

**FOR THE RECORD**

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Dated Material — Deliver by Wednesday, October 18

**CP anniversary to highlight KBC annual meeting**

By Brenda Smith  
Kentucky Baptist Convention

BOWLING GREEN—A celebration of the 75th anniversary of the Cooperative Program, election of a new KBC president and approval of a budget goal of more than \$22 million are expected to be highlights of the Kentucky Baptist Convention meeting in Bowling Green Nov. 14-15.

More than 1,800 messengers are expected to attend the two-day event at First Baptist Church of Bowling Green. The theme will be "Partners in the Harvest," which also has served as the theme for the year-long CP celebration. That celebration will culminate Tuesday night, Nov. 14, in a special one-hour event.

During the celebration program, messengers will see a dramatic presentation focusing on the history of the Cooperative Program in Kentucky, a music video featuring Kentucky Baptist ministries and experience a mini-concert by contemporary Christian music artist Clay Crosse. Crosse recently won a Dove award for "I Will Follow Christ," the theme song of the national Southern Baptist CP celebration.

"I think every Kentucky Baptist will want to be a part of the Tuesday night celebration especially," said KBC Communications Director Robert Reeves. "The original drama will feature an actor portraying Boyce Taylor, the First Baptist Church of Murray pastor whose work to promote a unified giving plan was a precursor of today's Cooperative Program. And I think the music video and Clay Crosse concert are going to appeal across the generations."

□ See KBC meeting ..., page 3

**Lexington responds to Graham festival**

By Ken Walker  
State Correspondent

LEXINGTON—When Billy Graham last preached in Lexington, he wore a suit. Last week when his son, Franklin, spoke in Rupp Arena, he wore a leather jacket.

The events associated with the elder Graham's preaching often are referred to as "crusades." The younger evangelist prefers the kinder, gentler term "festival."

Regardless of the terms or dress code, Lexington organizers say Franklin Graham has modeled how to reach a new generation with the timeless message of Christ's love. The Oct. 13-15 event attracted approximately 2,800 people to make first time professions of faith while helping unite area churches in the task of sharing the gospel, leaders said.

"It's pulled the Christian community of Lexington together," said Jim McGee of Porter Memorial Baptist Church, who helped spearhead the drive to bring Graham to Rupp Arena. "The community has worked together and had one focus, winning people to Christ."

"I think it was incredible," added Richard Gaines, the pastor who delivered the final evening's closing prayer. "This was the result of much prayer, new relationships and more prayer. Shame on us if we go back to business as usual."

Among the follow-up events scheduled is a "watch night" service on New Year's eve. It will be held in Heritage Hall, adjacent to the arena.

African-American pastors are managing the preparations for the observance, which Gaines said is evidence of some of the racial barriers that were crossed by Greater Lexington Festival 2000.

"There's been a break in the dike, but there's still work to be done," said Gaines, pastor of Consolidated Baptist Church, which is affiliated with the Progressive National Baptist Convention. "Probably more happened in denominations than the racial area."

With a total turnout of 49,200, the



**ARE YOU READY?** Franklin Graham invited people to accept Jesus as their personal Savior during the three-day event at Rupp Arena Oct. 13-15. Musical groups such as Ricky Skaggs helped attract a total turnout of 49,200 people.

nightly crowds averaged nearly 3,000 less than a 1971 crusade by Franklin's father, Billy, at Memorial Auditorium on the University of Kentucky campus. But the number of conversions outpaced the 2,100 reported 29 years ago.

Many of those who responded to Franklin's invitations to accept Christ as Savior wore T-shirts and blue

jeans—young people attracted by such well-known contemporary musical performers as Kirk Franklin, Michael W. Smith and the band Third Day.

While the latter performed during Saturday's "Youth Night," each of the three evenings was tailored to appeal to young people, said senior festival

□ See Younger Graham ..., page 10

**Ten Commandments lawsuit in Kentucky one in a growing trend**

By Adelle Banks  
Religion News Service

LONGWOOD, Fla. (RNS)—Florida lawyer Erik Stanley likens himself to an interior decorator.

But he doesn't dabble in paints, wallpaper and decorative borders. Rather, he focuses on one, rather controversial document: the Ten Commandments.

Representing two county courthouses and a school district in Kentucky, Stanley hopes to find a constitutional way for them to re-post the biblical laws in their buildings.

"In order for these displays to be constitutional ... you've got to make sure that there's other secular things hanging around," he said.

Stanley is litigation counsel at Liberty Counsel, a Christian firm based in

Longwood, Fla. It is one of several legal groups involved in almost a dozen cases traveling through the courts relating to the Decalogue.

Proponents and opponents agree that the courts currently are considering more cases than they can ever remember regarding the constitutionality of posting the biblical laws. Even as postings are halted and decisions appealed, groups continue to distribute the laws—in frames and on book covers—in hopes of spreading their age-old message without a legal challenge.

One of the current legal cases, regarding a display of the Ten Commandments with about 30 historical documents in an Indiana courthouse, pits organizations commonly known as the ACLU and the ACLJ against each other.

The American Civil Liberties

Union generally argues that the commandments posted on government property violate the separation of church and state, while the American Center for Law and Justice—founded by religious broadcaster Pat Robertson—counters that they are not only religious documents but an important influence on secular history.

Ken Falk, legal director of the Indiana Civil Liberties Union, says the Ten Commandments are solely a religious document.

"The impetus to publish them is a desire by people to publish what they believe are a strong moral code in the hope that people follow it," Falk said. "The problem is it's a strong moral code only if you happen to believe in the underlying religious nature of the code."

Falk's branch of the ACLU and a

lawyer for the ACLU are preparing for arguments next week in a case involving the posting of the commandments at a Washington County, Ind., courthouse along with documents such as the U.S. Constitution, the Gettysburg Address and the Mayflower Compact.

"It's a profoundly religious document and its religiosity is not diminished in that context at all," Falk said.

Frank Manion, senior regional counsel of the ACLJ, who is arguing for the county, said there's "no need to exclude" the Ten Commandments since they, too, are a part of history.

"The idea that some documents are religious and some are secular is ridiculous," he said. "Religion is part of history."

In both Indiana and Kentucky, recent legislation encouraging the display

□ See Kentucky Ten ..., page 6

## Texas proposal impacting Southern's plans

By David Winfrey  
News Director

LOUISVILLE—Southern Baptist Theological Seminary will postpone a \$5.7 million construction and renovation project for conference facilities in light of an expected cut in income from Texas Baptists.

Southern officials broke ground in April for the Rice/Judson Seminary Center, a component of the seminary's \$70 million campus master plan adopted by trustees last year.

President Al Mohler told trustees the postponement was necessary in order to focus resources on personnel and programming in light of the Baptist General Convention of Texas' proposal to cut funds to the six Southern Baptist Convention seminaries as well as the SBC Executive Committee and Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission.

"The issue is not the construction costs per se, but the fact that that much-needed facility brings on in its first months a considerable operating cost that will have to be extended out into the future," Mohler said.

Other aspects of the master plan are continuing, he added, including the construction of new residence halls.

In his report to the trustees, Mohler criticized the Texas plan while predicting that Texas Baptists ultimately will support Southern and the other seminaries. I believe what Texas Baptists are doing is basically a revolt against the Cooperative Program."

Trustees responded at the end of their two-day meeting, Oct. 9-10, with a resolution backing Southern Seminary and calling on Baptist churches to continue financially supporting the six Southern Baptist seminaries.

The Texas plan calls for reducing the money the BGCT sends to the six Southern Baptist seminaries from \$5.3 million to a maximum of \$1 million.

Future funds would go to seminaries based on the number of Texas students enrolled. The surplus funds would support three Texas schools: Truett Seminary at Baylor University in Waco, Logsdon School of Theology at Hardin-Simmons University in Abilene and Hispanic Baptist Theological School in San Antonio.

"They're going to take the money that had gone to the six Southern Baptist seminaries and they're going to invest it in two Texas Baptist schools—what they call seminaries—and also to the Hispanic school there," Mohler said of the plan.

Members of the 16-member Texas committee studying Southern Baptist theological education cited several concerns about all six seminaries, including lack of diversity on the seminary trustee boards and trustees creating political litmus tests for faculty hiring.

"The direct accusation made against us by the BGCT committee and the leaders who adopted this is that we are too serious when it comes to our confession of faith, that we are too defined when it comes to what we believe and what we expect of those who will teach, that we are out of step and out of date when it comes to those convictions we believe are rooted in Scripture," Mohler said of the report.

The trustees' resolution states "we believe that the direction (of Southern Seminary) is soundly biblical and in line with historic Southern Baptist theology and practice."

It also urges Texas Baptists "to continue supporting our SBC seminaries and the Cooperative Program for the glory of God."

Bill Haynes, pastor of Sweetwater Baptist Church in Longwood, Fla., proposed the resolution. After the meeting he said he doesn't hold "feelings of grandure that it can change the world, but I think it can make people stop and think."

Mohler predicted that messengers to the BGCT annual meeting later this month will adopt the changes and that they will have a significant short-term impact. A withdrawal of \$1 million represents about 6 percent of Southern's operating budget, he said.

But Mohler further predicted that individual Texas churches will support all six seminaries. "I'm confident that where the Lord gives the vision, the Lord will provide the resources."

"I believe as the dust settles and as the issues are clarified, Texas Baptists want to stand with the gospel. They want to stand with the truth," he added. "I believe not only will we receive their students, but we will receive their financial support."

On campus for the school's Heritage Week, SBC President James Merritt agreed.

"Southern Baptists will rise to the occasion if that's what it calls for," he said, pledging his support to lessen the impact of any shortfall. "I will do everything in my power and I will use all of my influence to make sure that if indeed this shortfall does occur, that the seminary will not suffer in the least."

Also during the fall meeting, trustees:

- Passed a resolution endorsing the revised Baptist Faith & Message.

- Learned of a new Christian ministry track for the seminary's master of divinity program. Danny Akin, vice president for academic administration, said the degree was a response to requests for a more flexible M.Div. program that permitted students not seeking to be pastors to take more electives.

- Approved the hiring of Ruth Wong as temporary non-Baptist personnel for the seminary's school of church music and worship. Wong previously was interim director of music ministries at Foothills Presbyterian Church in San Jose, Calif.

## Golden Gate seminary officials contemplate cost-cutting plan

MILL VALLEY, Calif. (ABP)—Facing the prospect of reduced support from Texas Baptists, officials at Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary are eyeing staff layoffs and other cost-cutting steps before the end of 2000.

Seminary trustees meeting at the Mill Valley, Calif., campus Oct. 10 authorized President William Crews to begin mapping out budget cuts "to reflect potential losses from the proposed actions by the Baptist General Convention of Texas." The action refers to a proposal recently approved by the BGCT Executive Board to cut about \$4.3 million from Texas Baptists' support of Southern Baptist seminaries.

Messengers from Texas Baptist churches will vote on the proposal at the BGCT annual meeting Oct. 31.

"If they were to somehow miraculously vote to leave their budget as is, it makes a lot of this immaterial," Crews said in an interview with the California Southern Baptist. However, he added, "We can't wait to find out what the impact of Texas is before we make our adjustments."

A Texas Baptist official, mean-

while, called the action a politically motivated attempt to influence votes on the upcoming budget proposal.

Crews said Golden Gate Seminary's share of Texas Baptists' Cooperative Program gifts last year totaled \$514,000. Under the BGCT proposal, that amount would shrink to less than \$19,000 next year.

"We will of necessity need to reduce our administrative and support staff in the terms of probably \$130,000 to \$140,000," Crews said. "We don't know who yet, and we will make that decision pretty quickly because I don't want everybody to be held in limbo."

Bob Campbell, chairman of a Texas study commission that proposed the funding cut of SBC seminaries, described the Golden Gate action as "terribly premature." It is based on something that hasn't yet happened, he said, and no one knows if the SBC Executive Committee will recommend shifting funds to cover the losses.

"I think this is a political alarmist move," said Campbell. "It is an attempt to try to sway votes based on something that hasn't happened yet."

## Proposed session with SBC, Texas leaders called off

DALLAS—A behind-the-scenes, last-minute effort at dialogue between Baptist General Convention of Texas leaders and Southern Baptist Convention leaders has failed to materialize.

News of the plans for dialogue was reported Oct. 10 by Baptist Press, the news service of the SBC Executive Committee. Release of that article violated a key part of a gentlemen's agreement between BGCT Executive Director Charles Wade and Executive Committee President Morris Chapman, Wade asserted.

Chapman denies agreeing to any such provision and blames Wade for failing to do his part to bring the dialogue to fruition.

Both Wade and Chapman confirmed that they met privately in Dallas for more than four hours Sept. 28. They also confirmed that after the meeting, each agreed to enlist six other representatives to meet again Oct. 19 in Dallas.

According to Wade, they agreed there would be "no publicity regarding our meeting and there would be no criticism if either of us could not meet before the convention."

Chapman said his agreement with Wade was "to ask the two groups not to be critical publicly of each other while the talks were progressing."

Chapman instigated the Baptist Press story after Wade notified him Oct. 5 that, after talking with the six individuals he hoped to invite to the next meeting, it did not appear possible to schedule such a meeting before the state convention.

