

PRACTICAL RESOURCES FOR CHRISTIAN LIVING

# WESTERN RECORDER

August 29, 2000  
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## KENTUCKY NOTES



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### FOR THE RECORD

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Dated Material — Deliver by Wednesday, August 30

## Polls say values will shape 2000 presidential vote

By Mark O'Keefe  
Religion News Service

WASHINGTON (RNS)—In the midst of the most prosperous U.S. economy in history, the 2000 presidential campaign hinges in large part on the concern, shown in poll after poll, that America has lost its moral compass.

More specifically, pollsters and politicians say, the election will depend on voters' perceptions of which party can best point the country toward true north.

Both Republicans and Democrats have dissected the surveys and carefully tailored their messages in an effort to win a national referendum on faith, values and character.

The wholesome appeals aren't aimed at the Religious Right, but at the morally anxious middle and the swing voters—most of them women—who could determine the election's outcome.

The contest pits Vice President Al Gore, a Southern Baptist family man trying to escape the lingering shadow of President Clinton's sex and lying scandal, against the born-again Texas Gov. George W. Bush, who preaches a gospel of "compassionate conservatism" in contrast to the less-forgiving tone of Republicans past.

Add a Democratic running mate, Sen. Joseph Lieberman of Connecticut, an Orthodox Jew who gives "Silver Sewer" awards to Hollywood's worst moral offenders, and you have the makings of a campaign for piety as well as for president.

"Elections of the past have been based mainly on the economy," said John Green, director of the Ray Bliss Institute of Applied Politics at the University of Akron in Ohio. "But this time around, values questions may get equal billing."

Religious conservatives, who mostly were muzzled at the Republican National Convention, are delighted to see more values-laden issues on center stage, even if it's the Democrats who are advancing them.

"This shifts the whole debate on these issues radically to the right, in my opinion," said Free Congress Foundation president Paul Weyrich, who in the past has lamented the faltering political influence of the religious right. "Whereas these were the unspoken issues before, they suddenly have become central to the discussion."

The issues aren't about hard  
□ See Poll: Values will ..., page 9

## Baptists go to internationals 'Among Us'

By David Winfrey  
News Director

LOUISVILLE—A Japanese student at the University of Louisville approached Tommy Johnson after seeing the "Jesus" film, which portrays Jesus' life, crucifixion and resurrection.

"I didn't know Jesus and the man who died on the cross were the same person," she said.

Communicating the basics of the Christian faith is a regular function for ministries to international students at colleges and universities throughout Kentucky.

It is Johnson's job to help churches and campus ministries do more work among the 6,000 international students who study each year in Kentucky.

It is a classic example of international missions coming to Kentucky, providing an opportunity to reach people from some places where missionaries can't even travel.

It also is among the work being highlighted this year for the Eliza Broadus State Missions Offering, sponsored by Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union.

This year's goal is \$1,000,000.

Johnson was hired in February as the Kentucky Baptist Convention's international student campus minister.

His goal is to strengthen existing outreaches to international students while helping more campuses develop ministries for students from abroad.

About 10 campuses currently have some ministry presence for international students, Johnson said.

The most extensive Baptist outreach for international students is at the University of Louisville, he said. At that campus alone last year, 635 people came from 82 different countries to study.

Johnson, 27, said he learned about some of the needs of international students from a roommate at Western Kentucky University who was from Venezuela.

"I just saw how isolated the experience could be if you don't get plugged into student groups and the community," he said.

"Students get here and oftentimes they're struggling to grasp the language or get to the grocery store or find transportation to somewhere, as well as missing a home and family," he said. "A lot of them come with a lot of pressure to do well in school."

Johnson said that during his first six months at the new job he developed a statewide strategy, summed up in the words "relationship, service and ministry."

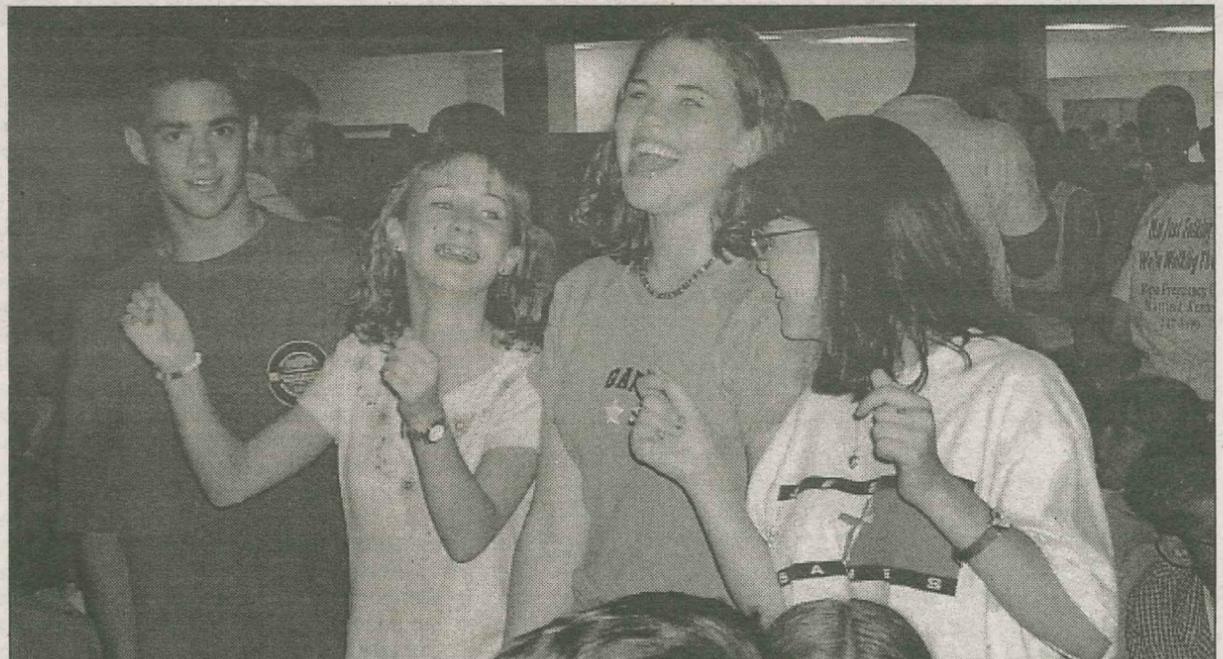
Churches and campus ministries can begin building relationships as soon as international students reach

the local airport. Churches sometimes provide rides to campus and plan meals or field trips at which students can get to know other students as well as those who participate in ministries.

Often the most needed service for international students is becoming more proficient in English. A model ministry developed at the University of Louisville is the Conversation Café. Hosted  
□ See Kentucky Baptists ..., page 6

## Among Us

Eliza Broadus State Missions Offering



**YOUTH RALLY** Students enjoy music during the "Firm Foundation" youth rally in Mayfield. The event was intended to signal the end of the 15-week revival, but some leaders have moved the meeting to an Assembly of God church. Several Baptist leaders have bowed out of the meeting, citing concerns about charismatic worship practices. (Photo courtesy of the Mayfield Messenger)

## Baptist presence declines at Mayfield revival

By Ken Walker  
State Correspondent

MAYFIELD—The spontaneous revival that broke out in Mayfield and led to about 880 conversions continues, but with a diminished Baptist presence.

The "Let's Have Church" crusade officially ended Aug. 18 with a youth rally at Trace Creek Baptist Church, about seven miles north of town. But on Aug. 25, an organizer shifted services to First Assembly of God in Mayfield.

"In my spirit I haven't felt a release from this crusade," said Tim Allred, pastor of Sedalia Baptist Church. "Any time you make a move like this you're going to gain some and lose some."

"This is no doubt making some Bap-

tist people uncomfortable," he said of moving to a Pentecostal church. "But I see a John 17 thing. Jesus talked about His people being one that the world may know Him."

Original musicians Gerald and Cindy Simmons of Gulfport, Miss., still are leading the music, but a new evangelist, Paul Tsika, preached the first weekend in the new location.

He replaced Brady Weldon, who has experienced recurring strains on his throat. Weldon, who is to visit his doctor in Nashville this week, said he is praying about further involvement.

"Right now I'm trying to take care of my health and see what the Lord wants me to do," he said. "I preached 29 times in July. If the doctor clears me, I might. I have a very busy fall

schedule."

The change in evangelists parallels a pullout of Kentucky Baptist leadership, with Allred the only one left. The other pastors on the informal steering committee that guided the first 15 weeks of services are shunning the new event.

Charles Bunton, former pastor of New Hope Baptist Church, said the rest of the group felt the revival had lost its focus. They also were concerned about holding services in a Pentecostal church, he added.

"If it had been an Evangelical Free, independent Baptist or Christian & Missionary Alliance (church), that would have been OK," he said. "We feel the doctrinal viewpoint of people regarding tongues would be violated  
□ See Baptist presence ..., page 3

## BAPTIST DIGEST

■ **IMB issues new videos.** The International Mission Board has released three new videotape series about missions work around the world. "Kids on Mission" is for children ages 5-12. "The Task" is for students in high school and college. "Global Harvest" is for adults. Each quarterly tape features six two-minute stories about Southern Baptist missions work. For information, call (800) 866-3621 or visit the Web site [www.imb.org/video](http://www.imb.org/video).

■ **Fund established to honor journalist.** Associated Baptist Press has established a fund honoring the memory of veteran Baptist journalist Al Shackleford. Shackleford, 68, died July 23 from injuries sustained in an auto accident near his home in Franklin, Tenn. Shackleford was a founding member of ABP's board. Warner said the ABP staff and board of directors would work with the Shackleford family to determine "the most appropriate way for ABP to honor Al's memory."

■ **Baptist Press announces sports coverage.** Baptist Press will launch a new service to provide national coverage of all Baptist college and university athletic teams, according to Will Hall, vice president for convention news for the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee. BP Sports will begin operation Sept. 5 and will feature scores, game summaries and feature stories from Baptist institutions nationwide, Hall said.

■ **Midwestern OK'd for new programs.** New degree programs, as well as course offerings via the Internet and a Tulsa, Okla., extension site, have been approved for Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary by the Association of Theological Schools. The ATS Commission on Accrediting reported its approval of Midwestern's proposal for a doctor of educational ministry degree in mid-June and a preliminary approval for a master of arts degree. The master of arts degree would allow students to specialize in biblical archaeology, biblical languages and counseling.

■ **Utah-Idaho executive leaving post.** Jim Harding, executive director of the Utah-Idaho Southern Baptist Convention, is leaving the post to become pastor of First Baptist Church, West Valley City, Utah. Harding, 52, has led the two-state convention since 1995. He will leave Oct. 1.

■ **Southwestern's Newport dies.** John Newport, distinguished professor emeritus of philosophy of religion at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, died Aug. 18 in Fort Worth, Texas. He was 83. Newport suffered a stroke in June and has been hospitalized ever since, spending much of the time in a coma. Newport was an authority on the New Age, cults and world religions.

■ **New Orleans' Stephens dies.** Genter Leroy Stephens, professor emeritus of church music at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, died Aug. 10 at Metropolitan Hospice in New Orleans. He was 88. In addition to teaching at the seminary, from which he retired in 1977, he taught at Carson-Newman College in Jefferson City, Tenn.; Belmont College in Nashville; Cumberland University in Lebanon, Tenn.; and George Peabody College at Vanderbilt University in Nashville.



"I was hired as your music minister because I'm supremely qualified. I'm sorry you didn't know I was an agnostic."

## Tanzania openness requires more workers

By Erin Curry  
SBC International Mission Board

DAR ES SALAAM, Tanzania (BP)—Missionaries in Tanzania are calling for volunteers to help share the gospel with thousands of Muslims who have shown openness to the gospel.

Southern Baptist missionaries say a total of 367 people accepted Christ when 10 volunteers from Kentucky partnered with Vingunguti Baptist Church in Dar es Salaam for a 10-day outreach to the Zaramo people.

During the first day, the group prayerwalked around the community. Then they began evangelism and taught discipleship classes for children and adults. The gospel was presented in more than 700 homes, missionaries said.

They showed the "Jesus" film twice, and predominantly Muslim crowds of 700 to 1,000 people gathered to watch it.

This victory is amazing to those who are familiar with the people group.

The Zaramo are a tribal group with strong ties to Islam. Ninety-eight percent hold to traditional animistic beliefs

under a veneer of folk Islam. The Zaramo people traditionally have been hard to reach with the gospel because commitment to Islam is expected.

"Witchcraft, sorcery and black magic are widely practiced among the Zaramo, and as a result most live in perpetual fear and darkness," said Kevin Barnes, a Southern Baptist missionary to Tanzania.

Barnes and his wife, Sonya, began a new work among the unreached Zaramo in 1998, when they were appointed as church planters and developers in the area.

In January, missionaries Doug and Karen Lehman joined them to establish a medical ministry among the people.

The team is conducting a worldview and ethnographic study of the Zaramo.

"Only until we come to a clear understanding as to who the Zaramo are and what worldview they hold will we begin to know what strategies will be most effective in establishing an indigenous church planting movement among them," Barnes said.

"Reach the Wazaramo of Dar" is a yearlong project Barnes has developed to involve a partnership of Southern

Baptist volunteers and Tanzanian Baptists to reach the people group for Christ.

The volunteer group from Kentucky helped complete the first phase. The second phase involves a second team of volunteers to join the local Baptist church with a more balanced approach to evangelism and discipleship within the group.

Phase three calls for a third group of volunteers to concentrate on discipling the new Zaramo believers so they can establish study groups among themselves.

The project is heavily dependent on Southern Baptist volunteers from the United States. Without their response, the plans will not succeed, Barnes said.

"People are not responding," he said. "We need more laborers who are willing to come and serve alongside their missionaries and fellow Tanzanian brethren."

For information about volunteer opportunities, call the Kentucky Baptist Convention's partnership missions office at (888) 254-5724 or call the International Mission Board at (800) 888-8657. To contact Kevin and Sonya Barnes directly, e-mail [KBarnes@maf.org](mailto:KBarnes@maf.org).

## N.C. Baptists expecting challenge on CP option

By Bob Allen  
Associated Baptist Press

RALEIGH, N.C. (ABP)—Baptist leaders in North Carolina reportedly are gearing up to defend an option that allows churches to contribute to state-wide ministries without passing funds on to the Southern Baptist Convention.

Traditionally, Baptist state conventions collect money from churches for a Cooperative Program unified budget that simultaneously funds both the respective state convention and the SBC.

The state convention determines a percentage to divide those funds between intra-state and worldwide efforts. Under the arrangement, introduced in 1925, state and national conventions remain autonomous and cannot dictate policy to one another.

After conservatives won control of the SBC in the 1980s, however, a few state groups added flexibility to their giving plans to accommodate moderate churches that still affirm the state organization but want to bypass national ministries they no longer support.

The Baptist State Convention of North Carolina currently has four giving options. Three options forward various amounts to the SBC. The fourth divides funds between the state convention and the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, a moderate splinter group that

formed in 1991.

With conservatives gaining influence in the Carolina convention, however, some now are saying the state office should no longer count gifts to the CBF as Cooperative Program and that Tarheel Baptists should strengthen ties to the SBC.

Whether CBF gifts are counted as part of the Cooperative Program is important for bragging rights. Contributions to the unified budget are a traditional yardstick to measure loyalty to and support for the state convention. Those are factors that often come into play when it comes time to elect officers or appoint members of a particular church to key leadership committees.

More importantly, the amount given through the Cooperative Program also is used in a formula based on membership and denominational support to determine how many voting messengers a church can send to the annual state convention meeting.

According to a report in the North Carolina Baptist newspaper, leaders anticipate a motion will come from the floor at the state convention's annual meeting this November to do away with the CBF option.

Members of a budget committee said they discussed a possible challenge but decided not to recommend a change in the current giving scheme. The state

General Board's executive committee held a similar discussion Aug. 15. Members of the budget committee say they are prepared to defend the multiple plans, if necessary.

The symbiotic relationship between autonomous Southern Baptist churches, associations and state and national conventions was described by one former leader as "a rope of sand with the strength of steel."

The genius of the plan was demonstrated in massive growth during the mid-20th century that made Southern Baptists the second-largest faith group in America, behind Roman Catholics.

Whether that unity of purpose can survive the struggle that has divided conservatives and moderates since the 1970s might be an open question.

Some programs—like church starting, state missions, Sunday school and discipleship training and campus ministry—are funded jointly by state conventions and national entities. That works well when relationships are healthy but becomes thornier when organizations don't see eye to eye.

In some states, including North Carolina, Baptist colleges have started divinity programs as alternatives to conservative SBC seminaries. Seminaries, meanwhile, which traditionally offered only master's and doctor's degrees, have started baccalaureate programs.

