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## 'We have a real crisis'



### Baptists struggle to aid thousands of refugees

TIRANA, Albania—Baptists on all sides of the Balkan conflict are trying to respond to human needs after NATO military attacks against Serbian targets in Yugoslavia and ethnic cleansing by Serbians against native Albanians.

Baptists in neighboring countries of Albania, Macedonia and Montenegro struggle to meet basic needs of waves of Kosovar Albanians fleeing the conflict.

Jonathan Steeper, director of the Baptist Center in Tirana, Albania, said March 30 that an estimated 60,000 refugees were across or nearly across the Albanian border from Kosovo. Many come in a traumatized condition, with harrowing personal reports of killings, looting and forced evacuation.

"We had refugees before, but now we have a flood," he said. "The bottom line is we have a real crisis." A multitude of Baptist and evangelical Christian groups are racing to respond, including:

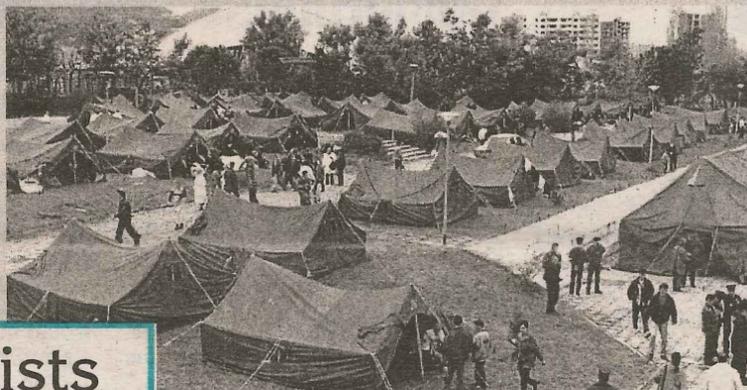
■ **International Mission Board.**

The Southern Baptist International Mission Board has begun collecting money and preparing to minister in the region, said Bill Cashion, director for the IMB's volunteers in missions department.

"We must send workers, both in terms of career missionaries and short-term volunteers, into Serbia and Kosovo, as well as into other Balkan nations, just as soon as the doors reopen," he said.

The board works with groups such as Bread of Life, a refugee relief ministry operated by Baptists and other evangelicals from a base in Belgrade, Serbia.

■ **Baptist World Aid.** The divi-



### Baptists respond to Kosovo

Prayer, ministry & observations

**REFUGEES** ■ Top: A group of 2,000 refugees walk up a muddy track after being allowed to enter Macedonia. ■ Above: A refugee camp is raised in Tirana, Albania, to house the Albanians who have poured in since air strikes began in Yugoslavia followed by another wave of assaults by Serbians. A variety of Baptist and other Christian ministries are working to feed and minister to the refugees. More stories on page 12. (RNS/Reuters photos)

sion of Baptist World Alliance issued an appeal for funds to help refugees and displaced people from the current fighting in Kosovo.

Relief efforts will be coordinated through BWA member bodies in Yugoslavia, Croatia, Bosnia, Macedonia and Albania, said officials organizing the "Balkan appeal."

■ **Cooperative Baptist Fellowship.** The Fellowship's global-missions office is consulting with missionaries who work with ethnic Albanians about using volunteers and relief funds in the region.

Gary Baldrige, associate global-missions coordinator, said the most pressing needs involve medical assistance, shelter and transportation.

Fellowship Coordinator Daniel Vestal urged Baptists to pray, to send financial support to the CBF national office in Atlanta and to step forward as volunteers.

European Baptist Press Service reported that some Baptist churches in Yugoslavia held worship services March 28 and others did not.

First Baptist Church of Belgrade met for worship, but only a third of its members came. Second Baptist in the same city canceled services.

Others were driven underground to less traditional forms of worship and ministry.

### Want to help?

■ Send a check designated for "Kosovo relief" to the Southern Baptist International Mission Board's General Relief Fund, Office of Finance, Box 6767, Richmond, VA 23230.

■ Send a check designated for "Balkan appeal" to the Baptist World Alliance's Baptist World Aid fund 6733 Curran St., McLean, VA 22101.

■ Send a check designated for "Albanian refugees relief" to the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, Box 450329, Atlanta, GA 31145-0329.

■ Contact Samaritan's Purse by calling (800) 665-2843.

"When the sirens for warning of air raids start howling madly, we find ourselves stuck in the shelters and basements with those who don't know Christ," said Teofil Lehotsky of Novi Sad Baptist Church. "They see the peace we have and start asking us questions they wouldn't have otherwise asked."

"Meetings in our regular time and place became difficult to attend, but now we have brand new churches—our shelters," he added. Compiled from reports by Baptist Press and Associated Baptist Press

### Kentucky Baptist hopes Jehovah's Witnesses hear Christian stories

By Ken Walker  
State Correspondent

HAWESVILLE—Joe Kreisle wants Kentucky Baptists to share their testimonies with Jehovah's Witnesses at a convenient place—their front door.

A speaker at the recent Kentucky Baptist Convention-sponsored conferences on cults, Kreisle said informal surveys taken at his seminars reveal nearly everyone in his audiences has been approached by a Jehovah's Witness.

"When a Jehovah's Witness comes to your door, it is someone who has lost their way," Kreisle said. "We need to share the Jesus of the Bible and trust God with the results. ... I've found this gives us greater boldness in sharing the gospel with others."

Too often, however, people avoid a conversation by saying, "I'm a Baptist" or "I'm not interested" shortly before closing the door, he said.

"The simplest thing is to share your testimony," he said. "Tell them what your life was like before Christ, how you came to Christ, and what he's doing in your life now. The facts will change people."

But anyone willing to talk about their faith with a Jehovah's Witness will have to be firm, he pointed out. "If you're going to talk doctrine with a Jehovah's Witness, you better be ready. They don't know a lot of Scripture, but they do know it well."

They also aren't trained to listen to people talk about another faith. Their whole intent is to convert their target, he said.

Kreisle said he recommends that Christians be prepared to share the Christian message in a loving way.

"It's not about winning an argument," he said. "This is not a time to exercise your dominance. Just stand tall and share Christ."

A deacon at Hawesville Baptist Church, Kreisle began studying Jehovah's Witnesses' parent organization, the Watchtower Society, a dozen years ago.

He learned a co-worker had gotten involved with the group. He knew the man's wife from high school and was concerned because formerly they attended a Kentucky Baptist church.

Kreisle said the more he studied, the more he became disturbed.

Especially alarming, he said, was the cult's prohibition against blood transfusions, □ See Jehovah's Witness ..., page 3

## New missions program aims to involve baby boomers

**The new "Masters Program" is created for people 50 or older available to make two- to three-year commitments to serve overseas.**

By Louis Moore  
SBC International Mission Board

LANSING, Mich. (BP)—Southern Baptist International Mission Board trustees approved launching a new short-term missions program and commissioned 26 new missionaries during a meeting March 22-24 in Lansing, Mich.

The growing number of Southern Baptists age 50 and over was the reason behind a new missionary program designed to challenge baby boomers "to move from success to significance through surrender and service."

The new program, called the "Masters Program," is created for people 50 or older available to make two- to three-year commitments to serve overseas, using "the maturity, skills and experience they have gained over a lifetime."

Masters is similar to the board's Journeyman program. That program, started in 1965, allows single college

graduates under 30 to serve two years on the mission field before beginning their career or graduate school studies.

Older Southern Baptists have been serving overseas through the International Service Corps, which was launched in 1990. Since then, 892 ISC personnel over 60 years of age have been commissioned for service. In 1998, 217 people 55 or older served overseas through the program. The oldest ISC missionary currently overseas is 83.

International Service Corps projects last from four months to two years and occasionally longer.

National statistics show that in 2001 about 21 million U.S. baby boomers will be 50 or older. This will be the healthiest, wealthiest and best-educated generation ever. Studies say many in this generation already have achieved success in their careers and now want to turn their attention toward achieving significance.

Southern Baptists interested in the Masters Program can call (804) 219-1359 or e-mail masters@imb.org.

Trustees heard Jerry Burkett, vice president for global information systems, report on the formation of a new task force to "consider and plan contingencies for missionaries and supporting staff" because of the year 2000 computer glitch known as Y2K.

Burkett reported that the IMB's main computer system in Richmond, Va., will be ready before Dec. 31 for computer problems expected worldwide due to the Y2K problem. He said the focus must now shift to contingency plans for helping IMB personnel deal with the fallout from other banking, transportation, communications and human needs computers that will not be ready.

"We will continue the Lord's work in all nations and regions regardless of Y2K," Burkett said. "He is in charge, and he is not worried."

March 23 in Lansing's Holiday

Inn-South Convention Center, the largest gathering of Southern Baptists in Michigan joined to celebrate the commissioning of 26 new international missionaries.

IMB President Jerry Rankin told the audience of about 1,200 people that a Christian can truly determine whether he or she belongs overseas only after yielding to the possibility that God could be calling him or her overseas.

God "may want you to stay right here in Michigan, but how will you know unless you are willing to say, 'Here am I, Lord, send me?'" Rankin said.

Citing Isaiah 6, Rankin said God has issued a generic call to all Christians to carry the gospel worldwide, and God is waiting for believers to respond like Isaiah, "Here am I, send me."

What distinguishes the IMB's missionaries from other Southern Baptists is their willingness to heed God's call to all Christians and go, Rankin said.

### BAPTIST BITS

■ **WMU executive nominations accepted through June 1.** The search committee charged with finding the next executive director of Woman's Missionary Union will accept recommendations through June 1, 1999. The committee asks that letters of recommendation include sufficient information on a nominee, including a contact address and/or telephone number. General qualifications for the position include being a member of a Southern Baptist church; having a working knowledge of WMU's purpose and structure; and holding undergraduate and graduate degrees in higher education. Letters of recommendation should be mailed to: Ann Coffman, Box 302, 5224 State Road 46, Sanford, FL 32771.

■ **BJC search committee announces deadlines.** The committee seeking a new executive director of the Baptist Joint Committee announced it will accept applications until June 7. The committee also set a May 7 deadline to receive nominations, allowing the committee a month to contact nominees and request application materials. Qualifications for the position include a commitment to church-state separation and ecumenical and interfaith work and an ability to work with the mass media. Nominations and applications should be sent to Barbara Williams, Baptist Joint Committee Search Committee, c/o American Baptist Churches in the U.S.A., Box 851, Valley Forge, PA. 19482-0851; fax (610) 768-2150.

■ **Southwestern Seminary links with Criswell College.** Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary has added Criswell College to the schools with which it has a cooperative relationship. Southwestern will move its off-campus center in Garland, Texas, a Dallas suburb, to the Criswell campus in downtown Dallas. Southwestern will begin offering master's-level courses on the Criswell campus, and Southwestern students will be able to take undergraduate level classes at Criswell. Criswell College also announced March 25 it is phasing out its master's-level programs, except one lay-oriented program. Richard Wells, president of the college, indicated that Criswell will focus on expanded opportunities for training at the undergraduate level.

■ **Billy Graham documentary wins award.** "Common Ground," a documentary on the life and influence of Billy Graham produced by the Southern Baptist North American Mission Board, recently received the Swiss America Golden Eagle Award for outstanding redemptive documentary at the seventh annual MovieGuide awards banquet. Produced by NAMB's broadcast communications group for ABC Television, the program featured testimonies from former U.S. presidents and cabinet members, entertainers and Olympic athletes on the impact of Graham's influence in their lives.

## Compromise leadership plan viewed cautiously

By Steve DeVane  
North Carolina Biblical Recorder

RALEIGH, N.C.—North Carolina Baptist leaders across the theological spectrum reacted cautiously to a reconciliation plan that could lead to shared leadership between conservatives and moderates in the state.

A group of 36 Baptist leaders endorsed the plan March 4 during the "Summit on Balanced Leadership."

On March 23, the executive committee of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina's general board unanimously agreed to advance the plan. The proposal is scheduled to be considered May 18-19 by the convention's General Board.

The plan calls for the election of North Carolina Baptist State Convention officers every two years.

In the presidential election, the top vote getter would become president while the person with the second highest votes would become president-elect. After a year, the president-elect would become president and the president would become past-president. In the race for vice presidents, the person with the most votes would become first vice

president, while the next highest vote getter would become second vice president. Both would hold office for two years.

In alternate years, presidents and vice presidents of the state convention's General Board would be elected in the same manner.

If recent voting patterns continue, recent voters and moderates would hold the same number of top elected positions.

People interviewed neither wholeheartedly endorsed the plan nor thoroughly dismissed it.

Those commenting ranged from Randall Lolley, past moderator of the moderate Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of North Carolina, to Paige Patterson, president of the Southern Baptist Convention and an architect of the conservative movement within the SBC.

Patterson, who also is president of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest, N.C., said he is far less involved in state Baptist politics than commonly assumed. "I always have reservations about situations that may lead to compromises of truth," he said, "but I have great confidence in the integrity of all the leaders who have worked together in the process."

Lolley, who was president of Southeastern Seminary before conservatives gained full control of the SBC, said he hopes the plan works, but he is "benignly wary of it."

He said designers of the plan may not have had the input or support of those he called "fundamentalist" Baptists.

"That might be the only hope for this working," he said, adding he fears fundamentalists may not be able to share leadership over the long haul.

Mark Corts, a well-known conservative in North Carolina, said he supports the plan, but he also called for a structured method to put conservatives on the General Board.

"From my perspective and from the perspective of many people, that

(the board) has been dominated by moderates and has been a source of power by which they controlled many things," he said.

Corts said he thinks the plan provides a basis for Tar Heel Baptists to work together in what he called a "transition time."

"I hope that out of it will come long-term trust and long-term elimination of suspicion," he said.

Mike Queen, a leading moderate who helped launch the movement toward reconciliation in North Carolina, said he affirms the spirit of the plan, but doesn't know all the details.

"I'm positive about it," he said. "I think they're moving in the right direction."

Queen said he believes there are more North Carolina Baptists who don't want to be labeled than those who are comfortable being known as conservatives or moderates.

Queen said he agrees with some observers who say theological differences among Baptists will become less important as the church enters "the post-denominational" era.

Bill Leonard, dean of the divinity school at Wake Forest University, said more and more churches are shopping around for services and ministries with less attention to denominational ties.

"The big question is whether or not this plan can sustain the convention into the middle of the next century—not because of theological controversy, but because of the increasing breakdown of denominational systems in today's culture," he said.

Leonard said the proposal is North Carolina's way of trying to deal with the reality of division.

"The reconciliation movement is a valiant effort to sustain a system that may, in the long run, not be sustainable, not because of theological differences, but because of cultural changes and increasing breakdown of old systems of denominationalism," he said.

With additional reporting by North Carolina Biblical Recorder Editor Tony Cartledge.



## Computer literate group stays linked to missionaries

By Suzanne Darland  
State Correspondent

MURRAY—Missionaries Ken and Donna Hills in Senegal, West Africa, had an important prayer need. A native Christian had been summoned to appear before Muslim leaders to defend his work as an evangelist.

In heavily Muslim countries, Christians often face ouster from their families and villages as well as outright persecution. The meeting was to take place within two days.

Enter Christian Communicators for Christ, a group at First Baptist Church of Murray that uses their computers to stay in touch with missionaries and with each other. Within hours, a network of Christians was praying for the man and his interrogators.

When the native Christian met with the Muslim panel, he shared some of his testimony, not backing down from his faith. And he's seen no repercussions from his boldness.

"It used to be that someone would read a letter from a missionary on a Sunday night," said Durwood Beatty, a retired Murray State University agriculture professor. An urgent prayer need might be weeks or months old, finding out how the matter was resolved took even longer, he said.

But e-mail offers instant communication, Beatty said.

And missionaries benefit from a wide network of instant prayers, according to Hills.

"Many people in the U.S. were a real part of helping their brother across the miles to endure and stand strong," the missionary wrote in an e-mail interview.

Beatty said he became computer literate about the time he retired from Murray State, and he began to meet with other retirees at church as sort of a support group to help each other figure out the intricacies of Microsoft Windows and web surfing.

They met in the church library, along with the church librarian. Because the library computer is online, they tentatively practiced skills by e-mailing missionaries who have ties to First Baptist.

Jeff and Regina Palmer in the Philippines are from First Baptist, and former students of Beatty. So are another couple in the Middle East. Because they are in an area where Christianity isn't welcome, their names and location are not publicized.

The computer group also has communicated with summer missionaries and partnership volunteers who have gone from the church.

When the state Acteens conference met at First Baptist several years ago, librarian Paula Alcott helped Acteens send e-mail to African children who were staying at the home of a mission-

### Want to get involved?

Computer users who want to send e-mail to missionaries can get started at the missionary's agency web site.

Keep in mind that international missionaries get varying levels of dependable phone service.

■ **The Southern Baptist International Mission Board**, [www.imb.com](http://www.imb.com), lists missionaries and their e-mail addresses according to the countries in which they work.

■ **The Southern Baptist North American Mission Board** web site

[www.namb.net/missionaries](http://www.namb.net/missionaries) will get you a listing of missionaries who are celebrating birthdays as well as a search engine to help you find other missionaries serving in the United States and Canada.

■ **Woman's Missionary Union**, [www.wmu.org](http://www.wmu.org), highlights Southern Baptist missionaries for children and teens to correspond.

■ **Cooperative Baptist Fellowship** has a directory of its missionaries at its web site, [www.cbfonline.org](http://www.cbfonline.org).

ary. Messages were posted back and forth, forging a link across the miles.

"E-mail is quick," Beatty said. "If someone has an automobile accident or a health problem, we can know immediately."

"Being able to virtually talk with a missionary by e-mail seems to make the whole work of prayer more real to the people stateside as they hear quickly of how their prayers have helped the work of the Lord in far away places," echoed Hills.

The group, which now has 12 members, meets monthly on Tuesday mornings, sending messages and catching up on questions about computers. They've registered as a co-ed Woman's Missionary Union group,

Beatty said, mostly because his wife is the church's WMU director. In between times, they're linked by e-mail to each other and the missionaries. They post messages for others in church to read, and they leave instructions and addresses for others to send their own e-mail to missionaries.

"It is very encouraging to us that we can receive immediate replies from these friends that share their commitment," wrote Hills. "When you live in the middle of nowhere surrounded by non-believers, this feeling of Christian community is wonderful."

"This is a great technology," Beatty said. "And the missionaries are good to respond to us. I hear from them more than my own children."

**"When you live in the middle of nowhere surrounded by non-believers, this feeling of Christian community is wonderful."**

*Ken Hills, a missionary in Senegal, West Africa*

## Jehovah's Witness expert wants Christians to bear witness

Continued from page 1

which Kreisle said is based on a narrow interpretation of Old Testament passages about eating blood.

Kreisle's co-worker and his wife had three children, and Kreisle worried what could happen if they needed help after an accident and their religion prevented them from obtaining it.

"It troubled me so bad I couldn't sleep," he said. "I went back and talked to him and found (their transfusion ban) was true. What gripped my heart was if these people were in a mainline faith, how many others get into this?"

Founded in the 1870s by Presbyterian layman Charles Taze Russell, Jehovah's Witnesses claim an exclusive hold on the truth and that their organization is the only way to salvation, Kreisle said.

Worldwide, the group claims 12 million people attend meetings and 5 million try to spread their faith through door-to-door visits at least 10 hours a

month.

While he doesn't have any statistics for Kentucky, Kreisle said most communities in the commonwealth have a kingdom hall.

One of Kreisle's primary objections to the organization is its denial of the deity of Jesus. They also deny Jesus' bodily resurrection and his second coming, he said.

Witnesses do, however, talk about the world coming to an end with a war at Armageddon. They claim that the only way to survive is to be a member of their group, Kreisle said. Witnesses teach that only 144,000 select members will ultimately go to heaven, and the rest will live on a paradise earth.

Today Kreisle is a long-term volunteer through the Southern Baptist North American Mission Board's Mission Service Corps program. As an interfaith witness speaker, he leads 10-12 conferences a year, he said.

While he has yet to convince his co-worker to leave the organization, Kreisle's studies eventually led him to

establish a ministry. Though he still works as a machinist, he devotes at least 20 hours a week to Good News Outreach.

The ministry maintains a telephone line—(502) 927-9374—that plays a recorded message about Jehovah's Witnesses. A new 3-to-5 minute announcement is available each week.

When he started in 1993, he had no idea how many people would be interested. A year ago, he quit counting when the number of calls surpassed 7,000. In response to requests, he has mailed literature to 25 states and hopes soon to launch an Internet site.

The ministry also helps establish support groups for ex-members. This is vital, he said, because of the organization's practice of shunning anyone who leaves.

"They are taught all their life the only way to God is through the organization and they have nowhere else to go," Kreisle said. "Many think there is no hope for them."

### Resources

Several books and videos offer information for Christians who want to learn more about Jehovah's Witnesses. Books include:

■ "Jehovah's Witnesses Answered Verse By Verse" by David Reed.

■ "Answering Jehovah's Witnesses Subject by Subject" by David Reed.

■ "How to Rescue Your Loved One from the Watchtower" by David Reed.

■ "Index of Watchtower Errors 1879 to 1989" edited by David Reed.

■ "Reasoning from the Scriptures with Jehovah's Witnesses" by Ron Rhodes.

■ "Approaching Jehovah's Witnesses in Love: How to Witness Effectively Without Arguing" by Wilbur Lingle.

■ "Why You should Believe in the Trinity: An answer to Jehovah's Witnesses" by Robert Bowman (highly technical).

The following videos by Jeremiah Films are available at many Christian book stores:

■ "Witnesses of Jehovah."

■ "The Witness at Your Door."

■ "The Witness Goes Out."

### BLUEGRASS BURGEO

■ **Walk or golf for kids.** Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children is offering two ways to express support for children and families. The agency is offering eight regional walks. The first three will be April 17 in Paducah, May 8 in Barbourville and May 22 in Ashland. For information in Paducah, call (502) 488-3125; Barbourville, (606) 546-3636; Ashland (606) 325-7062. A series of golf tournaments will be held, including May

20 in Lancaster, May 24 in Owensboro, June 19 in Cadiz, June 22 in London, July 12 in Louisville, July 19 in Bowling Green, July 21 in Florence and a championship event Oct 11 in Louisville. For more information, call (800) 456-1386.

