

news briefs:

Grants available for youth, young adult ministries

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (UMNS) – United Methodists involved in cutting-edge ministries with youth and young adults may obtain grants of up to \$15,000 from the denomination's four program agencies.

The grants are available under the auspices of the Shared Mission Focus on Young People, a global initiative of the denomination. They are designed to enable creative, life-transforming ministries with young people, said the Rev. Drew Dyson, the executive director.

The grants are being offered through the United Methodist boards of Church and Society, Global Ministries, Higher Education and Ministry, and Discipleship. Working collaboratively with general boards and agencies, annual and central conferences, and local churches, the initiative seeks to set flame to a movement throughout the church that transforms how United Methodists think and do ministry with and for young people, Dyson said.

The money would assist local churches, annual conferences in the United States and central conferences abroad, cooperative parishes, ecumenical shared ministries, campus ministries, youth serving agencies, and United Methodist organizations working with churches in programs for youth and young adults.

Ministries may receive grants of up to \$15,000 per year for up to three years. Projects may be funded once or for the full three-year cycle.

The deadline for applications for the first funding cycle is Jan. 15. For more information, contact the office of the Shared Mission Focus on Young People at (877) 899-2780, Ext. 1780, or by e-mail at smfyp@gbod.org.

New Korean-English hymnal out soon



NASHVILLE, Tenn. (UMNS) – “Come, Let Us Worship,” a new Korean-English hymnal, will be released in mid-November by the United Methodist Publishing House.

The hymnal is expected to replace the Tongil Hymnal, used by most Korean Protestant churches. It will include more recent hymns; help congregations meet the needs of the first, “1.5” and second generations of Korean-Americans; support bilingual worship; and provide a standard Korean translation of the official rituals.

The book may be ordered for \$10.50 by calling (800) 672-1789, Ext. 6638, or by going to www.cokesbury.com online.

Church agency studies cross-racial clergy appointments

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (UMNS) - A three-year study is under way to analyze cross-cultural and cross-racial clergy appointments in the United Methodist Church. Lucia Ann McSpadden, a researcher commissioned by the denomination's Board of Higher Education and Ministry, shared preliminary research results at a cross-cultural/cross-racial appointment consultation held Oct. 2-3 in Nashville.

In a cross-cultural appointment, a clergy member is assigned to serve a congregation that is predominantly of a different cultural background – for example, a white pastor assigned to an African-American congregation. McSpadden conducted her research with bishops, district superintendents, clergy and laity in the San Francisco and New Jersey episcopal areas.

McSpadden found that “most clergy have a deep sense of call to this challenging ministry, and most laity in local churches with whom she spoke felt as though cross-racial/cross-cultural appointments were organizational problems visited upon them,” said the Rev. Art Gafke, director in the Section of Elders and Local Pastors.

■ **For more about these and other United Methodist news stories, visit <http://umns.umc.org/dailynews.html>.**

who said that? :

“**F**or several years now Americans in a sense have shaken their fists at God and said, ‘God, we want you out of our schools, our government, our business, we want you out of the marketplace.’ And God, who is a gentleman, has just quietly backed out of our national and political life, our public life.”

► **Anne Graham Lotz**, daughter of evangelist Billy Graham, speaking to “CBS Morning Show” co-host Jane Clayson on God's role in the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

Day of Understanding



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Online Meetings, continued from page 1

Team Chair Fred Gault in Chattanooga acted as monitor. Transcripts were later made available to members who couldn't participate.

Steve Hawkins, Communications Team member and 6:00 news anchor at WCBY-TV in Bristol, Va., said he appreciated the convenience of the cyber conference.

“I like the idea of an online meeting versus driving to Knoxville,” he said. “It's much easier to block out 45 minutes to an hour than to be out of the office for a half day or more.” Hawkins is lay leader at First UMC, Bristol, Tenn.

Slimp said he hoped the experimental meeting helped demonstrate to Holston members that “it's important to keep up with technology. We spend way too much time traveling to meetings.”

He added, “At times, of course, it's important to meet face to face.” Online meetings are best used for addressing one or two issues rather than several. ■

Conference groups interested in scheduling online meetings should contact:

Donna Hankins at (865) 690-4080 or DonnaHankins@holston.org

We Took the Plunge, continued from page 1

paper. However, readers will still receive national news in this publication via the United Methodist News Service and Religion News Service.

The transition to an eight-page in-house publication also enables the communications staff to provide four color pages instead of two, and six pages of local news instead of four. “Our research indicated there were a lot of folks who would like the additional coverage Holston could receive in an independent publication,” Slimp said.

Spin-offs

The communications staff is also introducing new tools and dramatic improvements in the way they get information to church members.

Beginning Oct. 24, congregations have had access to *The Sunday Call*, a mini-version of this newspaper. The bulletin insert is posted weekly at www.holston.org for churches to download, print and insert in their Sunday bulletins.

The Sunday Call is an attractive 4.25 x 5.5 inch (half letter-size page) document containing news of general interest to local churches. The size fits neatly into most church bulletins. The publi-

▲ MORRISTOWN, Tenn.

At the Wesley Institute's “Day of Prayer and Understanding” on Oct. 19, panelists discuss with audience members the implications of terrorist attacks, past and future. About 60 Holston ministers attended the day-long gathering, which also included speaker presentations, lunch, and worship led by Bishop Ray Chamberlain. According to Wesley Institute Director Rev. Kim Goddard, the idea for the event came during a conversation about possible workshops for the Ministers' Convocation in February 2002. “We thought about something to give clergy resources for addressing the Sept. 11 attacks, and then it just occurred to us that February was too long to wait. We needed to do something as soon as possible.” Participating during the gathering hosted by Trinity UMC are from left to right: Dr. Carolyn Patton, Knoxville marriage and family therapist; Dr. Samir Saliba, Emory & Henry professor of political science; Dr. M. Douglas Meeks, Vanderbilt University professor of theology and Wesleyan studies; the Rev. Ron Matthews, Holston director of finance services and Desert Storm veteran; and the Rev. Daniel Taylor Jr., moderator. ■

cation is downloadable in two formats: PDF and Microsoft Word.

The PDF version contains text and photos in a PDF file. The PDF can be opened using an Acrobat Reader (installed on most newer computers, or download a free copy at www.adobe.com).

The Microsoft Word version is provided for readers without access to Acrobat Reader. It will have fewer graphic elements but contain the same text as the PDF version.

A new edition of *The Sunday Call* will be available online every Wednesday at www.holston.org. There is no cost to any Holston Conference church.

Beginning Nov. 5, Holston members also have access to a new web version of the newspaper, *The Call Online*. New issues are posted online at www.holston.org every other Monday – a few days before the print version arrives by mail.

For more information about these new services, contact Holston Webmaster Donna Hankins at dannahankins@holston.org or (865) 690-4080. ■