

PRactical RESOURCES FOR CHRISTIAN LIVING

# WESTERN RECORDER

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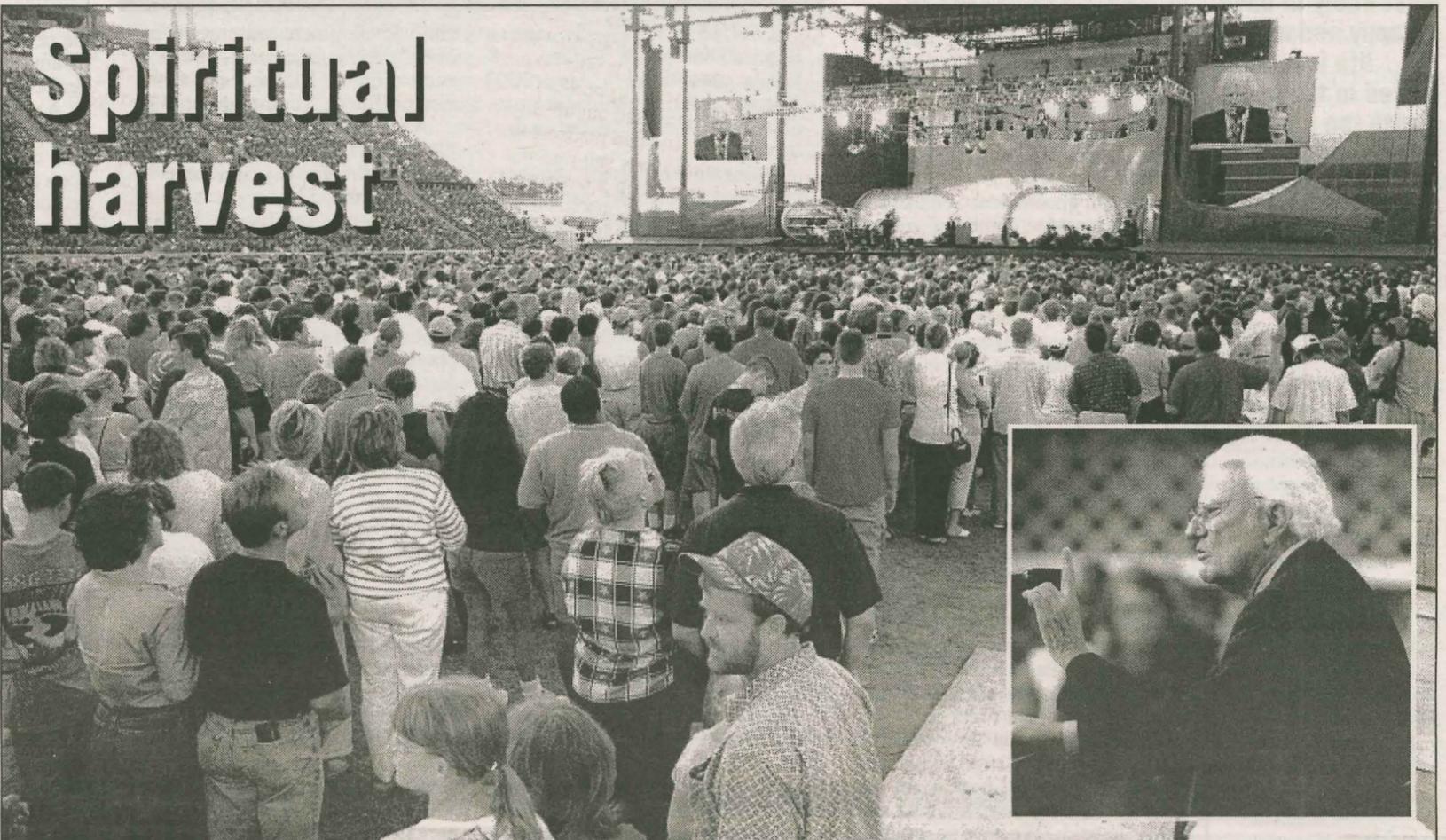
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Dated Material — Deliver by Wednesday, June 27



## Spiritual harvest

# Graham crusade reaps 10,000-plus decisions for Christ

By Trennis Henderson  
Editor

### Crusade tally

- Total attendance: 191,500
- Public decisions: 10,321
- Volunteers: 15,000
- Churches involved: 583
- Denominations: 54

LOUISVILLE—It was classic Billy Graham.