■ **Choir to sing in Washington.** The choir of Walnut Memorial Baptist Church in Owensboro has been invited to sing in Washington April 28 at the Kennedy

Center. The event is taking place at the invitation of Senator Jim Bunning, according to Minister of Music David Taylor.

■ **Harrodsburg hosts discipleship event.** The Kentucky Baptist Convention's discipleship training department will host a school of discipleship April 15 at 7 p.m. at Fellowship Baptist Church of Harrodsburg. For information, call (606) 734-3546.

■ **Volunteers wanted.** Kentucky Brotherhood is seeking 300 volunteers for the May 14-16 prison ministry in Danville, Lexington and Louisville featuring former pro football star Bill Glass. For information, call (888) 254-5720.

**Correction:** Last week's editorial included the wrong phone number to contact the Wayne Oates Institute. The correct number is (502) 459-2370.

## WESTERN RECORDER

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*Earnestly contend for the  
faith which was once for  
all delivered to the  
saints.—Jude 3*

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## Glad for charismatics

As a 62-year-old Southern Baptist minister, I thank God that the charismatic influences are growing. I experienced the infilling of the Holy Spirit in 1980, and my life hasn't been the same since. Most problems arise when someone finds out you believe in such happenings. It is time Southern Baptists realize there is more to having the Holy Spirit and the Holy Spirit having you. I have watched Ron Phillips every week since I first saw him on TV, and I enjoy his messages.

If this charismatic influence was so bad, why are the churches that believe and practice such signs and wonders continuing to grow? I am a member of a former so-called charismatic Baptist church that allowed Satan to win the battle because we believed in healing and praise music, and some members didn't like what was happening.

The church has experienced splits and now has about 60 members attending each week. We had over 100 added to our membership in one year during the time we were experiencing an outpouring of God's Spirit and blessings.

I once heard a speaker say you could take the Holy Spirit out of most Baptist churches and they would never know because so much is done in the flesh. It is time Baptists quit arguing over Calvinism and charismatics and go on to preaching the gospel. Christ said, "And you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you." Baptists are living beneath their abilities by ignoring the infilling of the Holy Spirit.

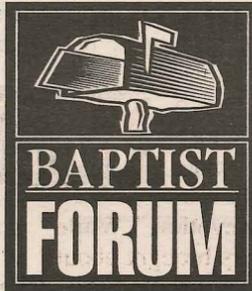
The world wants to see something in Christians' lives different from theirs. Until they do they will live in sin.

Robert E. Blevins  
Raceland

## Who needs break?

"Give us a break!" the letter stated in the March 23 edition. Al Mohler has had enough. Really?

Did the long-time faculty members of the seminary who were forced from their jobs get a break? Did the writer of March 23 call for a moratorium on calling these people liberalistic, non-Bible believers and non-Calvinistic crusaders?



The majority of voting Baptists created the scenario that allowed their new leaders to be reckless and judgmental. When those two virtues are combined with political power, the results will always be predictable.

This unfeeling, reckless and less than Christian behavior by those who have the power is seen by some as the darkest hour of human and social relations within the Southern Baptist Convention. Others see it as the crack of light that splits open the dawn of recovered theology that will only be surpassed by the light of the second-coming. Some see it as the machinations of those who are politically motivated to secure control of an organization that is too weak and too disinterested in what happens all around them to care enough to stop it.

What we need is the constant reminder that when a group of Christian people finally gained control of a political machine and found a way to impugn the faith of those who did not babble the rote machinations of pabulum, they, with impunity and a gracelessness, threw them away.

God, who made and loves us, gave us freedom to become vessels through which the world can see Jesus. What they have seen in Louisville is that from which we all do need a break.

Edward Clark  
Danville

## Too inclusive?

Please evaluate anything Kenneth Chafin says in the light of his performance on the Phil Donohue show some years ago. From my videotape, the following is a significant part of the Donohue-Chafin exchange:

Donohue: "If I do not accept Jesus as my personal Savior ... I am not going to heaven."

Chafin: "I would basically state it more inclusively, that people find in Jesus Christ wholeness. Some people like to focus on who's not in. I would like to focus on who's in. ... There are lots of people who don't use my vocabulary, and I am very comfortable leaving them to God."

After Chafin said he "was very much involved in trying to communicate the gospel," Donohue commented: "I don't want to belabor this ... but you do appear to be tap-dancing around the answer to (my) question. Is the pressure so great on you that you cannot stand up publicly and say that the suggestion that God only accepts Christians who are born again is a rather narrow one?"

Chafin: "I think that the way we define 'born again' is probably narrower than God defines it."

Donohue: "Do Jews go to heaven?"

Chafin's immediate, evasive and total response was: "I'm going to leave that with God."

Chafin alleges that some teach Jesus died for a limited number. His own words suggest that Jesus didn't need to die for everyone. Chafin would like to "leave" people to God like the Jews, and is "comfortable" with a broader, but unexplained definition of the new birth.

When Jesus said, "Narrow is the way which leads to life, and few there be that find it," he uttered divine truth, certainly not "moderate" or inclusive enough for Donohue or Chafin.

Donald MacDonald  
Louisville

## FAMILY

### Are you chasing stock returns?

By Don Spencer

Do you participate in a 401(k) retirement plan at your work?

If you're employed by a church or other non-profit employer, do you participate in a 403(b) retirement plan?

If you answered "yes"

to either question, your plan likely involves a mix of funds that invest in stocks. And you probably have noticed an interesting thing about recent returns. Funds investing in large growth companies have done great, growing 30-40 percent or more.

Funds invested in large, value-oriented stocks have not done as well lately. Funds in small companies or foreign companies have generally done very poorly, many showing a loss over the last couple years.

The past couple years has been extremely volatile for stock funds. We read and hear of the stock market averages being up, but in reality it is only a small number of companies that have been up significantly.

Have you changed your choice of funds based on these recent returns? If so, you may be "chasing returns," or following last year's winners. Generally this is not wise for long-term investing like retirement plans. History proves that most people who do this rarely benefit. This is a form of market timing. To win at market timing requires two perfect actions: getting out at the top of the market and getting back in at the bottom. Even experts rarely can consistently do one of these correctly, much less both.

No one knows where the best returns will be next year, and this year's experience guarantees nothing about next year. That's why it's important to have a diversified, or blended, portfolio of investments in your retirement plan and in other investments. It is a proven fact that most people do best with an appropriate portfolio, or diversified blend of investments, rather than trying to time the market. Using such a mix of investments means you probably will never be on the top with the highest returns. But, it also means you probably will never be on the bottom with the lowest returns.

In today's world, that blended portfolio likely should include stocks in the following categories: large and small companies, growth and value, domestic and foreign.

Don Spencer is a certified financial planner and directs the Kentucky Baptist Convention's annuity department



## PARTNERS IN THE MISSION

### Women's conference

My wife, Kay, and I recently attended the Women's Lifestyle Evangelism Conferences at Lexington, Louisville and Bowling Green.

More than 1,500 people heard presentations on the joy and strength of the Lord, the awesome presence of God and the dramatic witness of great people of faith around the world.

The conferences were outstanding, and I heard glowing reports from participants. Many people said God used the presentations to meet deeply felt needs. One person said, "If I had known it was going to be this good, I would have brought all of my friends. Although my skin was a different color, everyone welcomed me and the lady who sat by me became a loving friend."

The humor of Mamie McCullough helped participants celebrate the joy of their faith and their identity as women of faith. Writer Pat Ashley shared how God taught her to experience his unconditional love and then

how to make deposits in the lives of children and grandchildren to sustain unbroken praise for generations. Gospel singer Alma Randolph provided inspiring music.



Bill Mackey

Ken and Beth Perkins used dramatic vignettes of people they've met around the world to help us better identify with those living in other cultures. Most of these presentations described Christians in third-world cultures.

Ken closed by describing miracles that accompanied the origin of churches, especially in China from 1950-1970. He told about sharing with Chinese believers about the freedom that we experience in the West to worship, witness, distribute Christian literature, use the media and develop facilities, schools and ministries. The Chinese believers' response was, "Oh, that God would love us that much."

Ken said that in wishing for miracles of healing he had missed the miracle of freedom to worship, witness,

study and minister in the name of Jesus. He said he now cannot pick up a Bible or hymn book, stand to preach or walk into a church or Bible study without thanking God for the miracle of freedom.

Ken also shared how persecuted Christians who had lived under communist domination for years asked him to teach them how to live for Christ in freedom. They said making the choice between atheism and faith was not hard. Instead it is the new influence of the West that has created many distractions and challenges.

This conference was a wonderful model of partnership and teamwork. It was jointly sponsored by the Kentucky Baptist Convention, the Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union and the Women's Auxiliary of the General Association of Baptists and the Central District of Baptists.

For Kentucky Baptists, the evangelism growth team had primary responsibility for coordinating the meetings, with strong support from the communications/media department. Many thanks to all of those who assisted.

Bill Mackey is executive secretary-treasurer of the Kentucky Baptist Convention

## Parents should pray & protect when teaching kids about sex

### Q. How can I teach my children about sex?

"Where did I come from?" The question strikes fear in the heart of most parents and raises a host of other questions. How should I answer? What should I say? How much should I explain? Teaching our children about sex presents one of the greatest privileges and greatest challenges of parenting.

Because the world (especially the media) usually gives a distorted view of sex, Christians must be particularly intentional about presenting sex as a great gift from a great God and helping children gain a Christian perspective of their sexuality.

Here are five suggestions to help parents and teachers teach children about sex:

■ **Practice.** Model healthy sexual relationships. Show your children what commitment is all about. Let them see the love you have for each other.

■ **Provide.** Give age-appropriate instruction and provide an atmosphere for learning where children can find responsible, truthful, Christian answers to their questions about sexuality.

■ **Protect.** Guard your children from exposure to harmful influences and ideas. Find out what your school is teaching about sex. Help your children make good decisions about television, books and movies.

■ **Promote.** Encourage programs and learning opportunities that embody a healthy, Christ-centered understanding of sex and sexuality.

■ **Pray.** Ask God to protect your children from sexual sin, to guide them as they grow and to give them courage to use their bodies in ways that honor God and that show respect for others.—David Garrard

### Q. Since we married, my husband and I have noticed that our single friends seem to be pulling away from us. Why would they do this?

Whether we intend it to happen or not, entering a new stage of life such as marriage often brings about changes in our friendships.

Sometimes these changes occur because we have different priorities, responsibilities and commitments than we had before. Sometimes increased demands on our time or new financial obligations can cause these changes as well.

However, in your case, it sounds as if your friends have done the pulling away without your necessarily wanting them to. Sometimes single friends might feel awkward asking you to do something if they know it will take you away from your spouse for the evening. They might be unsure if you have as much free time as you used to have. Some folks also assume married couples want to spend every moment alone together.

On the other hand, your friendship might have just come to a natural ending, which can happen with or without a major life change, like marriage. This isn't necessarily a bad thing, but often happens as individuals grow and change in different directions.

While what you are experiencing isn't all that uncommon, if you don't like the direction these friendships have taken, then talk openly with your single friends about your feelings.

They might not know how you feel. They might miss spending time with you, but are trying to give you space. Talk with them so that at least there are no misunderstandings. Then if the friendship has met a natural ending, at least you'll know it wasn't based on inaccurate information.—Susan Howell

*Family Forum* writers are David Garrard, minister to children at St. Matthews Baptist Church in Louisville; James Stillwell, minister to singles at Immanuel Baptist Church in Lexington; Susan Howell, assistant professor of psychology at Campbellsville University; Wade Rowatt, director of the St. Matthews Pastoral Counseling Center in Louisville; and Al Shackelford, editor of *Mature Living* magazine. Send questions for *Family Forum* to *Western Recorder*, Box 43969, Louisville, Ky. 40253 or e-mail us at [wesrec@ntr.net](mailto:wesrec@ntr.net).



## Why some Christians don't worship Jesus

By Carey Newman

My life as an interim pastor, supply preacher and conference leader has, over the last 15 years, taken me to many churches of varying denominational stripes and theological flavors. While it goes without saying that no two congregations are alike, I have, in the course of my travels, observed some discernible patterns, especially when it comes to worship.

I have found, for example, what I would call a "God devotion." Some congregations direct their gaze upward and contemplate the greatness, power and stability of God.

I have also witnessed a "Lord devotion." While exulting in the present state of affairs brought about by the Resurrection, "Lord devotion" is decisively forward looking and anticipatory. It celebrates now what will be experienced in full then.

A third kind of worship experience features the Holy Spirit. "Spirit devotion" is intensely inward looking. "Spirit devotion" employs the language of immediacy to celebrate personal transformation and the presence of God in the times of struggle.

The fourth kind of worship centers upon the earthly Jesus. "Jesus devotion" looks back upon the words and deeds, holding him up as a model for personal and community action.

It goes without saying that congregations of one kind should be tolerant of congregations of another sort. I make these admittedly informal observations to point out what I think is a curious feature of Christianity. While we publicly venerate God, the risen Lord and the Spirit, we don't worship the historical Jesus in quite the same way. We remember rather than worship; we commemorate rather than venerate. Why so?

The theological stakes in this question are very high. One is tempted to argue that the historical Jesus was not a divine figure and therefore did not and does not merit worship. However, the confessions we recite, the hymns we sing and the prayers we offer, not to mention the Scripture we cherish, all explicitly proclaim

(or implicitly imply) that Jesus—that is, the historical Jesus—was a divine figure. So how do we connect the historical Jesus (the Jesus of the Gospels) with the risen Lord (and thus with God and Spirit)?

I think it is the Resurrection that makes this connection. We all understand that the Resurrection is a vindicating event. The Resurrection vindicates Jesus' claims for Messiahship. However, the experience of Resurrection was itself a revelatory event. In and through the Resurrection, the followers of Jesus discovered that this crucified Messiah had become installed as God's equal. See *Philippians 2:5-11* for this very

point.

I recently celebrated a birthday, a hard one since it had a zero behind it. After a nice evening out with my wife—just the two of us—I returned to find a house full of friends and stacks of letters and cards. Leanne had successfully put one over on me. While I had looked forward to our dinner together, I had not suspected this. However, after the surprise, I was able to look back over the week and see all the clues—the lack of mail, trips to the store and hushed conversations. All of these, as suggestive as they were individually and collectively, didn't add up to a party. But having experienced the party, it was easy to see the outlines of what was true all along.

We read the Gospels with a luxury, the luxury of having experienced the revelatory power of the Resurrection. We see things about the historical Jesus that the first followers didn't and couldn't. We see something that was true all along. We see that Jesus was more than prophet, the one who came to call Israel to repentance. We see that Jesus was more than Messiah, the one who came to embody, literally, Israel's destiny. We see that Jesus was Lord, the one who was the bodily incarnation of the one true God. The resurrection demonstrates what was true all along—that Jesus, God and Spirit are all one.

Carey Newman is editor for academic books at Westminster John Knox Press in Louisville

## Is it right to pay taxes?

By Todd Toole

"Tell us then, what is your opinion? Is it right to pay taxes to Caesar or not?" *Matthew 22:17*

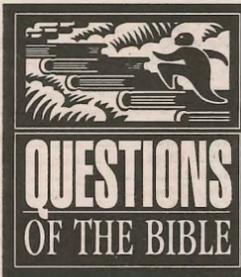
It was a trick question. A typical pharisaical attempt to confound the Master and drive a wedge between him and his disciples. It was a question of stewardship and allegiance. A question of honor and integrity. A question intended for confusion, but Jesus responded with perfect clarity.

To some, there is a natural tension between religion and government. Religion is pure, government is tainted. Religion is righteous, government is evil. Religion is of God, government is not. A general rule, for those folks, is that loyalty to one does not allow for loyalty to the other.

The idea was never more pronounced than in Jesus' day. The teachings and national visions of the Jewish religious leaders were in diametric opposition to those of the Roman government. There was complete ha-

tried among Jews for the Romans, and the rallying point for that hatred was taxes. You simply could not be excited about giving an oppressive government through taxes what little money the economy allowed you to earn.

If the Pharisees could coerce Jesus to validate taxes, surely he would lose his popularity among the people. Furthermore, if he said,



"Don't pay the tax," didn't he immediately become an enemy of the government and a common tax-dodging criminal? They finally had him trapped in a position from which there was no obvious escape.

The fact is, with April 15 fast approaching we are feeling just a little of that same entrapment. We are frustrated with our obligations to our government. We see many things that are not to our liking, and most of us feel we are paying for more government than we really want. Certainly, each of us can think of ways we would rather spend our money. But it's April 15, and the IRS has your name and they know where you live. So, if you haven't already, very soon you'll be

writing an impressive check and offering a prayer that 1999 won't bring an audit.

But is this really right and necessary for the Christian? Couldn't we use our money better? If we didn't have to pay taxes, we could really support missions, we could feed more hungry people, we could clothe and shelter the homeless. If we didn't have to pay taxes, every Christian could tithe. Why, we could even pay preachers more! If we could only use our money for the kingdom, rather than the government.

So how could Jesus escape the trap? How could he say our payment plan should include both church and state? I think his message is clear. Loyalty is a lifestyle. If you are faithful in your obligations to your government, then you'll be more likely to be faithful in your obligations to your God. There really isn't a tension between the two. We have mutual responsibilities toward both. A person who loves God and desires to influence others for him will model allegiance and integrity in every area of his or her life.

Indeed, it is right to pay taxes. Painful, perhaps, but right—our moral obligation as Christians.

Todd Toole is pastor of Hickory Grove Baptist Church in Independence

# Kentucky Baptist Churches' Support for the Cooperative Program

## MID-YEAR REPORT ON COOPERATIVE PROGRAM GIVING

These figures reflect gifts of Kentucky Baptist churches through the Kentucky Baptist Convention's Cooperative Program during the six-month periods of Sept. 1, 1997 through Feb. 28, 1998 (CP98) and Sept. 1, 1998 through Feb. 28, 1999 (CP99). Designated gifts are not reflected here. Questions or corrections should be addressed to the KBC accounting department at (502) 245-4101, ext. 228.

