



WESTERN RECORDER

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FOR THE RECORD

Baptists
"Until He Comes ... Go!" is the theme for this year's Southern Baptist Convention in New Orleans, June 12-13. *Page 2.*

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The Derby and the Graham crusade: A tale of two events. *Page 5.*



Acteens
Nearly 550 Baptist teenage girls attended the recent Acteens conference in Bowling Green. *Page 7.*

Music
Third Day was the big winner at this year's Dove Awards. *Page 12.*

Youth ministry specialist offers tips for helping troubled teens

By Terri Lackey
SBC LifeWay Christian Resources

GLORIETA, N.M. (BP)—Teens who have experienced constant abuse and neglect deserve God's grace, and ministers of youth or recreation are in the position to help them find it, a former youth minister said.

Jim Graham, a 15-year veteran of youth ministry, told a recent conference audience that "crisis kids" can be placed in two categories. There are those at the "bottom of the cliff where an ambulance is needed" and there are rowdy teens who could use some guidelines and consistency.

Crises for kids can start in the home, at school or with peers, said Graham, a research associate at the Youth Ministry Institute at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary.

"At home, some kids experience harsh or unpredictable behavior patterns that include extreme neglect. They are left on their own to fend for themselves or for their younger brothers and sisters," he said.

"Kids raised without parental guidance grow up without an appropriate sense of guilt," Graham said. "Smoking and drinking or participating in sexual activity before age 12 is a clear indicator crisis stuff is going on in their lives."

While youth ministers or ministers of recreation are not necessarily trained to handle teenagers with such severe problems, there are a few ways they can help, Graham said:

■ *Develop an intentional relationship with a teenager believed to be in trouble.*

"As adults, you'll have to initiate the relationship. Kids in crisis do not come up to you and tell you everything that is going wrong in their lives," he said.

Symptoms, he said, include what they wear, how they fix their hair, sporadic behavior patterns and significant weight loss, especially in girls.

■ *Do something with them or plan an activity around them.* "They might be more willing to do something when an activity is involved," he suggested.

■ *Schedule one-on-one time.* "But never do that in private. Take them to lunch at a fast food restaurant where you can have a private conversation, but where there are a lot of people."

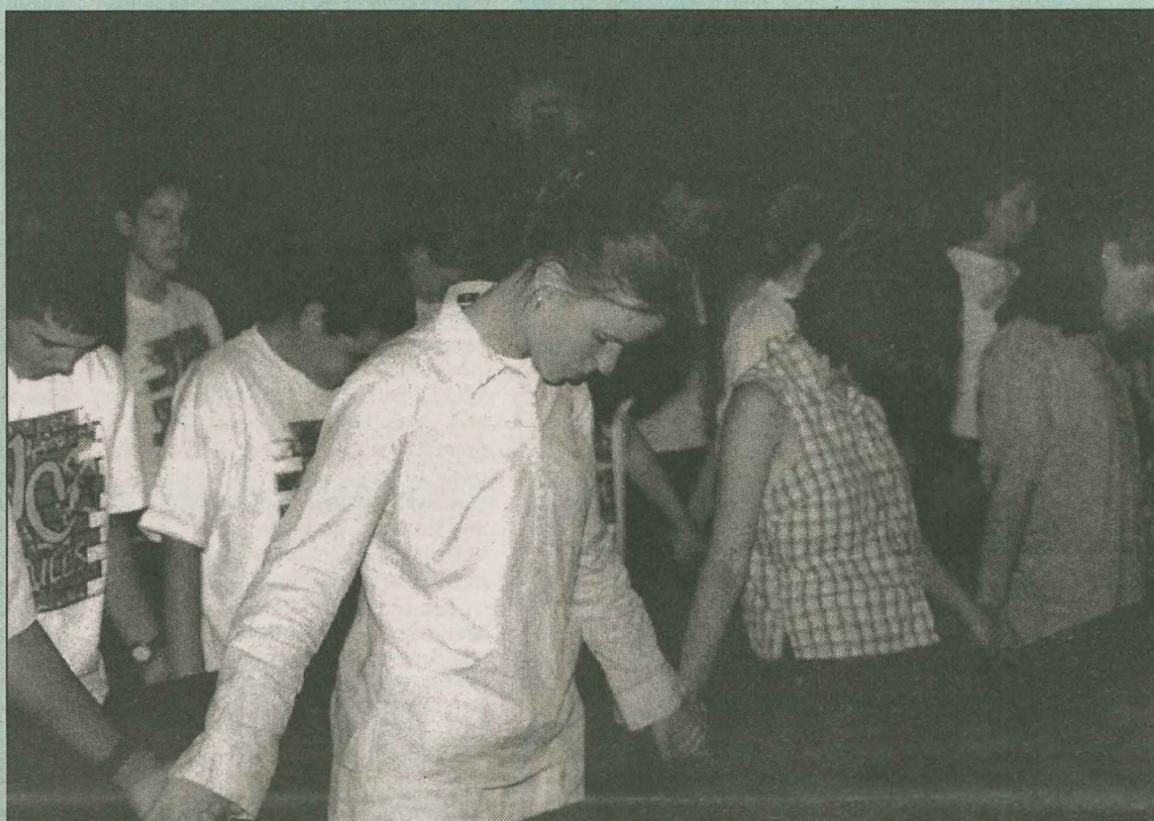
■ *Be willing to visit their turf.* "Find out where they like to hang out and go there."

Before ministers offer help, they need to do their homework about the teen in question, Graham said.

"You need to know the problems going on in their home. What are some inappropriate things going on in your community the kid might be involved

□ See Tips offered for ..., page 10

Mission & music



Youth ministers had a choice last weekend when it came to road trips for their groups. In Bowling Green, more than 1,000 students gathered for the first of eight regional youth evangelism conferences planned for around the state this year. Meanwhile, approximately 20,000 young adults invaded Wilmore for the 32nd annual Ichthus Christian music festival. Some Baptist youth ministers noted that this year they could take their students to Ichthus and still make it to a later evangelism conference.

■ *Above:* Students pray during the evangelism conference at Hillvue Heights Church in Bowling Green. ■ *Right:* Industrial metal band These Five Down plays at Ichthus. *Stories on pages 8 & 9.*



Family Focus

Dated Material — Deliver by Wednesday, May 2

European Baptist leader welcomes KBC volunteers

By Trennis Henderson
Editor

Martin Levey has been involved in the ministry of the European Baptist Convention for more than 25 years. He is anxious for Kentucky Baptist volunteers to join him.

Levey, president of the EBC, also is pastor of the EBC-related International Christian Fellowship in Bad Homburg, Germany. During a recent trip to the States, he met with several Kentucky Baptist leaders to discuss plans for the three-year missions partnership launched this year between the EBC and the Kentucky Baptist Convention in cooperation with the Southern Baptist International Mission Board.

The EBC is an organization of 67 English-language congregations in 22 countries throughout Europe. The international convention began in the 1950s with English-language church-

es near American military bases. After the collapse of communism in Eastern Europe and the reduction of American military personnel in Western Europe, the EBC shifted its primary focus toward international ministry in major European cities.

The convention currently has churches in such diverse settings as Paris, Frankfurt, Moscow and Sofia, Bulgaria. Church members range from diplomats and international businessmen to students and political refugees.

Levey said specific ministry needs in Europe that Kentucky Baptist volunteers can help meet include prayer walks, evangelism projects, musical performances, interim pastorates, leading men's and women's conferences, construction and renovation projects and discipleship and resource training.

"Ministry teams that address evangelism, Sunday school education and family life would be of great value," he noted. "We need to be embedded in

a broader fellowship so our horizons are widened."

Levey added that the benefits of involvement in the partnership run both directions. Kentucky Baptists can "export healthy church life to us in a living way. You have that culture here," he said. "We can export to you a broadened sensitivity to the global church. The gospel takes us beyond our local boundaries."

Noting that many Americans trace their religious roots to Europe, he added, "Now you can export blessings to us. We desperately need it."

Citing Germany as an example of Europe's spiritual need, Levey said only 1.4 percent of the nation's population attend church as often as once a month. With a population of 82 million people, Germany has only about 4 million evangelicals, he added.

Levey is representative of the diverse backgrounds of many EBC □ See *European Baptist ...*, page 9

BAPTISTS

Dobson among SBC's featured speakers

NEW ORLEANS—Next month's Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting will feature a number of familiar faces, including James Dobson, president of Focus on the Family.

Dobson, the closing speaker for the 1998 SBC annual meeting in Salt Lake City, will fill the same slot at this year's annual meeting in New Orleans. Dobson, a psychologist and author, is an outspoken proponent of conservative social and moral issues.

This year's convention will be held June 12-13 at the Louisiana Superdome. The program will feature a new Wednesday afternoon session to replace the Wednesday evening session. The meeting previously was shortened in 1999 from three days to two.

Other frequent SBC speakers on this year's program include current SBC President James Merritt and former President Adrian Rogers. Merritt, pastor of First Baptist Church of Snellville, Ga., is completing his first one-year term as president. He is expected to be re-elected without opposition. He will deliver his president's address during the meeting's Tuesday morning opening session.

Rogers, pastor of Bellevue Baptist Church, in Cordova, Tenn., was elected in 1979 as the first SBC president in a string of conservative leaders who led the convention's conservative shift of the past two decades.

He will present a Tuesday afternoon theme interpretation as part of the meeting's emphasis, "Until He Comes ... Go!" The theme is based on Luke 19:13, "So he called ten of his servants and gave them ten minas. 'Put this money to work,' he said, 'until I come back.'"

Fred Luter, pastor of Franklin Avenue Baptist Church in New Orleans, will preach the annual convention sermon Tuesday evening.

Messengers will be asked to take action on a proposed \$178 million SBC Cooperative Program allocation budget for 2001-2002. The budget proposal is a \$10 million increase over the current year. Major budget allocations include 50 percent for the work of the SBC International Mission Board, 22.79 for the North American Mission Board and 21.64 percent for theological education, including the SBC's six

seminaries and the Historical Library and Archives.

An emphasis on personal evangelism and a report from the SBC's new Council on Family Life will be among key features of the two-day meeting, according to Merritt.

The Council on Family Life was established earlier this year by the SBC Executive Committee to build a heightened awareness of the needs of families and to work in cooperation with SBC agencies to provide resources for local churches.

"We are going to do everything we can to keep (the meeting) focused like a laser beam on evangelism and missions," Merritt said. "We are going to highlight missions and evangelism in ways we've never done."

Mission features will include a Tuesday morning report by the IMB and a Wednesday afternoon report by NAMB.

Local evangelism efforts will be highlighted Tuesday morning during a Crossover New Orleans report. Crossover, an annual evangelistic emphasis, has been held in conjunction with the SBC annual meeting since 1989. In 1996, the last time the SBC met in New Orleans, nearly 3,000 people made crossover professions of faith during Crossover events ranging from block parties to door-to-door witnessing.

Messenger registration will open at 4 p.m. June 10 and at 8 a.m. June 11-13. For more information, visit www.sbc.net.

Based on reporting by Baptist Press

President Carter to headline CBF general assembly

ATLANTA (ABP)—Former President Jimmy Carter will be a keynote speaker at the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship's 2001 General Assembly, June 28-30, in Atlanta.

CBF, an organization of moderate Southern Baptists, was formed 10 years ago in response to the Southern Baptist Convention's conservative shift.

Carter, a CBF supporter in recent years, announced last fall that he feels excluded by the SBC and "can no longer be associated" with the denomination.

Carter, 76, spoke at the CBF's 1993 General Assembly in Birmingham. He will recount his personal Christian pilgrimage during the June 29 evening session.

The three-day gathering at the Georgia World Congress Center begins with a series of afternoon workshops June 28. The event will offer a blend of worship, learning and fellowship based on the theme of "Following Jesus."

Dallas pastor George Mason will speak at the opening general session the evening of June 28. CBF Moderator Donna Forrester, minister of pastoral care and counseling at First Baptist Church of Greenville, S.C., will preside at business sessions.

Participants also will commemorate the Fellowship's 10th anniversary, including a "Decade of Promise" banquet on Wednesday evening and a reception after the Thursday evening session. CBF officially was organized as a national network of Baptist churches and Christians in 1991.

Other highlights of the meeting include:

- As many as 100 workshops, with an emphasis on congregational ministries within the four "strategic initiatives" of CBF's strategic plan: community building, faith formation, global missions and leadership development.

- A Congregational Leadership Institute, designed for lay and clergy leaders. The one-day workshop on effective approaches to evangelism includes breakout sessions led by leadership teams from churches in diverse contexts.

- A resource fair with more than 80 exhibitors offering resources and services to churches. The fair will include a "missions marketplace" featuring handcrafted items from around the world and information about the unreached people groups they represent.

- Business items, including election of officers, adoption of CBF's mission and ministries budget for 2001-02, and consideration of a series of recommendations emerging from a strategic planning team.

- Commissioning of new CBF missionaries.

- State and regional CBF gatherings.

When to update your résumé



"Someone here order a bunch of packing boxes?"

SBC PREVIEW

- Pastors' Conference.** June 10-11 at the Louisiana Superdome in New Orleans. Theme: "Until He Comes ... Go!" Featured speakers: Jerry Fallwell, pastor of Thomas Road Baptist Church in Lynchburg, Va.; former Southern Baptist Convention President Bailey Smith, an evangelist from Atlanta; evangelists Sam Cathey of Alexandria, Va., and Rick Gage of Atlanta; Charles Roesel, pastor of First Baptist Church of Leesburg, Fla.; and Johnny Hunt, pastor of First Baptist Church of Woodstock, Ga.

- WMU annual meeting.** June 10-11 at the Louisiana Superdome. Theme: "Beyond Belief." Featured speakers: Baptist World Alliance President Billy Kim, pastor of Central Baptist Church in Suwon, Korea; author Rhonda Kelley, wife of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary President Chuck Kelley; Daniel Sanchez, professor of missions at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas. Cost: \$25 per person. For information, call (888) 968-0322.

- Ministers' wives luncheon.** June 12, 11:30 a.m., at the Hyatt Regency at the Louisiana Superdome. Theme: "Lord, Fill My Cup." Featured speaker: Kay Arthur, co-founder of Precept Ministries International. Advance tickets: \$10 each before May 15; \$12 at the door. For tickets, write to Kay Moore, Box 461592, Garland, TX 75046.

