

February 27, 2001  
Vol. 175, No. 8

**KENTUCKY NOTES**



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**FOR THE RECORD**

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Dated Material — Deliver by Wednesday, February 28

**Poll: One third of worshippers feel God's presence at each service**

VENTURA, Calif. (RNS)—About a third of U.S. churchgoers recently surveyed said they experience God's presence at every worship service they attend.

Another third say they have that experience often and the final third say they have such feelings less frequently, according to a report by Barna Research Group.

Men said they had such experiences less often than women did, the marketing research company in Ventura, Calif., learned.

Researchers found that 68 percent of churchgoing adults said they always "look forward to worshipping God." But many added that they have trouble focusing on worship because of other issues on their minds.

"Without giving themselves time to clear their minds and hearts of their daily distractions and other problems, many people attend a worship event but never enter a worshipful frame of mind," said George Barna, president of the research company.

The survey found that three-quarters of all adults and 92 percent of adults attending church describe worshipping God as "very important" to them.

Adults said the next most important aspect of practicing their faith was learning about what they believe (63 percent) and experiencing moral and spiritual accountability (59 percent).

Further down the list of "very important" faith practices were serving the needs of the poor (54 percent), sharing their faith with non-believers (44 percent), feeling like they belong to a faith community (41 percent), donating their time and money to the church (39 percent) and meeting with fellow believers (39 percent).

**Back to the future**



A man lights candles for a demonstration of a Baptist worship service reaching young adults in Virginia. Observers say the "ancient-future" model of worship, blending centuries-old traditions with today's technology, is attracting Generation X to churches.

**Gen-X drawn to mix of old & new worship styles**

By Victoria Moon  
Staff Writer

LOUISVILLE—What does the church of the future look like?

According to some church leaders, it mixes sixth century liturgy with alternative rock, monastic visual images with high technology and early Christian traditions with postmodern culture to create a blend that is drawing a whole new generation of people to the church.

"Something is definitely beginning to happen, and God is doing

something new," said Dieter Zander, founder of ReImagine, a non-profit evangelism/church-planting group in San Francisco. "What's going on seems odd to the church because it's outside the lines of what the church has been doing."

But several observers insist that even the most traditional of churches can't afford to ignore this blend of ancient traditions and today's technology.

While many churches won't adopt all aspects of this movement, the trend can be instructive to any church, regardless of style and location, they

say, especially if they're seeking to reach teenagers and young adults.

According to Ralph Winter, founder of the U.S. Center for World Mission, 5,000 "Generation X" churches focusing on alternative, postmodern worship have been planted in the United States, and church-planting experts say the numbers are increasing steadily.

In Louisville, the Sojourn Community is an example of a new church coloring outside the lines of mainstream congregations.

According to senior pastor Daniel Montgomery, Sojourn began last year in an attempt to reach people who were falling through the cracks in



□ See *Mix of old, new ...*, page 6

**Christian marriage specialist asks, How's your LUV language?**

By Jon Walker  
Baptist Press

LAKE FOREST, Calif. (BP)—Learning to "LUV" is critical to the success of any marriage, according to author and relationship specialist Gary Smalley.

Speaking at a preaching conference at Saddleback Valley Community Church in Lake Forest, Calif., Smalley said LUV language involves listening to, understanding and validating a mate's feelings and needs.

Smalley, a popular Christian marriage conference leader and author of 16 books on relationships, said this simple method of communication revolutionized his own marriage.

Comparing LUV talk to ordering fast-food from a drive-through, Smal-

ley said that people facing a marital conflict should listen carefully to what a mate says about his or her feelings and needs.

Then, just like a fast-food worker, the spouse should repeat back what was heard. This not only helps clarify that the person understand what was said, but it also validates and values that person's mate, he said.

A person doesn't necessarily have to agree with his or her mate's conclusions in order to understand his or her feelings and needs, Smalley added.

Once both spouses have expressed their feelings and needs they can work as a team to determine solutions to any problems in the marriage, Smalley said.

One of the biggest problems he

sees in marriages, he noted, is that one or both of the partners live as if they're single when, in fact, they now are a blended unit, and that's why they need to solve marital problems together.

Learning to honor one's mate is critical to the success of marriage, Smalley added. "There are treasures in your mate that you have never seen because you're not looking for them."

He encouraged people to notice that their mate is of great value and then begin listing all the things to be treasured in that mate.

This list, along with LUV talk, will immunize a marriage against the four relational "germs" that can destroy any marriage, Smalley said.

Those "germs" are:

■ **Withdrawing from an argument.** Every conflict with a mate is a

doorway to deeper intimacy, but withdrawing from a healthy discussion of conflict will lead to greater difficulties and anger, Smalley said.

■ **Escalation.** People need five positive encounters for every one negative encounter, he said. Smalley recounted that he and his wife plan certain events—such as a day at the park—that are escalation-free, argument-free zones.

■ **Belittling.** When one mate acts as if he or she is superior to the other, the spouse is, in effect, parenting his or her mate and that devalues, Smalley said.

■ **Assuming the negative.** Smalley said it is destructive for a person to assume his or her spouse will respond or behave a particular way without finding out whether that is true.

# BAPTISTS

## New SBC council promotes family values

By Bob Allen  
Associated Baptist Press

NASHVILLE (ABP)—The Southern Baptist Convention wants to become a major force for family values, according to convention leaders.

The SBC Executive Committee voted unanimously Feb. 19 to establish a blue-ribbon council to marshal denominational resources in a "cohesive and concerted strategy" for strengthening families in churches and society.

The initiative builds on a 1998 amendment to the SBC's official doctrinal statement defending traditional families, including a controversial tenet that wives must "graciously submit" to their husbands.

Executive Committee President Morris Chapman will appoint members to the new Council on Family Life. The council will work under the auspices of the Executive Committee for two years, in cooperation with other SBC entities with ministry assignments related to the family and report any recommendations to the SBC as a whole.

Chapman said the council would work to "elevate the sense of family life" among Southern Baptists.

"We're not trying to establish programs, but we are trying to say maybe God will help us establish a movement for family life in the Southern Baptist Convention and in our world," Chapman said.

The council will develop strategies that "identify Southern Baptist churches as 'great for the community because they are great for the family,'" according to a report and recommendation by

an ad hoc SBC committee on family life appointed by Chapman last year.

"America's families are in trouble," said former SBC president Tom Elliff, chairman of the ad hoc committee, in a report to Executive Committee members.

"The very fabric of our society, the family, is being eaten away," continued Elliff, pastor of First Southern Baptist Church of Del City, Okla. He cited statistics of record divorce rates, increasing numbers of children born out of wedlock and changing attitudes that undermine traditional views of family.

Americans know their families are in trouble, Elliff said, but "they don't know where Southern Baptists stand" on the issue. One reason for that, he said, is "our own families are in trouble," noting that divorce rates among Southern Baptists are not much different from the public at large.

While the SBC, through various denominational entities, offers a number of successful ministries to families, many people don't perceive it to be one of the convention's top priorities, he said.

"Why shouldn't we be known as the people who are friends of the family?" Elliff asked.

While programs such as LifeWay Christian Resources' "True Love Waits" sexual abstinence campaign have received acclaim, Elliff said, "Southern Baptists as a whole have never declared war" on problems affecting the family.

Southern Baptists also have not created a perception across the nation that they have anything to say about families, Elliff said. He described witness-

ing to a woman who told him if she ever were interested in going to a church she would become a Mormon because of that church's family friendly image.

"With all due respect," Elliff said, "we've got the right message for the family. We ought to be the ones big on the family."

Elliff said embracing family concerns would be a boon for evangelism in Southern Baptist churches.

"It will be one of the greatest tools for evangelism and church growth we can ever have," he said. "There are a lot of things related to Southern Baptists that people don't care about, but they do care about their families."

Members of the study committee will become part of the new Council on Family Life. One of the group's goals is "promotion of a wholesome family life based on traditional Judeo-Christian values."

The report touches on the problem of sexual abuse by ministers, saying: "We believe God would be pleased by a renewed call for servants whose lives are characterized by fidelity in the home. We applaud every effort of our seminaries and other entities to underscore this emphasis by providing the necessary standards and theological foundations commensurate with such a call."

It also advocates compassion for those affected by divorce, calling for "authentic ministry to those whose lives and families have been fractured and ravaged by the adversary, seeking to provide the kind of compassionate restoration and encouragement so typified by our Savior and made available through the grace of God."

## Cobb elected to Fellowship's No. 2 administrative post

ATLANTA (ABP)—The Cooperative Baptist Fellowship elected a Kentucky woman to its No. 2 staff position Feb. 22.

Reba Sloan Cobb of Louisville will serve as coordinator of the Atlanta-based CBF Resource Center, the designation for the group's leadership and support team.



Cobb

Cobb, 57, was elected by CBF's Coordinating Council on the recommendation of a seven-member search committee. Since 1998 she has been ex-

ecutive director of the Louisville-based Kentuckiana Interfaith Community, a multi-faith agency representing Protestant, Catholic, Jewish and Muslim organizations.

A longtime volunteer leader in CBF, Cobb will serve as the Fellowship's chief operating officer, directing the work of more than 40 full-time staff members located in Atlanta; Dallas; Houston; Raleigh, N.C.; and Richmond, Va. She will be responsible for implementing CBF's strategic plans, cultivating its partnerships with related organizations and managing its infrastructure.

Following her election, Cobb gave three reasons for accepting the job: "First, I love a challenge, and we have a challenge before us."

"Then there was the call of God which I felt very strongly. I didn't think there was anything that could blast me out of Louisville ... where I have lived for 30 years. (But) there came this very sure sense of a call that it was time for me to do this."

"The third thing is that I have a passion for CBF. I have been in this from the very beginning. I think it is critically important for Baptists, for our nation, for our world, that we be about this business."

Cobb will begin her duties March 15 and move to Atlanta by May 1. She previously served as president of the Center for Women and Families in Louisville. Earlier, she was youth minister at Crescent Hill Baptist Church in Louisville. Her husband, Dwight Cobb, died in 1995.

An ordained minister, Cobb was co-founder and coordinator of the Center for Women in Ministry and a board member of Southern Baptist Women in Ministry. She is a former trustee of Georgetown College and served during the past year as chair of the board of trustees of Baptist Theological Seminary at Richmond, Va.

She was a member of the original CBF Coordinating Council, chair of the steering committee for the 1997 General Assembly and a leader in the founding of the Kentucky Baptist Fellowship.

## Proposed SBC budget projects \$10 million gain

NASHVILLE (BP)—Expressing gratitude to Jehovah Jireh, the God who provides, the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee proposed a \$178 million SBC Cooperative Program allocation budget for 2001-2002.

The budget proposal, adopted Feb. 20, cited "gratitude for the unprecedented growth of our missions and ministries, as well as the increase in our seminary enrollment and in acknowledgment of God as Jehovah Jireh."

The proposed SBC budget—a \$10 million increase over the current year—will be voted on by convention messengers at the June 12-13 SBC

annual meeting in New Orleans.

The current percentage distribution to SBC entities is maintained in the proposed 2001-2002 budget, including 50 percent for the work of the International Mission Board and 22.79 percent for North American Mission Board ministries.

Other percentage distributions are: 21.64 for theological education, including the SBC's six seminaries and the Historical Library and Archives; Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission, 1.49 percent; Annuity Board, 0.76 percent; and the SBC operating budget, 3.32 percent.

In other business during its Feb. 19-

20 meeting in Nashville, Executive Committee members:

■ Approved an increase of 3.4 percent in the salary structure for Executive Committee staff, effective Oct. 1.

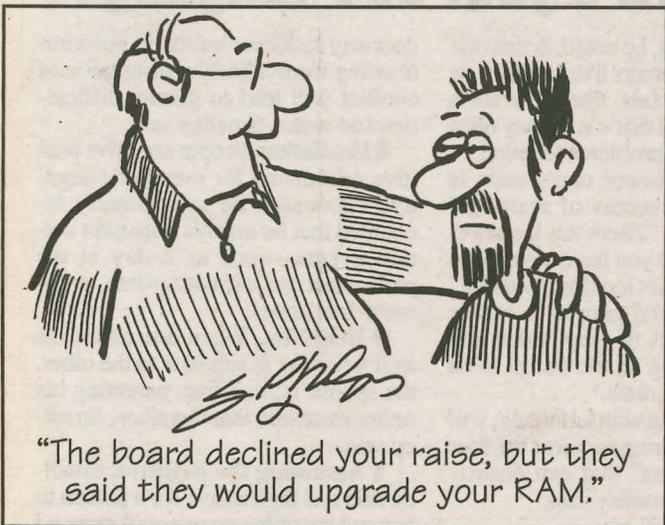
■ Adopted a resolution of appreciation for O. Wyndell Jones and his wife, Audie. Jones will retire March 31 after 15 years as executive director of the Baptist Convention of Iowa.

■ Heard a report that Barry McCarty, longtime chief parliamentarian for SBC annual meetings, will again assume that role at this year's meeting at a cost of \$9,500. McCarty is pastor of First Christian Church in Roswell, Ga.

### BAPTIST DIGEST

■ **NAMB hosts online chat sessions.** The Southern Baptist North American Mission Board will host live online chat sessions with missionaries as part of the 2001 Week of Prayer for North American Missions. The chats, set for March 4 and 7, are part of an Internet-based collection of resources related to the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for North American Missions at [www.anniearmstrong.com](http://www.anniearmstrong.com). The March 4 session will be held from 4-6 p.m. EST. A second session will be held March 7 from 6-11 p.m. EST.

■ **SBC DayCamp registration opens.** Registration is open for the 2001 Southern Baptist Convention DayCamp. The camp is for children whose parents are attending the 2001 SBC annual meeting June 12-13 in New Orleans. Registration is open to the first 200 participants at a cost of \$75 per child before May 1, and 485 per child from May 1 through June 1. Volunteers also are being enlisted to help staff the camp. For more information, contact Dean Green by e-mail at [mktracks@blomand.net](mailto:mktracks@blomand.net) or call toll-free (866) 813-3396.



"The board declined your raise, but they said they would upgrade your RAM."

## KBC young adult specialist continues family tradition

By Trennis Henderson  
Editor

LOUISVILLE—Working for a Kentucky Baptist entity is more than a ministry opportunity for Doug Miller; it's a family tradition.

Miller, elected last week as the young adult associate in the Kentucky Baptist Convention Sunday school department, said he is a fourth-generation denominational worker. His father, Chip Miller, retired in December as the KBC church leadership specialist after serving 16 years on the KBC staff.

Doug Miller said his grandfather and his grandfather's uncle previously worked at the Western Recorder print shop.

Miller has served the KBC for the past year as a part-time young adult consultant. The KBC Executive

Board's administrative committee voted last week to make his position a full-time associate role.

Darryl Wilson, director of the KBC Sunday school department, said Miller will be responsible for "developing relationships with churches that are doing a good job in reaching young adults as well as those churches that want to know more about how to minister to and reach young adults."

Wilson described Miller as "a person well grounded in church work, a good conference leader, a continual learner and good in building relationships."

Miller, who graduated last December from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, also is a grad-

uate of Campbellsville University and Boyce Bible School. He previously was minister of discipleship and evangelism at First Baptist Church of Fairdale. He also has worked in Detroit with the Southern Baptist North American Mission Board.



Miller

Noting that studies indicate churches "have lost an entire segment of young adults, primarily Gen-X and the Bridger generation," Miller said his goal is to help churches "go out and effectively reach these folks and bring them in the kingdom of God again."

Miller said he plans to visit churches that are effectively reaching young people in order to learn their ministry principles and help other churches im-

plement similar efforts.

Administrative committee members also approved part-time consultant roles in two other ministry areas.

Extending the family tradition, Miller's father, Chip, was elected as a part-time church growth consultant. He will be responsible for implementing the church growth team's Natural Church Development evaluations as well as helping plan and lead small church conferences and responding to church architecture inquiries.

Karen Strader was named a part-time preschool-children's consultant. She has served since 1993 as a preschool director and children's minister. She will be responsible for coordinating training for preschool and children's workers as well as conferences for church weekday education programs.

### Tony Campolo asks Georgetown group to make disciples

GEORGETOWN—Author and professor Tony Campolo told Georgetown College students that following God is not just about getting forgiveness from sin.

Following God cleanses one's soul, he said, so that Christians won't be "dead men and women, but be alive with the holy spirit."

Georgetown's John L. Hill chapel was packed Feb. 19 as Campolo delivered a speech on the importance of students using their talents and abilities to help the underprivileged.

"Jesus comes to us through the poor and if we embrace them then we embrace Jesus," he said. Using humorous anecdotes, Campolo stressed that sentimentality is not a substitute for commitment.

Most people are too worried about material possessions, he added.

"Christianity is not an affirmation of the American middle class lifestyle," he said. "Jesus said that 'If you want to be My disciple, you have to sell what you have, give to the poor, take up the cross and follow Me.'"

Campolo stressed that students should not view education as a way to get more money, but as a way to make an "upsetting presence in the world."

Campolo's ministry organization in St. Davids, Pa., has created programs for inner-city youngsters from Camden, N.J., to Oakland, Calif. He asked the students to consider coming to work with his organization to reach out to people in need.

Campolo also urged audience members, "Become new people. Let Jesus love you, cleanse you, transform you and use you. Jesus never said that we should go into the world and make believers out of people, but disciples."

## Graham crusade preparations gaining momentum

LOUISVILLE—From traditional Christian Life & Witness classes to an "Xtreme Explosion" event billed as a "high-energy concert for students," numerous pre-crusade events are being planned in conjunction with this summer's Greater Louisville Billy Graham Crusade.

Crusade coordinator Jeff Anderson said area church members will have numerous opportunities for involvement. He said plans call for up to 5,000 trained counselors, 1,500 ushers and a 4,000-voice choir during the June 21-24 crusade at Papa John's Cardinal Stadium.

Anderson said the crusade budget of \$2.17 million will include contributions from individuals, churches and corporations as well as crusade offerings. The funds will be used for church

mobilization, stadium arrangements, advertising, staff and office operations.

"Our greatest need is prayer," Anderson emphasized. He said a pastors' prayer committee is working to "mobilize pastors to be leaders in the area of prayer." He said other key needs include leadership, training, outreach and follow-up discipleship.

"Outreach really is the heart of the crusade to pray for and invite people to the crusade," Anderson noted, adding that "our ultimate mandate for the crusade is to make disciples for Christ."

Among events scheduled prior to the crusade are:

■ "Ignite the Flame" student prayer rally March 2 at 7 p.m. at Canaan Missionary Baptist Church in Louisville.

