stronger congregations, better stewardship of God's resources, and a united voice for Christ working in and through The United Methodist Church across Indiana are the expected results of this new plan for a new Indiana Conference."

Mykrantz said, "The plan calls for the focus of the new Indiana Conference to be on congregations, their pastors, members and to the un-churched who live in our communities. The design team believes the new conference will be more conducive to responding to the needs of congregations than the two existing conferences."

Ministry clusters, composed of up to nine congregations, and self-selected clergy covenant groups are the foundation to more vital congregations, according to the report and proposal.

Structurally, the new conferences will have ten districts, instead of 18 districts, five resource center composed of two districts each, housing two district superintendents, an assistant to the two superintendents, and an administrative assistant.

A central Conference Center will coordinate and administer programs and services of the new conference, and contain the bishop's office, communications, human relations, finances, ministry programming and new congregation development.



Photo by Together

Imagine Indiana Design Team members (from left) Frank Beard of Kokomo, Ike Williams of Carmel and Kayc Mykrantz presented a summary of the Imagine Indiana live Web cast on Sunday evening, March 30, from Bishop Coyner's office in Indianapolis.

## Q&A

The second segment of the program was a half-hour question-and-answer session with Dr. Cindy Reynolds, Warsaw District Superintendent; Dr. Adolf Hansen, Ph.D., consultant and Jennifer Gallagher, treasurer of the South Indiana Conference.

Viewers were asked to e-mail questions to the three-person panel during the live Web cast. More than 110 questions were received. Only a sampling of questions was answered on the Web cast.

Two reoccurring questions dealing with the financial aspects of the plan kept coming up. One concerned the offering tithe. In the proposed plan, the tithe model for churches to continue at ten percent of income excluding capital fund expenditures. The ten percent also will include the General Church apportionment for the denomination. One percent of each church's monthly income would be remitted to the conference treasurer as a district apportionment for the ongoing program ministry of the district.

Other finance questions dealt

with the budget. However, the two conference Councils on Finance and Administration, will only give the financial implications of this plan during the two annual conferences. The budget for the new conference will not be before this year's annual conference. The 2009 budgets will reflect the current budget. The 2010 budget will be approved during the new 2009 Indiana Conference scheduled to meet at Ball State University in June if the Imagine Indiana Design Plan is approved this June.

A question-and-answer sheet will soon be available on line and will be updated. Questions can be e-mailed to [ImagineIndiana@inareaumc.org](mailto:ImagineIndiana@inareaumc.org), faxed to 317-924-4859 or addressed to Imagine Indiana, Indiana Area of The United Methodist Church, 1100 West 42nd Street, Suite 210, Indianapolis, IN 46208.

## Revised report coming

The Imagine Indiana Design Team will be presenting a revised report with proposals to both the

"The plan calls for the focus of the new Indiana Conference to be on congregations ..."

– Kayc Mykrantz

North Indiana Conference and the South Indiana Conference sessions later this spring for their approval. If approved, a special session of both annual conferences will be held at the Indiana State Fairgrounds on Oct. 4. The special session would formally and publicly unite the two conferences.

During the Web cast, a number of United Methodist across Indiana were praying for the Design Team presenters. Paula Gast of the North Indiana Conference met with the Web cast participants. She led opening and closing prayers with the cast and technicians and walked around the Area office praying during the rehearsals and Web cast.

Following the Web cast, members of the Imagine Indiana Design Team met to review final changes to the 50-page report, which will be revised and placed on the Indiana Area Web site by April 15. For a copy of the newly revised report at that time, log on to [www.inareaumc.org](http://www.inareaumc.org), click on the Imagine Indiana logo. A two-page summary is available online at the same location. Both conference centers also will mail a printed copy of the plan before annual conference.

The complete hour-long Web cast is archived online at [www.inareaumc.org](http://www.inareaumc.org) and can be viewed anytime using media software and a broadband Web browser.

For more information about the Imagine Indiana process, log on to the [www.inareaumc.org](http://www.inareaumc.org) and click on Imagine Indiana.

## Both Indiana Conferences top Jurisdiction's VIM lists for volunteers, money

Lorna Jost, coordinator of the United Methodist Volunteers in Mission program for the North Central Jurisdiction, recently announced to Bishop Mike Coyner that the two Indiana Conferences surpassed any other in UVMIM teams and volunteers for the year 2007. North Indiana came out on top with South Indiana a close second.

Jost complimented the Indiana Area saying, "Thank you all for your leadership and tireless work through this United Methodist mission program."

The North Indiana Conference provided 2,980 volunteers (or 24 percent) from a total of

12,402 volunteers for the North Central Jurisdiction of the UMC.

The South Indiana Conference provided 2,234 volunteers (or 18 percent) from a total of 12,402 volunteers for the North Central Jurisdiction of the UMC.

North Indiana provided more than \$1.4 million in contributions and more than \$2 million in value of work. South Indiana provided more than \$1.1 million in contributions and more than \$1.3 million in value of work. A total of \$8.9 million in contributions and \$9.3 million in value of work was given by conferences of the North Central Jurisdiction.

## Bloomington launches Spanish-language worship services

The Iglesia Metodista Hispana – a Spanish-speaking church designed to serve the growing Hispanic population in Bloomington, Ind. – met for the first time Palm Sunday morning.

Eleven people gathered in the chapel at the South Indiana United Methodist Conference Center to worship in their native tongue and culture.

Everything is in Spanish, and according to Pastor Ramon Tristani, the Latin American culture or "feel" of the church is almost as important as the language.

"Every culture of people has certain traditions, ways of doing things or not doing things. Hispanics... There's not much analysis of the other person before allowing them into the circle of friends," said Tristani, whose regular job is as an engineer at Crane.

Nine adults and two children might not seem like much, but Tristani, a native of Puerto Rico, started a similar church 25 years ago with a lot less.

The Rev. Bob Ostermeyer, superintendent for the Bloomington

District, attended the service Sunday, and although he doesn't yet speak Spanish, intends to learn the language this year.

We just got to the point where we said, 'We need to start an outreach ministry.' We've studied the demographics, and Monroe County is one of the places in Indiana where the Hispanic population is growing. Greene County also is on that list. So we feel there's a group not currently being reached with a Spanish worship service." – *Herald-Times of Bloomington*

Providing health care to the citizens of Indiana since 1908

## Methodist Hospital of Indianapolis celebrates 100 years

This year, 2008, marks the 100th anniversary of Methodist Hospital in Indianapolis, which has been providing health care to the citizens of Indiana since 1908.

For Methodist Hospital, it all started with the 1899 International Convention of the Epworth League of the Methodist Episcopal Church. In fact, Indianapolis and Indiana had long been a Methodist stronghold and the first sermon ever preached in the town in 1819 had been given by a Methodist, the Rev. Resen Hammond.

The Epworth League Convention was a great success with attendance far exceeding expectations and after the bills were paid a surplus \$4,750 remained, a substantial amount in a day of un-inflated dollars. After much discussion and meeting about how to use the surplus for a good Christian cause, the Rev. Lasby, pastor of Central Avenue Methodist Church suggested using the funds for the building of a hospital.

The suggestion was approved by the Indiana Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The Rev. Edward B. Rawls, presiding elder of the Indianapolis District, was appointed to present a resolution to the annual conference session meeting in Greencastle.