- Directors of missions conference.** June 10-11. Theme: "Servant Leaders to the Churches." Featured speakers: Roy Fish, professor of evangelism at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary; Jeff Iorg, executive director of the Northwest Baptist Convention; Jimmy Draper, president of LifeWay Christian Resources of the Southern Baptist Convention; Russell Begaye, national multi-ethnic specialist for the SBC North American Mission Board; Charles Lowery, pastor of Hoffmantown Baptist Church in Albuquerque, N.M.

- Southern Baptist evangelists conference.** Worship service June 10 at 9:45 a.m. in the Grand Ballroom of the Hyatt Regency. Featured speakers: Richard Lee, pastor of First Redeemer Church in Cummings, Ga., and Keith Fordham, an evangelist from Fayetteville, Ga. Business session June 12 at 7:30 a.m. at the Holiday Inn Superdome.

- Student conference.** June 10-11 at the Louisiana Superdome. Featured speaker: evangelist Voddie Baucham of Houston. Cost: \$25. For information, call (770) 410-6345.

- African-American Fellowship.** Worship service June 10 at 5 p.m. at Franklin Avenue Baptist Church in New Orleans. Featured speaker: A.L. Sutton Jr., pastor of Sixth Avenue Baptist Church in Birmingham, Ala.

Pastors' meeting and fellowship dinner June 11 at 4 p.m. at La Madeleine's Salon de Bon Fete in New Orleans. Featured speaker: Fellowship President Joseph Lyles, pastor of Fort Foote Baptist Church in Fort Washington, Md. Dinner cost: \$30. For information, call Ethel Williams at (800) 999-3113, ext. 1423.

- Hispanic Fellowship.** June 9-10 at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. Theme: "There's Life in Jesus." Featured speaker: evangelist Alberto Mottes of Anaheim, Calif. For information, call Bobby Sena at (770) 410-6227.

- Chaplains' convocation.** June 11, 9:30 a.m., at First Baptist Church of New Orleans. Featured speaker: James Spivey, professor of church history at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. To register, call (770) 410-6364.

- Baptist World Alliance breakfast.** June 13, 7 a.m., at the Hyatt Regency. Featured speaker: BWA President Billy Kim. Cost: \$15 each. For tickets, contact BWA, 405 N Washington St., Falls Church, VA 22046.

- Seminary luncheons.** June 13. Golden Gate, Midwestern and Southern seminaries, Louisiana Superdome; Southeastern and Southwestern seminaries, Hyatt Regency; New Orleans Seminary, seminary campus. Contact seminaries for reservations.

KENTUCKY

Kentucky churches take part in Day of Prayer activities

FRANKFORT—Kentucky Baptist churches are among congregations scheduling events to coincide with this week's National Day of Prayer.

The 50th observance of the National Day of Prayer will be marked May 3 with celebrations across the country.

The annual day of prayer for the nation and its leaders was created in 1952 by Congress and President Truman, but observances have become more popular since President Reagan designated the first Thursday of May as the official time to mark the occasion.

More recently, boosted by the work of an evangelical Christian ministry called the National Day of Prayer Task Force, observances have continued to expand.

In Frankfort, Ted Troth, a state attorney and senior pastor of Hillcrest

Baptist Church in Frankfort, said he noticed several years ago that there were few activities on the local or national scale to mark the day.

"I looked around and didn't see anything going on," he said. "I felt there was a need for it, especially because we were located in the state's capital, the seat of power for Kentucky."

Troth then worked with Franklin County Sheriff Ted Collins to start a prayer breakfast at the church for city, county and state elected officials.

"It's a non-threatening environment, and we ask them to come so we can thank them for what they do and pray for them."

Troth said the breakfast attracts between 85-90 officials, and Gov. Paul Patton usually is in attendance.

At DeHaven Memorial Baptist in LaGrange, youth leader Lisle Drury is

hosting a teen rally the night before the National Day of Prayer to encourage youth to join in prayer at their flagpoles the next day.

"I feel like this is of utmost importance," Drury said. "If we want to see our nation turn to God, it has to start with prayer."

The LaGrange rally will include skits, music and small group discussions to help the students pray for their local, state and national leaders. "Last year we had around 100 teens," Drury said. "We just challenge them to meet at their school's flagpoles and pray."

According to the National Day of Prayer's task force, more than 20,000 events are scheduled in all 50 states. Billy Graham composed the following prayer, which organizers are encouraging Americans to recite at 12:30 p.m. EDT on May 3:

Our Father and Our God, We

praise You for Your goodness to our nation, giving us blessings far beyond what we deserve.

Yet we know all is not right with America. We deeply need a moral and spiritual renewal to help us meet the many problems we face.

Convict us of sin. Help us to turn to You in repentance and faith. Set our feet on the path of Your righteousness and peace.

We pray today for our nation's leaders. Give them the wisdom to know what is right, and the courage to do it.

You have said, 'Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord.' May this be a new era for America, as we humble ourselves and acknowledge You alone as our Savior and our Lord.

This we pray in Your holy name, Amen.

With additional reporting by Religion News Service

Volunteers still needed in Massachusetts

FRAMINGHAM, Mass.—Kentucky Baptist Disaster Relief Associate Larry Koch is issuing a plea for more volunteers to help clean mud and debris from Massachusetts homes inundated by spring floods.

Melting snow and a deluge of rain pushed rivers and streams around Billerica, Reading and Winchester, Mass., over their banks in March. In the wake of flooding, as many as 250 homeowners have requested helping in clearing mud from their homes and sanitizing.

More than a dozen Kentucky volunteers have answered the call since an appeal for volunteers went out April 13.

Koch also is requesting prayer for the volunteers on site, including Mary Douthit, who suffered a heart attack last week. Douthit, a volunteer from Finley Baptist Church in Henderson, was hospitalized for observation and evaluation.

So far, the volunteers have cleaned about 30 homes. The team's length of stay is uncertain, he added. "We could be there all summer, or as long as we have volunteers."

Volunteers also have the opportunity to share the gospel, Koch noted. "People are really surprised that we don't charge for our clean-up. A lot of seeds are being planted through our efforts and that makes it all worth it."

Trained Kentucky disaster relief volunteers who are interested in volunteering for the relief efforts in Massachusetts should contact the Kentucky Baptist Convention Brotherhood department at (502) 244-6489 or toll-free in Kentucky (888) 254-5720.

Lexington pastors spend a day in homeless experience

By Victoria Moon
Staff Writer

LEXINGTON—Two Lexington Baptist pastors recently took the old adage "walk a mile in my shoes" seriously by participating in a 24-hour simulated homeless experience.

Jay Robison, senior pastor of Trinity Baptist Church in Lexington, and Bob Baker, senior pastor of Calvary Baptist Church of Lexington, joined approximately 50 other community leaders March 22-23 in going out into the streets of Lexington with little more than the clothes on their backs to discover what homelessness is like.

"We were given a sack lunch, a couple blankets and were allowed to carry no more than \$3," Robison said. "The program coordinators let us know the places where many of the homeless frequent for food and shelter, and after that we were basically on our own for 24 hours."

The participants were divided into groups of four and set out from different parts of the city. Police officers were members of each group for safety reasons.

Robison said his group started walking through the downtown area, trying to decide what to do next. "I noticed a lot of people driving past us and slowing down to stare at us and taking special notice of us as we walked," he said. "That was a strange feeling."

After walking for a few hours, Robison said his group found a bakery about to close and asked for some food. Bakery employees gave them a couple dozen bagels which they took to Woodland Park, a common homeless refuge, and shared the bagels with actual homeless people they found there.

Later that evening, they attended a free basketball game downtown and then sought shelter in a chapel near the University of Kentucky campus.

"One thing that surprised me about this experience was how much you walk, and how physically exhausted you are just having to walk everywhere you go," Robison said, "and also how little rest you actually get."

Most homeless people get only three to five hours of sleep each night,

even when sleeping in shelters, because of constant interruptions and little privacy, Robison noted.

"A lot of times you might see homeless people during the day, sleeping on a bench or a chair in the public library," he said. "The reason why is that it's very difficult to get any sleep when you're on the streets."

Baker said he also was surprised by the physical toll of homelessness.

"We were tired just from the walking," he said. "It's incredibly exhausting."

He said his group took advantage of various community resources for the homeless in Lexington, including a men's shelter called the Hope Center, the Salvation Army and various churches in the area.

"The things I took away from this experience were that a lot of homeless must have a deep sense of hopelessness," he said. "And they don't have a lot of self-esteem—you really have to swallow your pride to ask for a handout or help."

Baker also noted that it would be easy for homeless men and women to lose their sense of identity.

Kentucky Fellowship event highlights evangelism, shuns politics

By Trennis Henderson
Editor

BOWLING GREEN—A decade after organizing on the state level, the Kentucky Baptist Fellowship attracted nearly 200 participants to its annual spring gathering April 27-28 at First Baptist Church of Bowling Green.

The state organization, affiliated with the national Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, "was born out of the controversy in the Southern Baptist Convention," according to printed material distributed by Fellowship leaders.

Despite the historic connection to convention controversy, KBF Coordinator John Lepper said state leaders "have redefined ourselves beyond being a political action group."

Speaking during a small-group listening session, Lepper said, "We're not trying to cause controversy or con-

flict in any church. We're not trying to get the vote out. There is no political aspect as I understand it. We're here to be proactive."

"I'd like people to see our Fellowship for who we really are," agreed Michael Duncan, the group's new moderator. "We are going to be proactive about what the Fellowship is doing. We're not in the business of bad-mouthing anybody else."

Highlighting a theme of "Missions and Evangelism," the two-day meeting featured messages on evangelism and a commissioning service for four KBF-sponsored summer missionaries. The four college students—Christy Craddock, Kaysee Graham, Jennie Hall and Justin Swaggerty—will serve this summer in two ministry settings in south Florida.

Sharyn Dowd, associate professor of religion at Baylor University in Waco, Texas, delivered the confer-

ence's Friday evening and Saturday morning sermons on why and how to do evangelism.

Dowd said many Baptists traditionally have viewed salvation simply as "a deal we cut with God" to avoid going to hell. Pointing to the Great Commission, she noted, "It does not say go and make deals with all nations. It says make disciples of all nations."

One key to effective evangelism, Dowd said, is to "put people in touch with the risen Christ in such a way it will change their lives."

"We do evangelism out of the overflow of what God is doing in our lives," she added. "We need to ask the risen Christ to fill us with His Spirit, to fill our lives with what He wants us to do."

In addition to the plenary sessions, participants had the opportunity to take part in small-group conferences ranging from a comparison of the

1963 and 2000 Baptist Faith and Message statements to a dialogue about CBF's Young Leaders Network designed to involve Baptists under age 40 in CBF ministry efforts.

During a Saturday morning business session, Duncan was installed as the organization's moderator for the coming year. Duncan, a member of Eminence Baptist Church, succeeds Delores Baugh, a member of Freeman Trace Church in Elizabethtown. Participants elected Heather Barron, a member of Edgewood Baptist Church in Nicholasville, as moderator-elect.

In other action, Alice Marshall, a member of Broadway Baptist Church in Louisville, was elected as a member of CBF's national coordinating council.

Participants also approved a 2001-2002 budget of approximately \$195,000, a 30 percent increase over the current budget of \$150,000.

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

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Liberty in Christ

Al Mohler's recent comments in a March 27 article about a "truth party" and a "liberty party" in Southern Baptist Convention history give considerable cause for reflection.

It reminds one of the situation Paul was confronting in the congregation at Corinth. Some claimed to be a "Paul party." Others claimed to be a "Peter party." Still others claimed to belong to a "Christ party." Paul's questions confront us still today. "Is Christ divided? Paul wasn't crucified for you, was he? You weren't baptized in the name of Paul, were you?"

If Mohler wants to place me or other "liberals" in a "liberty party," and place himself in a "truth party," I wish to remind him that both he and I were baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.

This past summer, the SBC revised the Baptist Faith and Message to remove the clause, "The criterion by which the Bible is to be interpreted is Jesus Christ." Mohler and others who were responsible for this removal seem to be all too comfortable with a kind of biblical interpretation that allows their own concerns for partisanship, "truth" and "orthodoxy" to overshadow the other-centered witness, love and unity of Christ.

A biblical interpretation that does not have Christ as its center and the Holy Spirit as its guide will comfortably place the wisdom of this world—whether expressed as inerrancy, truth, orthodoxy or dogma—over the message of Christ crucified! The so-called "truth party" has ceased to walk upright toward the truth of the gospel.

The question is looming large for every Baptist individual and faith community: Should we align ourselves with the judgmental spirit of partisanship and manipulative language of "orthodoxy" or should we walk upright

toward the truth of the gospel with the crucified Messiah as our interpreter, the Holy Spirit as our guide?

Douglas A. Hume
Louisville

The role of women

I am responding to the April 21 letter by Connie Pruitt titled "Don't Forget Women."



What she does not seem to understand is that banning women from being pastors and deacons is biblical. If God is so clear on the subject, why would we want to change His Word?

God never calls anyone to violate what He already has said in the Bible. The Bible must be our only source of authority even on this subject.

God set forth in the Bible a plan for authority both in the home and church. That leadership falls to the man as stated in many places in the Bible. (See Titus 1:5-9, Ephesians 5:22-24, Colossians 3:18, 1 Peter 3:1).

We must not change the Word of God or violate its teachings. We must stand for the truth of Scripture even if we must change our personal opinions to fall in line with God's plan given in the Bible.

Too many women misinterpret God's call to service or to being a women's teacher/speaker as a call to preach. God has a special place for women, no matter what the percentage of work is done by women or who seems more faithful—men or women. But many willingly fall for Satan's

ages-old lie, "You aren't as good as you could be. You can be so much more. But does God's Word really mean it that way?"

Just as God has a plan for men, He has a place of service especially for women. We should all seek to be used by God, even if it means being on our knees scrubbing the floor in the most lowly of positions instead of seeking what we perceive to be the glory jobs.

Secular feminism has too long invaded our churches. Godly women must stop it and throw out Satan's lies.

Donna Davis
Horse Cave

Support temperance

The liquor crowd and the gambling crowd continue to push their evils to a wider use in the state of Kentucky. We must never stop fighting to keep them from growing and doing more harm.

I always have been deeply grateful to the Temperance League of Kentucky for their great effort in helping us fight these two evils. They are always on the job and always ready to help us.

I would like to urge Kentucky Baptist churches to support our Temperance League. I encourage our churches to have a speaker from the Temperance League to come to their churches and speak. I urge our churches to give to support their vital work.