## Southern Seminary adding four professors to faculty

LOUISVILLE—Professors in counseling, music and worship, missions and New Testament interpretation recently were added to the faculty at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville.

■ Eric Johnson, formerly of Northwestern College, was named associate professor of personality and pastoral theology. President Al Mohler said Johnson will bring depth to the seminary's biblical counseling program.

"We must redefine and re-establish

Christian counseling on a more biblical basis. The practice of adopting secular psychologies for Christian use must end," Mohler said. "Eric Johnson is the quality of Christian scholar who will be a pioneer in this task."

■ Carl Stam was named associate professor of church music and worship. Stam previously was pastor of worship and music at Chapel Hill Bible Church in Chapel Hill, N.C., since 1991. Previously, he was a member of the University of Notre Dame's music faculty.

■ Randy Smith was named assistant professor of missions at Boyce College. Since 1989 Smith has served as founder and CEO for Youth Ministry International, which has offices at Boyce College.

■ William Cook was named associate professor of New Testament interpretation. Prior to coming to Southern, Cook served as chair of the theology division and associate professor of New Testament and Greek at Baptist College of Florida.

## Mayfield rally starts the school year off right, leaders say

By Ken Walker  
State Correspondent

MAYFIELD—Organizers say the recent "Firm Foundation" youth rally in Mayfield set a positive tone for the new school year.

Held at Trace Creek Baptist Church's multi-purpose building, the Aug. 18 rally attracted more than 2,800 teens. It was billed as the finale to the "Let's Have Church" crusade that sprang up here in early May.

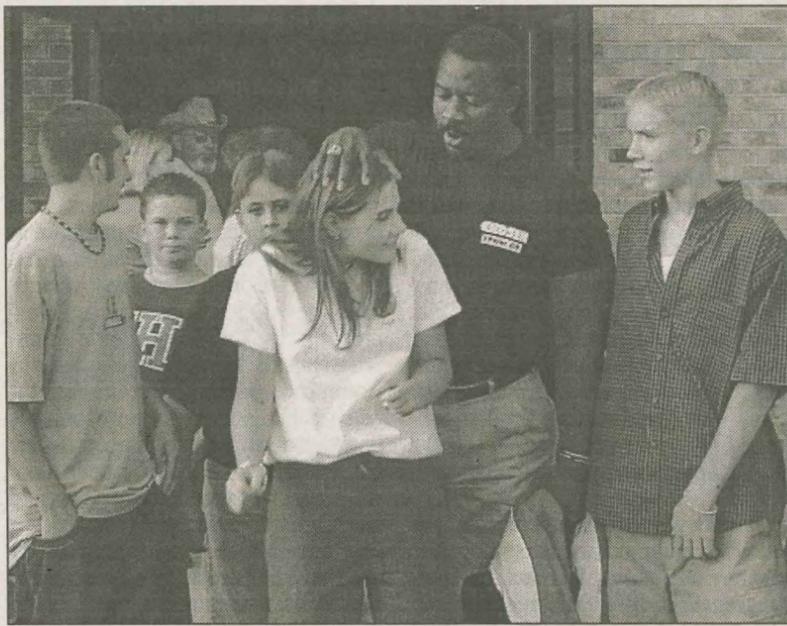
At the event, 31 young people made first-time professions of faith in Jesus Christ as their personal Savior. Another 37 youth rededicated their lives to Jesus, said Tony Adams, associate pastor of Trace Creek.

"They are so hungry," said Adams, who oversees the church's youth program. "They know this world isn't offering them anything worthwhile. They sense that true fulfillment only comes through Christ."

"God just poured out his blessing," said Chad Lamb, pastor of Enon Baptist Church. "It was jumping. I liked that atmosphere. These teenagers are stepping up to the plate and saying, 'We need to make a stand.'"

Started in 1996 by Adams and Lamb, the event's primary financial backing comes from businesses in Mayfield, Paducah and Murray. Lamb said this year's cost \$18,000. It included a concert by contemporary Christian singer Al Denson.

Motivational speaker R.V.



**YOUTH RALLY** R.V. Brown plays around with students at the "Firm Foundation" youth rally in Mayfield. Brown, is founder of Outreach to America's Youth and chaplain for the Tampa Bay Buccaneers.

Brown, who preached at the Friday night service, also spoke at half a dozen middle and high school assemblies earlier that week.

Based in Chattanooga, Tenn., Brown is the chaplain for the Tampa Bay Buccaneers and heads a ministry called Outreach to America's Youth. It was the second consecutive year he had appeared in Mayfield.

Enon Baptist's pastor said his message concerned making positive choices, such as abstaining from alcohol, drugs and premarital sexual

activity.

"R.V. has a way of connecting with kids," he said. "Everyone was raving about him."

"Brown gets you pumped up," agreed John Kyle Allred, a 15-year-old member of Trace Creek and one of Firm Foundation's student leaders. "The rally got us started for the school year. It just makes you want to live better. It was great for people in their spiritual walk, to revive them."

The sophomore at Graves County High School said the event al-

ready had made an impact at his school. A before-school prayer group that meets near the commons area has swollen to more than 40 people, compared to about 15 in the past, he said.

The group also meets twice a week in a downstairs classroom for Bible study and discussion. He said the room is now packed regularly.

This year's rally attracted about 400 more students than last years. The attendance of more than 2,800 teens is considerably more than 500 students attracted to the first event four years ago.

Allred credits this year's attendance increase to the impact of the 15-week crusade at Trace Creek.

"I knew a lot of people last year who didn't want to come to church," he said. "This year they are (Christians) and coming to youth group."

"God is using young people," he added. "He's going to use teens in our schools to witness to other young people. When you become a Christian, you want to share your faith."

A veteran of 12 years in youth ministry, Adams said he detects a different spirit among teenagers compared to a decade ago. They have more of a heart to seek God, he said, which he attributes to the Holy Spirit working in their hearts.

"They have more of a sense of urgency about our responsibility to serve Christ than I've ever seen," he said. "I'm not talking about sitting on a pew. They want to be involved in every aspect, whether it's worship, soul winning or being disciplined. It's exciting to lead them."

**"God is using young people. ... They have more of a sense of urgency about our responsibility to serve Christ than I've ever seen."**

Tony Adams, associate pastor of Trace Creek Baptist Church in Mayfield

## Baptist presence declining at Mayfield revival

Continued from page 1  
in this atmosphere.

"We believe in the Holy Spirit and His ministry, but we don't believe tongues are for today," he added. "We don't believe in people being slain in the Spirit. We felt there was no control over things like that because it was at First Assembly."

Ironically, Bunton resigned from New Hope Aug. 9 because of a controversy stirred by the revival. While he declined to discuss details, the retired military veteran said the issue of praise and worship music led to his departure. The worship leader resigned the same day.

One criticism voiced by opponents of the enthusiastic, non-traditional form of music is that it leads to tongues, a stance Bunton disputes.

"We don't want to be associated with (tongues)," he said. "This is a new and different meeting, not a continuation of the meeting at Trace Creek. We're not going to join and be part of the leadership."

Trace Creek Pastor Ronnie Stinson said other situations were cropping up on the crusade's perimeter.

A youth pastor at a Baptist church had resigned after a dispute erupted over whether his group should attend the revival on Sunday nights. Such problems, coupled with declining attendance and weariness among sponsoring churches, led them to decide it was time to stop, Stinson said.

"We had accomplished what we

could do," he said. "We wanted to end it on a high note, in case we wanted to come back and do it again, like for two weeks in the summer."

Stinson agreed with Bunton that moving to a church identified with charismatic practices presented a huge barrier for many Baptists.

"They're not going to cross those lines to that degree," Stinson said. "I don't think any of us want to be identified as charismatic."

However, the senior pastor of First Assembly said its only involvement is allowing the use of its facilities.

Mark Terhune said his congregation appreciates the revival's Baptist roots and will maintain control over practices that some might find objectionable. First Assembly has hosted other interdenominational services in the past, he added.

"As we host the meetings, we want the Spirit of God to reach out to the community," he said. "I don't think you're going to see any manifestations of tongues, not on our part. We respect the Baptist church. We're their guests. As far as I'm concerned, on Friday, Saturday and Sunday nights this becomes a Baptist church."

First Assembly can accommodate up to 700 people, plus an overflow area for 800 more. That compares to seating for more than 2,000 people at Trace Creek's multi-purpose building. But First Assembly will be easier for visitors to find, since it is on the west side of Mayfield near the Purchase

Parkway.

Allred said he recognizes Baptist participation likely will decline but he feels strongly about the need to continue. He said he can't control what people do at First Assembly, just as he can't control those who show up at Baptist churches with a sour spirit.

"God may want us to head this way because He wants to bring the Assembly church into a balance," he said. "I think it's interesting. I'm really excited. God does so many things in a non-traditional way."

Even those who won't join the new revival said they hope nothing detracts from what happened at Trace Creek.

"It was very positive," Stinson remarked. "I would consider doing it again without a second thought."

Weldon said God had shown him the revival became a well for people to draw on and had sparked life in many local churches. He still receives phone messages and e-mails regularly from people whose lives have been blessed.

One man's father accepted Christ as Savior at the last service at Trace Creek, capping 25 years of prayer by the son, Weldon said. Another related how his stepson became a Christian a couple of weeks before dying in a motorcycle accident.

"I have seen God give a hunger for Him to people who were contented in their walk," he said. "It's affected the lives of a lot of people and a lot of churches."

### BLUEGREASS BURGEOO

■ **Operation Cooperation sites added.** Additional blood drive sites for Operation Cooperation have been added in Owensboro and Madisonville. The blood drives, promoted by the Kentucky Baptist Convention, are designed to promote the Cooperative Program. In Owensboro, drives will be held Sept. 12 at First Baptist Church of Owensboro, Sept. 13 at Macedonia Baptist Church, Sept. 19 at Third Baptist Church, Sept. 20 at Bellevue Baptist Church, Sept. 21 at Walnut Memorial Baptist Church and Sept. 25 at Yellow Creek Baptist Church. In Madisonville, drives will be held Sept. 9 at First Baptist Church of Madisonville, Sept. 13 at Nortonville Baptist Church, and Sept. 21 at Silent Run Baptist Church.

■ **Literacy missions volunteers to be honored.** Kentucky Baptist Convention literacy missions volunteers will be honored and encouraged at the third annual literacy missions conference Sept. 22-23 at Severns Valley Baptist Church in Elizabethtown. A recognition dinner and training conferences led by Southern Baptist North American Mission Board staff also is scheduled. For more information, call the KBC extension-ministries department at (502) 244-6461 or toll-free at (888) 254-5725.

■ **MarriageFest scheduled for Cave City.** MarriageFest, a Kentucky Baptist Convention-sponsored retreat to help couples rediscover joy in their marriages, will be held Sept. 29-Oct. 1 at the Cave City Convention Center. Bob and Yvonne Turnbull will be keynote speakers and workshop leaders. The event also will include worship and workshops. Registration costs \$75. The fee includes dinner on Friday evening and Saturday brunch. Lodging and other meals are not included. For information, call the KBC family ministry department at (502) 254-4719 or (888) 254-5704. For information on MarriageFest's deaf track, call Tim Bender at (502) 957-6820.

## 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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## Salary inequities

The church compensation study in the Aug. 15 issue of the Western Recorder was instructive in that it indicated Kentucky churches are comparable to counterparts in the 18 state conventions polled in the matter of church-staff wages and compensation packages.

However, the study was more significant for what it did not point out, namely, the horrific difference between the compensation packages for pastors and those for other church staff members. In churches having average attendance of more than 150, pastors averaged 49 percent more compensation than other professional staff members. In churches having attendance of more than 600, the

differential was 66 percent, and in churches having attendance above 1,000, pastors averaged 72 percent more than their professional co-workers.

The average secretary's package in a church of more than 1,000 in attendance was 26 percent of that of the pastor; for the custodian, the figure was 28 percent. These are the people who manage day-to-day operations and do the heavy lifting.

At a time when there is a great outcry regarding the disparity between the earnings of corporate executives and their workers, the similar disparity in churches is unseemly.

The insensitivity of church members in this matter is puzzling; however, the onus for correcting this circumstance lies mainly on the pastor's shoulders. He either can lead the congregation in bringing about fairness, or he can take his marbles and go home. Professional staff members may be as well—or better—prepared as he is academically, and all the workers have to provide for themselves and/or their families.

One should put himself in the shoes of the staffer who, recognizing the inequity, must wonder if he or she is appreciated for the effort made, or simply

regarded as a burdensome hired hand—sometimes expendable, at that.

James L. Clark  
Lexington

## Learn the truth

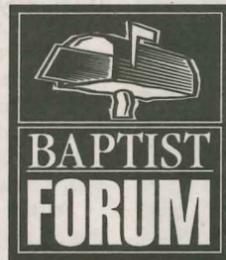
I recently submitted a letter in response to Robert DeFoor's concerns about Calvinism growing in Southern Baptist ranks. You were right to not publish that letter because of its 650-word length.

I'm glad because there is an easier way for anyone who honestly seeks the truth concerning Bible doctrine. Attend the 18th annual Sovereign Grace Bible Conference the first full week of August 2001. (Sorry, you're too late this year.)

It is not your usual conference. It's a full week of high, holy worship, Bible teaching and anointed preaching. The congregation of Main Street Baptist Church in Lexington and their pastor, Elder D.J. Ward are a beautiful portrait of what Calvinism, when correctly taught and believed, looks like. Elder Ward is to the Bible and preaching what the University of Kentucky is to basketball; nothing but the highest standard tolerated.

I was raised in a Southern Baptist church and I've pastored a Southern Baptist church for more than 16 years. I thank God that there are many exceptions, but most of what I see and hear being presented in the way of preaching, teaching and practice in Southern Baptist churches is no different than that of Roman Catholic, Methodist, Pentecostal and Disciple of Christ churches. It is just wrapped in different packages.

Rather than be troubled by Calvinism, DeFoor should embrace the clear, absolute Bible doctrine outlined in the "Five Points of Grace," thus strengthening the influence of the gospel in the world. We are most blessed in Kentucky to have Main Street Baptist Church as our sister church. Elder Ward is a faith-



## CHURCH

## 'Tithing Counts' offers biblical view of giving

By Doug Strader

It is almost time for churches to begin planning their budgets for the new church year. I know we are just completing the eighth month of the current calendar year, but the churches that begin an

early budget process usually do a much better job. By planning early, you can eliminate much of the stress that results from little or no planning. If your church stewardship committee or budget committee has not already begun the process, now is the time to begin to assure adequate time to complete the process with less stress.

The Kentucky Baptist Convention has a budget promotion emphasis this year called "Tithing Counts." What is Tithing Counts and how does it work?

Tithing Counts is a three-Sunday tithers' enlistment emphasis. It is a simple, straightforward emphasis to be used in conjunction with a church's budget development to enlist church members to be tithers.

The first Sunday of the emphasis is built around the theme of repentance. The Scripture reference is Malachi 3:6-12, and the idea presented is that we strengthen our personal relationship with God through tithing. There also is a drama that can be used all three Sundays of the emphasis.

The second Sunday focuses on the theme of discovery. The Scripture reference is Genesis 28:10-22. The idea is that God often is encountered in unexpected places. We can find His blessing through tithing. On the second Sunday there is a Sunday school lesson for children, youth and adults.

The third Sunday's theme is surrender, and the Scripture is Deuteronomy 8:17-20. The idea is presented that our strength and all our blessings come from God and demand a generous response on our part. At the end of the third Sunday a challenge is given to those present to make a commitment to begin tithing by signing a "Count on Me" card.

All the material needed for this emphasis can be ordered from the Kentucky Baptist stewardship department. We provide camera-ready material for you to use to make copies for your church. If you have questions or if you would like to order the material now, contact our office and we will get the material to you promptly.

Doug Strader is director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention's stewardship department

## PARTNERS IN THE MISSION

### Among us

People from around the world are coming to Kentucky in record numbers. The needs of people settling in a new land are opening doors for sharing the gospel.

Some internationals come to Kentucky as students and return to their homelands when their degrees are completed. Others come for business or short-term assignments. Still other immigrants come to Kentucky to stay, either as refugees or to live out a dream of coming to the United States to find prosperity and opportunities.

I am grateful that a growing number of Kentucky Baptists are responding to the call to minister to internationals. Hundreds of churches are responding in ministry to Hispanics who are seeking job opportunities in rural and metro areas. Grundy Janes, a former international missionary, is providing excellent leadership as a KBC staff resource person to associations and churches in developing language ministries.