Association/Church	CP98	CP99	Association/Church	CP98	CP99	Association/Church	CP98	CP99	Association/Church	CP98	CP99
<b>ALLEN</b>			Pellville	17,942.02	20,047.78	Calvary	0.00	190.00	Concord	16,113.10	19,872.03
Bays Fork	2,740.40	2,678.67	Roseville	0.00	0.00	Central	13,687.54	12,873.32	Crofton	2,944.76	2,420.90
Big Spring	0.00	0.00	Union	8,662.54	8,014.25	Clearfield	1,114.00	1,607.00	Edgewood	18,635.00	18,667.52
Dover	0.00	0.00	West Point	216.26	283.42	Crossroads	0.00	0.00	Eastview	3,003.97	1,200.00
Holland	974.00	1,323.00	<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>89,342.75</b>	<b>85,269.42</b>	Dover	120.00	240.00	Hopkinsville First	29,275.83	31,755.44
Liberty	1,432.92	2,013.84	<b>BLOOD RIVER</b>			Ewing	1,050.00	1,150.00	Fruit Hill	1,480.99	1,654.36
Mount Gilead Missionary	0.00	0.00	Altona	10,167.61	292.07	Carlisle First	3,623.97	3,491.37	Grace West Union	6,675.68	4,490.95
New Hope	894.13	1,029.05	Bethel	13,996.55	14,044.00	Morehead First	916.67	1,333.35	Hillcrest	29,267.34	35,168.09
New Middle Fork	25.00	50.00	Bethlehem	1,992.50	2,113.40	Irvingsville	0.00	0.00	Kelly	7,860.87	6,998.44
New Salem Missionary	0.00	0.00	Blood River	931.95	1,353.13	Flemingsburg	3,223.82	3,410.62	Living Hope	2,357.24	2,512.00
Rough Creek	400.00	0.00	Briensburg	99,251.49	77,284.95	Foxport	472.25	507.00	LaFayette	2,179.00	1,973.00
Scottsville	44,033.26	33,398.56	Calvert City First	15,471.15	16,197.02	Germantown	1,244.00	1,498.00	Little River	3,582.60	4,062.45
Trammel Fork	0.00	0.00	Cherry Comer	4,743.29	5,676.06	Heslton	0.00	136.37	Lighthouse	477.32	723.18
White Plains	0.00	4,388.36	Coldwater	300.00	300.00	Garrison	1,110.61	1,809.75	Korean New Hope Mission	0.00	0.00
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>50,499.71</b>	<b>44,881.48</b>	Dexter	2,066.66	1,891.83	Lewisburg	1,011.23	1,377.60	Locust Grove	310.42	472.91
<b>ANDERSON</b>			Elm Grove	18,432.83	15,830.95	Locust Grove	536.63	497.16	Lacedonia	1,376.13	1,347.96
Alton	6,221.01	17,864.17	East Marshall	1,070.14	1,261.55	Mays Lick	641.16	293.14	Lakeview	435.00	469.00
Ballard	895.00	1,395.76	East Marshall	1,070.14	1,261.55	Maysville First	3,261.71	3,000.00	New Barren Springs	1,034.04	1,011.25
Freedom	563.52	732.54	Murray First	66,767.95	55,377.74	Mount Olivet	2,363.45	1,792.39	New Ebenezer	1,629.22	1,837.02
Fellowship	360.00	270.00	First Benton Missionary	9,089.96	12,470.10	Mount Pisgah	483.28	445.95	New Palestine	5,970.87	5,683.50
Friendship	0.00	0.00	Flint Southern Missionary	3,922.16	3,636.02	Oak Ridge	478.31	420.66	Primera Iglesia Bautista Hispana	570.83	591.40
Goshenboro	723.00	941.65	Benton First	18,202.70	18,407.00	Union	218.14	191.41	Oak Grove First	1,263.59	1,379.14
Goshen	397.00	513.00	Elva	1,176.75	1,227.80	Owingsville	1,994.93	2,686.80	Olivet	8,653.70	8,800.65
Lawrenceburg First	57,213.58	58,884.69	Gilbertsville	7,152.07	6,971.04	Plainview	297.38	357.58	Pembroke	14,046.66	14,863.27
Mount Pleasant	1,591.57	1,228.00	Grace	7,469.83	8,204.78	Vanceburg First	1,200.00	750.00	Mears Avenue	0.00	0.00
Pleasant Grove	150.00	100.00	Hamlet Missionary	2,192.36	1,950.79	Sharysburg	150.00	150.00	Pleasant Green	1,344.95	1,340.74
Sand Spring	21,393.17	18,682.91	Hardin	16,035.79	16,623.55	Sharp Point	265.00	371.30	Pleasant Hill	1,480.50	1,587.60
Tyrone	1,010.00	1,782.75	Hazel	14,804.15	16,188.14	Southern Manor	0.00	0.00	Pleasant View Missionary	1,083.65	1,319.01
Van Buren	0.00	263.85	Kirksey	822.00	859.00	Stonelick	616.50	519.73	Salem	3,573.83	3,792.84
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>90,517.85</b>	<b>102,659.32</b>	Lakeview	3,131.62	3,826.97	<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>43,051.78</b>	<b>43,761.24</b>	Hopkinsville Second	78,688.38	84,284.23
<b>BELL</b>			Lebetter	336.22	503.64	<b>BRECKINRIDGE</b>			Shiloh	300.00	300.00
Arjay	0.00	0.00	Locust Grove	8,434.54	9,540.60	Bewleyville	0.00	0.00	Sinking Fork	21,086.95	21,710.13
Bennetts Fork	0.00	0.00	Memorial	11,369.21	10,303.19	Black Lick	668.00	282.00	South Union	258.44	321.27
Bethlehem	1,154.23	1,373.14	New Bethel	2,520.00	2,520.00	Cloverport	4,762.33	4,194.56	Trinity	1,493.00	1,618.20
Binghamtown	3,522.72	3,500.04	New Harmony	8,043.08	15,894.98	Corinth	11,370.72	14,450.63	West Grove	210.00	180.00
Blue Ridge	0.00	0.00	New Providence	229.36	314.64	Dry Valley	0.00	0.00	West Valley	130.00	174.00
Calloway	449.30	412.17	New Mt Carmel	1,722.92	1,464.95	English	216.00	532.00	West Mt. Zoar	642.80	719.37
Southside Mission	0.00	0.00	New Zion	10,050.75	8,091.84	Friendship	700.00	700.00	<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>302,243.86</b>	<b>318,013.77</b>
Antioch	0.00	0.00	Northside	3,854.95	4,015.00	Garfield	450.05	223.46	<b>CRITTENDEN</b>		
Charity #2	0.00	0.00	Walnut Street	1,665.29	985.51	Goshen	1,885.00	1,525.00	Bethany	980.72	1,017.36
Clear Fork	0.00	0.00	Oak Grove	3,794.54	3,652.83	Hardinsburg	21,807.40	24,598.16	Corinth	1,034.04	1,011.25
Dean Memorial	0.00	0.00	Hilltop	296.90	313.55	Hites Run	1,980.51	1,663.28	Crittenden	11,553.79	9,396.34
Dunlap	0.00	0.00	Olive Missionary	7,125.07	6,540.64	Macedonia	1,056.00	1,011.00	De Mossville	200.87	0.00
East Cumberland Avenue	6,357.00	5,519.00	Owens Chapel	4,636.00	4,265.00	New Bethel	1,646.90	1,811.67	Dry Ridge	10,704.31	12,153.35
East Jellico	1,655.61	2,465.00	Pleasant Hope	0.00	0.00	New Clover Creek	1,531.48	1,245.09	Gardnersville	2,789.23	2,897.39
East Pineville	0.00	0.00	Poplar Spring	1,200.00	1,200.00	Pisgah	318.60	322.54	Grassy Run	1,292.35	1,709.67
Pineville First	12,934.19	8,430.23	Pleasant Valley	1,387.50	1,800.00	Salem	1,846.57	1,339.62	Gumlick	1,340.93	1,547.93
First Blackmont	300.00	300.00	Salem	11,641.55	7,918.51	Scotts Grove	71.74	112.12	Knoxville	5,800.52	5,182.30
Fonde	470.60	117.64	Salem	5,408.80	4,198.46	Stephensport	826.64	868.82	Lawrenceville	2,988.17	2,532.60
Fuson Chapel	0.00	0.00	Sharpe Missionary	2,887.70	3,112.00	Walnut Grove	826.64	868.82	Mason	1,680.00	1,991.48
Garmead	0.00	0.00	Sinking Spring	350.00	2,550.00	<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>51,137.94</b>	<b>54,879.95</b>	Mount Carmel	4,841.00	5,607.00
Gospel Outreach	0.00	0.00	South Marshall	120.00	120.00	<b>CALDWELL-LYON</b>			New Friendship	187.68	180.96
Harmony	0.00	0.00	Spring Creek	3,000.00	4,800.00	Adriel	450.00	525.00	Oak Ridge	1,572.70	1,470.00
Pine Grove	0.00	0.00	Symonia	6,917.84	3,886.00	Emmanuel	0.00	0.00	Pleasant Green	2,545.63	2,415.87
First Southern BC of Chenoa	0.00	0.00	Sugar Creek	400.00	400.00	Beulah Hill	1,074.21	1,171.46	Pleasant Ridge	1,809.60	1,753.80
Hensley Chapel	0.00	0.00	Union Ridge	2,382.00	3,325.00	Calvary	10,172.12	9,700.54	Stewartsville	990.39	794.00
Hosman	1,732.49	1,264.50	Vanzora	3,778.29	3,608.00	Calvary Bluff	3,027.18	2,959.33	Riverview	100.00	100.00
Insull	0.00	0.00	Westside	8,202.86	10,948.55	Chapel Hill	2,178.00	2,229.00	Sherman	5,720.25	6,314.09
Jenson	293.23	635.97	West Fork	3,975.37	3,656.32	Creswell	3,482.34	4,278.00	Short Creek	2,906.65	2,676.14
Meldrum	0.00	0.00	Zions Cause	4,370.35	5,578.22	Crider	183.47	275.66	Trinity Southern	3,206.43	4,760.82
Mill Creek	0.00	0.00	<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>439,292.60</b>	<b>406,695.32</b>	Donaldson	4,558.75	4,510.61	Turner Ridge	14,526.46	15,085.28
Bell Co Forest Camp Mission	0.00	0.00	<b>BOONES CREEK</b>			Eddy Creek	5,264.42	3,749.37	Unity	5,857.03	5,509.56
Millers Chapel	0.00	0.00	Allansville	4,000.21	4,074.41	Eddyville First	17,558.67	24,366.44	Victory	28.28	47.44
Moss Chapel	180.00	180.00	Beech Grove	467.27	411.64	Eddyville Second	772.92	728.96	Williamstown	17,238.64	21,204.92
Mount Mary	0.00	0.00	Boone's Creek	13,338.53	13,414.79	Fairview	422.00	385.00	Victory	0.00	0.00
Newtown	100.77	93.17	Calvary	6,138.91	6,013.28	Fredonia First	7,682.98	9,243.49	<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>101,895.67</b>	<b>107,359.55</b>
Northside	0.00	0.00	Central	87,449.88	82,541.24	Hebron	6,163.68	5,173.38	<b>DAVIES-MCLEAN</b>		
Old Cannon Creek	0.00	0.00	Clay City	667.00	764.00	Highland	273.00	208.00	Apollo Heights	1,532.18	1,518.09
Old Salem #1	0.00	0.00	Corinth	2,082.80	3,848.13	Hopewell	1,380.11	1,176.11	Belleview	49,868.89	76,025.60
Old Salem #2	0.00	0.00	Cow Creek	2,598.00	2,526.00	Kuttawh First	13,959.47	13,472.09	Bethabara	10,311.81	11,653.94
Old Straight Creek	0.00	0.00	Emmanuel	553.92	513.10	Lebanon Missionary	2,072.15	1,328.39	Bethel	502.11	517.87
Old Yellow Creek	5,195.49	6,026.72	Ephesus	1,808.00	3,772.00	Liberty	4,098.11	4,661.91	Brushy Fork	1,231.60	784.09
Pathfork	384.94	287.76	Faith	90.00	75.00	Macedonia	2,965.48	1,814.66	Buck Creek	3,686.81	4,688.83
Red Oak	0.00	0.00	Irvine First	2,364.74	3,056.23	Midway	1,949.50	2,659.00	Buena Vista	12,157.11	13,341.13
Richardson Chapel	0.00	0.00	Friendship	2,893.74	3,528.79	Mount Zion	4,580.60	3,713.52	Calhoun	13,922.30	13,985.71
Riverside	872.53	835.47	Greenbriar	1,194.67	199.45	New Bethel	3,130.81	2,892.48	Cedar Street Missionary	0.00	0.00
Riverside (Red Bird) Mission	0.00	0.00	Heidelburg	218.62	92.60	Northside	9,080.32	17,722.31	Crabtree Avenue	630.48	760.17
Riverview	464.24	394.66	Howards Mill	3,283.00	3,251.00	Pleasant Grove	4,283.39	3,980.85	Crossroads	50.00	275.00
Southside	1,796.55	1,781.29	Ivory Hill	941.44	1,250.53	Pleasant Hill	1,643.21	1,723.59	Curdsville	464.66	397.97
Mount Hebron	0.00	0.00	Jeffersonville	1,634.99	2,340.00	Quinn	635.90	562.80	Dawson	3,746.49	4,146.95
Stoney Fork	380.00	365.00	Kiddville	792.58	951.24	Princeton Second	5,449.04	3,710.73	Eaton Memorial	11,344.24	11,546.83
Trinity	175.00	150.00	Macedonia	2,501.00	2,609.67	Southside	34,809.00	29,850.45	Owensboro First	141,237.62	133,821.79
Tracy Branch	0.00	0.00	New Hope	558.73	1,773.31	Sugar Creek	2,518.98	2,290.47			

# Kentucky Baptist Churches' Support for the Cooperative Program

Association/Church	CP98	CP99
Holly Grove	1,840.67	2,113.41
Liberty	127.00	243.21
New Bethlehem	0.00	0.00
Mount Carmel	550.00	500.00
Mount Roberts	1,686.27	1,106.43
Mount Washington	500.00	500.00
Rolling Fork	0.00	0.00
South Summersville	1,963.80	1,816.47
Union Band	0.00	0.00
Whickerville	0.00	0.00
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>7,449.84</b>	<b>6,404.07</b>
<b>EAST UNION</b>		
Black Oak	0.00	0.00
Big Poplar Creek	0.00	0.00
Carpenter	0.00	0.00
Clearfork	0.00	0.00
Emlyn	0.00	0.00
Kensie	373.03	304.60
Little Poplar	0.00	0.00
Louden	0.00	0.00
New Buffalo	0.00	0.00
New Hope	0.00	0.00
Pleasant Grove	0.00	0.00
Old Poplar Creek	0.00	0.00
Valley Creek	0.00	0.00
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>373.03</b>	<b>304.60</b>
<b>ELKHORN</b>		
The Church at Andover	250.00	0.00
Broadway	21,774.49	19,446.66
Brookside	2,194.68	2,375.63
Beckerville	142.81	127.92
Calvary	19,426.13	15,263.48
Calvary Mission	0.00	0.00
Cane Run	4,010.58	3,569.90
Central	1,360.59	1,783.34
Central	12,024.16	12,235.35
Chevy Chase	10,263.44	10,013.42
Citadel Missionary	0.00	0.00
Clear Creek	2,263.00	2,583.00
Clover Bottom	875.00	900.00
Crossroads	3,857.04	5,580.12
Davids Fork	850.00	858.34
Dry Run	2,267.83	2,150.95
Durbin Memorial	2,076.48	2,846.33
East Hickman	4,614.17	4,074.08
Edgewood	17,424.05	32,473.67
Faith	3,170.82	0.00
Lexington First	4,070.18	1,242.43
Cornerstone	9,294.27	9,845.60
Paris First	14,033.12	19,424.39
Winchester First	18,553.72	16,859.42
Mount Sterling First	2,304.17	2,645.81
Corbin First	5,499.98	7,666.66
Gano Avenue	10,680.42	10,542.12
Gardenside	24,261.22	21,113.03
Georgetown	12,508.62	12,369.30
Glens Creek	1,973.73	319.90
Grace	4,208.80	7,721.91
Great Crossing	5,690.72	5,248.46
North View	10,540.73	10,771.65
Highlands	3,969.39	4,993.93
Hillcrest	1,265.90	490.00
Hillsboro	1,459.83	1,347.30
Immanuel Japanese Mission	0.00	0.00
Imani	0.00	0.00
Immanuel	140,889.28	163,939.73
Irishtown Mission	0.00	0.00
Lawrenceburg Community	998.27	822.14
Long Lick	1,272.17	1,761.50
Lyle Road	332.81	88.71
Penn Avenue	0.00	0.00
Mallard Point	1,865.39	2,106.24
Midway	1,308.35	1,104.15
Millersburg	0.00	0.00
Millville	16,490.59	2,955.52
Morning Star	0.00	0.00
Mount Freedom	4,280.33	4,599.54
Mount Pleasant	3,227.61	1,306.84
Mount Vernon	1,562.02	1,274.33
Nada Baptist Mission	0.00	0.00
New Hope	9,044.10	8,713.98
Nicholasville	7,341.33	6,714.55
Parkway	8,290.97	7,602.34
Pinckard	6,673.64	6,852.56
Shawhan	0.00	0.00
Porter Memorial	134,818.50	153,000.24
Riverview	0.00	0.00
Rosemont	12,914.89	16,478.90
Royal Springs Southern	0.00	0.00
Russell Cave Road	5,625.59	3,489.43
Sadleville	0.00	0.00
Seventh Street	0.00	0.00
Silas	904.14	1,197.04
South Elkhorn	8,108.13	7,944.00
Southern Heights	14,316.17	13,535.70
Southeast	400.00	0.00
Victory	11,852.25	10,087.51
Open Door Community	514.89	981.25
Springdale at Man O War	300.00	50.00
Palomar	3,577.54	2,828.44
Stamping Ground	3,600.00	1,500.00
Stonewall	0.00	0.00
New Hope	309.83	324.77
Tatesbrook	3,425.11	2,787.54
Trinity	3,541.28	1,248.00
Union Mill Mission	0.00	0.00
Versailles	39,648.27	41,952.75
White Sulphur	1,835.84	1,684.86
Woodland Avenue	400.00	300.00
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>688,829.36</b>	<b>718,116.66</b>
<b>ENTERPRISE</b>		
Allen First	1,460.00	1,470.00
Topmost	100.00	200.00
Benedict	640.61	583.74
Brushy Fork	420.00	420.00
Garrett First	509.73	327.22
Fitzpatrick First	538.00	1,163.00
Inez First	3,112.17	3,832.23
Prestonsburg First	9,330.86	16,214.29
Ivyton	0.00	0.00
Jacks Creek	199.52	0.00
Pine Grove	0.00	0.00
Lancer	646.28	587.00
Liberty	752.31	882.48
Licking River	450.00	450.00
Martin First	254.36	220.76
Maytown First	887.80	300.00
McDowell First	2,727.83	2,586.48
Mount Beulah	710.00	550.00
Paintsville First	11,038.94	14,331.45
Paintsville First Mission	0.00	0.00
Pleasant Home	445.00	439.00
Salysville First	4,700.71	5,344.96
Tomahawk Baptist Mission	1,140.43	112.00

Association/Church	CP98	CP99
Warfield Missionary	740.00	500.00
West Van Lear	457.51	50.00
Wheelwright First	20.00	0.00
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>41,282.06</b>	<b>50,564.61</b>
<b>FRANKLIN</b>		
Faith	685.50	1,169.79
Immanuel	0.00	600.00
Bellepoint	3,838.61	4,367.37
Bethel	800.00	1,200.00
Buck Run	24,622.00	28,310.00
Calvary	3,140.40	2,927.49
Camp Pleasant	500.00	500.00
Cedar Grove	0.00	0.00
First Corinthian	0.00	0.00
Carpenter	26,896.97	25,199.09
East Frankfort	3,717.12	3,896.84
Evergreen	4,348.64	4,074.98
Frankfort First	0.00	2,108.86
Forks of Elkhorn	1,426.14	2,405.00
Farmdale	1,940.00	2,445.00
Hillcrest	5,553.66	6,446.11
Lebanon	0.00	0.00
Memorial	10,940.18	20,971.19
Mount Carmel	0.00	0.00
Mount Vernon	0.00	0.00
North Benson	4,865.89	4,255.53
North Fork	612.03	307.66
North Frankfort	3,088.00	2,440.00
Peaks Mill	1,095.09	231.25
Pleasant Ridge	1,194.65	1,116.10
Providence	3,783.43	3,590.52
Saint John	3,464.10	3,390.94
Swallowfield	805.51	469.51
Thornhill	16,774.91	20,687.56
Trinity	600.00	550.00
Westview	760.90	848.63
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>125,453.64</b>	<b>144,509.42</b>
<b>FREEDOM</b>		
Albany First	8,966.72	8,100.00
Branham Grove	415.80	396.00
Burkesville	3,014.14	3,313.59
Cave Springs	2,730.00	2,942.00
Central Grove	1,557.19	1,493.56
Fairland	203.22	50.00
Green Union	0.00	0.00
Green Grove Missionary	0.00	0.00
New Sulphur Missionary	0.00	0.00
Pikeview	888.00	921.00
Stony Point	7,500.77	8,178.56
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>25,275.84</b>	<b>25,394.71</b>
<b>GASPER RIVER</b>		
Aberdeen	5,191.00	6,475.00
Barnetts Lick	1,008.00	1,083.20
Bethel	791.93	847.20
Big Muddy	1,050.00	900.00
Brooklyn	0.00	0.00
Carve Rock	901.59	875.69
Chapel Union	0.00	540.97
Huntsville	0.00	0.00
Monticello	912.36	1,053.07
Morgantown First	7,319.89	7,213.32
Mount Liberty	100.00	100.00
Mount Olivet	1,272.26	1,418.63
Mount Vernon Missionary	1,674.00	1,786.00
New Harmony	0.00	0.00
New Liberty	1,802.89	895.42
New Midway	0.00	0.00
Pleasant Grove	120.00	160.00
Quality	0.00	1,174.04
Richland	2,456.69	3,190.81
Rochester	1,399.00	1,947.00
Rock Spring	0.00	0.00
Salem	2,707.00	2,779.00
Sandy Creek	1,758.90	1,427.16
Union	1,700.80	1,866.40
Woodbury	0.00	0.00
Walnut Grove	250.00	193.00
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>32,416.31</b>	<b>35,925.91</b>
<b>GOSHEN</b>		
Grandview	0.00	0.00
Broadway	0.00	0.00
Hopewell Missionary	0.00	0.00
Millwood Missionary	35.00	60.00
Pleasant View	0.00	0.00
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>35.00</b>	<b>60.00</b>
<b>GRAVES COUNTY</b>		
Baltimore	120.00	120.00
Fairview	0.00	0.00
Bell City	673.65	628.33
Bethany	1,517.55	1,322.01
Clarks River	3,605.00	4,739.00
Cuba	2,969.11	2,103.76
Dublin Missionary	0.00	0.00
Enon	1,200.00	800.00
Farmington	7,122.71	7,474.23
Fellowship	305.92	195.75
Mayfield First	30,000.00	30,333.34
Emmanuel	582.76	779.94
Hardmony	1,250.00	1,637.50
Hickory	2,250.00	2,340.00
High Point	34,896.59	39,095.82
Liberty	12,879.89	13,519.95
Little Bethel	0.00	0.00
Lynnville	150.00	287.00
Melber	572.00	583.02
Millers Chapel	100.00	120.00
Mount Haven	0.00	0.00
Mount Pisgah Missionary	0.00	0.00
Mount Olivet	662.93	662.93
New Concord	0.00	0.00
New Home	1,432.00	1,247.00
New Hope	295.84	314.30
New Liberty	302.49	116.11
New Life	47.74	0.00
Northside	11,812.78	14,313.18
Oak Grove	300.00	300.00
Greater Saint Paul	0.00	0.00
Pilot Oak	2,287.48	2,646.91
Pleasant Grove Missionary	2,430.28	2,914.86
Pryorsburg Missionary	100.00	650.00
Sand Hill	0.00	0.00
Sedalia	3,462.41	2,760.27
Sharon	6,121.51	6,150.44
South First Street	0.00	457.33
Trace Creek	2,000.02	2,000.00
Viola Missionary	1,069.18	1,022.08
Water Valley	125.00	150.00
West Broadway	1,052.42	989.39
Wingo	966.76	848.12
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>134,664.02</b>	<b>143,622.59</b>

Association/Church	CP98	CP99
<b>GRAYSON COUNTY</b>		
Big Clifty First	50.00	40.00
Caneyville	3,653.84	2,651.76
Clarkson	7,384.53	7,496.10
Leitchfield First	22,479.32	27,603.53
Holly	625.00	660.00
Liberty	1,166.59	1,027.87
Little Clifty	2,490.82	5,118.49
New Hope Missionary	150.00	222.00
New Harvest	0.00	250.00
Shrewsbury	0.00	0.00
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>38,000.10</b>	<b>45,069.75</b>
<b>GREEN VALLEY</b>		
Advance	2,148.16	1,597.61
Airline	15,375.27	11,826.05
Ambassador	1,069.24	954.37
Audubon	7,399.00	11,069.00
Bellfield	8,816.00	9,450.00
Bethel	2,195.58	1,966.35
Calvary Missionary	6,393.14	6,475.96
Cash Creek	3,316.64	2,518.39
Cherry Hill	0.00	0.00
Morganfield First	23,030.16	18,277.13
Corydon Missionary	3,890.22	4,961.10
Dupey	90.00	90.00
Eastview	1,113.08	1,922.45
Finley	2,689.58	2,655.05
Henderson First	41,173.95	45,872.36
Geneva	1,656.00	1,781.00
Greater Norris Chapel	0.00	0.00
New Hope	2,117.12	2,078.93
Hyland	11,923.32	13,909.24
Immanuel Baptist Temple	13,556.93	15,529.17
Lawndale	1,483.89	1,169.58
Mount Pleasant	967.62	1,402.81
Niagara Missionary	0.00	0.00
Poole Missionary	2,969.36	2,781.59
Rangers Landing	151.58	0.00
Robards Missionary	2,932.59	3,184.61
Sebree First	13,894.73	12,272.73
Spotsville	2,778.46	2,493.30
Victory	0.00	250.00
Watson Lane	1,637.19	100.00
Zion	9,200.00	10,000.00
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>183,968.81</b>	<b>186,588.78</b>
<b>GREENUP</b>		
Ashland	774.33	1,115.11
Barretts Creek	233.36	181.94
Belmont	717.66	819.78
Blackburn Avenue	100.00	160.00
Burnaugh	4,658.23	6,428.69
Cannonsburg First	5,398.24	6,976.28
Oakland Avenue	16,422.00	16,903.00
Central	1,200.00	1,200.00
Chadwicks Creek	754.96	650.48
Cherryville	737.00	1,915.00
Crane Creek	459.00	516.83
Fellowship Chapel	0.00	0.00
Danleyton	0.00	0.00
Southside	0.00	0.00
Emily Northup	0.00	0.00
Everman	50.00	0.00
Fairview	7,476.28	10,177.40
Faith	233.30	369.15
Ashland First	7,011.00	4,712.00
Grayson First	8,219.36	7,985.92
Garner Missionary	2,329.68	2,903.14
Greenup First	5,459.00	4,001.00
Louisa First	11,105.00	8,721.00
Olive Hill First	6,839.23	7,174.43
Raceland First	1,132.50	1,132.50
Sandy Hook First	1,651.00	970.00
South Shore First	3,054.22	2,886.15
Worthington First	1	