While serving as interim pastor of Wildwood Baptist Church in Ashland, I had Rodney Burnette from the Temperance League to speak and warn about these two evils. He urged us to keep up the fight.

Charles E. Stewart
Ashland

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.

PARTNERS IN THE MISSION

Calvin Miller's ministry legacy

Many people are aware of the creative writings of Calvin Miller. His books are a wonderful legacy. However, fewer people are aware of his legacy at Westside Church in Omaha, Neb.

During a recent trip I had the opportunity to worship with the congregation at Westside. I was amazed and gratified with the buzz of activity surrounding the large church on a hill overlooking a major highway in affluent West Omaha.

Parking attendants were everywhere. Thirteen buses circled in front of the church. They provided transportation from off-site parking lots and meeting places for youth and singles.

A gentleman at the tape table remembered Calvin with much praise and had equal praise for the church's current pastor, Tony Lambert. There is a Saturday night worship service, three Sunday morning services and an outstanding Sunday night service. There were numerous decisions for Christ and church membership in the 11 a.m.

worship service I attended. Contemporary musician Steve Camp provided special music. It was obvious that the diverse congregation was connecting with God in real worship.

The church has just purchased 183 acres of land about two miles from the present site. Current Saturday night and Sunday morning worship attendance is at 3,500.

With such significant growth, I was not surprised to discover all kinds of ministries for men, women, youth, children, singles, campus outreach at the University of Nebraska and a Saturday morning prayer ministry.

The FAITH visitation results for this church year include: 1,872 visits attempted, 991 visits completed, 313 gospel presentations, 75 professions of faith, 141 enrolled in Sunday school and 436 prospects discovered.

Consistent church growth and an evangelistic harvest like this don't just happen by accident. It is obvious that the people are following godly leader-

ship, praying, worshipping, obeying God's Word, cooperating in great ministries and using their spiritual gifts and talents.

However, I have heard the heart-rending testimony of the early struggles of Calvin Miller as pastor there. There were major discouragements and doubts that he could survive. But Calvin had a vision from God to grow a great church.

I've heard Calvin tell the story of a quiet layman who was visiting a couple on behalf of the church. While there, an Evangelism Explosion team came in from another church and led the couple to Christ. The man returned excited about what he had observed and urged the pastor to lead the church in training.

Calvin was certified and led Westside Church to become a great evangelistic church in a new work area for Southern Baptists. The legacy continues and shows what can be accomplished when people turn themselves over to the Lord's leading. Please pray for the 180 Kentucky Baptist Convention laypeople involved in FAITH evangelism.

Bill Mackey is executive director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention



Bill Mackey

GIVING

Seek to avoid these 10 major estate-planning errors

By Laurie Valentine

Beware of these 10 common estate planning problems:

■ *Not executing a will.* If you don't make a will, Kentucky will do it for you. Your assets may not go where you want and, if



your estate is large, unnecessary taxes may be paid.

■ *Wanting just a "simple will."* Some people leave their spouse everything regardless of the estate's size because the spouse pays no estate taxes. That may only delay the tax until your spouse dies. For estates over the unified credit exemption equivalent, that could cost your heirs.

■ *Putting everything into joint tenancy.* While that avoids probate, joint ownership between spouses has the same danger as a simple will. If you own property jointly with others, such as children, "your" property may become subject to the claims of the child's creditors and you may get taxed on your own property if the child dies before you.

■ *Thinking that avoiding probate will avoid taxes.* It doesn't always. There are advantages to avoiding probate, but saving taxes generally isn't one of them.

■ *Leaving property to one child to "work things out."* If you leave your assets to one child, that person is not obligated to give it to other members of your family. It may even cost the recipient in gift taxes to redistribute things as you would have wanted.

■ *Letting your children "take care of" your grandchildren.* In larger estates, it may cost less for you to leave property to grandchildren directly rather than letting your children do it through their own estates. This is especially true if your children also have large estates.

■ *Failing to consider how your financial affairs will be handled if you become incapacitated as the result of a stroke, accident or illness.*

■ *Not using trusts to help beneficiaries handle their inherited wealth.* You can ease beneficiaries into the management of inherited wealth with the use of testamentary trusts.

■ *Not planning for taxes that may be due at your death.* Federal estate taxes are due nine months after death. Children may be forced to sell family assets at reduced prices if you do not have a proper plan in place.

■ *Procrastination.* The government will love you for this. Laurie Valentine is trust counsel for the Kentucky Baptist Foundation

Maintain confidentiality when called on to help sort out 'sticky situations'

Q: I work with single adults who often come to me with "sticky situations." Can you share some guidelines about how I should respond to the ethical challenges they face?

During a recent single adult ministries conference in Denver, Harold Ivan Smith led a breakout session in which he said the goal of leadership is to do the right thing at the right time for the right reason. As Martin Luther King stated, it's in moments of challenge and controversy when we are truly tested.

A key point in sticky ethical situations is the whole area of confidentiality. If single adults do not have the assurance that what they say to you is kept in strict confidence, they might not seek your help. Leaders need to be especially vigilant when they are exhausted from ministry, and when, in the midst of controversy, there is the temptation to focus on covering one's own interest. Even prayer requests often simply can be spiritualized ways of passing on gossip.

When listening to broken people, remember that you are receiving the narrative of someone else's life. This is sacred ground. To ever come to that moment with an attitude that you've already heard it all before or that you have the answers all figured out is to show an arrogance that is the opposite of hospitality. Listen all the way to the end of the sentence, to the end of the paragraph. Listening is hard work!

Some general guidelines: Regard all information as confidential, unless you are told otherwise. Inform the individuals about any limits of confidentiality. Legally, professionals are "mandated reporters." Keep careful, documented and secure notes of conversations.

Remember your calling in ministering to the private world of single adults. "Pay close attention to yourself" (1 Timothy 4:16), and "as God's steward, be blameless, not arrogant or quick tempered or addicted to wine or violent or greedy for gain; but hospitable, a lover of goodness, prudent, upright, devout and self-controlled" (Titus 1:7-8).—James Stillwell

Q: What should I do when I become angry with my child?

Sooner or later children do things that make us angry. Some of these things simply are foolish and childish. Others are intentional actions, deliberately designed to make us angry. Either way, parents must learn to control their anger.

■ **Consider the cause.** Understanding what makes you angry can help you have your guard up.

■ **Be the adult.** Don't let a child cause you to act childishly. Be mature enough to temper your response. If necessary, wait until you cool down before you address the situation.

■ **Look for the laugh.** Humor can help diffuse anger so find the fun. Finding something to laugh about can be especially helpful when the child's actions are unintentional.

■ **Sleep tight.** When feelings of anger arise, deal with them before the sun sets. Do not let angry feelings fester and grow. Help your child understand why you became angry, but reassure him or her of your love.

■ **Depend on the Spirit.** Although normal, anger does not bring about the righteous life God desires (James 1:20). Ephesians 4:26 says, "In your anger do not sin." Ask God to shape your response to anger through the power of the Holy Spirit. Pray especially for patience and self-control.

Psychologist Ross Campbell says that for many children parental anger is their greatest fear. Anger can drive a wedge between parent and child and cause long-lasting resentment. If you have problems controlling your anger, do not hesitate to seek professional help in the form of Christian counseling.—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.



Derby & Graham crusade: A tale of 2 events

Louisville will play host to a pair of major events in May and June. The first item on the calendar is Saturday's 2001 Kentucky Derby at Churchill Downs. A few weeks later, on June 21-24, Papa John's Cardinal Stadium will be the setting for the Greater Louisville Billy Graham Crusade.

Both events will attract extensive media attention in Louisville and throughout Kentucky. Both events already are generating lots of excitement among area residents. And both events will draw thousands of people who will participate firsthand in the public gatherings.

Beyond that, the two events have a lot more differences than similarities.

While the annual Run for the Roses is billed as "the most exciting two minutes in sports," preparations for the famous horse race have mushroomed in recent years. Fireworks, a hot-air balloon race, a steamboat race and dozens of other activities have stretched the race into a two-week festival. Newspaper and TV reporters have speculated for weeks about which celebrities will attend which parties, with party tickets going for several hundred dollars each. Add to that a multi-million dollar TV contract, advertising agreements and corporate sponsors and Derby 2001 is big business in the Bluegrass.

There also have been extensive preparations for next month's Billy Graham crusade. The last time the famed evangelist held a crusade in Louisville was 1956. Preparations for the June event can be traced to the early 1970s when a group of Christian leaders began praying for a return engagement by Graham.

Major planning got under way earlier this year after a public announcement in January detailing the crusade dates and location. Since then, staff members from the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association have set up offices to coordinate crusade plans. More than 5,000 volunteers have begun training to serve as crusade counselors. Other volunteers will serve as prayer warriors, ushers and choir members during the four-day crusade.

Other differences between the two events include:

■ **Winners vs. losers.** The Derby will crown only one winner this weekend. Among all the hopeful entries, all but one will come up short of their goal of fin-

ishing first. Most folks who place bets on the race also will go home losers.

By contrast, everyone who attends the Billy Graham crusade will have the opportunity to go home a winner. During the 1956 crusade, 6,780 people made public spiritual decisions. With a goal of up to 200,000 people attending the 2001 crusade, organizers anticipate thousands of individuals making professions of faith in Christ.

■ **Me vs. them.** While some of the pre-race parties donate funds to charities, the bulk of Derby activities revolve around personal pleasure and professional profit. Far more important than being invited to the "right" party, however, the Graham crusade offers Christians the opportunity to help lead family members, friends and co-workers to personal faith in Christ. By focusing on the spiritual, emotional and physical needs of those around us, concerned Christians can invest in efforts with lasting impact.

■ **Temporary vs. eternal.** Even amid all the Derby hoopla, life's day-to-day routine will return pretty quickly for Derby-goers after the race is over. For those who become Christians at the Graham crusade, however, life will never be the same. Rather than getting caught up in the fleeting excitement of a sports event, those who turn their lives over to Jesus during the crusade will reap eternal benefits worth more than material wealth or fame.

Enjoy the Derby festivities but don't forget to save time and energy for priorities that really matter. As Jesus declared in Luke 15:10, "There is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents." Let the real party begin.

STRAIGHT FROM THE EDITOR



Trennis Henderson

Crusade reflections

Did you attend Louisville's 1956 Billy Graham crusade? Did it make a significant spiritual impact on your life? If so, we'd like to hear about it. Send your name, address, phone number and a brief testimony about your experience by May 22 to Western Recorder, Box 43969, Louisville, KY 40253 or e-mail wesrec@ntr.net.

1900 edition of Recorder features words, words & more words

By Joyce Martin

You may think it takes a dedicated Kentucky Baptist to plow through the pages of this week's Western Recorder. If so, then what did it take to make it through one issue in 1900? Take the Jan. 4, 1900, issue, for example.



Sixteen pages. Each page 12 x 16 1/4 inches. Five columns per page. Eye-straining type. No photos. Little artwork. Little white space.

Lots of words.

In those days, it seems the operative phrase for layout and design must have been "get-as-many-words-on-the-page as possible." (You gotta admit, the reader did get a lot for \$2 per year.)

On page 16:

■ "Items of Interest: News The World Over." News briefs ranging from a "rebellion" in the Philippines, to an earthquake in Southern California to the "enormous destruction of birds to supply trimming for women's hats."

■ Three advertorials. Overcoats, bells and "The Gentlewoman" magazine.

■ "Our London Letter." A report from a British Baptist, including the war with the Dutch in South Africa. "It is not a pleasant consideration that the Boers in Africa, whom we are seeking to subdue, are our fellow Christians," he writes.

■ "A Third Baptism." A review of "A Looking Glass for Baptists," a book about the validity of baptism by Particular Baptists written by Luke Howard of London, England.

■ Five display ads. Baking powder, cure for morphine addiction, watch maker, the "Recorder" sewing machine and the livestock and leaf tobacco report.

On page 16 alone, there are approximately 2,700 words—and that doesn't include the five display ads.

Actually, the Recorder was just being true to its word. "The Western Recorder has more than double the reading matter of the average \$2.00 religious weekly," the advertisement for "The Gentlewoman" magazine proclaims, "and the writers are the ablest in the denomination."

After tackling the weekly Western Recorder by kerosene lamp light, surely the readers were all tuckered out. No wonder they went to bed with the chickens.

Joyce Martin is partnership editions editor for the Western Recorder

BAPTISTS

New Atlanta association closer to launch

ATLANTA (BP)—A group of Atlanta-area Baptist churches moved a step closer to forming a new association April 17, electing an interim moderator.

The new group is being formed in response to Atlanta Baptist Association's failure to dismiss two congregations for stances affirming the homosexual lifestyle. The churches, Virginia-Highlands Baptist Church in Atlanta and Oakhurst Baptist Church in Decatur, were dismissed in 1999 from the Georgia Baptist Convention.

Bill Jaggars, pastor of North Peach-

tree Baptist Church in Doraville, was chosen to lead the new association.

The meeting attracted about 50 people who drafted bylaws establishing the group's articles of faith as the Baptist Faith and Message "as currently adopted by the Southern Baptist Convention." The bylaws further state that any church or mission "that is in conflict with the Baptist Faith and Message currently adopted is not in harmony or cooperation with the purposes of the association."

Jaggars said the group plans to request up to \$25,000 from the Georgia

Baptist Convention as seed money for the new association. Leaders of the GBC and the Southern Baptist North American Mission Board previously announced plans to defund Atlanta Baptist Association.

Tim Clark, who moderated the April 17 meeting, said the new association eventually could be the recipient of NAMB funds that previously had been channeled through Atlanta Baptist Association. The funds had been earmarked for inner city and special events ministry and provided funds for several missionary positions.

Va. Baptists welcome out-of-state churches

RICHMOND, Va. (ABP)—The Baptist General Association of Virginia can welcome congregations from other states, according to a clarification of an affiliation policy by convention leaders.

A statement on affiliation, adopted by the Virginia Baptist Mission Board, was in response to a handful of churches outside of Virginia who have asked about affiliation with the BGAV, said Reginald McDonough, the BGAV's executive director.

McDonough said nothing in the BGAV constitution prohibits affiliation by churches from out of state. In fact, a few congregations just across state lines in North Carolina and West Virginia have been active members for decades.

The affiliation statement, which would be given to any church requesting BGAV membership, cites current financial requirements for membership and lists the BGAV's statement of vision and values.

McDonough emphasized that the BGAV will not solicit membership from churches but will respond to requests.