Rising slowly from his seat and stepping to the podium in the center of the massive outdoor stage, the white-haired 82-year-old evangelist was greeted with an enthusiastic standing ovation.

More than 37,000 people welcomed him to the opening night of the June 21-24 Greater Louisville Billy Graham Crusade in Papa John's Cardinal Stadium.

Joking about the rainy weather, horse racing and pizza, Graham quickly endeared himself to the expectant crowd—as if that were necessary.

He then launched into an impassioned sermon that touched on everything from social injustice, poverty and racial tension to AIDS, loneliness and cults.

At the end of his 30-minute message, more than 1,700 people responded to his invitation to make a public decision for Christ. The number of people responding swelled to 10,321 by the close of the four-day crusade.

"People are searching for something that can only be found in God," Graham told the crowd. Despite the rapid cultural changes in today's society, he added, "God hasn't changed."

The world's best known evangelist, who last held a full-scale crusade in Louisville 45 years ago, emphasized that God is unchanging in His holiness and in His judgment. He said other things that remain unchanged are the Bible, moral law and the way of salvation.

"The Bible teaches there is only one way to heaven and that way is by the cross," he declared. "In the last generation, the only way to God was through Jesus. In the present generation, the only way to God is through Jesus."

"I'm not declaring unto you a dead Christ," Graham said. "He's alive. He's never going to change. But you must change. Have you changed?"

Sharing a simple, straightforward plan of salvation, Graham said the keys to spiritual life are to repent of one's sins, believe in Jesus Christ and confess God openly. "If there's a doubt in your heart about your relationship to God," he said, "come and settle it tonight."

With the turnout increasing nightly, total attendance for the four-day event topped 190,000, more than 40,000 above what organizers had anticipated.

The crowd mushroomed to 57,500 on Sunday night, setting a stadium attendance record. The overflow crowd included an estimated 7,500 people watching the crusade's final service on a large screen set up outside the stadium.

"This is the week we have been waiting for," said Al Mohler, chair-

man of the local crusade executive committee. He noted that organizers had been waiting, working, hoping "and most importantly, we have been praying for this." Mohler is president of Louisville's Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, home to the Billy Graham School of Missions, Evangelism and Church Growth.

Jeff Anderson, the Graham association's Louisville crusade director, said leaders were thrilled by the attendance and spiritual impact of the crusade. "I believe God has poured out great favor on the community," he said. "It's a God thing. It's exciting." Last weekend's crusade is one of only two that Graham has scheduled this year. The next one will be in October in Fresno, Calif.

Declining health has limited the famed evangelist's preaching schedule in recent years. He suffers from Parkinson's disease and hydrocephalus and has spent several months in the hospital and physical therapy sessions in the past year.

Despite his health problems, Graham stood and preached each night of the crusade. His sermon topics included the prodigal son and his return to his father; Solomon's quest for fulfillment found only in God; and the value of every human soul to God.

"I've come here just to proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ," Graham told reporters. Although "I may be one of the oldest evangelists in history to still be holding meetings like this," he added, "I intend to preach as long as I live."

Graham's son, Franklin, who now heads the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association, accompanied his father to the Louisville crusade. The young-

er Graham, who also heads the Samaritan's Purse international relief organization, introduced his father to the Friday night crowd.

"What my father is here to talk to you about is a personal relationship with God's Son, the Lord Jesus Christ," he said. "If you're here and you're not sure of your salvation, then you can be sure."

Longtime Graham associates Cliff Barrows and George Beverly Shea helped lead the Louisville event. They were joined by a high-profile lineup of musical guests including Larnelle Harris, Ricky Skaggs, Michael W. Smith, the Gaither Vocal Band and Third Day. A Saturday night "Concert for the Next Generation," which attracted a crowd of 47,000 people, featured Christian artists dc Talk, Kirk Franklin and Jennifer Knapp.

Other ministry efforts held in conjunction with the crusade included a Saturday morning "Kidz Gig," a blood drive, a "Love-In-Action" collection of school supplies for underprivileged children and evangelistic rallies at area prisons.

Art Bailey, Graham's coordinator of counseling and follow-up, said the impact of the crusade and related projects should be felt throughout the region for years to come.

"We know this is only a beginning," he explained. "This is like a Pentecost. God is adding to the church. We are excited about seeing God begin to multiply the results. We may not see the results of this crusade for five or 10 years."