# Kentucky Baptist Churches' Support for the Cooperative Program

**MID-YEAR  
REPORT ON  
COOPERATIVE  
PROGRAM  
GIVING**

Association/Church	CP98	CP99
Locust Grove	300.00	400.00
McKinney	4,517.09	3,966.64
Mount Hebron	1,133.26	1,108.80
Mount Salem	731.10	945.61
New Hope	0.00	0.00
New Salem	0.00	1,237.34
Olive	192.70	473.67
Parlor Grove	1,733.00	2,182.00
Pilot	234.64	434.11
Pleasant Point	2,172.50	2,304.00
Pleasant View	16,124.78	15,696.65
Polly Ann	790.95	638.41
Pond	682.98	501.97
South Fork	337.17	518.56
Watts Chapel	270.00	1,800.00
Stanford	10,494.86	9,156.53
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>67,753.33</b>	<b>70,551.44</b>

Association/Church	CP98	CP99
<b>LITTLE BETHEL</b>		
Charity	696.05	375.00
Charleston First Missionary	4,773.00	4,782.00
Concord	4,414.29	3,938.78
Corinth	0.00	0.00
Dalton	601.90	525.46
Diamond Missionary	375.00	450.00
Dixon First	4,803.23	2,997.68
Dunn Missionary	4,526.37	3,343.64
Dawson Springs First	4,736.00	6,000.00
Earlington First	25,131.77	15,100.44
Madisonville First	59,393.69	49,670.50
Grapevine Missionary	8,459.99	7,346.60
Green Grove	894.00	220.00
Hanson	8,503.93	3,474.15
Providence First	17,133.50	9,679.43
Harmony	844.00	990.00
Immanuel	10,434.58	7,875.19
Johnson Island	1,266.00	1,486.00
LaFayette	0.00	0.00
Liberty	15,812.93	17,081.13
Freedom	252.91	319.53
Lakeview Missionary	600.00	1,478.00
Manitou	155.00	0.00
Mortons Gap First	1,707.56	2,492.13
Mannington	240.00	200.00
Nebo	2,790.85	2,804.10
New Hope	64.00	184.00
New Salem	3,373.88	2,853.00
Nortonville	3,151.77	3,046.00
Olive Branch	6,410.04	5,309.73
Park Avenue	5,513.80	5,876.72
Pleasant Grove	1,599.50	1,267.82
Pleasant Valley Missionary	3,017.41	2,612.11
Pleasant View Missionary	1,589.99	919.24
Pond River Missionary	0.00	0.00
Prospect Missionary	389.00	245.70
Providence Second	911.64	1,002.10
Richland	100.00	150.00
Salem	23,548.42	16,977.63
Madisonville Second	14,617.18	22,215.58
Mortons Gap Second	1,700.96	1,489.10
Silent Run Missionary	2,394.38	2,350.12
Slaughters	2,400.00	3,245.50
Slover	692.61	5,121.50
Suthards Missionary	1,325.00	2,084.00
Victory	14,540.00	11,972.00
White Plains Missionary	1,163.06	1,502.04
Zion Brick Missionary	150.00	150.00
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>267,199.19</b>	<b>233,203.65</b>

Association/Church	CP98	CP99
<b>LITTLE RIVER</b>		
Bethany	1,666.00	1,665.00
Caldwell Blue Spring	2,795.24	3,017.20
Buffalo Lick	2,054.43	3,173.52
Cadiz Second	0.00	0.00
Cadiz	19,912.35	21,612.39
Canton	4,811.78	0.00
Cerulean	5,795.58	5,044.00
Delmont	1,314.22	843.60
New Light	0.00	0.00
Donaldson Creek	3,516.86	4,131.39
New Jerusalem	200.00	300.00
East Cadiz	9,644.57	9,480.04
Hurricane	14,737.32	9,753.43
Liberty Point	5,602.08	6,864.03
Locust Grove	4,826.27	4,286.04
Maple Grove	1,650.00	1,500.00
New Hope	7,124.20	7,647.57
Oak Grove	6,330.48	5,153.05
Rock Front	0.00	300.00
Rocky Ridge	810.26	779.90
South Union	1,436.67	1,176.35
Trigg County	611.43	778.00
Wallonia	600.00	4,929.13
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>95,439.74</b>	<b>92,434.64</b>

Association/Church	CP98	CP99
<b>LOGAN</b>		
Antioch	3,795.15	3,241.93
Beechland	4,452.83	1,870.32
Bellview	0.00	0.00
Britmart	1,849.92	1,810.36
Cave Spring	3,233.60	3,346.43
Center	875.00	1,800.00
Concord	2,407.70	4,198.81
Elk Lick	16,292.02	17,006.06
Epley	1,366.88	1,393.39
Green Ridge	44.23	318.32
Guptons Grove	860.93	1,076.40
Liberty	7,331.00	5,927.00
Mount Pleasant	16,357.95	16,534.78
Mount Tabor Missionary	2,415.00	2,295.00
Muddy River	100.00	0.00
New Cedar Grove	1,610.22	1,840.99
New Friendship	2,557.30	3,874.12
New Hope	2,739.00	2,885.07
Oak Forest	250.00	200.00
Oak Grove	14,049.85	16,424.97
Pleasant Hill	328.20	250.67
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>82,916.78</b>	<b>86,294.62</b>

Association/Church	CP98	CP99
<b>LONG RUN</b>		
Arcade	500.00	500.00
Ashby Lane	1,713.05	2,108.47
Auburndale	5,250.00	4,500.00
Audubon	666.68	0.00
Baptist Tabernacle	1,319.22	1,292.22
Bashford Manor	651.23	481.12
South Waterson Trail	3,000.00	3,000.00
Baxter Wanner	250.00	359.37
Beerglass Missionary	0.00	0.00
Beechland	16,226.87	17,269.01
Beechmont	12,066.14	9,962.39
Beechwood	10,250.52	8,512.42
Bethany	8,942.23	7,576.39
Bethel Flock	0.00	0.00
Bethlehem	11,613.22	14,218.00
Broadway	0.00	0.00
Brooks	1,794.21	1,903.33

Association/Church	CP98	CP99
Brookview	847.59	763.95
Buechel Park	1,500.00	925.00
Carlisle Avenue	18,000.00	18,000.00
Cardinal Hill	761.00	770.00
Cedar Creek	12,981.27	9,995.49
Chenoweth Park	450.00	450.00
Chapel Park	3,042.11	2,950.74
Clifton	4,693.98	4,471.06
Clifton Heights	0.00	0.00
Cove	442.51	453.39
Crescent Hill	626.10	671.73
Davis Memorial	519.60	1,552.26
Deer Park	5,335.17	7,184.88
East Audubon	747.42	465.00
Eastern Gate	4,047.28	4,407.58
Eastern Parkway	916.43	596.45
Eastwood First	832.19	771.73
Ebenezer	0.00	0.00
Eighteenth Street	1,247.61	1,023.51
Elk Creek	0.00	566.85
Fairdale First	5,694.45	5,757.09
Fairmont	893.13	848.00
Farmdale	13,586.58	8,351.76
Filipino Baptist Mission	0.00	0.00
Fern Creek	208.00	1,059.44
Jeffersonton	4,022.84	3,235.76
Germantown Baptist Mission	0.00	0.00
Prospect First	300.00	360.00
Taylorville First	10,568.99	9,180.01
Middletown First	1,945.63	2,958.87
Fisherville First	3,661.40	2,694.44
Foster Avenue	2,401.11	2,475.01
Fourth Avenue	540.00	0.00
Franklin Street	480.31	423.60
Garfield Avenue	0.00	0.00
Getsemane	6,204.37	6,182.07
Grace	0.00	0.00
Green Acres	2,808.43	2,395.12
Cloverleaf	12,061.00	13,514.00
Harmony	600.00	500.00
Hazelwood	7,588.00	5,575.00
Highland	1,248.00	1,240.00
Seaton Park	0.00	0.00
Highland Park First	8,121.62	7,314.02
Highview	41,666.69	60,000.00
Hillsdale	5,522.85	5,521.75
Hillview	0.00	100.20
Hopewell	5,162.58	5,299.99
Hurstbourne	31,678.56	27,348.62
Immanuel	643.18	636.70
Hunsinger Lane	5,937.28	6,522.89
Taylorville Second	0.00	0.00
Kenwood	1,200.00	1,200.00
Keys Ferry	300.00	325.00
Kings	30,978.80	27,787.87
First Korean	1,050.00	750.00
Kosmosdale	951.00	792.50
Bicknell Avenue	600.00	0.00
Lake Dreamland	0.00	0.00
Hillcrest	1,325.21	1,611.09
Living Hope	5,152.71	5,199.67
Lees Lane	3,726.33	3,671.55
New Heights	100.00	600.00
Little Flock	3,500.00	4,200.00
Long Run	415.22	278.75
Lyndon	0.00	1,153.96
Louisville Baptist Deaf Church	0.00	566.86
Lynn Acres	600.00	800.00
Memory Lane	0.00	0.00
Manly Memorial	362.80	314.20
Lakewood	10,404.00	13,282.72
Maple Grove	3,251.22	3,370.36
Melbourne Heights	3,693.80	4,913.23
Meadow Hill	6,051.39	6,450.23
Midlane Park	289.08	121.57
Minor Lane	942.54	1,247.38
Morningside	0.00	0.00
Mount Elmira	1,000.00	3,520.36
North Forty Second Street	0.00	0.00
New Hope	0.00	0.00
New Salem	0.00	166.66
Ninth and O	1,000.00	0.00
Mount Nebo	250.00	0.00
Oak Grove	0.00	0.00
Oakdale	150.00	150.00
Okolona	0.00	0.00
Ormsby Heights	9,420.04	8,187.96
Parkland	14,458.69	13,040.71
Green Hills	1,215.60	0.00
Parkwood	7,917.60	5,442.05
People of the Way Community	0.00	141.60
Penile	1,347.38	679.87
Pleasant Grove	6,294.67	6,626.83
Plum Creek	8,455.41	5,181.67
Poplar Level	1,419.71	773.78
Little Mission	0.00	0.00
Portland Avenue	592.32	1,053.64
Ralph Avenue	20,882.22	17,391.86
Ridgeview	963.91	1,054.95
Ridgewood	0.00	0.00
Riverside	1,723.89	1,271.80
New Beginning	0.00	0.00
Rockford Lane	15,841.60	14,351.46
Rutledge Road	0.00	379.67
Shively	55,898.00	45,981.00
First Southern	7,692.34	7,236.04
New Cut Road	2,274.41	2,388.95
South Jefferson	11,761.83	9,756.00
Yorktown	180.00	620.00
Southside	1,822.98	1,543.85
St Matthews	1,381.04	1,506.64
St Matthews Hispanic Bap. Mission	0.00	0.00
Summit Hills	2,819.56	3,634.13
Springdale	2,833.86	8,666.63
Sunnyside	2,175.54	1,448.86
Shalom	0.00	0.00
Third Avenue	1,531.23	41.65
Thixton Lane	1,620.00	1,690.00
Valley View	11,434.82	11,787.62
Valley Station	2,171.40	3,530.00
Van Buren	607.55	539.14
Victory Memorial	1,619.37	1,942.39
Vine Street	0.00	0.00
Walnut Street	53,233.48	14,820.70
West Broadway	10,178.80	11,406.94
West End	0.00	0.00
Westport Road	34,487.06	48,333.08
Woodland	8,114.45	7,842.34
Oakland	0.00	0.00
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>686,443.49</b>	<b>644,962.45</b>

Association/Church	CP98	CP99
<b>MCCREARY COUNTY</b>		
Whitley City First	11,406.07	12,072.41
Bethel	1,301.73	1,715.82
Pine Knot Southern	917.51	661.19
Greenwood Missionary	0.00	0.00
Hill Top Missionary	476.00	524.00
Marshes Siding First	0.00	0.00
Stearns First	5,538.40	3,000.00
Walkers Chapel	945.41	961.98
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>20,585.12</b>	<b>18,935.40</b>

Association/Church	CP98	CP99
<b>MERCER</b>		
Benton	2,375.17	1,939.68
Bethel	10,831.98	11,642.14
Bruners Chapel	28,994.71	30,259.01
Foster Avenue	0.00	500.00
Burgin	14,507.95	14,182.05
Calvary	6,307.19	4,798.87
Cornishville	1,750.00	1,050.00
Deep Creek	3,776.02	2,841.45
Ellers Memorial	804.42	1,305.44
Fellowship	5,580.00	5,770.00
Harrodsburg	14,509.96	14,759.28
Hopewell	8,710.14	6,923.21
Kirkwood	2,844.00	3,002.00
Pioneer	6,467.00	6,274.00
Salvia	4,987.05	3,992.52
Shakertown	960.00	885.00
Shawnee Run	5,228.73	5,668.06
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>118,634.32</b>	<b>115,792.71</b>

Association/Church	CP98	CP99
<b>MONROE</b>		
Akersville	1,206.86	1,248.58
Fountain Run First	2,747.94	3,261.67
Gamaliel	3,265.48	3,684.62
Indian Creek	2,400.00	2,960.00
Mill Creek	1,403.00	1,200.00
Milltown Baptist Chapel	0.00	0.00
Monroe	15.00	90.00
Oak Grove Missionary	0.00	0.00
Peters Creek Missionary	1,326.40	1,219.31
Rock Bridge	0.00	0.00
Temple Hill	4,277.00	2,653.00
Tompkinsville First	7,565.41	6,200.00
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>24,207.09</b>	<b>22,517.18</b>

Association/Church	CP98	CP99
<b>MUHLBERG COUNTY</b>		
Beech Creek	450.00	450.00
Beechmont	4,634.72	6,124.37
Bethlehem	8,139.10	5,807.84
Browder	533.99</	

# Kentucky Baptist Churches' Support for the Cooperative Program

Association/Church	CP98	CP99	Association/Church	CP98	CP99	Association/Church	CP98	CP99	Association/Church	CP98	CP99
Birdsville	422.30	497.41	Eden	739.94	835.36	Trammel Creek	5,115.18	5,275.51	North Rolling Fork	1,193.24	1,219.07
Burna Community	270.00	225.00	Eubank	3,093.24	2,565.44	Wells Chapel	0.00	0.00	Parksville	1,963.64	2,508.62
Caldwell Springs	1,302.52	1,661.55	Ferguson	5,809.52	5,456.59	SUBTOTAL	51,181.80	77,895.67	Perryville	8,570.00	10,100.00
Carrsville	0.00	0.00	Somerset First	114,284.99	132,409.40	SALEM			Pleasant Hill	687.99	808.78
Cave Springs	353.60	398.67	Burnside First	1,311.59	1,383.80	Big Spring	222.92	276.93	Pleasant Run	0.00	0.00
Central	75.00	60.00	Beacon Hill	30,591.58	36,926.66	Blue River Island	200.00	0.00	Salt River	1,976.93	1,371.99
Corinth	250.00	250.00	Community	1,047.17	268.28	Buck Grove	12,602.00	9,341.00	Southern Heights	0.00	0.00
Crooked Creek	866.43	688.49	Fishing Creek	0.00	113.50	Cold Spring	213.35	469.37	Willow Grove	11,437.36	9,566.56
Deer Creek	4,017.61	3,932.46	Flat Lick	1,209.21	1,375.00	Ekron	5,330.58	4,442.15	SUBTOTAL	115,409.92	104,985.98
Dunn Springs	0.00	0.00	Flat Rock	1,055.91	1,083.68	Guston	0.00	0.00	SOUTH UNION-MOUNT ZION		
Dycusburg	1,780.52	1,411.21	Floyd Switch	472.00	586.00	Hill Grove	2,594.81	2,689.60	Antioch	193.62	190.05
Dyer Hill	2,917.00	2,664.00	Glenwood	381.05	180.00	Muldraugh	4,485.40	4,719.00	Alsile	60.00	33.60
Emmanuel	3,859.50	4,108.18	Good Hope	328.62	362.55	New Brandenburg	525.00	385.00	Bacon Creek	2,226.20	2,341.00
Emmaus	0.00	0.00	High Street	18,848.63	24,243.26	New Highland	1,036.00	678.00	Big Cane Creek	0.00	0.00
Fellowship	745.20	769.70	Jasper Bend	369.29	432.10	New Salem	5,745.22	5,342.73	Bethlehem	0.00	273.00
Friendship	15,045.55	19,916.42	Hopeful	135.45	139.28	Payneville	683.35	680.66	Buffalo	0.00	0.00
Good Hope	0.00	0.00	Immanuel	7,372.61	8,642.03	Brandenburg First	14,788.39	14,234.66	Calvary	300.00	300.00
Grand Rivers	600.00	1,000.00	Jacksonville	0.00	0.00	Irvington	700.00	600.00	Cedar Gap	0.00	184.00
Hampton	1,523.00	343.24	King Bee	182.04	167.98	Raymond	3,230.29	3,529.97	Clay Hill	0.00	50.00
Iuka	1,130.00	1,889.00	Liberty	0.00	0.00	Rock Haven Community	3,515.90	4,053.76	Central	59,747.45	68,030.37
Lake City	4,237.01	4,558.90	Lakeside Baptist Mission	338.31	982.02	Salem	1,578.74	1,822.09	Chapel Grove	205.00	250.00
Lola	406.34	364.60	Love Divine	0.00	25.00	West Point	0.00	0.00	Twentieth Street	348.00	360.00
Marion	30,086.23	30,071.59	Malvin Hill	682.15	1,106.51	Wolf Creek	2,331.48	843.43	Cane Gap Missionary	0.00	0.00
Mexico	16,414.13	17,340.74	McKinney	200.00	100.00	SUBTOTAL	59,783.43	54,108.35	Corinth	563.72	550.53
Mint Springs	310.18	203.50	Mount Pisgah	1,335.00	1,010.00	SEVERNS VALLEY	202.02	0.00	Fairview	400.00	0.00
Ohio Valley	2,915.97	4,511.28	Neeleys Creek	980.26	865.96	Athertonville	0.00	20.00	Corn Creek	163.48	169.88
Old Salem	6,833.87	5,616.91	Mount Union	994.00	1,390.00	Barren Run	3,889.52	3,734.06	Faber	1,826.40	1,617.79
Pinckneyville	5,007.42	6,062.09	Mount Victory	253.48	241.12	Blue Ball	600.00	500.00	Faith	1,535.08	1,106.51
Repton	871.11	806.35	Lighthouse Baptist Mission	0.00	0.00	Buffalo	7,745.00	5,933.00	Highcliff	59.04	91.91
Salem	20,506.23	21,971.04	New Enterprise	868.00	904.00	Calvary	0.00	0.00	Flat Creek	0.00	0.00
Marion Second	1,463.47	355.81	Northside	9,750.72	8,484.78	Cardinal Creek	0.00	0.00	Level Green	0.00	0.00
Shady Grove	832.24	817.92	Oak Grove #1	1,172.65	1,390.81	Cecilia	21,791.89	26,673.29	Kentucky Hill	60.00	105.00
Smithland First	1,200.00	1,000.00	Oak Grove #2	509.00	514.00	Coalsburg	0.00	0.00	Frankfort	0.00	100.00
Sugar Creek	1,892.59	2,159.71	Okalona Missionary	3,309.64	4,221.08	East View	0.00	591.00	Jellico Creek	0.00	0.00
Sulphur Springs	792.00	760.00	Piney Grove #2	953.28	1,517.03	Hodgenville First	14,246.12	12,202.75	Immanuel	29,251.84	31,308.17
Tilene First	611.10	708.65	Woodstock	4,367.00	4,606.00	Franklin Crossroads	13,585.94	13,383.15	Goldbug	528.00	100.00
Union	6,106.16	6,297.21	Pleasant Hill	27,592.93	28,061.61	Gilead	6,716.37	6,656.02	Good Hope	1,407.00	1,359.00
Smithland Second	1,363.46	1,336.63	Pleasant Run	2,493.00	2,656.00	Heavenbound	151.38	139.68	Greenland	5,125.76	4,876.37
SUBTOTAL	139,451.87	147,118.40	Pulaski	1,078.90	1,237.07	Immanuel	22,071.14	17,323.40	Highland Park	0.00	0.00
OHIO VALLEY			Quinton	1,124.93	1,571.83	Korean First	3,415.12	1,990.79	Mountain Ash	732.00	783.37
Bethany	1,208.49	1,364.00	Rock Lick	2,807.40	3,081.40	Locust Grove	1,992.49	2,094.07	Hopewell	10,800.00	10,850.00
Blackford	85.00	102.00	Sinking Valley	1,689.00	1,705.00	Koinonia	0.00	0.00	Indian Gap	0.00	0.00
DeKoven	385.99	780.83	Slate Branch	2,333.08	2,384.68	Magnolia	4,354.64	10,292.85	North End	0.00	0.00
Clay First	9,483.22	14,091.58	Sloans Valley	0.00	0.00	Middle Creek	2,630.05	3,612.89	Oswego	200.00	200.00
Sturgis First	21,152.65	22,400.55	Sunnyside	1,509.92	243.00	Mill Creek	5,855.00	4,000.00	Patterson Creek	24,601.95	23,609.55
Grangertown First	7,389.94	6,018.82	SUBTOTAL	302,102.50	342,054.17	Mount Zion	2,860.94	3,411.84	Main Street	0.00	0.00
Grove Center	0.00	0.00	RED RIVER			New Hope	1,625.00	1,200.00	Meadow Creek	0.00	0.00
Mount Olive	346.75	0.00	Beattyville	1,933.19	1,691.32	Nolynn	1,328.00	1,117.40	Piney Grove	0.00	0.00
New Harmony	2,863.00	2,107.20	Campton	2,592.00	2,678.00	Northside	0.00	0.00	Mossy Gap	0.00	0.00
New Hopewell	772.47	697.21	Little Cane Creek	156.73	206.23	New Hope Missionary	3,353.24	1,855.12	Meadow Grove	0.00	0.00
Northside	554.19	956.55	Faith	2,670.73	3,099.56	Ovesen Heights	2,216.79	2,364.33	Pleasant Hill	850.76	743.43
Old Bethel	360.00	600.00	Jackson First	2,051.14	2,327.77	Harvest	487.35	555.00	Pleasant View	0.00	0.00
Pride	1,546.00	1,385.00	Grace	977.72	1,116.19	New Life	700.00	2,100.00	Mount Pisgah	0.00	0.00
Sullivan	3,635.66	3,345.00	Frenchburg	3,167.02	3,311.94	Pleasant Grove	1,567.33	275.00	New Mt Zion	0.00	0.00
Uniontown	1,940.02	1,940.02	Stanton	5,459.41	4,695.55	Parkway	2,048.36	2,200.00	Red Bird	436.98	337.42
Calvary	60.00	277.00	West Liberty First	2,487.43	3,210.00	Red Hill	1,800.78	1,928.92	Northside	235.57	244.56
Countryside	2,750.72	2,661.34	SUBTOTAL	21,495.37	22,331.56	East Rhudes Creek	0.00	772.10	Oak Grove	150.00	125.00
Whispering Meadows	0.00	0.00	ROCKCASTLE			Reverns Valley	14,354.37	17,996.61	Park Hill	985.64	1,149.61
Woodland	1,105.38	1,253.92	Brindle Ridge	0.00	0.00	Severns Valley	165,153.94	165,599.40	Ryans Creek	0.00	0.00
SUBTOTAL	54,955.46	59,981.02	Brodhead	7,915.53	5,942.41	Berea	3,370.64	3,331.24	Pleasant First	927.90	1,028.37
OWEN COUNTY			Clear Creek	0.00	0.00	Unity	1,493.12	473.70	Rockholds Grove	0.00	150.00
Beech Grove	836.64	752.92	Conway	589.02	604.89	Sonora First	14,266.75	6,996.64	Tannery Hollow	360.00	360.00
Caney Fork	692.93	942.26	Copper Creek So. Missionary	11.66	41.88	Stithon	23,903.56	28,777.54	Southside	0.00	0.00
Cedar Hill	5,682.13	5,533.11	Fairview	0.00	0.00	Central Avenue	2,252.83	2,110.98	Tidal Wave	0.00	0.00
Concord	1,012.00	1,000.00	Mount Vernon First	20,736.15	21,953.02	Tunnel Hill	12,343.39	11,380.90	Saxton	0.00	0.00
Dallasburg	627.49	786.03	Flat Rock	150.00	231.50	Valley Creek	21,487.94	24,845.11	Watson Chapel	0.00	0.00
Elk Lick	978.18	1,272.89	Freedom	2,298.00	2,727.00	Valley View	7,862.99	6,387.38	West Corbin	8,038.00	6,170.00
Owenton First	34,641.66	23,936.02	Livingston	407.41	382.38	Vereets	281.02	313.94	Wolf Creek	225.88	391.00
Gratz	925.09	1,195.16	Macedonia	0.00	0.00	Vine Grove	625.00	300.00	White Oak	0.00	175.00
Greenup Fork	2,013.00	2,176.00	Mareburg	1,271.00	1,380.00	White Mills	1,650.00	1,650.00	Wofford Missionary	413.92	480.04
Harmony	2,358.60	3,349.48	Mount Pleasant	2,155.00	2,398.00	Youngers Creek	12,398.07	10,868.08	Woodbine	195.00	100.00
Long Ridge	5,177.00	7,370.00	Mount Zion	202.18	193.57	SUBTOTAL	410,137.05	409,668.84	SUBTOTAL	153,154.19	160,294.53
Lusbys Mill	2,824.14	3,000.51	Northside	2,848.00	3,048.82	SHELBY			Antioch	15.63	200.00
Monterey	2,408.48	2,296.34	Ottawa	3,152.00	2,826.00	Bagdad	0.00	0.00	Ballardsville	2,677.42	2,845.66
Mount Pleasant	2,611.99	2,517.48	Pine Hill Missionary	567.45	763.71	Beechridge	2,257.06	1,494.45	Bedford	8,006.00	6,665.00
Mussel Shoals	144.00	0.00	Pleasant Run	367.00	381.00	Bethlehem	1,005.88	1,071.48	Beulah Land	136.90	136.25
New Columbus	6,185.91	6,836.61	Poplar Grove	719.85	1,545.79	Buffalo Lick	1,727.40	2,683.71	Buckner	5,540.58	5,721.87
New Liberty	4,436.96	6,249.06	Roundstone	0.00	0.00	Burks Branch	285.33	1,130.89	Centerfield	1,030.97	1,766.20
Old Cedar	1,097.38	902.98	Sand Hill	203.16	150.00	Christiansburg	3,385.38	3,684.52	Corn Creek	444.28	354.99
Mount Zion	0.00	0.00	Scaffold Cane	1,225.18	968.34	Clayville	4,960.98	897.30	Covington	763.29	702.85
Pleasant Ridge	4,480.00	5,736.90	Valley Missionary	467.17	391.36	Cropper	2,934.48	3,327.91	Crestwood	36,879.05	44,457.70
Richland	2,760.00	2,300.00	SUBTOTAL	45,285.76	45,925.67	Dover	3,507.00	3,259.37	DeHaven Memorial	31,181.06	35,514.59
Salem	0.00	0.00	RUSSELL COUNTY			Elmburg	262.50	262.50	Eighteen Mile	300.00	300.00
South Fork	2,325.00	2,832.07	Clear Springs	300.00	300.00	Finchville	2,660.00	1,330.00	Harrods Creek	1,317.15	250.00
Squiresville	2,585.00	1,969.00	Clearfork	300.00	600.00	Shelbyville First	87,963.67	59,450.04	LaGrange Heights	0.00	0.00
SUBTOTAL	86,803.58	82,954.82	Dunnville First	463.75	343.73	Graefenburg	14,776.04	16,694.04	Liberty	452.27	