"After review of an already overcrowded schedule, I determined it was not reasonable to put together a meeting before the convention in Corpus Christi," Wade told the Texas Baptist Standard.

Further, Wade said, the other Texas Baptist leaders with whom he consulted felt it would not be appropriate to begin potentially complex discussions less than two weeks before BGCT messengers are scheduled to vote on funding changes already approved by two key state convention committees.

"Once messengers have made their decisions and charted a course for our convention, then we can work with SBC leaders about how to implement those decisions and how to continue working together where we can," Wade said.

Chapman portrayed the situation as demonstrating that Texas Baptist leadership isn't really interested in working with SBC leaders to find a solution.

"I had hoped this meeting would be considered of such importance that everyone would have made it a top priority," he said. "Unfortunately, most of the BGCT leaders feel no urgency to talk with SBC leaders prior to their convention."

## Arizona officials blame auditor in foundation fraud

PHOENIX (ABP)—Arizona officials allege that the Baptist Foundation of Arizona's auditor aided and abetted fraud by giving the organization a clean bill of health despite warnings to the contrary.

Accounting firm Arthur Andersen has requested a hearing to challenge charges by the Arizona Corporation Commission's Securities Division.

Last year securities officials alleged that officials of the Baptist Foundation conducted bogus transactions between various corporations to hide the fact that investments were losing money. The foundation filed for bankruptcy protection last November.

Losses to investors of perhaps more than \$350,000 "could not have occurred without Arthur Andersen knowingly or recklessly ignoring the repeated warnings or 'red flags' uncovered during its audits," according to a recent Securities Division notice.

## Midwestern trustee leaders reject merger or relocation

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (ABP)—Trustees of Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary have reaffirmed Kansas City, Mo., as their ministry base, rebuffing rumors that the school might relocate to another state.

A trustee campus planning and building committee drafted a resolution Oct. 7 affirming the 43-year-old seminary's vision to impact the Midwest and Great Plains region.

The statement, which was approved by the trustees' executive committee, is scheduled for presentation to the full board this week.

Committee chairman Reagan Bradford of Edmund, Okla., said the resolution was partly in response to rumors that Midwestern might merge with another Southern Baptist seminary and relocate outside of the Kansas City area. Colorado Springs, Denver and Las Vegas were mentioned as possible sites.

While some individuals have talked about a number of possibilities, Bradford said: "This was the first time our trustees have talked about this idea. We felt the need to speak quickly and clearly that we believe God has placed this seminary in Kansas City by choice, not by chance."

Board chairman Carl Weiser of Lynchburg, Va., said trustees are "considering a number of new possibilities," including building a new campus in Kansas City.

## KBC expands staff for college, chaplaincy, creative work

By Trennis Henderson  
Editor

Expanding Kentucky Baptist involvement in collegiate evangelism, chaplaincy and creative ministries, state convention leaders approved two new ministry positions and upgraded several others last week.

The Kentucky Baptist Convention Executive Board's administrative committee also approved financial assistance for the Baptist Convention of New England and heard a report from an ethics and values task force during its Oct. 10 meeting.

Major personnel actions included electing Penny Cruse as collegiate evangelism consultant, David Sandifer as chaplaincy consultant and establishing a creative ministries department to be led by Tom Smoot.

Cruse, who will be based at the University of Kentucky in Lexington, will be responsible for developing a statewide strategy of collegiate evangelism.

"Penny has the gift of evangelism. That's her burning passion," said Keith Inman, director of the KBC collegiate ministry department. He said the position is designed to "raise the bar of evangelism on the collegiate level."

Cruse, a graduate of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, has served since 1996 as an admissions counselor at Southern.

Sandifer will serve as the KBC's first chaplaincy consultant. A retired Army chaplain, he also has been pastor of churches in Louisiana, Mississippi and Tennessee. He now lives in Campbellsville where his wife, Jack-

ie, is a professor at Campbellsville University.

Larry Martin, leader of the KBC missions growth team, said more than 200 Baptist chaplains are serving in hospitals, prisons, military, industry and other settings in Kentucky. Sandifer will be responsible for providing resources, training and networking opportunities for chaplains.

"We wanted to set up a support system for chaplains," Martin explained. He said Sandifer has "the passion, the experience and the networking ability" to accomplish that goal.

The KBC's new creative ministries department will seek to provide resources and training for Kentucky Baptists to use creative arts to communicate the gospel, facilitate worship and strengthen discipleship.

Smoot, who currently directs the KBC youth department, will become director of the new department. Randy Record, who began serving last year as youth evangelism associate, will be promoted to youth evangelism strategist with primary responsibility for developing efforts to reach and disciple youth.

Dan Garland, leader of the KBC evangelism growth team, said Smoot has been actively involved in creative ministry efforts for several years. With the establishment of a KBC department in that area, Garland said Smoot "will aggressively seek to develop a strategy to teach churches to do creative ministries."

Garland said Record "brings with him a passion to reach teenagers." He said Record's responsibilities will include developing and maintaining a statewide network of youth ministers.

In other actions, administrative committee members approved hiring a Baptist Student Union director at Pikeville College and Prestonsburg Community College and an interim BSU director to serve Somerset Community College and Lindsey Wilson College. They also approved consultants in the areas of music and ministry to annuitants.

Sandy Mitchell will be the new BSU director at Pikeville and Prestonsburg. She previously was BSU director at Alice Lloyd College in Pippa Passes.

Jennifer Van Camp will be the interim BSU director at Somerset and Lindsey Wilson. She has been a student BSU leader at Cumberland College and a campus ministry intern at the University of Kentucky.

Marc Richey was named an adult music consultant. He will serve in the part-time role along with his responsibilities as music media services coordinator at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary's school of church music and worship. He will be responsible for planning music training programs for Kentucky Baptist churches.

Harold Barnes, who retired in 1997 as manager of Cedarmore Baptist Assembly, will serve in a contract position as minister to annuitants. Barnes, who also has served as a Kentucky Baptist pastor and director of missions, will be responsible for identifying needs and providing assistance to Kentucky Baptist annuitants.

In other personnel-related matters, committee members approved increased responsibilities and compensation for Jim Cordell, church music department director; Robert Reeves,

communications/media department director; and Cathi Roy-Sanders, accounting services department director.

KBC Executive Director Bill Mackey said several of the staff additions and expanded assignments "came out of an analysis of job descriptions and updating assignments." He said his goal is for new and expanded staff assignments to allow staff members "to develop their full potential in serving our Lord and Kentucky Baptists."

Committee members approved a one-time \$30,000 gift to the Baptist Convention of New England, a new work convention where the KBC is involved in a missions partnership.

New England Baptist leaders project a budget shortfall of up to \$150,000 due to less income for the year than anticipated. They already have allocated available contingency reserve funds to meet immediate financial needs.

Kentucky Baptist leaders authorized the gift from funds already earmarked for partnership-related expenses.

Karl Babb, director of the KBC family ministry department, reported on the work of an ethics and values task force authorized by the administrative committee. The task force is responsible for proposing options to "encourage and assist churches and individual church members in teaching Christian values and biblical ethics."

Task force recommendations include notifying churches and associations of available resources, providing resource information packets to churches upon request and producing a brochure that will "accent biblical decision-making principles."

**The KBC administrative committee also approved hiring a Baptist Student Union director at Pikeville College and Prestonsburg Community College and an interim BSU director to serve Somerset Community College and Lindsey Wilson College.**

## KBC meeting to celebrate Cooperative Program anniversary

Continued from page 1

Kentucky Baptists also will elect new officers during the meeting. Two candidates for president have been announced: Kevin Ezell, pastor of Highview Baptist Church, Louisville and Jim McKinley, retired missionary to Bangladesh and member of Westport Road Baptist Church, Louisville.

Messengers will also consider approval of a 2001-2002 budget goal of \$22,417,500. The goal represents a 6.75 percent increase over this year's CP goal. It includes a 0.2 percent allocation increase to Southern Baptist Convention ministries, bringing the division of CP funds to 64.2 percent for Kentucky Baptist ministries and 35.8 percent for SBC causes.

It is the second of three planned incremental increases that are part of a Kentucky Baptist effort to raise SBC support to 36 percent.

Convention messengers will also hear from Charles Lowery, nationally known writer, psychologist and pastor of Hoffmantown Community Church, North Albuquerque, N.M. Hoffman is also known for his comedic skill and bills himself as the only pastor in America who performs a stand-up comedy routine each Sunday.

Other convention speakers include KBC President Terry Wilder, pastor of Burlington Baptist Church, who will deliver the president's address during the Tuesday morning session and



Crosse



Greenfield



Lowery



Wilder

Harold Greenfield, a retired pastor and director of missions, who will preach the convention sermon on Tuesday afternoon.

In keeping with the celebration theme, the messengers also will see the formal presentation of a new history book about Kentucky Baptist's past 75 years. "Kentucky Baptists 1925-2000: A Story of Cooperation" was written by Murray State University history professor Duane Bolin.

Dynamic music presentations will also be a part of the convention. Calvin Miller, a pianist and worship leader from Bowling Green, will lead music throughout the convention. In addition, the Georgetown College Chorale will perform on Tuesday morning with the Kentucky Baptist Chorale performing Tuesday afternoon. A combined choir from the Bowling Green area will sing Tuesday evening.

Other special music will be provided by the Tapestry Ladies Ensemble

from Burlington Baptist Church; Doug Crawley, minister of music at Walnut Street Baptist Church in Louisville; Phoebe Parks, a handbell soloist; and Alma Randolph, a popular Christian singer.

Kentucky Baptist efforts in Operation Cooperation, a statewide blood drive that netted more than 3,300 units of blood through more than 75 blood drives, also will receive special recognition on Tuesday morning.

Convention messengers will also hear reports from KBC agencies, institutions and convention committees throughout the annual meeting.

An exhibit area featuring displays from Baptist organizations will be open throughout the annual meeting.

For more information about the 2000 Convention, contact the Communications/Media Department at (502) 254-4731 or (888) 254-5713. Annual meeting information also is available at [www.kybaptist.org](http://www.kybaptist.org).

### KBC annual meeting agenda

#### Monday, Nov. 15

Kentucky Baptist Pastors' Conference, sessions begin at 10:25 a.m., 1:25 p.m. and 5:55 p.m.

#### Tuesday morning, Nov. 14

Motions/Resolutions/Miscellaneous Business  
Executive Board staff report by Bill Mackey  
KBC Executive Board recommendations  
President's address by Terry Wilder

#### Tuesday Afternoon, Nov. 14

Convention sermon by Harold Greenfield  
Election of President  
Miscellaneous Business and Election of First Vice President

#### Tuesday Evening, Nov. 14

Miscellaneous Business  
Election of Second Vice President  
Cooperative Program "Partners in the Harvest" celebration featuring Clay Crosse

#### Wednesday Morning, Nov. 15

Committee on Constitution and Bylaws report  
Committee on Nominations report  
Resolutions Committee report  
Miscellaneous business  
Election of secretaries  
Message by Charles Lowery

## WESTERN RECORDER

P.O. Box 43969  
Louisville, KY 40253  
(ISSN 0043-4132)

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

Western Recorder is published weekly by Western Recorder Inc., an agency of the Kentucky Baptist Convention, Box 43969, Louisville, KY 40253, except for one week in July and December. For general information, call (502) 244-6470. Fax: (502) 244-6474. Periodicals postage paid at Louisville, Ky.

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## Baptist freedom

Thirty years ago, on Oct. 1, I drove to Frankfort to see my dad, who'd been in a nursing home for several months following unsuccessful surgery for a malignant brain tumor. While I was there, his dear soul left earth for heaven.

In the events of recent days, I believe he would be very proud of First Baptist Church of Frankfort, which he served as pastor from 1937-1961. The decision by that congregation to sever ties with the monolithic, ruled-from-the-top Southern Baptist Convention is notable, being the first Kentucky church to do so. Surely more will follow.

Beyond that, the stand of this congregation reminds me of the decisions made, actions taken and spirit shown by our forebears in the 13 colonies who decided to free themselves from the equally monolithic, ruled-from-the-top Great Britain. The parallels are obvious: independence vs. control, responsibility vs. retaliation, conscience vs. non-representation, the minority vs. the majority—always requiring a rare form of courage.

Vital keys: the priesthood of the individual believer; local church autonomy rather than denominational or pastoral authority; separation of church and state; no creed; full equality of women and men without restrictions on whom the Lord or a church may call to any position of service; the Bible as the record of God's revelation; and the Lordship of Jesus Christ—over the Bible, the church and the world.

My father fought for Scotland through the four years of World War I. After coming to the United States, he sometimes spoke about his experiences to local churches. One Sunday evening in 1920 he was wearing his uniform, including kilts, and waiting for his ride. An elderly black gentleman walked by; turning, he stopped, looking up and down at the unusually dressed young man. Then he said, "Mister, ain't it wonderful to be free!" Yes. Free—and faithful.

Fred Moffatt  
Shelbyville.

## The role of worship

As a retired pastor, I have great concern about what we call worship today. I have visited several churches and many have about the same order of worship with variances.

