

Biely

Harvesting Peace *continued*

kanas Annual Conference in Hot Springs, announced that the completed audit of the conference finance records identified \$254,890.03 had been misused by Eason between 1999 and 2005. The money was used to pay Eason's personal credit card bills, the bishop said. In April, the annual audit of conference finances revealed discrepancies. After admitting that he had diverted the money, Eason, who had been treasurer since 1988, was terminated. No other conference employees were implicated; Eason was acting alone, according to the audit findings.

Despite the turmoil, the conference is not in a financial crisis, according to Bishop Crutchfield.

LAKE JUNALUSKA BROKE GROUND, JULY 2 FOR BETHEA WELCOME CENTER

Lake Junaluska Conference and Retreat Center broke ground Sunday, July 2, for the **Joseph and Shirley Betha Welcome Center**. The 12,000 square foot structure will take ten months to construct and will serve as the Welcome Center and lodging check-in location for the Retreat Center. Over \$1.6 Million was raised for the building through donations from over 1,000 individuals, regional businesses and United Methodist groups, including 15 conferences within the Southeastern Jurisdiction. According to **Bishop Lawrence McCleskey**, Western North Carolina Conference, "Committees were organized in the Carolinas and over \$600,000 was raised from those three conferences. The other annual conferences in the Southeastern Jurisdiction (including the Memphis Conference) joined in to raise another \$400,000."

Joseph Betha was an African-American United Methodist bishop who served in North Carolina, South Carolina and Virginia. According to Jimmy Carr, Executive Director of the Southeastern Jurisdiction, "We are proud to name this building after Joseph and Shirley Betha. They were leaders of hospitality and kindness for The United Methodist Church." *

An award winning newspaper
Cathy Farmer, Editor
Carol Kiddly, Circulation
24 Corporate Blvd.
Jackson, TN 38305-2315
Phone: 731-664-8480
Sub. Rate: \$12.50/52 Issues

Jesus, we will reap the harvest. James reminds us that, "A harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace." James 3:18.

Leading the Study Groups will be Mrs. Bobbie Wray, the Rev. Sharon Lewis-Karamoko, Dr. Solomon and Sarojini Christian, the Rev. Roger Hopson, and the Rev. Michael Blake. Leading the Youth and Children Studies will be Mrs. Sandra Mauney and Mr. Lee Vinson.

Shalom—Peace—Salaam: Peace in the Bible and In Our Time

Mrs. Bobbie Wray, from Kevil, Ky., is a member of United Methodist Women of New Liberty UMC. She has five children and nine grandchildren. Bobbie has held several offices in the UMW (president, vice-president in the Paducah District) and is a Sunday school teacher. She has been a UMW Conference Team member, song leader and pianist for prior CMEEs and also for the Prayer Retreat at Lakeshore. Bobbie is an organist and choir director. She has a Bachelor of Music Education, Master of Arts from Murray State.

The Rev. Sharon Lewis-Karamoko was born in Kankakee, Ill., the daughter of the Rev. and Mrs. Jesse Martin. She is the proud mother of two and has two wonderful grandchildren. Sharon is an ordained elder in the United Methodist Church and is presently serving as the Memphis-McKendree District Superintendent. She is currently attending the Interdenominational Center (ITC) in Atlanta pursuing a Doctorate of Ministry degree in Pastoral Counseling. She received a Master of Divinity from Memphis Theological Seminary. Her Bachelor of Science degree from Eastern Illinois University is in the field of social work.

India and Pakistan

Dr. Solomon Christian and Sarojini (Sara) Christian were born, reared and educated in India. In the late 1970s, they immigrated to the United States. Solomon is a dentist and Sara works with Memphis City School System. They have two children.

Sara and Solomon have a solid Methodist heritage. The family belongs to Good Shepherd United Methodist Church where Sara serves on the Lay Leadership Committee and as local

UMW treasurer. Solomon provides leadership at various levels of the church. He is a member of the Asbury District Program Ministers' Team. He was a founder of the SEI Medical Fellowship and the UM Fellowship of Health Care Volunteers of the General Board of Global Ministries. He was elected as an alternate delegate for General Conferences in 2000 and 2004. He was elected by General Conference as First Lay Alternate Member of the Judicial Council of the UMC in 2004.

Globalization: Its Impact in Our Lives

The Rev. Michael Blake was born in Chicago. His family moved to West Tennessee to his great grandfather's farm just outside Martin, Tenn. He and his three brothers were raised on the cattle farm. The family joined Freeman's Chapel UMC where he developed an understanding of God through loving people.