# Kentucky Baptist Churches' Support for the Cooperative Program

**MID-YEAR  
REPORT ON  
COOPERATIVE  
PROGRAM  
GIVING**

Association/Church	CP98	CP99
Stoney Run	379.14	593.80
Owsley Fork	639.50	897.36
Tates Creek	1,741.70	1,885.34
Union City	6,242.36	6,089.47
Valley View	25.00	40.00
Viney Fork	1,533.40	1,435.86
Waco	11,543.16	11,934.27
Wallacetown	838.28	1,150.29
Westside	2,074.53	745.91
White Hall	1,809.14	2,515.71
White Lick	3,490.53	4,016.21
SUBTOTAL	176,202.31	180,841.05

TAYLOR COUNTY		
Association/Church	CP98	CP99
Campbellsville	46,712.12	56,793.49
Acton	368.43	590.20
Eastside	250.00	250.00
Elk Horn	0.00	100.00
Fairview	628.79	398.25
Friendship	5,147.43	4,474.64
Good Hope	11,749.14	10,786.61
Green River Memorial	8,361.00	6,618.00
Liberty	2,503.40	2,650.80
Meadowview	4,189.56	3,827.40
Mount Gilboa	3,116.95	3,687.60
Palestine	7,782.75	6,510.74
Pitman Valley	100.00	120.00
Pleasant Hill	23,254.17	20,121.32
Robinson Creek	810.71	995.44
Raikes Hill Baptist Mission	430.00	300.00
South Campbellsville	8,107.97	7,101.84
Salem	5,614.14	6,517.87
Saloma	3,457.27	4,307.30
Lowell Avenue	10,103.90	10,623.60
Yuma	1,458.86	1,345.25
SUBTOTAL	144,146.59	148,120.35

TEN MILE		
Association/Church	CP98	CP99
Clarks Creek	0.00	0.00
Concord	0.00	0.00
Elliston	808.79	505.74
Glencoe	4,530.86	5,387.50
Macedonia	6,540.67	5,271.67
Mount Zion	2,462.43	2,000.08
New Bethel	10,276.02	11,033.11
Oakland	502.27	1,147.00
Paint Lick	7,149.35	6,309.02
Pleasant Home	10,318.26	11,181.36
Poplar Grove	2,446.00	1,914.00
Ten Mile	4,981.00	4,315.00
Vine Run	10,172.16	7,412.63
Warsaw First	3,252.48	2,186.90
Sparta	1,356.08	1,395.68
SUBTOTAL	64,796.37	60,059.69

THREE FORKS		
Association/Church	CP98	CP99
Airport Gardens	1,050.00	1,050.00
Berean	0.00	0.00
Big Creek	4,414.61	4,469.37
Blackey	359.00	356.00
Caney	544.47	600.93
Colson Mission	0.00	0.00
Confluence	0.00	0.00
Dwarf	120.00	100.00
Emmanuel	4,061.23	5,799.78
Eolia Mission	0.00	0.00
Combs First	0.00	600.00
Craft Colly	791.03	1,215.43
Hazard First	7,570.88	10,163.35
Hindman First	12,155.62	9,008.33
Wooton First	772.00	1,015.00
First Creek	1,369.56	915.00
Deane	2,105.00	1,704.37
Hardburly	0.00	0.00
Hyden	1,183.07	1,004.22
Jeremiah	0.00	900.00
Linefork Mission	0.00	0.00
Lone Pine	250.00	300.40
Lothair	1,706.12	1,445.83
Fleming	1,518.31	1,598.95
McIntosh	0.00	0.00
Haymond	0.00	0.00
Montgomery	1,975.37	2,035.32
Moussier	136.00	360.00
Muncy Creek	140.00	120.00
Premium	1,500.00	1,500.00
Petrey Memorial	5,460.30	4,287.89
Jeff Missionary	838.00	1,409.94
Rockhouse	933.99	568.80
Caney Baptist Mission	0.00	0.00
Mount Olivet	1,225.00	1,433.38
Upper Second Creek	917.00	883.00
North Fork	3,935.54	3,386.06
Short Creek Mission	1,858.00	2,550.00
Big Leatherwood First	10,118.71	12,077.42
Smithsboro	0.00	0.00
Tippo	0.00	0.00
Vioco	0.00	0.00
Whitesburg First	15,044.47	15,476.48
Willow Fern	0.00	0.00
Yerkes	0.00	0.00
SUBTOTAL	84,053.28	88,335.34

UNION		
Association/Church	CP98	CP99
Beaver	2,448.83	2,909.04
Berlin	672.49	877.44
Blanket Creek	2,592.45	2,923.35
Butler	2,039.48	2,556.29
Cynthiana	27,140.88	29,141.86
Fairview	0.00	0.00
Falmouth	7,218.69	4,735.57
Forest Hill	0.00	50.00
Lenoxburg	0.00	0.00
New Zion	120.00	120.00
Oakwood	150.00	750.00
Powersville	1,020.00	1,020.00
Richland	0.00	0.00
Union	1,050.00	700.00
Willow	1,892.03	1,889.76
SUBTOTAL	46,344.85	47,673.31

UPPER CUMBERLAND		
Association/Church	CP98	CP99
Ages	0.00	221.00
Black Mountain	282.72	266.00
Brittians Creek	0.00	0.00
Calvary	1,200.00	1,200.00
Central	5,374.00	2,995.00
Chevrolet	345.50	143.21
Clospitt Missionary	200.00	0.00
Cloverfork	365.87	300.00
Coxton	0.00	0.00
Dione	1,777.00	1,823.00
Elcomb	1,779.61	1,554.07
Evarts	4,120.29	4,134.41
Cumberland	4,137.41	4,987.32
Baxter First	980.80	1,268.15

Association/Church	CP98	CP99
Loyal First	7,039.01	8,400.49
Verda First	0.00	0.00
Friendship Missionary	613.07	179.56
Harlan	25,034.00	26,634.77
Huff Settlement	131.05	102.55
Jones Creek	52.00	49.00
Kelly Street	1,656.67	1,172.27
Lenarue	75.00	0.00
Liggett	356.14	300.00
Locust Grove	250.00	396.03
Lynch	300.00	300.00
New Riverside	0.00	0.00
North Everts	0.00	175.00
Pansy	565.00	611.00
Pine Flat	0.00	200.00
Putney	287.10	79.18
Red Bud	0.00	0.00
River Ridge	0.00	0.00
Riverside	243.81	246.16
Sunshine	1,078.13	471.30
Teetersville	1,595.65	626.08
Totz	1,113.57	2,001.38
Turner Missionary	0.00	0.00
Wallins	2,131.51	521.72
West Cumberland	255.00	0.00
Willow Grove	0.00	0.00
Yocum Creek	310.36	369.49
SUBTOTAL	63,660.27	61,878.22

WARREN		
Association/Church	CP98	CP99
Andrew	250.00	250.00
Barren River	175.00	150.00
Bethany	4,065.73	3,656.16
Bethel	0.00	0.00
Burton Memorial	3,512.13	3,859.82
Calvary	0.00	0.00
Cedar Bluff	79.58	0.00
Brownsville Missionary	3,000.00	2,500.00
Clear Fork	4,728.31	4,538.03
Dedicated	252.00	252.00
Eastwood	25,980.03	36,585.45
Emmanuel Chapel	0.00	0.00
Bowling Green First	11,952.00	14,900.00
Forest Park	9,633.07	10,791.72
Friendship	1,026.01	921.29
Glen Lily	889.53	827.76
Glendale	625.00	800.00
Greenwood	9,554.01	15,557.62
Halls Chapel	0.00	0.00
Highland	4,076.94	5,102.20
Hillvue Heights	6,083.32	7,083.34
Iva	0.00	0.00
Jackson Grove	338.77	778.53
Hillview	0.00	0.00
Lawrence Chapel	0.00	0.00
Living Hope	106,027.46	121,591.98
New Gasper	0.00	0.00
Martinsville	0.00	0.00
Meadow Land	2,688.77	3,065.87
Oak Forest	1,010.54	2,425.80
Oak Forest Baptist Chapel	0.00	0.00
Mission Hispana at Glen Lily	0.00	0.00
Oakland	6,930.44	7,161.62
Plano	1,917.00	1,617.06
Riverview Missionary	0.00	0.00
Pleasant Grove	158.00	546.38
Plum Springs	0.00	0.00
Providence Knob	7,308.30	6,000.97
Rich Pond	20,810.80	21,580.71
Richardsville	820.77	1,013.29
Rocky Springs	783.49	746.41
Smiths Grove	8,176.98	7,987.31
Southside	937.06	837.10
White Stone Quarry	539.00	600.00
Woodburn	5,861.38	5,118.85
SUBTOTAL	246,902.79	284,530.27

WAYNE COUNTY		
Association/Church	CP98	CP99
Big Sinking	324.10	0.00
Cedar Hill	0.00	0.00
Concord	300.00	250.00
Cooper	600.00	720.00
Elk Spring Valley	9,331.47	5,988.67
Gap Creek	733.28	909.00
Green Hill	0.00	0.00
Immanuel	150.00	150.00
Lower Turkey Creek	0.00	0.00
Meadow Creek	0.00	0.00
Missouri Hollow	0.00	0.00
Monticello First	9,550.00	11,200.00
Mount Zion	3,240.00	2,650.00
New Charity	225.00	187.50
New Salem	1,444.00	1,155.00
Newtown	515.76	332.70
Oak Grove	537.29	571.86
Parmleys Grove	0.00	0.00
Rectors Flat	2,178.98	1,986.25
Sandusky Chapel	0.00	240.00
Spahn Main Missionary	0.00	0.00
Spahn Hill	150.07	181.62
Stebenville	2,938.11	3,387.39
Rogers Grove	392.50	455.85
Zion	0.00	0.00
SUBTOTAL	32,610.56	30,365.84

WEST KENTUCKY		
Association/Church	CP98	CP99
Antioch	538.11	571.50
Bardwell	11,775.58	11,708.88
Cayce	1,500.00	1,500.00
Burke	1,980.96	356.55
Bethlehem	8,491.42	9,743.78
Beulah	10,161.00	8,645.94
Crutchfield	1,724.61	1,370.03
Columbus	2,359.06	3,117.81
Davids Chapel	300.76	325.37
East Hickman	300.00	295.00
Arlington First	3,498.00	3,640.10
Clinton First	11,602.22	11,892.26
Hopewell	34.65	28.80
Fulton First	29,304.97	27,046.92
Kirbyton	1,047.43	1,214.83
Hickman First	1,572.00	1,536.00
Green Valley Missionary	0.00	0.00
Milburn	2,730.11	1,825.24
Mississippi	10,515.45	9,736.95
Liberty	1,350.00	1,350.00
Moscow	5,158.35	6,341.17
Mount Moriah	0.00	0.00
New Bethel	1,009.46	654.11
New Harmony	0.00	0.00
New Hope	0.00	200.00
Mount Carmel	900.00	750.00
Oak Grove	806.14	783.99
Oakton	500.00	500.00
Obion	0.00	300.00
Poplar Grove	0.00	500.00

Association/Church	CP98	CP99
Riceville	50.00	0.00
Clinton Second	639.00	862.00
Shiloh	600.00	600.00
Springhill	1,095.11	981.17
Sassafraz Ridge	726.66	921.16
West Hickman	7,771.33	6,992.05
SUBTOTAL	120,042.38	116,321.61

WEST UNION		
Association/Church	CP98	CP99
Antioch	7,938.87	7,892.25
Bandana	5,573.00	3,370.56
Bellview	11,562.68	11,798.11
Highview	0.00	0.00
Bethel	378.32	326.35
Bethlehem	482.14	513.78
Blandville	1,266.69	1,242.96
Cane Creek	363.00	250.00
East	3,208.31	4,062.49
Eureka	249.14	0.00
Faith	6,722.89	4,494.69
Barlow First	9,561.42	12,392.19
Paducah First	211,305.49	198,892.55
Gracey	1,693.16	1,812.92
Harmon	8,188.13	6,521.98
Immanuel	16,902.90	11,965.50
Kevel	6,999.39	6,858.51
LaCenter First	9,999.96	10,619.53
Lone Oak First	57,166.62	48,517.99
Lovelaceville	314.09	890.74
First Liberty	150.00	125.00
Mount Moriah	0.00	0.00
Mount Pleasant	536.00	1,221.00
Mount Zion	11,141.57	12,031.55
New Hope	100.00	161.71
Newton Creek	7,520.47	9,182.98
Oak Grove	1,005.71	442.39
Oaklawn	17,510.42	14,470.37
Ohio Valley	0.00	0.00
Olivet	24,074.49	27,735.30
Oscar	2,885.17	2,409.72
Park Avenue	171.09	157.16
Providence	2,029.35	1,571.00
Reidland	13,092.97	18,311.76
Rosebrow	17,176.46	17,617.54
Schneidman Road	100.00	100.00
Southside	0.00	0.00
Spring Bayou	4,326.50	6,351.09
Strathmoor	257.13	246.14
Temple	711.61	738.94
Calvary	237.00	250.00
Trinity	7,845.19	8,544.90
Twelfth Street	17,050.76	18,001.93
Washington Street	500.00	600.00
West End	6,664.83	3,461.04
West Paduca		

## Evangelicals who signed Catholic accord urged to 'repent'

SOUTHLAKE, Texas (RNS)—Opponents of the controversial document "Evangelicals and Catholics Together" have called on the evangelical Protestants who signed the document five years ago to repent of their association with it.

The signers of the ECT document were asked "to publicly renounce the ECT accords and ask the church at large for forgiveness for their past participation in these accords," said Tom McMahon, chairman of a conference that ended March 27 near Dallas.

The "Public Call to Repentance" came at the conclusion of "ECT (Plus) 5: A Biblical Response," an annual conference of the ExCatholics for Christ. About 600 people, some representing evangelical ministries that focus on evangelizing Roman Catholics, attended.

The meeting marked the fifth anniversary of the ECT, which was signed by such prominent evangelical leaders as Campus Crusade for Christ founder Bill Bright and Prison Fellowship founder Charles Colson.

The unofficial document, which intended to foster greater cooperation between Protestant evangelicals and Roman Catholics, called on members of the two segments of Christianity to recognize each other as Christians and work together on common issues, such as abortion and pornography.

But it also caused a great deal of friction among evangelicals because some believed the declaration undermined their basic Protestant beliefs.

"The ECT documents are deceitful at best, destructively heretical at worst," said McMahon, summarizing concerns about both the ECT document and a subsequent 1997 document called "The Gift of Salvation," also signed by prominent Catholics and evangelical Protestants.

"The ECT documents have led multitudes of Christians to believe that there is agreement between the Church of Rome, with its false gospel, and the gospel in which evangelicals have put their trust."

During the conference, a representative of SBC President Paige Patterson disavowed the ECT documents,

adding that Patterson hopes "to clarify our convention's position on ECT."

David Nelson, an adjunct professor and doctoral student at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest, N.C., said "most members of our convention are quite unhappy" with ECT.

Two prominent Southern Baptist leaders, Richard Land and Larry Lewis, originally signed the ECT document, but eventually removed their names under pressure.

McMahon included Land and Lewis in the call for repentance, saying they "have not denied the (ECT) doctrine... publicly."

Land declined an opportunity to participate in a "point-counterpoint discussion" March 25 prior to the conference.

In a March 9 letter, Land recounted that he and Lewis removed their names from ECT "because it proved to be virtually impossible to separate ourselves as individuals from the impression that our respective agencies were endorsing the document."

"For me to come to a public forum

and defend the document would rekindle that confusion," Land continued.

Lewis, in a telephone interview, said he stands behind the statement he and Land issued when they formally removed their names from the ECT document, "and as far as I'm concerned, that's final."

The ECT was "a good effort" to attempt a "united voice against the moral, social ills of our day," Lewis said, and for that effort he said he does not feel the need to repent.

James McCarthy, a co-founder of ExCatholics for Christ and director of the California-based Good News for Catholics, said conference organizers sent letters to the evangelical Protestant signers of ECT offering them an opportunity to remove their names before the conference began.

