

## Stop All Violence Everywhere:



# Youth Seminar



*Scheduled for March 2002*

thought and nurturing faith that may be transformed into meaningful, bold action for justice and peace," according to the group's website.

"I don't really know what to expect, but I know that I will be more informed about violence, just being there where the actual damage was done," said CCYM President Justin Mann. At 17, the member of Central UMC in Radford, Va., said he's experienced shock and fear along with his first stirrings of patriotism since the attacks occurred.

"It's amazing how much the Pledge of Allegiance means to me now," he said.

For more information about SAVE, high-school juniors and seniors should contact (423) 928-2156 or [umyouth@holston.org](mailto:umyouth@holston.org). Cost is \$500 before the Feb. 1 deadline, \$550 after the deadline. If space remains after that date, registration will be open to college students and young adults. The second and final registration is Feb. 11, 2002. ■

**Resurrection**  
deadline is Dec. 15

**Don't forget!** The registration fee for Resurrection is \$20 before Dec. 15. After that date, the fee goes up to \$30 per person. Contact the conference youth office at (423) 928-2156 for applications or additional information.

Resurrection, Holston's annual retreat attended by 10,000 youth and counselors, is scheduled Jan. 11-13 and Jan. 18-20 in Gatlinburg, Tenn. ■

## Taking the big step to junior high:

# E&H

EMORY  
& HENRY

## Student ministers to middle school kids

At the beginning of each class. For students entering sixth grade, middle school is a new and exciting world. But it also comes with its share of challenges.

By JASON REEVES

*Bristol Herald Courier*

EMORY, VA. — Jenny Rowh, a senior at Emory & Henry College, is working with sixth-graders to make their transition from elementary school to junior high a bit easier.

"That jump to middle school is a big step," said Rowh, a 21-year-old Pulaski County native who coordinates the program, which operates in the basement of Emory United Methodist Church.

"The difference between sixth grade and eighth grade is phenomenal," she added. "(Sixth-graders) are thrown in with kids who want to be adults, and they still want to be kids."

Every Monday and Wednesday, Rowh and a crew of 11 other volunteers provide 26 sixth-graders from Glade Spring Middle School with an afternoon of food and fun.

The two-hour sessions include mentoring, homework help and enrichment activities.

Rowh said she hopes the assistance is helping students to believe in themselves and each other.

"I'd like to see them learn more about community and build one with each other," she said. "We're also trying to build self-esteem and give them group time just with their age group and peers. They're learning a lot from each other."

Rowh said the middle-school students enjoy being paired with college volunteers, who sometimes just sit, talk and listen.

"We see their needs and try to meet them with what we can do," she said.

Rowh, a public policy and community service major, said she's also learning some things along the way.

Besides working with students, she also spends about 25 hours every week organizing transportation for participants, planning the program's curriculum and trying to get community members involved.

"My patience has been very tried. It's a lot stronger than it was," she said. "Seeing the kids come in the first day and how they interact now, it's amazing how much influence one person or a group of people can have." ■



Jenny Rowh

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When the Conference Council on Youth Ministries first chose "SAVE: Stop All Violence Everywhere" for a seminar in New York and Washington, D.C., they had no idea what a sad irony it would turn out to be.

Scheduled for Oct. 13 through Oct. 20, the trip had to be postponed following the Sept. 11 attacks in both cities.

But the seminar is rescheduled for March 2-9, and youth leaders are counting on the trip to be even more meaningful in the light of what's happened. When the Conference Council on Youth Ministries (CCYM) first chose violence as a concept, they were thinking of more "localized" issues, such as school or home violence, said Angee Woody, Holston coordinator of youth ministries.

Not anymore.

"This totally changes the focus of the study," she said. "In fact, when the kids rescheduled the trip for March, one of the first things they said was, 'We have to stay with this topic. It was meant to be.'"

Up to 40 high-school juniors and seniors from Holston churches will travel by bus to Washington and New York City for a week of guest speakers, panel discussions, role-playing and field trips throughout the cities. Produced by United Methodist Seminars on National and International Affairs, the event is designed with the "intention of planting seeds of