Some may call the church together with prayer. Others may do so with song and then interrupt the spirit of worship with handshakes. Nothing is reverent about that. Then comes another song some may call praise singing. That's fine if it has a good message. Then they stop the praise to be told you are welcome as if you didn't know. They also stop to tell you what is in the bulletin.

Now another interruption as they pass the offering plate. These are good but why interrupt worship? Don't get too much into the spirit because applause might interrupt to honor someone. Some may say this is to honor God. After service, ask a child, a teenager or an adult who was being applauded and they would tell you it was for someone.

We wonder why so many drop out of worship. They may come with a hunger for worship and leave hungry.

Most messages from the pulpit are good; after all no one dares to interrupt the godly message. Some say one should enjoy the worship. There is no greater joy than true worship of God.

Today in many churches there are divisions over the type of worship. They are not comfortable to worship together. It is a split in the church fellowship. Is Christ divided? What will they do when they get to heaven?

Worship is to be to God. What has happened to the respect to God's sanctuary? Is God hard of hearing?

Ray Carter  
Leitchfield

## Candidate profiles

Kentucky Baptists can be grateful that we have been blessed with capable and gracious convention presidents over the years. However, we now struggle at the point of electing these

leaders each year for one simple but crucial reason: We do not know each other as Christian brothers and sisters as well as we should. As a result, we are vulnerable to gossip, half truths and misinformation: "He has a political agenda," "he wants to control the committees," "he's a liberal" or "he's a fundamentalist."

There is a simple and reasonable solution. Candidates for KBC office could announce their candidacy by Sept. 1 preceding the convention in November. Each candidate could provide a statement about his or her participation in KBC life, committees, boards and partnerships; personal spiritual pilgrimage; why he or she wishes to serve; and involvement in association and local church ministries. This profile would give Kentucky Baptists more complete knowledge of the candidates. It would be helpful if this information could be printed in the Western Recorder and mailed to each KBC church. Copies should be in the messenger packets at the convention.

This would reduce the need for a "campaign speech" by the person nominating the candidate.

I recall something Bill Mackey said at his first meeting with the KBC Executive Board, "If the Jesus in me can get to know the Jesus in you, then we can face together any challenge that comes our way."

In my 14 years serving alongside KBC presidents, I observed how leaders who may have had differences could pray together, set ministry priorities together and together lead others to Christ—because Christ was their common bond.

Kentucky Baptists deserve to know their leaders well before votes are cast and have ample opportunity to seek God's heart as they vote.

Jim Hawkins  
Louisville

*Editor's Note: Profiles of the announced KBC presidential candidates are published this week on pages 8-9.*

## STEWARDSHIP

### Ten basic rules aid responsible debt management

By Don Spencer

For most people, debt is a necessity. Debt can be a valuable tool in personal finance. However, if not handled properly, it can become a major problem.

A common problem

today is approaching a debt purely from the standpoint of the monthly payment. For example, a couple decides to purchase an item on credit because it will cost only \$20 per month. Next month it is another item for only \$10 more per month. The financing cost adds significantly to the cost of the item. And, little by little, this mushrooms and sets a person or family up for problems.

Here are 10 simple rules for using debt wisely and safely:

■ **Save for major purchases.** Don't finance unless absolutely necessary. Set a goal of paying cash for vacations, cars and other major purchases.

■ **Use credit cards as a convenience only.** Do not finance long-term debt with credit cards. Pay the credit card bill in full each month. Credit cards generally have a high interest rate. To carry a continuing monthly balance is a bad use of credit.

■ **Keep all debt payments under one third of your gross income.** Above that level, you're exceeding safe limits.

■ **Lower the real cost of debt.** Try to make all interest tax-deductible. A home equity loan offers this advantage.

■ **Maintain adequate assets that easily can be turned into cash.** Debt never hurt anyone. A lack of sufficient cash flow to manage the debt has.

■ **Have adequate life and disability income insurance.** Ignoring this exposes a person to significant financial risk.

■ **Make debt predictable.** Be cautious using adjustable-rate financing and loans with balloon payments.

■ **Accelerating debt payments may not always be best.** One should maintain adequate savings for emergency needs, fund tax-deferred retirement plans adequately and pay off non-tax deductible debt before accelerating payments on other debts.

■ **Refinance only if it will save money.** Consolidation loans do not always save money.

■ **Protect your credit.** Don't abuse credit. If you have problems meeting payments, talk to the creditors and re-negotiate.

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



## PARTNERS IN THE MISSION

### Missions involvement unites volunteers

Kay and I have had the opportunity this fall to fellowship with hundreds of Kentucky Baptists in 15 different associational annual meetings. It has been our privilege to meet some very special people who have been involved in partnership missions. Let me tell you about a few we met during the Little Bethel Association meeting recently:

■ Mrs. Lee Adams had never dreamed that she would ever fly, let alone go to the African country of Tanzania. But she did recently and shared at the meeting that she "had met some of the sweetest people I had ever known." Mrs. Adams said, "When I left I felt like I was leaving my family. During prayer walking I discovered that I could pray for Muslims although they may say no to the gospel."

■ O.D. Boyd has participated in 15 partnership mission trips. He has

stayed and slept in tents in Africa and witnessed miracles. He told of walking for miles with an interpreter to reach an area. While praying for a sick child, the child got better. Soon a crowd gathered and 54 people made professions of faith in Christ. Later that day they tried to witness to two men working in a field. There were interruptions but men began to gather. Twenty-eight men prayed to receive Jesus Christ.

■ For Bob Burnett it was his first trip outside the United States. He said, "I saw the power of the gospel in another culture." He was impressed with the adjustments required of missionaries who live in a different culture. Burnett said it took only two weeks to get Africa into him but it took months to try to get Africa out of him so he could function. He related that his team showed the "Jesus" video to 1,800 peo-



Bill Mackey

ple during six nights. About 335 people were saved.

■ Ronnie Clark went to rural Mississippi to help repair a church. Ten people were saved during the week. A person came from the church in Mississippi to thank his church for helping.

■ Bob Martin, the director of missions, had served in Springfield, Mass. He shared that he had the opportunity to minister to two people with great needs. In a service with an attendance of 42 people, 16 were deaf. However, every member of the church could sign congregational hymns.

■ Ashley Moody, daughter of the new associational moderator, was assigned as an Acteen intern to Cedar Crest GA Camp. She stated that God touched her as she tried to serve others. As a result of her service she knows that God has a mission for her.

I praise God for an association that is united in missions, evangelism and new work.

*Bill Mackey is executive director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention*

## Behavior checklist helps parents evaluate attention deficit needs

**Q: How do I know if my child has an attention deficit hyperactivity disorder?**

ADHD is a neuro-developmental disorder characterized by persistent patterns of inattention and/or hyperactive-impulsive behavior that are more frequent and more severe than would be typical for a comparable level of development. Since most children are active and restless to some extent, knowing whether your child is overly distracted and hyperactive can be extremely difficult.

In a July 18, 1994, Time magazine article titled "Attention Deficit Disorders," Claudia Willis lists 14 statements designed to help parents determine whether a child has ADHD:

- Often fidgets or squirms.
- Has difficulty remaining seated.
- Is easily distracted.
- Has difficulty waiting his or her turn.
- Often blurts out answers to questions.
- Has difficulty following instructions.
- Has difficulty sustaining attention to tasks.
- Often shifts from one incomplete task to another.
- Has difficulty playing quietly.
- Often talks excessively.
- Often interrupts or intrudes on others.
- Often does not seem to listen.
- Often loses things necessary for tasks.
- Often engages in physically dangerous activities without considering consequences.

These statements describe almost all children to some extent. However, special education expert Gene Nabi says that if your child consistently demonstrates eight of these characteristics for at least six months before they reach age 7, you may want to seek help. —David Garrard

**Q: There are no single adult ministry programs in our city. How can we change that?**

The book, "The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People" instructs people to "begin with the end in mind." What do you want single adult ministry to look like? What do you want it to accomplish? Who are you trying to reach? What do you want to happen as a result of gathering together? Have you taken time to pray about what God wants? In the words of Jesus, have you "sat down to calculate the cost" (Luke 14:28)?

Single adult ministry happens when you work to build bridges of trust. Rich Hurst, coordinator of the SAM 2001 conference which will draw 1,000 single adult leaders to Denver in February, has observed that whenever single adult ministries in a particular city work together under a "kingdom of God" mentality, single adult ministry thrives. When division and competition creep in, the ministry takes a nosedive. Spend time with your counterparts from other churches, regardless of denominational labels. There are "kingdom" goals that people from a variety of churches can agree on and work together to accomplish. God gets the glory. The witness of Christ is advanced (see John 17:21). Single adults get to mix and mingle with a much larger crowd of people.

Sit down with other leaders from around your city and share your heart. Pray together, vision together, plan together.

When people share your vision, they also will share the call to make it a reality. Delegate, empower and release. Single adult ministry is not just for single adults. The beauty of the body of Christ working together for kingdom purposes (Ephesians 4:11-14) can be modeled. To learn more about SAM 2001, call (888) 888-4726. —James Stillwell

*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.*



## Pursuing true peace in a world of chaos

Yemen. Yugoslavia. Israel. The peace-shattering events of recent days offer striking reminders of the fragile balance in global relationships.

More than a decade after the fall of the Berlin Wall and several years after the collapse of the Soviet Union, political turmoil continues to erupt around the world. In addition to the latest high-profile conflicts, the list of volatile trouble spots is lengthy.

Colombia, Angola, Burundi, Sierra Leone and Indonesia are among the nations struggling with unrest and violence that impact day-to-day life. As Americans are riveted to media coverage of last week's attack on the USS Cole and the senseless loss of American lives, we also must remember that the human tragedy inflicted by terrorism, war and rioting touches the lives of countless innocent families on a daily basis.

In many of those settings, Southern Baptist missionaries are among expatriates who must evacuate for personal safety or proceed cautiously as they seek to minister in the midst of crisis.

In Southern Baptist life here in the States, we typically pray for international missionaries during Lottie Moon season each December and faithful Woman's Missionary Union members also pray for them on their birthdays. Beyond that, it's easy to get so caught up in day-to-day life that we forget to intercede for fellow Christians on the front lines of spiritual warfare throughout the world.

I received a recent e-mail from a missionary friend serving in Israel. Sent under the heading, "Shalom, y'all," his message said the escalating violence in the Middle East "has complicated things and sapped energy as well." He said the unrest is a constant concern "since our kids take public transportation through 10 miles of West Bank to and from school every day."

In simple, understated words, he added, "Your

prayers are appreciated."

I also met a missionary couple last week who recently returned to Kentucky due to civil unrest in the nation where they were serving. They face uncertainty as they wait to see where they will be able to live and minister in the future.

Fervent prayer for our missionaries is crucial during these difficult days. It also is important to pray for the crew of the USS Cole and their families as they cope with grief, anger and fear in the wake of last week's attack.

But the list of prayer needs continues. We should pray for those affected by violence around the world, even in those places that never make the evening news or the front page of the newspaper. We also need to remember world leaders and the vital decisions they face in the midst of crisis.

Above all, we should pray for peace—not merely peace produced by the absence of war, but spiritual peace that comes only through a personal relationship with the Prince of Peace.

Why bother to seek peace in our trouble-plagued world? For starters, peace is a God-honoring goal. "Seek peace and pursue it," Psalm 34:14 counsels. In an admonition as timely as today's news coverage, Psalm 122:6 specifically urges, "Pray for the peace of Jerusalem." Whether pursuing political peace or personal peace, it is a goal God calls us to actively pursue.

Despite the challenges of achieving lasting peace in today's complex world, Jesus Christ assures His followers, "Peace I leave with you; My peace I give to you; not as the world gives, do I give to you" (John 14:27).

As we pray for peace in our troubled world, we must never forget to share the true source of eternal peace available to everyone who seeks it. To fail to proclaim Jesus Christ in the midst of chaos would be the greatest tragedy of all.

**STRAIGHT FROM THE EDITOR**



Trennis Henderson

## Effective outreach needs personal touch

By Barry Howard

*"Go out into the highways and hedges and compel them to come in that my house will be full" (Luke 14:23).*

The year I entered junior high school, my family moved to a new community. We had been in our new house only a few days when a visitation team from a local church showed up unannounced at our door. Reluctantly, my father invited them in. We were not dressed for company. Leftovers from supper were still on the table and the sink was full of dirty dishes. After several minutes of awkward conversation, the visitation team invited us to their church and departed.

The visit I have just described represents the primary method of outreach used by most Baptist churches in the latter half of the past century. Almost every Baptist church had a weeknight visitation program. This method of outreach was especially effective in the '50s, '60s and '70s. But as the 20th century came to a close, this method of outreach rapidly began to lose its effectiveness as fewer prospects responded favorably to "cold call" visitation. Cultural changes and technolog-

ical advancements have caused unannounced visitation by churches and businesses to be perceived as ineffective and intrusive.

If traditional visitation is no longer the best way to reach people, then how can the church reach out to both Christians and pre-Christians in the new millennium?