Likewise, Tommy Johnson is busy working through our collegiate ministry department to develop international outreach plans on Kentucky's college campuses. There are currently about 3,500 international students attending school here in Kentucky. Tommy previously worked with international students through the Baptist Student Union at the University of Louisville.



Bill Mackey

The Week of Prayer for State Missions, Sept. 10-17, provides an excellent opportunity for Kentucky Baptists to learn about international missions and ministries to internationals in the commonwealth. An insert in the Sept. 5 edition of the Western Recorder will focus on four Kentucky ministries to internationals: Friendship International, international student ministry, migrant ministry and racetrack ministry.

A packet of information has been mailed to every church along with an order form for additional materials including a free videotape featuring

ful, godly preacher. I humbly and gladly sit at his feet that I may learn the precious truth of God's Word.

I've never met Al Mohler; saw him on TV once. He did an excellent job. I sure am glad he's on our side.

Robert B. Logue  
Lawrenceburg

## Avoid politics

I have been deeply concerned about the continuous coverage in the Western Recorder on the subject of politics. After I read the July 25 article, "Groups split over whether voter guides are a problem" by Tom Strode of the Southern Baptist Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission, I felt a surge of relief. Finally, I thought, Western Recorder is knowledgeable about where our priorities are as a tax-exempt organization. And then I was appalled when I opened the August 15 issue and found a full-page coverage of "How is faith affecting the 2000 presidential election?" That thin line is getting thinner!

Jesus said the monies of the church and state are separate (Matthew 22:21). We already have violated that commandment. If Kentucky Baptists had rendered unto God that which is God's, the Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children would not have accepted funds from the state.

I believe every Baptist in Kentucky knows who the presidential candidates are, their religious affiliations and their issues. If you need space to fill your paper, please let me know. I can send you a volume on the continuation of our small church brought about by the 30 members of our young adult Sunday school class. I can send you an account of the 12 members of our youth department who bring down the Holy Spirit upon us with testimonial skits, worship in music and witness to the Great Commission.

Let us not fall victim to the turmoils of this world. Let us continue in prayer and encouragement and be a witness.

Fran Raymer  
Bowling Green

Friendship International and ministries to Hispanics. Age-graded materials also are available with excellent suggestions on how to understand and witness to internationals.

However, there are thousands of people in every county who are yet to be reached for Christ. The Mission Assistance Program, supported by the Eliza Broadus State Missions Offering, provides salary support to 20 association missionaries. The offering also enables five key churches in Eastern Kentucky to have a full-time pastor. Craft Colly Baptist Church in Letcher County is experiencing its most effective ministry in 30 years due to this financial support. Pastor Floyd Blake Sr. has shared excellent reports of how God has blessed the work.

I pray that Kentucky Baptists will respond prayerfully to the bold challenge of WMU to give \$800,000 for state missions and to meet the challenge goal of \$200,000 for new work in Kentucky. This is a wonderful opportunity for us to demonstrate our missionary spirit and love for our relatives and friends in the commonwealth.

Bill Mackey is executive director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention

## Teens traumatized by parents' separation need time to heal

**Q: My husband and I separated for six weeks and got back together 10 days ago. We began seeing a counselor and find that helpful. Our marriage survived, but the kids did not cope well with all of the fighting and separating. Our 15-year-old daughter and 18-year-old son are angry with both of us. They are more rebellious and do not trust that we will stay together. What can we do?**

Your youth have been traumatized by the confusion and instability. They need to talk out their feelings with each of you alone. They might need to talk with your counselor. Certain issues need to be addressed. First, they did not cause all of this. Second, your marriage problems do not mean that you no longer have authority as their parents. Third, they need an apology. Ask for forgiveness for the pain this mess put on them.

The issue of trust might lessen over time if the marriage does grow and keeps a steady course. A secure family builds trust one day at a time. While trust can be lost in a day, it will not return so quickly.

They perhaps used your preoccupation with the marriage strife to steal extra independence. Be clear about the rules and expectations for your daughter and son. Use the reaffirmation of the marriage as a time to start over as a family. Set out clear expectations for open communication, solving problems together, supporting each other, and time together and time apart. Faith is filled with second-chance stories. Build on this new beginning as a statement of commitment to each other and to God.—*Wade Rowatt*

**Q: My grandmother is having a difficult time with the death of Granddad. She cannot seem to get over his being gone. How can I help her with her pain and loss?**

Several people have studied grief in an effort to assist us in understanding what happens. John Bowlby and Colin Murray Parkes conclude that the journey of grief is a process that has specific steps or phases. See if you can identify where your grandmother is in the process, then find the activity to help her at that point to cope with her grief. Major steps include:

- Loss—acceptance of the reality of the grief. Grief is painful and intense.
- Protest—characterized by shock, numbness, confusion, anger and physical symptoms.
- Searching—in mind and in body.
- Despair—anguish, depression, slowed thinking and actions.
- Reorganization—bursts of energy, intermittent interest in life, indifference, fatigue, detachment, apathy.
- Reinvestment—finds a new identity, commitment to current relationships, new interests.

The goal in grieving is not to get over the loss. Sometimes people become stuck on the journey because they fear that they will get over the loss, and therefore be left as if the person who was lost was never in their lives. Rather, a healthy grieving process is one in which positive strengths are gained from the lost relationship and are incorporated into current life. Interpret these possibilities to your grandmother. Help the grief process become active and contain movement. Assure her that what is happening to her is typical and will move her to a better place and time in her life.—*Jon Rainbow*

*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; Jon Rainbow, a clinical gerontologist and professor at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary; and Wade Rowatt, director of the St. Matthews Pastoral Counseling Center in Louisville. Send questions for Family Forum to Western Recorder, Box 43969, Louisville, KY 40253 or e-mail us at wesrec@ntr.net.*



## Blood drive aids physical, spiritual needs

From Ashland to Mayfield, more than 60 Kentucky Baptist congregations across the state will host blood drives during the next few weeks.

The statewide blood drive, known as "Operation Cooperation," is a unique celebration of the Southern Baptist Cooperative Program's 75th anniversary.

What does donating blood have to do with Southern Baptists' unified giving plan? Just as the gift of blood is the literal lifeblood for people facing medical crises, the Cooperative Program has been described as the lifeblood of Southern Baptist mission and ministry efforts.

Even amid the tensions in denominational life over the past 20 years, Cooperative Program giving has remained strong. Kentucky Baptists are on track for another record year of Cooperative Program support, including the fourth straight year that gifts are expected to exceed budget.

Even more significant than Operation Cooperation's illustration of financial stewardship, however, is the vivid reminder of the lifeblood of Jesus. "For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed... but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect," 1 Peter 1:18-19 reminds us.

It is the message of redemption through Jesus' sacrificial death on the cross and His triumphant resurrection that gives us a reason to celebrate the Cooperative Program's global ministry impact. "Without shedding of blood," Hebrews 9:22 emphasizes, "there is no forgiveness."

Southern Baptists need to look no further than our traditional hymns to be reminded of the central focus of Christ's selfless gift of His blood for our benefit. The strains of "Nothing but the Blood," "There Is Power in the Blood" and "Are You Washed in the Blood?" have reverberated for generations in Baptist churches of all sizes.

As Kentucky Baptists donate the gift of blood for the benefit of people in need, the effort will provide creative witnessing opportunities for participants to discuss the life-giving blood of Jesus. According to Ken-

tucky Baptist Convention Executive Director Bill Mackey, the emphasis "is all about cooperation—a hallmark for Kentucky Baptists."

Among the participating churches, blood drive coordinators have set a combined goal of more than 4,000 units of blood. If that goal is achieved, Operation Cooperation likely will set a record for statewide blood donation.

Robert Reeves, director of the KBC communications/media department, said Operation Cooperation apparently is a one-of-a-kind effort. "Most blood drives are strictly local efforts," he noted, "but we're seeking to take it to a whole new level."

The blood drives, scheduled primarily from Sept. 10-23, will include events ranging from Sept. 9 to Oct. 7. In addition to blood donors, local Operation Cooperation sites need volunteers to help coordinate the donation efforts.

Several congregations are planning other events in conjunction with the local blood drives. Fun runs are being organized at several sites and the local committee in Somerset is planning a block party at a local park.

Organizers in Elizabethtown scheduled a weeklong "Walk Across Kentucky" promotion. Participants must pledge to be a blood donor or recruit others to donate blood. The goal is for participants to walk a combined total of at least 379 miles (the distance across Kentucky). Recognitions are planned for those who enlist the most blood donors and those who walk the most miles.

Whether it's donating a unit of blood, hosting a block party or working behind the scenes, Operation Cooperation offers a fun, hands-on way for Kentucky Baptists to aid their communities both physically and spiritually while celebrating the Cooperative Program's 75th anniversary.

For more information about Operation Cooperation, visit the KBC Web site at [www.kybaptist.org/operationcooperation.htm](http://www.kybaptist.org/operationcooperation.htm) or call (502) 254-4731 or toll-free at (888) 254-5713.

### STRAIGHT FROM THE EDITOR



Trennis Henderson

## Christ's love crosses income barriers

By Sandra Williams

*"Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of Mine, you did for Me." (Matthew 25:40).*

A couple of weeks ago while working with a group of older children in a low-income area, a friend was sharing John 3:16 and explaining the verse. As he said, "God sent His one and only Son to die for us..." one girl looked up in amazement and said, "Wow, God should have had more children." How exciting it was to be able to come back to her and share that He did. We are His adopted children!

His children are all around us and what a responsibility we have to reach out to them, especially those who are hurting and in need. When we describe those who are living in low-income areas, we are talking about individuals, people with names and faces. They may live in a mobile home park, public housing, in a shelter, under a bridge or on the street.

Almost every community has the

opportunity to touch the lives of those in need right around them, perhaps first helping meet an immediate physical need and then sharing Christ in ways they can understand. One time when we were working in an inner-city day camp, a video was shown of some people being baptized. As the new Christians in the video came up out of the water, several little girls whispered to each other, "They didn't die?" Somehow they had understood that when people "give their lives" to the Lord, they die. It is so important to get to know people in need well enough to know where they are and what they are understanding—and then explain to them the truth.

Often the way a person dresses, looks or smells may keep him or her out of our churches. Poverty sometimes can make a person feel shame or become distrustful or cause him or her to have little self-confidence and be very lonely. It can cause behavior that would keep the person from reaching out to the church for help—the very place that can help the most.

Therefore, we are the ones who need to make the effort to identify and get to know these people. We need to hear their stories, become someone they can trust and share Christ's love with them. What a challenge. To do this, it may mean fixing meals or providing food for the hungry, organizing a clothes ministry, providing child care, offering after-school tutoring, conducting day camps for their children or helping with special needs of a family. It means reaching out in a physical way to show that we care and that we are sincerely interested in them. It is not enough for us to sit in our pews and pray for people; we need to be out praying with them.

God wants to use you and your church to reach out to His children around you—to those who are hurting. There are millions of people in our country and thousands in Kentucky who are living in poverty. Our churches need to seek creative ways to show friendship to those in need, to show Christ's love in action and to verbally share Christ's love with them. How churches respond to those in need around them will influence how those people feel about Christ and His love for them.

*Sandra Williams is director of church and community ministries for Elkhorn Baptist Association in Lexington.*



## Kentucky Baptists take gospel to internationals 'Among Us'

Continued from page 1

at the school's international center, the café provides conversational English practice with an American student. It also features Christian American students who are willing to practice weekly one-on-one with an international student.



Johnson

Needs vary from campus to campus, Johnson noted. For example, the University of Kentucky already provides a strong English tutoring program, but host families are needed. "Each campus is different."

Ministry comes from such activities as showing the "Jesus" film, evangelistic Bible studies and offering transportation to church.

Receptivity to the gospel can take longer to develop for international students, Johnson said.

"The students from the East are coming from a totally different world view," he noted. Such concepts as a personal and loving God can be fascinating and new to someone from a Buddhist or Muslim background, he said.

"Because the gospel is new, we've learned how others have to process spiritual truth," Johnson said. "But many of them are curious about learning what Christianity is and what it's about. ... The students from the East keep saying, 'I want to know more.'"

To continue feeding that curiosity, Johnson has developed "e-seeds," e-mail devotional material that students can subscribe to and continue receiving after they return home.

The Eliza Broadus offering supports international student work, such as the annual weekend conference hosted by the KBC student ministry department for international students to gather from throughout the state. Kentucky WMU underwrites the expenses of the meeting, and students pay just \$5 each.

Kentucky WMU Executive Director Joy Bolton said this year's emphasis is one that every Kentucky Baptist can relate to.

"Almost everyone knows or has encountered someone from another country living in Kentucky," she said. "This year's emphasis calls attention to the opportunities we have to impact the world through our ministry to internationals while they are in Kentucky."

Kentucky WMU has mailed promotion to every KBC-related church, and has videos available to promote missions work in the state. For information, call (888) 254-5726.

### Where does the money go?

<b>KBC state missions &amp; evangelism</b>	<b>\$572,000</b>
State missions	\$285,000
Language missions	\$60,000
Church & community missions	\$127,500
Evangelism	\$10,000
Student work	\$68,500
Special projects	\$21,000
<b>Kentucky special ministries</b>	<b>\$48,500</b>
<b>Kentucky WMU ministries to missionaries &amp; missions education</b>	<b>\$179,500</b>
Ministries to Kentucky missionaries	\$15,560
Missions education leadership training	\$17,250
Age-level missions education	\$31,675
Missions education camping	\$68,844
Missions promotion	\$46,171
Eliza Broadus offering goal	\$800,000
Challenge goal for new work in Kentucky	\$200,000
<b>Total goal</b>	<b>\$1,000,000</b>

## Broadus led state Baptist missions support

Many Kentucky Baptists are familiar with the state missions offering, but not everyone is familiar with the person whose name it bears.

According to a biographical sketch distributed by Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union, Eliza Somerville Broadus was born in Charlottesville, Va., in 1851.

The year she was born, her father became pastor of Charlottesville Baptist Church and assistant professor of Latin and Greek at the University of Virginia.

In 1858, at age 8, Eliza Broadus moved with her family to Greenville, S.C., where her father, John, was a professor at the newly established Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. During her time in Greenville, she became a charter member of a missionary society organized at her church. In 1875, she organized the first State Central Committee for women's societies.

The Central Committee was formed in response to a suggestion by H.A. Tupper, secretary of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, that such committees could help focus church women's and children's societies on learning about and supporting missions.

In 1877, after Southern Seminary moved to Louisville, Broadus and her family moved to Louisville, where her father continued as professor of New Testament interpretation and homiletics. John Broadus



Broadus

became president of the seminary in 1889 and served in that position until his death in 1895.

As a member of Walnut Street Baptist Church in Louisville, Miss Broadus formed the Kentucky Central Committee.

In 1888, when Woman's Missionary Union was organized in Richmond, Va., Miss Broadus

was elected vice-president from Kentucky.

In 1904, when she learned of four women living together in one room to save money while attending seminary, Miss Broadus led Louisville churches to maintain a home for women in seminary.

In 1913, she led Kentucky WMU to promote taking an annual offering for state missions in all churches.

She died in 1931, one week after her 80th birthday.

## Among Us

Eliza Broadus State Missions Offering

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## Resort ministries a growing field for Kentucky missions

By Ken Walker  
State Correspondent

ALBANY—Mike Watts' vision for resort ministry has 32-year-old roots.

When he was pastor of Albany First Baptist Church in 1968, he oversaw the development of an outreach to a Wolf River campground that still is ongoing.

The church started a Sunday morning service at the facility. Today the service involves more than 30 church members. It has created counseling opportunities, hospital visits and led some area residents to join First Church, he said.

"I did a houseboat wedding three weeks ago that came out of our ministry," said Watts, the Kentucky Baptist Convention's first consultant for leisure and resort ministries. "I'm just excited about this. It's a chance for the church to reach out to people where they are."

Resort ministry in Kentucky is one of several ministries supported by the Eliza Broadus Offering for State Missions. It's a growth industry, too, according to the retired pastor, who hopes the convention will hire a full-time director within the next two years.

Since becoming a part-time consultant last March, he has been conducting an inventory of state parks and recreational facilities to see what new ministries can be created.

There is a Baptist presence in nine of the 17 state resort parks. Resort parks are those with lodging, dining and other facilities. But the state also has two dozen recreational parks, most of which have campgrounds where Watts wants to see new services started.

And campgrounds aren't the only area of opportunity, he added. Watts is looking at 14 other areas, such as auto and horse racing tracks, airports, golf courses and state and county fairs.

Each of Kentucky's 120 counties has at least one site where people gather and where churches can offer a Christian witness, he said.

"That will reach more of a multitude than every church service on Sunday," said Watts, who rejoined First Church after returning to Clinton County this year.