■ Evangelism and discipleship seminars March 5-10. The seminars for

pastors and church leaders will offer training in crusade evangelism and discipleship. Eight seminars will be held in Louisville and surrounding cities.

■ A series of mobilizing events will be held March 23-25 at the Kentucky International Convention Center in downtown Louisville. Events include "Prepare to Win" rally for adults March 23 at 7 p.m.; "Xtreme Explosion" concert for students March 24 at 7 p.m.; and "Senior Celebration" concert March 25 at 2 p.m.

■ Christian Life & Witness classes will be held weekly from April 16 through May 14. The classes will provide training in crusade counseling.

For more information about specific events, contact the crusade office at (502) 412-0977 or e-mail info@LouisvilleCrusade.org.

## Campbellsville gets accreditation for Carver School of Social Work

CAMPBELLSVILLE (BP)—Campbellsville University's Carver School of Social Work has received an initial four-year accreditation for its baccalaureate social work program.

The recognition comes from the Council on Social Work Education, the official accrediting body for social work programs at American colleges and universities.

"This is wonderful news as the Carver School of Social Work seeks to regain the reputation it has held for many years as one of the nation's premier social work programs," said Mike Carter, Campbellsville's president. "As we build our undergraduate program, we will begin to move forward with seeking the council's accreditation for the master's degree program."

Campbellsville acquired the school in the winter of 1997-98 from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville.

The transfer followed a controversial period for the school starting in March 1995 when Dean Diana Garland was fired after publicly criticizing President Al Mohler's hiring policies. Garland said the policies, later adopted by Southern's trustees, were too restrictive and could threaten the

school's accreditation.

Those hiring policies included that faculty candidates agree with specific social/theological issues, including the belief that God does not call women to serve as pastors.

Garland said it would be difficult, if not impossible to recruit academically qualified faculty candidates in social work who held such restrictive theological positions. Mohler countered that the worldview of social work is not "congruent at all points" with evangelical theology.

Once transferred to Campbellsville, the Carver School brought with its name, a Southern Baptist heritage and a sizable collection of library resources, Carter said.

"The baccalaureate program of social work at Campbellsville University stresses academic excellence and personal growth within a nurturing, Christian environment," Carter said. "The program expands the university mission in advancing students toward continued learning in all aspects of life, with specialized emphasis on the professional application of generalist social work practice."

Compiled from reporting by Marc Whitt of Campbellsville University and Western Recorder archives

### BLUEGRASS BURGEO

■ **All-State auditions to be held.** Auditions for the Kentucky Baptist Convention 2001 All-State Youth Choir and Orchestra will be held in March. The KBC church music department will hold auditions for youth in grades 9-12 March 3 at Henderson Memorial Baptist Church in Hopkinsville and March 10 at Porter Memorial Baptist Church in Lexington. Auditions will be held from 2-4 p.m. For more information, contact the KBC church music department at (502) 245-4101 or toll-free in Kentucky at (888) 254-5720.

■ **Handbell event to be held in Madisonville.** Scores of handbells will ring March 3 at First Baptist Church of Madisonville as Kentucky Baptists gather for 2001 Ring and Share. The events will include mass ringing rehearsals, individual group practice and a grand finale of worship at 3 p.m. featuring a 168-handbell choir conducted by Nevalyn Moore, assistant professor of music at Campbellsville University. Admission is free. For more information, call (502) 245-4101 or toll-free in Kentucky at (888) 254-5720.

■ **Bible drills, speakers tournaments set for March.** Kentucky Baptist youth will meet for the 2001 State Youth Bible Drill and Speakers Tournament at the Jonathan Creek and Cedarmore Baptist assemblies, March 30-31. Youth in grades 7-9 participate in Bible drills, whereas youth in grades 10-12 compete in the speakers tournament. Participants must qualify for the tournament through church and association meets held throughout the year. For more information, contact the KBC discipleship department at (502) 245-4101 or toll-free in Kentucky at (888) 254-5708.

## WESTERN RECORDER

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

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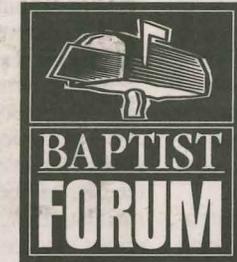
## Leave view behind

The article on the Christian Booksellers Association in the Feb. 6 issue of the Western Recorder indicated that books by Tim LaHaye and Jerry Jenkins were seven of the top 10 on the fiction best sellers list. These are part of a series known as the "Left Behind" series.

Now a movie based on the series titled "Left Behind" has been released. Unfortunately some of our churches are helping sponsor the movie. I have been told that it is about as violent as some of the usual Hollywood productions.

The books and movie are a narrow theology in a dangerously compelling mesh of fiction and scripture misinterpretation. They are obsessed with an "anti-Christ" when scripture teaches anti-Christ, plural.

These extreme premillennial interpretations are denied by many scholars and Christians. They are the basis for many people's belief that peace is not possible, that there will be war until the end. This is directly counter to Jesus' teaching in the prayer He taught us to pray: "Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven." Is there peace in heaven?



Bill Moore  
Owensboro

## Maintain foundation

Your newspaper did it again! After reading the Feb. 20 edition of the Western Recorder, I was affirmed in my sometimes fluctuating belief that I can still be a Baptist.

The article, "Baptist legend Hobbs wasn't 'duped,' defender claims," helped me understand that fellow believers across our state are also struggling to remain aligned with a denomination that seeks to remove the very tenets on which I chose to become a Baptist. If a new Baptist Faith and Message is adopted and is not based on soul competency, the priesthood of

the believer and religious freedom, then I could not be a Baptist. It was encouraging to me that pillars of our denomination, such as Herschel Hobbs, laid such a firm foundation.

When I read "Mainstream Baptists group organizing in Kentucky," I agreed that as a Baptist, I do not wish to be categorized as an SBC fundamentalist and that I want to focus on missions and evangelism. Unfortunately, our responses have resulted in division instead of unity. I am concerned that the Kentucky Baptist Convention would be targeted as the next victim of their agenda and I want to encourage all who are a part of the KBC to follow Christ first and only. I am grateful to God that He led me to a Baptist church where my family can designate where we want our tithes and offerings to go and where we have the freedom to grow in our faith as the Holy Spirit leads us.

Finally, I want to thank you and your staff for your commitment to revealing the full spectrum of what it means to be a Baptist today and that there are those who still believe in the foundations of our faith. Count me in as a part of the body of Christ first and a Baptist second.

Debbie Houston  
Crestwood

## Move beyond fear

It seems to me the reason so many Baptist churches are passive—even if not hostile—toward moderates is fear. Any church leadership who dissents from the "tried and true" church heritage and tradition is considered risqué. "If it ain't broke, don't fix it," suits

## What are you thinking?

The Western Recorder considers letters on any subject for publication, provided they don't make a personal attack. The maximum length for a letter is 300 words. Baptist Forum is limited to Western Recorder subscribers, unless someone is responding to a story or editorial of which they are the subject. Submit by mail, Box 43969, Louisville, KY 40253; fax, (502) 244-6474; or e-mail, wesrec@ntr.net.

Don Cassidy  
Premium

## PARTNERS IN THE MISSION

## The prayer of Jabez

In the book, "The Prayer of Jabez," Bruce Wilkerson, founder and president of Walk Thru the Bible Ministries, shared how this simple yet profound prayer was used by God to transform his life (1 Chronicles 4:9-10).

In Hebrew, the word Jabez means "pain." Literally it could read, "He causes pain." That doesn't sound like a great start in life, but Jabez prayed a prayer that enabled him to break through to blessing.

First, Jabez prayed, "Oh, that You would bless me indeed ...!" To bless in the biblical sense means to ask for or to impart supernatural favor. He left it up to God to determine the nature of the blessing. When you pray this prayer you become wholly immersed in what God is seeking to do in you, through you and around you. Jabez was blessed because he refused to let any obstacle, person or opinion loom larger than

God's nature. And God's nature is to bless.

Second, Jabez prayed, "Oh, that you would enlarge my territory!" This is asking God to enlarge your life so you can make a greater impact for Him. It begins in your own household, the single most powerful arena on earth to change a life for God. It is not a selfish prayer but a prayer for enlarged ministry as provided by God.



Bill Mackey

This past week God provided me with two unusual opportunities for ministry. A bank manager I went to see was not available so I was directed to his assistant. After learning that her husband recently had left her, there was an opportunity for ministry. A few days later while waiting in another line, I discovered that the person in front of me needed prayer. Her fiancé had been robbed, shot and left paralyzed.

Third, Jabez prayed, "Oh, that Your

hand would be with me!" It can be frightening and exhilarating to march into new territory attempting something large enough that failure is guaranteed—unless God steps in (2 Corinthians 3:5-6, Acts 11:21). God is watching and waiting for you to ask (2 Chronicles 16:9).

Fourth, Jabez prays, "Oh, that You would keep me from evil!" The greatest peril of blessing can be presumption. This is a prayer for supernatural help to protect us from Satan's proven ability to make us come in second. Jesus taught us to pray, "And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one" (Matthew 6:13).

Wilkerson concludes, "How would your day unfold if you believed that God wants your borders expanded at all times with every person?" God knows something you can't possibly know—every single person who is in desperate need of receiving His touch through you.

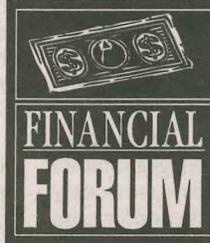
"So God granted him (Jabez) what he requested." Bill Mackey is executive director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention

## FAMILY

## Long-term capital gain tax rates offer tax savings

By Jeremy White

When people sell investment property, they often remark, "I hope I don't have to pay the capital gains tax!"



The implications in the above statement are that

a separate tax exists in addition to income tax and the tax rate is higher than normal.

Actually, there is no capital gains tax, only income tax at more favorable capital gain rates. A long-term capital gain receives favorable income tax treatment, not an additional, separate tax.

If you own a mutual fund, common stock, farmland or other investment property for more than 12 months, then you qualify for a lower long-term capital gain tax rate. If your regular income is taxed at 15 percent, then the tax rate on any long-term capital gain is 10 percent. The maximum long-term capital gain rate is 20 percent—even if your regular income tax rate is 39.6 percent.

The news gets even better. Beginning in 2001, a new holding period and a new lower rate begin. Any gain from the sale of property held more than five years will be taxed at 8 percent if it otherwise would have been taxed at 10 percent. Even if the holding period began before 2001, it still qualifies for the 8 percent rate.

Beginning in 2006, for capital gains that would have been taxed at 20 percent (which applies when a taxpayer is in the 28 percent income tax bracket), the capital gain rate lowers to 18 percent for assets held five years. Therefore, taxpayers with higher incomes begin their five-year holding period in 2001.

For example, Bob and Mary sold in 2001 a mutual fund bought in 1994 at a gain of \$3,000. Their taxable income of \$35,000 places them in the 15 percent income tax bracket. The additional income tax owed as a result of the investment gain is \$240 or 8 percent of \$3,000.

If Bob and Mary had earned the additional \$3,000 at their jobs, they would have paid federal income tax of \$450. So the new "super long-term" capital gain rate reduces their federal income tax even more.

Jeremy White is a certified public accountant in Paducah. See his weekly financial tip on his Web site at [www.consultcpa.com](http://www.consultcpa.com).

## 'Recreational' gambling can lead to gambling addiction, financial woes

**Q: My husband wants to spend an unusually large amount of money on lottery tickets. How do I know if he is going overboard?**

Many people consider the lottery, bingo, mail order sweepstakes and slot machines to be fun, harmless entertainment.

For those who become addicted, however, it is a devastating disease that progresses as they gradually lose the ability to control the impulse to gamble. This results in excessive gambling, which can damage one's personal life, family or job. The American Psychiatric Association recognizes this as an impulse control disorder with an estimated 5 to 7 percent of the population suffering from gambling problems.

Gambling is on the rise in many areas as legalized gambling expands. When gambling begins to get out of hand and losses are more than they can afford, many people are embarrassed about not being able to control themselves. Many of them don't know that help is available.

Those who begin to gamble frequently may gamble away funds needed for food or medications. Some are gambling away their homes and are reluctant to discuss the problem. They dismiss the intrusion with the attitude, "It's my money. I will spend it any way I want."

A gambling problem may remain invisible until a gambler's life starts to fall apart. Symptoms of problem gambling may include a denial that he or she gambles, changes in normal communication with family members, repeatedly borrowing money, paying bills late, frequent illness due to failure to buy needed medication and personality changes.

Although compulsive gambling is a serious addiction that can ruin people financially and emotionally, there is help available. If you or someone you know has a gambling problem, contact the Council on Problem Gambling Helpline at (800) 426-2535. The helpline is answered 24 hours a day.—*Jon Rainbow*

**Q: How can I begin preparing my children to date?**

Although boys and girls need to learn how to be together and how to get along with members of the opposite sex, dating is not for children. Parents should not allow or encourage any form of dating among children, even early adolescents. However, parents can and should begin early building the foundations for later dating experiences that will be positive and productive.

Teach respect for the opposite sex. Children learn by watching, so set a good example, especially when it comes to common courtesies and manners. Teach your son to be gentle and thoughtful. Teach your daughter how to conduct and carry herself with grace. This includes how to dress appropriately and modestly.

When your children are about 9 or 10 years old, encourage them to make a list of characteristics they would want in a husband or wife. At such an early age, most children will find this activity fun, and will be extremely specific and honest. File the list and bring it out when your child gets ready to start dating.

Dating involves choosing friends, and more often than not, eventually leads to the choice of a best friend for life. Help your children have high expectations when it comes to friends. Teach them to be kind and friendly to everyone, but challenge children to be choosy about who they spend the most time with. Encourage them to keep their standards high and not compromise their convictions. Standards set in childhood will carry over into dating days.—*David Garrard*

*Family Forum writers are Suzanne Coyle, associate director of Cornerstone Counseling for Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children; David Garrard, minister to children at St. Matthews Baptist Church in Louisville; Jon Rainbow, a clinical gerontologist and professor at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary; Wade Rowatt, director of the St. Matthews Pastoral Counseling Center in Louisville; and James Stillwell, minister to singles at Immanuel Baptist Church in Lexington. Send questions for Family Forum to Western Recorder, Box 43969, Louisville, KY 40253 or e-mail us at wesrec@ntr.net.*



## What ever happened to SBC's covenant goal?

When you drop a dollar in the offering plate on Sunday morning, how much of it goes to support Southern Baptist missionaries in North America and around the world? Probably less than you expect.

Five years ago, Southern Baptist Convention messengers approved bylaw changes to implement a massive restructuring of denominational entities. A major purpose of adopting the "Covenant for a New Century" plan reportedly was to channel more funds into cutting-edge ministry projects on mission fields around the globe.

The restructuring reduced the number of national SBC agencies from 19 to 12. According to committee chairman Mark Brister, the downsizing was designed to create a more efficient structure for the 21st century and channel "more money, more personnel and more prayer into reaching the world for Christ."

Brister, a former Louisiana pastor who now serves as president of Oklahoma Baptist University, told convention messengers the restructuring plan would provide "less funding of bureaucracy and more fueling of ministry." He added that "we must quit tapping the pipeline and give more fuel to the front line."

Committee member Ronnie Floyd, an Arkansas pastor and former SBC Executive Committee chairman, emphasized that the plan's goal was to "avoid duplication and get more money to the mission fields of the world."

Five years after the plan was launched, how sizable are the budget percentage gains for the Southern Baptist International Mission Board and North American Mission Board? Considerably less than you would expect.

During last week's meeting of the SBC Executive Committee, members approved a proposed SBC Cooperative Program allocation budget of \$178 million for the 2001-2002 fiscal year. Included in that total is 50

percent for the work of the International Mission Board and 22.79 percent for North American Mission Board ministries.

How does that compare to pre-restructuring days? For starters, keep in mind that NAMB is a post-restructuring entity comprised of the former Brotherhood Commission, Home Mission Board and Radio & Television Commission. Prior to adopting the Covenant for a New Century, those three agencies received a combined 24.15 percent of the SBC's annual CP budget.

While the IMB's budget has remained steady at 50 percent of national CP gifts over the past several years, NAMB's budget percentage also has remained unchanged from its initial allocation of 22.79 percent. That means the SBC's combined budget percentages for North American and international missions has declined 1.36 percent since the start of denominational downsizing.

Granted, 1.36 percent doesn't sound like much. But in a \$178 million budget, that's a drop of more than \$2.4 million in "front line" mission dollars.

On the positive side, healthy CP gains have resulted in more actual dollars flowing into Southern Baptist mission work. But the indication when restructuring was adopted was that a bigger piece of the CP pie would be headed to needy mission fields. A 1.36 percentage drop falls far short of that goal.

Rather than taking the easy road of endorsing static budget percentages year after year, elected SBC leaders need to wrestle with tough choices and determine how to fulfill promises made to convention messengers in years past.

Even more importantly, the more money that can be channeled to missions efforts at home and abroad, the greater impact Southern Baptists can have in spreading the gospel. And that's a covenant worth keeping.

**STRAIGHT FROM THE EDITOR**



Trennis Henderson

## Kentucky Baptists work to 'repair breaches' during Reconstruction

By Duane Bolin

The pain and division of the Civil War lingered on in the years of Reconstruction after the conclusion of the conflict.

Baptist historian John Henderson Spencer likened the challenge facing Kentucky Baptists after the war to that of "God's ancient people on their return from Babylonian captivity. It was a time for rebuilding from ruins and repairing breaches."

Spencer suggested that in the place of debates and "sage counsel in conventions... earnest labor among the churches was the need of the hour." The effects of the war clearly were devastating. Spencer mourned for the "multitudes left sleeping in unknown graves in the far off sunny South" and for the "many active and valuable church members lost in the fearful conflict that desolated our homes, our hearts and our churches."

A crying need for physical, social, economic and political reconstruction was evident in Kentucky as well as in the southern states making up the

defeated Confederacy. In Old Testament cadences, Kentucky Baptist ministers preached of "the breaches that needed to be repaired, before the armies of the Lord could be ready to march against the enemies of the cross of Christ." As with ancient Israel, however, when the broken-down walls of Jerusalem were to be rebuilt, "the people had a mind to work."

Such was the case with Kentucky Baptists after the Civil War.

One example of a willing spirit with a mind to work was Richard M. Dudley, the editor of the Western Recorder from 1865 to 1871.

The great grandson of the famous pioneer preacher Ambrose Dudley,

Editor Dudley was born in Madison County in 1838. He entered Georgetown College in 1856 "with a view to educating himself for the bar," but following a conversion experience the next year he was impressed to follow a call to preach. After graduating from Georgetown in 1860, Dudley served as pastor of Louisville's East Baptist Church throughout the years of the war. When a throat ailment limited his ability to

preach, Dudley's ministerial calling took another turn when he became editor of the Western Recorder in 1865 at the end of the war.