Michael attended the University of Tennessee at Martin, studying Liberal Arts and Mechanical Engineering. He joined the Navy, serving as a Jet Mechanic in Naval Aviation. During his time in the Navy, he discovered a personal relationship with God through Christ. His personal journey took him to Oral Roberts University where he earned a degree in Old Testament and Master of Divinity. Michael is an elder of the United Methodist Church. He now serves as the Executive Director of Reelfoot Rural Ministries, Inc. He has served on the Paducah District Board of Trustees, Stewardship Committee, and is presently treasurer of the Memphis Conference Relief Association. Michael has led and assisted in various Volunteers in Mission trips to Mississippi, Alaska, Japan, Russia, Africa and local missions. He has traveled to Israel, Egypt, Greece and, soon, Ireland.

The Rev. Roger Hopson is a native of Savannah, Tenn. and is presently Coordinator of Program Ministries for the Memphis Conference. He graduated from U.T. Martin with a Bachelor of Science in Education. He received his Master of Divinity (with honors) at the Interdenominational Theological Center. He is a recipient of the Isaac R. Clark Preaching Award, Crusade Scholar, is listed in Outstanding Young Men, and is a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity. His accomplishments include

teaching school at Dyer County High; he's a former columnist for the Metro Forum newspaper in Jackson, Tenn.; he served as pastor to Wiley's Chapel-New Hope St. Paul United Methodist churches in the Paris District; he served as Associate Director of the Memphis Conference Council on Ministries; was a delegate to General Conference in 1996, 2000 and 2004; a delegate to the World Methodist Conference in Rio de Janeiro; served as Theologian-in-Residence at the Military Recruitment Institute, East Ohio Conference; was conference preacher for the Memphis Conference in 2001; and served as Paris District Superintendent. He is married to Dr. Cynthia Bond Hopson and they have two children.

Youth and Children Study

Mrs. Sandra Mauney is a member of St. Paul UMC and retired as volunteer Christian Education Director. She serves as Sunday school superintendent and leads the Disciple program. Sandra is President of Memphis Ashbury United Methodist Women. She has served as District Education Interpretation Coordinator and Conference Dean of CMEE. She is married to C. Richard Mauney and the mother of a daughter and grandson.

Mr. Lee Vinson is from the Paducah District and is a member of Deyver-Hartin UMC. As an active member of his church, he works with Youth and Children Ministries. Lee led the children's study in 2005. He's married to Maria Vinson and is the father of five children.

Registration is from 4:00-6:00 PM on Thursday, July 20, in the Carney Johnston Dorn, Room 111. Dinner on Thursday is from 6:00-7:00 PM. The Gathering will begin at 7:00 PM in the Jack Morris Ballroom. The first class session is Thursday night at 8:15 PM. You may purchase needed books in the Book Room at CMEE.

Registration fees are: Full-time, \$80. Child-full-time, \$75. Commuter, \$25 plus meals. Child-commuter, \$20 plus meals. Breakfasts are \$5.00. Lunches, \$6.00, and dinners, \$7.00. (Scholarships are available through District Presidents). All checks are to be made payable to Memphis Conference. Mail to Linda Akers, 1001 Ables Road, Cottage Grove, TN 38224. For information, call 731-782-3656.

July 14, 2006

Katrina bracelets support rebuilding UM churches & ministries

A symbol of solidarity and commitment to the Gulf Coast communities devastated by Hurricane Katrina, United Methodists can wear special bracelets featuring the Katrina Church Recovery Appeal logo, "Rebuilding churches and communities."

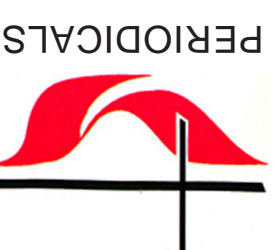
Money from purchases of the narrow wristbands will support the appeal made by the bishops of the United Methodist Church. The Bishops' Appeal mobilizes church members to participate in long-term recovery efforts in the region devastated by Katrina last summer. With members scattered and buildings destroyed, many churches in the affected areas are still seeking the assistance of caring United Methodists to restore their mission and ministries.

The appeal focuses on the needs of clergy, church staff and mission personnel in the affected areas and member of Deyver-Hartin UMC. As an active member of his church, he works with Youth and Children Ministries. Lee led the children's study in 2005. He's married to Maria Vinson and is the father of five children.