Fevered discussion ensued at that meeting, causing the Rev. George M. Smith to lecture in favor of the hospital. Replying to a question of where the church would stop in spending based on the proposed one million dollars needed to build the hospital, Smith announced, "The Church does not dare stop until it encompasses all the interests of Jesus Christ and our Church can never encompass all His interests and leave out sick people."

The proposal was approved and the Articles of Association were written, approved and filed with the Indiana Secretary of State's office on Nov. 3, 1899.

"...our Church can never encompass all His (Christ's) interests and leave out sick people."

— George M. Smith

With that, Methodist Hospital became a reality.

### Signs of celebration

Celebrations commemorating the hospital's heritage focus on the people who make the hospital great: patients and families, employees, health care professionals, nurses, physicians and friends of the hospital.

Signage to commemorate the anniversary adorns both the inside of the hospital and the outside with a five-story beacon featured on side that faces Interstate 65. Timelines have been produced on the *clarian.org* Web site as well as inside the hospital. Historic photos exhibits will be displayed publicly.

A gala celebration will be held on Thursday night, April 24 at the Indiana Roof Ballroom in Indianapolis. Tickets are \$75 each. For more information contact Michael Ault at Methodist Health Foundation, 317-962-1786.

A reception for employees will be held on Friday, April 25 and "Methodist Hospital Night at Victory Field," home of the Indianapolis Indians, will be held on Friday night, April 25. Methodist Hospital is located on what used to be the Indians home field know as Tinker Park.

### Methodist moments

Stories, anecdotes or personal remembrances of Methodist Hospital are being sought from patients, families, employees and the community. Anyone who has a



Photos courtesy of Methodist Hospital

This photo taken in the Methodist Hospital laboratory in Indianapolis during the 1920s is one of many photos being exhibited to remember the centennial of Methodist Hospital which continues its legacy as a United Methodist-related health care institution.

connection to the hospital or a Methodist Moments to share may contact Katie Marlowe at 317-962-1782, [kmarlowe@clarian.org](mailto:kmarlowe@clarian.org); or Laura King at 317-962-4537, [lking3@clarian.org](mailto:lking3@clarian.org). These stories will be reproduced in print, on the Web, in media announcements and will be part of an interactive multimedia display.

### Making history, improving lives

Methodist Hospital's record of achievements, firsts and breakthroughs is unparalleled. While a reflection of the hospital's history, the true significance of these accomplishments is providing the best possible care that improves patients' quality of life, and building on those successes to continue serving the community in the future.

An exhaustive documentation of milestones exists in *The History of Methodist Hospital of Indiana, Inc.: A Mission of Compassionate Health Care*. The book is being updated to include reflections on the years 1985-2007.

### Looking to the future

While celebrating its illustrious past, Methodist Hospital is vigorously planning for its future. Current plans call for a new bed tower for critical care; a neurosciences center to enhance Methodist physicians' practices; and a commitment to recruit additional cardiologists and other sub-specialists to support tertiary and quaternary care.



1910: the first motorized ambulance in the city brought patients from Indianapolis Motor Speedway to Methodist Hospital.



Methodist Hospital of Indianapolis

## A brief listing of Methodist Hospital accomplishments

- 1922 .... Groundbreaking collaboration with Eli Lilly Company using insulin to treat patients with diabetes, previously considered to be a death sentence
- 1942 .... One of the first in the U.S. to install an electroencephalograph machine to diagnose brain tumors, epilepsy and brain injuries
- 1970 .... First to use a helicopter to transport patients to Methodist's Level One Trauma Center
- 1972 .... First kidney transplant in Indiana
- 1982 .... First heart transplant at a private hospital anywhere in the world
- 1989 .... First heart-lung transplant in Indiana
- 1997 .... Methodist, Indiana University & Riley hospitals unite to form Clarian Health Partners
- 2002 .... First in Indiana to perform minimally invasive surgery using the da Vinci robot
- 2004 .... First Indiana hospital system to be Magnet certified by ANCC
- 2005 .... e-ICU opens; electronic command center for Intensive Care Unit patients
- 2006 .... First simultaneous lung/pancreas transplant in the U.S.

— Methodist Hospital of Indianapolis

# United Methodist membership down, constituency up

By Marta W. Aldrich  
A UMNS Report

While professing U.S. membership continues to decline in The United Methodist Church, the number of constituents is steadily increasing, according to new denominational statistics.

Membership decreased by eight-tenths of a percent over a one-year period to more than 7.9 million, according to the latest statistics released by the denomination March 11.

Specifically, U.S. membership was 7,931,733 in 2006, the most recent year for which statistics are available, according to the United Methodist General Council on Finance and Administration, which compiles data for the denomination.

U.S. membership in 2005 was 7,995,429.

Another 45,220 people were listed as clergy members of the denomination for a total of 7,976,953 in 2006. In addition, 871,218 people, primarily children, were listed as baptized, non-professing members known as constituent members.

There are 220,000 United Methodist members in Indiana plus another 40,000 constituent members and 1,200 clergy.

## 11.5 million worldwide

Worldwide United Methodist lay and clergy membership, which stood at more than 11.5 million in 2005, is still being tallied for 2006 and is expected to be released later this year.

Meanwhile, the number of constituents in 2006 was more than 1.5 million, a 16 percent increase from a decade ago. De-

**"There is certainly a phenomenon today of persons who seem more reluctant to join."**

— Lovett Weems

nominal records show the number of constituents has increased three of the last five years and eight of the last 10.

"Constituents are the un-baptized children, youth and adults who are not members of the church, but for whom the church has pastoral responsibility," said Scott Brewer, the council's director of research. "It's a growing number, and it reflects that people aren't so big into membership anymore."

Brewer said the church "needs to pay more attention" to this growing category and understand the changing dynamics of religious affiliation in the United States. "It's consistent with what we're seeing in the larger culture, particularly when it comes to attitudes toward membership," he said.

## Constituents

The Rev. Lovett Weems, the director of the Lewis Center for Church Leadership at Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, D.C., said the constituent numbers should be prudently considered.

"There is certainly a phenomenon today of persons who seem more reluctant to join," Weems said. "There are a number of pastors who talk about people in their congregations who are very active in the life

of their church, but they just don't join."

He noted that such reluctance is spilling over into groups within the church. Historically, people would be asked to "join a new men's group" that was forming; today, they might instead be invited to participate in a "men's gathering."

Today's churchgoers, especially young people, are less likely to "join" and make long-term commitments, he said, and more likely to participate in short-term activities such as Volunteers In Mission trips, the Walk to Emmaus spiritual retreat and short-term Bible studies.

"There's been a real energy in these types of things in recent years, even in Disciple Bible Study classes," Weems said. "Disciple may be 36 weeks long, but at least there's a beginning and an end."

However, he noted that the constituent category is considered a "soft number" that



A UMNS photo by Mike DuBose

Worshippers fill the sanctuary at the 12,000-member United Methodist Church of the Resurrection in Leawood, Kan. The denomination's Council on Finance and Administration released 2006 data showing the ongoing decline in membership has slowed from previous years.

might be overstated when churches report their membership statistics. He views average worship attendance as a more accurate indicator of church vitality.