Three signers responded, declining to have their names removed, and "basically stating that we were misunderstanding their intentions," McCarthy said.

With additional reporting by Baptist Press

**A representative of SBC President Paige Patterson disavowed the ECT documents, adding that Patterson hopes "to clarify our convention's position on ECT."**

## School linked to Baptist church loses lawsuit

ROCKVILLE, Md. (RNS)—A Christian school affiliated with the largest Southern Baptist church in Maryland has lost a lawsuit alleging religious bias.

A Montgomery County, Md., jury awarded \$169,000 to three former employees of Montrose Christian School in Rockville. The employees claimed they were fired based on their religion.

The jury found that the school and its principal, Greg Scheck, violated religious protections in the county's anti-discrimination law, the Washington Post reported.

School attorney Craig Parshall said Scheck and the school will appeal the case by challenging the constitutionality of the law if the verdict is not thrown out by Montgomery Circuit Court Judge DeLawrence Beard.

Lawyers involved in the case believe it is the first to challenge the lim-

its of the county's human rights law. The law bans discrimination based on religion, race, national origin, age, sexual orientation or other personal factors.

The school said the three employees were fired for reasons other than their religion and that church membership was not necessary for non-teaching positions.

Mary Lou Jones, who is Catholic, was fired as a school secretary in June 1996 after working there 18 years. Her daughter, Sharon Walsh, also a Catholic, was fired the same day from a secretarial post she held 14 years. Helen Poole, a Methodist, was fired after working in the cafeteria six years.

Their lawsuit claimed they were dismissed by a new pastor and principal because they were not Baptists and were not members of Montrose Baptist Church. The school is affiliated with the church.

None of the 18 school employees who was fired in the last days of the 1995-96 school year belonged to the church, said Arthur Spitzer, a lawyer for the American Civil Liberties Union, which filed the lawsuit on behalf of the three former employees. With the exception of two janitors, all of those who maintained their jobs were members.

"It's not true that all good employees of Montrose Christian School are members of Montrose Baptist Church," said Spitzer.

Parshall argued that the three women were fired due to "loyalty problems" or because they were "difficult to deal with" rather than religious reasons.

"This case is really about hurt feelings," he argued. The school will argue that it should be immune from paying damages because it is a charitable institution, Parshall said.

## Television documentary focuses on Bible interpretation

NEW YORK (RNS)—The long-standing and controversial intersection of the Bible and culture was the topic of an hour-long television documentary aired recently.

"The Bible in the 21st Century" looked at how the Bible has been interpreted throughout the years, from the illustrated manuscripts dating from medieval times to the recent Dreamworks production of "The Prince of Egypt."

The program, aired on the Odyssey Channel, also reflected the ongoing debates over gender-inclusive language and biblical interpretations of women's roles.

"It's a program that does a very good job of getting its arms around a huge topic," said John Wackman, supervising producer at Odyssey. "Some of the debates are as old as the Bible itself, and some of them are as new as the Internet."

Those interviewed for the program ranged from Southern Baptist

Convention President Paige Patterson to Phil Vischer, creator of "VeggieTales," an animated children's video series with biblically based messages.

Patterson and Rabbi Burton Visotsky, a professor of Talmudic studies at New York's Jewish Theological Seminary, gave differing views about the need for inclusive language.

Patterson noted that while many have argued for more inclusive Bibles, there has not been a similar effort to make Shakespeare's writings more inclusive.

"It doesn't bother them that Shakespeare says it," Patterson said. "When God says it, it seems to bother them a great deal, and so it's dishonest to begin with. It's a failure of integrity to say that the book says this when it didn't say that."

But Visotsky said gender-neutral language is necessary for the current times.

"If you want a Bible translation

that's useful for the 20th and 21st century, if you want a Bible translation that speaks to modern liturgy and the fact that people now care about what the Bible says, then I think a gender-neutral translation is called for," he said.

Peter Leahey, a producer/director of "The Bible in the 21st Century," said the debates over the Bible's words will continue as its images evolve in an Internet age.

"It seems likely that as that develops, there will be some questions and there will be people taking positions on that," he said. "Some people will be saying, 'This is appropriate and it makes perfect sense' ... and some people will say, 'No, it's sacrilegious ... I believe in the word and only the word. Don't show me pictures.'"

Wackman said the airing of "The Bible in the 21st Century" demonstrates Odyssey's "ongoing commitment" to include spiritual documentaries in its programming.

## Judge: IRS can lift church's tax exempt status for political ads

WASHINGTON (RNS)—A federal judge in Washington has approved an IRS decision to lift the tax-exempt status of an evangelical church that bought newspaper ads in 1992 saying a vote for Bill Clinton was "a sin."

U.S. District Court Judge Paul Friedman noted in his decision March 30 that this marked the first time a legitimate church had been denied a tax exemption. The ruling means church members cannot legally deduct donations to the church from their taxable income.

The chief attorney for the American Center for Law and Justice, which argued the case in court on behalf of the Church at Pierce Creek, in Vestal, N.Y., said it would appeal the decision.

"Obviously we're disappointed, but this is not over yet," attorney Jay Sekulow said. The American Center for Law and Justice was founded by religious broadcaster Pat Robertson.

In his ruling, Friedman drew a distinction between oral statements made by a political candidate or minister in a house of worship, and written statements intended for those outside the institution, such as the newspaper ads paid for by the Church at Piece Creek.

Sekulow called the distinction "artificial" and a basis for his appeal of the decision.

In October 1992, the Church at Pierce Creek ran full-page advertisements in USA Today and the Washington Times urging Christians not to vote for then-presidential candidate Clinton.

The ads claimed Clinton had promoted "policies that are in rebellion to God's laws," specifically "abortion on demand," "the homosexual lifestyle" and "giving condoms to teenagers in public schools."

The Church at Pierce Creek was once a 300-member independent congregation and the home church of militant anti-abortionist Randall Terry. The congregation now goes by the name Landmark Church and has moved to Binghamton, N.Y.

The Internal Revenue Service began investigating the church after Americans United for Separation of Church and State, a Washington-based constitutional watchdog group, brought the ads to its attention. In 1995, the IRS revoked the church's tax-exempt status, leading to the court case.

Barry Lynn, Americans United's executive director, said Friedman's decision "sends a strong message that churches must obey the prohibition on partisan politicking if they expect to remain tax exempt."

## Prayer, aid & resolve among evangelicals' concerns

WASHINGTON (BP)—At the outset of U.S.-NATO air strikes against Yugoslavia, the need for humanitarian aid, prayers and resolve to stop the "ethnic cleansing" of Kosovo's Albanians are among the concerns being voiced by evangelical leaders.

Franklin Graham, who heads the Samaritan's Purse evangelical relief ministry, said the "horror" in that region "is just unbelievable."

"And it's going to get worse, I am afraid," he said on the "Larry King Live" television talk show. "Something does need to be done to stop this, and the people (Kosovars) that are fleeing."

The cold weather there is compounding the misery, he added. "They're having to go through the mountains and through the snow and with babies and children, ... the suffering is unbelievable."

Relief organizations need blankets, food and medicines, he added. "There's such a multitude of people coming, it's overwhelming."

Asked by King for his opinion of the military action against Kosovo, Graham directed his answer toward prayer.

"We need to pray for our president, for those that are in leadership over us, and we need to pray for those men and women that are serving in our armed forces. We need to pray for protection for them, and we need to pray for safety and that they'll come back to their husbands and wives, mothers and fathers."

An official with Samaritan's Purse said March 24 the organization is seeking to

assist the Kosovo relief efforts of the Bread of Life ministry based in Belgrade, Serbia, operating in behalf of evangelicals who number no more than 2,000 in a city of 2 million people.

Bread of Life also is assisted by the Southern Baptist Convention's World Hunger Fund.

Jasmina Tosic, a co-director of Bread of Life, is a member of First Baptist Church of Belgrade. She recounted at a Southern Baptist world hunger conference last fall that Belgrade's evangelicals previously limited their vision of Christian outreach to their neighbors.

After ethnic strife erupted in 1991 and refugees began flowing into the city, however, evangelicals realized "we have to do something about ... people who came to us without any hope or any strength to continue," Tosic said.

Bread of Life's refugee ministry involves volunteers from 11 Belgrade churches primarily serving refugee families in Serbia from ethnic strife in the Balkans.

Bread of Life efforts include visitation teams to visit refugee families receiving food assistance, handyman teams to tackle needed repairs in their living quarters, small

business and agricultural pilot programs to help refugees begin working again, a secondhand shop and a kindergarten.

Meanwhile, Richard Land, president of the Southern Baptist Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission, called Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic "a war criminal, by any recognized international standards."

"Armed conflict is sometimes

the price you pay for living in at least the semblance of a moral universe," Land added. "We cannot stop atrocities against our fellow human beings everywhere in the world, but we can do so in Kosovo, and the ability to do so brings with it the moral responsibility to stop the crimes against humanity that are the routine practice of the war criminal Milosevic and his henchmen security forces."

But involvement in that region will cost much time, money and personnel with no clear exit strategy, according to Gary Bauer, a conservative Republican candidate for president and graduate of Georgetown College.

"The General Accounting Office says estimates of a 28,000 soldier peace-keeping force after a successful bombing campaign is too low, and that the ultimate figure would be close to 63,000 troops," Bauer said in a written statement.

"Vietnam taught us that U.S. political leadership must be united before Americans are put into harm's way," stated Bauer, who is on leave as president of the Family Research Council in Washington.

"The six years of military neglect under Clinton-Gore has 'hollowed

out' part of our military forces, hurt morale, lengthened deployments and placed incredible strains on military families," Bauer continued. "Clinton-Gore are anxious to get into Kosovo but have failed to develop a plan that would allow us to get out without the ethnic fighting beginning again."

David Barrett, a missionary researcher for the Church of England with the Global Evangelization Movement in Richmond, Va., described the conflict in Kosovo as "obviously religious, because we're dealing with two implacable foes going back hundreds of years. One is Islam and one is Orthodox Christianity."

"One would have to go back a thousand years to understand that in that part of the world, the Balkans, they never resolved the question of tolerance or acceptance of each other," Barrett said.

The fighting in Yugoslavia is "a continuation of the appalling relations between Muslims and Christians under the Ottoman Empire, stimulated or provoked by the Ottoman Empire itself," he added.

But most of the blame for the current strife can be placed on the region's "Christian" majority, he said.

"It's not a question of Muslims persecuting Christians, as it was under the Ottoman Empire," Barrett said. "Now it's the other way around, because the Christians cannot accept the Muslims for what they are and leave them alone."

Serbs who are massacring Muslims "may be church members, or they may say they are church members, but they're not what we would call committed Christians," Barrett added, noting that leaders like Patriarch Pavle (Paul) of the Serbian Orthodox Church "are trying all the normal, legitimate Christian approaches (to try to bring peace). But the people will not listen."

**RELIEF WORK** Ethnic Albanian refugees from the Serbian province of Kosovo get bread after arriving in the northern border town of Kukes. Serbs have expelled thousands of ethnic Albanians from their ancestral homes in Kosovo in retaliation after NATO strikes against Serbian military targets. Baptist missionaries and agencies are among the many groups working to aid refugees. (RNS/Reuters photo)



### Baptists respond to Kosovo

Prayer, ministry & observations

## Three Baptist ethicists vary on reactions to NATO air raids

By Bob Allen  
Associated Baptist Press

NASHVILLE (ABP)—Three Baptist ethicists differ in early reactions to United States involvement in NATO military strikes against Serbian targets in Yugoslavia.

The March 24 air attacks came after Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic repeatedly defied demands to end an offensive directed against ethnic Albanians in Kosovo, a province of Serbia.

In a televised address to the nation, President Clinton said the NATO strikes were aimed at protecting thousands of people in Kosovo from a mounting military offensive and preventing the conflict from spreading.

Clinton said the United States had done everything possible to solve the problem peacefully. "If President Milosevic will not make peace, we will limit his ability to make war," Clinton said.

The Baptist ethicists, two based in Nashville and one in Jackson, Tenn., had varying perspectives as to whether

the strikes were warranted.

Richard Land, president of the Southern Baptist Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission, said the strikes came "too late" for him, adding he has been calling for military action against Milosevic "for several years."

"Several thousand people would have been saved," if action had been taken earlier, Land said March 25 on the ERLC radio program "For Faith and Family."

"This is a war-criminal regime," Land said.

"I just hope we have the spine and the nerve to act decisively," Land said. "The worst thing that could happen would be to apply American power indecisively. That is what we did in Southeast Asia and Vietnam."

Land said the strikes meet the eight criteria for "just war" that have been used by Christians for centuries to decide whether a military action is moral.

David Gushee, however, said he supports the air strikes but that they do not meet a strict interpretation of the just war theory. The theory often

is used to explain Christian participation in fighting or other war-time acts.

"Christian just war theory has generally assumed a context of national self-defense against aggression," said Gushee, director of the Center for Christian Leadership at Union University in Jackson, Tenn.

The air assault on Yugoslavia fails that criteria, Gushee said. "The atrocities have been confined to the territory of Yugoslavia and no NATO nation was attacked or threatened."

Nevertheless, Gushee said he supports the air raids, noting that in a post-Holocaust world, "the international community has become more sensitive—however inconsistently—to genocide."

"Increasingly, influential individuals, groups and nations have argued that national sovereignty cannot be held sacrosanct when genocide or something approaching it occurs within a country's borders," he said. "In this view, the world has a moral responsibility not to stand idly by while innocents are slaughtered."

Using the same just war criteria,

however, another Baptist ethicist raised questions about the attacks. "The barbarous actions of Serbian leader Slobodan Milosevic do not morally justify U.S. air strikes against Yugoslavia," said Robert Parham, executive director of the Baptist Center for Ethics.

Parham said the U.S. action "may be more about military machismo than making peace."

The action's success appears unlikely, he said, given NATO's reluctance to commit ground forces. Finally, he said, it is unclear that benefits gained by the strikes will outweigh future harm.

"Once again, the Clinton administration's foreign policy looks like, 'Here a bomb, there a bomb, everywhere a bomb,'" Parham said.

"High-tech bombing without political resolution that leads to peace and security for all only deepens animosities and promises more conflict," he added.

With additional information from Religion News Service

## Poll: One-third of non-Christians believe Jesus rose from the dead

NEW YORK (ABP)—Almost a third of non-Christians and nine in 10 Christians believe Jesus Christ rose from the dead after dying on a cross, according to a Newsweek magazine poll.

According to the survey, published in the magazine's March 29 issue, 88 percent of Christians and 32 percent of non-Christians said they believe in Christ's resurrection.

Sixty-two percent of people responding to the survey described their religious preference as Protestant, 20 percent as Roman Catholic, 7 percent as no religion, 4 percent as non-Christian and 3 percent as Jewish.

Asked, "Do you think Jesus Christ ever actually lived?" 93 percent of Christians and 68 percent of non-Christians responded, "Yes."

Seventy-two percent of evangelical Protestants said it is "very important" that non-Christians

convert to Christianity, as did 25 percent of other Protestants and 17 percent of Catholics.

Asked about what should be organized Christianity's top priority in the next millennium, 38 percent of Christians said returning to traditional moral values, 32 percent said spreading the faith, 13 percent said increasing tolerance and 7 percent said righting social ills.

The survey ran with an article entitled "2,000 years of Jesus" on how the spread of Christianity shaped the modern world. The issue also includes an article written by evangelist Billy Graham describing the importance of his commitment to Christ.

Most people in the survey agreed the world is a better place because of Jesus. Nearly half (48 percent) said they think there would be more war, 64 percent said there would be less charity and 57 percent said there would be less happiness if there had never been a Jesus.

## Court to look at objections to student fees

WASHINGTON (ABP)—The U.S. Supreme Court has agreed to review a lower court's ruling in favor of students who objected to university fees being used for political and ideological groups with which they disagree.

The 7th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals held that the University of Wisconsin at Madison places a burden on the free-speech rights of objecting students when it uses their mandatory activity fees to fund such groups.

During the 1995-96 academic year, the students were required to pay \$166 a semester in student fees, without which they cannot receive their grades or graduate.

In a lawsuit filed during the 1995-96 academic year, students presented evidence of 18 organizations that receive student fees and engage in political and ideological activities.

Those groups included the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual Campus Center, Campus Women's Center, Madison AIDS Support Network, Students of National Organization for Women and others.

## Judge: Religious objects can be removed from city cemetery

BOCA RATON, Fla. (RNS)—A Florida judge has ruled that Boca Raton can remove religious decorations from grave sites in the city cemetery. The ruling is reportedly the first of its kind in the nation.

Judge Kenneth Ryskamp said families who decorate the graves of their loved ones with religious symbols—along with plants, stones and other items—will not have their rights trampled if the objects are removed.

Ryskamp said removing the items does not contradict Florida's Religious Freedom Restoration Act of 1998, which protects religious freedoms.

An American Civil Liberties Union spokesman said the decision would be appealed. The ACLU filed the class action suit against the city.

Boca Raton permits only a horizontal plaque at the foot of each grave in the city cemetery.

The city maintains that religious objects, and the other items, present an obstacle to maintenance workers.

In his ruling, Ryskamp cited Jewish and Catholic cemeteries that also prohibit large or vertical grave statues and similar objects.

The judge also said families do not own the cemetery plots, but merely the right to burial on public land.

Beverly Pohl, a city attorney, said Boca Raton will probably not remove the disputed objects until all legal appeals are exhausted.

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## NATIONAL NOTES

■ **Dobson: Report will note gambling's "downside."** The most significant result of the gambling commission on which he serves will come in reminding America of the "downside of gambling," James Dobson said recently. "The American citizenry has forgotten that," Dobson said. "Fifty years ago, everybody understood that gambling is addictive ... that it's dangerous, that it affects families, stability of marriages, that it undermines the natural stability of the home, that it affects children. ... Many people, even in the Christian community, see gambling as just another form of entertainment."

■ **Mrs. Carter speaks against assisted suicide.** While many people cheer the conviction of Jack Kevorkian on murder charges, former First Lady Rosalynn Carter urged in an op-ed column in USA Today that the conviction should move discussion to improving the end of people's lives through "palliative care" that provides comfort and support to the dying. She is the honorary chair of Last Acts, a national coalition committed to improving end-of-life care. "We should be pointing to and building on the progress we are making in palliative care, so that at the end of life, we can have choices that are far more attractive than assisted suicide."

■ **Abortion pill could be available by year's end.** The American company licensed to market RU-486 says the controversial abortion pill could be available by the end of this year. The Dancos Group, a start-up pharmaceutical company in New York, has begun discussing with doctors

how to prescribe and administer the drug, The Washington Post reported. "We expect to have the drug available by the end of the year," said Heather O'Neill, the company's spokeswoman. But a spokesman for Rep. Tom Coburn, R-Okla., said the congressman "will fight it."

■ **Lyons sentenced to five years.** Henry Lyons, recently-resigned president of the National Baptist Convention, USA, was sentenced to 5 1/2 years in prison March 31 on Florida convictions of grand theft and racketeering. Circuit Judge Susan Schaeffer sent Lyons, 57, immediately to prison, declining to permit him to remain free until his sentencing on related federal charges in June. He also was ordered to repay almost \$2.5 million. "I cannot shake the feeling that I have let so many people down," Lyons said in the Largo, Fla., court. He was convicted of swindling millions from corporations seeking to do business with members of the denomination and of misusing funds meant to aid burned black churches.

■ **Church backs minister in same-sex trial.** Gregory Dell received renewed support from his Chicago congregation March 28, two days after the United Methodist pastor was sentenced to an indefinite suspension for performing a same-sex uniting ceremony. A church jury found Dell guilty of violating church law for officiating at the service. Jurors also said Dell should be suspended from the ministry unless he promises by July 5 to no longer perform such ceremonies. But during Sunday services, Dell made it clear he would not make such a promise.

## Pay Caesar and God

I really do not know anyone who enjoys paying taxes or who has any affection for the Internal Revenue Service—especially around April 15 each year.

Because it's that time of the year when we "settle-up" with the IRS, I wanted to share an encouraging word about how to minimize income taxes and death taxes. Someone has said, "anyone may so arrange his affairs that his taxes shall be as low as possible."

Although most of the people we assist in Christian financial stewardship planning are not motivated primarily by the tax deductibility of their charitable gifts, they are pleased to discover ways to reduce the cost and increase the amount of their gifts through tax planning.

We are fortunate our federal government recognizes that donations to religious, educational, charitable, scientific and literary organizations contribute significantly to the welfare of our nation, and the tax laws are designed to encourage such giving.

Charitable gifts are a vital part of our culture, and they play a crucial role in the lives of many people. Giving provides a way for us to direct a portion of the resources

God has entrusted to us toward purposes and causes in which we believe.

For Christians, our first loyalty is to Christ, and what better way to expand the impact of our giving than through our churches and church-related organizations. What we must give back to God first are ourselves; then our gifts will follow.

More than ever, it is important that your charitable gifts be made in the most careful and effective manner possible. Selecting the right assets and the right time to give are decisions that may have a significant impact not only on the gift and the charitable beneficiary, but also upon your loved ones.

Your Kentucky Baptist Foundation offers, at no cost to you, assistance in developing and evaluating an approach to planned giving that will maximize the value of your gift and minimize taxes. Please call Laurie Valentine or me at (888) 254-5701 and give us the privilege of assisting you in reducing your payment to Caesar and increasing your payment to God.

Barry Allen is president of the Kentucky Baptist Foundation, 10605 Shelbyville Road, Louisville, KY 40223; (888) 254-5701

### KENTUCKY BAPTIST FOUNDATION



Barry Allen

## Was atheist leader O'Hair murdered?

SAN ANTONIO, Texas (RNS)—A former office manager for Madalyn Murray O'Hair, the prominent atheist who has been missing since 1995, has been arrested on a firearms charge.

A lawyer for David Roland Waters, who was arrested March 25 by federal agents, said the man also has been implicated in O'Hair's alleged murder. Waters, 52, was charged with being a felon in possession of 119 rounds of ammunition.

Federal prosecutors declined to discuss the lawyer's allegation. They have not said whether they think O'Hair was murdered.