"It's not over," Graham agreed during the crusade's final message. "It's going to continue in the churches after we're finished."



## Two seminaries shut down campus child care centers

**"The child that is most likely to have a happy and useful life is a child reared in the home with the parents, not in a child care center."**

*Paige Patterson, president of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary*

By Tony Cartledge  
North Carolina Biblical Recorder

WAKE FOREST, N.C. (ABP)—Two Southern Baptist seminaries have announced plans to close campus child care centers.

The decisions by leaders at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest, N.C., and Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Kansas City, Mo., come one year after Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville reversed a similar decision.

Southeastern Seminary President Paige Patterson, former president of the Southern Baptist Convention, cited "ideological problems" with the school sponsoring child care as one of the reasons for closing the Ruby Reid Child Development Center.

The center, which has served both seminary and community families for decades, was designed as a learning laboratory for seminary students while providing care for children ages 2 to 5, according to Beth McLeod, who directed the program from 1965-85.

That is no longer seen as the center's function. Patterson said the center doesn't fit into the school's "Statement of Institutional Purpose."

Providing day care "is not really a part of our mission, especially when the vast majority of our clients are from the community and not students," he said. "We have no program for early childhood education, and the center serves no educational purpose."

In separate letters to student parents, community parents and the center's 21 employees, Patterson listed several reasons for the closure. He told parents from the community that the children had been "an infinite spring of happiness" but that child care is not the seminary's focus, and he was concerned about the seminary's liability

### Southern child care center remains open

LOUISVILLE—Southern Baptist Theological Seminary officials announced in April 2000 that the campus child care program would close at the end of July.

After a public outcry, seminary president Al Mohler pledged to keep the center open at least one more year while seminary leaders studied long-term options to meet the seminary's child-care needs.

Mohler cited financial issues for the closing and denied claims the decision was based on a belief that mothers should stay home with their children.

One year later, Southern's

child development center remains open "for the foreseeable future," according to Lawrence Smith, vice president of communications.

After seminary officials completed their study, they decided to upgrade the facility and keep it open, Smith said.

Last year, seminary leaders said the facility would require more than \$1 million in renovations to remain open. Smith said the seminary already has invested about \$100,000 in an upgraded playground, fencing and security features. He said he doesn't know whether there are plans for additional long-term renovations.

exposure.

To student parents, Patterson said the seminary could no longer afford the liability or the operating cost of keeping the center open. Raising fees to a break-even level would make it impossible for students to afford the service, Patterson said. The center reportedly has lost \$332,000 during the past five years.

"When we added it up, we determined that the seminary was spending \$4,000 of Cooperative Program funds per year per student child to provide day care," Patterson said. "When we raised rates in order to try to break even, many of our students could find more affordable services elsewhere."

Concerning ideological problems with seminary sponsorship of a child-care center, Patterson said, "Recent discoveries regarding children reared in child care centers have only escalated our convictions that the child that is most likely to have a happy and useful life is a child reared in the home with the parents, not in a child care

center.

"However," he added, "our position on child rearing did not close the center. Had that been the case, we would have closed it nine years ago when I became president."

The center currently has 60 preschoolers enrolled for the summer program, with 86 children pre-registered for the fall semester, according to director Tina Dekle.

Dekle has been director for seven of the 12 years she has worked at the center. Only 20 percent of the summer participants are children of seminary students, she said, but about half of those planning to attend in the fall are from student families.

Some parents and others in the Wake Forest community reacted with dismay. Christie Pleasant of Youngsville said her daughter Katie has been in three other day care centers, but none offered the level of care she received at Ruby Reid.

In response to Patterson's belief that children should be raised in the

home, Pleasant said, "If this were a perfect world, we would all stay at home." Citing financial pressure and the need many families feel for both parents to work, she added, "It's not a perfect world."

A group of parents, including some seminary students, met June 19 to discuss options for keeping the center open as an independent facility. They decided to write seminary trustees, asking to use the current facility for another year while they seek an alternate location.

Although Patterson's letter said the center would close prior to the fall semester, Dekle said Patterson has offered to allow rent-free use of the campus facility through December, provided organizers agree to pay utilities and operate independently of the seminary.

In a related development, trustees of Midwestern Seminary approved a motion earlier this year to close the school's child development center.

Midwestern's child care facility has been closed and reopened twice since 1995. Interim president Michael Whitehead reopened the center in August 2000, but new seminary president Phil Roberts decided to close the facility.