The latest United Methodist data puts church attendance at more than 3.3 million, down eight-tenths of a percent from 2005 and a 4 percent decrease from 1990.

Brewer said the church hasn't experienced an increase in attendance since 2001. That increase, he said, was presumably related to the 9/11 terrorist attacks on the United States.

For the complete story, log on to <http://umns.umc.org>. Click on "recent stories."

Marta Aldrich serves as news editor of *United Methodist News Service*.

# Maryland's efforts advance to abolish death penalty

By Kathy L. Gilbert  
A UMNS Report

In 1985, Kirk Bloodsworth was convicted of rape and murder and sent to Maryland's death row. In 1993, DNA testing proved he was innocent.

He joined the 127 people in the United States who have been released from death rows after being found innocent of the capital crime for which they were convicted. "Because innocent persons are sentenced to death and because there is documented racial and geographical bias, everyone should question the death penalty," said Beth Reilly, a United Methodist working to abolish capital punishment in Maryland.

Reilly's convictions come from Scripture and The United Methodist Church's Social Principles.

"For United Methodists, a death penalty is antithetical to the New Testament message," she said. "As our state seeks to punish perpetrators of heinous crimes and as it works to protect society from those who may do harm, we, as Christians,

must consider a higher calling."

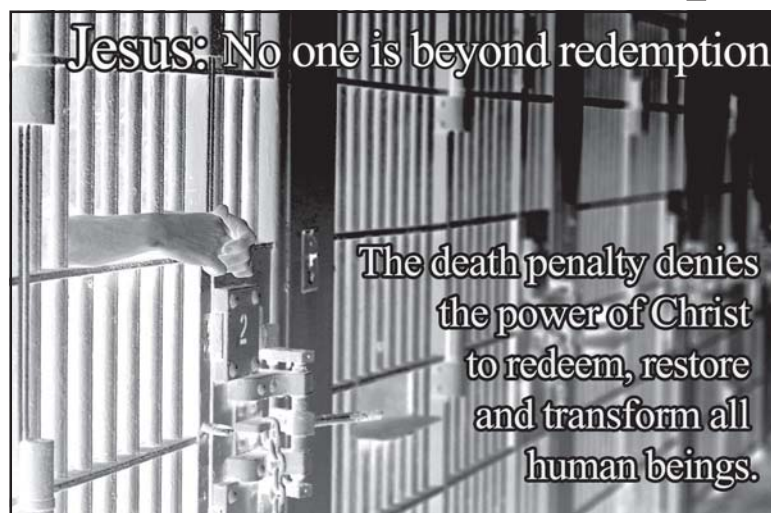
In *The United Methodist Book of Discipline*, the denomination states that "the death penalty denies the power of Christ to redeem, restore and transform all human beings." It goes on to state opposition to the death penalty and to "urge its elimination from all criminal codes."

Delegates to the 1956 Methodist General Conference took the historic action of officially opposing the death penalty.

Each Methodist and United Methodist General Conference since that time has reaffirmed that position. Meeting every four years, these assemblies are the only bodies that can speak officially for the denomination. The 2008 General Conference will meet April 23-May 2 in Fort Worth, Texas.

Tremendous strides were made in the past year against capital punishment, according to Bill Mefford, director of civil and human rights with the United Methodist General Board of Church and Society, the church's social advocacy agency.

"New Jersey became the first



state in 42 years to legislatively end the death penalty," he said. Abolitionist legislation also was filed in Colorado, Maryland, Montana, Nebraska and New Mexico.

The number of executions in the United States hit a 13-year low in 2007 with 42 people being executed, due in large part to a challenge from two Kentucky death row inmates. The U.S. Supreme Court agreed to hear the challenge in September. The inmates allege lethal injection is cruel and unusual punishment.

Mefford noted three more exonerations: Curtis McCarty of Oklahoma after 21 years on death

row; Michael Lee McCormick of Tennessee after 16 years; and Jonathan Hoffman of North Carolina after 10 years.

The United States reinstated the death penalty in 1976 and since that time 1,099 people have been executed. Lethal injection is used in 35 states and by the U.S. military and U.S. government. Nine states use electrocution, five states use the gas chamber, two states executive by hanging and two states use a firing squad. Lethal injection is allowed as an alternative in most states.

California, North Carolina and Tennessee are currently studying their death penalty process, ac-

cording to the Death Penalty Information Center. Indiana is considering legislation that would exempt seriously mentally ill defendants.

Death penalty opponents in Maryland had hoped to follow New Jersey in 2008 but settled on a compromise designed to keep the momentum going. When Maryland lawmakers met in a gridlock in March, the opponents rallied around the push to establish a commission to study the law. A task force study had preceded New Jersey's new law.

"With the 2008 repeal still one vote short of passage in the same committee, this legislation offers a constructive way forward," said Sara Klemm, with the Maryland Citizens Against State Executions.

Added Reilly: "(The study commission) empowers a broadly representative and distinguished state body to conduct the first comprehensive review our state's death penalty and, as important, to make recommendations about its future."

*Editor's note: Beth Reilly, former Hoosier United Methodist and resident of Fort Wayne, now lives with her husband and children, in Maryland and continues her Christian social justice there.*



Reilly

## Africa University's Small Farm Resource Center one answer to hunger

"Africa is the only continent not able to feed its self," said Dr. Fanuel Tagwira, interim chancellor of Africa University at Old Mutare, Zimbabwe. Poverty, hunger, malnutrition and deadly diseases are wide spread.



Tagwira

Food aid helps but at best is a stopgap effort, which can only help for a very short time. When 70 to 90 percent of the farmers in African countries are small subsistence households simply trying to survive, the future is dim. However there is hope. Many organizations are beginning to expand efforts to develop longer run solutions designed to tackle the root problems of low agricultural productivity and malnutrition.

United Methodist-related Africa University is committed to establishing a Small Farm Resource

Center, which will become a focus of its agricultural and nutritional outreach efforts. The center's focus will be developing and disseminating new crops and new farming practices, as well as introducing new foods that will substantially improve the nutritional value of their diets.

The goal will be to increase the productivity of the small farmers and to introduce new crops that have the potential to reduce malnutrition. It has been effectively demonstrated on a small scale. For some, the new crops also can become a major source of income for the family.

### Example for students

Africa University serves students from over 20 countries on the African continent. The center will be a laboratory for many of

these students to see, by example, how they can duplicate the effort when they return to their native countries. Training programs for governmental and non-governmental organizations involved in agriculture and nutrition also will be an important way of multiplying the university's direct efforts. University outreach efforts like these are common in the United States but are not widely practiced in most of the rest of the world.

### Seeds of Hope

There are a number of ways people can become involved in contributing to the Seeds of Hope funding campaign. Simply making a financial contribution is of course the easiest. Organizing a fund-raiser can be fun and effective.

For farmers who wish to help, Indiana supporters seek to identify farmers willing to donate a portion of their soybean harvest, maybe an acre, five acres or more. If

they wish to participate, a seed company and a fertilizer company have offered to donate seeds and fertilizer. In addition, a Foundation has offered to match the harvest donation, dollar for dollar. You provide the land and labor and receive a tax write off.