Dudley's duties with the Recorder must have presented the young editor with difficult and demanding work. Financially strapped and faced with the task of healing old war animosities, Dudley met the challenge head on. According to Spencer, Dudley "conducted that journal with satisfaction to the public about six years," no small praise considering the volatile nature of the period.

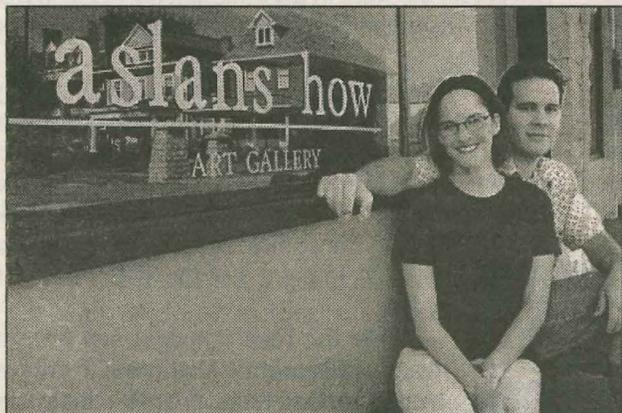
Dudley's able editorial work with the Recorder during the challenging years of Reconstruction prepared him for yet another phase of his ministry. In 1880, he became president of Georgetown College—his alma mater—where he served until his death in 1893. His biographer lamented that "in the death of R. M. Dudley, Kentucky lost one of the most useful men ever produced among the Baptists in the state."

Preacher, editor, college president. Richard Dudley epitomized the life of service so crucial for the advance of Baptist work in the years of Reconstruction after the Civil War.

*Duane Bolin is associate professor of history at Murray State University*



## Evangelism on the edge



**ASLANS HOW** Daniel Montgomery, pastor of Sojourn Community, and his wife, Mandy, sit outside the art museum that Sojourn uses to connect with "cultural creatives" in Louisville's Highlands community. (Southern Baptist Theological Seminary photo)

## New church sponsors museum to meet Louisville postmoderns

By Victoria Moon  
Staff Writer

LOUISVILLE—Hidden among the tattoo parlors, piercing salons, trendy restaurants and alternative music stores in the Highlands district of Louisville is an art gallery that is taking the idea of "seeker service" to a whole new level.

The gallery, Aslans How, is the evangelistic outreach ministry of Sojourn Community, a postmodern church reaching young people in Louisville.

"We believe that the arts need to be cultivated and fostered," said Daniel Montgomery, pastor of Sojourn.

The fledgling church, which is supported by the Kentucky Baptist Convention and the Southern Baptist North American Mission Board, opened the gallery in November 2000 as a way to build bridges within the community.

"We are trying to build a non-sectarian venue with this," Montgomery said. "This isn't a Christian art gallery. It's an art gallery run by Christians."

Despite the distinction made by Montgomery, hints of the gallery's Christian leanings abound. Its name is taken from C.S. Lewis' classic children's allegory, "The Chronicles of Narnia." The gallery's first exhibit was "The Florence Portfolio: Sacrifice," a group of 20 etchings by six artists with Christians In Visual Arts.

Though the gallery had no shows for the past two months, it has planned continuing exhibits throughout the spring and summer. Future shows range from Jewish artists to a collection of works by members of the Sojourn congregation.

"This is essentially an evangelistic outreach," said Montgomery. "We are trying to build bridges with our community by connecting to them where they are."

Besides the art exhibits, Sojourn members also use the gallery to host film and philosophy discussion groups that are designed to attract non-Christians.

"We have people from New Age, Roman Catholic, Unitarian backgrounds, you name it," he said. "We discuss everything from 'Citizen Kane' to 'Magnolia,' and we always ask, 'What are the spiritual implications of this film?'"

With the Christian and secular equally blended together, Montgomery admits it is hard sometimes to know where to draw the line at deciding something is "too secular" for their particular evangelistic vision.

"We have a hard time setting limits sometimes," he said. "There isn't another place like this as far as we know, so we don't have a frame of reference for this."

The blurred boundaries have resulted in some distrust by both Christians and non-Christians.

"Some Christians have an idea of what evangelism should look like, and some non-Christians already have an idea of what Christians are like," he said. "What we want is to break down barriers on both sides, and by breaking down the stereotypes allow new life to emerge."

## The Ancient Future of Worship

## Mix of old, new worship attracting Gen-X

Continued from page 1  
more mainstream churches.

"Our focus is those with a postmodern mindset, the 'cultural creative,'" he said. "People who tend to reject hedonism, materialism and cynicism. They are crying for something authentic."

Sojourn mixes postmodern, narrative-style sermons with film clips, and traditional liturgy with alternative rock and iconography to create a unique worship experience that is attracting 80 to 100 people a week since the church's inception last September.

"For example, we recently had a baptism service where we dimmed the lights and used a DVD player to show images of icons from the classic Russian film 'Andrei Rublyov' while the baptism was going on," Montgomery said.

"Our musicians can rock out, but at the same time we use a lot of the traditional hymns. And we may use film clips from films like 'American Beauty'

to illustrate a point in a sermon, yet we follow the traditional liturgical calendar."

In Lynchburg, Va., senior pastor Jim Baucom of Rivermont Avenue Baptist

Church started a Celtic worship service on Sunday mornings for the young adults in his church who were craving a different style of worship than what was offered in the church's regular contemporary-style service.

"A lot of the folks who have come into the church have been left with a hunger for a more contemplative worship experience," Baucom said. "In particular, the Gen-Xers who have come in to the church have asked for something very traditional, and they don't mean Second-Great-Awakening Baptist. They mean ancient."

At the service, worship leaders wear traditional medieval vestments, the service is candlelit and Celtic Christian prayers, poetry and imagery are mixed with guided silences and a brief sermon.

"The elements of Celtic Christianity we use come primarily from the sixth century, from St. Patrick," Baucom said.

"It's a tradition that's very Trinitarian and evangelistic," he added. "We're incorporating elements of Celtic Christianity in a form appropriate to our culture now while not sacrificing what's most important from our Baptist heritage."

Despite its conservative theology and ancient history, however, Baucom said Celtic Christianity offers many elements that appeal to today's young adults.

"It offers a multi-sensory religious experience, and focuses on the mystery of God," he said. "A lot of the people who come to our service don't want to think God is all-knowable. They want something that will capture the enormity of who God is."

The Celtic service draws between 150 to 200 worshippers every Sunday, and Baucom said he isn't surprised to see that many are also not Gen-Xers.

"We get a lot of senior adults as well, many of Scotch-Irish descent who grew up in simple, agrarian types of environments and are drawn to the

## 'Ancient-future' faith: What is it?

LOMBARD, Ill.—In the music world, a group called "Ancient Future" is making a splash with a sound that blends modern rock and jazz with ancient tribal rhythms from Africa, Asia and South America.

In the world of the church, proponents of "ancient-future" faith are making a splash with a theology of worship that blends early Christian practices with a postmodern culture.

Ancient-future faith, according to Robert Webber, founder of the Institute for Worship Studies and professor of worship at Northern Baptist Theological Seminary in Lombard, Ill., blends first through sixth century traditional worship with the culture and practices of today.

"The paradigm of the classical or ancient Christian era was that of mystery, community and symbol," he writes in "Ancient-Future Faith: Rethinking Evangelicalism for a Postmodern World." "The postmodern paradigm is rediscovery of mystery, community and symbol."

According to Webber, this breaks down into a more active role of the congregation when it comes to participating in worship, creating a multi-sensory experience with banners, pageantry, movement and reciting classic Christian creeds and prayers.

simplicity of the Celtic service," he said.

In fact, all those interviewed noted that the one generation missing from these postmodern services and churches is the Baby Boomer generation, who still attend mainstream services in high numbers.

"Many of the mega-churches we know today, as well as contemporary worship and the praise and worship-style choruses, were born of the '70s and the Jesus Movement," said Zander, former pastor of New Song Church in Covina, Ca., considered by many to be the first Gen-X church in the country.

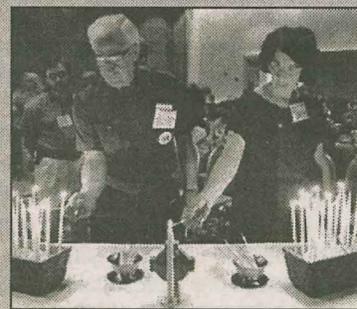
"That movement took off and captured a whole generation—the Baby Boomer generation. So they are off the church radar screen on this," he added.

Smaller churches who see this as an option are more likely to be able to adapt their style than mega-churches, which have the constraints of size and budget, he added. "Small churches have the freedom to ask 'What if we try being who we are where we are? What if we try ministering where we are?'"

"Mega-churches have a lot of pressure to continue being mega-churches," he noted. "Part of what happens in a mega-church is they have to continue playing to people's needs to garner the numbers and financial support they need to stay huge."

Ed Stetzer, director of the Church Planting Center for Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, agrees that smaller churches have the advantage if they want to start reaching the postmodern generation.

"If a small church is strictly tradi-



Many church planters and worship leaders working with postmodern congregations agree with Webber's assessment.

"Many people today are looking for a more sensual worship, and by that I mean a worship that engages all the senses," said Dieter Zander, co-author of the book "Inside the Soul of a New Generation."

"The Reformation stripped away everything that would distract from the central message," he said. "They removed the icons, the tactile elements of worship so hearing the message was the only sense engaged."

"Young people today surround themselves with sensual experience, and that is how worship was meant to be," he added. "Things that are not dependent on words, using the things that God has put around us—these things need to be brought back into worship."

tional, for example, they can skip the contemporary phase and go straight to the ancient phase," he said. "It's harder to make the shift from mainstream traditional to contemporary than it is to make the jump from traditional to ancient-modern because the ancient worship style incorporates elements familiar to many traditional worshippers."

While Stetzer, who currently is writing a book about postmodern church starts, said he believes that the church of the future will include this ancient-future worship and outreach, he does not think it will completely replace traditional and contemporary worship.

"Now contemporary worship is becoming the new traditional worship, and it was radical 20 to 30 years ago," he said. "I don't know what worship will look like 100 years from now, but I do think this new style of worship will come alongside of what is already there, but not replace it."

But that doesn't mean churches that won't host ancient-future services should ignore the trends of postmodern worship, Stetzer added.

"I think that to reach young adults, traditional churches no longer need assume that they must rush into a contemporary service with a music band and matching light show," he said.

"So many traditional churches are, ironically, well prepared to reach a generation searching for historic roots—but only if the churches are willing to explain their traditions and engage inquisitive young adults in dialogue about the value of those traditions and their applicability to real life."

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## Prof lists 10 commandments for postmodern U.S. churches

LOUISVILLE—Ed Stetzer, director of the Nehemiah Project church planting center at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, has compiled 10 rules for successful postmodern churches and worship services:

■ **Be unashamedly spiritual.** "Many postmoderns are open to the spiritual," Stetzer said. "People are tired of the modern belief that everything can be answered by science and reason. They are open to something mystical and spiritual."

■ **Promote incarnational ministry.** "Authenticity is essential," he said. "Postmoderns are looking for persons who are genuine and transparent."

Too often, postmoderns feel they're meeting an alien culture when they encounter evangelical Christianity, he added. "It is not the job of the unchurched postmodern to enter our culture. It is our job to invade theirs (become incarnate) with the unchanging truth of the gospel."

■ **Worship experientially.** Stetzer pointed out that authenticity is valued above technique in churches reaching postmoderns. "A dynamic worshiping community becomes a powerful apologetic to a generation open to the spiritual but not knowing how to connect with the Spirit. Postmoderns want to experience God, not just see a show about Him."

■ **Preach narrative expository messages.** "Jesus frequently used narratives or stories in His preaching, and often the story was the point," Stetzer said. "Preaching biblical stories connects to a culture that sees stories as a source of truth."

■ **Appreciate and participate in ancient patterns.** "Postmodern leaders are spellbound by the ancient-future faith of the past," he said. "There is a new interest in ancient things: Gregorian chants, Celtic Christianity, ancient art, etc. The church can embrace those that promote biblical truth."

■ **Experience visual worship.** Paintings, banners, candles and other imagery can help share the gospel message, he said. "In the postmodern age, truth can be expressed in images illuminating biblical truth."

## The Ancient Future of Worship

### Resources:

The following books offer information about the ancient-future trend of Generation X worship or general trends about reaching postmodern Americans:

■ **Ancient-Future Faith: Rethinking Evangelicalism for a Postmodern World** by Robert Webber.

■ **Liturgical Evangelism** by Robert Webber.

■ **The Celtic Way of Evangelism: How Christianity Can Reach the West ... Again** by George G. Hunter III.

■ **Post-Modern Pilgrims: First Century Passion for the 21st Century Church** by Leonard Sweet.

■ **An 8-Track Church in a CD World: The Modern Church in a Postmodern World** by

Robert N. Nash, Jr. and Loren Mead.

■ **Listening for the Heartbeat of God: A Celtic Spirituality** by Philip Newell.

■ **Engage in service.** Churches can connect with postmodern Americans by offering them an outlet for their passion to serve, Stetzer said. "Genuine faith always expresses itself in ministry," he added. "As postmoderns see that faith produces service, the validity of the faith is proved. A wonderful outlet for this is to engage postmoderns in mission work."

■ **Connect with technology.** "Technology is no longer an option in postmodern culture. It is part of the culture," he said. Churches trying to reach postmoderns not only will use technology in worship, but they also will promote community through that technology, such as the Internet.

■ **Live community.** "Community is a central value in most effective churches reaching postmoderns," he said. "This is good news for the church; community is central to its mission. With a culture eager for genuine community, the church of Christ can offer community with people and with God."

■ **Promote team-based leadership.** Leadership in the postmodern context tends to be dramatically different than it was in other models, Stetzer said.

"In the modern context, the leader was penalized for transparency. Leaders who shared their struggles frequently regretted it later as it became an example in future arguments," he said. "In the postmodern era, struggle is more valued."

## Greek Orthodox monks release hot-selling rock CD

ATHENS, Greece (RNS)—A group of monks in Greece have detoured from their monastery's usual Byzantine hymns, following up a best-selling rock music CD with the release of a second CD on Feb. 21.

The CD from the central Greek Saints Augustine and Serafim Sarof monastery is titled "SOS" and includes a song whose lyrics read, "I'm a little microchip so small/ that will lead you to slavery/ take whatever you want in this world/ provided you live without God."

Despite the group's successful debut—their first CD sold 60,000 copies—the Holy Synod of the Greek Orthodox Church has condemned their musical aspirations as "scandalous."

The former abbot of the monks' monastery,

who now serves as their archimandrite, dismissed criticism of the group.

"Maybe some will be annoyed by what we say. We will continue to say it," said Father Nektarios, who said he changed the monastery's status to a brotherhood in an effort to stifle any attempt by the Holy Synod to crack down on the monks. "It's our mission to know the way, follow the way and show the way."

Customers are snatching up copies of the new CD, the monks' producer said, adding that they were rushing to meet demand.

"They defend faith, culture, history and motherland. It is not strange that young people rushed to embrace them," said Dimitris Kappos, managing director of Music Box International.

# BAPTISTS

## Baptist workers report 6,500 church starts, 451,000 baptisms overseas

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)—Southern Baptist workers reported significant growth in overseas baptisms and church starts last year, according to missions leader Jerry Rankin.

Last year 6,520 new churches were established, an increase of 37.4 percent over the 1999 figure of 4,748, said Rankin, president of the Southern Baptist International Mission Board. He said 451,301 people were baptized, an increase of 24.1 percent over 1999's 363,703.

"God is at work and He is giving us the privilege of joining Him in astounding ways," Rankin noted.

Other statistical changes include:

■ **Total members.** 5.6 million members in churches with which IMB workers are affiliated, a 14.4 percent increase over the 4.9 million reported in 1999.

■ **Total churches.** 60,988 congregations with which IMB workers are affiliated, a 16.7 percent increase over 1999's 52,186 churches.

■ **New outreach groups.** 3,682 new outreach groups (formerly called preaching points) brought the total number of outreach groups to 38,294, a 0.2 percent decrease from the previous year's 38,363.

■ **Bible teaching.** 3.15 million people involved in Bible teaching, a 15.3 percent increase from 1999.

■ **New believers in discipleship.** A 62.6 percent increase was recorded, bringing the total number to 461,901 over 1999's 284,038.

■ **Leadership training.** 30,366 people enrolled in non-residential programs, a 46 percent increase over 20,802 in 1999; 17,975 enrolled in residential programs, a 40.8 percent decrease from 30,353 in 1999.

■ **Missionaries sent out by Baptist partners.** 2,690 home missionaries, a 1.2 percent decrease from 2,726 in 1999; 1,383 international missionaries, a 5.6 percent increase from 1,317 in 1999.

## Annuity Board cuts ties to former SBC churches

By Tony Cartledge  
North Carolina Biblical Recorder

RALEIGH, N.C. (ABP)—A running joke among Baptist ministers during two decades of denominational infighting has been, "If the Southern Baptist Convention splits, I'm going with the Annuity Board." For some, it's no longer a laughing matter.

The Dallas-based SBC agency has announced that staff members from churches that publicly sever ties with the SBC are no longer eligible to participate in Annuity Board retirement or insurance programs. The board will continue to manage asset accumulations and distributions for past participants, officials said, but will not accept additional contributions or make insurance programs available.

State convention officials have been asked to implement the policy and notify the Annuity Board when a church withdraws from the SBC.

The Church Annuity Plan is based on contractual agreements between the Annuity Board and the state conventions or multi-state associations affiliated with the SBC. The plan calls for the state conventions to determine which churches qualify for participation.

As amended and restated in 1995, the plan defines an eligible church as "any Southern Baptist church as determined by the state convention as well as an association of Southern Baptist churches or other Southern Baptist organizations that the state convention determines should be treated as a

church for purposes of participation in this plan."

The same section goes on to state that "an organization shall cease to be a (qualifying) church when the Annuity Board receives notice from the state convention that the organization is no longer a Southern Baptist church."

Annuity Board President O.S. Hawkins recently wrote to executive directors of the state conventions, reminding them of the provision. The Annuity Board must act within the limits of its charter, Hawkins said, which calls for it to serve churches only within the bounds of the Southern Baptist Convention.

"We expect you to notify us of churches in your state that no longer consider themselves to be a part of the Southern Baptist Convention," Hawkins wrote to state convention leaders.