"This will do more to take the gospel to the people instead of expecting them to come to us," he said. "We can also relieve the guilt that Christians feel for going out and having some fun and relaxing."

While the Eliza Broadus offering supplies some of the money for recreation ministry travel, supplies and other expenses, he emphasized that volunteers are equally important.

Kentucky has a tremendous resource in young people who want to do missions work, he noted. Youth teams could be assembled for such ministries

as visiting campgrounds, working with children, leading recreation sessions and conducting Bible studies.

Nor should churches overlook their senior adults, he added.

"There's a tremendous retirement community building up in the state," he said. "They want to do things."

Watts is used to starting new ministry projects. After leaving Albany to serve at several other churches in the state, he helped start a chaplaincy program at the Northern Kentucky airport and a ministry at Lake Malone near Greenville.

Among Kentucky Baptists' other resort ministries are a pair of Sunday morning worship services at two private communities on or near Lake Cumberland; the Wrangler Camp at Land Between The Lakes, which expects more than 5,000 equestrians during Labor Day weekend; and a ministry at Turfway Park in Northern Kentucky.

The latter works with low-paid, behind-the-scenes workers, providing English classes, health care, children's activities, tutoring, clothing and food.

The state missions offering helps create more ministry opportunities than many Kentucky Baptists realize, Watts said. He added that such efforts reach both those who live here and visitors.

"We have a mission field I don't think we sometimes understand or realize," he said. "My suspicion is we have many more people who come into Kentucky (than live here) to visit. We ought to care about them for the Lord. We ought to be good hosts, spiritually, for them."

### Among Us

Eliza Broadus State Missions Offering

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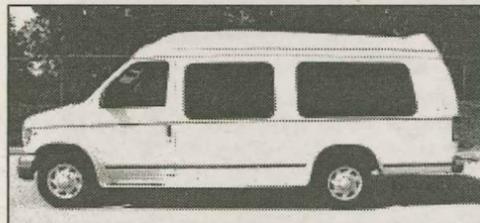
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## Study: Religion can help drug & alcohol abusers in recovery

WASHINGTON (RNS)—Higher levels of religious faith and spirituality may produce positive mental health outcomes for people recovering from substance abuse, a study has found.

The findings were presented during the annual meeting of the American Psychological Association earlier this month in Washington.

"In particular, higher religious faith and spirituality was associated with increased coping, greater resilience to stress, an optimistic life orientation, greater perceived social support and lower levels of anxiety," reported Dustin Pardini of the University of Alabama and Thomas Plante of Santa Clara University in a paper, along with other co-authors.

Their study involved 236 people who reportedly were recovering from drug addiction and/or alcoholism. The authors said it was the "largest self-report study to date examining the relation between religious faith, spirituality and mental health outcomes among individuals recovering from substance abuse."

Most of the individuals in the study said they were affiliated with organized religion.

"Interestingly, participants chose to define themselves as being more spiritual than religious, even though there was a strong positive correlation between participants' strength of religious faith and perceived level of spirituality," the authors found. "Consequently, it seems that many recovering individuals choose to define themselves as spiritual, even though they may share many of the same core behaviors and beliefs as individuals who consider themselves religious."

## NATIONAL NOTES

### Black churches offer debit card.

A Memphis, Tenn., company partly owned by five African-American denominations is working with major financial companies to offer a debit card to help people who don't have bank accounts or credit cards. The Revelation America Western Union MasterCard Card was announced at the recent annual meeting of the Progressive National Baptist Convention in Louisville. Mackey Daniels, president of the convention called the card a good alternative to liquor stores or check-cashing companies where they must pay to get their checks cashed.

### Teen & parent drug use studied.

A survey of almost 600 teens in drug treatment centers in New York, Florida, California and Texas shows that 20 percent have shared drugs other than alcohol with their parents, USA Today reported. In addition, the survey found about 5 percent of the teens were introduced to drugs by their mothers or fathers. Steve Dnistrian, executive vice president of the Partnership for a Drug-Free America, said the survey exposes the vulnerability of children in drug-using families. "It tells you how ingrained sub-

stance abuse is in the family structure."

### Stem Cell guidelines draw fire.

Anti-abortion groups have fired the release of National Institutes of Health guidelines that will permit the federal funding of research on human embryo stem cells. "For the first time in history, our federal government will promote research in which developing human beings are destroyed," said Richard Doerflinger, associate director of the Pro-Life Secretariat of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops.

### Soulforce to be at meeting.

Mel White and his army of gay-rights activists, will converge on Fort Lauderdale, Fla., next month to participate in a conservative Christian powwow sponsored by one of the harshest critics of White's cause. D. James Kennedy, pastor of Coral Ridge Presbyterian Church in Fort Lauderdale, will sponsor his annual "Reclaiming America for Christ" conference Sept. 29-Aug. 1. White is director of Soulforce, which this summer led protests at four major denominational meetings, including the Southern Baptist Convention.

## Suspect gets life sentence for O'Hair disappearance case

ARLINGTON (RNS)—A Texas district court has sentenced a man to life in prison for his involvement in the 1995 disappearance of atheist activist Madalyn Murray O'Hair and two of her relatives.

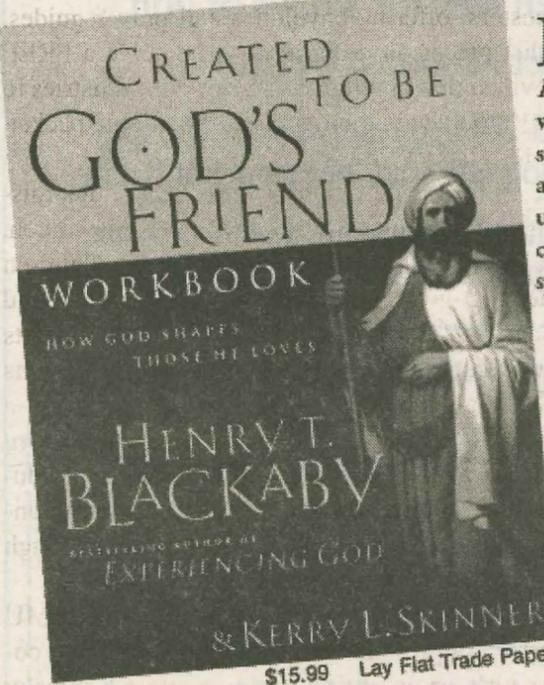
Gary Karr, 52, received two life sentences and was ordered to pay about \$542,000 in restitution to O'Hair's estate and United Secularist of America, one of her atheist organizations, Associated Press reported.

Prosecutors claimed Karr and two accomplices kidnapped, killed and dismembered O'Hair and her son and another relative (Jon Garth Murray and Robin Murray O'Hair), who have been missing since September 1995. The men forced the family to relinquish items such as cars and coins worth thousands of dollars before killing them.

The bodies of the O'Hairs never were found, but prosecutors believe they might have been disposed of on a ranch in southwestern Texas. Since no bodies have been discovered, murder charges have not been filed and the case is still open.

Karr's attorney said he would challenge the constitutionality of the sentence in an appeal.

# Loving Guidance from a Name You Trust

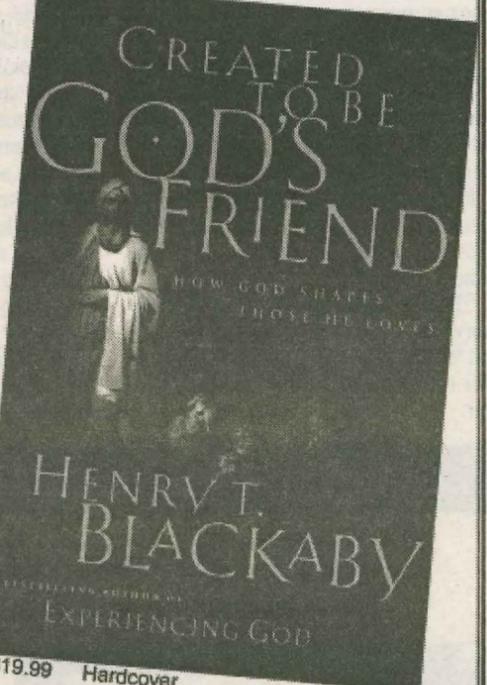


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Henry T. Blackaby

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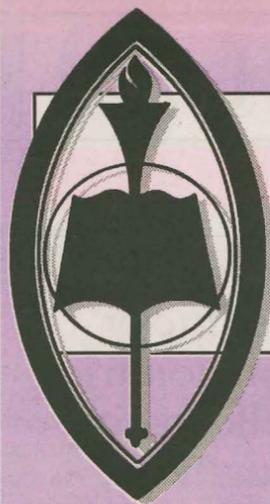
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Offer expires November 30, 2002

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# KENTUCKY NOTES

A quarterly publication of Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union  
P.O. Box 436569, Louisville, KY 40253-6569 • (502) 244-6485 • Toll-free: (888) 254-5726  
Supplement to Western Recorder

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Please include your name, church, association and e-mail address.

Fall 2000

## Among Us

Week of Prayer For State Missions  
and  
Eliza Broadus Offering  
for State Missions,  
Special Ministries  
and Missions Education

Sept. 10-17, 2000

Offering Goal: \$1,000,000

*A million dollar goal for the new millennium*

Contact Kentucky WMU for State Missions teaching materials, posters, offering envelopes, promotional ideas and a FREE State Missions video. Extra copies of the video are available. Call toll-free (888) 254-5726.

Read about Kentucky ministries to internationals in the Sept. 5 issue of the Western Recorder.

### A Personal Word



Joy Bolton  
Executive  
Director-  
Treasurer

I am very excited about our 2000 Week of Prayer for State Missions and Eliza Broadus Offering. Our study focus on Kentucky Baptist ministries to the internationals who are **Among Us** could not be more timely. It is my prayer that, from this emphasis, we will be even more intentional in sharing Christ with the folks from all over the world whom God is sending to Kentucky. Every international who comes to know Christ as Savior while in our state can in turn touch many more people in countries around the world. Our witness to internationals can literally impact international missions in ways we cannot begin to measure.

I'm thrilled at the challenging offering goal—a *million dollar goal for the new millennium*. The Eliza Broadus Offering supports a variety of Kentucky Baptist missions efforts, provides salary support for Kentucky missionaries, supports summer missions and undergirds the missions education work of Kentucky WMU. This year's offering includes a challenge goal designated for starting new churches in Kentucky. Be sure to take a look at the allocations in the special state missions insert in next week's *Western Recorder*.

State missions teaching and promotional materials were mailed to every church in June. The packet included a card for ordering posters, offering envelopes and prayer guides. Each church that places an order also will receive a FREE state missions video that highlights some of our ministries to internationals. If you need an order card or a sample packet, please contact Kentucky WMU.

As you gear up for the new church year, be sure that missions education is a part of the total discipleship of your church. WMU helps a church achieve its mission purpose. Children who participate in on-going missions groups using WMU and Brotherhood materials grow up with the world in their hearts and with an understanding of Southern Baptist missions distinctives. Through missions education, children have a greater awareness of a lost world and the work of Southern Baptist missionaries in sharing Christ. Through missions education, children learn to pray for others, learn the biblical mandate of tithing/giving and experience the joy of ministry through hands-on missions/ministry experiences.

If you would like to obtain a free sample copy of WMU missions materials for preschoolers, children (for girls or co-ed), youth (for girls or co-ed) or adults, contact Kentucky WMU. Contact the Brotherhood Department for materials for boys (children and/or youth). Once you see what WMU and Brotherhood have to offer, you will want to be sure that missions education is a key part of the total discipleship development of the children in your church.

Missions education is a bridge for taking the gospel to a lost world. Satan is trying to bomb our missions education bridges. What better way to cut the supply of missionaries and funds and prayers than to destroy missions education. Don't be deceived. We still need missions education!



**CAMPING FUN** Love and joy characterized the staff at Cedar Crest, the WMU camp at Cedarmore. For a full report, see page 3 of this insert.



## Adults

### Fall Retreats

With the fall season at our heels, now is the time to register for the **Women on Mission/Adults on Mission Retreats**. The theme for the retreats is "With New Eyes." We have planned many new conferences and some special worship experiences that will give you an opportunity to spend quality time reflecting on the awesome works of God. Plan to be with us!



### World Hunger Emphasis

Packets have been mailed by the Kentucky Baptist Convention to promote World Hunger Awareness Day Oct. 8.

I would like to encourage all mission organizations to focus on this great need by giving and learning about world hunger. Many of the unreached people groups that the Southern Baptist International Mission Board is targeting suffer from malnutrition. It is our responsibility to do what we can to meet the physical needs as well as the spiritual needs of these people. Will you help?

## Tonya's Tips

Are you tired of doing the same old thing at your meetings? Why not invite a student summer missionary to share with your group about his or her experiences? Now is the time to invite one as the missionaries are returning from mission projects around our state, country and world. Take time to listen to what God has done in their lives. Contact area Baptist Student Unions to find someone located near you.

—Tonya Williams

## Information for WMU Directors

Many things we read in the Bible are so amazing that we can hardly believe they really happened. Today, God is doing things that are greater than our wildest imaginations. Recently, two checks were brought to me from an anonymous donor to be delivered to a senior adult couple on a fixed income. The couple had influenced the donor as a child. The couple was amazed at the generosity and full of gratitude to those people responsible. Some experiences are **Beyond Belief!**

It is **Beyond Belief** that a bulb planted in the dirt will become a glorious blossom. God does amazing things around us every day, things that we could never do.

As you begin this new church year with a clean slate, I hope you have some things on your agenda that are bigger than what you think



you can accomplish. For example,

- Is your Eliza Broadus Offering goal more than your church gave last year?

- Have you set Lottie Moon and Annie Armstrong Offering goals that are **Beyond Belief?**

- Are you making plans for youth and adults to be involved in mission projects?

- Are your leaders enlisted and trained for the new year?

- Are leaders in place for new organizations to reach folks not involved in missions?

- Is annual planning completed? What have you planned that only God can do? Do you have dreams for things that are **Beyond Belief?**

### Involving Everyone in Missions

Many folks in your church are not members of missions organizations that meet monthly. Yet, many of these folks have "a missions heart" and want to be involved in the cause of missions. Choose from these ideas:

- Ask someone who has been on

a mission trip to Poland, Tanzania or in the United States to share his or her experiences.

- Invite your associational director of missions not to preach but to share with the church about ministries in your association.

- Have a Cooperation Program birthday party commemorating CP's 75th anniversary.

- Publicize all mission projects done by various groups and invite financial or hands-on participation in them.

- Plan and publicize international and North American mission studies as church-wide events. Involve people in the presentations who are not members of ongoing missions groups.

- Make an extra effort to see that your pastor and other church staff members know what's going on. They are some of your best promoters, and they want to promote missions!

—Anna Mary Byrdwell

## Youth

The first **Acteens Splash** was held at Jonathan Creek June 16-17. More than 50 girls attended

the summer retreat that combined missions and, well, splashing. "Rose Benson," a last frontier missionary, was the featured speaker. Worship services were led by Son Praise, a Kentucky Baptist Student Union summer missions team. Acteens attended seminars and enjoyed Kentucky Lake. Make plans to attend Acteens Splash next summer on June 22-23.



More than 60 Acteens are "**Never the Same**" after attending camp at Cedar Crest this summer. Acteens examined Christianity as a life-changing experience. For more information about camp, see page 3 of this insert.

The second annual **Youth on Mission** night will be held at Georgetown College Sept. 15-16. We had a blast last year learning about missions and expect to have another great experience this year. Your youth will be challenged by a career missionary, and college students who have devoted their summers and lives to missions.

On Friday night, we will celebrate the opening ceremonies of the Olympics with a parade of nations and other activities.



The cost is \$20 per participant and includes meals and program fees. Students in seventh through ninth grades may stay in hotels with leaders while 10th through 12th graders will have the opportunity to stay in the dorms (at no additional cost). Contact the state WMU office for more information.



The youth material for the **Eliza Broadus Offering for State Missions** focuses on the international student retreat sponsored each year by the collegiate department of the Kentucky Baptist Convention. Your Acteens and Youth on Mission groups may want to participate in the special "Over the Top" project this year. Be sure to get your copy from the state WMU office.

—LaRaine Dail

## Mission Friends

The influence Mission Friends can have in the lives of preschoolers is **Beyond Belief** as the foundation for missions attitudes and concepts is being developed. *Start, Share and First Steps in Missions 2000-2001* are essential tools for Mission Friends teachers. Developmentally appropriate activities are suggested for each teaching session.