If you, or a group to which you belong, or maybe a children's Sunday school class likes to bake, amaranth flour and the necessary recipes can be provided for a full meal, cookies, pancakes or a variety of choices. These can be sold and the proceeds donated.

### Amaranth

Amaranth is one of the recently recognized nutritional seed crops being introduced in several African countries including Kenya, Uganda and Zimbabwe. The food value of amaranth is very well established and has shown to have a significant ability to strengthen the immune system of

malnourished individuals. This in turn can reduce illnesses, especially in children, and can significantly reduce the symptoms of aids. A milk substitute has allowed mothers that are HIV positive to stop breast-feeding much earlier, thereby substantially reducing the possibility of the child becoming HIV positive.

For more information, contact one of the following members of the North Indiana Conference Committee on Africa University.

- ◆ Dick Dugger, P.O. Box 232, Culver, In 46511, 574-842-2770, [seyan3@mchsi.com](mailto:seyan3@mchsi.com)
- ◆ Wade Wiley, 18859 Red Bud, Plymouth, In 46563, [wwiley72@yahoo.com](mailto:wwiley72@yahoo.com)
- ◆ John Huie, 23 Flowermound Dr., West Lafayette, IN 47906, 765-497-7188, [jehuie@aol.com](mailto:jehuie@aol.com)

Indiana supporters seek to identify farmers willing to donate a portion of their soybean harvest.

## Seattle bishop resigns to lead church's mission agency

STAMFORD, Conn. (UMNS) – United Methodist Bishop Edward Paup has been elected to lead the church's Board of Global Ministries, which oversees global missions and is the denomination's largest agency.



Paup

The election came March 11 during the board's spring meeting. He will assume the post of general secretary on Sept. 1. Until that time,

Bishop Felton May will continue as the interim top executive.

Paup, 62, is bishop of the Seattle area, which includes the Pacific Northwest Conference and Alaska Missionary Conference, and is president of the Western Jurisdiction College of Bishops. He said he will tender his resignation from the episcopacy, effective Aug. 31, when the United Methodist Council of Bishops meets in April. The denomination will elect new bishops during jurisdictional meetings in July.

Paup told United Methodist News Service that he strongly believes in the importance of the role played by the general secretaries

of the denomination's agencies and commissions and the need for him to resign as bishop in order to be "in the same category" as his fellow chief executives.

The election of an active bishop to oversee a church agency is unprecedented in the 40-year history of The United Methodist Church.

U.S. bishops are elected for life and, while some have resigned for various reasons, none has left for full-time leadership of a church agency. Paup said he wants to

"model the possibility" of moving beyond the episcopal role. "There are times when some of us are called to lead a particular ministry in our church," he said.

Paup said his interest in mission grew through his longtime involvement with the work of the Advance for Christ and His Church, the denomination's second-mile giving program. He served as chairperson of the Advance from 1996 to 2000. Paup said he has been drawn "to the

importance of the mission opportunities that we have in Jesus Christ across the globe."

The mission agency's previous chief executive, the Rev. R. Randy Day, was dismissed during the board's annual meeting last October. Its personnel committee did not re-nominate Day and instead called for a vote on May as interim leader.

For more information about the GBGM and global mission news, log on to [new.gbgm-umc.org](http://new.gbgm-umc.org).

## Hilliard to work with United Methodist youth

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (GBOD) – Henry 'Hank' Hilliard has been named manager of Youth Ministry Development for Young People's Ministries in Nashville, which is a ministry of the United Methodist General Board of Discipleship.

"Hank brings (to GBOD) a wealth of experience planning, organizing and promoting ministry programming, including mission trips, spiritual formation retreats, outreach events and creative arts ministry teams," said Karen Greenwaldt, top executive for GBOD.

Hilliard was formerly director of both Youth and College Ministry and Young Adult Ministries at Emmanuel United Methodist Church in Memphis, where he was responsible for leading and



Hilliard

directing youth ministries for more than 12 years. He started a college and young adult ministry at the church in 2003.

Hank's vision for youth ministry includes developing and enhancing the knowledge of youth and leaders of youth through relevant, creative and readily available resources for youth ministries, and in

providing training and networking opportunities.

In his new capacity, he looks forward to equipping youth to become disciples of Jesus Christ within The United Methodist Church through leadership development, through Web-based learning resources and by responding to all levels of inquiries related to enhancing and developing youth ministries.

## Retired Liberian clergy eke out survival

By Linda Green

GRAND BASSA COUNTY, Liberia (UMNS) – The Rev. Jo-Joe Vah, his mother and 16 other relatives live in a house that would be condemned by U.S. standards.

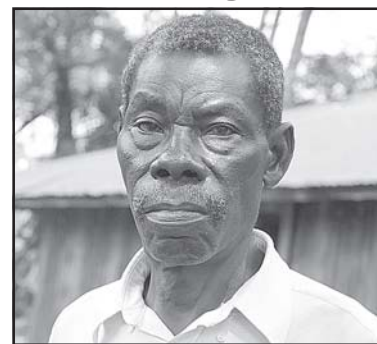
The home was heavily damaged and looted by rebels during Liberia's long civil war, and now it stands as a burned-out shell.

Vah, 78, who retired from active ministry in 2002, was a United Methodist pastor for 53 years. He has no money to repair the damage to his home caused by fire, bullets, water and weather. Receiving no income other than a quarterly pension of US\$60, he and his family subsist on rice, soup made from a local nut and items they receive from others.

"The only income coming in is from the Board of Pension," he says, referring to the United Methodist Board of Pension and Health Benefits. "That buys just a bag of rice to sustain the rest of the family," he says of the hundred-pound bag that sometimes lasts a month.

The pension "is not enough to sustain me and my family," he says.

The United Methodist Church,



UMNS photo by Kathy L. Gilbert  
The Rev. Jo-Joe Vah, a retired United Methodist minister, lives in a burned-out house with 17 relatives.

directed by its 2000 and 2004 General Conferences, has been working to develop pension models to help pastors and church lay workers in Liberia and other countries retire with an adequate pension. The church's effort, known as the Central Conference Pension Initiative, is focusing on Africa, Eastern Europe and the Philippines.

A campaign to raise \$20 million is under way to fully fund pensions for retired central conference clergy and surviving spouses. More than \$4.6 million has been raised, says Chad Peddicord, the campaign director for the Board of

Pension and vice president of CCS (Community Counseling Services) of New York.

The initiative is led by a Central Conference Pension Committee with representatives from five church agencies: the Board of Pension and Health Benefits, General Council on Finance and Administration, Board of Global Ministries, United Methodist Publishing House and United Methodist Communications.

In November 2006, the committee selected the Liberia Conference to implement a pilot pension program for clergy and church lay workers, beginning in 2007.

"This is groundbreaking and is a celebration of the church's global nature and that we are in mission together," says Bishop John Innis of Liberia. For the Liberia Conference to be chosen as the pilot project in Africa is "commendable" and "falls under the umbrella of making disciples for the transformation of the world," he says.

The Liberia Conference, comprising more than 170,000 United Methodists, has 382 active clergy, 230 retired clergy and 264 surviving clergy spouses.