Don Spencer, director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention annuity department, said the Annuity Board position is nothing new. "Our approach hasn't changed," he said. "According to the Church Annuity Plan, the state convention is responsible for determining what churches are eligible for the plan. If a church is not qualified either under the KBC or SBC constitution, the Annuity Board cannot serve them."

Curtis Sharp, executive officer for denominational and public relations services with the Annuity Board, told a recent gathering of state executive directors and editors that the Annuity Board has no desire to force churches out of its programs. "We want to keep them in," he said. "The worst thing for

us is to erode our asset base—the more assets we have, the lower our fees—but we must maintain the charter."

Sharp said the Annuity Board is encouraging all SBC churches to remain affiliated with the convention so they will not face any loss of benefits.

Annuity members who are members of non-SBC churches will not be affected, Sharp said, because their benefits are based on past service.

The Annuity Board cannot cease serving a church unless the state convention instructs it to do so, said Sharp, because the Church Annuity Plan is based on a contract between the Annuity Board and the state conventions.

The Annuity Board will not rely solely on the state conventions, however. Sharp said that when board officials learn of churches that have voted to withdraw from the SBC, they will contact the churches, advise them that the Annuity Board will serve only SBC churches, and encourage them to re-think their decision to sever ties.

Those churches, however, won't entirely be left out in the cold. The Cooperative Baptist Fellowship launched a new benefits board Oct. 1.

Gary Skeen, president of the CBF Church Benefits Board, Inc., said he is in conversation with a number of churches that have recently severed SBC ties. He said about 30 churches have enrolled so far in insurance or retirement programs offered by the new organization.

With additional reporting by Editor Trennis Henderson and Associated Baptist Press

### School of Church Music and Worship

# MAKE MUSIC LIKE THE MASTERS

## MUSIC EDUCATION FOR LAY PEOPLE

### Master of Music

Southern Seminary now offers a degree in music for lay persons who do not feel called to vocational ministry.

The Master of Music degree offers the best training in music in a Christian conservatory environment. Completion of this degree not only provides an accredited degree in music, it also prepares persons to make a greater contribution to the ministry of the local church.

Come study with some of the nation's finest music professors in a setting that offers a nurturing environment for growth as a musician and as a Christian.

For more information call, (502) 897-4617.

### Seminary Academy of Music

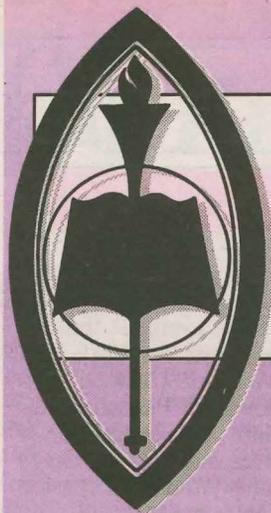
The Seminary Academy of Music is a division of the School of Church Music and Worship and provides musical instruction to students of all skill levels and ages, 18 months and up. The Academy of Music offers opportunities for those who aspire to careers in music as well as for those who seek musical instruction purely for enjoyment.

In addition to classes in music fundamentals, group and private lessons are offered in wide variety of disciplines: piano, voice, strings, brass, and woodwind.

If you would like more information about the Seminary Academy of Music, please call (502) 897-4153.



The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary



# KENTUCKY NOTES

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

"On Mission Together"  
 Week of Prayer for  
 North American  
 Missions  
 March 4-11, 2001  
 Annie Armstrong  
 Easter Offering  
 National Goal: \$50 million  
 1999-2000 Kentucky gave  
 \$1,552,315  
 9% more than the previous year.  
 Can we increase  
 9% again this year?

Spring 2001

## A Personal Word

"Show Them Jesus: A Bluegrass Missions Celebration" is a Kentucky WMU annual meeting you will not want to miss. A Kentucky theme will be woven throughout every session. We will welcome Janet Hoffman, new national WMU president, to Kentucky and showcase the wonderful



**Joy Bolton**  
 Executive  
 Director-  
 Treasurer

ministries that you are doing across our state. Every association is invited to participate in the Associational Missions Fair and help us launch the Kentucky Missions Exchange, as we encourage Kentucky Baptists to take a missions trip right here in our state. The Georgetown College Choir will be singing and a panel of folks doing missions

in Kentucky will tell the stories of showing Jesus to the lost.

But our ties with North American missions and international missions will not be left out! Come hear Lincoln Bingham, a North American Mission Board-appointed missionary to Kentucky. Rejoice in the work of God as He prepared Earl and Robin Pinkston for international missions here in Kentucky. Delight at the continued work of God in the lives of Acteens as we hear testimonies from our Kentucky Acteens Advisory Panel and be inspired by the music and interpretive movement presented by the Rose Hill Missionary Baptist Church Acteens.

We also will elect officers, executive board members and vote on revisions to our bylaws. Pre-registration is requested for the disaster relief luncheon on Friday, and required for child-care, deaf interpretation and Friday night dinners. You also can register to participate in the Saturday morning parade of flags as we focus on "From Kentucky to the World." Please refer to information included in this issue of *Kentucky Notes* and to the material mailed to each church in January. The promotional material includes a color poster for you to post in your church with information and a reservation form on the back of the poster that you may copy.

There are some other great things sponsored by Kentucky WMU that you won't want to miss. Exalt, the state Acteens conference, will be held April 20-21 at Living Hope Baptist in Bowling Green. Three World Missions Unlimited conferences are planned for July, giving you several opportunities to attend a training event to prepare for the 2001-02 church year.

Kentucky WMU is also a co-sponsor of several Kentucky Baptist Convention events including the Creative Ministries Festival, March 2-3 at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, and the Women's Lifestyle Evangelism Conferences, May 21-22 in Somerset and Paducah. You'll also see Kentucky WMU represented at Senior Adult Celebrations, KBC SALT meetings and Super Saturday conferences. We are here to serve you and partner with the KBC to provide missions education and conferences in a variety of settings.

**Kentucky WMU Annual Meeting**  
 Porter Memorial Baptist Church,  
 Lexington  
 March 30-31, 2001



### SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

**Friday Morning 9:45 a.m.**

Music for Worship	Dr. Johnie Dean
Missionary Prayer Time	State Acteens Panelists
Kentucky WMU Update	WMU Staff
Beyond Belief	Janet Hoffman

**Friday Noon**

Disaster Relief Luncheon (pre-registration requested)  
 Associational Missions Fair & KY Missions Exchange

**Friday Afternoon 2:30 p.m.**

Music for Worship	Dr. Betty Jean Chatham
North American Missions in KY	Lincoln Bingham
Eliza Broadus Offering Promotion	Anna Mary Byrdwell
Olympic Prayer Ministry Launch	LaRaine Dail

**Friday 5 p.m. Dinners**

By reservation: (reservation form on p. 4)  
 Baptist Nursing Fellowship - Acteens/Youth on Mission

**Friday Evening, 6:30 p.m.**

Music for Worship	Georgetown College Choir
Greetings	The Honorable Martha Lane Collins
2000-2001 State Acteens Panelists	LaRaine Dail
Thank You from a KY Missionary	Edwina Rowell
Special Music	Japanese Ensemble
KY Missions Celebration	Larry Martin & Panel

**Saturday Morning 9 a.m. - 12 noon**

GA & Children in Action Missions Event Gymnasium

**Saturday Morning 9:15 a.m. - 12 noon**

Music for Worship	Ladies Ensemble, Porter Memorial
Associational Recognitions	
Business Session	
Thank You from a Kentucky MK	Parker Rowell
Parade of Flags	
From WMU to the World	Janet Hoffman
From Kentucky to the World	Earl & Robin Pinkston
Challenge	Mike Rout
Special Music	Rose Hill Acteens

Preschool childcare & interpretation for the deaf will be available during the annual meeting by reservation only.  
 See form on page 4 or call Kentucky WMU toll-free at (888) 254-5725 or (502) 244-6485.

### Kentucky WMU Annual Meeting • March 30-31, 2001 • Lodging and Map

**Holiday Inn, Express**  
 (I-75, Exit 110)  
 2241 Elkhorn Road  
 Lexington, KY 40505  
 (859) 293-2598  
 Cut off date: 2/15/01  
 Rate: \$94.61 includes tax

**Country Inns & Suites**  
 (I-75, Exit 110)  
 2297 Executive Drive  
 Lexington, KY 40505  
 (859) 299-8844  
 Cut off date: 3/23/01  
 Rate: \$74.95 +tax

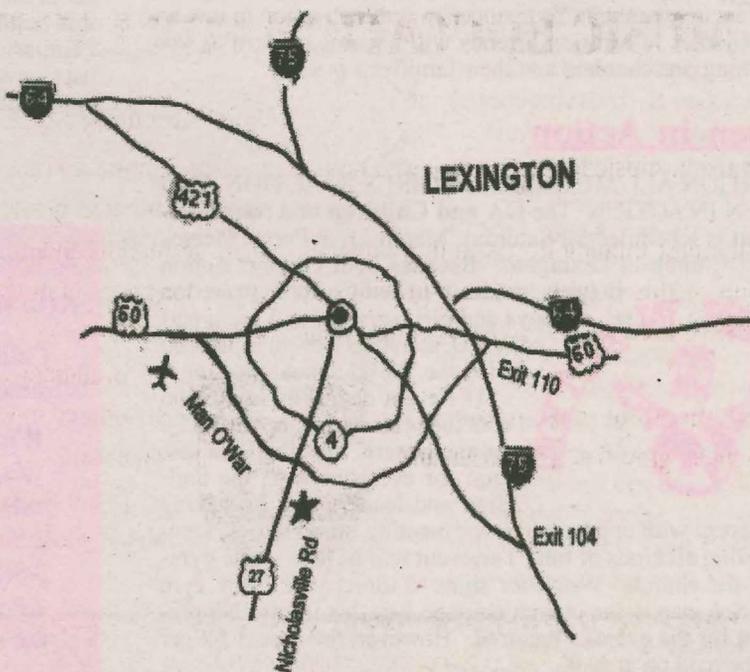
**Hampton Inn**  
 (I-75, Exit 110)  
 2251 Elkhorn Road  
 Lexington, KY 40505  
 (859) 299-2613  
 Rate: \$59 +tax

**Hampton Inn, South**  
 (New Circle Road, Exit 2)  
 3060 Lakecrest Circle  
 Lexington, KY 40513  
 (859) 223-0088  
 Cut off date: 3/1/01  
 Rate: \$72

**Best Western Regency**  
 (I-75, Exit 110)  
 2241 Elkhorn Road  
 Lexington, KY 40505  
 (859) 293-2202  
 (800) 528-1234  
 Cut off date: 2/15/01  
 Rate: \$83.48 includes tax

**Fairfield Inn**  
 (New Circle Road, Exit 2)  
 3050 Lakecrest Circle  
 Lexington, KY 40513  
 (859) 224-3338  
 (800) 228-2800  
 Cut off date: 2/28/01  
 Rate: \$74 +tax

**Microtel Inn**  
 (I-75, Exit 110)  
 2240 Buena Vista  
 Lexington, KY 40505  
 (859) 299-9600  
 (888) 771-7171  
 Cut off date: 3/17/01  
 Rate: \$40.95 + tax (Single)  
 \$49.95 + tax (Double)





## Information for WMU Directors

The *On Mission in North America* emphasis should be at the center of your thinking as you receive this *Kentucky Notes*. As a part of this emphasis, we want our churches to diligently pray and give to the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for North American Missions.



## Kiss a Frog

Senior Adult Celebrations will include a conference on *Golden Opportunities: Ministry Ideas for Senior Adults* and I will lead the conference "Kiss a Frog." The celebrations will occur at five locations across Kentucky. (See calendar on page 4). Encourage the senior adults in your church to make reservations and participate in these May events. Those of us who have 'a missions heart' can share our enthusiasm with others who now may have more time to be involved in the mission of God. More than 1,500 women and men participated in the celebrations last year. The \$7 pre-registration fee includes early coffee, lunch and a great day of fun, entertainment, inspiration and challenge. Registration is \$10 at the door. For registration/promotion information call Pat toll-free at (888) 254-5704.

## Get Ready, Get Set, GROW

Spring triggers thoughts of change and growth as buds begin to dot the landscape and blossoms begin to appear on the daffodils. This year we also can look for new things to appear in the form of new guides for our WMU organizations, with more user-friendly information that can grow missions involvement in our churches. *WMU In Your Church* is the new resource that all WMU directors and leadership team members will find most helpful. You will find two pages of definitions and a list of responsibilities of the WMU leadership team, a definition of church-wide missions and two pages on the basics of each of our WMU age-level organizations. This resource, along with a 2001-2002 WMU Year Book, will have you on your way toward an exciting new year.

## What's more important than God?

You may have heard this riddle: "What's more important than God? The poor have it, the rich need it." Of course, the answer is "Nothing." At this time of year, "nothing" is more important than seeking God's leadership and guidance in enlisting leaders for the 2001-2002 year. It is important to enlist now, so plans can be made to take advantage of *World Missions Unlimited*, the July training opportunities for all leaders. See page 3 of this insert for information.

—Anna Mary Byrdwell

## Adults on Mission

2001 is already in full swing and the calendar is filling up quickly! There are mission trips to plan, events to attend and meetings to determine. So, let me add to the craziness and tell you about some things that you need to begin to plan for now!

The Women's Lifestyle Evangelism Conference, sponsored by the Kentucky Baptist Convention evangelism growth team and Kentucky WMU, will be held May 21-22. On Monday, the event will be held at Beacon Hill Baptist Church in Somerset and on Tuesday at Lone Oak First Baptist Church in Paducah. Sheri Rose Shephard, author, speaker and director of Foundation for Excellence; Carol Kent, author and president of "Speak Up With Confidence"; and Linda Bourie, speaker and trainer for Sonlife Ministries, will be the speakers. It promises to be an inspiring evening for all who attend. Registration for this event is available through the KBC evangelism department. Call toll-free (888)



254-5722 or (502) 254-4737. Are you looking for an easy mission trip that requires minimal planning and promises a rewarding experience? MissionsFest 2001 may be your answer. Through WMU Volunteer Connection, three mission experiences are planned for an individual or a group to participate. All you have to do is pay the fee and show up! It couldn't be any easier to do hands-on missions.

The following dates and locations are scheduled for 2001:

- April 26-28** Stone Mountain, Ga. (\$160 per person, includes lodging and meals)
- June 20-23** Little Rock, Ark. (\$80-\$120 per person, includes lodging, breakfast and lunch. This event is designed for the whole family to attend!)
- June 24-30** Little Rock, Ark. (\$125-\$205 per person., includes lodging, breakfast and lunch)
- Oct. 4-6, 7-13** Philadelphia, Pa. (Cost not yet determined)



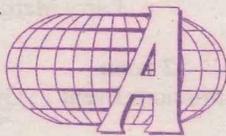
More details are available through the state office or on the WMU Web site, [www.wmu.org](http://www.wmu.org). Click on "mission opportunities." Plan now to attend and share in the experience of touching lives and sharing God's love with other Women on Mission members across the U.S.!

**Tonya's Tip**— Host a World Crafts party. It's a lot more fun than Tupperware and it promotes missions! Craft items from around the world are available for purchase. As participants look through the catalogue, they also hear about the mission work that is going on in the place where the crafts are made. Recipes from around the world also are available to spice things up. Catalogues and video are available through national WMU. Call toll-free (800) 968-7301.

—Tonya Williams

## Youth

*Exalt*, the state Acteens conference, is for all young ladies in grades 7-12! This year's conference will be at Living Hope Baptist Church in Bowling Green on April 20-21. The weekend will be an opportunity that will challenge all of us to answer "Here I Am" to God's call. Brochures have been mailed to all youth leaders; if you haven't received yours, please call and we'll mail you one. See the ad on page 4 of this insert for more information.



Everyone, keep an eye on your mailboxes! Soon you'll be receiving information about special youth events in conjunction with the

upcoming Billy Graham Crusade in Louisville. Xtreme eXplosion, an evangelistic event, will take place on March 24 at the Kentucky International Convention Center. On June 16, youth will surround the stadium and pray. Youth night at the crusade will be June 23. Get all the information at [www.louisvillecrusade.org](http://www.louisvillecrusade.org).

The Kentucky Acteens Advisory Panel met Feb. 2-3. What a great group! We developed the schedule for *Exalt*, decided upon seminars and planned presentations. These six young ladies are all intelligent, articulate and in love with God. Invite them to your church to speak about Acteens or whatever you'd like for them to share. Please call me if you would like one of them to come to your church: Rachel Butler, Falls of Rough; Jackie Grace, Hopkinsville; Jes-

sica Hopkins, Catlettsburg; Ashley Hopper, Central City; Julie Pegram, Paducah; and Lynae Shull, Erlanger.

Camp plans are almost complete and there's a place for female youth at Cedar Crest and Jonathan Creek. Acteens Camp and Acteens Splash are great opportunities for young ladies to grow in their faith, meet missionaries and let their hair down without having to worry about what the guys think. Look on page 4 for more information.



—LaRaine Dail

## Preschool

Has your Mission Friends class survived the winter? Let your church know it is alive and growing into spring by involving more preschoolers in missions education. Your Mission Friends class cannot grow without a continuous, intentional effort of enlistment. Use a variety of methods to show your continuing interest in a prospect, such as visiting in the home, sending a child a colorful card addressed just to him or her or making a refreshing bulletin board display using pictures of preschoolers.

Some preschoolers and their families will respond readily to an enrollment effort, while others may require long-term encouragement. Your sincerity and motivation in involving a preschooler in Mission Friends will become evident as you make reaching preschoolers and their families a priority.



## Children in Action

ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS OF GIRLS IN ACTION AND CHILDREN IN ACTION: The **GA and Children in Action Missions Event** is scheduled for Saturday, March 31, at Porter Memorial Baptist Church in Lexington. Because both Girls in Action (girls, grades 1-6) and Children in Action (boys and girls, grades 1-6) are a part of WMU, this special event is planned during the WMU annual meeting.

The event begins at 9 a.m. and concludes around 12 noon (EST). As the general meeting is in session for everyone else, the children and leaders will be having their own event with opportunities for meeting missionaries, singing and having all kinds of fun! The event will be held in the gymnasium of the church. Watch for signs to direct you to the gym entrance. See map to the church on page 1 of this insert. No pre-registration for the event is required. However, the cost is \$2 per person to be paid on arrival.



Children attending the event can be involved in a ministry project for the 2002 Winter Olympic Games and Paralympic Games to be held in Salt Lake City in February and March 2002. Those attending the missions event are encouraged to bring one of the following items: lip balm, pocket Kleenex, lotion (trial size), Band-Aids or a roll of breath mints. The items will be sent to Salt Lake City to be put into hospitality bags to be distributed to internationals and visitors at the Games.