Alliance urges Fellowship to drop gay prohibition

DECATUR, Ga. (ABP)—The Alliance of Baptists is asking the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship to withdraw a recent statement on homosexuality.

Meeting at Oakhurst Baptist Church in Decatur, Ga., a church under fire for its pro-gay stance, the Alliance urged the CBF's Coordinating Council to rescind a new "organizational value" that forbids direct funding of groups that condone gay and lesbian relationships.

The value statement, to be used in developing the Fellowship's annual budget and in hiring of staff and missionaries, primarily affects divinity

schools linked to universities that include sexual orientation in their open-admissions policies. Under the new rule, those schools aren't eligible for institutional support from the CBF.

The Alliance vote, however, stemmed from confusion about whether the new policy also applies to exhibitors at this summer's CBF General Assembly. A letter sent by a CBF representative to prospective exhibitors said they must "enhance and affirm the mission and shared commitments" of the Fellowship. Background documents included the value statement on homosexuality.

That prompted the Alliance's board of directors to decree the group should "have no official presence" at the June CBF meeting in Atlanta, in order to remain consistent with its "welcoming and affirming" stance toward gays.

During a report of that action, however, Alliance member Mahan Siler persuaded a majority of participants to approve instead a statement expressing grief over the new CBF statement.

Speakers debating the motion asked Alliance Executive Director Stan Hastey to seek clarification of the CBF policy before deciding whether to exhibit at this year's General Assembly.

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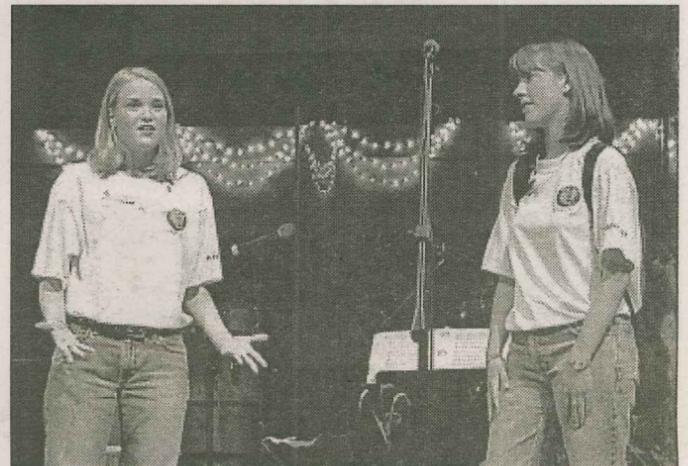
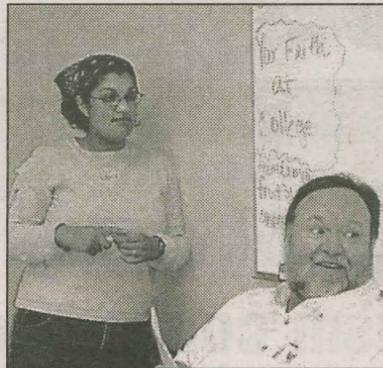
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KENTUCKY



ACTEENS Nearly 550 people attended the annual Kentucky Acteens conference April 20-21 at Living Hope Baptist Church in Bowling Green. The event, sponsored by Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union and titled "Exalt," featured Lisa Hoffman, a two-year missionary to Israel, and Susan Peugh, of the Southern Baptist North American Mission Board. ■ **Above:** Acteens enjoy hands-on learning about puppet ministry. ■ **Right:** Bryant Rudolph, Baptist campus minister at Western Kentucky University, and WKU student Maryem Raissian lead a discussion about faith at college. ■ **Far right (from the top):** Susan Peugh, director of World Changers at NAMB, challenged the teenagers to live a life committed to Christ. ■ Ashley Hopper of Calvary Baptist in Central City and Julie Pegram of Bellview Baptist in Paducah, perform a skit. ■ The Christian band ZOEgirl performs at a Friday night concert. ■ Acteens from Calvary Baptist in Beaver Dam sort through nearly 2,000 donated items for hospitality bags for the 2002 Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City. ■ Living Hope Acteens perform an interpretative movement during the opening worship service. (Photos by LaRaine Dail)



Recognition of Deceased Kentucky Baptist Leaders

The 2001 KBC Obituaries Report will include information on deceased individuals who have served our Lord and Kentucky Baptists in a noteworthy manner. We are including individuals who died during the convention year, Sept. 1, 2000, through August 31, 2001. These should be Kentucky Baptist ministers, missionaries, educators, laypeople, institutional leaders, staff and others whose Christian service has significantly benefited our state convention fellowship and mission programs.

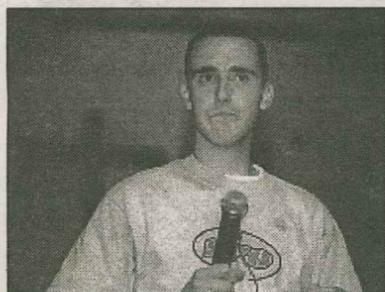
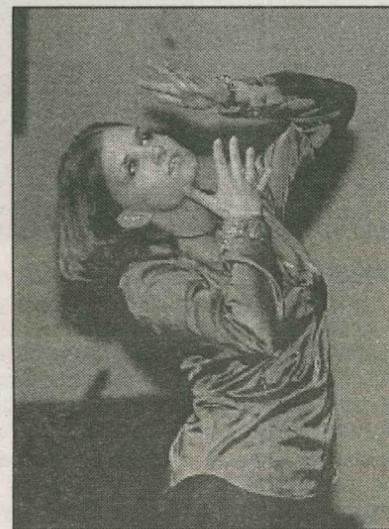
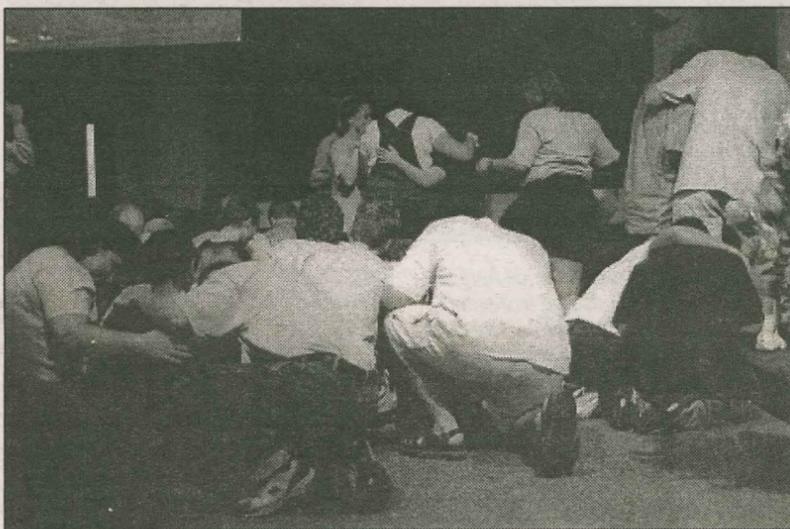
We need your help to gather the following information: Full name of deceased; date of birth; date of death; active or retired status in last position held; name of church, association, city and state of position; service or ministry worthy of recognition (brief description). Please send this information before Sept. 2 to:

Executive Office, Kentucky Baptist Convention
PO Box 43433, Louisville, KY 40253, Attn: Wanda Karolyi

E-mail: wanda.karolyi@kybaptist.org

These obituary entries will be reported to the 2001 KBC annual meeting in Murray. You are an important part of our network for gathering this information concerning those servants who deserve to be remembered among Kentucky Baptists.

KENTUCKY



EVANGELISM CONFERENCE More than 1,000 students attended the first of eight regional youth evangelism conferences to be held around the commonwealth. The event was held April 27-28 in Bowling Green.

■ **Top left:** Youth from Hillvue Heights Church welcome teens with choreographed dance.

■ **Top right:** Students play around with an oversized beach ball before the conference begins.

■ **Above:** Tim Colovos plays to the "beats" of a song with the help of other ministers.

■ **Bottom left:** Speaker Shane Blankenship encourages youth to consider their relationship with Jesus.

■ **Bottom middle:** Students pray during the invitation.

■ **Bottom right:** Ashley Witten, a member of Hillvue Heights, provides interpretive movement to a Christian song.

Youth evangelism conferences take regional approach

BOWLING GREEN—From beach balls and high-energy music to testimonies and emotional appeals, approximately 1,000 students celebrated the Christian faith during the first of eight regional youth evangelism conferences sponsored by the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

At least 22 teenagers made first-time professions of faith during the two-day event April 27-28.

"We just put this schedule together and prayed that God would touch the lives of students," said Tim Colovos, a youth pastor at Hillvue Heights Church in Bowling Green, which hosted the program.

Organizers mixed music, skits, dance and video clips with a sermon inviting the youth to become Christians.

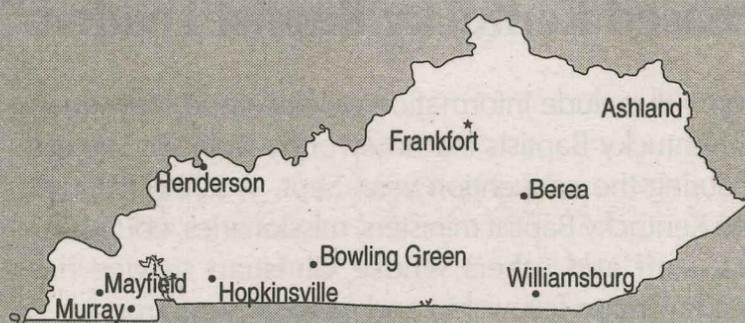
Colovos highlighted the choice offered to accept faith in Christ by showing a segment from the movie "The Sixth Sense" in which a little boy says "I see dead people. ... They don't know they're dead. They're everywhere."

"There's dead people in this church right now," Colovos said, urging teens to enter a personal relationship with God through faith in Jesus Christ.

Teenager Shane Blankenship preached on the story in Mark of Jairus, the synagogue ruler who asked Jesus to heal his sick daughter.

Blankenship noted that Jairus had

Event locations



In addition to last weekend's conference in Bowling Green, events will be held in:

Ashland Sept. 15, Fairview Baptist Church.

Berea Sept. 28-29, Berea Baptist Church.

Frankfort Sept. 21-22, Frankfort Civic Center.

Henderson Sept. 20-22, Henderson South Junior High School.

Hopkinsville Sept. 15, Western Kentucky Fairgrounds Convention Center.

Mayfield/Murray Aug. 18, Graves County High School.

Williamsburg Nov. 16-17, Cumberland College.

power, wealth and prestige but none of that could help his little girl. "There's a difference between religion and a relationship with Jesus Christ," he said. "If there wasn't, why did Jairus come to Jesus?"

On the way toward healing the little girl, an unclean woman who had been bleeding for 12 years touched Jesus seeking to be healed, Blankenship added.

"When it gets right down to it, every one of us is unclean. Every one of us is untouchable," he said. "Tonight you don't have to be unclean anymore. ... When we touch Jesus, the power is released."

Teenager Ricky Cowles told students that if they are Christians they are ministers regardless of whether they want to be.

Cowles encouraged the youth to

not be stumbling blocks, preventing their friends from wanting to know Christ because of their actions.

"You don't have to be in a church building for people to come to know Jesus," he said. "Are you ready to minister?"

This is the first year that KBC evangelism leaders have hosted regional youth evangelism conferences.

The multiple events are the result of conversations with youth ministers who said local events could draw more teenagers, according to Randy Record, KBC youth evangelism strategist.

"It's kind of the Taco Bell method," he said. "They don't have just one store."

Each conference involves two local captains who worked with churches to choose a date that had the least conflicts in that community.

Having regional events also gives local churches more options. Not only could leaders decide which event to attend, but because it was closer, churches could decide whether to stay overnight in the host city. Leaders say that overnight trips often help youth groups develop tighter bonds and give youth more time away from distractions to consider the evangelistic appeals of the event.

Other churches that are on a tighter budget can elect to commute each day from home, Record added.

KENTUCKY

Ichthus festival draws Christians of all stripes to Wilmore

By Victoria Moon
Staff Writer

WILMORE—Hundreds of Baptist youth were among the more than 20,000 teens descending on Wilmore last weekend for the Christian music and fellowship of the annual Ichthus Festival.

"I've been there six or eight times, and I really enjoy it," Kevin Hampton, youth minister at Buena Vista Baptist Church in Somerset, said shortly before the event. "When you see all those thousands of kids together worshipping God, it's like a little gleaming of what Heaven will be like."

Hampton took 30 youth to Ichthus this year, the first time he has been able to do so since becoming youth minister at Buena Vista.

In the past, he said, many Kentucky Baptist churches didn't attend the festival because of scheduling conflicts with the Kentucky Baptist Convention's youth evangelism conference.

This year the KBC is holding eight regional youth evangelism events. One of those was last weekend, but most will be later this fall. Many Baptist youth groups attended Ichthus and plan to attend a youth evangelism conference at a later date.

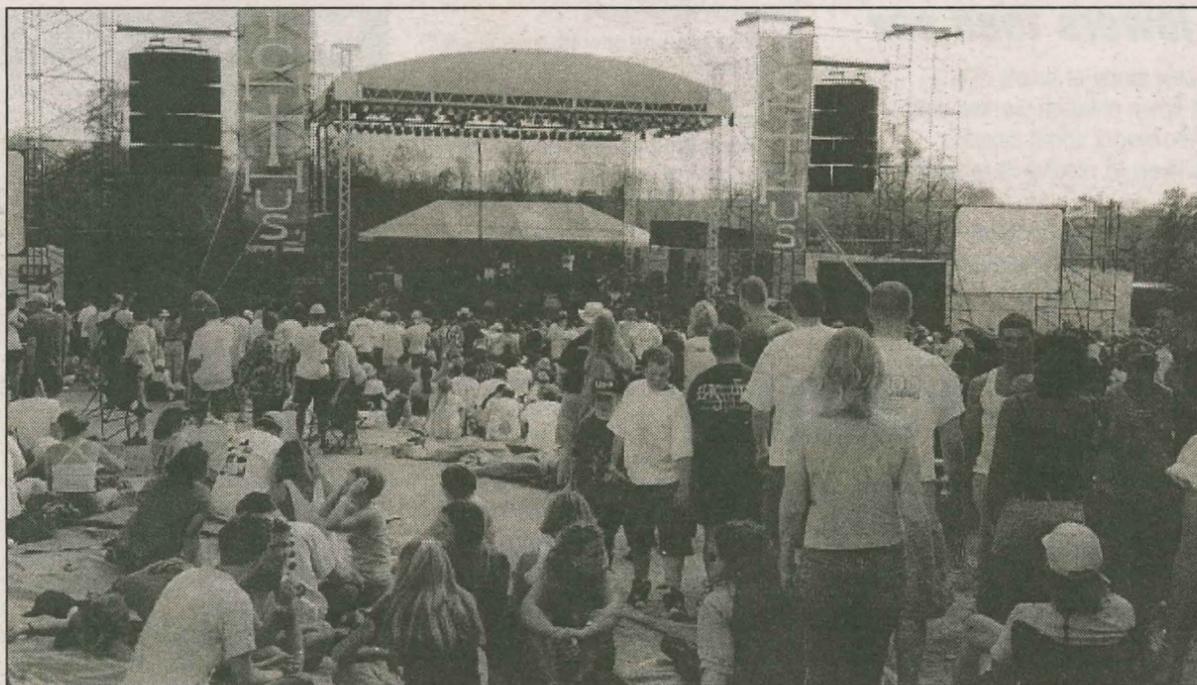
Hampton's youth met up with teens from five other churches at Ichthus, April 26-28, including three Baptist churches, and set up a large campsite on the grounds.