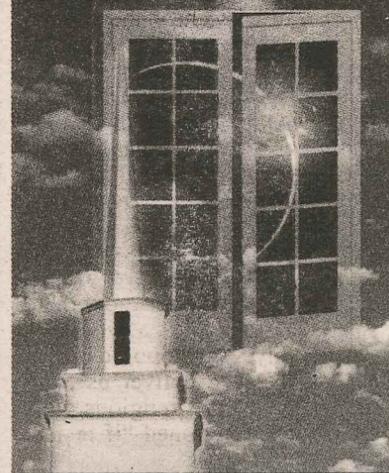
O'Hair, the founder of American Atheists Inc., disappeared with her granddaughter Robin Murray O'Hair and son Jon Garth Murray in September 1995. A hastily-written note was found on the door of their Austin office telling staff members that an emergency had arisen.

If she is still alive, she would be about 80.

Previously convicted of felony theft in 1994 and murder in 1965, Waters now is on probation after pleading guilty to stealing \$54,000 from the O'Hair family's atheist organizations.

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## Appeal rejected for controversial prayer

WASHINGTON (RNS)—The Supreme Court rejected March 29 the appeal of a Utah man who sought to open a local city council meeting with a controversial prayer.

Without comment, the high court refused to hear the case of Snyder vs. Murray City, upholding an earlier federal appeals court ruling which declared Tom Snyder's planned prayer more of a "political harangue" that fell outside this nation's "long-accepted genre of legislative prayer," Associated Press reported.

In addition to addressing "our Mother, who art in heaven (if, indeed there is a heaven and if there is a god that takes a woman's form)," Snyder's proposed prayer asked "that you deliver us from the evil of forced religious worship," and questioned "if in fact

you had a son that visited Earth."

Instead of allowing Snyder's prayer, the city council in Salt Lake City chose to drop its custom of opening meetings in prayer altogether.

So in March of 1994, Snyder took his prayer to Murray City, where the city attorney told him prayer "is not a time to express political views (or) attack city policies or practices."

Snyder sued, claiming his First Amendment rights had been trampled.

He lost his case in a federal court ruling and in a decision by the 10th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

The appeals court said prayers that promote a particular religious creed or disparage another creed can be rejected without violating the Constitution.

## \$7 million media campaign will promote Bible reading

VIRGINIA BEACH, Va. (RNS)—The Christian Broadcasting Network launched a massive media campaign March 31 that it hopes will encourage millions more Americans to read the Bible.

Led by CBN founder and president Pat Robertson, the organization hosted a music and dance-filled event at Grand Central Station in New York City to unveil "The Book," the New Living Translation of the Bible, and a \$7 million promotion to spread the word "that Bible reading is cool."

Robertson said the effort is aimed at turning the tide of hate in America and the world.

"America leads the world in a number of social pathologies—teen pregnancy, crime, drug addiction and incarceration. We wanted to do something about it," Robertson said. "If people read the Bible and follow its teachings maybe we'll have a better society."

The promotion includes star-studded national television ads featuring country and western, rap, rock and gospel singers whom organizers hope will appeal to the broadest possible spectrum of society.

According to CBN, endorsements will include television personality Kathie Lee Gifford, NFL quarterback Randall Cunningham, country music star Charlie Daniels, "Touched by an Angel" actress Della Reese, Miss America Nicole Johnson and Olym-

pic skating gold medalist Tara Lipinski.

"We want to reach the masses," said Robertson. "Our goal is 10 million more Bible readers."

"The Book" is the culmination of a seven-year project that brought together 90 biblical and language scholars who translated both the Old and New Testaments into "understandable English," said Doug Knox, senior vice president of Tyndale House Publishers Inc., which published the first Living Bible in the 1960s.

He said the clear print and single column layout will make it possible for people to enjoy the Bible in the subway as well as in church.

"The King James version is very daunting for the average person," said Robertson. "The New Living Bible is true to the original text but is written in modern language."

"The Book" features an index listing themes such as faith, temptation and suffering, and highlights "Great Bible Stories," such as The Burning Bush, The Last Supper and Jonah and the Fish.

Knox said his company has printed 350,000 volumes on advance order by book stores, discount retailers and Internet distributors and has another 500,000 volumes in print. "We hope to sell 1 million by Christmas," he said. CBN also will distribute 10 million free pocket-sized volumes with excerpts from the book.

### Bible bits

- 90 million Americans have never read the Bible.
- 60 percent of those said they didn't read the Bible because they couldn't understand it.
- 82 percent of Americans feel the need in their lives to experience spiritual growth.
- 6 in 10 Americans say religion is very important in their lives.
- One-half of Americans fear being unforgiven by God or cut off from God's love when they die.

Source: Christian Broadcast Network

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"My people perish for lack of knowledge." (Hosea 4:6)

For details and registration, contact: Tim Kendrick, (502) 368-5442; or e-mail: timsken@msn.com

## Pastor/staff and family conference

By Robert Dunston

Cumberland College's annual Pastor/Staff and Family Conference will be July 19-July 21. In past years we have enjoyed wonderful times of relaxation, refreshment and inspiration. This summer promises the same.

Jerry Lowrie, pastor of Main Street Baptist Church in Williamsburg, will serve as conference pastor. Lowrie has been pastor of churches in Mississippi, Texas, Ohio, Tennessee and Kentucky and is now in his 23rd year at Main Street. He is a graduate of Cumberland College, Carson-Newman College and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. One of his greatest joys is serving as a pastor, mentor and friend to college students.

Guy Futral Jr., director of the minister/church relations division of the Kentucky Baptist Convention, will serve as seminar leader. Before joining the KBC staff in 1984, Futral was pastor of churches in Mississippi, North Carolina, Louisiana and Kentucky. He is a graduate of Mississippi College, Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary and New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. In his current position, he helps ministers and churches in the

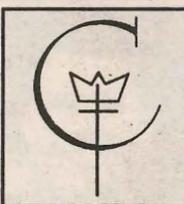
relocation process and in conflict management.

Garland Young, professor of religion at Cumberland College, will lead our Bible study of 1 and 2 Thessalonians—the same books that are the focus for Southern Baptists' 2000 winter bible study. Young joined the Cumberland faculty in 1987 teaching philosophy and moved to teaching New Testament and Greek in 1989. A graduate of Union University and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, he also has written for numerous publications including Biblical Illustrator. He is eminently qualified to lead our Bible study.

David Scott, minister of music and senior adults at Ormsby Heights Baptist Church in Louisville, will lead our conference music. Scott has served churches in Kentucky and Tennessee and is a graduate of the University of Evansville and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. He has ministered through music for numerous church, association and state senior adult conferences, retreats and seminars. For more information, call (606) 539-4154.

Robert Dunston is chairman of the religion department at Cumberland College, 6000 College Station Dr., Williamsburg, Ky. 40769

CUMBERLAND COLLEGE



## Rush to compassion

Linda was visiting her in-laws and went to a nearby supermarket to pick up some groceries. Several people noticed her sitting in her car with the windows rolled up, her eyes closed with both hands behind the back of her head.

One customer who had been at the store for a while became concerned and walked over to the car.

He noticed that Linda's eyes were now open, very wide, in panic. He asked if she was okay. She replied that she had been shot in the back of the head and had been holding her brains in for over an hour.

The man called the paramedics, who broke into the car because the doors were locked and Linda refused to remove her hands from her head to unlock the car.

When they finally got in, they found that Linda had a wad of bread dough on the back of her head. A Pillsbury biscuit canister had exploded from the heat, making a gunshot-like noise and propelling the dough into the back of Linda's head. When she reached back to find out what had happened, her mind took a leap in the wrong direction.

So, what is the moral of this humorous story at Linda's ex-

pense? Things are not always as they first appear, and our response is often as faulty as our perception.

We all are familiar with the saying, "Don't judge a book by its cover." Jesus did not say it that way, but his acceptance of people as they were in order to transform them more into his likeness resonates the same principle.

Our ministry touches the lives of young women who are pregnant outside marriage, sexual perpetrators young and old, juvenile offenders, substance abusers, physical abusers and others. When we meet them, often our tendency is to think of them negatively and respond accordingly, but what we think has happened may not be remotely close to reality.

The next time you or I meet a homeless person, a juvenile delinquent, pregnant teen or welfare mom, remember Linda's ludicrous rush to reaction compared to Jesus' rush to compassion.

Bill Smithwick is president of Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children, 10801 Shelbyville Road, Middletown, Ky. 40243. Call (800) 456-1386. KBHC's Internet address is: <http://www.iglou.com/kbhc/>

HOMES FOR CHILDREN



Bill Smithwick

## Michael W. Smith the big winner with 6 Dove Awards

By Adelle Banks  
Religion News Service

### Southern gospel patriarch dies

NASHVILLE (RNS)—Brock Speer, the patriarch of Southern gospel music's Speer Family, died March 29 of natural causes in Nashville. He was 78.

The Speer Family was inducted into the Gospel Music Association's Hall of Fame last year, the first year groups were inducted.

The Speer Family has recorded about 70 albums and won 14 Dove Awards from the Gospel Music Association.

"If we have a model in our field of how to do it 'right,' it's Brock Speer," said Bill Gaither, a veteran gospel musician. "From working hard from the beginning—learning how to sing properly—and consistently doing his mission day after day, faithfully and with complete integrity, Brock wrote that book."

NASHVILLE (RNS)—Contemporary Christian singer Michael W. Smith walked away with six Dove Awards March 24, the most of any artist honored during the 30th annual ceremony of the Gospel Music Association.

Among his honors, Smith was named Artist of the Year and Producer of the Year. He also was honored for his work as performer and producer of "Live the Life" in the Pop/Contemporary Album of the Year category, and as performer and producer of "Exodus" in the Special Event Album of the Year category.

As the gospel music industry took time to honor its own, the Recording Industry Association of America announced that gospel music showed the largest market growth of any genre last year, increasing its market share from 4.5 percent in 1997 to 6.3 percent in 1998.

Kirk Franklin received four Dove Awards this year. He was honored as a performer and writer of "Revolution," the Urban Recorded Song of the Year, and as performer and producer of "The Nu Nation Project," in the Contemporary Gospel Album of the Year category.

Southern gospel music legend Bill Gaither also received four Doves. He was honored for performing and writing the Southern Gospel Recorded Song of the Year, "I Believe in a Hill

Called Mount Calvary," and for performing and producing "Still the Greatest Story Ever Told," the Southern Gospel Album of the Year.

The late Rich Mullins, who died in an auto accident in 1997, continued to reap rewards for his work with three awards this year.

Avalon, a group named New Artist of the Year at last year's Doves, also was honored with three awards this year.

Jennifer Knapp was named New Artist of the Year and Chris Rice and Jaci Velasquez were named Male Vocalist and Female Vocalist, respectively.

The Dove Awards show will be televised across the country until April 12 through a syndication agreement, airing on different dates in different regions.

The show continued to display the range of gospel music, including the debut of contemporary Christian artist Steven Curtis Chapman's "Dive," a final performance of The Cathedrals, a Southern Gospel group that is retiring after 30 years, and a finale performance of "Lean on Me," by Kirk Franklin and Nu Nation.

The GMA, which is based in Nashville, was founded in 1964 and includes 6,000 members.

Following is a list of some of the Dove Awards winners:

**Song:** "My Deliverer" by Rich Mullins and Mitch McVicker.  
**Songwriter:** Rich Mullins.  
**Male Vocalist:** Chris Rice.  
**Female Vocalist:** Jaci Velasquez.

**Group:** Point of Grace.  
**Artist:** Michael W. Smith.  
**New Artist:** Jennifer Knapp.  
**Producer:** Michael W. Smith.  
**Modern Rock/Alternative Recorded Song:** "The Devil is Bad" by The W's.

**Hard Music Recorded Song:** "Awesome God" by The Insyderz.  
**Urban Recorded Song:** "Revolution" by Kirk Franklin.

**Pop/Contemporary Gospel Recorded Song:** "Testify to Love" by Avalon.

**Rock Recorded Song:** "Undo Me" by Jennifer Knapp.

**Contemporary Gospel Recorded Song:** "Let the Praise Begin" by Fred Hammond & Radical For Christ.

**Traditional Gospel Recorded Song:** "Is Your All on the Altar?" by Yolanda Adams.

**Rap/Hip Hop/Dance Recorded Song:** "Plagiarism" by Grits.

**Bluegrass Recorded Song:** "He Still Looks Over Me" by The Lewis Family.

**Inspirational Recorded Song:** "Adonai" by Avalon.

**Southern Gospel Recorded Song:** "I Believe in a Hill Called Mount Calvary" by Gaither Vocal Band.

**Country Recorded Song:** "Count Your Blessings" by The Martins.

**Modern Rock/Alternative Album:** "Fourth from the Last" by The W's.

**Hard Music Album:** "Brightblur" by Massivivid.

**Contemporary Gospel Album:**

"The Nu Nation Project."  
**Traditional Gospel Album:** "Christmas with Shirley Caesar" by Shirley Caesar.

**Southern Gospel Album:** "Still the Greatest Story Ever Told" by Gaither Vocal Band.

**Pop/Contemporary Album:** "Live the Life" by Michael W. Smith.  
**Country Album:** "A Work in Progress" by Jeff and Sheri Easter.

**Rock Album:** "Anybody Out There?" by Burlap to Cashmere.

**Rap/Hip Hop/Dance Album:** "Heatseeker" by The World Wide Message Tribe.

**Inspirational Album:** "Corner of Eden" by Kathy Troccoli.

**Southern Gospel Album:** "Still the Greatest Story Ever Told" by Gaither Vocal Band.

**Instrumental Album:** "Acoustic Sketches" by Phil Keaggy.

**Children's Music Album:** "Veggie Tunes 2" by VeggieTales.

**Praise and Worship Album:** "Focus on the Family presents Renewing the Heart Live: Hymns and Songs of Worship" by Kim Hill.

**Special Event Album:** "Exodus" by various artists.

**Choral Collection:** "Peace Speaker" by Geron Davis.

**Recorded Music Packaging:** "The Jesus Record" by Rich Mullins and A Raggamuffin Band.

**Short Form Music Video:** "Entertaining Angels" by Newsboys.

**Long Form Music Video:** "My Utmost for His Highest—The Concert" by various artists.

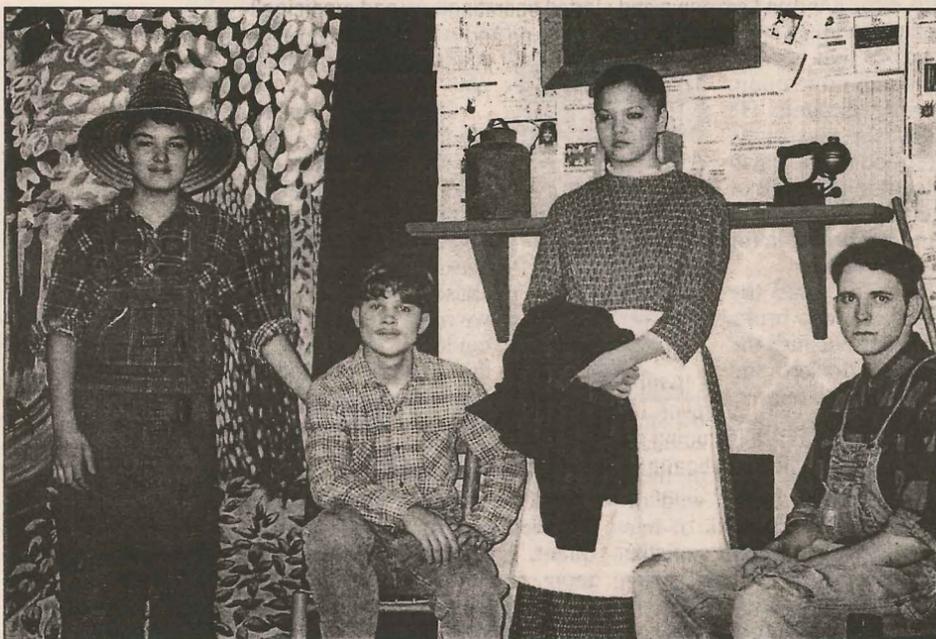
The Oneida Players present ...

## Moriah Morning

A drama about the founding of Oneida Baptist Institute

Written by Mrs. Denise Day Spencer ♦ Directed by Mrs. Debbie Winters

April 15, 16 and 17 ♦ 7 p.m. each evening in the OBI chapel



Moriah Morning was first produced in 1996. We share it with you again this year in honor of our centennial celebration. Admission is free. Please join us! Questions? Call (606) 847-4111.

## Chapel testimonies

Here are some excerpts from testimonies shared at a recent chapel service:

"We hear so much bad news, and it can sometimes be depressing. God has revival fires burning everywhere. We need to look for what he is doing, and we will be encouraged to praise him."—Library Director Marge Cummings

"I thank God for his financial provision. I came here without assurance of adequate support, but God has really provided. I praise him also for Clear Creek. It isn't perfect, and I can be critical like others, but I thank God for being here."—Mike Hamby, second-year student

After we sang the chorus, "What a mighty God we serve," second-year student Barry Proctor said, "Our mighty God gave me the opportunity for a mission trip to Haiti. Four days later my brother died and then Leisa's grandmother died. An uncle took his life. God has been faithful through all this tribulation."

"Our family has so much for which to be thankful. We came here without knowing how God would

meet our need. He gave us a good church in Knox County and opened every door. Our son will soon graduate from Oneida."—1996 graduate Robert Futrell, in chapel with a prospective student from Oneida Baptist Institute

"My grandfather who raised me had a massive heart attack and never awoke from surgery. We had to make the decision to take him off life support. I was angry at first, but God spoke to me from the Psalms. No matter what happens, I can still praise him."—Shawn Vallance, third-year student

"We left a new home and came here in 1974. When I saw our apartment, I told the family we couldn't stay. My 15-year-old daughter, Ellen, said, 'Dad, my bed will go over that hole, and that painting we were given will cover that place on the wall. In a few weeks this will be home.'"—Tommy Farmer, visiting professor of Christian education

### CLEAR CREEK CHRONICLE



Bill Whittaker

Bill Whittaker is president of Clear Creek Baptist Bible College, Pineville, Ky. 40977

## Two conservatives ask Religious Right to repent, regroup

By Steve Rabey  
Religion News Service

WASHINGTON (RNS)—It was 20 years ago that fundamentalist pastor Jerry Falwell—a man who had preached against the evils of politics—founded the Moral Majority, an organization that helped give the Religious Right political might.

Soon, government leaders were courting Falwell while two of his top lieutenants—Ed Dobson and Cal Thomas—crisscrossed the country speaking to both church groups and the media. “Had we not been Baptists, we would have danced in the streets,” writes Dobson of those heady, early days.

More recently, the Religious Right has suffered a series of embarrassing setbacks, including worse-than-expected results in the 1998 elections and the failure to impeach President Clinton.

These defeats led Paul Weyrich, president of the Free Congress Foundation and one of the co-founders of the Moral Majority to declare in a controversial February letter that “politics have failed” and that he was “in the process of rethinking what it is that we, who still believe in our traditional, Western, Judeo-Christian culture, can and should do under the circumstances.”

Dobson and Thomas have been rethinking things, too. Though they still support the conservative Christian movement’s moral agenda, they criticize its tactics in their new book, “Blinded by Might.”

“We failed,” said Thomas, who is

now a columnist for the Los Angeles Times Syndicate. “Very little that we set out to do has gotten done. In fact, the moral landscape of America has become worse.”

Historian Joel Carpenter said that even when America’s religious conservatives have succeeded in politics, their deeper longing for social transformation hasn’t materialized.

“The parallel here is Prohibition,” said Carpenter, provost of Calvin College and author of “Revive Us Again: The Reawakening of American Fundamentalism.”

“Even though a constitutional amendment was passed, it was pretty clear that it didn’t work,” he said. “The lesson is that these political measures don’t bring righteousness to the nation. That takes personal moral transformation and changed hearts.”

Dobson, now a pastor, agreed. “I believe that people, myself included, were well-intentioned, and our goals were noble, but we got caught up in the illusion that politicians really cared for us, and that political change would bring moral change.”

Although the Religious Right changed the national debate about morality and inspired a wave of political activism among previously apolitical believers, Dobson and Thomas say the movement’s sins far outweigh its virtues. These sins include pride (claiming God was on their side alone), anger (demonizing ideological opponents), greed (raising money by

exploiting people’s fears about homosexuality) and lust (hungering for liberals’ political power).

Even worse, say the authors, Christian activists have turned away from the teachings or example of Jesus, who rebuffed Satan’s temptation to lord over “the kingdoms of the world” and instead lovingly sacrificed his own life to save the lost.

“The Religious Right sold its soul for political power and they still lost,” said Jim Wallis, whose Sojourners and Call to Renewal movements have applied the Christian faith to racial injustice, welfare reform and the death penalty—issues that rarely appeared on the conservatives’ agenda. “Their approach was too partisan, too hardball and too political even for their own constituents.”

Thomas said that even political victory could have spelled defeat.

“The Religious Right was able to tip a few close elections in favor of the candidates they preferred,” he said. “But society’s greatest problems—the break-up of families, the growth of prisons and drug abuse—are totally beyond the reach of government. This is the role of the church, and when the church does its role properly, it inevitably impacts the culture.”

Dobson, who has been senior pastor of the non-denominational Calvary Church in Grand Rapids, Mich., since 1987, said “Blinded by Might” was inspired by “an underlying uneasiness that perhaps in our quest for

moral change through the political process, we had ultimately either hurt the gospel or gotten away from the gospel.”

Even though he once tried to enlist pastors in the culture war, Dobson now favors an approach that’s closer to Mother Teresa than Machiavelli. He prohibits voter registration or petition drives in his church, but the congregation has given Christmas presents to people with HIV/AIDS for a decade.

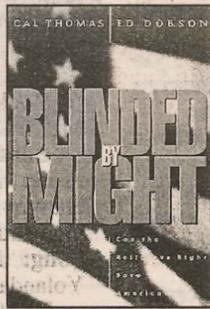
True transformation, he said, begins with individuals and “bubbles up” through the culture; it doesn’t “trickle down” from government and its leaders.

“I believe that as pastor I am called to reach out to Republicans and Democrats, pro-choice and anti-choice, pro-gay and anti-gay,” Dobson said. “The message of Christ transcends all of that.”

In a statement, Falwell said he hadn’t read “Blinded by Might,” but charged its authors with advocating “the withdrawal of American churches and people of faith from the cultural conflict of the day.”

