



**RINER, Va.**— Auburn UMC, near Blacksburg, Va., seeks a part-time coordinator of children and youth ministries. Send resume to Auburn UMC, Attn: PPR Committee, P.O. Box 74, Riner, VA 24149. For a job description and information, call (540) 382-4478.

**KNOXVILLE, Tenn.**— Concord UMC seeks mature, loving, reliable person to care for children on Sunday mornings and possible other occasions. Average 16-20 hours per month. Applicants must be CPR trained or willing to be trained. For more information, contact Joan De Tar at (865) 966-6728.

**HARRISON, Tenn.**— Harrison UMC seeks a part-time youth and children's ministries director. Responsibilities include planning, implementing, and organizing programs and activities for children and youth through 12<sup>th</sup> grade. Experience with children's and/or youth ministry is preferred. Call Pastor Tom Hancock at (423) 344-8228 Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.; fax your resume to (423) 344-8395; or e-mail [harrisonchurch@bellsouth.net](mailto:harrisonchurch@bellsouth.net). See our web site at [www.humc-tn.org](http://www.humc-tn.org).

**DUNLAP, Tenn.**— Dunlap UMC seeks a summer intern or part-time youth worker to meet weekly with youth ages 12-18. Contact: Rev. Amy Probst or John Kell at Dunlap UMC, phone (423) 949-2724 or e-mail [dunlapumc@bledsoe.net](mailto:dunlapumc@bledsoe.net).

**KNOXVILLE, Tenn.**— Bookwalter UMC seeks an organist for the 10:45 a.m. and 7 p.m. worship services and 5:15 p.m. choir rehearsal. Applicants should be prepared to play a prepared piece and sight-read from the hymnal. Contact: Rusty Boggs at (865) 688-5284 or e-mail [organist@bookwalter-umc.org](mailto:organist@bookwalter-umc.org).

**HOLSTON CONFERENCE** Camp and Retreat Ministries Inc. offers a variety of staff positions for our resident summer camps in 2006. Contact should be made as soon as possible with the director of the individual camp: Camp Buffalo Mountain near Johnson City, Tenn. — Christina DowlingSoka at [buffalomountain@hotmail.com](mailto:buffalomountain@hotmail.com) or (423) 753-6678; Camp Dickenson near Fries, Va. — Chuck and Heather Jones at [cdickenson@tcia.net](mailto:cdickenson@tcia.net) or (276) 744-7241; Camp Lookout near Chattanooga, Tenn. — Don Washburn at [don@camplookout.com](mailto:don@camplookout.com) or (706) 820-1163; and Camp Wesley Woods near Townsend, Tenn. — David Leach at [wwwcamptrn@aol.com](mailto:wwwcamptrn@aol.com) or (865) 448-2246. For more information, go to [www.summerstaff.holston.com](http://www.summerstaff.holston.com).

**KNOXVILLE, Tenn.**— Fountain City UMC, an 1,800-member congregation, seeks a full-time youth director. Bachelor's degree in youth ministry or a related field is preferred. The complete job description is available at [www.fountaincityumc.org](http://www.fountaincityumc.org). (Click on "Employment.") Send cover letter and resume to: [sfrazier@fountaincityumc.org](mailto:sfrazier@fountaincityumc.org). Resumes will be accepted until March 15. ■

## Christina's ministry



The Rev. Christina DowlingSoka congregates with campers and Conrad the snake. DowlingSoka is projected to leave Buffalo Mountain in June.

Last December, the Rev. Christina DowlingSoka, director of Buffalo Mountain Camp, announced her intent to seek a new pastoral assignment. Having served as a co-director and director of Buffalo Mountain Camp for 14 years, she has had an amazing tenure in this ministry.

Christina and Joe-d DowlingSoka landed in east Tennessee as co-directors of Buffalo Mountain Camp in February 1992 and began a ministry dedicated to sharing Christ's love with children, youth, and adults. They brought with them two young sons, Joel and Ryan, who have since grown into fine young men.

They also brought a new style of summer camping ministry to Holston Conference as they instituted the Outpost program. In a time when a greater premium was being placed on comfort amenities, the DowlingSokas bucked the trend. The Outpost program features primitive shelter accommodations and cooking out two meals each day. At the time, I didn't think it had much chance of success. Boy, was I wrong. The Outpost sessions foster deep relationships between counselors and campers as they take increased responsibility for the basic needs of the group each day. These sessions have been very popular.

In 1998, the Rev. Joe-d DowlingSoka asked for and received a pastoral appointment away from camp, and Christina was selected to continue her leadership as Buffalo Mountain's director.

Christina's deep, compassionate care was fostered early in life by her United Methodist pastor father and a Christian missionary mother. She graduated Summa Cum Laude from Florida Southern College with a degree in Religion and Christian Education and from The Methodist Theological School in Ohio with a Master of Divinity degree.

Prior to Holston, Christina served pastoral charges in Harrogate, England, Sedalia, Ohio, and Anthon, Iowa.

Numbers tell part of the story. During her 14 seasons of ministry at Buffalo Mountain Camp, Christina served 58,223 people who came to camp to experience the love of Christ. Of that total, 10,729 were summer campers. What the numbers don't tell you, however, is that Christina knows many of these campers by name. She prayed over each of them many times. She cared for them as if they were her own.

Christina needed help to love all these children. During her time at camp she supervised more 2,000 staff members. She worked with 14 editions of the Buffalo Mountain and Conference Camping boards. She partnered with more than 140 pastors who served as ministers-in-residence.

It has been a great privilege to work with Christina these many years. I am still trying to learn some of the lessons she has taught me. I know the people of Holston are grateful for Christina's ministry among us, and we wish her the greatest blessing in her future work. ■

*The Rev. Pasqua is executive director of Holston's Camp and Retreat Ministry.*

## opportunities:

- **Want to participate** on a Volunteers in Mission effort within Holston boundaries? Spurgeon Chapel AME Zion Church in Oak Ridge, Tenn., seeks assistance in rehabilitating the sanctuary with electrical work, window replacements, demolition and reconstruction.

- **The Methodist Church** in the Caribbean and the Americas has invited Holston teams to participate in VIM opportunities available over eight islands in two countries.

For more information, call Missions Coordinator Bill Daugherty toll-free at (866) 690-4080 or e-mail [billdaugherty@holston.org](mailto:billdaugherty@holston.org). ■