There is not one action that fulfills the outreach ministry of the church. Rather, there are many ministry actions that contribute to the overall outreach efforts of a congregation:

■ **Building relationships.** Researcher George Barna reminds us that more people come into the church through a relationship with a trusted friend than any other reason. The greatest potential for outreach is through the relationships each church member builds with neighbors, colleagues and classmates.

■ **Meeting personal needs.** If you want to reach someone, minister to their needs. Caring ministries such as food banks, literacy classes or clothes closets meet physical and emotional needs. Enrichment ministries such as parenting workshops, marriage enrichment retreats or financial planning seminars meet social and relational needs.

■ **Offering hospitality.** When a new family moves into your neighborhood, greet them with hospitality such as a welcome basket, home-baked treats or a packet of information about your community. When someone visits your church, make sure they receive a bulletin, introduce them to other members and provide directions to important locations like the nursery, classrooms or restrooms.

■ **Visiting by appointment.** Personal contact still is vitally important. When visiting prospects, make an appointment to meet with them either at their home or at a local restaurant or coffee shop.

■ **Using technology.** Many churches are beginning to discover that the Internet provides numerous opportunities for outreach. A church Web site can provide an interactive ministry 24 hours a day and a church e-mail bank can deliver invitations and messages to hundreds of homes in nanoseconds.

The outreach ministry of the church is not just the responsibility of the professional staff and the elected leadership. Whether reaching out to the unchurched in your community or the inactive members on your church roll, your church needs every member to be creative and personal in reaching out to others. Outreach is everyone's responsibility. Are you doing your part?

Barry Howard is pastor of First Baptist Church of Corbin.



## Kentucky Ten Commandments suit one of many across U.S.

### Baptists minister to USS Cole's crew families

NORFOLK, Va. (BP)—Baptist churches in Norfolk, Va., are mobilizing to minister to the families of the sailors aboard the USS Cole, which was struck last week by a terrorist attack, killing 17 crew.

Pat Daniels, office administrator for Norfolk Baptist Association, said his office was contacting retired Baptist chaplains and pressing them into service.

"We've also extended our help to the military, offering to find them a church site for the families to come together and to find housing for families coming into the area," Daniels said.

Continued from page 1

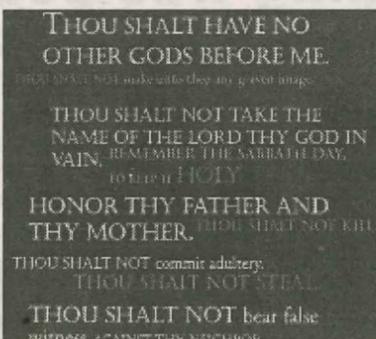
of the biblical laws has been accompanied by ACLU lawsuits disputing their constitutionality. The erection of monuments at both state Capitols is in question, pending appellate court hearings.

In Kentucky, the ACLU hailed a judge's preliminary injunction that the three displays in the courthouses and school district be taken down after it sued. All of the displays included the Ten Commandments and religion-related excerpts from other documents such as the Declaration of Independence.

The state of Kentucky is appealing a judge's agreement with the ACLU that prevents the erection of a Ten Commandments monument near a popular floral clock on the grounds of the state Capitol in Frankfort.

"What we saw during the legislature and in the bill itself was very, very clear intent to post this monument for the specific purpose of promoting a particular set of religious beliefs," said Jeff Vessels, executive director of the ACLU of Kentucky.

"We had, for example, debates on the floor of the legislature of the house about whether or not any redeeming value in the history of our commonwealth. ... You just had to be there to



**TEN COMMANDMENTS** The Family Research Council has distributed nearly 750,000 book covers imprinted with the Ten Commandments as a way to get the biblical laws into schools. (RNS photo)

believe it."

Decades ago, the Fraternal Order of Eagles donated the monument—later put in storage—to the Kentucky courthouse. The courthouse was just one of many places where the Eagles have donated monuments in the last half century, sparked by a concern in the 1950s by St. Cloud, Minn., Judge E.J. Ruegamer, who was faced with a juvenile offender who had not heard of the Ten Commandments.

"He made a vow that nothing like that was going to happen again in his courtroom if he could help it," said

Marilyn Bozich, supervisor of the program department at the Grand Aerie, or national headquarters of the fraternal organization based in Milwaukee.

In 1980, the Supreme Court ruled in *Stone vs. Graham* that a Kentucky law requiring the posting of the Ten Commandments in public schools was unconstitutional.

"I think *Stone vs. Graham* really covers any display, certainly in courtrooms or in schools, wherever at a minimum ... there is a potentially captive audience, that is the juries, defendants in a courtroom or the students in a school," said Barry Lynn, executive director of Americans United for Separation of Church and State.

His Washington-based organization has monitored the interest in Ten Commandments postings and has urged state legislatures not to pass legislation regarding them. While Indiana, Kentucky and South Dakota have passed such legislation, a dozen other state legislatures considered taking action this year but did not pass any new rules regarding the Ten Commandments.

The Family Research Council, a conservative Christian group that has been promoting the Ten Commandments for several years, plans to launch an advertising campaign about the framed copies of the religious laws.

Kristen Hansen, spokeswoman for the Washington-based council, estimated that her organization has distributed nearly 750,000 book covers illustrated with the Ten Commandments.

Elliot Minberg, legal director for the Washington-based People for the American Way Foundation, views the continuing push for posting the commandments as part of a general effort by conservative Christians reacting to concerns about school violence.

But Minberg said they are not completely forbidden in public schools.

"It's very much a case-by-case kind of thing. ... You have to know the specific context."

Stanley, the Liberty Counsel litigation lawyer, hopes he can find a context in Kentucky that will pass constitutional muster.

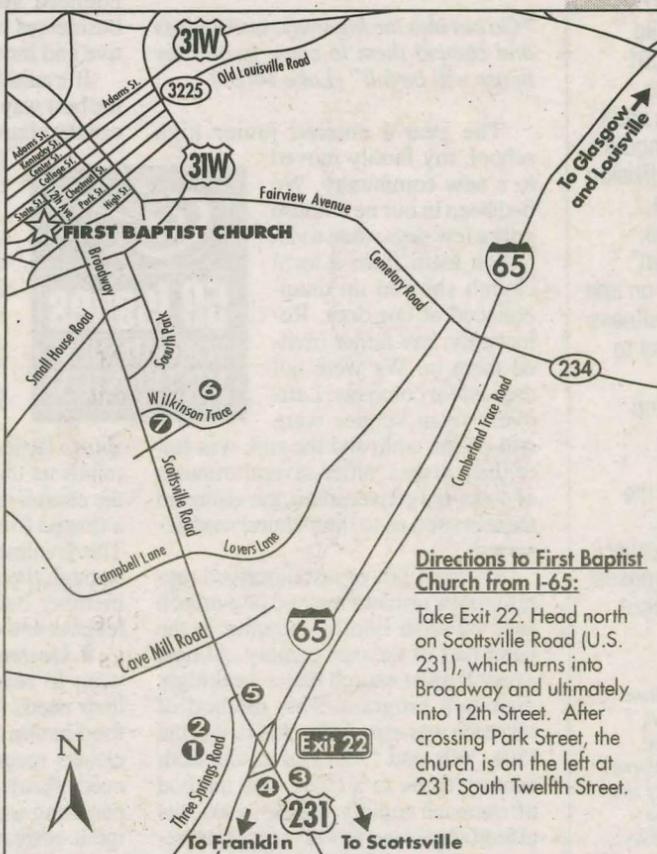
"We're going to try to come up with a display where the Ten Commandments is integrated in the display and is not dominant and is merely one of the foundations of American law and governance that's recognized," he said. "To have a display on the foundations of American law and governance and to leave out the Ten Commandments would be incomplete because they do form the foundation of much of our criminal justice system."

# PARTNERS IN THE HARVEST

**2000 KBC  
Annual Meeting  
November 14-15, 2000  
First Baptist Church  
621 East 12th Street  
Bowling Green, Kentucky**

Messengers are responsible for making their own reservations. Kentucky Baptist Convention must be mentioned and reservation deadlines met to receive blocked room rates. Non-smoking rooms were blocked whenever possible.

**KBC** KENTUCKY BAPTIST CONVENTION  
For more information, contact Denise Withers by phone at 502.245.4101 X212 or e-mail at [Denise.Withers@kybaptist.org](mailto:Denise.Withers@kybaptist.org)



### Accommodations

The following Bowling Green facilities are on Scottsville Road (or near Scottsville Road on intersecting streets), accessible from Exit 22 off I-65. All rates listed are subject to 10.24% hotel tax.

- 1 Baymont Inn & Suites**  
165 Three Springs Road • 270.843.3200  
Reservation Deadline: November 1  
Rate: \$48 (double or king/1-4 persons)  
Complimentary continental breakfast
- 2 Hampton Inn**  
233 Three Springs Road • 270.842.4100  
Reservation Deadline: November 1  
Rate: \$59 (double or king/1-4 persons)  
Complimentary continental breakfast
- 3 Comfort Inn**  
4646 Scottsville Road • 270.843.1163  
Reservation Deadline: October 15  
Rate: \$69.88 (double/1-4 persons)  
\$59.88 (king/1-2 persons)  
Complimentary continental breakfast
- 4 Ramada Inn**  
4767 Scottsville Road • 270.781.3000  
Reservation Deadline: October 13  
Rate: \$55 (single or double/1-4 persons)  
Breakfast buffet - \$3 per person
- 5 Holiday Inn**  
3240 Scottsville Road • 270.781.1500  
Reservation Deadline: October 15\*  
Rate: \$59 (double/1-4 persons)  
On-site restaurant  
\*Cancellations after November 5 are subject to one night's room rate.
- 6 University Plaza Hotel**  
1021 Wilkinson Trace • 270.745.0088  
Reservation Deadline: October 13  
Rate: \$85 (single or double/1-4 persons)  
On-site restaurant
- 7 Courtyard by Marriott**  
1010 Wilkinson Trace • 270.783.8569  
Reservation Deadline: October 13  
Rate: \$65 (double or king/1-4 persons)  
Breakfast available at cost

## Georgetown launches \$96 million campaign

GEORGETOWN—Georgetown College officials publicly launched a \$96 million fund-raising campaign last week, simultaneously announcing that the campaign already has received more than \$62 million in gifts and pledges.

The four-year capital campaign is designed to fund major projects to help Georgetown pursue Phi Beta Kappa status. Georgetown President Bill Crouch announced in May that trustees had approved a seven-year initiative to seek recognition by PBK, the nation's oldest undergraduate honors society.

Among priorities to be funded through the capital campaign are a performing arts center, adding 125,000 volumes to the college library and increasing average faculty salaries.

"There are people out there who have the opinion that a religious or faith-based institution cannot be considered an institution of superior academic integrity," said Jason Falls, Georgetown's director of public relations.

School officials want to "show people that Georgetown College can blaze a trail for institutions that are proud of their Christian heritage and are faith-based and can achieve the

highest academic standards in the country," Falls added.

Despite the challenge of achieving that goal, Crouch said earlier this year, "We see this as a no-lose situation. Seven years from now, even if we don't get Phi Beta Kappa status, we're going to be a lot better institution."

Georgetown officials kicked off the school's "Defining the Future" campaign Oct. 12 at a campus press conference. That was followed by the annual president's dinner, an event Falls described as "a way to celebrate what we had announced and to get ready for the years to come as we try to reach that \$96 million."

More than \$53 million of the campaign's gifts and pledges was collected during a six-year "silent phase" of the campaign launched in 1994. The kickoff of the public phase of the campaign included the announcement of an additional \$9 million in gifts, bringing the total amount of gifts and pledges to \$62.1 million.

Beyond the \$96 million campaign goal, Falls said school officials have identified future long-term fund-raising needs of an additional \$72 million. "The total needs

include long-term capital projects and increasing the endowment," he said. "This capital campaign of \$96 million, however, is focused around achieving Phi Beta Kappa standards."

Among major gifts announced at the campaign kickoff are:

■ A gift of \$3 million from Robert and Anne Wilson. Wilson is a 1962 graduate of Georgetown and co-chairman of the capital campaign cabinet.

■ Campaign co-chairman Earl Goode announced \$8.6 million in gifts and pledges from nine families who serve on Georgetown's foundation board.

■ A gift of \$2 million from the estate of Sylvia Beard to create an endowed chair of music.

■ A gift of \$1.5 million from the estate of Marjorie Stafford to create an endowed chair of education. Her estate also gave \$1 million to pursue PBK standards.

■ A pledge of \$1 million from Ken and JoAnne James to pursue PBK goals.

Trustee chairman Franklin Ensor said the capital campaign "will take the institution to new levels of excellence, not just as an academic institution but as a vibrant part of the community."

### BLUEGRASS BURGEOO

■ **Campbellsville to host bivocational ministers meeting.** Campbellsville University's Center for Bivocational Ministry will sponsor its first bivocational seminar Nov. 3-4 featuring David Bickers. Bickers is bivocational pastor of Hebron Baptist Church in Madison, Ind., and author of "The Tentmaking Pastor: The Joy of Bivocational Ministry." For more information, contact Mike O'Neal, coordinator for the center at (270) 384-3176, or e-mail at moneal@kih.net.