Despite an infusion of funds last year, the facility continued to operate at a deficit and enrollment included only six or seven children from seminary families.

Roberts said the report of deficit spending and his view that the facility "would not reach a break-even point anytime soon" led to the decision.

"I wanted to stay focused on our main assignment while encouraging students to seek other alternatives than professional day care in light of the need for families to be strengthened and encouraged," he added.

With additional reporting by Baptist Press

### BAPTIST DIGEST

■ **Messianic group affirms SBC ties.** The Southern Baptist Messianic Fellowship reversed a decision earlier this year to sever ties with the Southern Baptist Convention. Fellowship members, meeting in conjunction with the SBC annual meeting, ruled that former president James Austin's decision to cut organizational ties to the SBC was unconstitutional. Austin conducted a mail poll of members who supported the decision but the organization failed to ratify the decision through a constitutional amendment. Ken Alpren of Boynton Beach, Fla., was elected to succeed Austin as president.

■ **National WMU offices reorganize.** National Woman's Missionary Union leaders approved reorganization of the national office during an Executive Board meeting held in conjunction with the Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting. WMU Executive Director Wanda Lee described the new organizational structure as a "team-based ministry approach." She said the goal of the new structure is to make the national office more responsive to the needs of local churches. The revised structure includes a missions resource center, product development center and operational services center as well as teams responsible for missions innovation, leadership

development, financial services and other administrative assignments.

■ **Church staff member taken hostage.** A church staff member escaped harm June 18 when a homosexual activist angry at the Southern Baptist Convention's stand against homosexuality took the staff member hostage. David Powell, minister of maintenance and media at First Southern Baptist Church of San Diego, was shampooing carpet when Allan Ross entered the facility and asked to speak to the pastor. As the two men walked down the hallway, Ross pulled out a jagged-edged glass bottle and threatened Powell. Ross, who operates a homosexual Web site, told Powell he wanted to talk to the media. After Powell made contact with a local TV station, police officers arrived on the scene and arrested Ross without incident. He is charged with kidnapping and burglary.

■ **Midwestern names vice president.** Malcolm Yarnell has been named vice president for academic affairs and dean of the faculty at Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Kansas City, Mo. He has served since August 2000 as assistant professor of theology at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas.



"Son, this is your Mom's and my official wed site."

## Ugandan 'missionary' arrested in Kentucky fraud case

By Trennis Henderson  
Editor

HARRODSBURG—A man accused of conning several Kentucky Baptist churches out of thousands of dollars and tons of donated clothing is behind bars in Boyle County.

Daniel Lubowa, a Ugandan who used the alias Mark Phelps, was arrested June 9 after Larry Redding, pastor of Bruners Chapel Baptist Church in Harrodsburg, filed a complaint against him.

Lubowa faces a felony charge of theft by deception. A preliminary hearing held June 22 in Mercer County District Court determined there was sufficient evidence to send the case to a grand jury.

Lubowa, the son of a Baptist minister in Uganda, reportedly presented himself as a missionary seeking to help needy people in Uganda and neighboring Sudan. Speaking in several churches from Corbin to Georgetown in recent months, he told about overwhelming physical and economic needs in war-ravaged Sudan. Several churches responded by donating money and clothing for him to distribute.

However, according to a Southern Baptist missionary who has known

Lubowa for nearly 20 years, he owns a hotel in Uganda, drives expensive vehicles and reportedly has not distributed any donated money or clothing.

Larry Pumpelly, a Southern Baptist International Mission Board strategy associate in Nairobi, Kenya, said Lubowa "is not at all a person of any credibility in his own country. He has continued to raise money and goods for Uganda and Ugandans, but as far as I can tell nothing has gotten to Ugandans. I have never known of any of the clothes he raised in the U.S. going to Ugandans in a free distribution." He added that Lubowa does have a store in Kampala where he sells used clothing.

Mark Kelly, an IMB spokesman in Richmond, Va., said Lubowa has no connection with the Southern Baptist missions agency. "The IMB does not endorse what he allegedly has been doing in the churches," Kelly said. "Because of Southern Baptists' Cooperative Program approach to missions, we don't condone anyone soliciting donations directly from individual congregations."

Redding said Lubowa first contacted him by phone in March. He said Lubowa wanted to visit him and express thanks for the church's support of the Cooperative Program. Redding,

moderator of Mercer Baptist Association, invited Lubowa to meet with him and other area pastors the next day at the associational office.