**Don't forget camp!** Two state camps, Cedar Crest and Jonathan Creek, offer opportunities for all Girls in Action members as well as girls who are not members of GA. Inform your girls and their parents about the dates and cost of camp. A one-piece poster/registration form was mailed to church GA, Children in Action and WMU directors in February. Contact the Brotherhood department of the Kentucky Baptist Convention toll-free at (888) 254-5720 for information about camp opportunities for boys.

—Brenda Price

## Adopt one of 150 summer missionaries from Kentucky!

Calling all WMU organizations: Sign up now for your summer missionary.

### What's involved?

1. Contact LaRaine to reserve your summer missionary today.
2. You'll be matched with a summer missionary in March.
3. Send KY WMU \$10 for a commissioning gift in the spring.
4. Pray for and write your summer missionary throughout the summer.



## President's Perspective

January 2001 has been an interesting month. It has been warm, cold and extremely cold. On this sunny Sunday morning, I am enjoying the beauty of more than six inches of snow.



**Sara Billups**  
Kentucky  
WMU  
president

I am now looking forward to spring and the KY WMU annual meeting!

March 30-31 is just around the corner and we have been busy planning a special time just for you. Our theme will be "Show them Jesus: A Bluegrass Missions Celebration." We are honoring

Kentucky Baptists and how you "show them Jesus" in your communities, across North America and around the world. I think you will be surprised and thrilled as you learn how Kentucky Baptists are making a difference. The music will be exciting as we enjoy Johnie Dean's leadership and experience a concert by the Georgetown College Choir on Friday evening.

If you are an associational WMU director or director of missions, you will want to make sure your association is represented at our Associational Missions Fair/Kentucky Missions Exchange. This is your time to show us what is happening in your area. It is also a time to present needs. We hope this will inspire an exchange not only of ideas but also of people. I envision people in one part of the state learning of needs in another part of the state and forming a missions team to travel there to "do" missions. What an exciting thought!

Janet Hoffman, president of WMU, SBC, will be with us for the entire weekend. You will not want to miss hearing her missions vision for the new millennium. Our GA's/Children in Action will be with us on Saturday and we will culminate our weekend with "From Kentucky to the World" as we experience the parade of flags of the nations and hear from International Mission Board missionaries Earl and Robin Pinkston.

I hope you can tell I am excited about annual meeting and the impact I expect it to have on all in attendance. I truly want it to be time of inspiration as well as a time to reflect and see where God can use you and me. When we leave Porter Memorial Baptist Church at 12 noon on March 31, I want us to be excited and challenged as we will be stepping into the mission field .... and in the words of an Acteen ...AWE-SOME!!

Serving with you,  
Sara Billups

## World Missions Unlimited

# World Missions Unlimited 2001

July 13-14 Campbellsville University, Campbellsville  
Friday, 2:30 p.m. – Saturday, p.m.  
(Associational and Church Leaders)

July 20-21 Central Baptist Church, Winchester  
July 27-28 First Baptist Church, Hopkinsville  
Friday, 6:30 – 9 p.m.  
(Associational Leaders Only)

Saturday, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.  
(Associational & Church Leaders)

- Training
- Motivation
- Inspiration
- Fellowship

Registration materials will be mailed to all church/associational WMU leaders in early April. For more information, contact Kentucky WMU.

## Want to become a better missions leader?

Attend conferences for basic training or advanced leadership skills at World Missions Unlimited. Conferences for church and associational leaders of all WMU organizations and Brotherhood organizations will be provided. Special interest conferences also will be offered.

Option One: Overnight – (Campbellsville only)  
\$40 per person  
(includes meals, dorm lodging, resources\*)

Option Two: Drive-in\*\*  
\$15 per person  
(includes Saturday lunch, resources\*)

*Those attending WMU conferences will receive a WMU Year Book and one of the new leader guides. Participants in Brotherhood conferences will receive Brotherhood-related resources. \*\*Day participants and/or those staying in motels or other lodging*

## Kentucky WMU Annual Meeting

March 30-31

Porter Memorial Baptist Church  
Lexington

### Proposed Changes in Bylaws Part 1

The following amendments were submitted to the Executive Board of Kentucky WMU in their Oct. 27-29, 2000, meeting and were approved for consideration by the members of Kentucky WMU at the 2001 annual meeting. Wording to be changed is shown by strikeout and wording to be inserted shown in bold.

Article II: Meetings of Members  
Section 1.

An Annual Meeting shall be held in ~~April~~ **the spring** on a date and at a time and place set by the Executive Board.

Article III: Executive Board  
Section 7.

The Executive Board shall adopt and may amend bylaws ~~except those on subjects contained in Part 2 of the Bylaws, Part 1 matters to be adopted and amended by the~~

**members. Any additions or corrections in Part I must be adopted or amended by the members of Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union at the Annual Meeting.**

Article VI, Part I states: These Part 1 Bylaws may be amended at the business session of any regular Annual Meeting of Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present provided the proposed amendment shall have been submitted in writing to the Executive Board at least three (3) months before the Annual Meeting and published in Kentucky Notes before the Annual Meeting.

The proposed revisions to the bylaws will be presented during the Saturday morning business session.



*Twenty-seven million adult Americans can't read well enough to read the Bible. Learn how to teach someone to read and write as an outreach ministry of your church.*

## Teach Them the Meaning of the Word. Project Help: Literacy

Have you ever been to a foreign restaurant and found that you couldn't figure out which bathroom you were supposed to use? That happened to me recently. Each of the restrooms was marked in another language. There were no cute pictures to help me choose correctly, just words that were unfamiliar and unrecognizable. It was a humbling experience.

That experience made me think of how thousands of people in our country feel each day as they go to restaurants, drive cars and do regular chores without the benefit of knowing how to read English. It must be frustrating, but even more so, embarrassing. The statistics for adults in the United States who can not read or write are staggering. Chances are there are people in our lives who have trouble reading and writing, and we don't even know it.

Project HELP: Literacy was adopted by WMU in order to teach people how to read, which in turn will give them the skills they need to be able to read God's Word.

As you are out today, take time to notice all the signs that give you directions. Allow the signs to remind you to pray for those who can't read. Begin to think of ways that YOU can help someone learn to read and promote literacy in your community.

It's our job to teach them the meaning of the Word. Will you help today?



## Summer Camp Update

Theme: "I Believe in God, He Believes in Me"

Be sure to mark your calendar for this summer's camping events! Registration forms are now being accepted. Please contact the WMU office if you need registration or promotional materials.

### Camp Dates

#### Cedar Crest:

June 18-22	GA Camp	July 6-7	Mother/Daughter Overnight
June 22-23	Mother/Daughter Overnight	July 9-13	GA/Acteens Camp
June 25-29	GA/Acteens Camp	July 13-14	Mother/Daughter Overnight
July 2-3	Mother/Daughter Overnight	July 16-20	GA Camp

#### Jonathan Creek:

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

**Please note:** Date changes from previously published schedules for Jonathan Creek Overnight Camps



### What's There To Do?

Girls who attend **GA and Acteens camp** will find plenty of activities to keep them busy. In addition to missions education activities and events, there are opportunities for crafts, recreation, worship and devotional time, as well as swimming and hiking. The week-long camps are open to any girl who has finished grade 4 or higher. Girls do not have to be a member of GA or Acteens in order to come. They just need to have an interest in learning about missions and in developing friendships with the staff, other campers and missionaries.

**Mother-Daughter Overnights** are for girls who have completed grades 1-3 and their mothers (or "mother substitute"). **GA Overnight** is for girls who have completed 4-6 grades and their chaperones. **Acteens Splash** is for teenage girls who have completed grades 7-12 and their chaperones. Similar to camp experiences, the overnights include fellowship, meeting missionaries, prayer time, recreation, crafts and more.

### Camp Staff Needed

If you or a young lady you know loves children, we can use you on staff at camp! Applications for summer staff at Cedar Crest will be accepted until all positions are filled. Positions include: cabin leader, assistant cabin leader, lifeguard, kitchen coordinator and unit leader. Also, one volunteer camp nurse is needed for each week of camp. Please contact the WMU office for applications (502) 244-6485 or toll-free (888) 254-5726.



## Here I Am.

## Exalt 2001 The State Acteens Conference

for all young ladies  
in grades 7-12

### Missionaries:

- ⇒ Lisa Hoffman, Israel & Boston
- ⇒ Susan Peugh, World Changers

Friday Night Concert:  
⇒ Zoegirl

Worship Leaders:  
⇒ Living Hope Praise Band

Cost: \$20. Includes  
t-shirt, gift and concert.

⇒ Living Hope Baptist Church  
Bowling Green  
April 20-21

⇒ Be there!

### Reservations for Kentucky WMU Annual Meeting 2001

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Please check (✓) to register:

- Disaster Relief Lunch**  
Friday, March 30/noon  
# of meals requested: \_\_\_\_\_  
A donation of \$5 per meal is requested, payable when going through serving line.
- Baptist Nursing Fellowship Dinner**  
Friday, March 30/5 p.m.  
# of dinner tickets at \$8 each: \_\_\_\_\_  
Total enclosed for tickets: \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Acteens/Youth on Mission Dinner**  
Friday, March 30/5:00 p.m.  
# of tickets at \$8 each: \_\_\_\_\_  
Total enclosed for tickets: \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Childcare**  
(Provided free, but reservations required)  
# of children for which childcare is needed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Dates needed:  March 30  March 31
- Deaf Interpretation**  
(Provided free, but reservations required)  
Dates needed:  March 30  March 31
- Parade of Flags**  
I would like to carry a flag in the Parade of Flags  
Country preferred: \_\_\_\_\_  
I will attend rehearsal on Saturday at 8 a.m.

Clip & mail with applicable payments (Make checks payable to Kentucky WMU) to:

**Kentucky WMU**  
P.O. Box 436569  
Louisville, KY 40253-6569

All reservations are due by March 19.

For more information: call (502) 244-6485 or call toll-free (888)-254-4726

## Calendar

<b>March</b>			
2-3	Creative Ministries Festival, SBTS, Louisville	21	Women's Lifestyle Evangelism Conference, Beacon Hill BC, Somerset
4-11	On Mission in North America Week; Annie Armstrong Easter Offering Goal: \$50,000,000	22	Women's Lifestyle Evangelism Conference, Lone Oak BC, Paducah
17	Hispanic Missions Conference, Bracken Association Office, Mays Lick	24	Senior Adult Celebration, Grace BC, Pikeville
24	Hispanic Missions Conference, Daviess-McLean Association Office, Owensboro	<b>June</b>	
25	On Mission: Planting New Congregations Sunday	2	KBC SALT, Porter Memorial BC, Lexington
30-31	KY WMU Annual Meeting, Porter Memorial BC, Lexington	10-11	National WMU Meeting, New Orleans
		12-13	Southern Baptist Convention, New Orleans
<b>April</b>		<b>July</b>	
8	Cooperative Program Sunday	13-14	World Missions Unlimited, Training for Church & Associational leaders, Campbellsville University, Campbellsville
15	Easter	20	World Missions Unlimited, Training for Associational Leaders, 7-9 p.m., Central BC, Winchester
20-21	EXALT (State Acteens Conference) Living Hope BC, Bowling Green	21	World Missions Unlimited, Training for Church Leaders, 9-3, Central BC, Winchester
28	KBC SALT, FBC Madisonville	27	World Missions Unlimited, Training for Associational Leaders, 7-9 p.m., FBC, Hopkinsville
<b>May</b>		28	World Missions Unlimited, Training for Church Leaders, 9-3, FBC, Hopkinsville
10	Senior Adult Celebration, Cold Springs BC		
14	Senior Adult Celebration, FBC, Madisonville		
15	Senior Adult Celebration, Eastwood, Bowling Green		
17	Senior Adult Celebration, FBC, Mt. Washington		

## Scientology, Moonies line up for U.S. funds

By Kenny Byrd  
Associated Baptist Press

WASHINGTON (ABP)—The White House Office on Faith Based and Community Initiatives is now open for business, but the prospect of minority faith groups receiving federal funds already is creating unlikely critics of so-called "charitable choice" plans.

The office opened Feb. 20 and White House officials said a flood of calls poured in.

The office is charged with reviewing spending policies and building support for legislation to enact President Bush's recently announced faith-based initiative. But news reports have indicated that many are calling believing that the office already has money to distribute, which it does not.

But if spending bills are passed to expand "charitable choice" measures that allow religious organizations to receive tax dollars without having to create nonprofit organizations separate and independent from the church, many groups are beginning to line up for the funds.

One is the Church of Scientology, which plans to seek government support for its drug and literacy programs. A Scientology official told Associated Baptist Press that the programs were separate organizations from the church.

In an interview with the New York Times during the campaign, Bush had said, "I have a problem with the teachings of Scientology being viewed on the same par as Judaism or Christianity. But I am interested in results. I am not focused on the process."

### Some Baptists speak out

WASHINGTON (ABP)—Baptist leaders have issued a statement urging the rejection of President George W. Bush's plan "to shift tax dollars to houses of worship to subsidize social ministries."

The 14 signers—brought together by the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs—included moderate Baptist leaders and past Southern Baptist officials.

"President Bush is trying to do the right thing," the statement acknowledges. "All of us should applaud his recognition of religion's vital and helpful role in addressing pressing social problems. But when it comes to his call for 'charitable choice,' we must say no."

The BJC often is criticized by conservative Baptist counterparts for

Also, The New York Times recently reported that Sun Myung Moon's Unification Church plans to seek aid for its abstinence programs in school.

These reports have led to criticism of the Bush plan from one of the president's key supporters during the election.

Pat Robertson, president of the Christian Coalition, made comments critical of the Bush initiative recently on his "700 Club" television program, specifically in light of groups such as the Unification Church and Scientology potentially getting government funding.

"I really don't know what to do," said Robertson, according to a tran-

script of the program. "But this thing could be a real Pandora's box. And what seems to be such a great initiative can rise up to bite the organizations as well as the federal government. And I'm a little concerned about it, frankly."

Barry Lynn, executive director of Americans United for Separation of Church and State, said Robertson's comments mean Bush's plan "is in enormous political trouble."

"As more and more people look at the details of the Bush plan, I think you'll see a lot more criticism similar to Robertson's," Lynn said. "Whether you're on the left, right or center, Bush's plan is disastrous public policy."

A spokesman from the White House faith-based office did not respond to an interview request in time to comment for this story.

## Valentine's Day True Love Waits 'Net event drew 31,000 teens

NASHVILLE (BP)—Often a forum for racy exchanges, the Internet became a symbol of purity Feb. 14 for thousands of teens who logged on to take an electronic stand for sexual morality.

In the 47 hours it took Valentine's Day to rise in New Zealand and fall in Hawaii, 31,338 teenagers pledged to God and their future mates they would abstain from sex until marriage.

"We were really pleased with the response from teens on this," said Paul Turner, spokesperson for True Love Waits. "A lot of kids' lives will be spared much heartache because they have made that decision."

LifeWay Christian Resources of the Southern Baptist Convention sponsors the international campaign, which urges teenagers to choose a sex-free lifestyle until they enter a biblical marriage relationship.

Seize the Net, the latest incarnation among several annual pushes to interest teens in sexual purity, called for young people to enter the True Love Waits Web site ([www.truelovewaits.com](http://www.truelovewaits.com)) and sign an online pledge card to remain abstinent until marriage.

Teens from South America to Asia and California to Maine took part in the Internet-based crusade that allowed young people to join forces with others of like-minded values, Turner said.

"The Internet is a great way to unite young people all over the world—people who have never even met each other—for the cause of sexual purity," he said.

LifeWay launched the sexual abstinence campaign in April 1993. In 1994, more than 211,000 True Love Waits cards covered the National Mall in Washington, D.C.; in 1996, more than 350,000 cards were stacked to the roof of the Georgia Dome in Atlanta; and in 1999, teens carried 100,000 pledge cards across the mile-long Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco.

National True Love Waits leaders estimate more than 1 million teens have signed cards pledging sexual abstinence until marriage.

While the Seize the Net campaign was focused on Valentine's Day, 2001, Turner said teens can continue to go into the Web site and sign the online commitment cards.

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# EVANGELISM

## Roberts: Mormons could teach Baptists a lot

By Doy Cave  
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary

NEW ORLEANS (BP)—Southern Baptists could learn a great deal from the “missionary culture” of rival, false gospels that are creating missionaries and subsequent converts at an alarming rate, seminary president Phil Roberts said.

Through daunting missionary efforts, Jehovah’s Witnesses have grown to 5 million, 4 million of whom live outside the United States, said Roberts, president of Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Kansas City, Mo.

But more impressive, he said, is the growth rate of the Mormon church, up 1,000 percent in the last 40 years and still growing through its aggressive missions efforts.

“Since the Second World War, when there were only a few thousand missionaries, (Mormon missionaries) have grown to over 50,000,” Roberts said. “These missionaries now produce 300,000 converts ... each year.

“This does not mean that they produce converts from Mormon children,” he added. “The 317,000-plus baptisms recorded by the church in 1997 were converts from non-Mormon movements. That means that each missionary produces about six converts per year.”

Speaking at a conference at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, Roberts said Mormons have created a missionary culture in which being a missionary is the rule, not the exception. The Mormon church requires that its missionaries (mostly college-aged men) give a two-year period of service which also involves a

two- or three-month training period in which they learn to defend their faith vigorously but gently—and convert members of other faiths.

“Remarkably, missionaries and their families generally have saved enough money to pay their own way,” Roberts said.

Mormons are not satisfied with their rate of growth and plan to send out 100,000 missionaries into the field by the year 2005, Roberts said.

“If they are able to do that,” he said, “Mormons will look forward to baptizing 700,000 converts to the church, maybe more, by the middle of this decade. At this rate of growth ... the Mormons could number at least 280 million by the year 2085.”

Southern Baptists and other evangelicals, Roberts said, could learn a few things from Mormon missionary efforts.

First of all, he said, evangelical missions agencies must learn to challenge and recruit people directly to become part of world missions.

“If appropriate opportunities and structures were established for student evangelism, whether or not people feel called to full-time career missions, they could still be challenged to spend months or several years of their lives sharing the gospel in a missionary context,” Roberts said.

Second, Roberts suggested targeting youth to be involved in direct evangelism, not just in the “service and administrative element” of missions, such as charitable work.

Roberts also suggested making more three-month to two-year missions experiences available to young people, as well as raising the expectations of them to get involved in missions.