■ **Religious educators to meet before KBC.** The Kentucky Baptist Religious Education Association will meet Monday, Nov. 13, at Marriah's 1818 restaurant, 801 State St. in Bowling Green. The meeting, on the eve of the Kentucky Baptist Convention annual meeting, will start at 6:30 p.m. (CST). The program will include opportunities to learn about new Sunday school and discipleship curriculum changes. For more information, contact Darryl Wilson at (502) 254-4730 or toll-free in Kentucky at (888) 254-5709.

■ **KBHC announces new staff leaders.** Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children recently named new leaders for regional foster care work and Spring Meadows Children's Home. Chris Short of Guthrie was promoted to lead foster care specialist in the agency's western region. A member of KBHC since 1997, Short helps equip foster parents for children. Steve Covington was named director of KBHC's Spring Meadows Children's Home in Louisville. Previously, Covington was chief executive officer of Madison State Hospital in Madison, Ind.



## 2000 Kentucky Baptist Convention November 13-15

### Limited Care for Preschoolers and Children

During convention sessions  
and Pastors' Conference  
First Baptist Church  
Bowling Green, Kentucky

Extended teaching care for a limited number of preschoolers and children (ages 6 weeks-5th grade) will be provided by **ADVANCE RESERVATION ONLY**—call (888) 254-5709 for reservation via Wendy Dever in Sunday School Department.

Care will be provided at the church. Children must be picked up at meal times.

Due to staff and space limits, all reservations for children must be made in advance. There is no charge for this care, thanks to gifts through the Cooperative Program and the Pre-school Children's Office, Sunday School Department, Kentucky Baptist Convention, Wendy Dever, Associate for Pre-school/Children.

## LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

### Helping Church Leaders Prepare for the Swelling Age Wave



November 2, 2000

Kentucky Baptist Convention Building  
Middleton, Kentucky

*Who should attend?* Pastors, ministers of education & senior adult leaders

*Cost?* \$15 per person—lunch included

*The Leadership Summit will encourage & empower senior adult leaders to:*

- ◆ Articulate a healthy concept of aging that assists in erasing negative stereotypes of aging among all age groups in the local church.
- ◆ Champion the importance of local church ministry by, with and for older adults.
- ◆ Design and implement in their local church and/or community at least one ministry model by, with and for older adults.
- ◆ Become knowledgeable about aging adult ministry resource tools.

Sponsored by the KBC Family Ministry Department, Karl Babb, Director. For registration information, call Ministry Assistant Patricia Clifford toll-free at (888) 254-5704 (in Louisville, call 254-4719). Please register by Oct. 19.

## KBC presidential candidates

Kevin Ezell, senior pastor of Highview Baptist Church in Louisville, and Jim McKinley, a retired Southern Baptist missionary to Bangladesh, announced in June that they will be

nominated next month for the Kentucky Baptist Convention presidency.

With the 2000 KBC annual meeting set for Nov. 14-15 at First Baptist Church of Bowling Green, they remain the only

### Kevin Ezell

Kevin Ezell, age 38, has served since 1996 as senior pastor of Highview Baptist Church in Louisville. He previously was pastor of churches in Illinois and Tennessee.

In denomination life, he has served on the Southern Baptist Convention Committee on Committees and as president of the Illinois Baptist Pastors' Conference. He currently serves on the Boyce College Advisory Council in Louisville.

Ezell holds a bachelor of science degree from Union University in Jackson, Tenn., a master of divinity degree from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas, and a doctor of ministry degree from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville.



Ezell

**Q: Why are you willing to be nominated as Kentucky Baptist Convention president?**

I would appreciate the opportunity to lead our state to focus on increasing our evangelism emphasis and to encourage churches to intentionally train their people to share the gospel.

**Q: Who have been your greatest influences, and what have they taught you?**

My father, Mike Ezell, taught me the importance of a strong work ethic, integrity and how to be a father and a husband. First Baptist Church of Paducah provided for me a tremendous model of what a Southern Baptist church is all about. I was taught the importance of supporting missions and was exposed to a well-balanced approach to ministry.

**Q: What would be your primary hopes and goals as KBC president?**

To support (KBC Executive Director) Dr. Bill Mackey as he continues to lead our state to focus on evangelism. My goal would be that every church in Kentucky would baptize someone in 2001. To unify our state around the one thing we can all have in common—reaching the lost.

**Q: One of the key responsibilities as president is to appoint three members to the KBC committee on committees. What criteria would you use to make your appointments?**

Must be supportive of Dr. Mackey and affirm his leadership for our state.

Must have a passion to reach this state for Christ.

Must have personally led at least one person to the Lord in the last 12 months.

Must believe in the authority of the Word of God.

**Q: What do you consider Kentucky Baptists' greatest strengths?**

Our rich history and strong presence in our state as well as resources and potential to reach people with the gospel. There is no excuse for us not to reach

this state for Christ.

**Q: What do you consider Kentucky Baptists' greatest needs?**

To continue to make evangelism our top priority and to increase the resources for (KBC evangelism growth team leader) Dan Garland and those in the evangelism area to enable them to continue with even greater emphasis to train our churches in how to share their faith.

**Q: You have described yourself as a conservative in denominational life. What does that term mean to you?**

In my opinion, a conservative is one who believes the Bible is not just a record of God's revelation, but it is God's perfect and sufficient revelation.

**Q: What is your opinion of the SBC's revised Baptist Faith and Message statement? What role should the document play in Kentucky Baptist life?**

I support the revision of the 2000 Baptist Faith and Message. I appreciate the strong stand for the family and a clearly defined statement of where we stand as a denomination for our society. My hope is that the Baptist Faith and Message will continue to play the same role it has in the history of the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

**KBC 2000  
PRESIDENTIAL  
CANDIDATE  
PROFILE**

# KENTUCKY

## Presidential candidates discuss goals, motivation

Two publicly announced candidates for state convention president.

In an effort to help familiarize Kentucky Baptists with the two candidates prior to the annual meeting,

the Western Recorder invited both men to respond to a series of questions about their goals for the presidency as well as to address current issues in Baptist life.

### Jim McKinley

James F. "Jim" McKinley Jr., age 71, is a retired Southern Baptist international missionary who served 34 years in Bangladesh. During most of his ministry there, he was chairman/administrator of the Southern Baptist missionary group in Bangladesh.

Following retirement, McKinley served three years as a Kentucky Baptist Convention consultant for Missions and Cooperative Program support. He has served on a number of associational committees and councils and continues to speak frequently at churches, camps, revivals and other meetings. He is the author of four books, including "Death to Life: Bangladesh" and "Missionary Stories."



McKinley

I want us to work together more closely and do our best to keep our differences from dividing us. The unsaved world suffers even when we argue.

**Q: One of the key responsibilities as president is to appoint three members to the KBC committee on committees. What criteria would you use to make your appointments?**

I would consult the two vice presidents and several friends and then make my decision on the basis of what I feel are individuals who support Kentucky Baptists.

**Q: What do you consider Kentucky Baptists' greatest strengths?**

I consider Kentucky Baptists to be a basically united group of churches who want to work together in ministry.

**Q: What do you consider Kentucky Baptists' greatest needs?**

One basic need is to work together to win the people in our areas to personal faith in Jesus and then to reach out to the ends of the earth to other people as we reach out to our own neighbors.

**Q: You have described yourself as a "middle of the roader" in denominational life. What does that term mean to you?**

I take great pride in being my own person under my God. I do not run with any group, but I do seek the counsel of others often. So that leaves me in the middle of the road. I would not want meetings held to support me for any position. I count on people in our Kentucky Baptist churches to make their decisions without any coercion on my part. And certainly I do not feel this is a cowardly position to assume.

**Q: What is your opinion of the SBC's revised Baptist Faith and Message statement? What role should the document play in Kentucky Baptist life.**

I would support our standing with the 1963 Baptist Faith and Message statement, which came about through the long, hard work of many people across our Southern Baptist Convention. Any and all attempts at revision and support must carefully consider: "Is this necessary under God and is it helpful to us in local churches?"

## SBC 2000 PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE PROFILES

admission to Southern Seminary's doctor of ministry program.

**Q: Why are you willing to be nominated as Kentucky Baptist Convention president?**

I have always deeply depended upon Christian friends and when a group asked me to be nominated, I accepted their judgment and now feel good about my decision.

**Q: Who have been your greatest influences, and what have they taught you?**

My parents and the local church—Stony Point Baptist Church in Clinton County as well as Pastor O.G. Lawless and Director of Missions Isaac Hucaby who taught me basic honesty. The other major influence in my life was Campbellsville University. That's where I met my wife, Betty, and where my call to missions became very clear.

**Q: What would be your primary hopes and goals as KBC president?**

# Punt Pass & Kick

## A FALL MISSION Challenge

**WHO**

**WHAT**

**WHEN & WHERE**

**WHY**

**COST**

**Boys Grades 1 - 6** involved in Royal Ambassadors, Mission Kids, Children In Action or boys involved in other mission study organizations.

A Mission Challenge and College Football Game. Participants are challenged to gain physical yards by punting, passing and kicking a football as well as earning spiritual punt, pass and kick yards. Awards will be presented.

PPK registration begins at 9:30 a.m. at Campbellsville University, October 21, 2000. The event concludes following the football game. Please pre-register to save \$.

PPK is a mission education event designed for boys to have fun as they grow physically through competition and spiritually as they learn mission facts, Bible verses and Books of the Bible.

\$5 per person if pre-registered by October 10, \$7 after this date. Includes: event registration, mission rally, lunch and a pass to the game.

**Campbellsville University vs. Cumberland University**  
**October 21, 2000**

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION:**  
Download all registration information, PPK guidelines, schedule and Friday night camping & housing locations off the internet:  
[www.kybaptist.org/ppk.htm](http://www.kybaptist.org/ppk.htm) or call the KBC Brotherhood Department at 1-888-254-5720 or 502-244-6489.

**KBC**  
KENTUCKY BAPTIST CONVENTION  
10701 Shelbyville Road  
Louisville, KY 40253

## Younger Graham shows how to reach next generation

### Overheard at the Franklin Graham festival

"Franklin Graham is a Tarheel. I know they've got some banners like this down there, just not as many."

Former University of Kentucky Basketball player Cameron Mills kidding Franklin Graham

"We want Lexington to be a city that shows the rest of the country how a city can come together.

It's also caused Kentucky Baptist churches to come together, with an emphasis on reaching lost people in the community. We're working together as we've never done before."

Jim McGee, community affairs director for the festival

"There are a lot of physical similarities, which is natural because he's Billy Graham's son. But there's a lot of differences. Franklin grew up in a different time. He's a different age, has different tastes and has a desire to reach out to this generation. That means he's going to try some different things and different methods."

Steve Nelson, director of festival development and training for the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association

"Over the long term, with some new relationships and a sense of urgency, I think you'll see the city impacted for the better.

With people coming in from outside Lexington who will be able to share with enthusiasm what they witnessed, there will be a spillover effect across the state."

Richard Gaines, pastor of Consolidated Baptist Church, Lexington

Continued from page 1  
director Steve Nelson.

The younger Graham wants to reach a younger generation that doesn't know his father and probably doesn't know him, said Nelson, director of festival development and training for the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association.

"But they love music and will come out because some of their friends know who these artists are," he said. "I think the term 'festival' lends itself to thinking maybe this is going to be a little different than what his father has done in the past."

More than 8,000 volunteers from 1,600 churches, including 1,800 counselors and a mass choir of 1,600, cooperated to stage the three-night event.

In addition to the evening meetings, organizers sponsored a children's event Saturday morning, Oct. 14, that attracted 4,000 people and led to more than 370 conversions.

Another 130 people accepted Christ as Savior at a Friday morning community breakfast where Graham spoke. Festival volunteers also visited area jails and one state prison the week before and led 90 inmates in prayers to receive Jesus.

The event drew increasingly larger crowds to Rupp Arena, starting with 10,500 attendees Friday night and ending with near-capacity attendance Sunday of 22,200.

The well-known basketball palace took on the feel of a rock concert, with the stage lit by blue, red, violet and



CECE WINANS The Grammy Award-winning vocalist performed Friday, Oct. 13 during the three-day festival at Rupp Arena.

yellow spotlights and many fans jumping to their feet to clap along with some of their favorite performers.

On Sunday night, hip hop singer Kirk Franklin delighted many in the audience by jumping off the stage and circulating around the floor to dance with several people, including a sign language interpreter at the back of the hall.

Graham added to the youth-oriented flavor on Saturday night, preaching

in a black leather jacket and a black baseball cap with "Harley Davidson" in orange-lettered script on it.

But he sounded much like his famous father once he launched into his evangelistic messages, preaching during the weekend from such passages as Matthew 19:16-22 and Mark 8:31-38.

On the opening and closing nights, he posed the question, "If your life came to an end tonight, would you be ready?"

Sunday night the question followed comments about Cassie Bernall, one of the victims of last year's shootings at Columbine High School.

Michael W. Smith led into the sermon by performing his top hit, "This is Your Time," which he wrote as a tribute to Bernall after performing at a memorial service for the victims in Littleton, Colo.