Registration is from 4:00-6:00 PM on Thursday, July 20, in the Carney Johnston Dorn, Room 111. Dinner on Thursday is from 6:00-7:00 PM. The Gathering will begin at 7:00 PM in the Jack Morris Ballroom. The first class session is Thursday night at 8:15 PM. You may purchase needed books in the Book Room at CMEE.

Registration fees are: Full-time, \$80. Child-full-time, \$75. Commuter, \$25 plus meals. Child-commuter, \$20 plus meals. Breakfasts are \$5.00. Lunches, \$6.00, and dinners, \$7.00.

(Scholarships are available through District Presidents). All checks are to be made payable to Memphis Conference. Mail to Linda Akers, 1001 Ables Road, Cottage Grove, TN 38224. For information, call 731-782-3656.



PERIODICALS

MEMPHIS CONFERENCE

an edition of
The United Methodist Reporter

Two Sections, Section A

Volume 153 Number 10

021000

www.memphis-umc.org

July 14, 2006

Biely

POSITION AVAILABLE

Part time Music Director: Browns UMC, Jackson, Wednesdays, 7:30 PM, Sundays, 10 AM. Special music during year. Salary based on expertise. Resumes: Charles Bingham, 181 McLeary Rd., Jackson, TN 38305.

UNION CITY FIRST UMC WILL CELEBRATE 150

On July 16, Union City's First United Methodist Church will celebrate its 150th Anniversary. Dr. David Russell, senior pastor, said, "We will have a Homecoming Sunday on July 16 with fellowship time at 9:45 AM... worship at 10:50 with prayer by Pt. Joe Percy Sr. preaching. There will be dinner on the grounds followed at 1:30 PM, with a gospel concert by The Hoppers, anationally known group from North Carolina. All events are free and open to the public."

FORMER ARKANSAS TREASURER MAKES FULL RESTITUTION OF CHURCH FUNDS

According to a report filed by Jane Dennis, editor of the *Arkansas United Methodist*, former Arkansas Conference Treasurer Joe D. Eason admitted diverting church funds for his personal use. Those funds have now been repaid in full.

Bishop Charles N. Crutchfield, in his June 12 Episcopate Address at the 2006 Additional Information, call 731-782-3656.

Harvesting Peace

2006 Christian Mission Education Event

Event scheduled for July 20-22 at Lambuth University in Jackson, Tenn.

By EARLENE GLADNEY, DEAN
Christian Mission Education Event

"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you." These are words Jesus communicated to us through the Gospel of John. How have we used the gift of peace that Jesus gave us?

At a time when most of the world is involved in war or conflict, it is imperative that we, as followers of Jesus Christ, find every opportunity to share and promote peace.

Is peace an anti-war movement? Not exclusively. The studies for this year at the United Methodist Women's Christian Mission Education Event (Shalom-Peace-Salaam: Peace in the Bible and In Our Time: India/Pakistan: and Globalization: Its Impact on Our Lives) will challenge us to look at what peace means for each of us as members of the global community, as people of India and Pakistan, and as members of different religious groups.

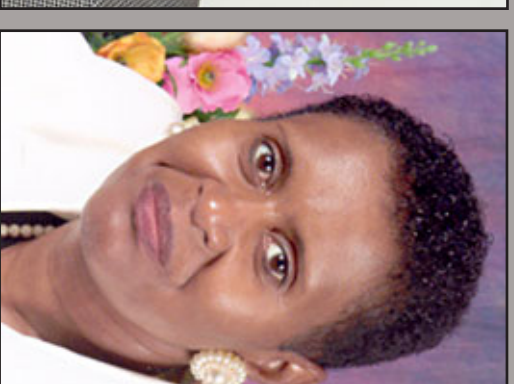
We come in peace to explore our role as Christian members of society and to be God's witnesses to the ends of the earth. The 2006 United Methodist Women's Christian Mission Education Event will be at Lambuth University on July 20-22. As we fulfill the teaching of

(Continued on page 8A)

Study Group Leaders



The Rev. Roger Hopson: "Globalization: Its Impact in Our Lives."



Rev. Sharon Lewis-Karamoko: "Shalom-Peace-Salaam: Peace in the Bible and In Our Time."



The Rev. Michael Blake: "Globalization: Its Impact in Our Lives."



Mrs. Bobbie Wray: "Shalom-Peace-Salaam: Peace in the Bible and In Our Time."



Dr. Solomon and Sarojini (Sara) Christian: "India and Pakistan."

Youth and Children's Studies by Mrs. Sandra Mauney and Mr. Lee Vinson: "India and Pakistan" and "Shalom-Peace-Salaam: Peace in the Bible and In Our Time."