## Warren: Sermons must have application to be biblical

LAKE FOREST, Calif. (BP)—Preachers who want to be biblical must make their messages life-oriented, not information-oriented, according to Rick Warren, founding pastor of Saddleback Valley Community Church in Lake Forest, Calif.

“The Bible is not a history book; it’s a manual for life,” Warren told more than 1,500 pastors from 14 countries at Saddleback’s annual “Preaching for Changed Lives” conference this month.

Too many pastors are more familiar with the streets of Jerusalem than those of their own cities, Warren said.

“We’ve made biblical interpretation an end in itself,” he said. “This is why our churches are filled with far more believers in the Word than doers of the Word.”

Warren said the No. 1 problem with today’s preaching is that it lacks application. “Application-less preaching is why there is no difference between the way many Christians and non-Christians act,” he said.

Preaching without application only “puffs up” a congregation, leading to pride and judgment, Warren said. Even Romans, the most doctrinal book in the New Testament, is 50 percent application, he said.

One reason preachers leave out application, he said, is because they assume people will make the necessary applications. But he said he’s learned that isn’t true.

While preaching should never be pure commentary, Warren also warned against communicating the latest fads. “A lot of seeker-preaching doesn’t have enough Bible in it,” he said, commenting that some sermons he’s heard could just as easily have been self-help lectures.

“The message must never change, but the methods must be constantly changing as we communicate with each new generation,” Warren said. “If you change the message, there’s a word for that. It’s called heresy. On the other hand, some of you would like to preach like Spurgeon, but you don’t have Spurgeon’s audience. Spurgeon’s messages fit Spurgeon’s times, and I would suggest that if he were alive today, he would change his methods to reach this new generation.”

Warren warned that some preachers try too hard to make the Bible relevant. “We don’t have to make it relevant; rather we need to show its relevance,” he said. “The Bible is way ahead of its time.” Sermons based on the Bible are not full of the latest theories, nor are they simply commentary on the ancient text. But instead they teach timeless principles, Warren said.

“I ask, ‘Who am I preaching to?’ before asking, ‘What should I preach on?’” Warren said. “My goal in preaching is to move the listener from where he is, over to Christ.”

## Getting ready for spring at Cedarmore

In the midst of some of the rather dreary weather we experienced a week or so ago, I still pick up a few reminders that spring isn’t far away. I’m one of the somewhat weird people who enjoys winter. I like the cold weather. I love snow, and I always have enjoyed changing seasons. So while I have enjoyed the snows of this winter, I’m anticipating spring.

Two weeks ago I wrote about the continuing improvements that we are making at Cedarmore. Today I want to follow up that column with a reminder that as spring approaches, it is a great time to plan a retreat at Cedarmore. When spring comes to Cedarmore, the place comes alive with reminders of God’s presence and the wonders of His creation.

On a spring day at Cedarmore, you’ll drive on the grounds, through the cedars that line the main drive, and you’re likely to see deer grazing beside the road. Even though I have seen hundreds of deer over the last three years, I still pause for a moment to enjoy their beauty.

On a spring day at Cedarmore, you might see some of the many wild turkeys that grace our property. While a good bit more skittish than most of our deer, these turkeys

have made a remarkable comeback during the last 20 years, and we have more than our share of these fascinating birds.

On a spring day at Cedarmore, take a walk, maybe along the creek (I call it a river) and you’ll see dozens of lovely wildflowers. Just ask Anna Mary Byrdwell of Kentucky Woman’s Missionary Union, she’ll identify each one.

On a spring day at Cedarmore, you can retreat in solitude or small groups to fully appreciate and enjoy the Father who has given us this remarkable place that is dedicated to Him.

So don’t delay. Make plans for a meeting at Cedarmore this spring. Our staff, led by director Jack Ellerbrook and associate Bert Lace, will bend over backwards to serve you and accommodate your needs. And your presence will help us continue to make the progress that we need in the months and years to come.

Come see us at Cedarmore. It’s 1,550 acres of beauty, and it’s getting better all the time.

Rusty Ellison is president of Kentucky Baptist Assemblies, Box 37, Bagdad, KY 40003. Call (502) 747-8911

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## Debt relief movement says work isn't finished yet

By Shelvya Dancy  
Religion News Service

WASHINGTON (RNS)—The twilight months of the year 2000 witnessed a shower of 11th-hour victories for the Jubilee 2000 campaign to free the world's poorest nations from the yoke of staggering debt.

But months after a \$435 million boost from former President Bill Clinton, the grassroots campaign that saw evangelical broadcaster Pat Robertson rhetorically linking arms with Pope John Paul II and rock musician Bono is working to sustain that momentum in the upcoming months.

"One of the biggest obstacles we face now is that people think the debt was all canceled," said David Bryden, outreach coordinator of Jubilee 2000/USA—now known as the Jubilee USA Network. "The progress made so far is important, but we still have further to go."

Much of the foundation was laid last November, when Clinton signed a \$14.9 billion foreign aid package that included \$435 million to help erase debt owed by about 30 of the world's poorest nations to the United States, the World Bank and other global banking institutions.

That allotment for countries partially fulfilled a 1999 agreement between wealthy countries to provide about \$100 billion in debt relief for Laos, Benin, Cameroon and 38 other low-income countries by the end of the year 2000.

Clinton's move echoed similar last-minute action from several other wealthy nations including Germany, China, Britain and Italy.

But work remains to be done. Congress still must set aside \$375 million to fulfill the rest of its commitment to the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Agreement, Bryden said. "We want Congress to appropriate the entire sum this year; we shouldn't wait to do it in an incremental fashion."

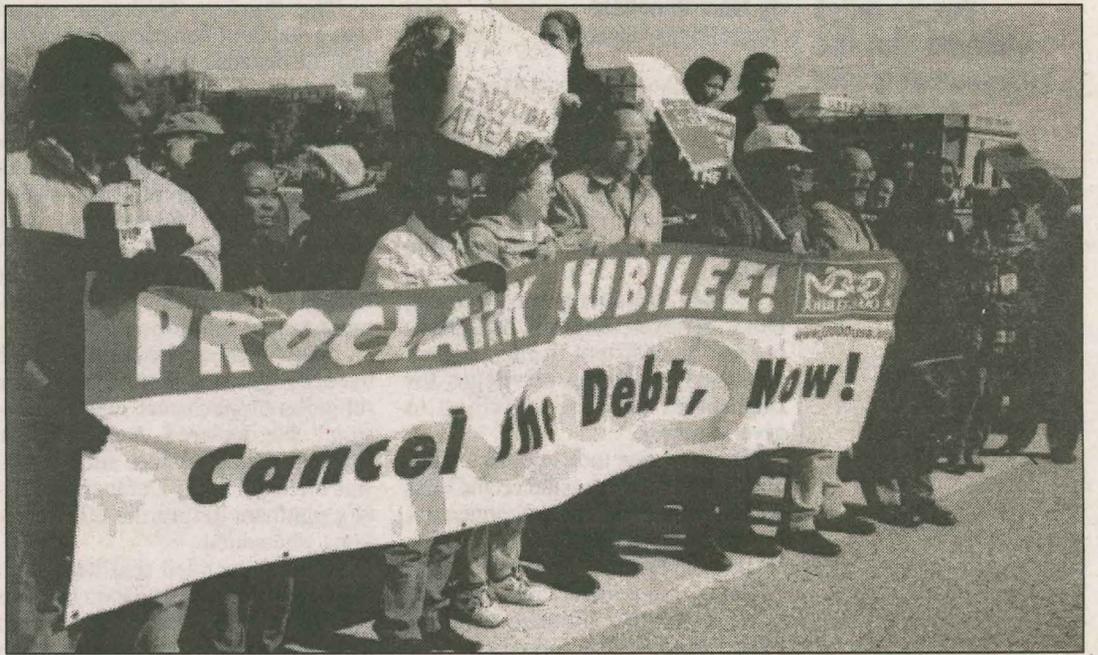
Campaigners hope a Valentine's Day letter-writing campaign has helped do the trick. They asked supporters nationwide to send valentines to the secretary of the treasury, asking him to appeal to Congress to act quickly on the issue.

Debt repayments also remain a millstone for about 19 countries that meet the 1999 agreement's terms for debt relief but were left out of the end-of-year largess.

"High debt payments are a major obstacle to poverty reduction in many countries," said David Beckmann, president of the Christian anti-hunger group Bread for the World. "Money that should be spent on schools and rural roads and things like that is used to pay off debt. Some countries spend more on debt payments than health care and education."

Debt-burdened nations not included in the 1999 agreement still need help, Bryden added.

"We need to take a look at countries that were left off the agreement," he said. "We also need to look at some of the lower-middle income countries



like Peru and Ecuador because they are often forgotten."

Some conditions for debt relief end up harming the very people relief measures are supposed to help, Bryden said.

"What we've seen is that a lot of times conditions like privatization lead to cuts in service to people who are poor, or rate increases that poor people cannot pay," he said. "The situation requires more flexibility than the World Bank and IMF (International Monetary Fund) are willing to use."

Beyond freeing poor governments to tackle pressing social ills at home,

debt relief can lead to poverty reduction and better living conditions in general for the world's population, Beckmann said.

"If we're serious about helping poor people, then we need to have ongoing development assistance, and debt relief is a real part of what it's going to take to reduce hunger and poverty in the world," said Beckmann, whose organization has launched a campaign to reduce hunger in sub-Saharan countries in Africa.

"We can't sit here with all our affluence and not do our part to cut hunger and disease and poverty in half."

**WHAT NOW?** Debt relief activists gathered in Washington, D.C., last April to persuade U.S.

lawmakers to make good on their promise to join other wealthy nations in reducing or canceling debt owed by some of the world's poorest countries. Supporters of the Jubilee USA Network debt relief campaign hope Congress will allot an additional \$375 million this year toward the effort. (RNS photo by Rick Reinhart)

### Fine arts center grand opening

By Robert Dunston

We at Cumberland College spent the last week of January and the first two weeks of February celebrating the grand opening of our new Grace Crum Rollins Fine Arts Center.

The center includes a state-of-the-art theater, two classrooms with built-in technology, office space for the communication and theater arts department, and space for Cumberland's cable television station.

Grand opening programs brought the best of music, drama and comedy to the Cumberland College campus.

Opening night, Jan. 25, brought Opus Dei, a trio of male vocalists joined by their musical gifts, love for great music and calling to serve God. They performed a program of secular and sacred music.

The Jan. 26 program featured the choirs of Williamsburg Independent High School and Whitley County High School presenting a varied selection of choral pieces.

The Lexington Philharmonic presented a program of light classical music Jan. 27. A dinner preceded the performance.

Comedian Robert G. Lee head-

lined the Feb. 1 program. Unlike some contemporary comedians Lee's comedy is both hilarious and clean.

Our Feb. 2 program featured a special guest, Academy Award-winning actress Patricia Neal. A Whitley County native, Neal's warm personality graced our stage.

The Lexington Brass Band closed the week with a program Feb. 3. A dinner preceded the performance.

Tom Key made the Cotton Patch Gospel come alive on Feb. 8. His performance brought the truth of the gospel alive through humor and tenderness.

The final night of our grand opening, Feb. 9, featured the best of talent from Cumberland College students.

These wonderful programs made our grand opening a spectacular success. We look forward to many more special times in the Grace Crum Rollins Fine Arts Center.

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

CUMBERLAND COLLEGE



### What would Miss Mary think?

A few weeks ago, President Bush announced the opening of a new office in the White House. The mission of the office will be to pave the way for more faith-based organizations to receive federal dollars to assist in their community services.

I've noted previously in my columns that as governor of Texas, Mr. Bush tapped into the great resource of faith-based agencies to address social problems. No one is surprised that he wants to do the same thing as president.

We knew it was only a matter of time before Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children would be under the microscope once again. The ACLU and other watchdog groups are using us as an example of "what could go wrong" with the president's proposal. Our right to hire good role models is being weighed against our right to use tax dollars to accomplish our mission.

I have no news to report in the ACLU and Americans United for Separation of Church and State lawsuit against KBHC. But, as KBHC's spokesperson-in-chief, I wanted you to know something: KBHC's mission has not changed. Our mission is to provide care and hope to hurting families and children through Christ-centered ministries. Our mis-

sion is not to argue the merits of tax assistance to faith-based organizations. I wholeheartedly believe in the spirit of the president's initiative.

As one of those faith-based institutions that receive taxpayer assistance, I am grateful those dollars permit us to care for more children and families. I believe we are a good steward of those monies. But I've said it before, we will leave the dollars in Frankfort and Washington before we abandon what we know to be best for children.

I wonder what Miss Mary Hollingsworth would think. As the first matron of the Home for Helpless Children established through Walnut Street Baptist Church back in 1869, she had her hands full. There were too many children with too many needs for her to get wrapped up in anything but the task at hand. The way we care for kids has changed greatly, but the urgent dedication she brought to her mission spurs me to stay sharply focused on what is most important: the children.

Bill Smithwick is president of Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children, 10801 Shelbyville Road, Middletown, KY 40243. Call (800) 456-1386. KBHC's Internet address is: www.kbhc.org

HOMES FOR CHILDREN



Bill Smithwick

## Is religion on TV & radio treated same, better or worse?

**One panelist charged that the government wants to create a "gospel-free zone."**

By Mark Wingfield  
*Texas Baptist Standard*

DALLAS (ABP)—Alan Sears believes the federal government wants to give free reign to every imaginable form of obscenity on the nation's broadcast airwaves while restricting the right of religious broadcasters to get their message across.

Elliott Mincberg, on the other hand, believes religious broadcasters are inconsistent in their appeal for liberty, wanting privileges for themselves they are unwilling to give to others.

The two men took opposing sides during a panel discussion on the First Amendment at the annual convention of the National Religious Broadcasters, held in Dallas Feb. 10-13.

Sears, president and general counsel for the Alliance Defense Fund, joined radio talk-show host Janet Parshall in representing the conservative side of the debate. Mincberg, vice president and general counsel for People for the American Way, joined former Clinton attorney Lanny Davis on the liberal side.

The 45-minute forum focused mainly on religious broadcasters' fears that the government might reimpose the so-called Fairness Doctrine that was eliminated in 1987 and the fallout over an FCC ruling last year that temporarily decreed religious programming could not be considered educational programming.

The Fairness Doctrine, which was a staple of American broadcasting for decades until its repeal, required broadcasters to present both sides of political issues. It did not apply specifically to religious issues but had some overlap if religious broadcasts got into political issues.

Sears called "fairness" a "code word for control."

Parshall strongly denounced the fairness requirements as an impediment to free religious expression.

"The Fairness Doctrine is a club used by government to bludgeon religious broadcasters into submission," she declared. And its return is a real threat because such a goal was included in the Democratic Party's platform during the 2000 elections, she added.

Davis responded that he wasn't so sure the Fairness Doctrine was headed for a comeback. And even if it were reinstated, it wouldn't affect most religious broadcasters, he added.

Meanwhile, he accused Parshall and Sears of being inconsistent in calling for unfettered use of the airwaves by religious broadcasters while demanding restrictions on other broadcasters they deem to be indecent.

On the question of religious broadcasts qualifying as educational programming—an issue that affects government mandates to broadcasters and the ability of broadcasters to obtain FCC licenses—Sears insisted the FCC has established a system that works

against religious broadcasters getting licenses.

Parshall argued that the government shouldn't be in the business of restricting anything about the content of religious broadcasts.

"Licenses come from the government," she reasoned. "I get my drivers' license from the government as well, and the government doesn't tell me where I may drive."

Mincberg found fault with Parshall's analogy.

"An infinite number of drivers' licenses can be granted," he said. "But what if only 300 could be granted? Government might put some restriction on them, such as saying you have

to give rides to the poor."

Since only a limited number of broadcast frequencies are available, the government must regulate their usage, he argued.

Parshall disagreed, claiming that "broadcast spectrum scarcity is a fallacious and moot argument" in the modern era.

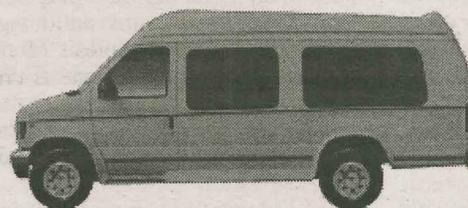
Sears charged that the government wants to create a "gospel-free zone."

Mincberg responded that religious broadcasters should be able to compete equally with other broadcasters for frequencies but should not be given preferential treatment. "Treating religious broadcasters the same as other broadcasters is not unfair."

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### Give me a break

Many of my readers know we have several breaks scheduled on our school calendar. Four of the annual breaks are required, meaning all of our boarding students must go home for the break or they may go to a family member's home or stay with a friend.

Often, when I tell visitors that we have four required breaks and that all students must leave our campus for a specified period of time, the visitors wonder where our students go who do not, or cannot, go home. Since they usually know we have students from around the world and across the U.S., they are concerned that some students might not have a place to go during the required breaks.

Our international students are informed during the application process that they must have a place to go during these breaks. Normally they have family members or friends in the U.S., so they do not have a hard time finding a place to go. Occasionally, a student does not have anyone who can help. In rare cases, we assist in finding a place.

The vast majority of our students have no trouble going home or finding a place to spend a week or so. From time to time, an American student either cannot go home for the break or does not want to go. While we encourage students to go home for a few days, sometimes there are personal reasons for not wanting to. In those cases, we will help the student make other arrangements.

Some wonder why we have required breaks. The answer is simple: Our faculty and staff need a rest just as much as the students do. Because we care for most of our students "24/7," it would be nearly impossible to give our faculty and support staff much-needed vacation time any other way.

The vast majority of our students anxiously wait for each of the breaks so they can visit family members and friends. Since our students are not allowed to leave campus except on school trips, they do not get the same benefits as students who live at home. There always are those blockbuster movies they want to see, as well as friends back home.

The required breaks are scattered throughout the year, nine days in October, two weeks at Christmas, nine days in March and nine days during summer school. We have several other breaks during the year, but they are not required.

For years we have had a difficult time making it from Christmas to spring break. Between the dreary weeks of winter and few outside activities on campus, our students can get cabin fever. In fact, our faculty and staff traditionally have had a difficult time as well.

When we set up our 2000-2001 academic calendar, we scheduled an extra short break in February. This non-required break is three and a half days, so most of our students were able to go home. Those who did not leave campus

were able to kick back and take it easy for a few days. They could possibly get some extra sleep, hopefully do their laundry, maybe get a staff member to take them to town or possibly spend a night or two with some of our faculty.

Our staff also needed the break. They work an average of 12 hours a day, six days a week, so they can use a little extra sleep too! I think everyone enjoyed the long weekend. At least I didn't hear any complaints.