"This trip has built our group up spiritually, and it helped us build relations with other Christians," he said.

Ichthus started in 1970 as an effort by Asbury College professor Robert Lyon and a group of Asbury students to provide an alternative to the secular music festival Woodstock. It was the first Christian music festival in the country.

Since then, festival leaders have attracted a variety of big-name performers, including dc Talk, Larry Norman, Andre Crouch, Audio Adrenaline, Phil Keaggy and Michael W. Smith.

"At Ichthus Ministries, our chief



goal is to present the gospel of Jesus Christ to today's youth that their lives may be changed for Him," said Rick LaDue, festival director. "The implementation of this goal comes via Christian music concerts, a wide range of teaching and multiple worship experiences throughout the weekend.

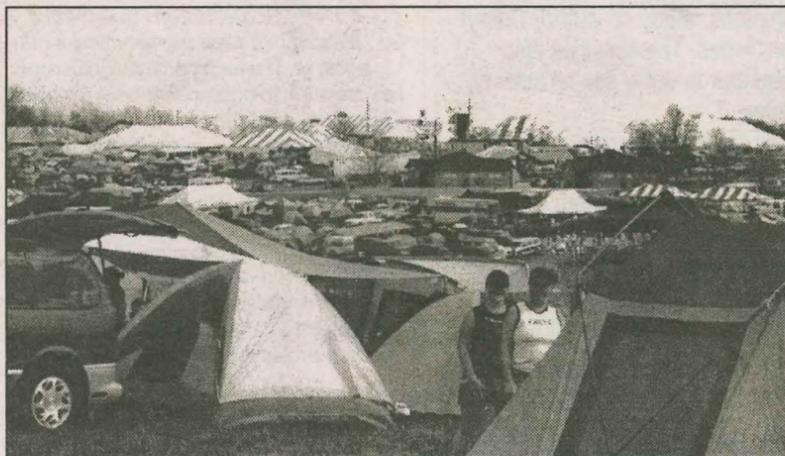
"Our hope is simple," he said, "we hope that every attendee whether staff, performer, teacher or participant will come away having grown in the Lord."

This year's festival theme was "Arms Wide Open," which festival director Rick LaDue said had secular as well as religious overtones.

"For most young people 'Arms Wide Open' is a popular song by (secular rock band) Creed, but there are strong biblical themes behind the choosing of this theme," he said.

"The climactic moment of the story of the prodigal son includes the image of the father running with his arms wide open to embrace a child who has come home."

LaDue said the theme also reflected on the Great Commission message of Matthew 28:19-20.



"We are encouraged to open our arms to the world and make disciples of all nations," he said.

The lineup of musicians for this year included Jennifer Knapp, Fire Iron Frenzy, Vigilantes of Love, O.C. Supertones, Delirious5? and the Newsboys.

The event also included messages from speaker Tony Campolo, former Prince guitarist Dez Dickerson and actor Kirk Cameron.

Teaching seminars held throughout the weekend included such topics as living in peace with God and others, forgiveness and pursuing physical purity.

Gary Baker, head of Ichthus Ministries, said Ichthus differs from other music festivals in its approach toward ministry and worship. "What makes Ichthus different is that its first priority is ministry, and the entertainment spins off that."

European Baptist Convention president asks for help

Continued from page 1

members. A native of England, he grew up in a Particular Baptist family and became a Christian at age 17. After earning a degree in mechanical engineering at London University, he worked for several international companies involved in defense, aerospace and robotics technology.

During that time, Levey said he "felt a stirring in my heart about the Christian ministry." That stirring "began to come to fruition" when he moved to Germany in 1975 and became involved in Immanuel Baptist Church in Wiesbaden.

Serving as a bivocational church planter for several years, he started EBC churches in Giessen and Bad Kreuznach, Germany. He was approached in 1989 by former EBC General Secretary John Merritt about planting an international English-language church in Bad Homburg.

When he agreed to pursue the min-

istry project, "we had no idea what or who we would draw," he recalled. "We gave it to the Lord." The church started in 1990 with Levey, his wife, Saggi, and a British family.

"Over that first year, we slowly grew from six to 20," he said. "The little church put up a lot of prayer and began to grow." Levey became the church's full-time pastor in 1993 and "I've been there ever since," he noted. "This opportunity was not accidental; it was providential."

The church now has about 250 adults and 140 youth and children who attend regularly. Like many EBC churches, International Christian Fellowship attracts a diversity of nationalities, denominational backgrounds and economic status. Participants in a typical worship service are from the U.S., England, China, Japan, Africa, Australia, Greece, Iran and Turkey.

"It comes together through the love of Christ," Levey explained. "Uncon-

ditional acceptance of each other is one of the criteria for membership in our church. That's who we are. The love of Christ displayed through you is the primary criterion for discipleship. That has helped produce a lot of unity in the church."

Describing his ministry philosophy as pastor of an international congregation, Levey said, "The goal is to form Christ in the hearts of those who hear, to shape the whole person in His image, to lead them to be spontaneous worshippers, to build a worshipping church and to build a church gifted by the Holy Spirit—a living body which does His will and relies on the energy and leading of the Spirit."

When he first moved to Germany, "I was a stranger in a strange land," Levey recalled. He added, however, that when he discovered the ministry and fellowship of the EBC, "I felt at home."

In his role as EBC president, Levey

has been involved in strategic planning efforts to help determine the convention's primary ministry goals. He said those priorities currently include evangelism, church planting, education and men's and women's ministries.

"There's a strong spirit of compassion and care for strangers" in EBC life, Levey emphasized. "We also remain thoroughly evangelical—we want to get people saved."

"I'm a Christian optimist," he added. "I'm profoundly convinced the wheat will overcome the tares."

As he and other EBC leaders seek to turn that vision into reality, "on the downside, we are woefully inadequate with resources," he said. And that's where Levey hopes Kentucky Baptist volunteers can help make a difference.

For information about partnership mission opportunities, contact the KBC partnership missions department at (502) 244-6462 or toll-free in Kentucky at (888) 254-5724.



ICHTHUS More than 20,000 people invaded Wilmore last weekend for the Ichthus Christian music festival. ■ Left top: A band performs on the main stage. ■ Above: Bill Mallonee, lead singer for Vigilantes of Love, entertains the crowd. ■ Left bottom: Thousands of festival goers camp out during the event, which started as a Christian alternative to Woodstock. (Photos by Victoria Moon)

Study: Abstinence homework with parents lowers teen sex

NEW YORK (RNS)—A new study of nearly 200 adolescents has found that when children worked with their parents to complete homework about sexual abstinence they were more likely to resolve to refrain from sexual activity.

The report from the Alan Guttmacher Institute—published in the March/April issue of the institute's Family Planning Perspectives journal—surveyed 351 students participating in the "Bright Futures" abstinence-education program in several suburban middle schools in the Rochester, N.Y., area.

About 95 percent of the 12- to 14-year-olds had indicated in an earlier survey that they were not sexually active.

All the students were asked to complete five abstinence-only sex education classes, and 190 of them were given five additional homework assignments to complete with a parent, according to USA Today.

"For example, the first homework activity was as simple as agreeing to a general set of ground rules" such as respecting one another's opinions, study co-author Cheryl Perkins told the Washington Times. The activities also included questions about reasons to delay sexual activity, and coping with peer pressure.

Those who had completed such assignments with a parent were "less likely to intend to have sex before completing high school," researchers concluded.

Those assignments also improved communication skills between parents and children, creating "a much more even give and take," said study co-author Linda Simkin, of the Academy for Educational Development in New York.

Tips offered for ministering to troubled teens

Continued from page 1
in? What's going on with their peers?" he asked.

Ministers also should know their limitations, Graham said.

"What kind of time do you have? What kind of training do you have? What are your priorities? What is your giftedness? Who are the specialists in your area? When do you refer?"

When "rowdy" or crisis teens visit a church's youth or recreation ministries, good discipline policies should be in place, Graham said.

Using material developed by Richard Ross, professor of youth ministry at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas, Graham offered four keys for a discipline policy:

- **Use a positive approach.** Don't refer to "cleaning up" the youth group. Refer to providing a safe, warm, structured environment.

- **Define expectations in advance.**
- **Build in a warning procedure that is positive.** If a teen constantly disrupts events, talk to him or her about the need to follow guidelines.

For example, a minister might say, "I think you recognize this isn't working, and I want you to stay, but if you can't participate constructively, you will have to leave the group."

- **Develop a plan for consequences and carry them out.** "Kids don't ultimately turn against church if our discipline policies are consistent and fair."

Family Focus

Troubled teen characteristics

Jim Graham, a 15-year veteran of youth ministry, listed seven characteristics that troubled teens exhibit and some possible remedies:

- **Teens with few positive adult role models** tend to reject authority, possess deep-seated anger, have difficulty attaching to others and struggle to express themselves.

"The remedy is for someone to fill the role of father or mother in Christ so the person can experience all they are as a child of God," he said.

- **Teens without a biblical worldview** are confused about right and wrong. They need a genuine encounter with Christ and to see authentic faith lived out in someone so they can reorient their lives around solutions that work.

- **Teens accustomed to failure** tend to fear success. They need to

see themselves as God sees them so they can live in accordance with that identity.

- **Teens who have experienced significant pain** tend not to trust others. They need to feel they belong so they can take risks to trust again.

- **Teens who lack hope** and a sense of purpose tend not to plan for tomorrow. They need a dream or vision so they can make decisions with a long-term perspective.

- **Teens who feel powerless**, without many positive options, usually rebel in unhealthy ways. They need empowerment and healthy boundaries so they can move toward healthy independence.

- **Teens who have felt abandoned** tend to give up on themselves. They need at least one person who believes in them so they can become potential advocates for others.

A personal testimony

In 1985, 11 years before I began my service as president of the Kentucky Baptist Foundation, my wife and I established the Barry G. and Larie G. Allen Endowment Fund with the foundation.

We established the account with a modest gift of appreciated stock and directed the foundation to distribute, until the Lord returns, the income earned from investments among three Baptist entities, the ministries of which had directly touched our lives in the name of Christ. We also directed the foundation to delay the income distributions until the account attained a certain balance.

As a result of our quarterly contributions and the foundation's excellent investment performance, this endowment account has attained its target balance and distributions of income are being made to those three special Baptist organizations. Larie and I plan to continue to contribute to this account through our lives and at the end of our lives.

Now, I am sharing this stewardship testimony with you for four reasons:

- **Integrity.** I would not ask you to do what I had not already done.

- **Trust.** We believed and con-

tinued to believe the foundation board and staff will do until the Lord returns what we directed them to do, and they will do it with excellence.

- **Simplicity.** Most Kentucky Baptists have more than one favorite Baptist cause. I wanted you to know that we can simplify the giving process by establishing one account but distributing the income to multiple causes.

- **Joy.** I wanted to share with you the joy we are experiencing by seeing while we are alive how these three Baptist organizations are changing people's lives for the cause of Christ and by feeling the assurance we shall be helping these organizations beyond our lifetimes continue to make a lasting difference in the world for the cause of Christ.

Please give Laurie Valentine, our trust counsel, and me the privilege of assisting you in experiencing the joy that comes by giving to touch people's lives, "for God loves a cheerful giver."

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

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FAMILY

Scholar: Unreasonable expectations burden U.S. family

By Marv Knox
Texas Baptist Standard

ABILENE, Texas (ABP)—The Christian family is buckling under the weight of unreasonable expectations, according to theologian Stanley Hauerwas.

Hauerwas, professor of theological ethics at Duke University Divinity School, discussed today's American Christian families during Hardin-Simmons University's first T.B. Maston Christian Ethics Lectures, April 9-10.

"The strength of the family historically has been its social, economic and political function," Hauerwas said. In close-knit agricultural communities, families provided social infrastructure, worked together to make members financially secure and wielded political clout, he explained.

In today's commercial society, however, "the family is the 'accident' of the worker, not his essence" and an economic liability in a profit-and-loss business environment, he observed. "The family now is economically and politically secondary."

He said the family's ability to provide deep relationships, particularly as people move often and do not enjoy deep relational commitments in the communities where they live, is both a strength and weakness.

"The family provides the one

place for relations we have not chosen, but the family is unable to bear such psychological, moral burdens," he said. "The family is our hedge against loneliness, and that's too much pressure."

Hauerwas said that while Christianity is popularly portrayed as being family friendly, that is not always the case and specifically is not supported by the Bible.

"Some say Christianity is very good for the family," he explained. "You know, 'The family that prays together stays together.'"

But faithful observance of Christianity poses a threat to the romanticized view of the family held by many Americans, he said.

To illustrate, he told about letters written to his colleague, William Willimon, dean of the chapel at Duke University. Willimon has received several letters like one that claimed, "You ruined my daughter's life" because a profound Christian experience led her to become a missionary rather than an attorney.

"The Christian challenge goes deeper than expectations between parents and children," he said.

Hauerwas challenged other family expectations often held by Christians.

Rather than seeing singleness as

failure to find a mate and fulfillment in family, Hauerwas said Christians should understand that singleness "embodies the hope that God's presence has come, is present and is to come." Individuals should be able to find relational fulfillment through the church, he said, and not exclusively in marriage.