"Are you ready?" Graham asked. "Are you prepared to stand before God? Cassie was ready. In a few minutes I'm going to ask you to come into the aisles and come forward and I'll say a prayer with you."

But first, he reviewed how each person has a soul, which will live for eternity. The human body is made up of 207 bones and 500 muscles, but those physical characteristics don't represent one's real identity, he said.

The soul will live forever with God and is more real than some of the news that dominates today's headlines, he noted.

"Because you can't take a CAT

scan of your soul doesn't mean it doesn't exist," Graham said. Then, paraphrasing from Mark, he asked, "What should it profit if you gain the whole world and lose your soul?"

While the soul will outlive humankind's average life expectancy of 85 years, he said, without Christ we will be lost to the effects of sin. Breaking God's law is sin and the wages of sin is death, he warned.

To explain sin, he listed a number of examples. Telling lies, murder—"Abortion is murder, but God will forgive you of murder"—dishonoring parents, worshipping idols and taking God's name in vain are all sins, he said.

"Each one of us here is guilty, but God wants to forgive us," the evangelist said. "You can leave here set free. But you have to be willing to confess your sins."

He concluded by discussing the reality of hell. While many people have an image of hell as a big party where the beer flows and people enjoy good food, the Bible calls it a place of sorrow, depression and outer darkness, Graham said.

Believing in Christ is the only way to avoid hell, he said, adding that people can't work their way to heaven or rely on their church attendance or denominational affiliation.

Posing a question about other religions all serving the same God as Christians, Graham said, "It's not the same God. There's one God and he has a son, Jesus Christ. Friends, there's no other way."

### Passing it on

As Christians we have a responsibility to pass on to the next generation our missions heritage, and not just to pass it on, but to enhance and to secure it.

There are a variety of avenues available to assist us in fulfilling our responsibility. Among those avenues is the Kentucky Baptist Brotherhood, which is no longer just for men. In fact, the Brotherhood ministry is for men, women, boys and girls. According to Randy Foster, state Brotherhood director, half of the disaster relief and a high proportion of the Baptist Builders volunteers are women. Kentucky WMU and Kentucky Brotherhood have begun to partner in ways that involve entire families in missions and missions education.

My wife and I had a date on a recent Friday night, which included dinner in Elizabethtown and attendance at the evening session of the annual Brotherhood convention held at Immanuel Baptist Church. It was great to see some old friends and to meet some new ones. We especially enjoyed the new video, "Becoming On Mission," which gives focus to developing mission-oriented families. We also were inspired by the music and the missions testimonies. A highlight of the evening was to

hear Ben Hawkins present the speech that won him this year's Young Statesman Scholarship. Ben is from Erlanger and a freshman at Morehead State University.

It occurred to me the various components of the Brotherhood's ministry lend themselves to endowment gifts whereby the future of those ministry components could be

secured and enhanced in perpetuity. Some of the components, which require annual operating expenses, include: Baptist Builders, summer camps at Rabro/Cedarmore and Jonathan Creek, disaster relief, equestrian ministries, Kentucky Changers, Hope for Homes and human needs ministries. You might be interested in endowing the annual Young Statesman Schol-

arship or scholarships for needy families to send their sons to summer camp. Call us toll-free for more information.

I am grateful to my parents, church and teachers who passed on to me a wonderful missions heritage, which included being an RA and family mission trips. Let's keep passing it on. Amen?!

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

### KENTUCKY BAPTIST FOUNDATION



Barry Allen



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# KENTUCKY

## Lexington churches work together for Graham festival

By Ken Walker  
State Correspondent

LEXINGTON—The idea to bring Franklin Graham to Lexington originated with a pair of pastors' conferences in Jacksonville and Atlanta in February of 1997.

Jim McGee, minister of education at Porter Memorial Baptist Church in Lexington, said he returned from the second conference—sponsored by Promise Keepers—with a distinct impression he should organize a crusade within five years.

"God, I'm not the man," prayed McGee, who wound up as community affairs director of Greater Lexington

Festival 2000. "I like to work behind the scenes."

Nevertheless, he later ran radio and newspaper advertisements inviting pastors interested in having an area-wide outreach to a meeting.

That January 1998 gathering attracted 62 pastors and led to various meetings and phone calls. After preliminary discussions, the group decided to link the event to Celebrate Jesus 2000, a nationwide, multi-denominational event.

Preparations included distribution to about 80 percent of homes in Lexington of the "Who Split Time?" gospel tract and weekly prayer walks the first four months of this year. On Good

Friday, volunteers drove around the metropolitan area seven times while others led prayers on a local radio station.

"I believe we have a responsibility to keep it going," he said as the festival was coming to a close. "We're already talking about things we can do in the future."

In addition to a special inter-denominational New Year's eve service at Heritage Hall, organizers are exploring mass distribution of the "Jesus" video.

McGee also said he expects to see a difference in the way churches interact with people who have differing lifestyles and moral standards.

"I've been impressed with Franklin Graham as having a down-to-earth message," he said. "It's a straightforward message of what sin is, but when he talks about that he says, 'God loves you anyway and desires to take that away.' I hear a message of love from Franklin Graham and I think people responded to it."

Lexington attorney and certified public accountant Jeff Smith was among those stirred to action by the festival.

Smith, a former Catholic who has attended charismatic and Baptist churches, said he hopes to organize a daily prayer meeting for corporate leaders and other local leaders.

"It's hard to put into words," he said of the festival's impact. "I think a true transformation is a miracle. For thousands of people to sacrifice their lives and what they want ... is selfless and defies human explanation. This event



**COMMUNITY CHOIR**  
Singers from throughout Lexington are just one example of the cooperative effort involved in the Franklin Graham festival.

has also made it clear to me, as someone who has committed their life to Christ, that I have a long way to go."

A member of McGee's church said the event already has had an impact at Porter Memorial. So many people responded to pastor Bill Henard's invitation to receive Christ last Sunday morning that they ran out of commitment cards, said festival counselor Mike Lavender.

"It's very powerful, but very simple," he said of Graham's preaching. "If you have been in church all your life you can get something out of it. But if you have never been to church you can get something out of it."

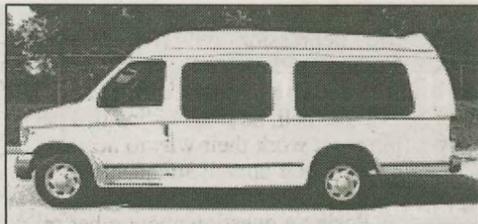
Evangelist and former University of Kentucky basketball player Cameron Mills said the festival had inspired him to become more committed to his ministry.

Of all the things that happened in Rupp Arena—where a dozen championship or Final Four banners hang—last weekend was the greatest because people's lives were changed, he said.

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## Remembering Milton Murphey

By Robert Dunston

On Oct. 2, Milton Murphey, former assistant professor of religion at Cumberland College, passed away. During his time at Cumberland, Murphey taught many students, nurturing them in the Christian faith and modeling Christ's love.

Murphey was born in Cleveland, Ohio, but grew up in Willowick, Ohio. He attended Bryan College for two years until World War II interrupted his college career. He volunteered for army duty and fought in D-Day plus nine, the Battle of the Bulge and other battles in the European theatre.

When Murphey completed his army service, he entered Taylor University. Upon his graduation from Taylor, he enrolled in Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville and graduated with a master of divinity degree. After his graduation from Southern, Murphey taught at Linda Vista Baptist College and Seminary in San Diego for two years. While teaching there, he earned a master of arts degree in church history.

In 1952 he and his wife were appointed missionaries to Israel by the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board. Their assignment was the

children's home in Nazareth, but Murphey also directed the construction of Baptist Village. They served in Israel for 27 years.

In 1979, Murphey came to Cumberland College to be a missionary-in-residence for a year. When a religion department faculty member resigned, Murphey began teaching fulltime at Cumberland. Before he

retired in 1992, the students elected him "Honored Professor" at homecoming.

After retirement, Murphey continued to minister through mission trips to Russia and Czechoslovakia and through faithful service at First Baptist Church in Williamsburg. He and his wife were one of four founding couples

of cleftRock Retreat Center in Kentucky, a retreat center particularly committed to providing marriage enrichment for couples.

We all mourn Murphey's passing. He embodied love for and commitment to God and devoted his entire life to teaching the Christian faith, especially to children and youth. We will miss him but treasure our memories of his warmth, humor and commitment to Christ.

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

CUMBERLAND COLLEGE



## Thank You Kentucky Baptists!



## You Take The Cake!

The final figures are not yet available, but it appears you have set a record in this year's Food Roundup for Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children! Thank you for sharing with our children and families!



## Baptist workers in Israel keeping heads down, prayers up

**Workers asked Southern Baptists to avoid taking sides and to pray for everyone involved in the conflict.**

JERUSALEM (BP)—As one of the most violent uprisings in years continues between Israel and Palestinians, Southern Baptist personnel in Israel, Gaza and the West Bank remain safe but poised for possible evacuation if conditions worsen.

As of last week, about 100 people had died as the conflict stretched into its second week. Pitched gun battles, rock throwing and other fighting continued in Hebron, Ramallah and Netzarim but violence also broke out in Nazareth, the home town of Jesus.

Hopes for a peace accord seemed faint as Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak threatened further military response if the Palestinian leader, Yasser Arafat, did not end the conflict. But raw emotion and hatred are always plentiful in this troubled land and neither side seems prepared to back down.

More than two dozen Southern Baptist workers are assigned to Israel and about a dozen to Gaza and the West Bank, though some workers are in the United States for periodic assignments there.

One Southern Baptist family heard machinegun fire and the noise of demonstrations about a mile from their home in Ramallah. "We feel safe. We've been here four and a half years, and the people who live around us care about us," she said.

"But it's scary to hear the machinegun fire at night, not because you think you're going to be hurt, but you think, who is being hurt? What will be the

result tomorrow?" she said. She and her family have stayed mostly indoors, she said. Shops are open only limited hours.

Southern Baptist workers in Gaza City live and work near demonstrations which have united thousands of Palestinians—including political parties usually divided—in vivid displays of hatred toward Israel.

But the main conflict has been at Netzarim Junction south of Gaza City, where Israeli troops blew up two buildings thought to protect Palestinian snipers firing at Israeli positions.

"We Southern Baptists need to be careful not to make statements that condemn one side or the other. Both sides are at fault," cautioned one worker who lives in Israel. "We don't need to lay blame but to be in a position of praying for peace and their salvation," he urged.

Ironically, the conflict has come at a time when workers say Jewish followers of Christ continue to increase numerically. Workers also report seeing an unprecedented response to the gospel among Arabs in the past couple of years. One of the few times Jews and Arabs sit together in peace is at Christian functions, one worker said.

"The reality is that peace can only come through Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace," said one Southern Baptist worker on the West Bank.

"It's ironic," said another Southern Baptist worker, "that Israel just celebrated Yom Kippur—the Day of Atonement—and we serve a risen Lord who already atoned for sin."



**ISRAEL CONFLICT** An armed Israeli settler is prevented from entering Nablus by Israeli soldiers after Palestinians set fire to Jewish holy books and ransacked Joseph's Tomb earlier Oct. 7. Southern Baptist workers currently are safe but cautious amid the current conflict. (Reuters/RNS photo)

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### Fall revival: "Fishers of men"

One of the most exciting annual events on our campus is the fall revival. We always have great expectations that students who do not know the Lord in a personal way will discover a loving Jesus.

About 60 percent of our students are not Christians when school begins each year. Most have had little, if any, church attendance prior to coming to Oneida Baptist Institute. Having so many spiritually lost students on our campus can create some real challenges.

I have told many visitors and friends about the difficulties and frustrations we encounter trying to work with so many spiritually lost students. Oneida has a long history of accepting boys and girls who have had little or no religious training. We would love to see every lost young person have a spiritual, life-changing experience while here, but that does not always happen. What we do know is that every year many students who enrolled with little or no concern for their spiritual well being come face to face with a loving Savior. During the next few weeks I would like to tell you about several students who made professions of faith during our fall revival.

"Sally" enrolled this past August as a middle school student from Illinois. She had been recommended to OBI by a volunteer who works on our campus once or twice a year. Sally went through a period of homesickness, but did better than most middle school students. We were told she was a weak student when it came to her reading skills and that she desperately needed to catch up with the rest of the children her age. We were told she was an "excellent child" and that she was "very helpful around the house." Sally was from a large family and had been a model child except for not

getting the academic attention she desperately needed. Her mother had tried to home school her, but realized Sally needed more help than she could provide. I see Sally nearly every morning at breakfast in the dining hall. She usually has a smile and seems to be liked by most of her peers. When the progress reports came out recently, Sally was making average grades in all of her classes.

"Brenda" came to us from Eastern Kentucky during summer school as a middle school student.

She took enrichment classes in summer school and did average work. Her test scores indicated she was capable of doing ninth grade work, but we knew she still needed a lot of individual attention. Brenda is like nearly half of the students who enroll at OBI, in that she needed a lot of help academically and was failing many classes. We also were told that Brenda did not communicate well with her peers, which caused a lot of problems, especially at school. Additionally, she did not follow rules very well and was not good in completing chores at home. She was influenced easily by her peers, and her peer group was not a good influence on her.