## Together we can plan to succeed

By Jean Brindel, Capital Fund Team  
North Indiana Outdoor Ministry Project  
jbrindel@sbcglobal.net

The 2006 North Indiana Annual Conference requested a feasibility study about the ability to raise money for upgrading and building facilities for the camping ministry. During these past months, the costs of the project and needs assessment has caused the focus to be on the Epworth Forest Camp site.



Brindel

The actual report will be received from the consulting firm, Cargill and Associates, on April 11. This begs the question, what is a feasibility study?

Let me tell you a story.

Back in the olden days, a few weeks before Easter, children would begin to watch the old hens to see where there might be hidden nests of eggs that could be found for Easter. My Uncle Wes, who was about eight at the time, spied an old hen who each morning quietly wandered off from the henhouse to her secret nest.

She would approach the side of the barn, slowly look around, and making sure she was not being watched before slipping between the loose boards of the barn. Wes knew there must be a full nest of eggs waiting for him.

Early in the morning on the Saturday before Easter was his chance to gather those hidden eggs. As he picked up the egg basket, his mother asked him what he was doing. "Nothing," he replied, "just going out for a walk."

He followed the path to the loose boards, just as the old hen had done.

Putting down the basket, he pushed back the loose

boards and crawled under the barn toward the nest. About four feet in, he realized he was caught. He couldn't move. Something took hold of him and held him tightly. He began to scream, but no one could hear him or knew where he was.

After an hour or so, his mother went to the porch and called out his name – no response. She wandered toward the barn, calling for him and stopping to listen. Still nothing. Then she spied the basket, sitting by the opening of the barn made by the broken boards. As she knelt down and looked in to see, his tear stained face pleading for help, she tried to reassure him,

"Don't worry, son, we'll get you out even if we have to burn down the barn." Now, they really needed a feasibility study.

A feasibility study measures the support of the leadership and possible donors toward the proposed project and the project costs. Planning to succeed means measuring the support of possible donors as leaders and donors consider the costs and benefits of the project.

They did get my Uncle Wes out. My dad came along and realized Wes's pants were caught on a nail. And yes, they did get the eggs for Easter.

In May, the results of the Epworth Forest feasibility study will be shared.

Thanks to all who provided ideas, wisdom and concerns in this process. And yes, together we plan to succeed.

Jean Brindel, CFRE, AFP, serves as senior pastor of Saint Matthew United Methodist Church in Frankfort, Ind.

### In May, the results of the Epworth Forest feasibility study will be shared.

## We need to make decisions about end of life

By Cyndi Alte  
calte@clarian.org

How about these as conversation starters for your next family/church/social gathering:

- ◆ If you could not make decisions about your health care, who would make them for you?
- ◆ What values do you consider as you contemplate end-of-life issues and decisions?
- ◆ Where do you keep documents and information about your health care preferences? Do you have those documents? Is your family and medical team aware of your preferences?



Alte

Sound far-fetched? Not really. These and other significant questions remind us that life is fragile – and that we can begin planning now for the possibility that decisions about our lives may be made by someone other than ourselves.

April 16 is National Healthcare Decisions Day, an initiative to encourage patients to express their wishes regarding healthcare to their families and medical team. It also serves as a reminder for providers and facilities to respect those wishes, whatever they may be.

The Federal Patient Self-Determination Act requires that all Medicare-participating healthcare facilities inquire about and provide in-

### ... decisions about our lives may be made by someone other than ourselves.

formation to patients on Advance Directives; it also requires these facilities to provide community education on Advance Directives. All healthcare facilities are required to:

- ◆ Provide information about health care decision-making rights.
- ◆ Ask all patients if they have an advance directive.
- ◆ Educate their staff and community about advance directives.
- ◆ Not discriminate against pa-

## BODY, MIND & SPIRIT

### Did Jesus cook?

By Todd Outcalt  
toutcalt@calvaryunited.org

I don't know how many of my male counterparts do the cooking in their homes, but ever since my wife started working longer hours, I've been doing the bulk of the boiling and baking. It's not a bad gig, actually, if you can buy enough cans, jars, boxes and frozen entrees to get by for a couple of weeks at a time. My two teenagers complain, but hey, I'm the dad and I call the shots in my kitchen.

Lately, however, I've been pondering the question: Did Jesus cook?

The Gospels do tell us that he broke bread on several occasions, at least once feeding a multitude. We can reasonably assume that he may have also gone fishing with the Zebedee clan and that he did enjoy a good meal when he was invited to a wedding or to someone's home. But he didn't own a stove and, since he had no place to lay his head, I gather that he didn't have a stone to grind with or to bake on.

But did he cook? I have to think so.

Being close to Jesus in the kitchen had to be one of the reasons my grandmother hummed hymns while she cooked, or why we say table blessings. There's something significant about Jesus and food — even the preparing of it. That's why we set a table on a Sunday morning and invite the world. Jesus and cooking naturally go together.

Of course, Jesus had a much

different diet than we do. He was likely heavy on the nuts and berries and breads, short on complex carbs and protein. He didn't eat burgers and fries. He didn't have to rely on bottled water to know that he was getting pure refreshment.



Outcalt

Still, Jesus may have carried food with him (a bag of trail mix?) and the only reason he needed for getting together with good friends was the food itself. I think he would have enjoyed my chili. He would probably have used copious shots of Tobasco.

The next time you are in the kitchen cooking, consider Jesus. It's amazing, but I often find myself praying for people while I stir the broth, or humming some tune, while I sweat over the pork chops, which, I assume, Jesus would have eschewed. When I serve up the meal and my kids complain, "Hamburger Helper again?" I am practicing the ancient art of patience and suffering for the sake of Jesus. When I taste what I've cooked, I suffer all the more. My cooking has brought our family closer together and filled us with gratitude for Papa John's and Taco Bell. Every meal is an adventure, and we have to trust that the Lord will save us.

But then, I'm probably not telling you anything you don't already know. Happy cooking!

Todd Outcalt serves as senior pastor of Calvary UMC in Brownsburg, Ind. His new blog is [toddoutcalt.blogspot.com](http://toddoutcalt.blogspot.com) and some of his latest writing can be found in digital form on [www.Amazon.com](http://www.Amazon.com).

tients based on an advance directive status.

In studying end of life decision-making, the Pew Research Center found that

- ◆ 42 percent of Americans have had a friend or relative suffer from a terminal illness or coma in the last five years and for a majority of these people and 23 percent of the general public, the issue of withholding life sustaining treatment came up.
- ◆ An overwhelming majority of the public supports laws that give patients the right to decide whether they want to be kept alive through medical treatment.
- ◆ By more than eight-to-one, the public approves of laws that let terminally ill patients make decisions about whether to be kept alive through medical treatment.

◆ One of the most striking changes between 1990 and 2005 is the growth in the number of people who say they have a living will – up 17 points, from 12 percent in 1990 to 29 percent now.

Another study found that between 65 and 76 percent of physicians whose patients had an advance directive were not aware that it existed. All the more reason for families to be involved in our decision making process.

For more information about advance care directives, log on to: [www.clarian.org/portal/Education](http://www.clarian.org/portal/Education) click on "A" and go to "Advanced care directives."

Cyndi Alte serves on the pastoral care team of Clarian Health at Methodist Hospital in Indianapolis. She is a clergy member of the South Indiana Conference.

