

## redwine grants:

## Not happening in 2002

**R**edwine grants have helped to fund many new programs in the Holston Conference, including a sewing ministry at Round Mountain Circuit in the Tazewell District and an Alzheimer's day-care center at Forrest Avenue United Methodist Church in Chattanooga.

But in 2002, there won't be any Redwine grants as the result of a failing economy and the desire to ensure the fund's long-term success.

"The Redwine Fund is a market-bearing fund," said the Rev. James Bennington, Redwine Committee chair, "so when the market took a dip after the terrorist attacks on Sept. 11, the Redwine Fund took a dip." By not making any grants this year, "we'll allow the corpus to build up, which will hopefully allow us to make grants in 2003."

The decision didn't come easily for the Redwine Committee, said Bennington, who had already received many "great proposals" from Holston groups beginning new ministries. "We had to look at the long haul and maintain the integrity of the fund."

In 2001, the Redwine Committee awarded a total of \$22,500 to nine groups, chosen from a pool of 30 applicants.

## ■ What's Your Size?

*The Call* uses the following symbols to identify articles about small, medium or large churches:

**S** = Churches with average 85 or fewer in principle weekly worship service(s)

**M** = Average 86 to 225 in worship service(s)

**L** = Average 226 or more in worship service(s)



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## bishop's perspective:

By Ray W. Chamberlain Jr.

Resident Bishop



▲ Bishop Chamberlain speaks at the recent "Bishop's Conference on Starting New Congregations" in Gatlinburg.

## Left Behind

Yes, I fret a lot about being left behind. By indecision, inaction, neutrality or by unbelief, prejudice or by default.

**I**wonder if all the Hebrew people left Egypt with Moses. Or, did some linger with indecision too long and were left behind – missing the exodus miracle through the Red Sea and continuing to serve as slaves?

I wonder if some of the Israelites doubted God's promise of the Promised Land and were left behind in the miserable desert by default.

I wonder how many people were left behind by their unbelief when the ark rose in the rising waters.

I wonder if some just could not make up their minds when Joshua declared, "As for me and my house we will serve the Lord" – and were left behind by their neutrality.

I wonder how many sheperds ignored the angels' announcement of Jesus' birth and were left behind to do business as usual.

I wonder about friends and relatives joining the elder brother in boycotting the party for the prodigal son and were left behind where God was by their prejudice.

I wonder how many Pharisees refused to believe God could heal on the Sabbath day and were left behind with only their rules.

I wonder if there were those on the day of Pentecost who were turned off by the emotionalism and were left behind with only their traditions.

Yes, I fret God may be doing a new thing through non-traditional worship, people with AIDS, new congregations, race reconciliations, the homeless, a radical prophet at Resurrection 2002 (our gathering of 11,000 young people), and with the marginalized. I wonder about God being active outside my comfort zone. And I worry I could be left behind where God is at work in our aching, wounded, hostile world because of my preconceived ideas.

**Prayer:** O God, give me the vision and courage and conviction and devotion to risk following Jesus wherever he leads. May I not be left behind to nurse my prejudices and doubts. Open my eyes to see what you are doing and where you are doing it. Open my heart to be there with you. Open my bank account to match your expectations of me. Spare me the sin of greed which leaves me stranded from you. I pray this for your sake and for the human family for whom you gave your son Jesus. Amen. ■

## exchange:

■ **KNOXVILLE, Tenn.** – Wanted: **Director of Youth Ministries.** Candidate should have some experience and be able to organize and motivate volunteers to develop a ministry that influences teens toward Christ and a lifestyle of discipleship. References required. Send resumes to: SPPR Committee, Ebenezer UMC, 1001 Ebenezer Road, Knoxville, TN 37923. ■

■ **MARYVILLE, Tenn.** – Fairview UMC is seeking applicants for a **Summer Student Ministries Intern** to work with Children and youth under the supervision of both the Children and Youth Directors. Contact Pamela Truman at (865) 983-2080 or fax resume to (865) 982-4222. ■

■ **BLUFF CITY, Tenn.** – Elizabeth Chapel UMC, a 470-member church near Bristol, seeks **part-time Director of Music Ministries.** Resumes accepted through Feb. 28. Contact church office at (425) 538-6311 or e-mail [ElizabethChUMC@aol.com](mailto:ElizabethChUMC@aol.com). ■

■ **LAKE JUNALUSKA, N.C.** – The Southeastern Jurisdiction Administrative Council seeks a full-time **Director of Archives & History.** Qualifications include Master's Degree in history, archival or museum studies or equivalent experience. Send resume or request more information from: Human Resources Office, P.O. Box 67, Lake Junaluska, NC 28745, phone (828) 452-2881 ext. 703; fax (828) 456-4040, email [hr@lakejunaluska.com](mailto:hr@lakejunaluska.com).

■ **NASHVILLE, Tenn.** – Offered by United Methodist Communications, the Judith Weidman **Racial Ethnic Minority Fellowship** provides a mentoring experience to prepare one qualified person for a communications career in the United Methodist Church. Candidates should be recent college graduates who are United Methodists of racial ethnic background with communications experience. Application deadline is March 15. Call (888) 278-4862.

■ **WANTED: Local church newsletters.** If you are not already sending your church newsletter to Bishop Ray Chamberlain or to *The Call*, please put us on your mailing list. Send to: Editor, *The Call*, P.O. Box 32929, Knoxville, TN 37930-2939. ■

## Class Acts

Among Holston Conference seminary students, these are the schools of choice for the 2001-2002 academic year:

• Asbury (Wilmore, Ky.)	16 students
• Candler (Atlanta, Ga.)	14 students
• Duke (Durham, N.C.)	9 students
• Other seminaries	8 students

Source: The Wesley Institute