Still, Hauerwas stressed he was not trying to denigrate marriage but rather to dignify it.

"Marriage is possible for Christians because we first have been loved by God," he said. But the extreme focus on finding intimacy and fulfillment in wedlock "overburdens marriage," he said.

The emphasis should be placed in the opposite direction—first finding relationship, intimacy and fulfillment through the community of the church and then living in marriage if God leads.

"Baptism makes marriage possible," he claimed. "You need a community to hold you accountable when you promised lifelong monogamous fidelity. Church is the place to hold you to the promise."

Churches should establish at least two criteria for performing weddings, he suggested. First, both the man and woman should have been members of the church for at least a year. And second, they should be

involved in a discipling process by mature Christians who have "survived" many of life's challenges.

Christian families also should give up the possessive notion of parenthood, Hauerwas added.

"Christians, single or married, are parents" to the children in the church, he said. "Everyone in the community is to fulfill the responsibility to care for children. This is not restricted just to those who have children.

"There is no more important responsibility than to raise up children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. Parenting is an office of the church, a responsibility.

"Children are not ours; they are the Lord's," Hauerwas emphasized. "Christian parents do not own children. Children of our bodies are gifts of the Lord, not our own possessions."

Hauerwas described his wish that his son—now grown and a father himself, living in another state—would find the kind of close parent-child relationship with a mature man in his church that he had with an older colleague, Stuart, years ago.

"I pray for my son to find a 'parent' for him like Stuart," he said. "I don't feel displaced. That's the way the church works."

Ultimately, family life should reflect a relationship with God, he said. "Marriage and family provide an opportunity to be for others what God has been for us."

Theologian Stanley Hauerwas said faithful observance of Christianity poses a threat to the romanticized view of the family held by many Americans.

Family Focus

Honoring three friends

By Robert Dunston

Cumberland College held its annual Honor's Day convocation April 23. During the program we honored three special friends with honorary doctorates.

Robert Lanum of Jeffersonville, Ind., received the doctor of laws degree. Lanum earned a bachelor's degree in accounting and then served his country in the U. S. Army and the U. S. Air Force Reserves for the next six years. He then worked his way through law school at the University of Louisville. Following graduation, he embarked upon a legal career with the firm Fifer, Vogt and Lanum. The firm later merged with Stites and Harbison. Lanum currently serves as executive partner with the firm in Indiana.

Through the years, Lanum has provided leadership in financial, legal, educational, charitable and philanthropic organizations while also finding time to write, provide editorial assistance and teach. He and his wife, Carol, have two children, Kent and Sarah, and two grandchildren.

Luther and Rosemary Smith of Beattyville received the doctor of laws and the doctor of letters degrees, respectively. Smith earned

bachelor's degrees in zoology and pharmacy at the University of Kentucky and now serves as president of Jordan Drug Inc. For the past 12 years he has served on the Beattyville City Council. He also is listed in Who's Who in American Business Men.

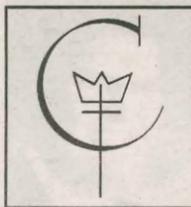
Mrs. Smith earned a bachelor's degree in pharmacy at the University of Kentucky and currently serves as secretary-treasurer of Jordan Drug Inc. She was named Woman of the Year by the Kentucky Federation of Women and edited "Children of the Dome," a book whose title was inspired by the Cumberland Inn's lobby dome, which the Smiths gave in memory of their two sons.

The Smiths are both involved in their local church and have established numerous scholarships in memory of their two sons, Drew and Jeremiah. Their surviving son, Jordan, currently attends the College of Charleston.

We honor these individuals for their selfless love and service. They provide us with wonderful examples of living for others.

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

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Third Day recognized with five gospel music Dove Awards

Steven Curtis Chapman was named Male Vocalist of the Year and maintained his status as all-time Dove Award winner.

NASHVILLE (RNS)—Christian rock band Third Day walked away with the most Dove Awards last week during the annual ceremony in which the Gospel Music Association honors its top artists.

Third Day, whose album "Offerings: A Worship Album" recently was certified gold, won five Doves, including Artist of the Year and Group of the Year.

They also won top honors for Praise & Worship Album for "Offerings: A Worship Album," Rock Recorded Song for "Sky Falls Down" and Special Event Album for their participation in the collaborative project "City on a Hill."

The awards, hosted by Christian artist Michael W. Smith, were presented at the Grand Ole Opry House in Nashville. The ceremony will air in a two-hour television show at 8 p.m. ET May 4 on WGN Cable. The show also will re-air on regional networks.

Singer/songwriter Nicole C. Mullen won four Doves, including Songwriter of the Year. She also was named Female Vocalist of the Year and her "Redeemer" was named Song of the Year and Pop/Contemporary Recorded Song.

Steven Curtis Chapman was named Male Vocalist of the Year and maintained his status as all-time Dove Award winner. He has won a total of 45 Doves.

Performances and award winners demonstrated the range of artists and styles within Christian music, from traditional gospel and bluegrass to



BIG WINNERS Christian rock group Third Day received both Group of the Year and Artist of the Year during the Gospel Music Association's Dove Awards last week. (RNS photo)

hard rock and hip-hop.

"I can't remember a more exciting show with so many stand-out performances, and with so many different artists being honored with Dove trophies," said Frank Breeden, executive producer of the Dove Awards and president of the Gospel Music Association in a statement. "We've always been proud of our diversity; tonight we truly celebrated it."

Here is a partial list of the winners: Song "Redeemer" by Nicole C. Mullen.

Songwriter Nicole C. Mullen.
Male Vocalist Steven Curtis Chapman.

Female Vocalist Nicole C.

Mullen.

Group Third Day.
Artist Third Day.
New Artist Plus One.
Producer Brown Bannister.
Pop/Contemporary Recorded Song "Redeemer" by Nicole C. Mullen.

Modern Rock/Alternative Recorded Song "Dive" by dc talk.

Rock Recorded Song "Sky Falls Down" by Third Day.

Traditional Gospel Recorded Song "We Fall Down" by Donnie McClurkin.

Southern Gospel Recorded Song "God Is Good All The Time" by Gaither Vocal Band.

Bluegrass Recorded Song "Are You Afraid to Die?" by Ricky Skaggs and Kentucky Thunder.

Country Recorded Song "Baptism" by Randy Travis.

Inspirational Recorded Song "Blessed" by Rachael Lampa.

Contemporary Gospel Recorded Song "Alabaster Box," by CeCe Winans.

Pop/Contemporary Album "This Is Your Time" by Michael W. Smith.

Southern Gospel Album "I Do Believe" by the Gaither Vocal Band.

Bluegrass Album "Inspirational Journey" by Randy Travis.

Praise & Worship "Offerings - A Worship Album" by Third Day.

Children's Music Album "A Queen, A King and A Very Blue Berry - VeggieTunes" by Kurt Heinecke & Mike Nawrocki.

Modern Rock/Alternative Album "Jordan's Sister" by Kendall Payne.

Hard Music Album "Above" by Pillar.

Rock Album "Tree63" by Tree63.

Rap/Hip Hop/Dance Album "The Plan" by Raze.

Inspirational Album "Home" by Fernando Ortega.

Urban Album "Thankful" by Mary Mary.

Choral Collection "God Is Working" by Carol Cymbala.

Special Event Album of the Year "City on a Hill" by various artists.

Youth/Children's Musical of the Year "Friends 4Ever" by various artists.

Meet some of the class of 2001 (part 4)

This essay was written by one of our staff children. In most ministries, children have to go where Mom and Dad feel led to serve. While most children understand and respect their parents' calling, some don't and tend to blame God, or in our case, our school. Because we are in a rural setting with no malls and theaters nearby, often our staff children are frustrated. They may react like dorm students or even adults. "Why did God call us to this ministry?" is a question often asked by young and old alike. "Randy" is the son of two of our school's staff. Though he has had the same frustrations and inconveniences as other staff children, his attitude has been much more positive. Here is part of his senior essay:

"In a nut shell, I've stayed at Oneida because my family lives here, but I have enjoyed Oneida through getting involved. ... I respect the dorm students greatly! I do not know if I could live in the dorm successfully. ... The school is quite unique in all that it offers. There are many dedicated teachers. ... You can often find teachers after school hours for help. Trust me, I know! I have driven every teacher that I have had in class up the wall. Just ask them!

"I was seldom ever turned down when I asked for help. ... Oneida also offers many advanced courses that a school of this size would not provide in other places. For example, my AP calculus class this year had two people in it. ... Now what other school would pay a teacher to teach that class?

"I took courses ... that presented a challenge and gave me preparation for college. ... There were subjects that I was always ... stressing out over, and begging for extra help to understand. I am

sure that many of my peers are looking at me right now and saying that Mr. Grant's classes were my worst, but I consider them some of my best. I feel that his grading method and his teaching technique has done more than any other class that I have taken ... to prepare me for college. ... My favorite class at Oneida is advanced Bible. I feel sorry for all those who did not get to take the class, and those at other schools who do not get the opportunity. Mr. Spencer teaches in a unique way in order for students in his class to learn about God, Jesus, the Bible and other religions.

THIS IS ONEIDA



W.F. Underwood

"There are many people on this campus who have had a tremendous impact on my life. It never fails that people are accidentally overlooked. So I want to thank all the Oneida faculty and staff. ... I feel that I have gotten a good education at Oneida, however, I am still nervous about starting college. Then again, I am always nervous. They call me 'old sweaty hands.'

"I think that anyone would say that they gave up things to be at Oneida: the prom, dances, longer senior trips, living in a bigger town, and the dorm students gave up more than me. However ... I have gained a lot from being here too. The single most important thing I have gained ... is diversity. I would not have had the opportunity to participate in all I did at Oneida anywhere else (and) I would not have been able to meet so many people from different countries and cultures. Oneida is a diverse school in what it offers and those who attend. I feel this exposure will pay off later in life."

W.F. Underwood is president of Oneida Baptist Institute, P.O. Box 67, Oneida, KY 40972. www.oneidaschool.org

We feel for each other like family

Probably the most frequent question Tim Bongiorno has answered his first semester at Clear Creek is how to pronounce his last name.

His grandfather was a glass-blower whose family came from Sicily. Did Tim consider following the trade? "I tried, but I got burnt too bad," he said with a grin. "My brother also burst my bubble."

His call to the ministry came in 1998. He was helping with the church youth and had no desire for college. "I thought at first it was to be a counselor and definitely said I would never be a youth minister. Now God has directed us to work with youth!"

Two years before Tim's call, his wife experienced God calling her for something. "God told me to be patient and when the time was right I would know what it was," Lori said.

They left good jobs in Ashbold, Ohio, near Toledo. Tim resigned a 10-year position at a furniture factory and Lori was a human resources assistant.

They found a warm welcome at Pump Springs Baptist Church in Harrogate, Tenn. Both the church pastor and youth minister are Clear

Creek graduates. Tim teaches a sixth grade Bible class, an opportunity to disciple young Christians. Lori works with a group to develop strategies to retain members and bring back visitors. One approach provides men with umbrellas to escort folks from the parking lot to the church building during inclement weather.

The significance of youth ministry impacted the family soon after coming to campus. Their daughter Chelsea, 13, trusted Christ in the campus Young Disciples group. Mandi, 17, is adjusting better after the difficult move in the middle of the 11th grade.

Lori is grateful for "the sense of family" at Clear Creek, demonstrated in a recent family crisis.

"My father became seriously ill, and I suddenly left for Florida," she recalled. "The whole campus pulled together and prayed for us. Here it is never the attitude, 'That's their problem.' We feel for each other like family."

CLEAR CREEK CHRONICLE



Bill Whittaker

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

MISSIONS

Officials look for what went wrong in missionary's death

By Art Toalston
Baptist Press

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)—The death of a missionary and her seven-month-old daughter, shot down in Peru, serves as a reminder of missionaries' vulnerability and their commitment to God, according to Jerry Rankin, president of the Southern Baptist International Mission Board.

Roni Bowers, 35, a missionary with the Association of Baptists for World Evangelization, and her daughter, Charity, were killed April 20 when the pontoon-equipped Cessna in which they were passengers was mistakenly identified as a drug-carrying plane.

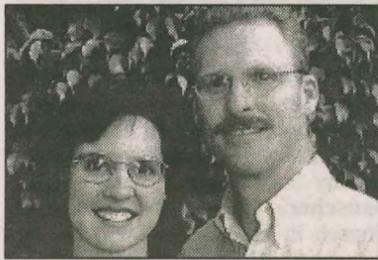
A Peruvian pilot shot down the single-engine aircraft while it was flying over the Amazon River.

The missionary pilot, Kevin Donaldson, managed to land the Cessna in the river after the plane was riddled with bullets. He suffered injuries to both legs, including a broken and shattered bone in his right leg and two wounded blood veins in his left leg, according to a report on the Association of Baptists for World Evangelization's Web site, www.abwe.org.

Bowers' husband, Jim, and their 6-year-old son, Cory, were not hit by the gunfire.

The Association of Baptists for World Evangelization is an independent Baptist missions agency founded in 1927. Based in New Cumberland, Pa., it has missionaries in more than 45 countries.

The Bowerses, of Muskegon, Mich., had been missionaries in Peru since 1993, working along the Amazon from a houseboat.



MISSIONARIES SHOT Jim and Roni Bowers (left), were riding in a missionary plane over Peru with pilot Kevin Donaldson (right) when the plane was shot by a Peruvian military plane. Mrs. Bowers, along with their seven-month-old daughter Charity, was killed. The incident, prompted by the plane being mistaken as one carrying illegal drugs, is under investigation. The missionaries served with the Association of Baptists for World Evangelism, an independent missions agency. (RNS photo courtesy of the Association of Baptists for World Evangelism)

"Their willingness to take risks in order to penetrate remote areas of the world with the gospel reflects the passion we should all have for reaching a lost world," Rankin said.

"We have been in touch with our friends with the Association of Baptists for World Evangelization, and share the grief being experienced by the families of the victims and their missionary colleagues."

Jim Bowers and his son returned to the United States April 22.

In a statement on the ABWE Web site, Bowers thanked the public for its prayers and interest. "I'm sure we will feel the loss more as time goes by. In spite of that, we still are trusting in God."

The Bowerses were returning from a trip to the Peru-Brazil border to tend to visa matters relating to their daughter.

The Peruvian pilot had received information about the small plane's location from a four-man U.S. drug in-

terdiction jet flying about a mile from the missionary aircraft.