But Dobson and Thomas aren’t calling for a retreat from society or politics, just a different form of engagement.

“This is absolutely not about withdrawal,” Thomas said. “We are calling for a more effective strategy that will produce the ends we sought through the political system but could never be attained there. If the church gets this right, the revival that we have been seeking through the political process will be inevitable. You won’t be able to hold it back.”



**“Society’s greatest problems—the break-up of families, the growth of prisons and drug abuse—are totally beyond the reach of government.”**

Cal Thomas, former Moral Majority leader and co-author of “Blinded by Might”

*[Faded text from the reverse side of the page is visible through the paper.]*

## Doctor: ‘When you’re getting ready to open someone’s head, there are no atheists’

By Adelle Banks  
Religion News Service

WASHINGTON (RNS)—In the ongoing debate about whether medicine and religion can or should mix, Dr. Ben Carson is an example of someone who seamlessly blends the two every day.

The renowned pediatric neurosurgeon—known most for his separation of Siamese twins joined at the head—prays before every surgery and with some of his patients.

Carson, 47, an active member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, recently completed a book, “The Big Picture: Getting Perspective on What’s Really Important in Life.”

The director of pediatric neurosurgery at Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore shared his thoughts on faith, medicine and other topics with Religion News Service.

**Much of your new book emphasizes how your faith and your work as a pediatric neurosurgeon are intertwined—is that an example of how you view the “big picture” in life?**

Absolutely. The biggest part of the big picture is recognizing that all of us are transient players on the scene and that the only thing that is everlasting is God, so that is truly the “big picture,” and we become a part of that by our relationship with him. That’s the ultimate.

**Do you pray before every surgery?**

Every single patient; even when I don’t operate, I pray because I feel that God is the ultimate source of all wisdom. Quite frankly, as a neurosurgeon, there’s a lot of emphasis on technical ability, but I believe that that’s something that can be taught, but wisdom comes from God, and I think that it’s something that you have to seek. You have to ask him for it.

**When an operation, such as the one with the Makwaeba sisters, the South African Siamese twins, is not successful, do you blame God?**

God gets all the credit for all the success and he gets responsibility for the things that aren’t successful.

I wouldn’t necessarily say blame, but I recognize that he’s in charge and that my part of the equation is simply to do the best that I can do. And when I know that I have done that, then I can get over any disappointments that I have with respect to the outcome.

**You wrote that at some point in the successful surgery with the Zambian twins, you believe God took over. Can you explain what you felt?**

I (was) ... thinking about all the things I didn’t have—my microscope, 3-D wand, lasers and everything I would have had at

Hopkins. I realized that I did have the most important thing, and that was the presence of God and the knowledge that he had obviously brought all of this about. And I said, “Well, it’s going to be up to you, dear Lord, to take over at this point.”

And as I sat down and started operating ... I obviously knew what I was doing and I knew what I was trying to do but, I tell you, the steadiness of my hands, the calmness, the deliberateness, all seemed accentuated. It was like I knew what was behind that vessel. I knew exactly what I was trying to accomplish, and I was doing it incredibly adeptly. ... I knew that I was being guided at that point.

**Throughout the book, you mention relying on prayer and God’s healing power. More medical schools are including courses on spirituality and health in their curricula. But Dr. Richard Sloan of Columbia University recently co-authored a study saying the ethics of mixing faith with better health outcomes can sometimes cause harm to patients. What do you think?**

I agree with him ... It can sometimes. “Sometimes” is a key word.

I never force my religious beliefs on patients. I pray for every patient but I don’t ask them to pray with me. If they want to, I’m happy to pray with them. I would never

force that kind of thing upon a patient.

The other thing I find is when you’re getting ready to open someone’s head, there are no atheists.

**So you think there can be a legitimate concern about the ethics of mixing religion and medicine?**

The only ethical problem I have with it is forcing yourself on people when you’re in a position with power. ... I don’t think in any way that it’s deleterious to patients’ health to pray for them or have someone else pray for them.

I think it can be deleterious if they begin to depend more on prayer than they do on proven science. For instance, with Christian Scientists, in a situation where they may have a disease that is perfectly curable by medical science, but opt out of it and say, “We’re just going to pray about it,” and even if a patient dies, “Well, that was God’s will,” I think that can be abusive in the sense that ... one of the ways that God blesses us is by giving us knowledge of how to deal with problems.

**Can you explain why you consider the brain in particular to be a “tremendous gift from God”?**

God made man in his own image, including the brain, which has capacities that, for instance, allow you to remember everything you’ve ever seen. It can process over two million bits of information per second. It’s the most incredible resource in the universe.



# PEOPLE

## PRAYER PARTNERS

Please pray for these people and projects, which are part of Kentucky Baptists' partnerships with Baptists in New England, Poland and Tanzania:

■ **Urgent:** Five to seven volunteers are needed May 4-17 to remodel a church building in Elk, Poland.

■ **Women in the Bible study** that missionary Susie Edworthy leads in Warsaw, Poland. Pray especially for one woman who is struggling with how to break with the religious traditions of her childhood.

■ **Missionary Doug Shaw** in Rzeszow, Poland, as he writes Theological Education by Extension materials.

■ **Missionaries Ed and Nancy Giddens** in Tanzania ask for discernment in the many daily decisions they face.

■ **The Sukuma people** group of Tanzania and missionaries Terry and Twylia Bell who work with them.

## Mountains to the Mississippi

Compiled by Shirley Wooton

■ **BARDSTOWN**—Bardstown Church's concert series will host **Gold City and The Crossmen Quartet** April 22, 7:30 p.m., Nelson County High School. For tickets, call (502) 348-3866.

■ **CRESTWOOD**—Crestwood Church called **Betsy Ringer** as lay mobilization minister. **Stephen Hadden** is pastor.

■ **FALMOUTH**—Turner Ridge will host revival services beginning April 11. The evangelist will be **Ken Cole** of Walton. **James Casson**, minister of music at Main Street Church, Alexandria, will lead music. For information, call (606) 654-8707. **Norman Workman** is pastor.

■ **FISHERVILLE**—First Church will host revival services April 18-21. **David Livingston** will be the evangelist. For information, call (502) 267-1511. **Orion Bell** is pastor.

■ **GEORGETOWN**—Former Georgetown College President **Morgan Patterson** will serve as visiting professor this fall at Florida Baptist Theological College in Graceville, Fla. Patterson, who was president at Georgetown from 1984-1991, will teach church history and a course on the development of the Southern Baptist Convention.

■ **GREENSBURG**—Evangelist **Wyman Copass** held revival services at Trammell Creek Church. **Bill Small** is pastor.

■ **JAMESTOWN**—First Church will host revival services April 18-22, 10:30 a.m. Sunday and evenings at 6:30 p.m. **Shannon Marshall**, pastor of Mt. Horeb Church in Mississippi, will be the evangelist. **Daryl Covington** is pastor.

Welfare Church ordained **Lyle Cooper** and **Frank Martin** as deacons March 28. **John Routh** is pastor.

■ **LOUISVILLE**—Bashford Manor Church will host revival services April 4-7, 7 p.m. **Thurmond Coleman**, pastor of First Baptist Church, Jeffersonville, will be the evangelist. **Eric Garvey** is pastor.

**Todd Greve**, minister of worship at Buechel Park Church, resigned to accept a church position in Richmond, Va. **Bruce Hardy** is pastor.

Hazelwood Church will host revival services April 11-14. Services will be 10:45 a.m., Sunday and evenings at 7 p.m. **Benny Keck** of Kingsport, Tenn., will be the evangelist. **Jack Jones** will be lead music. For information, call (502) 363-2697. **Hilton Davis** is pastor.

■ **MYRA**—**Bill Mackey**, executive



**NEW BUILDING** Bethlehem Baptist Church in Bremen has completed a fellowship and activities building free of debt, according to Pastor Leroy Rearden. The church voted in September 1998 to build the new building and anticipated having to borrow up to \$80,000 to complete the structure. "The building cost over \$150,000, and God has allowed us to pay for it, and it is debt free," Rearden said.

secretary-treasurer of the Kentucky Baptist Convention, will speak at Faith Church April 11 in the morning service. **Dave Hammond** is pastor.

■ **OWENSBORO**—Seven Hills Church called **Bobby Coons** as interim pastor, beginning April 18.

■ **WILLIAMSBURG**—Former missionary **Chester Raymond Young Sr.**, 78, of Becks Creek Road, died March 17. From 1949 to 1964 he and his wife served as mis-

sionaries to the Hawaiian islands through the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board. His work included being editor of the Hawaii Baptist, 1949-1952; president of the Hawaii Baptist Convention, 1952-1954; and pastor. From 1967 to 1985 he taught at Cumberland College. Young wrote three books, including "Baptists on the American Frontier: A History of Ten Baptist Churches."

## CLASSIFIED ADS

**SEEKING:** First Baptist Church, Russellville, Ky., is now accepting applications for an interim music director. Contact Dr. Randall Neal, (502) 726-2468, or Mickey Meguiar, (502) 726-9869.

**SEEKING:** Administrative assistant. Excellent phone, computer and organizational skills, plus strong work ethic required. Experience with financial planning, investments, insurance helpful. Send resumé: Dan Hardt, Kentucky Financial Group, 6100 Dutchman's Lane, 8th floor, Louisville, KY 40205; e-mail: Danhardt@aol.com.

**SEEKING:** Emmanuel Baptist Church, Marion, Ky., is currently seeking a bivocational minister of music effective in leading worship. Our church is growing, and we're expecting God to do great things. If interested in getting involved where God is already working, send resumé to: Emmanuel Baptist Church, 108 Hillcrest Drive, Marion, KY 42064, Attn: Search Committee.

**SEEKING:** Ovesen Heights Baptist Church is seeking full-time pastor. 175 resident members, 80 to 100 in Sunday school, 100 plus morning worship. Send resumé to: P.O. Box 253, Hodgenville, KY 42748.

**FOR SALE:** Floral Hills Cemetery, Covington, two lots, Garden of Apostles. \$600 both/best offer. Call collect: (502) 267-6383.

**SEEKING:** New Salem Baptist Church is seeking a bivocational minister to students. Primary responsibilities will be youth. If led by the Lord to reply, send resumé to: Search Committee, 145 Hialeah Drive, Cox's Creek, KY 40013.

**NEEDED:** 22 good, used pews, 15-foot long (building new church). Call (606) 643-5313 after 6 p.m. If no answer, leave message.

**SEEKING:** Minister of students, a full-time position working with children through college with an emphasis on youth. Send resumé to: Search Committee, First Baptist Church, P.O. Box 497, Pocomoke, MD 21851.

**SEEKING:** Assistant director position. Requirements include bachelor's degree, experience working with low-income people, volunteers and senior adults. Salary commensurate with experience. Deadline: April 16. Send resumé to: Fairdale Area Community Ministries, P.O. Box 270, Fairdale, KY 40118.

**SEEKING:** Rapidly growing Baptist church is seeking a full-time music minister who is experienced in leading choirs and congregational singing, and a full-time youth minister. Send resumé to: Mt. Elmira Baptist Church, 3644 Mt. Elmira Road, Shepherdsville, KY 40165, Attn: Pastor.

**SEEKING:** Calvary Missionary Baptist Church in Henderson, Ky., is in search of a part-time music director. Responsibilities will include conducting adult, youth and children's choir rehearsals, as well as leading Sunday morning and evening music worship services. Background in music education preferred. Salary negotiable. Resumés should be forwarded to: 2360 Green River Road, Henderson, KY 42420, Attn: Music Committee. Resumés must be received by April 3.

**SEEKING:** Full-time pastor. Please send resumé to: Pastor Search Committee, Chevy Chase Baptist Church, P.O. Box 22113, Lexington, KY 40522-2113.

**SEEKING:** Inner-city church planter/pastor for Cincinnati, Ohio. Send resumé to: CBA, 135 Williams, Cincinnati, OH 45215.

**SEEKING:** Part-time minister of music. Send resumé to: Search Committee, Grace Baptist Church, 811 Bryan Ave., Lexington, KY 40505.

**SEEKING:** Unity Baptist Church of Stephensburg is seeking a part-time minister to children and youth. We are a small rural church located 10 miles west of Elizabethtown. Send resumé to: Pastor Roger McGuffin, Fife Lane, Cecilia, KY 42724.

**WANTED:** Energetic person to work in the youth ministry of growing church. Part-time position available as youth director. Send resumé and picture to: Buena Vista Baptist Church, Youth Minister Search Committee, 2924 Plymouth Place, Owensboro, KY 42303.

**SEEKING:** Minister of student life. Vale, a growing, purpose-driven (SBC) church in a prosperous university community in central Illinois, is seeking an energetic team builder who has a sense of humor and a passion for youth to lead our students, parents and youth leaders in a seeker-sensitive student ministry. Send resumé by April 20 to: Vicki Lawson, Vale Baptist Church, 1304 Morrissey Drive, Bloomington, IL 61701, or fax to: (309) 662-8558, or e-mail to: ValeBC1@aol.com.

**SEEKING:** Part-time minister of youth for a conservative, traditional Southern Baptist church family. Send resumé and/or inquiries to: Mitchellsburg Baptist Church, P.O. Box 147, Mitchellsburg, KY 40452-0147, Attn: Personnel Committee.

**SEEKING:** High Point Baptist Church of Mayfield, Ky., is accepting resumés for a part-time minister of youth. Interested applicants should send resumé to: Minister of Youth Search Committee, High Point Baptist Church, 220 West Farthing St., Mayfield, KY 42066.

**SEEKING:** Floyd County-area church seeking part-time worship leader to lead the choir and congregation in meaningful worship and praise. Direct inquiries to: (606) 874-9468, or to: FBC, P.O. Box 541, Allen, KY 41601.

**SEEKING:** Second-Ponce de Leon Baptist Church of Atlanta, Ga., is seeking a minister with children. This person will serve as one of 12 pastoral staff team ministry equippers. SPdL is a 3,600-member congregation in north Atlanta, drawing people from 108 ZIP codes throughout the metro region. Offering both traditional and contemporary approaches to worship, SPdL offers its members the choice to support missions and ministries through either the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship or the Southern Baptist Convention, and ordains women and men to the diaconate. Applicants should have a seminary degree, professional experience in Baptist congregational leadership with children's ministry, awareness of the contemporary challenges facing children and their families, and a desire to build a team of children's teachers and leaders. Resumés with references should be sent to: Second-Ponce de Leon Baptist Church, Minister with Children Search Committee, 2715 Peachtree Road NE, Atlanta, GA 30305. Deadline is April 28, 1999.

**SEEKING:** First Baptist Church of Pineville, Ky., is looking for a youth and education minister. Please send resumés to: Search Committee, 405 Kentucky Ave., Pineville, KY 40977.

**SEEKING:** Walnut Street Baptist Church is currently seeking individual to fill part-time pianist position. Send resumé to: Chris Kihn, Walnut Street Baptist Church, Suite A, 1143 S. Third St., Louisville, KY 40203.

## Top VA chaplain is woman and Southern Baptist

HAMPTON, Va. (ABP)—Jeni Cook, 43, has become the first Southern Baptist and the first woman to oversee chaplain work for Department of Veteran Affairs hospitals nationwide.

U.S. Secretary of Veterans Affairs Togo West appointed Cook as director of the National Chaplain Center in Hampton, Va., effective March 1.

"I am honored to be in this position and still catching my breath," Cook said. "It has been a whirlwind, but I felt the hand of God on our lives during the entire process."

A 16-year federal employee, Cook has for the past 14 years held positions with VA North Texas Health Care System in Dallas, where she most recently was chief of chaplain services.

"I am a federal employee blessed with endorsement from the Southern Baptist Convention," Cook said. "I deeply believe in the Baptist principle of religious liberty and attempt to honor this commitment daily in my ministry."

In her new position, Cook oversees the work of more than 650 employed VA chaplains nationwide. She said she comes to the position at a critical time in health care.

"The chaplain ministry is facing a major challenge," she said. "As hospitals look for ways to reduce costs, some administrators are eliminating chaplains. This is a tragic mistake and disservice to our patients and their families."

Cook said research shows that spirituality and pastoral care have a measurable impact on mental and physical health. "We can reduce resources or eliminate chaplain services, but we cannot eliminate the spiritual needs and the impact these needs have on people."

She said chaplains can assist patients with spiritual support during the times when they need it most. "When people are ill, often their normal defenses are failing and they are more willing to discuss their spiritual needs," she said.

Cook, who has a master's degree from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, was the first woman ordained as a Southern Baptist minister in Oklahoma in 1980 by her home church, First Baptist of Enid.

"My calling to the ministry as a chaplain is a clear one, but a calling that I believe God shared kindly and slowly," she said.

With additional reporting by Baptist Press

## Ax-wielding students share wood & faith

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (BP)—Students and faculty of Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary braved the last snowstorm of the winter to gather firewood to share with neighbors in the community.

Armed with chainsaws, axes and hedge clippers, members of the newly formed Midwestern Gospel Woodcutting and Chowder Society met in mid-March to cut, hack and snip pieces of wood into fireplace-sized chunks.

The wood was arranged into bundles of kindling and firewood to distribute to residents of the north Kansas City area along with a friendly greeting from their seminary neighbor.

With a 100-acre woods on half the seminary campus, the society clears fallen trees and shares the wood with anyone in the neighborhood with a fireplace who wants it. After several hours of this labor of love, the group is treated to a hearty lunch of chowder provided by Sharon Coppenger, wife of seminary President Mark Coppenger.

"God has blessed us with health and strength to wield saw and ax, and with hearts to share this wood and the gospel," explains the note attached to



**LUMBERJACKS** Students and faculty of Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Kansas City, Mo., formed the Midwestern Gospel Woodcutting and Chowder Society to cut firewood and share it with neighboring households. (BP photo by Tammi Ledbetter)

the wood.

The label shares the Christian message that Jesus died on the cross for sinners, was buried and rose again from the dead, and that anyone can have salvation and an abundant life simply by turning to him, repenting and having faith in Christ. An invita-

tion is given to respond in writing or by phone.

"Sometimes people share prayer concerns with us," Mark Coppenger said, "and then we have an opportunity to pray with them. It is amazing how praying with people touches them. It lets them know that we care."

"God has blessed us with health and strength to wield saw and ax, and with hearts to share this wood and the gospel," explains the note attached to the wood.

## Fireman's book recounts stories of saved lives & saved souls

By Kevin Eckstrom  
Religion News Service

FORT PIERCE, Fla. (RNS)—Tommy Neiman was ready to head home after a 24-hour shift as a firefighter-paramedic for St. Lucie County Fire-Rescue when he got a call from a supervisor asking him to take an extra overtime shift.

Neiman was reluctant, but agreed to take a half-day duty at a station on South Hutchinson Island, a posh community on Florida's east coast.

Not long after he got there, the station received a call for assistance at an island condo. When Neiman's crew arrived, they found a man lying in the condo parking lot, his legs a bloodied and mangled mess after he had jumped off the condo roof.

Neiman saw not only a life worth saving, but a soul that needed immediate attention.

On the way to the hospital, Neiman shared his Christian faith with "Allen," a lapsed Jew from Miami who had tried unsuccessfully to kill himself earlier that day with a gun. After a long recovery, Allen became a Christian and one of Neiman's closest friends. He even asked Neiman to be his best man at his wedding.

For Neiman, that overtime shift was divine intervention, and a changed life was evidence he was called to share his Christian faith with those in life-threatening trauma.

"I knew Allen needed hope," Neiman wrote in a new book, "Sirens for the Cross," a compilation of 14 years of seeing God at work while a paramedic for St. Lucie County Fire-Rescue. "I knew he needed peace and meaning in life. I knew he needed a vision for the future, and I knew I needed God's guidance if I was to be used by him."

Writing a book is just the newest career

for Neiman, 36, who also is the pastor of Okeechobee Road Baptist Chapel, a full-time firefighter, regional director for the Fellowship of Christian Firefighters International and a father of three.

Released in February, the book is a Rescue 911 account of saving lives, battling fires and seeing God at work. Neiman also peppers the book with anecdotes from the rescue calls that were more funny than life-threatening.

A lifelong Florida resident, Neiman said he wants the book to show the fans of real-life drama TV shows that the power of God is stronger than the fires, accidents and violent crime he's witnessed.

"There are spiritual things happening as well as physical things," Neiman said.

What's more, Neiman said he wants to encourage emergency crews that it is important to rely on a higher power, especially when danger is imminent.

"Christians in the fire-emergency service need to be encouraged to know they can count on the Lord to be with them in the hopeless situations we face in our jobs."

In fact, Neiman said it would be virtually impossible to approach his job without a spiritual background to rely on. The day-in, day-out trauma can be overwhelming, he said, but seeing lives changed is what keeps him going.

The blood-and-guts trauma so routine in Neiman's job makes its way into the book, but Neiman said he took special precaution to not offend his readers.

"I didn't try to be gross in my book, but I wanted to be accurate in detail," he said.

"Sirens for the Cross" contains a number of stories, ranging from life-threatening to downright scary. There are church fires, serious car accidents and emergencies, like

the drunken partygoer who fell through a glass door, landed on a cactus and almost died from the blood loss.

Perhaps the most memorable story is of a young woman who was stabbed multiple times in a bad neighborhood. When rescuers arrived on the scene, the woman was being restrained by a mentally unstable man who would not let Neiman attend to her wounds. He said the incident had strong spiritual overtones when the man said only, "Let the blood flow."

"It was the most reminding example of how God let the blood flow from his Son at Calvary," he said.

Pastoring a church full-time has been a special challenge for Neiman. If his schedule works out right, he only has to be on duty as a firefighter once every three weeks. When he is on duty, he finds someone to cover for him for an hour and a half so he can preach on Sunday mornings.

His small congregation is equally understanding, he said. "They know they have a firefighter for their pastor."

Balancing a life of faith with the macho life of firefighting can be a challenge, said Gaius Reynolds, director of the 2,000-member Fellowship of Christian Firefighters International. Neiman makes the grade with ease, Reynolds said.

"Fire service as a rule is a real macho industry," Reynolds said. "We're trained to be in charge once we get on scene and we can take whatever we get. Tommy has an empathy for firefighters as well as that few firefighters have."

Added Reynolds' wife, Sue, who co-wrote the book with Neiman: "I've worked with a lot of people, and Christians too, and Tommy's one who walks the walk and talks the talk and lives the life."