Introduce Mission Friends to Lottie Moon and her work in China through *All About Lottie*, the 2000 International Mission Study for Preschoolers. The extension of the November unit in *Start* will contain challenging activities and stories. The unit can be taught during a churchwide study or during any regular class for preschoolers.

Need suggestions for Christmas or birthday gifts for preschoolers? Encourage parents, grandparents and friends of preschoolers to give some of the many delightful books pro-



duced by WMU, SBC as gifts for special preschoolers on their lists. The newest releases include *God's World and Me from A to Z*; *I Can Pray*; *More Alike Than Different*, *Who Am I?*; *Families Are Special* and *I Like to Go to Church*.

## Girls in Action

The **Incredible GA World Tour** begins in Girls in Action as girls in grades 1-6 "visit" many places around the world this year. Be a prepared tour guide (leader) by:

- Reading the *Girls in Action Guide*, which helps GA leaders know how to organize, plan and lead Girls in Action.

- Using the *2000-2001 WMU Year Book* to help you know, month by month, what is in store for Girls in Action.

- Becoming familiar with *Aware* magazine and using one of the three teaching plans in it, along with *Discovery* for grades 1-4 and *GA World* for grades 5-6. Read the pull-out section,



"Resourcefully Yours," and file it for later use.

- Encouraging GAs to participate in the World Hunger Offering on Oct. 8.

- Introducing GAs to *World Ventures*, the individual achievement plan.

- Involving GAs and other children in your church in the 2000 International Mission Study.

## Children in Action

An exciting year learning about and doing missions awaits boys and girls in grades 1-6 through Children in Action. Use a fun skit to promote the coed organization and to let your church know what Children in Action is all about. Ideas for a Mission Impossible theme are suggested on page 42 in the *2000-2001 WMU Year Book*. The new CiA cap, available from WMU, SBC for \$11.99, is a great identity item for children to wear.

—Brenda Price





## President's Perspective

One of the most poignant memories of my childhood was hearing the story of Lottie Moon for the first time. I remember going home and telling my father, who was not a Christian, about Miss Moon's love and sacrifice



**Sara Billups**  
Kentucky  
WMU  
president

for the Chinese people who did not know about Jesus and how everyone needs to hear about Him. I wept as I told Dad how she died. My story must have touched him in some way. He reached into his pocket and handed me a dollar to take to church to give so people could hear about Jesus. I did not realize then that because a woman in a Baptist church faithfully told little girls a missions story, the gospel innocently was shared with my father. I am and will remain a firm believer in missions education for children.

"Beyond Belief!" is our WMU emphasis for 2000-2002. It challenges us to go beyond the ordinary in our relationship with God and others. How exciting to study the awesome works of God in the Bible as well as in our lives! Our Week of Prayer for State Missions materials challenge Kentucky Baptists to look "Among Us" as we focus on internationals in our state. Is it "Beyond Belief" that God has brought the world to Kentucky so we might have the privilege of sharing His love in new and exciting ways? Can we have a "Beyond Belief" vision that will cause us to give sacrificially to the Eliza Broadus Offering and reach the \$1,000,000 goal, money that will be used to share Jesus with those who do not know? I am praying that each of you will have "Beyond Belief" moments to share Jesus with the world!

I look forward to seeing many of you at one of our fall retreats at Jonathan Creek or Cedarmore. I hope you will plan to attend one of the four weekends. There will be workshops as well as dynamic speakers at each retreat. Of course, there will be times of fellowship, fun and food. I will be especially excited to see interesting talent as you participate in the annual talent show.

What a joy it has been to serve as your president these past months. Thank you for your words of encouragement and prayers. Thank you for being partners with us as Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union seeks to equip Kentucky Baptists to be on mission for God!

*Joyfully serving with you,*  
Sara Billups

## WORLD MISSIONS UNLIMITED 2000

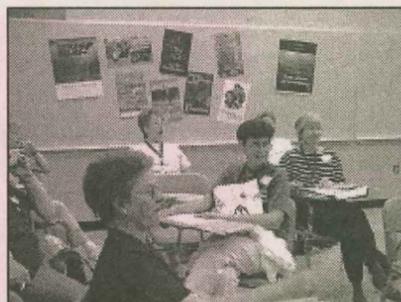
More than 400 people participated in World Missions Unlimited at Campbellsville University and Georgetown College. A variety of special interest and leadership training conferences prepared church and associational WMU leaders and members for the year ahead in missions education and involvement. We are expecting to see results that are **Beyond Belief!**



Tonya Williams sharing ideas for reaching a new generation



Joni Breeding teaching Missions Friends leaders



Participants enjoying a light moment during the conference



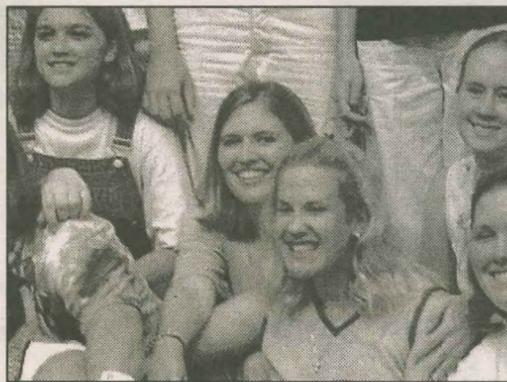
Anna Mary Byrdwell teaching WMU directors



Pat Reaves teaching Missions Friends leaders

## Camp report

The 2000 camping season has drawn to a close. The summer was filled with many successes, moving



crafts and recreation focused on this theme. Cabin leaders worked one-on-one with campers to help them understand the beauty and profound greatness of God's love.

One of the challenges we met over the summer was our offering goal that was earmarked for the Cooperative Program. The money collected went beyond expectations and allowed each giver to have a direct involvement in missions. Thank you to all who contributed.

Now, it is time to look forward to the 2001 camping season. A strong attendance this year is a clear indi-

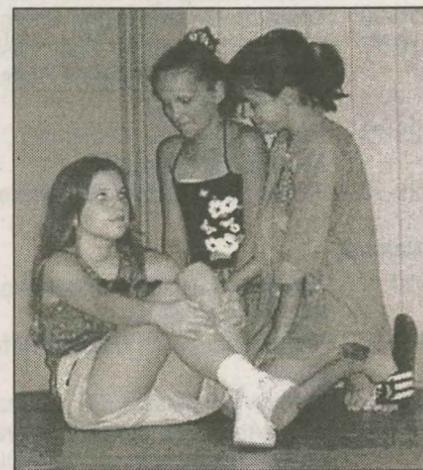
stories, challenges and life-changing decisions. The staff and guest missionaries at Cedar Crest and Jonathan Creek worked hard to make camp a memorable experience for each camper.

As campers explored the theme "Never the Same," they discovered how God transforms us into new beings with His love and grace. Bible study, worship, quiet time, missions classes and even



cation that WMU summer camps are still an important and viable part of missions education.

Make plans now to join us for camp next summer.



### CAMP DATES: 2001

#### Cedar Crest (at Cedarmore)

##### Week-long Camps

June 18-22	GA Camp
June 25-29	GA & Acteens Camp
July 9-13	GA & Acteens Camp
July 16-20	GA Camp

##### Mother/Daughter Overnights

June 22-23
July 2-3
July 6-7
July 13-14

#### Jonathan Creek

June 15-16	Mother/Daughter Overnight
June 22-23	GA Overnight and Acteens Splash

—Evie Cash



## Forty percent of adults in Kentucky are functionally illiterate, according to recent statistics

**Twenty-seven million  
adult Americans  
can't read well enough  
to read the Bible.**

**Learn how to teach  
someone  
to read and write  
as a ministry outreach  
of your church.**

Literacy is the new social issue that has been adopted by Woman's Missionary Union for 2000-2001. A *ProjectHELP: Literacy Resource Kit* is available through national WMU to help you plan for this emphasis. Associational WMU directors already have received a copy of the kit. Think about what your mission group can

do to raise awareness about illiteracy:

- ◆ Contact your local board of education and volunteer to tutor a student.
- ◆ Begin a book drive at your church for books to donate to your local library.
- ◆ Visit a nursing home and volunteer to read to a resident.

◆ Teach an introductory computer class.

◆ Volunteer to read storybooks to children at Mother's Day Out ministries.

The list is limitless. Be creative in your approach. Although the problem is monumental, we can make a difference one small step at a time.

## Thank you for adopting summer missionaries

Thank you all—Women on Mission, Acteens, Youth on Mission and GA groups—who adopted a Kentucky Baptist Student Union summer missionary or a Cedar Crest camp staffer. Continue to pray for your students and invite them to visit your church.

## Kentucky Baptist Convention update

**Operation Cooperation:** Between Sept. 10 and 23, Kentucky Baptists will cooperate in a simultaneous blood drive to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the Cooperative Program. You can participate in the celebration as:

- A blood donor.
- A runner in a Fun Run to promote the blood drive.
- A volunteer assisting with promotion and scheduling of donors.
- A prayer warrior.

Contact the Kentucky Baptist Convention to sign up.

**Kentucky Baptist Convention Annual Meeting:** Nov. 14-15, First Baptist Church, Bowling Green. The Tuesday evening session will include a special Cooperative Program celebration. All Kentucky Baptists are invited to attend. Let's have a great WMU representation! WMU actively promotes the Cooperative Program as well as the special missions offerings for our work together. Our presence at this celebration will be another demonstration of our support for the Cooperative Program and the Kentucky Baptist Convention. Be there!

## Calendar

### September

- 9 \*Super Saturday, Somerset, First Baptist
- \*Super Saturday, Paducah, Lone Oak Baptist
- 15-16 Youth on Mission Night, Georgetown College
- 10-17 Season of Prayer for State Missions
- Eliza Broadus Offering for State Missions
- Goal: \$1,000,000
- 22-23 Literacy Missions Conference, Elizabethtown, Severns Valley Baptist
- 29-30 Women on Mission/ BNF Retreat, Cedarmore

### October

- 6-7 Adults on Mission/Campus Women on Mission Retreat, Cedarmore
- 13-14 Women/Adults on Mission Retreat, Jonathan Creek
- 20-21 Women on Mission/BNF Retreat, Jonathan Creek
- 21 KBC SALT, Elizabethtown, Severns Valley Baptist Church (Associational WMU Directors)
- 26-29 Kentucky WMU Executive Board Meeting, Cedarmore

### November

- 13-15 Kentucky Baptist Convention and related meetings, Bowling Green, First Baptist

### December

- 1 Acteens Activator Applications due
- 3-10 Season of International Missions
- Lottie Moon Christmas Offering
- Goal: \$115,000,000

\*Super Saturday Conferences are for all church program leaders and include a general WMU conference with the WMU director as the primary focus.

## Second annual Youth on Mission Night



- Who?** Youth on Mission groups  
Youth in grades 7-12
- What?** Missions retreat featuring:
- Olympic Opening Ceremony
  - Meet a real live missionary
  - Georgetown College summer missionaries
  - Georgetown Creative Ministries Team
- When?** Sept. 15-16, 2000
- Where?** Georgetown College
- Why?** Learn about your role in missions

**How?** Contact Kentucky WMU  
*For more information, see youth column on page 2 of this insert.*



## Fall Retreats

Women on Mission/  
Adults on Mission

### Cedarmore

- Sept. 29-30 Rhonda Kelley
- Oct. 6-7 Dawn Phillips

### Jonathan Creek

- Oct. 13-14 Sarah Groves
- Oct. 20-21 Sarah Groves

Contact KY WMU office for  
registration details.

## Polls: Values will shape 2000 presidential election

Continued from page 1

values, such as abortion and gay rights, which tend to divide, but softer values that have the potential to unite over topics like community, fatherhood, media sex and violence, and an overarching need for responsibility during booming economic times. Thus the Bush slogan: "Prosperity with a purpose."

Republicans, long associated with religion and the accusation that they viewed the GOP as "God's Only Party," already have seen Bush tone down judgmental rhetoric, replacing it with lofty statements about an American moral ideal that indirectly indicts Clinton and implicates Gore.

Meanwhile, the Gore campaign has long had its own strategy on mo-

ality and the uncomfortable subject, especially for liberals, that often shapes it—religion. In a moment of candor, Elaine Kamarck, Gore's senior policy adviser, revealed the intent more than a year ago when she told the Boston Globe, "The Democratic Party is going to take back God this time."

Topics such as the environment and race are being couched in spiritual terms.

The new Democratic platform asserts that "Democrats believe that God has given the people of our nation a mission for racial and ethnic unity. And Gore stresses environmentalism as a responsibility to take care of God's creation, as he has since writing his 1992 book, "Earth in the Balance."

In his acceptance speech at the Democratic National Convention, Gore basked in the economic accomplishments of the last eight years, but said, "there's something at stake in this election that's even more important than economic progress. Simply put, it's our values; it's our responsibility to our loved ones, to our families."

For decades, the Gallup poll has been asking Americans, "What is

the most important problem facing this country today?"

The most recent response came in late June, when the leading answer was ethics, morality and family decline, cited by 14 percent surveyed. That ranked ahead of crime and violence (12 percent), education (11 percent) and health care (10 percent).

Other polls have shown the same concern about values for more than a year now, with politicians taking notice, even if the media haven't highlighted it with the prominence given other issues.

"One way to think about this," said Green, "is that when the economy is good and we have peace abroad, people have the luxury to think about the quality of their lives. Morality is an important part of quality of life."

Shaune Henry, an Almond, N.Y., mother of four children ages 5 through 15 and busy real estate agent, has plenty to worry about, despite the healthy economy.

She said she worries about keeping her kids away from drugs and alcohol, and is concerned about the values that the culture models for her children.

"Some of the things that are allowed on TV during what I consider children's time concern me," she said. "The general entertainment kids are exposed to concerns me."

Henry is not alone. Barbara Whitehead, a Democratic policy analyst from Amherst, Mass., has written extensively on family issues and sees widespread worry.

"As I see it, the source of this general anxiety over morality is rooted in a specific and legitimate concern over the rearing of children and teen-agers and the many adverse forces that shape their environment," Whitehead said. "This concern is most acute among the over 65-year-olds, a big segment of the grandparent population, and parents. Both groups rank high among likely voters."

In other words, Whitehead sees what both campaigns recognize: Values voters could decide this presidential election.

"We're in the midst of a religious revival," said Murray Friedman, director of Temple University's Feinstein Center for American Jewish History. "No politician can avoid dealing with that phenomenon. It's a major force in American life."

**"Morality is an important part of quality of life."**

*John Green, director of the Ray Bliss Institute of Applied Politics at the University of Akron in Ohio*

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Don't just tread water. Stay ahead of the wave.

**October 27-28, 2000**

Friday 7:00 p.m.-9:30 p.m. / Saturday 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

**Severns Valley Baptist Church**  
Elizabethtown, Kentucky

keynote speakers



Jeff Eaton



Willis Henson

worship celebration services will feature the music of **Severns Valley Baptist Church**

directions and information on reduced rates at area hotels and restaurants will be mailed with your registration packet, and are also listed on the Kentucky Baptist Convention website.

childcare provided upon request.

Friday night attendance is not mandatory to attend Saturday's conferences.

for more information or to register your church leadership team, contact:

**Evangelism Growth Team Office**  
**Kentucky Baptist Convention**

phone **502.245.4101**  
or toll free **1.888.254.5722**  
website **www.kybaptist.org**

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four ways to register

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Kentucky Baptist Convention  
P.O. Box 43433  
Louisville, KY 40253-0433

**phone\***  
888.254.5722  
502.254.4737

COST	early bird	regular
individual	\$15	\$25
church	\$50	\$75

\*you may register on-line, by fax or phone, but payment must be sent via mail, and postmarked by October 14 to receive the "early bird" rate. The "regular" rate is the cost at the door or if registration is postmarked after October 14.

registration fees are transferable to another individual from your group, but non-refundable.

## WORLD VIEW

■ **U.S. missionaries freed in China.** Chinese police have released three American missionaries arrested Aug. 23 in a crackdown on a banned evangelical group, according to a statement released by the U.S. embassy. The three—all Taiwan-born U.S. citizens—were among 130 Christians members of the outlawed evangelical China Fang-cheng Church taken into custody by police. The 500,000-member church was included on a list of 14 Christian groups labeled "evil cults" by the Chinese government last year, according to the Information Center for Human Rights and Democracy.

■ **International groups oppose French bill.** Three international religious organizations—Christian Solidarity Worldwide, Advocates International and the World Evangelical Fellowship—have told a United Nations panel in Geneva that a French legislative proposal to regulate religious sects is a threat to religious liberty. In June, the French National Assembly passed a bill declaring "mental manipulation" a criminal offense and authorizing courts to disband groups identified as sects. Southern Baptist International Mission Board officials warned earlier this summer that the bill could make criminals of Baptist missionaries conducting evangelism activities in France.

