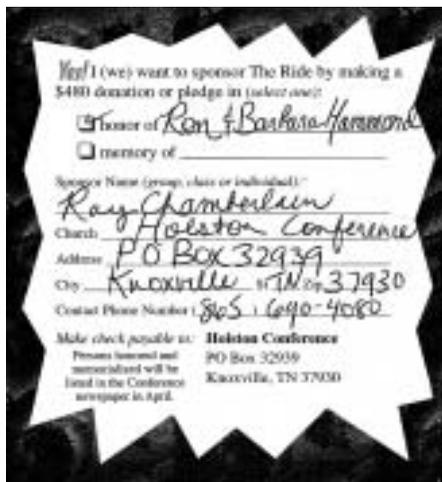
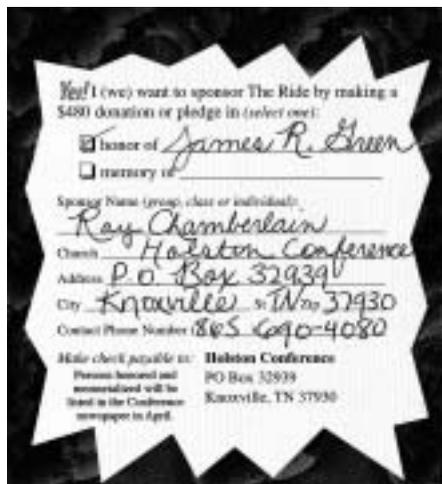


bishop's perspective:

By Ray W. Chamberlain Jr.

Resident Bishop

Let's show support for retired ministers



I am truly excited about the upcoming Legacy of Commitment bike ride through the beautiful hills and valleys of Holston Conference! So often we tend to get caught up in our daily tasks and routines and fail to get excited about events occurring around us, but "The Ride" can provide some relief from the humdrum of our lives. Let's have some fun while honoring those pastors who have served us so faithfully over the years in Holston Conference! I'm counting on every church in Holston to honor at least one former or current pastor by making a pledge or gift in his or her honor. Please join with me in this worthwhile endeavor. In fact, I plan to be a true part of this effort – by paying to honor the following persons for their dedication and support of our Legacy of Commitment Campaign (see left). ■

► **For more** about The Ride, see pages 4 and 5.

exchange:

► **JOHNSON CITY, Tenn.**— Munsey Memorial UMC seeks a creative, dedicated, **fulltime Director of Youth Ministries**. Send resume to: Munsey Memorial UMC, P.O. Box 1336, Johnson City, TN 37605. Attention: Ken Henderlight. ■

► **The Simple Way**, an organization serving the homeless in Philadelphia, is seeking a **15-passenger van** in trade or in return for cash following the sale of a car. The car is a Cadillac de Ville in excellent condition, 97,000 miles, valued at \$5,000. Contact: Steve or Pat LaFon in Maryville at (865) 856-5635, or Shane Claiborne in Philadelphia at (215) 423-3598. ■

snapshot:

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. – Washington Pike UMC and community members recently raised more than \$71,500 to aid Kennie Seymour (pictured standing at left), a lifelong church member, in her struggle against cancer. When Seymour was denied insurance coverage for stem cell transplantation, the community rallied around her with 350 people attending an "Extravaganza of Life and Love" on March 9. Local celebrity Chef Jock Lijoi (sitting, center) and wife Melanie were special guests. Also pictured is Washington Pike pastor the Rev. Jim Bailes (standing, center).

Photo by Kevin Slimp, The Call

opportunities:

Change for Children applications accepted

Holston congregations are encouraged to continue collecting Change for Children offerings, and to consider applying for the next round of Change for Children grants. The deadline for applications has been set for April 17. "We have so many mission projects that are worthy of our support," said the Rev. Chris Carter. "Your generous offerings determine the number of applications we can fund." For more information, call Carter at (423) 245-3033.

Olympic computers offered to nonprofit groups

A computer company is donating up to 4,500 computers, used during the Winter Olympic Games, to nonprofit organizations who apply through a website. Gateway Olympic Sponsorship PC Donation Program will give priority to schools and community centers whose programs help enhance access to technology for traditionally under-served communities. For more information, visit <http://www.gateway.com/olympics/donations.shtml>. Applications will be posted on this website from April 2 to July 31, 2002.

Children's ministry event planned in Oklahoma

A national forum on children's ministries will be held June 25-27 at Christ UMC in Tulsa, Okla. Sponsored by the United Methodist Church's Large Church Initiative of the General Board of Discipleship, "Growing Children in Faith" offers workshops and training on curriculum, volunteers, vision, family, growth issues and more. Cost is \$125. For more information, contact Joyce Moon at jmoon@cumctulsa.com, or Mary Alice Gran at mgran@gbod.org.

Scholarships provided for Islam study

Scholarships are available for United Methodist pastors, lay leaders and students who would spend a week at Columbia International University or other programs studying the problem of Islam and Christian witness. For more information, contact the Rev. Steve Martin in Oak Ridge, Tenn., at (865) 483-4357 or smartin@fumcor.org.

Conference scheduled for large-church leaders

Pastors, staff and lay leaders of churches with an average attendance of 350 or more are invited to attend a large-church conference, April 22-25, at Christ United Methodist Church in Bethel Park, Pa. Sponsored by the Large Church Initiative Committee and the General Board of Discipleship, "The Large Membership Church" features as speakers Leonard Sweet, author and consultant; Rev. John Ed Mathison, senior pastor at Frazer Memorial UMC, Montgomery, Ala.; and Rev. Juan Carlos Ortiz, pastor of Hispanic Ministry, Crystal Cathedral, Garden Grove, Calif. For more information, call (615) 340-7141 or email cumcevents@aol.com. ■



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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