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Three districts will receive new leaders this summer

By Annette Bender

Three Holston ministers have been tapped for district superintendent appointments this summer, Bishop Ray Chamberlain recently announced.



Goddard

At Annual Conference 2003 in June, the Rev. Kim Goddard will be appointed to Abingdon District. The Rev. Ken Henderlight will serve Oak Ridge District, while the Rev. Ron Matthews will be appointed to Maryville District.



Henderlight

Oak Ridge's current district superintendent, the Rev. Gordon Rid-enour, will retire this year and assume a position as the conference's first executive assistant to the bishop, Chamberlain announced.



Matthews

Goddard, 41, has served as Wesley Institute director since November 2000. From 1985 to 2000, she served as pastor at local churches including Otterbein, Trinity Wise, and Aldersgate/Jordan's Chapel.

Goddard's appointment to the cabinet will bring a "fresh perspective," Chamberlain said. "[She] is a product of southwest Virginia and returns to her roots with a deep sense of calling." Abingdon District's current superintendent, the Rev. Brenda Carroll, will be appointed to a local church this summer.

"I am extremely grateful to Brenda Carroll for her leadership and look forward to working with the clergy and laity of a fine district," Goddard told *The Call*. "I have thoroughly enjoyed working with the Wesley Institute, but I grew up in a small church in Virginia so moving to the Abingdon District feels like going home."

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LIGHTING CANDLES FOR PEACE

Photo by Annette Bender, *The Call*

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. – The Rev. Lauri Jo Cranford, University of Tennessee Wesley Foundation director, lights a candle following a midday service on campus (above). During an all-day peace vigil on April 2, college students were invited to pray in Wesley Foundation's chapel and participate in one of two special services. The midday service included the reading of the original poem, "Requiem at Autumn's Fall," by Wesley Foundation participant Kip Williams. Students also prayed and joined in singing "God, Whose Love is Always Stronger."

In other war-related activities throughout the conference, Holston members and the public are invited to participate in a "virtual prayer wall" at www.holstonconference.com. Sponsored by Holston's Outreach/Advocacy Team, Peace With Justice Committee, and Wesley Institute, the web feature allows participants to post names of servicemen and women in need of prayer. Look for an online multimedia presentation at the "wall" by April 11, according to Donna Hankins, interactive media specialist.

On April 24, Holston clergy and laypersons are encouraged to attend the conference-wide event, "What's a Person of Faith to Do? Issues of War and Peace." The day-long dialogue at First Morristown United Methodist Church will feature Bishop Peter Storey as speaker and Bishop Ray Chamberlain as communion celebrant. For more information, see "Calendar" on page 3. ■