■ **Violence against Christians condemned.** An international movement against ethnic cleansing has written an open letter condemning Muslims who have declared a holy war against Christians in Indonesia. Since last year, Islamic extremists have killed thousands of Christians in the Maluku Islands of Indonesia. Framers of the new

Stockholm Accords on Ethnic Cleansing, a multinational, interfaith effort aimed at ending genocide in the 21st century, denounced the call to "jihad" in an August meeting in Macedonia. The open letter calls on people inside and outside Indonesia to cease "instigating, aiding or abetting hatred, violence, genocide or ethnic cleansing."

■ **Thousands of South Africans convert.** Several thousand Zulu students recently made decisions for Christ in South Africa, according to a volunteer Baptist team from North Carolina. The team spent a week in July visiting 11,000 students at 19 schools in the Gamalakhe area. One day, the schools closed early, allowing 7,000 students, teachers, principals and community members to gather on a soccer field. The gospel was presented after three student choirs performed. More than 3,500 students made some kind of decision for Christ at the rally and during the week, workers said.

■ **Relief work in Sudan resumes.** United Nations relief flights are again taking food and medicine into Sudan—but there is no long-term relief in sight for the nation's suffering people. Attacks had forced relief agencies to cancel missions of mercy into the country for more than a week, according to news sources cited by Crosswalk.com, a Christian Internet news site. There have been at least 33 bombing attacks against relief sites in Sudan since July, Associated Press reported. For 17 years the country has been in civil war as the government has tried to forcibly Islamicize the Christian and animist south, according to Maryland-based International Christian Concern.

## Daylight armed robbery shocks Baptist seminary leaders in Prague

PRAGUE, Czech Republic (ABP)—A daring mid-day armed robbery on Aug. 14 stunned staff and students at International Baptist Theological Seminary in the Czech Republic.

Three gunmen reportedly burst into the seminary's accounting office during the lunch hour and held a staff member at gunpoint before fleeing on foot with the U.S. equivalent of approximately \$11,700 in cash and a mobile phone, seminary officials reported.

The thieves bound and gagged the accounting assistant, holding a gun to her head as they removed money from the safe. The accounting assistant, who told police the gunmen addressed her in Russian, received medical treatment for shock, but was not physically hurt.

Seminary Rector Keith Jones said the seminary community was "devastated" by the robbery, noting the campus "has not experienced this type of crime in this part of Prague."

Seminary officials are cooper-

ating with Prague police and are also conducting an immediate review of campus security, Jones said.

Cooperative Baptist Fellowship missionary and IBTS board member Jim Smith, a veteran of Baptist missions in Central Europe, said the money was not insured, but added, "The emotional damage is the heaviest toll for the seminary community."

Smith noted the seminary had an unusually large amount of cash on hand because it was preparing to restock items in the book and gift store and make several other purchases. "It's normal in this part of the world to pay in cash for certain goods and services."

The seminary is owned by the European Baptist Federation and is one of several schools that receive partial support from the Atlanta-based Fellowship. Hundreds of volunteers from CBF-related churches helped with an extensive renovation of the campus after the school moved to Prague from Ruschlikon, Switzerland, in 1995.

## Georgetown Baptist Church

is celebrating its 190th year of ministry to Kentucky Baptists and you're invited.

Celebration begins Saturday, Sept. 23 and concludes Sunday, Sept. 24

### Saturday Schedule

1-5 p.m. Fellowship hall historical exhibits and building tours

Location: Georgetown Baptist Church

5:30 p.m. Evening festivities begin

Location: Large tent, corner of Jackson and Mulberry streets on the Georgetown College campus

Meal-Music-Drama-Special Presentations

### Sunday Schedule

10:45 a.m. Worship Celebration

Location: Georgetown Baptist Church Worship Center

For additional information and to purchase tickets for the meal, call (502) 863-2739, or write to: Georgetown Baptist Church, 207 S Hamilton St., Georgetown, KY 40324

## Campbellsville University

School of Theology

Louisville Extension Studies • St. Matthews Baptist Church

### Courses for Fall Semester, 2000

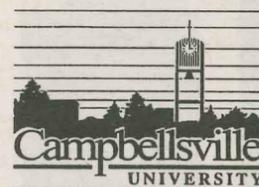
Classes begin Aug. 23 and conclude Dec. 15  
(Audit: \$50 per hour; seniors free of tuition)

#### Undergraduate

Thomas Smothers Ph.D.	<b>Introduction to Old Testament Study</b> (CHS 111XS) Tuesday, 6-8:50 p.m.
Carey Newman Ph.D.	<b>General Letters (New Testament)</b> (CHS 328XS) Monday, 6-8:30 p.m.
Leslie Hollon Ph.D.	<b>Ministry of Proclamation &amp; Worship</b> (CHS 353XS) Tuesday, 2:30-5:20 p.m.
Morgan Patterson Ph.D.	<b>Baptist Heritage</b> (CHS 380XS) Thursday, 6-8:50 p.m.
Bob Johnson Ph.D.	<b>Ministry of Christian Leadership</b> (CHS 251XS) Tuesday/Wednesday, 10-11:15 a.m.
Bill Becker Ph.D.	<b>Introduction to Philosophy</b> (PHI 241XS) Monday/Wednesday, 1-2:15 p.m.
Jimmy Rowland M.Div. M.A. (candidate)	<b>Pastoral Ministries</b> (CHS 352XS) Thursday/Friday, 10-11:15 a.m.
Sidney Fulton Ph.D.	<b>Beginning Greek I</b> (GRK 221XS) Monday/Tuesday/Wednesday, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
William Cubine M.A., D.Min.	<b>Introduction to Sociology</b> (SOC 110XS) Tuesday, 6-8:50 p.m.

#### Graduate

Thomas Smothers Ph.D.	<b>Old Testament History &amp; Interp. II</b> (CHS 511XS) Monday, 9:30-12 noon
Bob Johnson Ph.D.	<b>Intergenerational Ministries</b> (CHS 562XS) Monday, 2:30-5 p.m.



1 University Drive  
Campbellsville, KY 42718

Classes will be taught on the campus of St. Matthews Baptist Church, 3515 Grandview Ave., in St. Matthews. The University reserves the right to withdraw any course with insufficient enrollment.

Phone for registration info:  
(502) 899-1915; e-mail messages:  
walterjackson3@juno.com

## Sports ministry ready for Australian Olympic outreach

HURST, Texas (BP)—While millions of people will be watching the Olympics on television, scores of Southern Baptists will be among 230 Americans engaged in a massive September evangelistic outreach to Australia.

Volunteer laypeople from more

than 150 churches are participating in "Reach Out 2000 Sydney Australia" through Lay Witnesses for Christ International.

In cooperation with Australia's Anglican, Baptist and Wesleyan churches, Lay Witnesses volunteers will assist with hosting daily athlete

rallies, sports clinics and hospitality centers, as well as distributing thousands of pieces of literature in 29 different languages.

Through nightly rallies, volunteers and athletes will share the gospel message through music, drama and personal testimonies.

More than 400 Olympic athletes are expected to participate in the outreach, including:

■ Carl Lewis, nine-time Olympic track gold medalist.

■ Joe DeLoach, former 200-meter Olympic world record holder.

■ Chandra Cheeseborough, two-time Olympic track gold medalist.

■ Richard Bucknor, two-time Olympian for the Jamaican track team.

■ Madeline Manning Mims, four-time Olympian, track gold medalist and former world record holder.

"We are overwhelmed by the doors that God has opened to share the good news of Jesus Christ from the heart of Sydney," said Sam Mings, Lay Witnesses founder and president.

"Reach Out 2000 Sydney Australia" follows similar successful Olympic evangelistic and ministry efforts by Lay Witnesses in Los Angeles in 1984, Seoul in 1988, Barcelona in 1992 and Atlanta in 1996.

Founded in 1981 by Mings, a former athlete and businessman, and his wife, Sharon, Lay Witnesses for Christ International, based in Hurst, Texas, has volunteer satellite offices in 138 countries.

In addition to its athlete rallies, hospitality centers and one-on-one evangelism during Olympic events, Lay Wit-

nesses sponsors a variety of other outreach ministries, including:

■ "Right Track," a drug and alcohol prevention program to help youth avoid the dangers of substance abuse and gangs.

■ "Stars for Christ," an evangelical outreach through organized athletic teams;

■ A speakers bureau.

■ The annual Christian Athlete of the Year Awards.

In the past two decades, Lay Witnesses workers have lead more than 20,000 athletes from 140 nations to a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

Mings' ministry to athletes began in 1980, when he was asked to speak to a Fellowship of Christian Athletes meeting at the University of Tennessee. More than 100 people prayed to receive Jesus Christ as their personal Savior, including Willie Gault, who now serves on Lay Witnesses' board of directors.

In 1981, Mings traveled to the NCAA Track & Field Championships in Baton Rouge, La., to minister to athletes. Later that year, the ministry held its first "Three Hours with the Stars" event in Houston.

The 23rd Olympiad in Los Angeles marked the first opportunity for Lay Witnesses to minister to athletes and spectators at the Olympics.

Lay Witnesses athletes have shared their testimonies with the world at more than 40 major sporting events, including the Olympics, U.S. Olympic trials, NCAA Championships, Pan American Games, Goodwill Games and World Cup Championships.

**"We are overwhelmed by the doors that God has opened to share the good news of Jesus Christ from the heart of Sydney."**

*Sam Mings founder & president of Lay Witnesses For Christ*

The Marshall Center for Christian Ministry of Georgetown College presents ...



### "THE EMPOWERED COMMUNICATOR"

A preaching workshop led by popular preacher and author Calvin Miller, professor of preaching and pastoral studies at Samford University's Beeson Divinity School.

Georgetown College Leadership Center  
October 2-3, 2000

Monday 1:45 p.m. through Tuesday 11 a.m.

Registration is limited to first 40 registrants. \$50 registration fee includes dinner on Monday evening and snacks.

Lodging Suggestions: Hampton Inn (502) 867-4888, Holiday Inn Express (502) 867-1648 and Microtel Inn (502) 868-8000.

For more information, contact Bill Marshall: (502) 426-0618; fax (502) 429-5791 by Sept. 15. After Sept. 15, contact Skip Alexander (502) 491-1920 or Ron Higdon (502) 895-2459.

Workshop 2001 • Oct. 4-5 • Dr. John Claypool

## Getting started again

By Robert Dunston

Cumberland College does not make the transition from summer to new academic year in one day. Students begin to return to Cumberland well before classes actually begin.

Two and a half weeks ago, our resident assistants returned to campus to receive additional training so they can better assist students in our dormitories as they check in and begin to develop a caring family.

Two weeks ago Cumberland College welcomed back several of our athletic teams and trainers. Our football, men's soccer and women's soccer teams began practicing in the early morning and late afternoon, physically preparing themselves, practicing strategies and developing teamwork.

Our cross-country team arrived at the same time and began running through the streets of Williamsburg in the mornings and afternoons. Our volleyball team began daily workouts in one of our gymnasiums, preparing for the fall season.

Cumberland College's cheerleaders also returned for strenuous workouts and practices, learning and honing new routines. Our marching band could be heard play-

ing spirited music as they practiced new formations.

Last Monday our Baptist Student Union leaders returned to finalize plans for the 2000-2001 academic year and begin preparing to minister to both new and returning students in Jesus' name. Students working with our freshman orientation program also arrived on campus for final training.

Last Wednesday and Thursday, our freshmen and transfer students arrived on campus and immediately were welcomed into the Cumberland College family. Special classes and fun activities helped them begin to adapt to college life and prepare for their academic work.

Classes began this Monday, and now we are rolling full-steam! Beginning a new academic year requires tremendous effort on the part of everyone at Cumberland College, but it is worth every minute. The opportunity to provide a quality education in a Christian environment is a wonderful privilege.

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

CUMBERLAND COLLEGE



## Here for the long haul

Used to be, if you crossed Ricky you might get a punch in the nose. Or he might have slammed you against the wall. And if you were the one in charge, look out!

At best, he would talk back; at worst, he'd lie through his teeth. He sounds like the typical class bully, doesn't he? This is the guy who, in a few years, probably will have a reservation at La Grange or Eddyville. Well, I've got news for you, I'm not talking about the high school bully. I'm talking about a 5-year-old.

That's right, 5.

Some people might say Ricky was never supposed to happen. He is a product of rape. At birth he tested positive for cocaine because his mother couldn't stay off the drug while pregnant.

When Ricky wasn't neglected, he was battered. Both traumas meant he learned to walk later than most kids. He was clumsy and fell down a lot. He was skinny, had chronic ear infections and continued to have "accidents" when most kids his age were past such problems.

Can we blame him?

So this "throwaway" child came to Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children a few months ago. Before coming to us, his most successful placement in a foster home lasted two

weeks. After hearing Ricky's background and his problems, his KBHC foster parents said, "We're here for the long haul." Now the boy who couldn't be trusted in a room with other children is successfully attending day care. He's gained weight, and the health problems have virtually disappeared. The boy who couldn't walk without stumbling now swims and rides a bike! And smiles? Ricky's full of them.

The greatest thing that has happened, though, is that Ricky has become attached to his foster parents and siblings. Attachment disorder is a common response for a child who has been neglected. Affection has to be nurtured just like physical coordination. God gives us all the capacity to love, but we still have to learn how to do it.

That's what parents are for. That's what Ricky's foster parents have done. They've taught this "throwaway" child to love.

Kentucky Baptists, this is why we are here. And, like Ricky's foster parents, we're here for the long haul.

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

# RESOURCES

## Web-based information program offers relief to harried ministers

By Yvonne Betowt  
Religion News Service

MADISON, Ala. (RNS)—You're a minister and you've just learned one of your church members has died.

Or a scheduled meeting of the church's finance committee has to be canceled because the chairman has a family emergency.

The church's weekly newsletter has just been mailed. So how do you inform others in the congregation about the member's death, the canceled meeting or any other newsworthy item?

Most churches resort to word-of-mouth or a chain of telephone calls. But such calls take time and are not always feasible. John Funk says he can help.

Funk, a member of Good Shepherd United Methodist Church in Madison, Ala., has designed an Internet-based program for churches—ChristNet.net.

"As far as we can determine, we have the first Web-based church management program in the world," said Funk. "Most of the other church management programs are on software, which are all different. With a Web-based program, everyone would have the same program."

The program allows church staff to update their Web site continually. It also provides church members 24-hour-a-day access to information they previously could get only during regular office hours.

The cost: \$7 per month per church for the base program, and only a few

dollars more for upgraded programs.

"People keep asking how can we do it for such a small fee, but actually there is little overhead for us now that we've started the program," said Funk, who is using his own church as the guinea pig. "If you get enough churches paying \$7 a month, it will more than pay for itself. It's much less expensive than the software programs."

A church needs only a Web browser and an Internet account to get started.

Funk said the program designed by the company he manages—Computer Personnel Unlimited—is geared primarily for medium and small churches, but can accommodate larger churches as well. He hopes eventually to eliminate the cost to churches altogether, through advertisements or selling church-related items online.

He said that in some ways storing information at ChristNet.net is more secure than in the church's own computer.

"If your PC is stolen, then you've lost everything," Funk said. "We can back up information on our database, and we can even change over information on church members if they move from one church to another which are both on our system."

Funk said he considers the site to be a ministry designed to ease the administrative burden on minister and church workers. "We want them to be free to do what a church is supposed to do—ministering to people."

## Book offers faith groups help with communications

The Religion Communicators Council recently released the sixth edition of its book, "How Shall They Hear? A Handbook for Religion Communicators." The book offers nuts-and-bolts information about every aspect of communications, from developing a mission statement to choosing the appropriate media for a particular message in today's world.

For more information, visit [www.religioncommunicators.org](http://www.religioncommunicators.org).

## A History of the Princeton, Kentucky, First Baptist Church

Sam Steger, Caldwell County historian, has written the history of Princeton First Baptist Church. He takes the reader from 1780, when there were many Baptists in the area of Kentucky but no Baptist churches, to the year 1850 when Princeton United Baptist Church was organized. He then documents 150 years in the life of this church, using information from church minutes, local newspapers, Baptist history books and first-person interviews.

A second part of the history, compiled by Yvonne Armstrong, is biographies and photographs of the 27 men who served as pastors of First Baptist. Included are extensive lists of deacons, ministers of music, education and youth, Sunday school directors and others who served God at First Baptist. Readers also will find a listing of church members who served their country during times of conflict, beginning with the Civil War and continuing through the Persian Gulf War.