## Pontius' Puddle



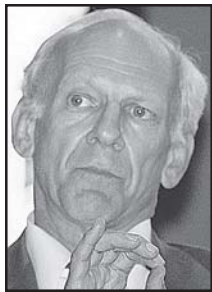
## National gambling opponent to speak at conference sessions

Cheered by those who oppose the expansion of gambling and often feared by those who profit from that expansion, the Rev. Tom Grey will be speaking at both the North Indiana and South Indiana 2008 Annual Conference sessions.

Grey is known for his no-nonsense presentation of the failure of gambling to deliver on its promises. For the past 15 years, Grey

has been outspoken in his opposition to gambling.

He began his campaign against the expansion of legalized state-approved gambling in Illinois with the introduction of riverboats and has continued in 48 states and



Grey

several foreign countries.

Grey is a retired United Methodist pastor now living on the west coast, who continues his traveling and speaking on behalf of the National Coalition Against Legalized Gambling (NCALG).

He says gambling is not winning all or even the majority of the battles in the United States. He will outline the possibility of changing the direction of legalized gambling in Indiana.

Grey is scheduled to speak Friday morning, May 30, during the North Indiana Annual Conference session at Elliott Hall on the campus of Purdue University in West

Lafayette. He also is scheduled to speak during the South Indiana Annual Conference session on Thursday morning June 5. Grey will address both annual conference sessions and speak during a noon luncheon following the session. Those wishing to attend the luncheon will need to purchase a luncheon reservation from their respective conference.

## Mission fair on cross-cultural teaching experiences set for June in Gary

The teachUM steering committee of United Methodist Volunteers In Mission of the North Central Jurisdiction recently announced the first-ever **teachUM Fair** scheduled for June 15-19 at Marquette Park United Methodist Church in Gary, Ind.

The event will feature workshops specifically for educators and hands on Vacation Bible School for a nearby emerging Hispanic community.

Billed as a means of "Increasing Your Comfort Level in Cross-Cultural Teaching Experiences", this event will feature include

workshops by two General Board of Global Ministries staff members. The Rev. Dionisio Salazar, Assistant General Secretary Hispanic/Latino Ministries will preach at the opening worship on Sunday evening and speak during a workshop on Monday. Both of his presentations center around "Hispanic realities and our United Methodist Response."

Una Jones, Executive Secretary Mission Leaders, will present a workshop on Monday about "Mission Education." Other presenters include: Beth Ferrell, Mission Interpreter for the North Central Ju-

risdiction; Nancy Eubanks, Consultant for Individual Volunteer; members of Marquette Park UMC, a multicultural church; North Indiana Conference mission leaders and members of the teachUM steering committee. There will be nine workshops, the opportunity to link to other educators interested in missions and the Vacation Bible School.

For registration, schedule and further information, log on to: [www.gbgm-umc.org/northcentralvim/teachum.html](http://www.gbgm-umc.org/northcentralvim/teachum.html) or write/call [umvim-ncj@brookings.net](mailto:umvim-ncj@brookings.net); 605-692-3390.

## Communication ready for online visitors to General Conference

United Methodist Communications is prepared for thousands of online visitors to watch and gather information on the denomination's 2008 legislative conference in Fort Worth, Texas.

About 1,000 delegates from around the world will gather April 23 to May 2, 2008 to determine priorities and set a di-

rection for the 11-million member denomination. The General Conference's proceedings will be available



through [GC2008.umc.org](http://GC2008.umc.org) or [www.umc.org](http://www.umc.org). Worship, special addresses, celebrations, and

other selected plenary sessions will be available on live video streaming.

## Zimmerman receives faculty appointment at Methodist Theological School in Ohio

DELAWARE, Ohio – Methodist Theological School in Ohio recently announce the appointment of Dr. Yvonne Zimmerman as Assistant Professor of Christian Ethics effective July 1.

She is a Ph.D. student in the joint program in Religious and Theological Studies at the Iliff School of Theology and the University of Denver. She holds a Master of Theological Studies from Candler School of Theol-

ogy in Atlanta, and earned her undergraduate degree from Goshen College in Indiana. In addition to Iliff and the University of Denver, Zimmerman held a recent teaching appointment at the University of Colorado in Colorado Springs.

Methodist Theological School in Ohio is a graduate seminary of The United Methodist Church. For more information about the school, log on to: [www.mtso.edu](http://www.mtso.edu).

## Remington man featured in flood story died on Good Friday

Harry Alberts of the Remington (Ind.) UMC, died Good Friday morning, March 21. Alberts and his wife, Lois, were pictured on the front-page of the February issue of *Together*. Indiana Bishop Mike Coyner visited and prayed with the Alberts in Remington during his visit to the flooded re-

gions in Lafayette District.

The Alberts vacated their home due to the flood in Remington. Their pastor, the Rev. Mary van Wijk, informed e-HUM that the Alberts had not yet moved back into their own home before Harry died. "Lois will now go back by herself," she said.

## Suburban Kansas City church to award excellence

The United Methodist Church of the Resurrection Leadership Institute invites congregations to apply for its Award of Excellence

Last year, the United Methodist Church of the Resurrection awarded three extraordinary churches with the Award for Excellence. Each of these churches had applied leadership principles and ideas, and experienced significant growth in both the width and depth of their ministries.

At the 2008 Leadership Institute this October, The UM Church of the Resurrection will continue this tradition, as the Rev. Adam

Hamilton will present the Award for Excellence to three additional churches. These churches will be chosen in the early summer, based upon applications received this spring. The award consists of a \$1,000 prize and five complimentary registrations for the 2008 Leadership Institute. For eligibility requirements and to access an application form visit: [www.cor.org/catalyst/leadership-institute/](http://www.cor.org/catalyst/leadership-institute/)

The church encourage pastors, lay persons and conference officials to nominate churches for this award up to May 16.

## DEATHS

**BENJAMIN E. ANTLE**, retired pastor (NIC), died March 14, 2008. A memorial service was held March 20 at First UMC at Goshen, Ind. The Revs. Robert Dexter and Ed and Brenda Fritz officiated. Survivors include: Wife, Claire; son, Mark Antle; daughter, Debbie Peek; and three grandchildren. Condolences can be sent to Claire Antle, 6011 Bahia Del Mar Blvd., St. Petersburg, FL 33715.

**MABEL COLLIER CUNNINGHAM**, widow of the late Rev. Ralph Cunningham (NIC), died March 11, 2008. A memorial service was held March 14 in Evansville. The Rev. Mark Dickson officiated. She was preceded in death by her first husband, the late Grover Lee Collier; her second husband, the late Rev. Ralph W. Cunningham. Survivors include: her son, Robert J. Collier; two grandchildren, Robert W. Collier and Kimberly Hancock; four great-grandchildren; a step-daughter, JoAnn Cunningham; two step-grandchildren, Janet Anderson and Robert W. Cunningham; four step-great-grandchildren; and three step-great-grandchildren. Memorial contributions can be made to Gideon's International, The Evansville East Camp, P.O. Box 554, Evansville, IN 47704. Condolences may be made to the family online at [www.courierpress.com](http://www.courierpress.com).