Lubowa "said he had been sent here by a group in Africa doing undercover work in Sudan starting churches," Redding recalled. Noting that Lubowa "is very articulate," he added, "He told about the great poverty in Africa. He said there was no income at all where he ministered."

After the meeting, Redding invited Lubowa to speak at the association's Executive Board meeting.

"Everybody was very moved" by Lubowa's story, Redding said. As a result, board members voted to earmark the association's annual clothing drive for Lubowa's ministry efforts. Redding said the project grew from an associational event to a regional emphasis, with churches donating nearly seven tons of clothing.

Lubowa also "started to be invited to different churches in our association," Redding said. "He touched so many hearts and churches started giving him nice love offerings."

Earlier this month, associational leaders were alerted that Lubowa's claims might not be legitimate. Redding and other church leaders discovered that Grace Ministries in Roches-

ter, Minn., and the African Baptist Convention, two organizations with which Lubowa claimed to be associated, apparently were sham organizations he set up.

Uncovering a lengthy pattern of deceptive behavior, Redding said Lubowa "has been doing this for several years in at least seven states." He said his goal in filing a complaint against Lubowa "is not to get back money; it's the principle of trying to stop him from doing this again."

W.O. Wilham, retired director of missions for Mercer and South District associations, sent an e-mail alert last week to all Kentucky Baptist directors of missions. He wrote that churches in Boyle, Fayette and Mercer counties had donated more than \$27,000 to Lubowa. He said Lubowa reportedly has conducted similar scams in Georgia, Hawaii, Minnesota, Tennessee and Texas.

Lubowa "is a con at everything he claims," Redding said. "By the grace of God we were able to have him arrested. People are living in poverty and he is a stumbling block because people have lost their zeal to give to missions."

Although the whole situation "makes me sick," Redding added, "You have to stop a stumbling block."

## Dravecky: God taught how to balance helping others & self

By Suzanne Darland  
State Correspondent

ELIZABETHTOWN—In Galatians 6:2 the apostle Paul encouraged Christians to bear each other's burdens, but Jan Dravecky said she's learned verse 5 is equally valid in stating, "Each should carry his own load."

Mrs. Dravecky, author of "A Joy I'd Never Known," said it took a personal bout with depression and panic attacks to learn how to balance those two admonitions.

A self-proclaimed "control freak," she said she found security in an orderly life.

Then her husband, professional baseball pitcher Dave Dravecky, was diagnosed with a cancerous tumor that eventually led to the amputation of his pitching arm.

That experience, coupled with the sudden deaths of both her parents, spiraled her into depression that lasted three years, culminating with panic attacks and fear of leaving her home.

"Why is it that when every other part of the body gets sick we can deal with it by going to a doctor, but when the brain gets sick we deny it?" she

asked women attending the Dayspring women's conference June 2 at Severns Valley Baptist Church in Elizabethtown.

Christians, especially, feel they shouldn't get depressed, she said. But depression is like any other body chemistry abnormality, she added.

"Messages aren't relayed properly," she said. "You feel numb. ... You can't feel God because you can't feel anything."

High school sweethearts, the Draveckys became Christians through the influence of other Christians while Dave was playing with farm teams.

In 1987, after pitching a two-hit shutout in the playoffs for the San Francisco Giants, Dravecky felt a lump in his arm. Several months later, on the couple's 10th anniversary, doctors removed half of his deltoid muscle and, he was told, 95 percent of the use of his arm.

But 13 days after surgery he was lifting his arm over his head, and 10 months after surgery he pitched a 4-3 game against the Cincinnati Reds.

"I can't say we named and claimed the healing," Mrs. Dravecky said. "We just took it one day at a time."

But in his next pitching date, Dravecky made the pitch heard round the world. Fans gasped as Dave's arm snapped and he crumpled on the mound.

Dravecky told reporters, "He's the same God that healed me. God has a purpose in all this."

Shortly after, Jan Dravecky's father died of a heart attack while he worked. Her mother had died under similar circumstances years earlier.

Mrs. Dravecky said she "stuffed the pain back down again," refusing to acknowledge the losses and continuing to care for her husband and children.

After her husband's tumor returned and more surgeries led to a 10-month bout with a staph infection, she started experiencing symptoms of depression. She began losing her memory. She had chronic heartburn. She woke up nightly and couldn't go back to sleep. "A black cloud followed me unless I kept busy," she said.