### ORDER FORM

Please enter my order for \_\_\_\_\_ copies of *A History of the Princeton, Kentucky, First Baptist Church* at a cost of \$21.95 plus tax (total of \$23.27 each). Books to be shipped are \$25 plus tax (total of \$26.27 each). Insurance (optional) is an additional \$1.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Payment by: \_\_\_\_\_ Check (payable to First Baptist Church)  
\_\_\_\_\_ Money order

Send order to: First Baptist Church, 300 West Main St., Princeton, KY 42445, Attn: History Committee. Phone: (270) 365-5591.

## 'What is this?' ... 'Eg'

One of the most exciting things that happens at Oneida is the arrival of new international students. Last week I told you about a boy who had just arrived from Bosnia. A few days before, we enrolled a boy from China.

The young man from Bosnia spoke enough English to communicate well with his peers and our staff. However, the boy from China spoke no English; not one word.

My wife enrolls all of our international students. When the Chinese boy arrived, he was taken to her to make sure all the papers had been completed. Her office is next to mine, so I could hear part of the conversation between them. Actually, there was not much of a conversation; it was my wife asking a lot of questions, but not getting any answers.

I walked to her office several times to see if I could help. The young man had a pocket dictionary that showed the most commonly used words in Chinese and English. They were turning page after page, trying to put enough words together to communicate.

One only can imagine what it must be like to be in a foreign country and not be able to speak a single word of the language. Even more frustrating is the fact that we do not have another Chinese student on our campus. So this poor soul has no one to talk to.

I am happy to say that "Gene" is catching on quickly. At breakfast last week, I told him "Hi" and asked how he was doing. I am not sure how much he understood, but he shook his head up and down and said "Okay." I pointed to his eggs and said, "What is this?" He thought for a moment. Not being totally sure of his answer he said, "Eg." He did not pronounce it exactly right, but he knew what I

meant. I then pointed to his spoon and said, "What is this?" Again he went into deep thought and replied, "poon." I patted him on the back and told him how well he was doing. Finally, I pointed to his tray and said, "What is this?" He thought and thought, but could not come up with the answer. Before I could help him, the boy sitting next to him said, "Tray. It's a tray, Gene." Gene smiled really big because he had learned a new word, and apparently felt he had passed his early morning quiz.

### THIS IS ONEIDA



W.F. Underwood

I took some new students through his room yesterday and told them Gene was a new student from China who spoke very little English. While they were looking at another room, I slipped back into Gene's room and pointed to the fan in his room. I asked him what it was called. He got a really troubled look on his face and finally said, "I don't know." So I told him it was a fan and he repeated the word after me. Later in the day he was in my office. I pointed to the fan behind my desk and asked him what it was. He smiled broadly and said, "Fan." I am not sure who was prouder, Gene or I.

Neither the boy from Bosnia nor Gene is a Christian. We have no assurance that either boy will invite Christ into his life, but at Oneida Baptist Institute they will hear and see the gospel message every day. We cannot go to Bosnia or China, but we are privileged to be able to share the message of Christ Jesus with them.

We are grateful to all of our friends who make it possible to share the gospel with boys and girls from Kentucky, across the U.S. and from around the world.

W.F. Underwood is president of Oneida Baptist Institute, P.O. Box 67, Oneida, KY 40972. [www.oneidaschool.org](http://www.oneidaschool.org)

## New student testimonies

We have welcomed the largest entering class of my 13 years at Clear Creek. First Baptist Church of Pineville hosted them at a Wednesday evening supper. Afterward, two of the students told how God brought them to Clear Creek.

"I was not raised in a Christian home, and my father drank a lot. From 18-29, I followed my dad's life pattern," said Dwayne McDaniel of Richmond, Ind.

"My wife started going to church and asked 30 women to pray for me. I was saved in November 1990, and God took away the desire to drink. I witnessed and tried to live the Christian life and thought everything was all right, but in 1993, God said, 'I want you to preach the gospel.'

"I ran from the call until four years ago when I visited Clear Creek and told God I was ready. Now He is ready, and I'm so glad to be in His will."

Ed Glover of Bristol, Va., told us: "My first three days on campus, so many have asked, 'Are you a pastor?' I don't know if it is my age or my bald head. Three years ago I went on an association mission trip to Nicaragua and ex-

perienced more peace than any time in my life. God planted the seed of missions in my heart.

"A year later I applied to the mission board with no doubt God wanted me in foreign missions. I found out you have to have some training. I attended Boyce School for a year and made good grades, but it didn't seem to be where I should be. Each time I drove home, I would see the Clear Creek sign on Highway 25E. I decided not to return to school and relax for a while.

"The first week home God laid on my heart to check out Clear Creek on the Internet, and a friend asked me to make another trip to Nicaragua. I thought I needed the money for school, but God wanted to show me something else. Our 27-member team saw 2,034 commitments to Christ in seven days! "I arrived home on Saturday and came to campus on Sunday. There is no doubt about my call to missions and no doubt about God's call to Clear Creek."

### CLEAR CREEK CHRONICLE



Bill Whittaker

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

## Documentary chronicles life of a Christian activist

By Shelvia Dancy  
Religion News Service

NASHVILLE (RNS)—By his own admission, Will Campbell never had “much truck in talk about differences.”

“I don’t recognize the concept of racial differences,” said Campbell, 76, the great-grandson of a Confederate soldier. “There is no difference in our blood or in our souls. Race is a sociological concept that scientists created—it’s silly, it’s foolish.”

Campbell learned that early in life from his Grandpa Bunt, who overheard his then 5-year-old grandson taunting a black man who happened by Bunt’s rural Mississippi home one afternoon.

“Me and my playmates and cousins called the man a nigger,” remembered Campbell. “My grandfather heard us, but instead of spanking us or yelling at us he just sat down and told us, ‘That wasn’t a nigger. That was a colored man.’ I was about 5 years old, but I never forgot that. It made a deep impression on me.”

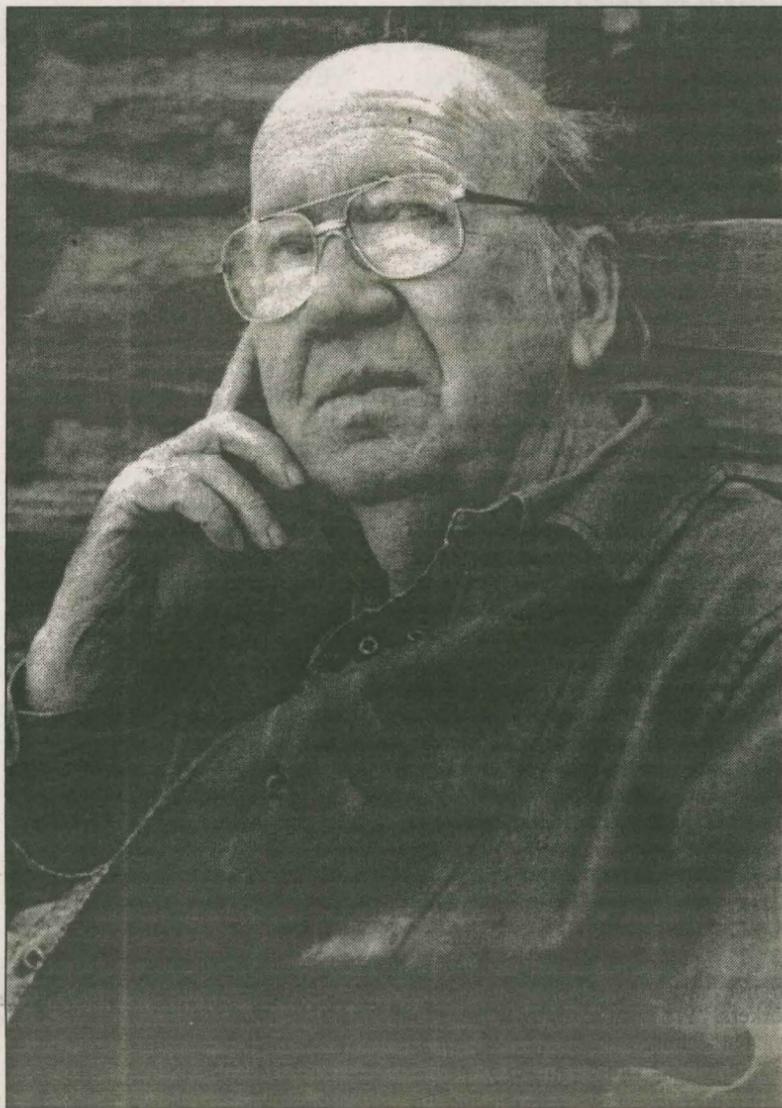
So deep that about seven decades later Campbell has chalked up more than half a century as a foot soldier campaigning against racism and social injustice, a lifetime chronicled in an hour-long PBS documentary, “God’s Will.”

The program is a rare step from the stage wings for Campbell, a Baptist minister cum writer cum farmer who has spent most of his time as a social activist comfortably cloaked in the behind-the-scenes anonymity he prefers.

He was the only white man at the 1957 Atlanta meeting that birthed the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. That same year he was one of three white men who helped nine black students—the Little Rock Nine—integrate Central High, shepherding them past a chain of armed National Guard troops and a screaming mob of white people determined to keep brown faces out of the school.

“It didn’t take a saint to realize you couldn’t let those children go down to that school by themselves,” Campbell said matter-of-factly. “It wasn’t any heroic act.”

He rubbed shoulders with movement luminaries such as Martin Luther King Jr. and Andrew Young, helping to organize demonstrations and sit-ins, and



**WILL CAMPBELL** The author and minister said he is more interested in how Christianity affects people’s everyday lives than religious institutions. “Just to repeat God’s words Sunday after Sunday and go on about our business and not take some action to improve the lot of God’s people is absurd.” (RNS photo)

using the privileges afforded him as a white person to help promote racial equality.

“There was such a level of hostility to black people, and I could go to places black people could not go,” said Campbell, who insists he was merely “helpful” to fellow activists. “I could meet with a white mayor or make an appointment to talk to a white merchant about what we were trying to do, things like that that needed to get done.”

An ordained minister since the age of 17 and a 1952 graduate of Yale’s divinity school, Campbell said he views social activism as a natural extension of his ministry. That belief propelled him out of the pulpit of his first—and last—fulltime preaching gig at a Louisiana church. “They realized I was preaching about ‘the Negro question’ and it was kind of downhill from there,” he said.

“As I read the Scripture, Jesus didn’t have much truck with institutional reli-

gion really. He was out there in the world, in the streets, healing people,” said Campbell, who refused a ministerial deferment and left Louisiana Baptist College to enlist in World War II.

“Unless worship takes people out of the church and into the street to where the people of God are hurting and suffering, it has no meaning. Church isn’t about gathering and mouthing off every Sunday morning. Just to repeat God’s words Sunday after Sunday and go on about our business and not take some action to improve the lot of God’s people is absurd.”

A Southern Baptist defector, Campbell levels harsh criticism against the denomination he says “has gone insane.”

“They won’t let women be ordained and they support all kinds of nonsense like the death penalty that are as far from Baptist position as one can get historically,” he said.

He scorns the Christian Coalition as a political movement and scathingly refers to televangelists as “electronic soul molesters.”

“What goes under the guise of Christianity today is so far removed from anything Jesus and the apostles could possibly have had in mind as to be unrecognizable,” scoffed Campbell. “Some churches have chandeliers that could feed the hungry for a year. It’s disgraceful.”

Campbell has no formal congregation of his own, reveling in the freedom of the “ad hoc” ministry he practices in the rural Nashville-area town he now calls home. His unorthodox ministry has earned some critics, acknowledged Campbell, particularly since the same commitment to Christianity and social justice that spurred him to the civil rights movement lures him to the jail cells of Ku Klux Klansmen.

“The Bible tells us to minister to prisoners because they are prisoners—there’s nothing in the Old Testament that says we should be concerned about their ideology,” he said. “My call is to minister to prisoners regardless. But people do not understand that. It repulses the larger culture, as certainly the Klan’s beliefs should. But people don’t understand that you don’t convert or influence someone by refusing to talk with them.”

**“Some churches have chandeliers that could feed the hungry for a year. It’s disgraceful.”**

Will Campbell

## Make way, Barney. Video series teaches Christian values to kids

By Cecile Holmes  
Religion News Service

HOUSTON (RNS)—Perhaps he isn’t as magical as Aslan, the famous Christ figure of C.S. Lewis’ “The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe” series, but a lion named Kingsley, the principal character in a popular video series, is teaching children about the Christian faith in a fun and thoughtful way.

Kingsley, a teen-age puppet-lion designed as a hero appealing to little folks ages 2 to 6, shows human children and puppet friends in his meadow—named “Kingsley’s Meadow,” of course—the importance of virtues and values in life.

Each video features lessons taken directly from the Bible. And there’s nothing humdrum or inappropriate about these stories. Woven into colorful productions with bright scenery,

dance, songs and performances by children, they create a world in which kids interact with the characters as they sing and act out Bible stories.

In the two newest selections in the series, Kingsley’s Meadow No. 5, “1-2-3 Count on Me,” and Kingsley’s Meadow No. 6, “Just the Fact Facts, Mac,” children learn the significance of forgiveness and dependability in the first video and the importance of truthfulness and respect in the second.

These are definite, easy-to-understand ideas, but gentle truths taught with humor, honesty and openness.

In “Count on Me,” the present-day, teen-age Kingsley takes his audience back to his boyhood, telling the simple story of how he learned to forgive when

another child stole his scooter, or “scooterator” as the contraption is described in the story. Kingsley’s own dad uses a Bible story to show his son how even the most hateful behavior can be forgiven if one’s heart is in the right place.



Turning to the biblical character of Joseph, Dad relates how Jacob loved Joseph over all his sons, giving him a multicolored coat that made him the envy of his brothers. So angry and wrapped up in their hurt were his siblings that they sold him into slavery to a man from Egypt

Years later, a famine reunites Joseph with his brothers when they come to buy corn. Joseph forgives his brothers and the youthful Kingsley forgives the boy who stole his scooter. A trio of singing

flowers chirps joyfully: “I forgive you. I forgive you. Yes I do and it’s true, I forgive you. And I feel so much better now that I forgive you!”

Like the best books of yesteryear, these videos are designed to touch kids’ hearts and minds, entertaining them and teaching them moral values.

In each story, children follow their lion buddy into an amazing meadow inhabited by lovable characters, including Petals—a trio of puppet flowers—an offbeat chipmunk named “Monk” and other wacky folks.

The brains behind this creativity is two-time Billboard Award winner Tony Salerno, the series creator. A seasoned producer, Salerno brings years of experience producing quality children’s products to the work. The series is produced by Son Wonder in cooperation with the American Bible Society and Tyndale Entertainment.

## PRAYER PARTNERS

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

■ The open-air preaching ministry of Elias Kashambagani among the Musoma town people in Tanzania this week.

■ The Wazaramo people of Tanzania who are steeped in centuries-old witchcraft, sorcery and black magic as well as ancestral worship.

■ Baptist representative Marc Byrd as he convenes a prayer group of various "Great Commission" Christians in Czestochowa, Poland. Byrd asks for prayer that God would give him wisdom and discernment regarding the best strategies to use in bringing together believers from different evangelical backgrounds.

■ Three facilitators needed for Boston church planter networks.

■ The retreat ministry led by Carol and Earl Edgerly in Farmington, Maine.

## Mountains to the Mississippi

Compiled by Shirley Wooton

■ **BUFFALO**—Mt. Tabor Church will host its 150th anniversary celebration Sept. 17 at 1 p.m. **Roger Pepper** is pastor.

■ **BURGIN**—**Joseph Vest** resigned as pastor of Burgin Church, effective Aug. 31, to become pastor of Central Church in Clovis, N.M.

■ **CAMPBELLSVILLE**—Saloma Church will host a "Singspiration" service Sept. 3 at 7 p.m. **Jason England** will speak. The church also will present "The Ride," a Billy Graham film, Sept. 10 at 6:30 p.m. For information call (270) 789-0082. **John Chowning** is pastor.

■ **CORBIN**—**Robert White** resigned as assistant pastor at Central Church to work at Baptist Regional Medical Center.

■ **FRANKFORT**—East Frankfort Church will host **David Livingston** in

concert Sept. 3 at 11 a.m. **Gary Ellcesor** is pastor.

Faith Church will host **David Livingston** in concert Sept. 3 at 6:30 p.m. **Everett Hawkins** is pastor.

■ **LOUISVILLE**—Bashford Manor Church will host **Jeanne and Bob Johnson** of Charlotte, N.C., in concert Sept. 10 at 10:45 a.m. For information, call (502) 459-3232. **Eric Garvey** is pastor.

