

Be

## audiovisually resourced

**LORI SLUDER**  
AV Resource Staff

**D** YOU KNOW that Holston Conference has an Audio/Visual Library, and it is here for you? Do you know that the Audio/Visual Library is housed at the Alcoa Conference Center as a resource center for your church? Member churches pay an annual membership fee, which is used to purchase resources, mail materials, and operate the center. The Audio/Visual Library:

- brings well-known Christian teachers to your church by video
- teaches your children Bible stories using quality animation
- provides video curricula with guides and lesson plans
- provides all this to member churches for the price of return postage



Do you know how to become a member? It's easy! The fee will establish a January-to-December membership. The deadline to join is Jan. 31, 2008. The annual cost per church ranges from \$25 (for fewer than 100 members) to \$85 (for more than 1,000 members).

For more information, visit <http://avlibrary.holston.org>, e-mail [AVLibrary@holston.org](mailto:AVLibrary@holston.org), or call toll-free (866) 690-4080. ■



## MISSIONS

Be

## ready for missions service

**MELISSA SMITH**  
UMVIM Coordinator

**S** YOU KNOW THINK you're ready to go on a mission trip? That's great! But are you really ready? Consider these questions:

**Where and when will we go?** Mission opportunities exist everywhere, and most can be done at any time of the year. Work in your own backyard, go across the country, and even travel around the world. For assistance in finding a place to serve, contact the conference missions office (866-690-4080) or the United Methodist Volunteers in Mission site at [www.UMVIM.org](http://www.UMVIM.org).

**What type of mission work?** If you can imagine it, you can probably do it. Some options include construction, Vacation Bible School, health care, disaster relief, evangelism and outreach, or social concerns.

**Who will we work with? Where will we stay?** United Methodist missionaries and mission agencies will partner with you in ministry and assist you in making lodging and travel arrangements. Contact the conference missions office for more information.

**How much will it cost?** Depending on the destination, the trip cost could range from \$50 to \$5,000. Will you drive or will you fly? Trip insurance, food and lodging, and supplies will add to the total cost. Trips outside the United States will also require fees for

passports/visas and inoculations.

**Will we be safe?** United Methodist Volunteers in Mission will not send any team into an area considered unsafe or dangerous, but each team is also expected to make wise decisions to ensure its own safety. Do your research. Find out about immunizations or medications needed in your area of service as well as food and water concerns. By all means, have an updated medical release form and special insurance for every trip participant. These are available through Holston's UMVIM coordinator (see contact info below).

**Do we have the right attitude?** Every mission team needs to be reminded that they are working and serving in Christ's name and with Christ's attitude, which includes compassion, caring, love, and flexibility.

**Where do we start?** The United Methodist Volunteers in Mission should be your first and last stop in planning your mission trip. UMVIM can provide training and resources, assist in choosing a project, help you get insurance, provide step-by-step guides for trip planning, and network you with other volunteers.

For more information, e-mail Holston's UMVIM Coordinator Melissa Smith at [msmith@fountaincityumc.org](mailto:msmith@fountaincityumc.org); e-mail Coordinator of Missions Bill Daugherty at [billdaugherty@holston.org](mailto:billdaugherty@holston.org); or visit [www.UMVIM.org](http://www.UMVIM.org). ■



There's more to it than careful packing (although that's pretty important). Here are eight questions that will help prepare your team for a mission trip.

*File photo by Annette Spence, The Call*