**JOYCE KAVICH**, wife of John Kavich, retired pastor (SIC),

died March 24, 2008. A memorial service was held March 26. Survivors include: Husband: John Kavich 2335 N Madison Ave, Anderson, IN 46011; son: David Kavich; daughter: Jean Bloom.

**MORRIS McCLINTIC**, retired pastor (SIC), died March 24, 2008. A memorial service was held Thursday, March 27 in Franklin. Survivors include: Wife, Helen York McClintic, 1070 W Jefferson, Franklin, IN 46131; one daughter, Marcia Staples; three sons; Donald McClintic, Gary McClintic and Michael McClintic; 10 grandchildren; and 13 great-grandchildren.

**WILLIE MORGAN** died March 22, 2008. A memorial service was held March 29 in South Bend. Survivors include: Wife, Ethel, and four children, as well as numerous grandchildren. Morgan was a Lay Member of Annual Conference (NIC) for many years, first from Delaney UMC in Gary, then later from First UMC in South Bend. Condolences may be sent to Ethel Morgan at 938 North Niles Ave., South Bend, IN 46617.

**GRACE E. NUNERY**, wife of retired Elder, C. Albert Nunery (NIC), died March 25, 2008. A memorial service was held March 29 in Indianapolis with Kent Millard officiating. Survivors include: Albert, her husband of 65 years; children, Ruth Allford, David A. Nunery, William R. Nunery, Dorothy Juergensen; 18 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren. One

infant great-granddaughter preceded her in death. Memorial gifts can be made to Indiana Deaf Camp Foundation, 100 W. 86th St., Indianapolis, IN 46260.

**JAMES M. PATCH**, former pastor (NIC), died Friday, March 21, 2008. A memorial service was held March 26 at the Downing-Glancy Funeral Home in Geneva, Ind. Survivors include: Wife, Cathy. Condolences can be sent to Mrs. Cathy Patch, 3417 Alpine Ct., Lexington, KY 40517.

**TINA VAN HORN**, mother of the Rev. Linda Van Horn (NIC), died March 25, 2008 in New Jersey. A memorial service was held March 30 in Lyndhurst, NJ. Condolences may be sent to the VanHorn Family, 201 Cedar St., Cerdargrove, NJ 07009, or to Linda VanHorn, 3148 Mountain Maple Ct., South Bend, IN 46628.

**EVERETT LIKENS WRIGHT JR.**, retired pastor (SIC) died March 22, 2008. A memorial service was held March 25 at St. Mark's UMC in Bloomington, Ind. Survivors include: Wife, Patti Wright, 2901 Fawkes Way, Bloomington, IN 47404; four daughters, Virginia Haywood-Bass, Cynthia Wright-Lepoldvin, Connie Vest and Judy Fetzinger; one son, Richard Wright; 14 grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren. Memorial contributions can be made to St. Mark's UMC, Bloomington, or the American Parkinson Disease Association.

## South Indiana School of Christian Mission honored at UIndy

INDIANAPOLIS – For the past three decades, clergy and laity, youth and adults have been coming to the University of Indianapolis campus for mission education opportunities provided by the South Indiana Conference United Methodist Women's School of Christian Mission.

The University's Office of Ecumenical & Interfaith Programs was pleased to honor these women for the work that they have been doing across the past four decades at UIndy (since 1977), as well as at the University of Evansville (1974) and DePauw University (1973, 1975-76).

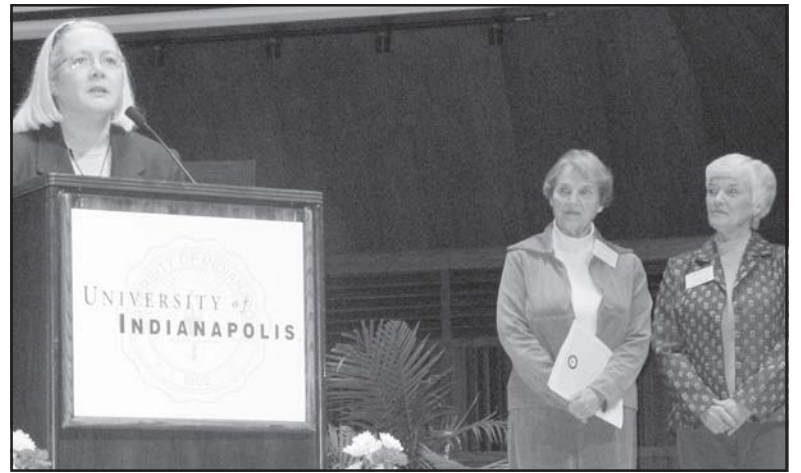
Year by year, the School of Christian mission has equipped

leaders by educating them about the various mission endeavors of the United Methodist Church and in turn making it possible for participants to foster conversations in their home congregations.

During the recent 2008 Showers Symposium: "Christian Mission in the United Methodist Church: Past, Present & Future" at UIndy, the Rev. Michael Cartwright, on behalf of the University, recognized the work of the South Indiana Conference UMW's School of Christian mission on March 27. To honor the UMW, UIndy's office of Ecumenical & Interfaith Programs arranged for contributions to be made to the UMW for the program support coordinator in Freetown, Sierra Leone

and to the Lucille Raines Residence in Indianapolis.

The Rev. Dr. Lang Brownlee and Ms. Laura Steed will be leading a group of UIndy students on a work project to expand and rehabilitate the library for Koidu School in Sierra Leone. This project of Operation Classroom will make it possible for the almost 1,500 students to have access to a library facility for the first time since the beginning of the Civil War in the 1990s. If you would like to contribute to the costs of materials for the construction of the Library at Koidu in Sierra Leone, please contact Lang Brownlee at [lbrownlee@uindy.edu](mailto:lbrownlee@uindy.edu) or call 317-788-3382.



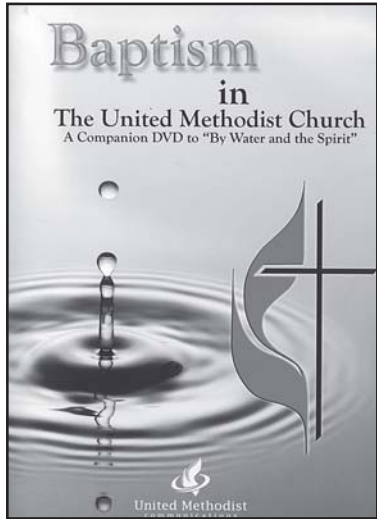
The women receiving the gifts from UIndy are: (from left) Karen Korn, assistant dean of the School of Mission (at podium), Sylvia White, co-president of Greenwood UMW and Carole Small, treasurer of Greenwood UMW.

## UMC Baptism DVD worth considering

United Methodist Communications DVD titled *Baptism in The United Methodist Church* is worth considering for confirmation and new member classes or for a class on baptism.

The DVD is divided into five segments, depending on its use and audience. The five segments are titled:

1. Baptism: Personal Stories (all ages) 8½ minutes  
Two bishops remember their baptism in the faith.
2. Why Do We Baptize? (adults) 12½ minutes  
Baptism is like being born all over and a primary means of receiving God's grace.
3. How Do We Baptize? (adults) 10 minutes  
This segment considers each step of the baptism liturgy.
4. Baptism for Youth (ages 12 to 18 years) 13 minutes  
This is one of the weakest segments of the DVD. Still shots



5. Baptism for Children (ages 9

to 11 years) 11 minutes

This is a very good segment done with a woman's voice and said in words kids would understand.