Valley View Church will host its fall women's luncheon Sept. 9 at 11:30 a.m. For information, call (502) 935-5142. **Bonnie Epperson** is WMU director and **Kevin Hamm** is pastor.

■ **MORTON'S GAP**—Salem Church will host homecoming services Sept. 17 at 11 a.m. with **Don Canode** as speaker. Lunch will follow and the **Conquerors Quartet** will sing in the afternoon. For information, call (270) 258-9351. **Chuck Evans** is pastor.

■ **SHEPHERDSVILLE**—First Church will host a youth crusade Sept. 7-9; 7 p.m. Sept. 7 and 9; and 10 p.m. Sept. 10. **Stuart Henslee** will be the evangelist. For information, call (502) 543-7721. **Mickey Hartley** is interim pastor.

■ **WILLIAMSBURG**—Mossy Gap Church called **Larry Gaines**, a student at Clear Creek Bible College, as pastor.

### What's going on?

Send your happenings to Shirley Wooton for Mountains to the Mississippi. Mail: Box 43969, Louisville, KY 40253. Fax: (502) 244-6474. E-mail: shirley\_wooton@kybaptist.org.

## CLASSIFIED ADS

**AVAILABLE:** Multi-faceted minister seeks position in which to serve a Spirit-led church. Strong leadership skills, life application preaching and teaching, youth experience and media applications. Seminary MDiv. degree and bachelor in business. Contact Brian Teater, 709 Logan Ave., Danville, KY 40422; (859) 238-2126; bteater@mis.net.

**FOR SALE:** 75 church pews in different lengths. Pews will be available Oct. 9 and 16. Please inquire at Fee Fee Baptist Church, St. Louis, Mo., Rev. Ken Atherton, (314) 739-1525.

**SEEKING:** Full-time minister for rural church in the heart of the Bluegrass. Seventy-five active members. parsonage available. Contact: Terry Newton, 2367 Munday's Landing Road, Versailles, KY 40383. (859) 873-9160 after 6 p.m.

**SEEKING:** Part-time minister of music. Send resumé to Personnel Committee, Yorktown Baptist Church, 7300 National Turnpike, Louisville, KY 40214.

**SEEKING:** Arapahoe Road Baptist Church, Littleton, Colo., is seeking a senior pastor. Send resumé and a tape to: Arapahoe Road Baptist Church, 780 E Arapahoe Road, Littleton, CO 80122.

**SEEKING:** First Baptist Church, Ashland, Ky., is continuing its prayerful search for a senior pastor. A progressive, multi-staff church, First Baptist has two morning services, opportunities for midweek prayer meetings and congregational fellowship. It is a church that reflects the values of true Christian love and gender equality. For more information about our church and the requirements of the position, visit our Web site at [www.fbcashlandky.com](http://www.fbcashlandky.com). Resumés should be sent to First Baptist Church, PO Box 787, Ashland, KY 41105-0787, c/o Dr. Eugene II Foster.

**SEEKING:** Hargrave Military Academy, located in Chatham, Va., is seeking an energetic individual to fill the position of chaplain. Hargrave is a private boarding school, grades 7 through 12 and one post-graduate year, affiliated with the Baptist General Association of Virginia. This position will report directly to the president of the academy. It will be the responsibility of the chaplain to minister to 400+ students and 100+ faculty and staff. The chaplain must be able to relate to people from diverse economic, racial, social and cultural backgrounds. This position requires a seminary degree from a Southern Baptist seminary, five years experience in ministry and ordination (or eligibility for ordination). Musical and/or drama talent will be a plus. The major responsibilities include three chapel services weekly, managing small-group Bible studies, providing ministry opportunities for students, facilitating faculty and staff prayer groups, counseling students and faculty/staff as needed and teaching in an expanded Bible program. The chaplain should be a team player who is highly motivated to reach young people for Christ and disciple them in their Christian walk. Benefits include housing and utilities. Salary is negotiable depending on qualifications. Please send a resumé that includes the following: a brief statement of faith, a brief ministry philosophy statement, picture, one audio/video tape of a sermon, one video tape of a youth activity, five references (two personal and three professional). Oct. 1 will be the closing date for resumés. Please send to: Joe Merricks, Chaplain Search Committee, Hargrave Military Academy, 200 Military Drive, Chatham, VA 24531. To learn more about Hargrave, please check our Web site at [www.hargrave.edu](http://www.hargrave.edu).

## Evangelicals blast religious world peace conference as anti-family

NEW YORK (RNS)—The upcoming Millennium World Peace Summit of Religious and Spiritual Leaders is coming under attack by evangelicals, who say they have not been invited to the summit, and that the meeting will be anti-family and pro-abortion.

The Aug. 28-31 summit will draw more than 1,000 religious leaders from around the world to New York to discuss paths toward peace. Every major faith tradition in the world will be represented.

The summit also will see the birth of the International Advisory Council of Religious and Spiritual Leaders, a United Nations advisory panel that will work toward peace in troubled regions around the world.

Some religious conservatives, who have long questioned the global nature of the United Nations, have called the conference a "wolf in sheep's clothing" of "leftist" and "anti-life, anti-family politics in the robes of religion."

Robert Maginnis, vice president for foreign policy for the Washington-based Family Research Council, said the summit's agenda would include "the promotion of birth control methods, environmental extrem-

ism and New Age ideals of globalized religion."

Maginnis also criticized the summit for not inviting the Dalai Lama, spiritual leader of the world's 15 million Tibetan Buddhists. A host of critics have said summit organizers bowed to Chinese pressure to exclude the Nobel Peace Prize-winning spiritual leader.

"The political agenda of the summit sponsors, combined with (U.N.) Secretary General (Kofi) Anan's deference to the communist government of China, are proof positive that the Millennium Summit will do little to strengthen the cause of religious freedom around the world and will more likely offend the values of the pro-life and pro-family faithful," Maginnis said.

Maginnis also said the country's largest Protestant denomination, the Southern Baptist Convention, would not be officially represented at the conference because organizers did not extend invitations to evangelicals.

But one prominent Southern Baptist, Anne Graham Lotz, daughter of evangelist Billy Graham, was invited and will attend the conference, according to her spokeswoman.

**SEEKING:** Monte Vista Baptist Church in Maryville, Tenn., is seeking a full-time minister of youth and young adults. We are affiliated with CBF and SBC. Send resumés and recommendations to: Monte Vista Baptist Church, 1735 Old Niles Ferry Road, Maryville, TN 37803.

**SEEKING:** Valley Creek Baptist Church in Elizabethtown, Ky., is seeking God's leadership for a full-time minister of students. This position requires ministering to approximately 100 youth and college students in a congregation that is growing and excited about Jesus. Please send resumé to: Valley Creek Baptist Church, 4685 Springfield Road, Elizabethtown, KY 42701, Attn: Student Ministry Search Committee.

**SEEKING:** Part-time youth director (24 hours per week) for Buena Vista Baptist Church, Owensboro, Ky. Please send resumé to: Search Committee, Buena Vista Baptist Church, 119 West 24th St., Owensboro, KY 42303.

**SEEKING:** LAN administrator for the Kentucky Baptist Convention. Candidate must have a business or computer-related college degree; 1-3 years of directly-related experience is required. This person must have basic knowledge of computer hardware and will be working with the following operating systems and software: Novell Netware 5, Windows NT 4.0, Windows 95, Lotus Notes and Microsoft Office. This full-time position offers an attractive compensation package. Contact Administrative Services Department, Kentucky Baptist Convention, Louisville, Ky. Phone: (502) 244-6468.

**SEEKING:** First Baptist Church of Taylorsville is prayerfully seeking a part-time minister of music. Those interested please send resumé to: Monica Cox, First Baptist Church, PO Box 446, Taylorsville, KY 40071.

**SEEKING:** Christian married couples and singles needed to help raise children at Boys and Girls Country, a 200-acre ranch north of Houston, Texas. Great benefits, competitive salaries, newly renovated, spacious living quarters, plus a rewarding lifestyle and atmosphere. If you want to make a difference in the lives of children from elementary age through college, call Shirley at (281) 351-4976, ext. 214, or fax your resumé to (281) 351-4978. EOE.

**SEEKING:** Full-time minister of youth and children. Calhoun Baptist Church needs an individual with a passion for young people to provide leadership for a cutting-edge ministry to the heart of McLean County, Ky. Send resumé to: Calhoun Baptist Church, PO Box 283, Calhoun, KY 42327.

**SEEKING:** East Cadiz Baptist Church of Cadiz is seeking a full-time minister of music and youth. Send resumé to: M/Y Search Committee, East Cadiz Baptist Church, 407 Third St., Cadiz, KY 42211.

**SEEKING:** Part-time children's minister for Farmdale Baptist Church, 5610 U.S. Highway 127 South, Frankfort, Ky. If you feel God is calling you to this area to work with children, send resumé to: Ms. Bryan, 530 Alfa Drive, Frankfort, KY 40601.

**SEEKING:** Full-time minister of music and youth. Please send resumé to: First Baptist Church, PO Box 506, Hindman, KY 41822, Attn: Search Committee.

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## Non-'Survivor' says his Christian faith intimidated other contestants

VIRGINIA BEACH, Va. (RNS)—A former castaway on the CBS reality program "Survivor" said he believes the strength he's gained from his Christian beliefs was too much for his fellow castaways.

Dirk Been, 24, was among the early participants to be voted off the island on which all 16 were stranded earlier this year.

"There's no doubt," Dirk Been, 24, said during an appearance on religious broadcaster Pat Robertson's "700 Club" talk show on the Christian Broadcasting Network. Been said the other castaways realized "there's real power in this guy, we don't know what it is, but if we want to win the game, we have to get rid of him."

Been's interview was broadcast on CBN one night before CBS aired a two-hour series finale in which the winner of the program's \$1 million jackpot was identified.

Been, the fifth contestant voted off the island, said he was more interested in having fun and sharing Christianity than winning the money, Associated Press reported.

While on the island he spoke openly of his decision to remain a virgin and was shown reading from a Bible he had taken to the island.

Been said he later learned from other contestants that they often read from his Bible, which he left behind on the island. He said he planned to find out what happened to the book when all 16 contestants gathered Aug. 23 in Los Angeles for a reunion and one-hour town hall meeting after the series finale is broadcast.

He said he was disappointed that in an early episode, contestant Rudy Boesch, 72, remarked, "The only reason I'd bring a Bible out here is if I needed toilet paper."

Been said the two had a good relationship and Boesch's comment might have been taken out of context.

Been holds a bachelor's degree in religious studies from Seattle Pacific University. He said he applied to "Survivor" because he believed "the Lord had a plan."

He owned just \$16 at the time. After he lost his ATM card traveling from Seattle to his home state of Wisconsin, someone withdrew his life savings from the bank.

He currently works as a substitute teacher while also helping care for his family's dairy farm, according to his profile on the CBS Web site.

## Former soap star takes God to Hollywood

By David Briggs  
Cleveland Plain Dealer

COLUMBUS, Ohio (RNS)—She was a channeler to Shirley MacLaine's channeler, an honor in the New Age movement akin to being the pope's confessor.

When she wasn't conjuring spirits from the next world, she got down in the soap opera mud as the misunderstood other woman cavorting with a pair of brothers-in-law and as the uptight, bigoted wife whose husband was having an affair with her best friend in shows from "General Hospital" to "Generations."

And now, safe in the religious bosom of the Midwest, Gail Ramsey is taking on the hardest role of her career—Hollywood evangelist.

Earlier this month she went onto Sound Stage 20 on the CBS studio lot and lead a group of producers, actors, technicians and entertainment industry workers in prayer in the same town where she played a harlot each day for five years.

The slightly built Ohio minister—still recognized as Alan Quartermaine's mistress on "General Hospital"—is at the vanguard of several new ministries designed to take God into the area that many evangelicals consider the belly of the beast.

Many evangelicals view Hollywood with a special fascination. The celluloid sin city is symbolic of the biblical requirements of great evil occurring before the Second Coming, while the new ministries are signs of God at work even in the darkest times.

Who could ask for a better script: saving the lost in the heart of moral darkness?

"It was amazing to be standing in the middle of a sound stage in the middle of Hollywood talking about the Lord," Ramsey said of her 3-month-old Seeking Truth ministry. "I can't even describe it. It was just like, 'God, You're awesome.'"

The religious odyssey of Ramsey is a true Hollywood story that begins with an innocent young woman raised in Roman Catholic schools in the Midwest heading west to pursue her dreams, and falling in with a lifestyle of power, fame and New Age spirituality that would hit bottom only with a dramatic scene of demonic possession.

It was at that moment Ramsey would begin her new life.

On a recent sunny day, she let her mind wander to the day of her conversion, flashing back to a condominium in Tarzana, Calif., on the last day of 1990.

Through her storyteller's art, the cultured 52-year-old woman becomes an actress without a date on New Year's Eve, sitting on a couch in a friend's house. They were talking about supernatural powers when her friend detected the presence of evil in the room, Ramsey said.

She describes the feeling of a force taking over her body and propelling her forward to strangle her friend.

"I rose up on the couch," she said in a menacing tone. "What I felt inside of me was like the power of the atom bomb."

A few terrifying seconds later, the



**HOLLYWOOD EVANGELIST** Soap opera star-turned evangelist Gail Ramsey says, "It's very difficult to stand and be a Christian in Hollywood. ... They'll laugh at you." (RNS photo)

force left her and it was over.

It was the devil's last, best shot, she said. The spirit that had guided her as a New Age psychic and channeler had been exposed for what it was all along: a force of Satan, she said.

Her friend, another actress who recently had become an evangelical Christian, immediately began to pray for her and called up other friends to start a prayer network for Ramsey.

Ramsey's first reaction, however, was one of anger—at God.

For two days, she cried out to the heavens, "How could you let me be deceived for so long?"

The answer came back: "God told me, 'First, I am going to take you out. But one day I will take you back and they will listen to you because you have been there.'"

And "there" was not only the top of the soap-opera world but the height of the New Age movement, at a California resort filled with famous actresses and other big names from Hollywood. Kevin Ryerson, a spiritual guru for Shirley MacLaine who has become a sought-after speaker and \$350-a-session channeler on the New Age circuit, was giving a seminar and chose Ramsey to come to his cabin and be his personal guide into the spirit world.

Ramsey does not remember what was said, but still recalls allowing "a spirit guide" to speak to Ryerson through her body.

"It was kind of a scary place to go," she said.

And a long spiritual journey for a woman who was raised in Catholic schools in Wausau, Wis.

Leaving the University of Wisconsin in her senior year, she went west to pursue her love of acting.

"At first I was offended by everything I saw," she said. "The longer I remained in that environment, slowly but surely I was affected by the darkness, the lack of morality."

On screen, she was hopping in and out of marital beds as "sexy Susan Moore" from 1979 to 1983 in "General Hospital."

In her personal life, Ramsey had star power and lots of money, but could find no more fulfillment than her screen characters. She tried transcendental meditation, psychics, anything she could find.

"What was the truth? I was search-

ing everywhere," she said.

She would go on to prominent television roles in "Mike Hammer" with Stacy Keach, the soap opera "Generations" and the sitcom "California Dreams." She would make her way up the psychic world to become a channeler to others.

And then came the New Year's Eve of her dramatic conversion.

She left Hollywood in 1993, deciding to move to Columbus after being invited for a visit by a friend from there and desiring a healthier environment for her son, now a sophomore at Ohio State University.

"It's difficult to be a good Christian, a strong Christian, around that much darkness all the time," she said.

She attended World Harvest Bible School in Columbus and was ordained as a nondenominational minister in 1995. In addition to giving acting lessons, she travels throughout the country as an evangelist and writes a "Dear God" advice column that appears in the evangelical Connection magazine.

"I used to think Christians were a bunch of weak, weepy weirdoes, and I wanted nothing to do with them," she said. "Shirley MacLaine was the answer to the world. That's how deceived I was."

Yet life without the limousines and star power has never been better, she said.

"I have total peace inside me, that's all I can say," she said.

Her first prayer gathering in June at CBS drew 20 people to Stage 18. The next month, on Stage 20, about 40 people—from actors to producers to technicians—attended.

Overall, there are now more than a dozen ministries helping Sin City meet its Maker.

Where there is darkness, however, Christians are called to spread the light, and nowhere will the light shine brighter in contrast than Hollywood, leaders of these new ministries say.

What makes Ramsey's effort special is that she has been there.

Having seen it all the first time, Ramsey realizes other evangelists have come to Hollywood and been seduced by the power and influence of it all.

"I think people on the whole are really intimidated by Hollywood power, and I'm not," Ramsey said. "I say God is still the devil's boss."

"Shirley MacLaine was the answer to the world. That's how deceived I was."

Gail Ramsey

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