Brenda's biggest problem was academics. Her report card before coming to OBI showed five Fs and eight Ds. There were a few average and good grades, and she passed the eighth grade. We gave her the enrichment classes this summer to help prepare her for ninth grade this fall. She still struggles with English, but is doing OK in other classes. Her goals in coming to OBI were to make good grades and improve self-esteem.

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

**THIS IS ONEIDA**



W.F. Underwood

### A graduate who stayed with us

After Army duty in Korea, Charles Hanking attended church to please his wife, Renee. The small congregation in rural Barren County included an elderly woman who usually testified and shouted after the pastor preached.

"I thought that was humorous, and I wanted the preacher to sit down so she would get up," Charles recalled. "One Sunday she testified and said, 'I want the Lord to take me home some time when I've just given my testimony.' Two weeks later she testified, sat down and died right there in the church. That got my attention, and shortly afterward I was converted."

A new Christian at age 30, Hanking became involved in Coral Hill Baptist Church in "about every job there was to do." He still seemed to have an unfilled space in his life. While attending a Mississippi church service he surrendered his life to ministry. He and Renee moved to Clear Creek in 1985.

With many years of experience in commercial and residential construction and a former instructor of construction trades at Glasgow Vocational School, Hanking quickly secured a campus workshop. One of his first tasks was remodeling the

two-room house where he still lives. "I didn't know when I came, it would be to stay," Charles stated. In 1989 he became physical plant director, responsible for building and grounds maintenance, construction and remodeling, student housing and campus security.

In 1988 he became pastor of Jenson Baptist Church, about six miles from Pineville.

Under Hanking's direction, the physical campus has been transformed. New construction brought us a child development center, health services center, classroom building, three townhouses, six duplexes and a new entrance.

Major remodeling projects included 18 student cottages, Aldridge Administration Building, chapel, Asher Classroom Building, Carolyn Brooks Memorial Library and Moore Hall exterior. The largest project started May 8. The \$1.75 million total renovation of historic Kelly Hall is expected to take three years. When asked what he looked forward to in the future, Hanking responded, "Retirement!" When he leaves Clear Creek it will have been changed for the better.

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

**CLEAR CREEK CHRONICLE**



Bill Whittaker

# BROTHERHOOD



## Brotherhood lists ministry leaders

ELIZABETHTOWN—Kentucky Brotherhood leaders announced this year's ministry leaders for 17 categories.

For more information about the following ministries contact:

**Baptist Builders** John Edwards in Flatwoods, (606) 836-6967.

**Campers on Mission** Ken and Betty Curry in Brandenburg, (270) 422-3285.

**Church renewal** Carl Powell in Richmond, (606) 623-2710.

**Criminal justice** David Parker in Madisonville, (270) 821-2555.

**Disaster relief** Mike and Wanda Klein in Lexington, (859) 272-2175.

**Eastern Kentucky Sunrise** Ken and Walley Hinton in Maysville, (606) 564-5939.

**Equestrian** Wilburn Bonta in Greenburg, (270) 932-3194.

**Experiencing God weekends** Frank and Lin Harris in Mayfield, (270) 247-5303.

**Family missions** Beryl and Barbara Satterly in Grayson, (606) 474-7235.

**Kentucky Changers** Russell Cole in Louisville, (606) 964-0808.

**Legacy Builders/Promise Keepers** Greg Burton in Lawrenceburg, (502) 839-6966.

**Missions education** Randall Rogers in Greensburg, (270) 932-7267.

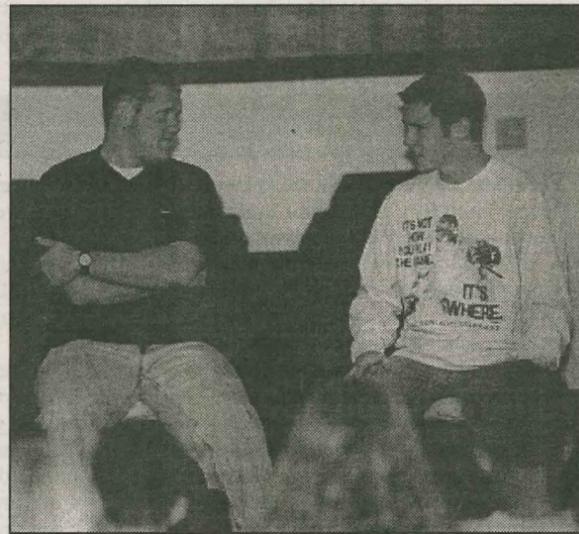
**Prayer ministry** Franklin Meserve in Hawesville, (270) 927-6642.

**Professional Christian service** Morris Norfleet in Nancy, (606) 871-7193.

**Retirees On Mission** Terry Shinkle in Burlington, (606) 586-6388.

**Sports missions** Jamey Epperson in Nancy, (606) 636-6959.

**Volunteers in Missions** Carl Powell in Richmond, (606) 623-2710.



## Volunteers help homeless shelter get in hot water

HODGENVILLE—A hands-on lesson about missions can make an immediate impact. Just ask a woman whose last name is Miracle and a homeless shelter director who has a new hot water heater.

Leslie Miracle and other leaders at Calvary Hill Baptist Church in Stanford took 15 children to the Kentucky Brotherhood annual meeting, Oct. 6-7 in Elizabethtown.

Organizers for the annual meeting scheduled time to participate in area mission projects, and Miracle said her team's project has made a long-lasting impression.

The youth, in first through sixth grades, worked at Manna House, a homeless shelter in Hodgenville operated by Frankie Miller.

The house, supported by area churches, was launched in January and accommodates 30 people, Miller said.

Volunteers swept the building, which originally was a grocery store, helped stock shelves with donated food and cleaned the grounds, Miracle said.

"I think this was the first mission trip that they have been able to do," she



**MISSION MOMENTS** ■ Left: Frankie Miller (center) talks about the work of Manna House with volunteers during Kentucky Brotherhood's annual meeting. ■ Right: Volunteers help clean up the grounds outside Manna House in Hodgenville.



said, noting that the overnight format was an ideal first step to teach about missions work outside one's church or neighborhood.

"They learned more in that couple of hours about what missions is really about than sitting a whole year in a classroom and studying out of a book," Miracle said.

The youngsters worked diligently, she said, but their impact didn't stop after they left.

A church leader told the volunteers

that the shelter was in need of a hot water heater, which she estimated would cost \$250.

The youth went to church Oct. 8 and asked members of Calvary Hill Baptist to take up a special offering for Manna House.

Church members collected \$270 for the Hodgenville ministry, Miracle said.

She said she expects to double participation at next year's Brotherhood meeting. "I know we're marking our calendar."

### BROTHERHOOD MEETING

From top left: ■ Bobby Bush (right), a member of Cecilia Baptist Church in Elizabethtown, and O.A. Collins, of Unity Baptist Church in Ashland, cook potatoes in a disaster relief unit for training and the meeting's noon meal.

■ Ben Hawkins, of Erlanger, presents the speech that won him the Young Statesman Award.

■ The Messengers of Lynch provide music.

■ Former Son Team members Jonathan Clark (left) and Brian Finch present a skit.

■ Volunteers from Calvary Hill Baptist Church in Stanford stock shelves at a local homeless shelter. For a free videotape featuring more information about Kentucky Brotherhood, call (502) 244-6489 or toll-free in Kentucky (888) 254-5720.

# PEOPLE

## PRAYER PARTNERS

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

- Unity among the members of Trinity Baptist Church in Bitburg/Metterich, Germany.
- The annual meeting of the European Baptist Convention this month.
- Emirates Baptist Church International in Dubai, United Arab Emirates. Pastor Charles Stavanger and his wife, Sandy recently moved to Dubai from Norway.
- The Pogoro people of Tanzania. "Culture, traditions and social structure pose a formidable barrier for sharing and acceptance of the gospel," write missionaries Dan and Pam Johnson.
- The need for an African-American church planter in Boston.

## Mountains to the Mississippi

Compiled by Shirley Wooton

■ **ASHLAND**—First Church will host revival services Oct. 22-25. Speakers will be **Dale Holloway** and **Keith Longbotham**. For information, call (859) 324-3100. **Quentin Lockwood** is interim pastor.

■ **BURLINGTON**—Burlington Church called **Jim Casson** as minister of music and religious education. **Terry Wilder** is pastor.

■ **CLOVERPORT**—Cloverport Church will host homecoming services Oct. 29 at 10:50 a.m. The speaker will be former pastor **Truman Johnson**. Lunch and music will follow. For information, call (270) 788-6650. **Dave Renfroe** is pastor.

■ **COVINGTON**—Ashland Avenue Church will host **Carole Gaddis** in concert Oct. 27 at 7 p.m. For information, call (859) 431-1624 or 344-9904. **William Class** is pastor.

**Edwin Kirkpatrick** resigned as pastor of Madison Avenue Church.

■ **LOUISVILLE**—Beechmont Church will host revival services Oct. 20-22 at 7 p.m. nightly and 11 a.m. on Oct. 22. **David Livingston** will be the evangelist. **James Ward** is pastor.

Cloverleaf Church will host **The Galloways**, in concert Oct. 22 at 7 p.m. For information, call (502) 367-0218. **Geoffrey Lacefield** is pastor.

Gethsemane Church will host revival services Oct. 22. **Tony Wright** will be the evangelist. For information, call (502) 969-3191. **Robert Wright** is pastor.

Ormsby Heights Church will host "Once Upon a Tour" with **Bob Smiley** and **Riley Armstrong**, Oct. 25 at 6 p.m. For information, call (502) 447-6867. **Rick Bowden** is pastor.

## Turlington, 81, dies

**RALEIGH, N.C.**—Henry Turlington, an emeritus Southern Baptist missionary and former Kentucky pastor, died Oct. 4. He was 81.

Born in Gainesville, Fla., Turlington and his wife, Helen, were appointed by the then Foreign Mission Board as missionaries to China in 1946.

Turlington and his wife served in Iran, India, West Germany and the Philippines before retiring in 1985.

Turlington served as pastor of two churches in Kentucky: Ballardsville Baptist Church in Crestwood, 1941 to 1944; and Audubon Baptist Church in Louisville, 1945 until his missionary appointment in 1996.

Survivors include his wife and four children.



'LIFE-GIVING EXERCISE' Kentucky Baptists' "Operation Cooperation" blood drives, part of the state convention's 75th anniversary celebration of the Cooperative Program, have collected more than 3,000 units of blood at nearly 80 sites throughout the state. ■ Above: Gov. Paul Patton donated blood last week as part of Operation Cooperation. ■ Right: KBC President Terry Wilder (left) presents Gov. Patton an Operation Cooperation T-shirt. Terry said the statewide need for blood donors and Baptists' response indicate "it was God's timing for us to do this."



## CLASSIFIED ADS

**FOR SALE:** New 1999 Dodge 15-passenger shuttle vans, center aisle, raised roof, easy-access lowered stepwell, rear heat and AC. \$590/month, 60-month lease with 15 percent residual subject to credit approval. Call American Bus & Accessories Inc., (800) 582-7118.

**FREE:** Eighteen olive green choir robes. Some white/gold collars. Mixed sizes for men and women. Call (502) 695-4068.

**HELP:** Church planter looking for affordable housing options in the Lexington area. If you can help, please call Kevin at (859) 289-5658.

**SEEKING:** Anchor Church, located in Erlanger (Northern), Ky., is in need of a youth minister. This is currently a part-time position (20-25 hours/week) with considerable potential with the right leadership. Send resumé to: Anchor Church, PO Box 18195, Erlanger, KY 41018; e-mail to: Anchorchurch@anchorchurch.net; or fax to: (859) 727-4329.

**SEEKING:** Central Baptist Church, Corbin, Ky., is seeking a full-time minister of education. Candidates are expected to have an undergraduate or seminary degree in religious education or related field. Prior experience is required—full-time or part-time experience is acceptable. Compensation package includes full benefits. Please send resumé to: Personnel Committee, Central Baptist Church, 201 W 4th St., Corbin, KY 40701.

**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:** Hillsdale Baptist Church in Ohio seeks part-time youth pastor. Send resumé to: hbc@bright.net.

**SEEKING:** Organist for east-end (Louisville) church. Two Sunday morning services. Blended service. May also play keyboard for worship team occasionally. Contact: Gary Vido, West Broadway Baptist Church, (502) 499-1920.

**SEEKING:** New pastor seeks to build staff for a dynamic church with great potential for growth in immediate future. The church is located in West St. Louis County, overlooking Highway 44 at Eureka, Mo. We have just called a new pastor and are now seeking full- or part-time staff to develop and direct the youth and music ministries of the church. Need a strong worship leader who can lead a blended style service and someone who loves youth to help reach youth in one of the largest school districts in Missouri. Send resumé to: Search Committee, Central Baptist Church, PO Box 66, Eureka, MO 63025, Attn: Doug Bell.