Then, while on a book tour after her husband wrote "When You Can't Come Back," Mrs. Dravecky began having panic attacks.

After initial reluctance, the couple

began seeing a counselor and Mrs. Dravecky began taking medication for depression.

"Counseling was our spiritual surgery," she reported. "It exposed us to the truths about ourselves and truths about the Word of God."

She said she learned that it was OK to say "no" to others and take care of herself. She said she also learned to balance Paul's advice to bear each other's burdens and one's own load.

The 10th annual women's conference at Severns Valley Baptist Church drew 375 women, according to coordinator Denise Clements.

In addition to hearing Mrs. Dravecky, women also attended workshops.

Workshop leader Jennifer Walker asked women to consider whether they resemble Mary or Martha. "You might be a Mary if you get caught up in conversation and forget to serve your guests," she said. "You might be a Martha if you're in the kitchen the whole time and miss out on the dinner conversation entirely."

She urged women to work out the balance of sitting and meditating at Jesus' feet and finding joy in their service.

## Cumberland College fire damages administration building's chapel & organ

WILLIAMSBURG—A June 16 fire in Cumberland College's administration building damaged a chapel and organ, according to college officials.

Local fire officials were called to the school's Gatliff Memorial Building at approximately 8 a.m., June 16.

"All of the structural damage to the building was contained to the attic above the Gatliff Chapel," said Sue Wake, vice president for institutional advancement at the college.

"We are currently working under the assumption that the fire was electrical in origin," she added. "But, until the state fire marshal completes his investigation that's only a theory."

The Gatliff Memorial Building was constructed in 1955. Administrative offices are housed in the building along with the chapel and several classrooms.

The Gatliff Memorial Chapel was renovated in 1992. The renovation included the installation of stained

glass windows that depict events in the life of Christ and the history of the college. The windows were not damaged, a school spokesperson said.

"First and foremost we are truly thankful that no one was injured in this fire; buildings can be replaced but lives cannot," said Cumberland College President Jim Taylor.

"The interior of the Gatliff Chapel was damaged by smoke and water and will be replaced and repaired according to need," he said. "In addition, an

impressive pipe organ that was installed when the building was constructed was also destroyed."

The fire was classified as a four-alarm blaze, according to James Privett, of the Williamsburg Fire Department. "We may have over estimated a bit, but we didn't know what we had till we got here."

Members of the Williamsburg, Emlyn, Western Central, Three Point and Pleasant View fire departments helped contain the fire.

## Campbellsville to offer certificate for bivocational ministers

CAMPBELLSVILLE—Campbellsville University has created a certificate in Christian ministry program specifically for bivocational ministers.

The university's school of theology designed the certificate program to give bivocational ministers basic training and orientation for ministry, according to Mike O'Neal, coordinator of Campbellsville University's Center for Bivocational Ministry.

"With the approval of the certificate in Christian ministry, Campbellsville University is sending a message particularly to bivocational ministers," O'Neal said. "That being, 'We want to help you as you serve the Lord.'"

The certificate in Christian ministry program is a 27-semester hour program consisting of nine classes, O'Neal said, including introductory courses in Old Testament and New Testament, evangelism, preaching and pastoral ministry.

The school is seeking to develop convenient locations and schedules for the program, O'Neal added.

"With nearly 70 percent of all Kentucky Baptist pastors being bivocational, we at Campbellsville University see this program as being critical in terms of providing them with excellent educational and ministerial training," he said.

For more information, contact O'Neal by phone at (270) 384-3176 or by e-mail at moneal@kih.net.

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

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## Capital concerns

I watched the June 11 debate on capital punishment between Al Mohler and Phil Donahue on "Larry King Live."

Mohler made two statements I do not believe are accurate. I realize he, like most fundamentalists, believes in capital punishment. However, in his role as president of Southern Baptists' oldest seminary, you do expect a more accurate interpretation of Scripture than he gave when he said Jesus placed His stamp of approval on capital punishment when He said He came to "fulfill the law."

This raised a red flag with me so I checked several commentaries including "Word Pictures" by A.T. Robertson who is regarded as Baptists' most outstanding Greek scholar. Their comments are similar: Jesus came to fulfill the law by lifting it to the higher law, which is love God and your fellow man. This statement had nothing to do with capital punishment.