The U.S. aircraft, owned by the Air Force and flown by a crew of three under CIA contract accompanied by a Peruvian military office, is among numerous U.S. aircraft helping Peru and Colombia combat the cocaine trade.

Peru's air force denied April 23 that it did anything wrong in the incident.

"The only thing I can tell you is that the air force followed the procedures," said Peruvian air force spokesman Cmdr. Robert Roca, the Associated Press reported. "It regrets this lamentable accident in which two people died."

But relatives of the missionaries said the missionaries were fired on without warning.

The ABWE, in a statement, said, "All regulations were followed (by Donaldson), such as a flight plan, remaining in Peruvian airspace and maintaining contact with the flight towers. The plane had recently been refur-

bished and was in top condition and was well marked."

Just prior to 11 a.m. local time, Donaldson radioed a local tower with his position, the ministry stated. "Shortly thereafter, they were intercepted by a military plane; shots were fired. Kevin's two legs were injured and Roni and Charity were shot and killed. Kevin was able to land the float plane on the river, saving his life and the lives of Jim and Cory.

"Jim was able to get Roni and Charity unbuckled and out of the plane. Cory jumped out of the plane and Kevin was able to pull himself out. They were rescued by a Peruvian in a dugout canoe and were taken to the clinic in the town of Pevas," the ministry stated. The Peruvian military, along with some U.S. personnel, subsequently evacuated the victims and the deceased from the region.

Donaldson underwent surgery on both legs after being flown to Philadelphia April 22.

Noting that there are various reports about the incident, Jim Bowers said in his statement: "I am trusting that the publicity will eventually agree with what I know to be the truth."

The program, in which U.S. and Peruvian officials have worked jointly to prevent drugs from entering the United States, has been suspended pending an investigation.

"How this tragedy happened and making sure it doesn't happen again are some things that we're going to have to look into very, very carefully," State Department spokesman Richard Boucher told reporters in a briefing.

With additional reporting by Religion News Service

"I am trusting that the publicity will eventually agree with what I know to be the truth."

Missionary Jim Bowers

Southern Baptists minister to fans during Boston Marathon

By Kristen Treadwell & James Dotson
Baptist Convention of New England & SBC North American Mission Board

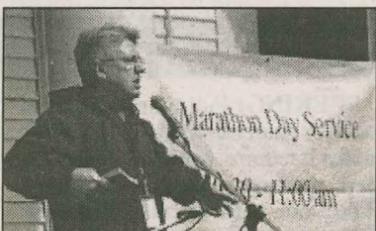
BOSTON (BP)—As Boston Marathon runners filled the streets April 16, more than 180 volunteers ministered to spectators near two churches along the route.

The volunteers met physical needs by giving away countless bottles of water, seven-minute phone cards and maps of the race. They also offered an evangelical Christian witness, including a brief printed presentation of the gospel of Jesus Christ on the maps and small booklets describing a relationship with Christ in more detail.

The event was sponsored by Hearts for Boston—the name for Southern Baptists' year-long evangelistic focus in the city. The "Strategic Focus Cities" campaign is an outreach sponsored by the Southern Baptist North American Mission Board in cooperation with local and regional partners. A similar effort also is under way this year in Las Vegas.

"It was great to see so many different ministries come together for a day and really accomplish something," said Peggy Peek, Boston collegiate minister and coordinator for one of the sites.

The Boston Marathon is one of the annual events that bring out the community en masse. Peek noted that the event was a natural setting for volunteers to be passing out free items in the



BOSTON MARATHON ■ Above: Jack Graham, pastor of Prestonwood Baptist Church in Dallas, was the principal speaker for a pre-race chapel service before the Boston Marathon April 16. The chapel and other ministry efforts were sponsored by Hearts for Boston, a Southern Baptist outreach effort in the city this year. (BP photo) ■ Right: Lee Bong-Ju of South Korea, eventual winner of the Boston Marathon, leads at 22 miles. (Photo by Victah Sailer/Photo Run, © 2001)

church's front yard. "It was an avenue where we didn't have to cross undue barriers to have conversations with people."

A 10:30 a.m. chapel service near the start line, where more than 15,000 runners and spectators were gathered, was part of the official pre-race program of the Boston Marathon. Jack Graham, pastor of Prestonwood Baptist Church of Dallas, was the primary speaker for the service, which included a presentation of the gospel.

"At the closing of the chapel service, a prayer was offered for all athletes who would raise their hands re-

questing prayer," said Tim Knopps, an event coordinator. "Athletes from over two blocks away lifted their hands as prayers for God's mercy and God's endurance were raised on their behalf."

About 23,000 pieces of literature were distributed at the two sites. The materials included both a toll-free number for NAMB's Evangelism Response Center and the www.hearts4boston.com Internet address.

Many of the spectators were accepting, while others appeared more cautious.

"Bostonians have a skeptical spiritual attitude," said Marc Harrienger, coordinator of the Boston Marathon outreach. "A lot of people say to me, 'You're trying to force me to do something I don't want to do and then you're going to ask me for money.'"

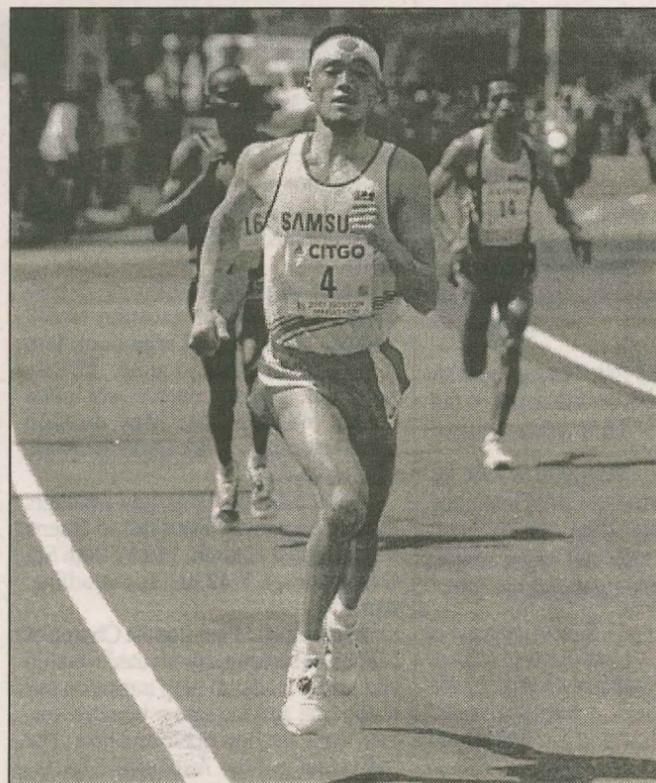
Harrienger said he hopes passing out free maps, phone cards and bottled water will help put to rest some stereotypes of evangelical Christians.

"Christians in New England find it very difficult to share their faith," Harrienger said. Feelings of isolation and the lack of a church culture contribute to this, he said.

He hopes the event will encourage churches and believers that sharing their faith is a good thing, that it's not something to be ashamed of, and that it's not very hard.

Harrienger and Peek both expressed hopes for future marathon outreaches.

"I think it was a real energizing ef-



fort," Harrienger said. "Hopefully more pastors and people will participate in the future."

Hearts for Boston events and ongoing ministry will continue throughout the year. For more information, call toll-free (888) 839-3331 or visit www.hearts4boston.com.

HOW TO BECOME A CHRISTIAN

By Tommy Johnson

In conversations with international students, I often encourage them to closely examine the life of Jesus. The Bible promises, "And you will seek Me and find Me when you search for Me with all your heart" (Jeremiah 29:13).

In John 20, Thomas is an example of one who needed to examine the claims of Jesus' resurrection. After Thomas spent eight days in what must have been intensive searching, Jesus came to him and invited, "See my hands ... and believe" (John 20:27). Thomas responded, "My Lord and my God" (John 20:28).

Thomas encountered the risen Christ and responded in faith. Perhaps you need to meet the risen Christ personally and believe in Him. In searching for spiritual answers, closely examine the life of Jesus.

The following verses from Romans 10:9, 13 explain how you can become a Christian:

■ Confess Christ as Lord. "That if you confess with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord ...'"

■ Believe in Him. "... and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved."

■ Ask. "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

Respond in faith by inviting Christ into your life. Then, like Thomas, you can say to Jesus, "My Lord and my God."

Tommy Johnson is international student campus minister for the Kentucky Baptist Convention

Mountains to the Mississippi

Compiled by Shirley Wooton

■ ADAIRVILLE—New Hope Church called **Doug Burr** of Springfield as music director. **Larry Baker** is pastor.

■ BOWLING GREEN—Greenwood Church will host **David Livingston** in concert May 6 at 6:30 p.m. **James Doyel** is pastor.

■ BUFFALO—Buffalo Church will host revival services May 6-9. Former pastor **Al Gisler** will be the evangelist. **Tim Hooper** will lead the music and **Josh Wortham** will be the guest instrumentalist. **James Smith** is pastor.

■ CAMPBELLSVILLE—Saloma Church called **Jason England** as minister of youth. **John Chowning** is pastor.

■ CUMBERLAND—Dione Church will host revival services May 6-9 at 7 p.m. **Dave Hammond**, pastor of Faith Church of Myra, will be the evangelist. **Luke Day** is pastor.

■ LEXINGTON—Victory Church broke ground for an educational building April 1. **Mike James** is pastor.

■ LOUISVILLE—Bashford Manor Church called **Woody Brewer** as interim pastor.

Parkland Church will host revival services May 6-9, 8:30 and 10:45 a.m. Sunday and 7 p.m. nightly. **Ross Bauscher**, pastor of Macedonia Church in Owensboro, will be the evangelist. **Richard Suggs**, minister of music at Bowling Green First Church, will be music director. For information, call (502) 969-1387. **Tom Curry** is pastor.

Valley View Church will host a women's spring banquet May 11, 6:30 p.m. The speaker will be **Joy Earle** of Jeff and Joy Ministries Inc. For information, call (502) 935-5142. **Kevin Hamm** is pastor.

■ McKEE—McKee Church called **Ronald Maharrey** from Illinois as pastor.

■ PARIS—Spears Mill Church will host revival services May 6-9. **Curtis McGehee** will be the evangelist. **Donald Muntz** will direct the music. **J.T. Rafferty** is pastor.



WORK DAY Volunteers from the Kentucky Baptist Convention's Executive Board staff plant grass at Cedarmore Baptist Assembly near Bagdad. A team of 14 convention and Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union staff recently spent a day working at the Baptist conference facility as a service project.

Georgetown honors Covington's Pike

GEORGETOWN—Harold Pike, pastor of Southside Baptist Church in Covington, recently received the inaugural Ken Chafin Award for Courage, Creativity and Compassion in Christian Ministry from Georgetown College.

Pike has been pastor of the 90-year-old Southside Baptist Church in Covington for 34 years and recently announced he will be retiring in 2002. Southside is on the edge of downtown Covington and over the years with flight to the suburbs, the congregation has gone from urban to inner-city. Despite a limited budget, the church provides both food and clothing to the needy, and it has become a distribution point for other churches in the area.

Pike was pastor of Immanuel Baptist Church in Elizabethtown for eight years before moving to Covington. He and his wife, Martha, are natives of

Campbellsville, and 1958 graduates of Georgetown College.

An outstanding basketball player, Pike was a member of an NAIA Final Four team in 1958. He received the Ken Chafin Award during Georgetown College's annual pastors conference in April.

"Harold Pike is an inspiration to ministers everywhere, especially to the young men and women of our college who are preparing for the ministry," said Bill Crouch Jr., president of Georgetown College. "We are extremely proud of him and are delighted to initiate this annual award with a recognition of his ministry."

The award is named in honor of the former seminary professor and pastor of Walnut Street Baptist Church in Louisville. Chafin, who died last year, directed the Georgetown pastors conference for a number of years.

Barna: Evangelicals less likely to fight AIDS

VENTURA, Calif. (RNS)—Evangelical Christians are less supportive of AIDS education and prevention programs abroad than other Christians and non-Christians, a new poll from the Barna Research Group has concluded.

Just 3 percent of evangelical Christians intended to give money to such programs, compared with 8 percent of non-Christians and 8 percent of "born-again" Christians, the California-based group said in its survey of 1,003 adults.

Evangelical Christians also were less supportive of programs for children orphaned by AIDS, even though they were twice as likely as all adults to help needy children abroad.

African-Americans were the most likely of any group to help AIDS education programs (19 percent) and children made orphans by AIDS.

Among all Americans, just 39 percent would be likely to help AIDS ed-

ucation and treatment, the report found. Slightly more people (46 percent) would help AIDS orphans. Senior adults, married people and mainline churchgoers were least likely to be supportive of such causes.

Most cited other charitable obligations, a lack of money and greater concern for issues in the United States as the main reasons why they would be less supportive of helping other countries cope with the AIDS epidemic.

"Regrettably, this fits into the general landscape of a nation with decreasing support for problems outside its borders," read a statement from Richard Stearns, president of World Vision, the organization that sponsored the report. "What seems new is the fact that knowledge of the issue has minimal impact on people's concern, or their willingness to give their time or funds to the cause."

CLASSIFIED ADS

AVAILABLE: Minister Larry Moore, 59, experienced, is available for supply work, interim pastor or possible pastor positions. Call (859) 278-3524, or write 226 Westwood Court, Lexington, KY 40503. Resumé on request.

FOR RENT: 2-bedroom, 2-bath condo available for vacation rental, Sanibel Island, Fla. Large pool, tennis courts, bikes, canoe, kayak, screened porch, lovely secluded beach. Weekly rates May through mid-December: \$745. Call Pat Owen, (502) 895-8752.

FOR SALE: 1989 low-mileage, 15-passenger van. Send bid to Buena Vista Baptist Church, 119 W 24th St., Owensboro, KY 42303. Bid deadline: April 30.

SEEKING: First Baptist Church of Ludlow is seeking a motivated worship and praise leader to help transition our traditional service into a blended service using the best of old and new. The individual will be responsible for incorporating instruments, praise teams and drama into services, as well as developing music programs for children through adults. Experience is required for this challenging and exciting full-time position. Please send resumé to: First Baptist Church, 400 Linden St., Ludlow, KY 41016.

SEEKING: Worship leader for small but progressive and loving congregation. Minimal hours—well invested. After prayerful consideration, send resumé to: Buckner Baptist Church, 3714 W Highway 146, LaGrange, KY 40031.