**SEEKING:** The Divinity School of Duke University seeks a director of Baptist House of Studies. The director will have unique opportunities for interaction with students, churches and faculty, and will be responsible for various teaching and administrative duties. The successful candidate will exhibit significant strengths in and a firm commitment to the church, to teaching and to service in the world. He or she also must exhibit significant involvement with Baptist life. The rank and salary for this appointment will be set according to qualifications and experience of the candidate. Review of applications will begin Oct. 15, 2000, and will continue until the search has been completed. Nominations and applications should be sent to Ms. Dana Hall, Box 90968, Duke University, Durham, NC 27708-0968. Duke University is an equal opportunity employer.

**SEEKING:** Main Street Baptist Church in Alexandria, Ky., is currently accepting resumé for a full-time senior pastor. Main Street Baptist is a progressive Southern Baptist church located in the Northern Kentucky area. The ideal candidate to fill our senior pastor position will be highly motivated, spiritually driven and have a master's degree from an accredited seminary. This candidate will be selected to lead this rapidly growing church which is involved in a very aggressive building program. All interested parties should send resumé with cover letters by Nov. 15, 2000, to: Main Street Baptist Church, 306 West Main St., Alexandria, KY 41001, Attn: Pastor Search Committee.

**SEEKING:** Immediate opening available for a bivocational music minister. If you would like to apply, please send a letter and/or resumé to the following address: Beaver Lick Baptist Church, 11460 US 42, Union, KY 41091, Attn: Music Minister Position.

**SEEKING:** Farmdale Baptist Church, 5610 U.S. Highway 127 South, Frankfort, Ky., is seeking three part-time positions: children's minister, youth minister and organist. Send resumé to church in care of Personnel Committee.

**SEEKING:** Associate pastor of discipleship and ministry. Strong teaching and organizational ability needed. Work with Sunday school, discipleship training and purpose-driven class courses. Natural church development emphasis focusing on spiritual gifts identification, training and ministry. This is a full-time opportunity in a growing church and community. Please send resumé to: Personnel Committee, Beacon Hill Baptist Church, 274 Old Monticello Road, Somerset, KY 42503.

**SEEKING:** Is God calling you into full-time youth and music ministry? Is God calling you to another place of service? Growing church in Dry Ridge, Ky., is seeking God's will in filling this ministerial position. Please send your resumé to: Dry Ridge Baptist Church, PO Box 14, Dry Ridge, KY 41035, or phone (859) 824-5501.

**SEEKING:** First Baptist Church of Franklin, Ky., is seeking a full-time staff position for minister of education/administration. Interested candidates send resumé to: First Baptist Church, 303 East Cedar St., Franklin, KY 42134, Attn: Search Committee.

**SEEKING:** Part-time music director and part-time youth director. Please forward resumé or letter of interest to the attention of Jerry Gifford at Calvary Baptist Church, 3011 Elrod Road, Bowling Green, KY 42104. For more information, call (270) 842-5554.

**SEEKING:** Burgin Baptist Church is currently seeking applications for pastor. Burgin is a Central Kentucky town approximately 30 miles south of Lexington near Harrodsburg, Herrington Lake and Danville. Burgin Baptist Church is mission-minded, has a strong youth program, approximately 170 in Sunday school, and more than 100 years of history in the community. Prayerfully submit resumé to: Search Committee, Burgin Baptist Church, PO Box 266, Burgin, KY 40310.

**SERVICES:** Use the power of the Internet in your minister search. On ministrypositions.com churches can post job openings or search for candidates online. Ministerial candidates can post resumé and search job openings. An easy-to-use, confidential service to help ministers and churches connect. Visit [www.ministrypositions.com](http://www.ministrypositions.com) or call (800) 417-2123.

## WWJD's developer none the richer for phenomenon

By David Gibson  
Religion News Service

WASHINGTON (RNS)—Given the level of God-talk in the current presidential campaign, perhaps it was inevitable that someone would turn "WWJD," that ubiquitous Christian acronym and marketing tool, into a political slogan.

And sure enough, that came to pass when Al Gore, the Democratic presidential nominee and born-again Baptist, started telling interviewers that before making important decisions he always asks himself, "What Would Jesus Do?" WWJD, in the popular shorthand.

The sentiment is no doubt a noble one. But at this point in the WWJD craze, the more appropriate question might be, "What Would Janie Do?"

Janie, in this case, being Janie Tinklenberg, the youth pastor who a decade ago started the WWJD phenomenon—and, unwittingly, a national fashion trend—when she came up with colorful "WWJD" woven bracelets for the teens in her church group in Holland, Mich.

The wristlets were inspired by Tinklenberg's rediscovery of a century-old Christian novel, "In His Steps," about a pastor who shakes up his congregation by pledging to ask himself, "What would Jesus do?" in weighing any action, large or small.

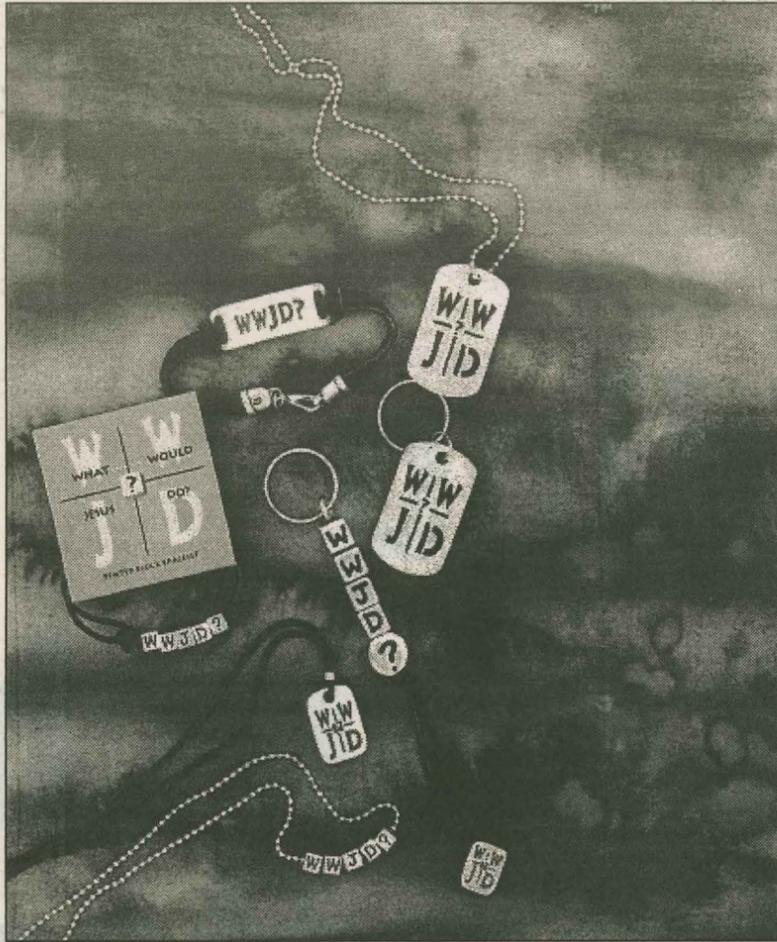
The idea behind the wristlets was to give the teens a physical reminder to view all their actions in the light of their faith. But it was also purposefully cryptic to encourage other people to ask the Christian teens what it meant without making teens feel preachy.

Most of all, the wrist bands looked really cool.

So cool, in fact, that the WWJD logo swept the country and spawned a mega-bucks industry with apparel spinoffs that include baseball caps and glittery jewelry, as well as books, CDs, calendars, T-shirts and a WWJD "adorable collector teddy bear" for \$8.95 plus shipping and handling.

There's even a WWJD board game that the manufacturer says "encourages group discussion by providing questions and answers to 600 moral and ethical dilemmas. Be the first to collect W, W, J and D and you win the game!"

Today, WWJD is as much icon as mantra. Athletes wear it and claim a divine assist to their game. Golfer Payne Stewart, who was killed last year in a plane crash, is memorialized on



WHAT WOULD JANIE DO? Jewelry products bearing the WWJD—"What would Jesus do?"—logo are profitable items across the country, but not for Janie Tinklenberg, the youth pastor who came up with the idea of making WWJD bracelets to remind teenagers about Christian principles. (RNS Photo)

the cover of a new book wearing his WWJD wristlet.

But WWJD is also a money machine that has reaped untold millions in profits for various entrepreneurs, many of them professed Christians.

"A lot of people made a ton of money," Tinklenberg said.

And Janie Tinklenberg?

"Not a dime," said the youth pastor, who is now at a Lutheran church in the small Ohio town of Gahanna. (Yes, it is from the Hebrew word for hell). "It all went to distributors and marketers."

Part of the reason is that Tinklenberg practiced what she preached. She did what she thought Jesus would do when she was faced with dozens of businesses that aggressively challenged her trademark application six years ago: She let them fight it out while she sat on the sidelines.

"My whole issue was one of integrity," she said. The only way to enforce

her claim, she said, would have been to spend "hundreds of thousands of dollars on lawyers and litigating. That wasn't me."

This summer, Tinklenberg won a victory of sorts when the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office awarded her the trademark to WWJD. But financially it was a hollow victory because the government also ruled that the logo has been so popular for so long that it constitutes part of the "public domain," meaning anyone who wants to market WWJD products can do so without paying her royalties.

By the same token, Tinklenberg could also market WWJD stuff, but she would have to compete in an already overcrowded marketplace.

Thus, the marketing rush will continue, and Tinklenberg will remain a youth pastor.

Perhaps more unsettling, Tinklenberg said, are the irreligious riffs on her idea, such as the snide take-off popu-

lar among Southern California adolescents, "We Want Jack Daniels." Or the profane, "What Would Judas Do?" Or the parody, an advice column called "What Would Journey Do?" featuring answers based on lyrics of the '80s rock group.

Not surprisingly, others marketers—and religions—also took notice.

There is the "WWBD" book, for "What Would Buddha Do? 101 Answers to Life's Daily Problems." And some supporters of Joseph Lieberman, the Democratic vice presidential nominee, have been spotted wearing WWJD buttons for "What Would Joe Do?" Whether the motive is religious or political is open to interpretation.

Tinklenberg does admit to being a bit discomfited by all the rip-offs.

"It's not just a big smiley face," she said of the WWJD message. "It's more than winning votes or winning games. It's a serious thing."

She adds: "I think if you're going to put it out there, you better be serious about it. I don't care if you are an athlete, a businessman or a politician. ... People will be watching you."

A final irony in this story is that Tinklenberg has suffered the same fate as her predecessor in the WWJD phenomenon, Charles Sheldon.

It was Sheldon who in 1896 wrote "In His Steps," about the fictional pastor who popularizes the "What would Jesus do?" message. Sheldon couldn't find a publisher, so he wound up convincing a local newspaper to serialize the novel. That meant the text was automatically in the public domain.

Hence, there is no copyright, and Sheldon's heirs haven't earned any money from it, even as publishing houses today are cranking out new editions of Sheldon's newly popular book. "His grandson told me the bracelets and the book took the same path," Tinklenberg said with a laugh.

Tinklenberg voices no rancor over how things turned out, and said she harbors no resentment toward the WWJD industry.

Part of her equanimity, she said, derives from her belief that the true WWJD spirit will win out.

"It will stay in the church and leave the marketplace," she said. The reason: "It is only in the context of ministry that it has meaning."

"The only thing that makes WWJD have any integrity is that you have to be a student of Scripture if you want to know what Jesus would do," she added. "For me the proof is in the pudding, in the actual living."

Part of the reason Janie Tinklenberg never earned a dime from WWJD products is because she practiced what she preached. She did what she thought Jesus would do.

## Dr. Laura uses Jewish holiday to apologize to homosexuals

HOLLYWOOD, Calif. (RNS)—TV and radio talk show host Laura Schlessinger issued a printed apology last week to gays and lesbians, asking for forgiveness if her on-air comments have offended the homosexual community.

"I deeply regret the hurt this situation has caused the gay and lesbian community, wrote Schlessinger, host of Paramount Television's new syndicated "Dr. Laura" talk show, in a four-paragraph letter cover-



Schlessinger

ing the back page of Daily Variety, an entertainment trade newspaper.

The ad by Schlessinger, who is Jewish, was published Oct. 11, two days after Yom Kippur, Judaism's holy day of atonement.

Some homosexual activist groups have persuaded some advertisers to stay away from Schlessinger's show because she has described homosexuality with words including "deviant" and "biological errors" on her separate-

ly run, national radio call-in show.

"I have told parents consistently that all people are made in the image of (God) and that familial love is more important than any differences between them," wrote Schlessinger. "While I express my opinions from the perspective of an Orthodox Jew and a staunch defender of the traditional family, in talking about gays and lesbians, some of my words have been poorly chosen. Many people perceive them as hate speech. This fact has been personally and professionally devastating to me as well as to many others."

While the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation dismissed Schlessinger's apology as too little, too late, Rabbi Denise Eger, of the predominantly gay and lesbian congregation Kol Ami in West Hollywood, Calif., described her contrition as a first step.

Schlessinger's apology comes after Southern Baptist Convention messengers voted in June to affirm her "courageous stand" against homosexuality. In an Aug. 17 letter, SBC President James Merritt expressed "deepest appreciation" for her opposition to homosexuality.

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