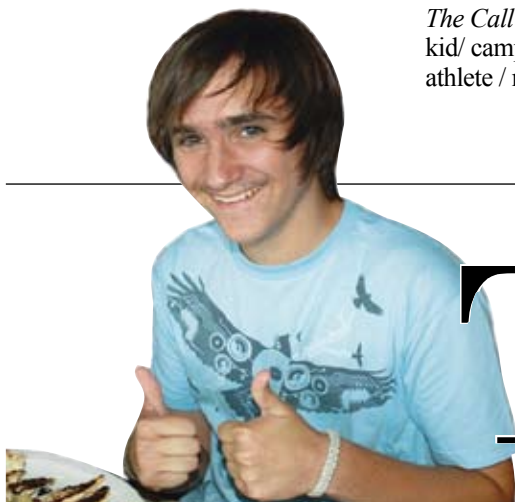


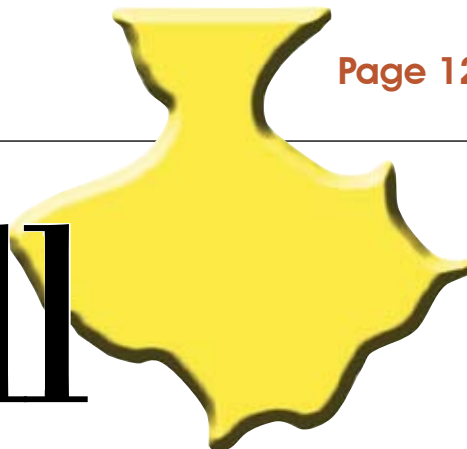
*The Call* dines with a preacher's kid/ camp counselor/ youth rep/ athlete / musician/ okra lover.

Churches reach out to schoolkids in Greene County and Knoxville.

Hint: It's one of the 12 we love.



# The Call



October 2008

HOLSTON CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

www.holston.org

## Margaret Loving grants

### Bristol woman's endowment supports senior ministries throughout Holston

By Annette Spence



Margaret Grizzell Loving was in her 90s when she died in 1995. According to Cliff Amos, she understood full well what it's like to be older – and how the church can make a difference in an older person's life.

"I think she knew the elderly would always be needful, and she did a lot of planning to make sure they would be taken care of," said the Rev. Amos, director of gift planning for the Holston Conference Foundation.

A member of State Street United Methodist Church in Abingdon District, Margaret Loving set up an endowment through the Foundation that would provide ministry money for two groups long after her death: senior citizens and seminary students.

This year, the Loving Trust Fund provided a total \$53,000 in grant money for 20 ministries serving older adults throughout Holston Conference. An equal amount was designated for college and seminary educations, Amos said.

Because of her foresight and generosity, the Loving name is synonymous with older adult ministry in Holston Conference, church leaders say. Margaret Loving grants have helped support



Photo by Charles Maynard  
About half of the mentally challenged adults attending Celebration Camp at Buffalo Mountain are over age 65.

Jubilation, Holston's annual retreat for seniors, which will next be held March 29-31, 2009, at MeadowView Conference Resort in Kingsport, Tenn.

"Margaret Loving knew what she was doing," said Amos, who visited most of the grant-recipients to award checks and tell the Loving story. "Her overall goal was to get people into our churches." They're coming to church,



Photo by Dennis Loy for *The Call*

The Manna Kitchen at First Rogersville United Methodist Church is one of 20 ministries supported by the Margaret Grizzell Loving Trust. The Holston Conference Foundation awarded a total \$53,000 to older adult ministries in 2008.

too, as congregations work to identify the needs of older adults and create ministries to serve them. Six years ago, members at First Rogersville UMC realized that isolated seniors and others in the community might benefit from a free weekly dinner. Manna Kitchen feeds 60 people every Tuesday night, also providing free van rides and a brief devotional message.

"We find that a lot of them come just because they're lonely. Some are quite capable of paying for their meals, but we don't charge them anything," says Jim Collier, who coordinates five teams to keep the meals coming. "We greet each of them as they are coming in, and it just tickles you to see them."

At least seven people who came to the Kingsport District church through Manna Kitchen now attend worship, Collier said. First Rogersville UMC received a \$1,000 grant that will help

♥ Who won a grant? See **Loving** on page 5