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

SEEKING: The Kentuckiana Interfaith Community, Louisville and Southern Indiana's interfaith organization, seeks an executive director to continue a tradition of energetic, visionary leadership. The successful candidate will be a clergy or layperson who is an able administrator, sensitive to theological diversity, community-minded and capable in fund development. Ability to work with volunteers a must. Full job description available upon request. Total compensation range: \$50,000 to \$60,000 dependent upon qualifications. Send resumé and letter of interest by May 31, 2001, to Rev. Ron Sisk, Chair, KIC Search Committee, 1113 S 4th St., Louisville, KY 40203, or e-mail interfaith@bellsouth.net.

SEEKING: Full-time minister of youth for church committed to historic Baptist freedoms. Master's degree desired, preferably from a seminary. Highly competitive salary package. Send resumé to: Youth Minister Search Committee, Broadway Baptist Church, 4000 Brownsboro Road, Louisville, KY 40207.

SEEKING: Senior pastor. Church is located in one of the fastest growing areas in Northern Kentucky. We have daycare, family life center and average 550 in worship. Send resumé to: Pulpit Search Committee, Hickory Grove Baptist Church, 11969 Taylor Mill Road, Independence, KY 41051.

SEEKING: First Baptist Church of Collinsville, Va., located in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains, has an opening for a minister to youth, children and their families. FBC is a multi-staff church affiliated with the Baptist General Association of Virginia and the SBC. Please send any inquiries and/or resúmes to: Dr. Rob Edwards, FBC Collinsville, PO Box 36, Collinsville, VA 24078.

SEEKING: Immediate opening for part-time children's minister (15 hours per week). Send resumé to: Jim Holladay, Lyndon Baptist Church, 8025 New LaGrange Road, Louisville, KY 40222. (502) 425-7150.

SEEKING: Minister of music for Hyland Baptist Church in Henderson, Ky. If interested, please send resumé to: Hyland Baptist Church, 1400 Wright St., Henderson, KY 42420.

SEEKING: Immediate opening for part-time youth minister (15 hours per week). Send resumé to: Jim Holladay, Lyndon Baptist Church, 8025 New LaGrange Road, Louisville, KY 40222. (502) 425-7150.

SEEKING: Immediate opening for part-time nursery coordinator (10-12 hours per week). Send resumé to: Jim Holladay, Lyndon Baptist Church, 8025 New LaGrange Road, Louisville, KY 40222. (502) 425-7150.

SEEKING: Full-time minister of youth and education. Seminary preferred. Send resumé to: Elkton Baptist Church, PO Box 547, Elkton, KY 42220, Attn: Staff Search Committee.

SEEKING: Part-time youth minister for growing, Spirit-led congregation. Send resumé to: McHenry Baptist Church, PO Box 154, McHenry, KY 42354.

SEEKING: Full-time pastor for East Hickman Baptist Church, an historic, rural church located four miles from Lexington, Ky. Send resumé to: Pastor Search Committee, 2125 Azalea Dr., Lexington, KY 40504.

Church blending Indian ancestry with Christian beliefs

By Greg Garrison
Religion News Service

LEEDS, Ala. (RNS)—As the Sunday morning service began at Tribe of Christ in this small town, a stereo played soft, soothing flute music.

Members of the drum team took their seats in folding chairs around the drum, as someone retrieved gourd shakers from a shelf and handed them out to the congregation. "Y'all have to pray for me and Mike, that we can carry this drum," said Pastor Richard Pyle, who wears long hair, sometimes pulled into a ponytail.

Two members of the four-man drum team were missing this Sunday. With a volunteer helping fill in the rhythm, they began a drumbeat and an accompanying chant: "Jesus set us free—yes, Lord! Jesus set us free! Yah-hey-yah-hey-yah!"

It's a typical Sunday morning at Tribe of Christ, a religious congregation meeting in a small house where Native American spirituality gets melded into evangelical Christianity.

After two more Native American-style songs on the drum, Pyle played an electronic keyboard for two contemporary Christian music songs, then picked up a wooden flute and played a forlorn Native American-sounding melody.

He moved to a stool in front of the drum, preached a sermon, then directed the two dozen or so in attendance to a covered-dish dinner—no maize or buffalo meat, but a more Anglo-style after-church menu of meatloaf, slaw and mashed potatoes.

"When I was a Baptist, people used to talk about how Baptists ate all the time," Pyle said. "They don't hold a candle to Cherokee people. We feasted for everything. Even when we didn't have anything to feast about."

Along with the drum and flute music, the Tribe of Christ members connect to their claims of Native American ancestry through jewelry, such as turquoise bracelets, feathered earrings and beaded necklaces. "Most everybody in this fellowship is of Native heritage to some degree, but we don't limit it," Pyle said.

Anybody interested in Native American culture is free to take part in the church, which started meeting about two years ago, he said. "Through our culture, which everyone seems so fascinated with, it gives us a tool to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ," Pyle said.

The small building features decorative banners on the walls that he said represent the colors of the Cherokee nation. A Navajo dream-catcher hangs on one wall; a Native American-theme calendar hangs next to a framed picture of a blond-haired, blue-eyed Jesus on another wall.

The Tribe of Christ recently organized a national Native American spirituality conference called "Sacred Fire: God's Anointing on Native America," at a retreat center in Springville, Ala. It drew participants from tribes from as far away as Alas-



ka, many of whom dressed in full regalia and took part in sacred dances.

"It became a multicultural event," Pyle said. "It was one of the most beautiful sights I've ever seen, people of different cultures, worshipping God as who they are."

Pyle, 42, said he was raised as a Southern Baptist. His parents told him he had Cherokee ancestry on both sides.

In his 30s, he began to research that ancestry and learn about Native American spirituality. "I felt a calling by God to reclaim my Native heritage," he said. "I embraced my culture fully."

Nationally there are about 2 million self-declared Native Americans, and 23 percent live on reservations. The federal government recognizes 557 Native American tribes or nations, with an additional 150 in the process of petitioning the government for recognition.

Cherokees were historically a monotheistic people, Pyle said, and he feels his Christian faith blends well with his Native American heritage. "Our culture isn't pagan," he said.

Pyle said he has received mixed reactions from tribal leaders about his church. Some approve; others have told him "it's an atrocity to embrace the religion that oppressed us," he said.

The intermixture of Native American culture with Christian religion has a long history.

The Keetoowah Society, reorga-

nized by Baptist missionaries Evan and John Jones in cooperation with the Baptist mission to the Cherokee Nation in 1858, was a movement of Baptists who were full-blooded Cherokees.

Richard Allen, a policy analyst for the Cherokee Nation in Tahlequah, Okla.—one of three federally recognized Cherokee tribes—said he grew up in a Southern Baptist church where all the people spoke Cherokee and the only musical accompaniment was piano.

"The sermons were in Cherokee, the prayers were in Cherokee and the songs were in Cherokee," he said.

Traditional Cherokee sacred rituals in Tahlequah take place on a ceremonial grounds, where Cherokee language is primary, Allen said. There may be dances, stickball games and a drummer who uses a water drum. Cherokees would not bring drums into churches, he said. "We've always kept our practices separate," he said.

From his experience in a true Cherokee community—a group that descended from survivors of the Trail of Tears forced exodus from the Southeast in the 1830s—Allen said a Christian church with a Native American drum team doesn't have a ring of authenticity.

"We've got a lot of people taking our history and doing liberal interpretations of it," he said. "Those of us who grew up in a world where we experienced prejudice because we were brown-skinned people, we look at

these very white-skinned people and just shake our heads. They want something they didn't have to suffer for."

Perry White, 56, a co-founder of Tribe of Christ and chief of the Echota Cherokee group founded in 1981, said he recognizes that people with a continuous Native American heritage might find it hard to accept late-comers claiming their roots. White, like Pyle, began learning about Native American culture in his 30s by seeking out people willing to share their beliefs.

Allen, of the Cherokee Nation, said being Indian is not just something one can acquire by asking people for tips. "You can't become Irish by asking an Irishman," he said.

The occasional criticism from recognized tribal groups doesn't deter Tribe of Christ leaders. "For a lot of them it's difficult to embrace us," White said.

Allen believes groups like Tribe of Christ reflect a modern yearning for ancient beliefs and practices.

"Many are looking for something different spiritually," Allen said. "Hopefully we live a harmonious life, a spiritual life. People ought to just be who they are."

But Pyle said Tribe of Christ represents who he is—a Native American who has recovered his full spirituality.

It's important for people to be able to embrace their Native American roots and Christianity at the same time, he said. "We feel there are gifts from our culture we can bring to the body of Christ."

INDIAN CHURCH

Members of the Tribe of Christ church in Leeds, Ala., begin services with traditional Native American drum-beating and singing. The church blends Native American culture with evangelical Christian theology. Pastor Richard Pyle is seen at far left. (RNS photo by Beverly Taylor)

Georgetown College *INSIGHT*

Georgetown College | 400 East College Street | Georgetown, KY 40324 | www.georgetowncollege.edu

FIDDES DELIVERS ANNUAL MCCANDLESS LECTURE

GEORGETOWN, Ky. -- Dr. Paul S. Fiddes, principal of Regent's Park College of Oxford, spoke to Georgetown College students and faculty on Tuesday, April 17, in John L. Hill Chapel about the story of Christianity and how to relate it to the stories of modern culture.

"Christians have a large story by which they shape their lives," explained Fiddes. "The story is about God's project of creation."

There are three main questions that Fiddes considered. First, he asked the audience how the Christian story can be used to measure all the other stories or culture of the post modern world. "The answer to this question is to measure the other stories by out-telling them," said Fiddes. He explained the importance of spreading the word of God in a world where people can construct their own religion with so much to choose from.

For his second question Fiddes' asked the audience to consider what the story of Christianity is really about. "The Christian story is the meeting of an open and speaking God in several times and places," Fiddes said. "God opens himself up to us and we need to listen to the stories of others with an open mind."

Fiddes explained the third question, "How can we tell such a universal story in this modern society?" His answer was that the story of Christianity is not oppressive. He feels as though God is not overwhelming, but also hides from Christians so that he does not become their prisoner.



Pike poses with Georgetown College President Bill Crouch at the.

Fiddes related the Christian story to modern culture with the questions and explained the story has been formed among Christians as they interpret it with the help of God's spirit.

The McCandless lecture is a series of lectures established as a part of Georgetown College's partnership with Regent's Park College of the University of Oxford. For more information about the Oxford partnership, contact Dr. Gwen Curry at (502) 863- 8392.

GEORGETOWN ALUM RECEIVES AWARD FOR COURAGE CREATIVITY AND COMPASSION IN CHRISTIAN MINISTRY

GEORGETOWN, Ky. -- Georgetown Alumnus A. Harold Pike received the first annual Award for Courage, Creativity and Compassion in Christian Ministry, presented in honor of the late Dr. Kenneth Chafin, at the annual Georgetown College Pastor's Conference on April 17. Rev. Pike has been pastor of Southside Baptist Church in Covington for 34 years; he recently announced his retirement for early next 2002.

"Harold Pike is an inspiration to ministers everywhere, especially to the young men and women of our college who are preparing for the ministry," said College President William H. Crouch. "We are extremely proud of him, and are delighted to initiate this annual award with a recognition of his ministry."



Pike poses with Georgetown College President Bill Crouch at the 2001 Pastor's Conference held at the College's Conference and Training Center.

The capstone of Pike's long tenure at the inner-city congregation came earlier this year when the tavern adjacent to the church agreed to sell the property to the church. The church is now renovating the building to serve as a community center. One man, now attending AA meetings in the converted bar said, "This is the place that brought me down for many years; now it will be the place that lifts me up."

Another minister will receive the Chafin Award at next year's conference, scheduled for April 8-10, 2002.

GEORGETOWN COLLEGE TURNS TABLES ON SPRING BREAK

PANAMA CITY, Fla. -- Thirteen students from Georgetown College's Baptist Student Union chose to spend spring break offering their friendship, help and encouragement of the gospel in Panama City, Fla. The program is called "Beach Reach," and allows volunteers to help create a safe atmosphere for college students throughout the spring break week by, among other actions, serving as designated

drivers for vacation revelers.

"Hundreds of colleges and universities participate," explained Justin Wood, a senior from Glasgow, Ky. "I think it's a good opportunity to help in a unique way. Dealing with people from all over the United States allows us to help out and make friends we wouldn't normally meet."

Throughout the week the student volunteers worked from early morning until late at night trying to help spring-breakers in any way they can. Each day volunteers prepared a free pancake breakfast on the beach. "We served over 1,000 people breakfast," explained Sharon Felton, campus minister at Georgetown College. "The interaction is very relational-getting to know people."

One of the main reasons for the program is to prevent the spring break crowd from drinking and driving. Throughout the day the volunteers passed out cards with a phone number so anyone who may need a ride later that night may contact them. Beginning at 8 p.m., volunteers provided van rides to all of the clubs and regular gathering places for college students. The services continued until 3 a.m.

"We usually gave around two or three rides an hour, up to 20 rides a night," said Wood. "We have never had any problems with the passengers. Everyone is always very appreciative and polite."



Christina Cooley and Emily Harrison served as pancake breakfast makers in Panama City, Fla., during Spring Break, March 12-18.

Volunteers also have free time to visit the area and minister the word of God.

"My favorite part is meeting people from all over United States," explained Luke Nowell, a Georgetown College

senior from West Palm Beach, Fla. "It's really interesting to hang out and talk to everyone. Ministry can be done in a variety of ways; not just through preaching, but by caring for people's needs no matter where they are."

For more information on "Beach Reach," or other BSU events contact Georgetown College campus ministries at (502) 863-8153.



The 2001 Georgetown College Campus Ministries Officers

The 2001 Georgetown College Campus Ministries Officers are: Josh Bailes, upperclassman discipleship chair; Jamie Belcher, revival team chair; Leslie Cashion, worship chair; Christy Craddock, freshmen family group chair; Ashley Gill, missions education and fund raising chair; Kourtney Gordon, freshmen family group chair; Curt Kruschwitz, president; Sarah Lovell, secretary/publicity chair; Melissa Mahurin, creative ministry chair; Katie McKown, special events chair; Allison Walsh, community missions chair. Those not pictured include: Keely Brandon, international students chair; Kari Charron, Stephanie Collins, Christy Garland, Jacob Gunnell, Taylor Morris, Chuck Pace and Jenny Smith. The Campus Ministries Council is overseen by Georgetown College Campus Minister Sharon Felton (pictured, far right).