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

### Co-pastors combine youth and experience

Benton native Shannon Benefiel was called to preach at age 16 but did not surrender until age 22.

"The main reason I resisted is that I don't do anything halfway and I wasn't ready. When the decision came, we haven't turned back.

"I also had some wonderful pastors and saw them treated harshly, and I didn't want to put myself into a vulnerable position,"

Benefiel said with a smile, realizing he now was in that vulnerable position. However, he has the encouragement of a co-pastor.

Two years ago, First Baptist Church of Loyall contacted our school seeking a professor to preach. Roy Lucas, professor of New Testament, was available, and the church soon asked him to be interim pastor.

The search committee then wanted to recommend Lucas as pastor, but he declined because of his call to Clear Creek. Lucas asked Benefiel to preach when he was away, and the church saw the possibility of an arrangement using both of them. With unanimous support from the church, the two of them became co-pastors.

Benefiel; Mary; Caitlyn, 8; and Chase, 2, live in the parsonage, and Benefiel covers daily administrative

responsibilities, hospital calls and other ministry needs. "This is a small, close-knit community. I've learned the houses and vehicles. We have a great opportunity to permeate the area. The church now needs to step out in faith and win our neighbors," Benefiel said. He and Lucas share the preaching. "Neither of us hogs the pulpit," Benefiel noted.

CLEAR CREEK CHRONICLE



Bill Whittaker

Benefiel left the responsibility of EPA/maintenance coordinator at 22 convenience stores to attend Clear Creek. That work experience with the public provided valuable preparation for pastoral ministry. He hopes to continue at Loyall after graduation.

Lucas described Benefiel as "a sharp young man with a heart to reach the people of Loyall with the gospel. He is mission-

minded and committed to reaching the world through the Cooperative Program and the local association. He has blessed First Baptist since his call to serve with me as co-pastor."

Benefiel added, "Every church wants a young man with several years of experience and that's really what Loyall has with us as co-pastors."

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

# BOOKS/MUSIC

**The End of the World ... as We Know It.** Chuck Smith Jr. Waterbrook Press, 2001. 235 pages. \$17.95. ◆◆◆◆◆ (out of five)

This book has a simple purpose: To address the uneasiness that exists among many Christians in the face of society's rapid change. In addressing this uneasiness, Chuck Smith hopes to provide the basis for new strategies the church can use in order not to be irrelevant. The cultural change that Smith addresses is "post-modernism."

Smith does an excellent job of walking the novice through an introduction to postmodernism. Part of his introduction is a discussion of the unraveling of "modernism." Smith contends that much of the way the church currently structures its ministry is based upon a cultural view, modernism, which is being replaced by postmodernism. If the church is to reach new generations, church leaders need a clear understanding of postmodernism.

Smith lays out strategies for effective ministry in the postmodern world with clarity. I especially like his section on authentic engagement with Scripture. Smith does not, however, provide many concrete examples of how this ministry looks. His purpose is to provide the analysis and foundation. One would hope he will follow up this book with examples of how he and others have reshaped ministry along the strategies he proposes. One of the strategies Smith offers is to be innovative, something which most church leaders need concrete help in accomplishing because we are stuck in a modernism mode.

Leonard Sweet, a premier observer of culture and the church, is quoted on the jacket cover as saying, "After this book, no leader, no church can keep playing the 'conscientious objector from postmodernism' game." This book truly does open your eyes to the changes in culture from the time the majority of pastors and church staff

began their ministry. It also forcefully makes the point that if the church seeks only to preserve the past, it will have no future. Wayne Hager

**Just Give Me Jesus.** Anne Graham Lotz. Word Publishing, 2000. 355 pages. \$19.99 (with CD). ◆◆◆◆◆

At a recent memorial service for Ken Chafin, Roy Honeycutt defined a homily as "a personal reflection on Scripture done in a public setting."

With that definition in mind, one could easily say that Anne Graham Lotz's, "Just Give Me Jesus," is a collection of homilies on the Gospel of John. The accompanying CD contains a devotional by Lotz read alongside the song "Give Me Jesus" by Ferando Ortega.

"Just Give Me Jesus" is not a commentary on John's Gospel, though one will find lots of useful background and expository material in it. Nor is it an exegetical treatment of John, though Lotz has been careful in her reflections not to wander far from sound exegesis of the material. What she has done is creatively woven the story of Jesus as told by John into the warp and woof of the fabric of our lives, seeking to show how the miracle of grace that is Jesus Christ develops a marvelous tapestry out of the rags of our sinful lives.

For example, in her reflection on Jesus' experience at the wedding in Cana, Lotz demonstrates how the grace of God not only addresses the needs of people alienated from God, but how that same grace can repair broken relationships. In her contemplation of Jesus' encounter with Nicodemus, she recalls how he kept asking Jesus questions. Then she asks the reader, "What questions have you been asking in order to avoid the responsibility and commitment the answers may demand?"

Anne Graham Lotz may not see herself as a preacher worthy of taking up her father's mantle, but she is a powerful homilician. Jim Holladay

**Journeys on the Edges: The Celtic Tradition.** Thomas O'Loughlin. Orbis Books, 2000. 172 pages. \$14. ◆◆◆◆◆

Postmodern evangelists are touting the merits of Celtic Christianity as a way to bring a sense of rootedness to a culture desperately looking for something bigger than itself.

On the other hand, the very thing that gives Celtic Christianity its sense of rootedness and transculturalism is its very problem: age. The seeds of Celtic Christianity were sown more than 1,500 years ago, and they were sown in a pre-literate culture that looked more toward symbols, icons and pictures to tell their story than written historical accounts.

Trying to find the true history of Celtic Christianity is difficult, and many books promise enlightenment on the subject while offering an ancient faith distorted into the visions and forms of the agenda the writer has chosen.

It is most refreshing, then, to come across "Journeys on the Edges: The Celtic Tradition." The book is written by a medieval scholar and professor of Celtic Christianity who goes back to as many of the primary sources as possible to piece together the loose shards of a faith born around the sixth century in a place far from the hub of Christianity's history. As much as possible, O'Loughlin attempts to let the Celtic Christians speak for themselves and refuses to fall into the trap of seeing their words through modern eyes and filtering them through that vision.

This book is a wonderfully clear introduction to the world of Celtic Christianity, and while academic in tone it plainly explains to its readers the beauty and mystery of a faith created on the edges of the then-civilized world that still has the power to awe jaded modern souls today. Victoria Moon

**Life is a Miracle: An Essay Against Modern Superstition.** Wendell Berry. Counterpoint, 2000. 153 pages. \$21. ◆◆◆◆◆

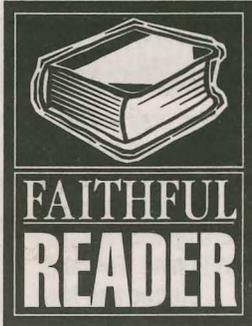
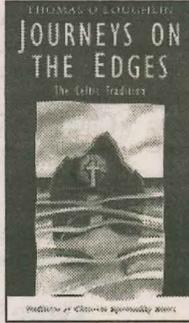
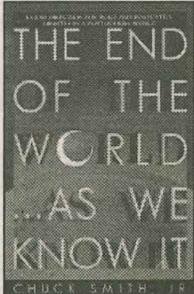
"Apparently everywhere in the 'developed world' human communities and their natural and cultural supports are being destroyed, not by natural calamities or 'acts of God' or invasion by foreign enemies, but by a sort of legalized vandalism known as 'the economy.'"

From this statement in "Life is a Miracle," Wendell Berry continues that within this economized culture, human beings have been equated with machines and this world and our human lives are being forced into fictitious categories of mechanical perfection or predictability. The modern superstition is that science and scientific inquiry can solve the mystery of life.

"Life is a Miracle" is Wendell Berry's rather loud written protest against the attempt to bring all of life and knowledge under the organized reductionism of scientific inquiry. In this extended essay, Berry takes on those whose vision of a profitable, pragmatic view of life is sucking the soul out of humanity. He challenges the notion "that the new inevitably replaces or invalidates the old, because the new, coming from an ever-growing fund of data, is inevitably better than the old."

In true contrarian style, Berry dares us to rethink many of our presuppositions. He challenges us to change the standards by which we judge our work and success away from numbers, and profits and professionalism to what contributes to the health and durability of human and natural communities.

Though much of this book is directed toward academia, one does not have to make much of a leap to see how his diagnosis and prescription applies to the contemporary church scene. We have bought in far more than we want to admit to the reductionist, deterministic thinking of our age. Jim Holladay



By Wayne Hager, pastor of Calvary Baptist Church in Mt. Airy, N.C.; Jim Holladay, pastor of Lyndon Baptist Church in Louisville; and Victoria Moon, librarian for Deer Park Baptist Church in Louisville. They welcome feedback or suggestions for book reviews. Contact them via e-mail at: [jwhager@surry.net](mailto:jwhager@surry.net), [docholladay@juno.com](mailto:docholladay@juno.com) or [victoria.moon@kybaptist.org](mailto:victoria.moon@kybaptist.org)

## Jars of Clay dedicates Grammy to Cassie Bernall

HOLLYWOOD, Calif. (BP)—Contemporary Christian rock band Jars of Clay dedicated its Grammy Award last week to the memory of Columbine High School student Cassie Bernall.

Bernall was one of the students killed during the high school shooting in Colorado. She reportedly was singled out to be shot after she admitted she was a Christian.

"We dedicate this award to Cassie Bernall and all those standing up for truth," band member Stephen Mason said at the awards ceremony Feb. 21.

The band received the Grammy for Best Pop/Contemporary Gospel Album for "If I Left the Zoo."

It was the second Grammy for the multi-platinum-selling band.

"We are honored, among all the talent nominated for the award, to have won the Grammy," Mason said. "I hope that we can take away some of the apathy that has taken control of modern music and help



**JARS OF CLAY** Members of the band Jars of Clay dedicated their Grammy for Best Pop/Contemporary Gospel Album to a victim of the Columbine High School shootings. (RNS photo)

others make positive choices in life. We continue to be inspired by the messages of truth."

Other Grammy winners in religious music categories included:

■ Petra for Best Rock Gospel Album.

■ Ricky Skaggs and Kentucky Thunder for Best Southern, Country or Bluegrass Gospel Album.

■ Shirley Caesar for Best Traditional Soul Gospel Album.

■ Mary Mary for Best Contemporary Soul Gospel Album.

■ Brooklyn Tabernacle Choir for Best Gospel Choir or Chorus Album.

In addition to the Grammy Award and nominations, Jars of Clay has amassed 21 career Gospel Music Association Dove nominations and three Nashville Music Awards, received a 1995 Billboard Music Video Award and earned 13 No. 1 songs in just five years.

Jars of Clay is best known for its successful radio single, "Flood," from its 1995 self-titled, double-platinum debut. Jars of Clay compositions have been featured in such film soundtracks as "The Long Kiss Goodnight," "Hard Rain," "Jack Frost" and "The Prince of Egypt."

The group's music has been featured in several television series, including "Providence" (NBC) and "One Life To Live" (ABC).

## Christy book, video release planned

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. (RNS)—Zondervan Publishing House will soon release versions of the popular Christian novel "Christy" in book and video formats.

The 1967 novel by Catherine Marshall sold more than 10 million copies. The Christian publishing company will publish it for the first time as a trade paperback March 2.

Zondervan also has acquired distribution rights to Christian bookstores for the home video of the PAX TV miniseries "Christy."

Zondervan will release the video of the first part of "Christy: The Movie," which aired in November on PAX TV, on March 2. It is expected to reach stores by April.

PAX TV is scheduled to air the second and third parts of the miniseries, "Christy: Choices of the Heart," on May 13 and 14. Zondervan plans to release the video of those parts early this summer.

"Christy" premiered as a TV movie in 1994 and aired for two seasons on CBS before it was canceled. The stories are based on a novel about a young schoolteacher's adventures in a community in the Appalachian Mountains.

It was lauded by Christian critics of television for its positive values and family entertainment and has continued to be popular in reruns and videos.

Zondervan acquired the trade paperback rights through parent company HarperCollins Publishers' Avon imprint, which retains the mass-market rights.

# PEOPLE

## PRAYER PARTNERS

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

■ Give thanks for the first convert as the result of the work of the Digo missionary team in Tanzania. Missionaries M.J. and Mark Grossman showed the "Jesus" film in December and their gardener prayed to receive Christ in January.

■ Peace for the island of Zanzibar. Missionaries report that at least 37 people have been killed in recent violence, which began after the government banned opposition rallies calling for new elections. Some of the violence has spread to the mainland in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.

■ John and Nancy Laramore, missionaries to the Kaguru people of Tanzania, praise God for answered prayers for a room to rent in Gairo in which Bible study and worship can be held.

■ The 25 Maasai men who are enrolled in a discipleship and leader training course which requires them to travel to Longido, Tanzania, for a week of study each month. In January 30 men completed the course and in February 40 men applied for the 25 available slots.

## Mountains to the Mississippi

Compiled by Shirley Wooton

■ **CAMPBELLSVILLE**—Saloma Church will ordain **Bryan Bennett** as deacon March 4. The church will host Pleasant Union Church March 11 for a racial reconciliation celebration service at 7 p.m. with a meal at 5:30 p.m. **Joseph Owens**, pastor of Shiloh Church, Lexington, will speak. Saloma Church also called **David Harris** as minister of worship and **Melissa Fletcher** as administrative assistant. **John Chowning** is pastor.

■ **ERLANGER**—**William Crosby**, pastor of Erlanger Church for more than 17 years, resigned to accept a position with a church consulting firm.

■ **HARLAN**—Liggett Church called **Dennis Williams** as bivocational pastor. Williams was ordained to the gospel ministry at Dioan Church in February.

■ **HOPKINSVILLE**—**Gloria Sholar**, 67, wife of **Ronald Sholar**, a director for the Kentucky Baptist Foundation and retired minister of music, died Feb. 5. Her funeral service was Feb. 7 at First Baptist Church in Hopkinsville. Memorial gifts can be made to the Kentucky Baptist Foundation for the Gloria P. Sholar Scholarship

Fund.

■ **LEXINGTON**—Immanuel Church will host **Travis Cottrell** in concert March 4 at 6 p.m. Cottrell will sing in the 9 and 10:30 a.m. services. For information, call (859) 266-3174. **Craig Loscalzo** is pastor.

■ **LOUISVILLE**—**Delma Burhans**, 85, wife of **Rollin Burhans**, former president of Kentucky Southern College and moderator of Kentucky Baptist Convention, died Feb. 21. Her funeral was Feb. 24 at Pleasant Hill Church. Memorial gifts can be made to her church's endowment fund or Alzheimer's Association.

Beechwood Church called **Paul Coleman** as associate pastor/minister of education. **Robert Blackburn** is pastor.

Clifton Church ordained **Russell Armstrong** as deacon. **Eugene Enlow** is interim pastor.

■ **SOMERSET**—First Church ordained **Frank Carrington**, **Scott DeBord**, **Curtis Gilliland** and **James Saindon** as deacons. **Paul Chitwood** is pastor.

■ **WADDY**—Mt. Vernon Church called **Milton Smith** as pastor.

## Kentuckians appointed to Malta

AUGUSTA, Ga.—Kentuckians Earl and Robin Pinkston were appointed recently by the Southern Baptist International Mission Board during a service in Augusta, Ga.

The Pinkstons will work in Malta as volunteer coordinators. They will mobilize volunteers and local Christians for evangelism, enhance Christian discipleship and cast the vision to start churches among the Maltese people.

Since 1998 the Pinkstons have served in Malta with the International Service Corps, a missions program through the IMB. Prior to that, Pinkston served as pastor of Jordan Baptist Church in Sanders and taught school in Taylorsville.

The Pinkstons cited Bethel Baptist Church in Mercer County as being influential in their lives.

Pinkston, a native of Harrodsburg, received a bachelor of arts degree from Georgetown College. Mrs. Pinkston, a native of Memphis, Tenn., received a bachelor of arts degree from Union University in Jackson, Tenn.

Mrs. Pinkston said she became involved in missions at a very young age. She said she first responded to God's leading toward a mission career after she traveled to Honduras on a college



The Pinkstons

medical mission trip.

Combined with the Missions '95 conference in Louisville, "these two events led me to a place in my Christian walk where I said, 'Wherever You lead, I'll go,'" she said.

Pinkston said he also accepted God's leading into full-time ministry after traveling with numerous mission teams during college. After graduation, he began working at Centrifuge camps during the summer.

After they married, the Pinkstons joined a ministry team to Russia.

The Pinkstons, who are expecting their first child in February, will go to the IMB training center in Rockville, Va., for orientation in June before returning to Malta.

## CLASSIFIED ADS

**NEEDED:** Van. Willing to purchase or will accept donation from sister church. Call: Pastor Larry Burton, (859) 925-4048 or cell phone: (859) 314-8151. Flat Rock Baptist Church, Orlando, Ky.

**SEEKING:** Full-time minister for growing church. Contact Jean Bezold, FBC, 600 N Fort Thomas Ave., Fort Thomas, KY 41075.

**SEEKING:** First Baptist Church of Cape Girardeau, Mo., is completing an intentional interim and now welcomes resumés for the position of senior pastor. Our church is affiliated with MBC, SBC and CBF. We are seeking an applicant with strong preaching skills, a demonstrated commitment to collaborative leadership and a high level of relational gifts. Applicants should have five to seven years of senior pastoral ministry in a multi-staff situation. Send credentials to: Denise Lincoln, Pastor Search Committee, 1612 N Henderson, Cape Girardeau, MO 63701.

**SEEKING:** Married couple as house parents for mentally handicapped adults. Bright Life Farms, Princeton, Ky. (270) 365-7801.

**SEEKING:** Full-time education and youth staff person. Send resumé to: Personnel Committee, Pleasant Hill Baptist Church, 1815 Clifty Road, Somerset, KY 42503.

**SEEKING:** Associate minister of outreach for Evergreen Baptist. The successful candidate will possess good people-skills, a heart for evangelism, team-building skills and a calling from God for Christian service. Resumés accepted until April 2 and should be directed to the Personnel Committee, 2698 Evergreen Road, Frankfort, KY 40601.

**SEEKING:** Full-time pastor. Send resumé to: Pioneer Baptist Church, 264 Sparrow Lane, Harrodsburg, KY 40330, Attn: Pastor Search Committee.

**SEEKING:** People with secretarial experience and computer application skills to work in temporary positions. Competitive hourly wage, no benefits. Contact Administrative Services Department, Kentucky Baptist Convention, PO Box 43433, Louisville, KY 40253-0433. (502) 244-6468.