The DVD also considers the practices of baptism over time; why we should use more water instead of less water; why Jesus' baptism was about more than forgiveness; and why there is no preferred age for baptism.

Overall, even with one weak segment, this is a good DVD to have in a church media resource center. It has a shelf-life of several years.

*Baptism in The United Methodist Church* is available from [www.ecufilm.org](http://www.ecufilm.org). Search for Wesley/UM item 6294 or order by calling toll-free 800-251-4091. United Methodist share EcuFilm with nine other Protestant denominations. It is based at United Methodist Communications in Nashville, Tenn.

## New curriculum invites children to build 'Rock Solid' faith

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (UMNS) – Hank the Hammer and friends will help children build a "rock solid heart of faith" with a new Sunday school curriculum being offered this fall by the United Methodist Publishing House based in Nashville, Tenn.

"Rock Solid: Building a Heart of Faith" will invite children ages 3-13 to lay a solid biblical foundation and construct a personal relationship with God.

The cornerstone of "Rock Solid" is Matthew 7:24, the story of the wise man who built his house on rock. It includes multisensory activities, crafts, stories and games, supplemented by an interactive Web site at

[www.IAmRockSolid.com](http://www.IAmRockSolid.com).

The new curriculum replaces Exploring Faith, which has been offered for the past eight years. Rock Solid incorporates language based on a faith-building model instead of a school model and uses, for instance, words like session instead of lesson, leader instead of teacher and group instead of class.

The curriculum will be ready to ship to churches in June. It includes a leader guide, kid's books, a resource packet and musical CD. A fun pack with craft ideas is available for younger age levels, a puzzle book for older children and a drama book for "tweens."



## APPOINTMENTS

Bishop Michael J. Coyner has announced the following changes within the Indiana Area. All dates effective 2008 unless otherwise noted. These appointments are based on Cabinet reports received by Indiana Area Communication during the month of March 2008.

### South Indiana Conference

Alstott, Dennis from Union, Terre Haute to Dillsboro, Columbus, 7/1  
Bowyer, Richard from Utica, New Albany to no appointment, 2/25  
Butler, Bill from Newberry/New: Prairie Chapel, Bloomington to Newberry, Bloomington to New: Scotland, Bloomington, 4/1  
Charles, Jennifer from Rockville: First, Terre Haute to Shirley-Wilkinson Community, Rushville, 7/1  
Clark, Bradley from no appoint-

ment to Tunnelton, Bloomington, 3/15  
Cline, Donald from Poseyville: St. Paul's, Evansville to Bartlett Chapel, Indianapolis West, 7/1  
Hawkins, Marianne from Bicknell, Vincennes to Hope, Columbus, 5/1  
Helms, Rosella L. from Carmel: St. Mark's, Indianapolis East to Transitional Leave, 4/1  
Hizer, Jeannine S. from Lawrenceburg Hamline Chapel, Columbus to no appointment, 2/29  
Hopkins, Lyndon from no appointment to Oolitic, Bloomington, 3/15  
Kaetzel, Jill S. from appointed to attend school, to Extension Ministry ¶344.1.d: St. Mary's Good Samaritan Hospital, Vernon, Ill., 3/15  
Lapham, Thomas from Newberry/New: Prairie Chapel/New: Scotland, Bloomington to Newberry, Bloomington, 4/1

Low, Nancy Louise from no appointment to Hartsville, Columbus, 4/1  
Madison, William from no appointment to Vevay: Bennington, Columbus, 3/1  
McGille, Jim from Winslow: Patoka Grove/Alford/Atkinson Chapel, Vincennes to Alford, Vincennes, 6/30/07  
Millay, Christopher from Brookville, Rushville to Alquina, Rushville, 7/1  
Oelker, Matthew D. from no appointment to Wilmington, Columbus, 3/15  
Parrott, Roger D. from Vevay/Vevay: Bennington, Columbus to Vevay, Columbus, 8/26/07  
Peigh-Williamson, Jamalyn from Greensburg, Rushville to Milroy, Rushville, 7/1  
Roach, Ralph from Mineral, Bloomington to no appointment, 3/31  
Tucker, Daniel E. from no appointment to Friendship,

Vincennes, 12/1/07  
Voorhies, Dan from Oolitic, Bloomington to Leesville, Bloomington, 3/15  
Walker, C. Reid from Zionsville, Indianapolis West to Mt. Comfort, Indianapolis East, 7/1  
Walker, Ronald Dean from Columbus: Asbury Associate Lifegate, Columbus to Surrendering Credentials Q#50, 3/14  
Watson, Donald A. from disability leave to Retirement, 6/30  
Wells, Kenneth from Bartlett Chapel, Indianapolis West, to Knightstown, Rushville, 7/1  
Wilson, Joe from Friendship, Vincennes to Francisco, Vincennes, 12/1/07

### North Indiana Conference

Cross, David W. from Elkhart Hillcrest, Michiana to Wabash First, Huntington, 7/1  
DeFries, Thomas J. from Mt. Etna, Huntington to Logansport Main St., Kokomo, 7/1

Lash, Evan Lynn from Lapel Trinity, Marion to LaPorte First, Calumet, 7/1  
Matthews, David from Woodburn, Fort Wayne to Waterloo, Fort Wayne, 7/1  
Newman-Jacobs, Christine K. from Churubusco, Fort Wayne to Chesterton, Calumet, 7/1  
O'Brien, Kerry from Kokomo Main Street, Kokomo to Plymouth Trinity, Warsaw, 7/1  
Scott, Jack from NIC Assoc. Dir. Ldr. Dev, Marion to Fort Wayne Covenant Sr. Pastor, Fort Wayne, 7/1  
Smith, Laurence L. from Angola, Fort Wayne to Elkhart Calvary, Michiana, 7/1  
Terrell, Timothy J. from Goshen St. Marks, Michiana to Angola, Fort Wayne, 7/1  
Vale, Robert J. from Argos, Warsaw to Osceola, Michiana, 7/1  
Walker, Kenneth D. from Peru Parkview, Kokomo to Argos, Warsaw, 7/1

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## South Indiana Conference Come Celebrate Our 40th Annual Session

**June 5, 6, 7, 2008**

### Theme:

I Have Called You Friends. Friends  
with Christ,  
Friends with Each Other.

### Guest Speaker

Rev. Dr. Peter Storey

Memorial Service by  
Bishop Michael Coyner

### All Conference Dinner

This year's theme is  
*Radical Hospitality*  
Our program will feature  
strolling entertainment.

### Introducing

"Five Practices of Fruitful Con-  
gregations" and "Three Simple  
Rules"

*Come see what God  
is doing in Indiana!*

### Celebration of Ministry Reception

Everyone is invited to celebrate in  
this special event. Party tent, music,  
and refreshments will be provided.

Imagine Indiana  
Presentation and Vote

Laity Address Theme:  
"Connections"

Wellness Screening

Special Christian  
Conferencing

Closing Worship  
with reading of appointments  
and dedication of conference  
leaders

visit us at [www.sicumc.org](http://www.sicumc.org) for more information on Annual Conference