**SEEKING:** Missouri Baptist Children's Home seeks to employ a foster/adoptive assistant director for its Kansas City office. MSW or related, 5 years social service experience, 2 years supervisory experience. Contact human resources at (800) 264-6224 or human.resources@mbch.org.

**SEEKING:** Part-time minister of music. Direct resumé to: Calvary Hill Baptist Church, 100 John St., PO Box 482, Stanford, KY 40484.

**SEEKING:** Senior pastor for a loving church in Bowling Green. Must be experienced and ambitious. Send resumé to: Forest Park Baptist Church, 520 Old Morgantown Road, Bowling Green, KY 42101, Attn: Search Committee.

**SEEKING:** Minister of youth for young, exciting, growing church. Send resumé to: Emmanuel Baptist Church, PO Box 910, Stanton, KY 40380, Attn: Search Committee.

**SEEKING:** Due to the retirement of our former pastor, North Park Baptist Church of Evansville, Ind., is seeking an experienced spiritual leader for the full-time position of senior pastor. NPBC is a Southern Baptist congregation with an average worship attendance of 150. Seminary graduate preferred. Send resumé to: Search Committee Chairman Steve Humphrey, 4105 Quail Hollow St., Evansville, IN 47715-1536.

**SEEKING:** Full-time pastor for Hurricane Baptist Church in rural Trigg County. Send resumé to: Pastor Search Committee, Hurricane Baptist Church, 4177 Hurricane Road, Cadiz, KY 42211.

**SEEKING:** We are seeking a full-time minister with the primary responsibility of leading our church in music and worship. If interested, please send resumé to: Music Committee, Hall Street Baptist Church, 1102 Hall St., Owensboro, KY 42303.

**SEEKING:** Lawrence County Baptist Association is accepting resumés for director of missions. Send resumés postmarked on or before Feb. 28 to Lawrence County Association of Baptists, 2427 Highway 43 South, Leoma, TN 38468.

**SEEKING:** Full-time pastor for First Baptist Church of Carlisle, Ky. A seminary degree is necessary. Previous experience as a church pastor would be beneficial. Send resumé to: Pastor Search Committee, Eugene R. Snapp, chairman, 645 Upper Jackstown Road, Carlisle, KY 40311.

**SEEKING:** Full-time associate pastor of education and youth to assist new senior pastor. Williamstown Baptist Church, a Southern Baptist church located in a small, northern Kentucky town near large metropolitan areas, is striving for a purpose-driven blended ministry with a weekly attendance of 250-plus and great potential for growth. Candidate should be energetic, self-motivated, well organized and a creative team player who has an ability to relate to youth and adults on a personal and spiritual level. A bachelor's degree is required and a master's with related experience is a plus. Send resumé to: Stephen C. Rice, 214 North Main St., Williamstown, KY 41097; e-mail to: srice@fuse.net. Phone: (859) 824-4102.

**SEEKING:** Bethel Baptist Church in Harrodsburg, Ky., is seeking a part-time minister of music. Congregation and choir skills necessary. Send resumé to: M/M Search Committee, Bethel Baptist Church, 8200 Owenton Road, Frankfort, KY 40601. Phone: (502) 227-7278.

**SEEKING:** Immanuel Baptist, a multi-generational church in Lexington, Ky., is seeking an experienced seminary graduate to be on the cutting edge in preschool ministry with a strong leadership gift and a passion for reaching unchurched preschoolers and their families. Respond to IBC Personnel Committee, 3100 Bates Creek Road, 40502.

**SEEKING:** Senior pastor. Main Street Baptist Church is a progressive Southern Baptist church located in the Northern Kentucky area. Ideal candidate to fill our 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 involved in a very aggressive building program. All interested individuals should send a resumé with cover letter to: Pastor Search Committee, 306 West Main St., Alexandria, KY 41001. For a more detailed job description, go to our Web page at [www.mainstreetbaptist.org](http://www.mainstreetbaptist.org).

**SEEKING:** Rineyville Baptist Church is seeking a full-time minister of music and pastoral care. Church is located in a rapidly growing suburb-town. Direct all correspondence and inquiries to RBC, PO Box 197, Rineyville, KY 40162, or Rineyville Baptist@msn.com.

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

**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.

## One year after cyanide spill, SBC relief effort still remembered

By Brittany Jarvis  
SBC International Mission Board

SZEGED, Hungary (BP)—Official reports were bleak following last year's devastating cyanide spill into Hungary's Tisza River.

But a year later, local communities are rebuilding with optimism, thanks in part to Southern Baptist relief assistance.

Officials initially estimated that the river's food chain had been destroyed by the spill and would take years, perhaps decades, to recover. The disaster left many Hungarian families who had relied on commercially fishing the river with little hope.

The Southern Baptist International Mission Board responded by funneling emergency relief funds to communities hit hardest by the spill.

Ed and Eniko Jordan, Southern Baptist representatives in Hungary, used the money to provide boxes of groceries for families and hot-lunch meals through local schools for children of fishermen. Each grocery box included a Bible in Hungarian, an encouraging book of messages and an evangelistic tract.

"With tearful eyes (the families) gave thanks to God," Jordan said, "and expressed appreciation to us for a group of people called Baptists."

Many Hungarians told the representatives they felt as though Baptists were the only ones to truly show God's love, he added.

"The news went out on national television that Baptists are a people who care," he said, "and who try to show God's love through action."

More than six months after the spill, the Jordans received a gift from local fishermen.

In early December, two men brought the Jordans about 40 pounds of live fish, a staple of Hungarian families, for their traditional Christmas Eve feast.

The fishermen had caught the fish in a local lake since the Tisza River still is not commercially fishable.

"More than six months after Southern Baptists gave help to the fishermen's families, that act of love was still in the hearts of these families," Jordan said.

The Jordans shared the feast of fish with four non-Christian families who expressed gratitude to have enough fish for their own Christmas Eve dinner.

"Thanks to the faithfulness of Southern Baptists, the gift goes on," Jordan said.

## Remembering a hero

SBC missionary to China, Wallace hailed as martyr

By Erich Bridges  
SBC International Mission Board

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)—A dedicated American surgeon, beloved by nearly all who knew him, died 50 years ago this month—alone, in a cold jail cell far from home.

He was arrested in China on false charges based on planted evidence. He was beaten, ridiculed, jabbed with bamboo sticks by prison guards. Driven to distraction by brutal interrogations, he was despondent to the point of insanity in his final days, according to witnesses jailed with him.

But few believed the official story that the 43-year-old doctor had committed suicide after he was found hanging from a beam in his cell the morning of Feb. 10, 1951. A colleague allowed to view his body saw little evidence of a hanging but plenty of marks of physical abuse.

He was buried quickly by a few friends under the close watch of an armed escort; no religious service was allowed. His remains were not returned to the United States until 1985.

What an injustice, many said at the time—and in the decades since. What a tragedy. What a waste.

Injustice, yes. Waste? Far from it. Southern Baptist missionary Bill Wallace might have suffered keenly in his last weeks on earth, but he had long been prepared for it.

"Go on back and take care of the hospital," he told co-workers when he was first arrested. "I am ready to give my life if necessary."

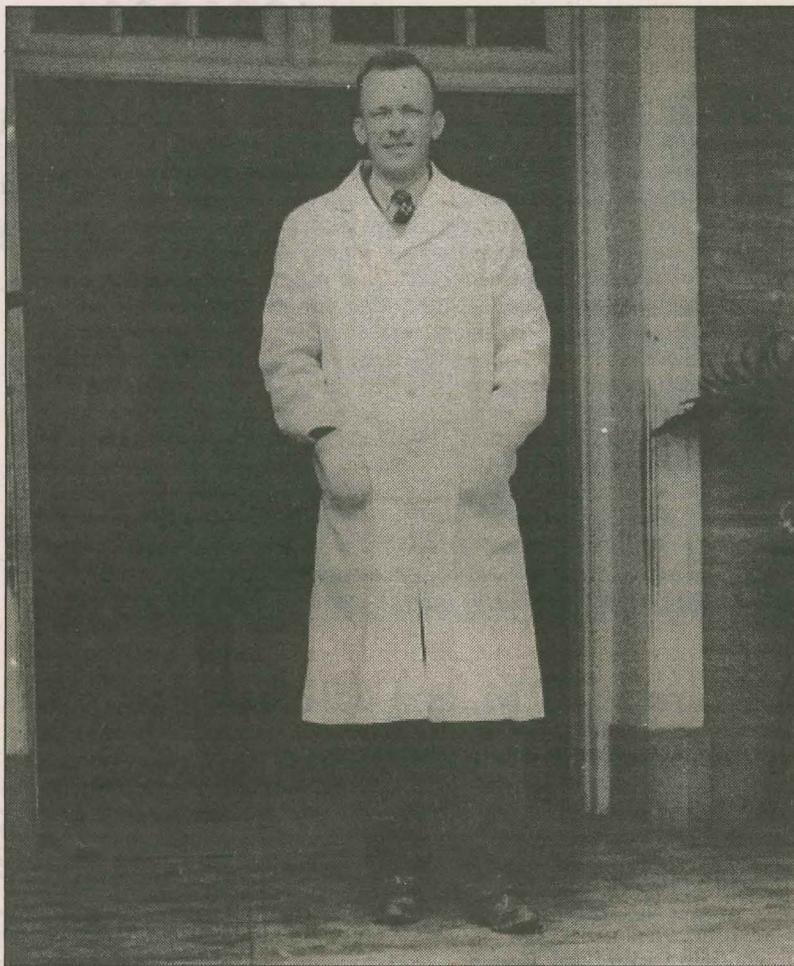
Wallace was not the only foreign missionary martyred in China during the tumultuous years of a Japanese invasion, civil war and the beginnings of communist rule—which ended the missionary era. But his life story became as familiar to Southern Baptists of several generations as that of Lottie Moon, the missionary heroine who died serving China several decades before Wallace arrived.

Born in Knoxville, Tenn., in 1908, Wallace was the son of a doctor and as a boy tagged along with his father on patient rounds. At age 17—while working on a car in the family garage—Wallace heard God's call to medical missions. He answered yes, recorded the commitment on the back leaf of his New Testament, and never turned back.

After college, medical school and a surgical residency at Knoxville's General Hospital, Wallace turned down a lucrative offer to become a partner with an outstanding surgeon. He was appointed in 1935 as a missionary to China by the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board—10 years to the month after he made his garage commitment.

He went to Wuchow (now Wuzhou) in southern China, where missionaries at the Baptist-run Stout Memorial Hospital were desperately praying for a surgeon.

Wallace immediately gained a rep-



**BILL WALLACE** The Knoxville, Tenn., surgeon was a Southern Baptist missionary to China from 1930 until his death 50 years ago this month. Wallace gained a reputation as a gifted surgeon and a tireless worker. A colleague once advised that anyone looking for Wallace should seek out the sickest patient in the hospital. (IMB photo)

utation as a kind man of few words (and a tone-deaf Chinese speaker when he did talk), a gifted surgeon, a tireless worker—and an absolutely committed servant of Christ, the gentle Healer he emulated. A colleague once advised that anyone looking for Wallace should seek out the sickest patient in the hospital; Wallace would be there.

He worked through Japanese bombing raids as the stretchers of the wounded lined the halls—once finishing an operation after the hospital took a direct hit. After his first furlough back home, he returned in 1940 to a China on fire but refused to leave Wuchow as the invading Japanese closed in. To urgent appeals that he flee Wuchow, he responded, "I will stay as long as I am able to serve."

Fellow missionary doctor Robert Beddoe wrote of one harrowing episode: "At the time of the second severe bombing of the hospital, there was a desperately sick patient on the top floor. He could not possibly be moved without almost certain death. Wallace stayed by the bed, comforting and reassuring the patient. A bomb hit not more than 50 feet from the bed, tearing a gaping hole in the concrete roof. In the providence of God neither the patient nor Wallace was injured."

Finally, in one of the great exploits of China missions history, Wallace evacuated the entire hospital in 1944, only a few days ahead of Japanese forces—transporting patients, staff and equipment by boat hundreds of miles upriver. There they tended the sick and suffering of the surrounding countryside until the advancing Japanese forced them to move again.

Few believed the official story that the 43-year-old doctor had committed suicide.

Wallace and his band of healers endured incredible hardships, but came back to Wuchow in 1945 when the tide of war turned.

Wallace repaired the badly damaged Stout hospital and got back to work. He kept right on working in Wuchow after the communist defeat of the Nationalist Chinese in 1949—earning even the grudging respect of communist soldiers as he treated their wounds.

But missionaries were no longer welcome in China, and the start of the Korean War in 1950 sparked an intense anti-American propaganda campaign. Wallace's arrest came in December of that year after local authorities "found" a gun under his mattress during a search and accused him of being a spy. He died in jail less than two months later.

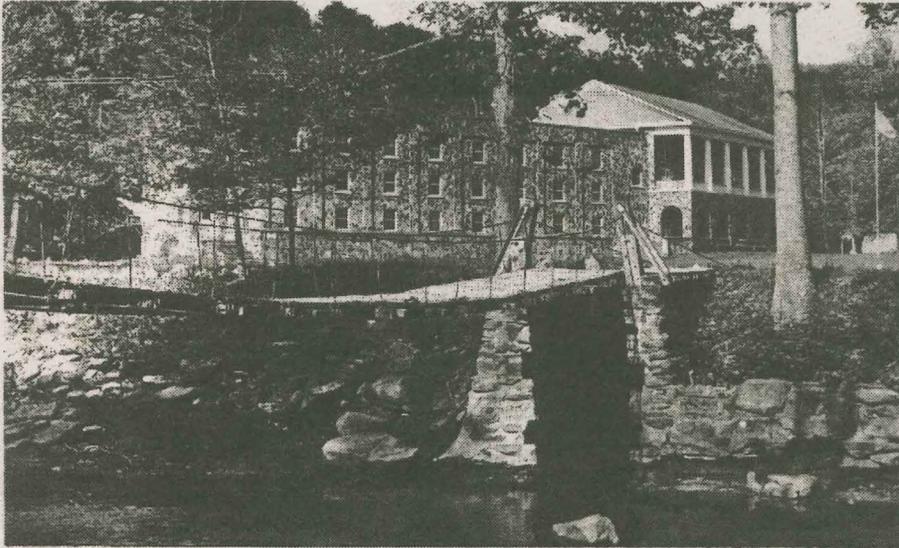
But it wasn't his lonely death that defined Wallace's heroism. It was his love-filled life.

Yes, Bill Wallace "was a martyr," acknowledged the late Everley Hayes, the missionary nurse who worked with him in his last years and identified his body.

"Many think of martyrs as those long-faced people. But I knew a Dr. Wallace who was very much interested in everything around him. He was a martyr not because he died in service but because he so identified with the Chinese people that they considered him one of them. And they loved him."

The Chinese had heard sermons before, wrote missions historian Jesse Fletcher. But "in Bill Wallace they began to see one, and that made the difference."

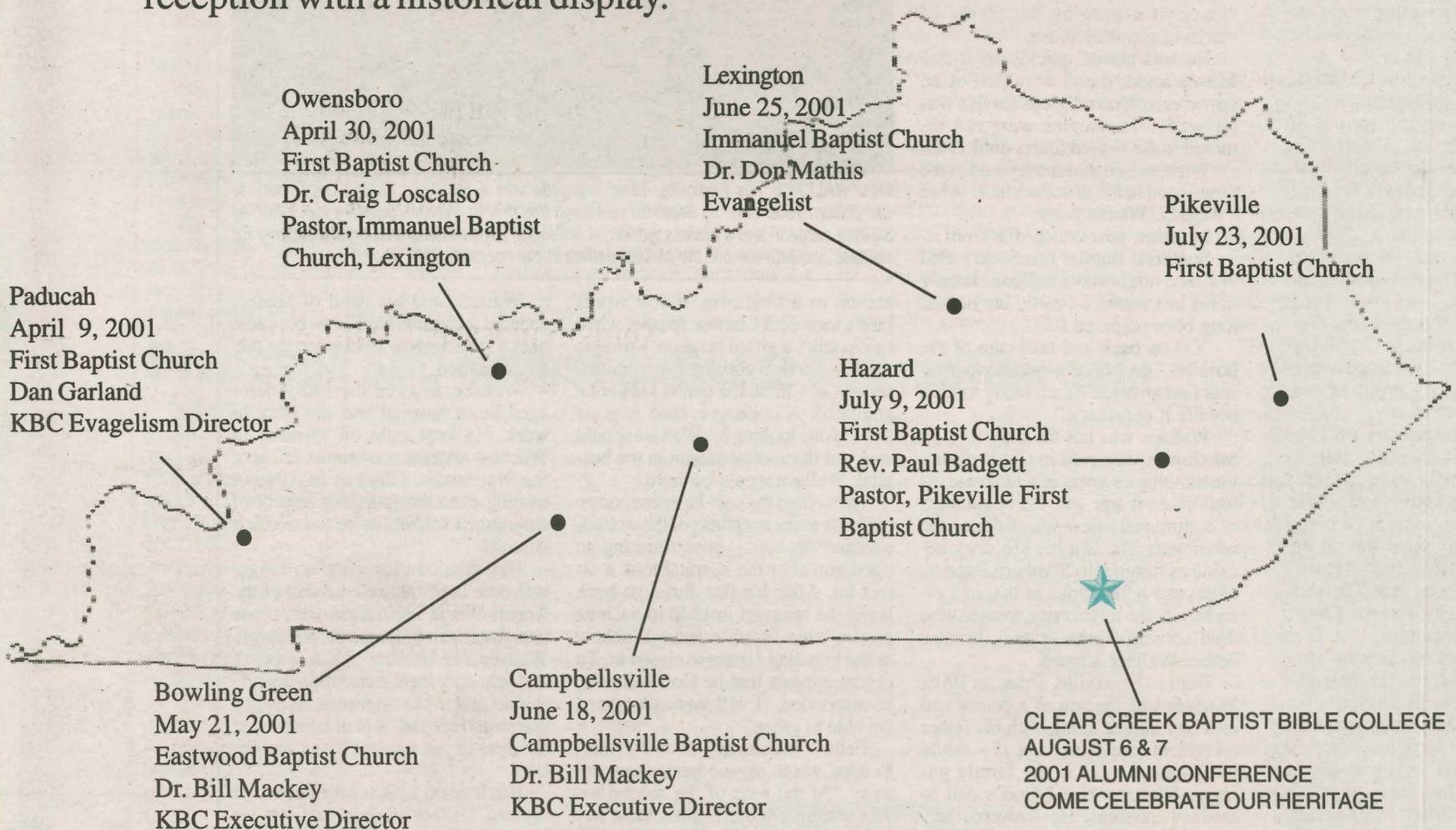
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