Jesus' one encounter with capital punishment came when self-righteous men wanted to stone a woman caught in adultery. Jesus said, "Let he who is without sin cast the first stone." I am not questioning whether one has the right to believe in capital punishment, but one does have the responsibility to be true to Scripture.

Mohler's other statement is as alarming because he said all of the people who have died by capital punishment were guilty. This statement was made in spite of the fact that numbers of prisoners have been released from death row because of DNA tests that found them not guilty.

I wonder if my associate may not be right when he said the most horrible punishment might be to live out one's entire life in a small cage like an animal.

Such pronouncements as Mohler's lead me to believe that another semi-

nary is needed in Kentucky to serve the several states Southern Seminary has always served.

John Dunaway  
Henderson

## Leave views behind

The fictional "Left Behind" series of books by Tim LaHaye and Jerry Jenkins might be giving some people who are not well versed in the Bible false hope that they can be saved after the rapture, even if they had heard and understood but not accepted the gospel message and salvation by Jesus Christ.

According to 2 Thessalonians 2:7-11, people who have heard but have not accepted Christ as their Savior when the rapture occurs truly will be "left behind." It states that "for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe the lie."

It is spiritually wrong to accept fictional writings and ideological statements by man as superior to God's Word and to incorporate such falsehoods into Christian doctrinal belief. Doctrine not verifiable by God's Word is false because it comes from the heart of man, not from God.

The rapture, which ends the church age, is the next event in Christianity's prophetic calendar wherein all Christians are suddenly removed out of the earth "in the twinkling of an eye" (1 Corinthians 15:52). Jesus Christ immediately meets them in the air (1 Thessalonians 4:17). With the constraining power of the Church, Christians and Holy Spirit out of the way, the Antichrist can be revealed and the tribulation period begins.

The 144,000 witnesses—12,000 from each of the 12 tribes of Israel—are chosen and "sealed" by God to protect them from the Antichrist (Revelation 7:4-8). In their evangelical mission they preach to billions of people who have not heard the gospel

message of Jesus Christ. The greatest revival of all times will then take place and millions of people will accept Christ as their Savior.

While "Left Behind" might make interesting reading, it should encourage readers to expand their studies of Scripture and to be aware of the dangers of false doctrines.

Ted Smith  
Ashland

## Don't glorify war

It was bad enough that some of the godliest men and women I have known in my 76 years were fired or harassed into resigning. It was bad enough that I no longer want to be called a Southern Baptist. Henceforth, I am a "Jimmy Carter-type Baptist."

It was even worse when bibliolatry took "Christ as the criterion for interpreting Scripture" out of the Baptist Faith and Message statement. How ironic: Baptists always have said, 'No creed but the Bible.' Now the Baptist Faith and Message is made a creed and the Bible is put above Christ.

Now it's happened again. Broadman & Holman publishers contracting to issue Oliver North's novels is horrendous. North and his crowd called the Contras in Nicaragua freedom fighters and illegally shipped arms to them. Nearly every Christian group in Nicaragua felt the Contras were terrorists. The Contras blew up health clinics and anything else designed to help the poor.

North was convicted, which was later overturned on appeal. His novels should not be put out by a Christian publisher. He and Broadman & Holman seem to be trying to cash in on the multi-million dollar bonanza tapped by Tim LaHaye with his sensation-seeking "Left Behind" series.

North has said his hero will be military. Will he glorify war and promote the end-justifies-the-means philosophy of so many military leaders?

Bill Moore  
Owensboro

## PARTNERS IN THE MISSION

### Personal reflections on the SBC

The Western Recorder provided comprehensive coverage of the Southern Baptist Convention last week but I thought you might enjoy a personal perspective.

The convention provides the opportunity to spend a few moments with people you have not seen since the last convention. Kay and I were able to share meals with some very special friends and meet others in the corridors, exhibit area, hotel, airports or while standing in line.

It was a special treat to attend the Baptist World Alliance breakfast and hear a great challenge from BWA President Billy Kim. "We Baptists have living water we can offer the world's people and I want the entire world to taste that living water," he said.

The Baptist World Alliance unites 43 million Baptists in a worldwide community of more than 100 million people to reach out in evangelism, minister to the hungry and poor, heal

racism and ethnic conflict and encourage downcast, strife-torn people. Southern Baptists provide a significant part of BWA support. Kim also spoke on Sunday night at the Woman's Missionary Union annual meeting and challenged Southern Baptists to double the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for International Missions in order to get the gospel to the unreached people groups.



Bill Mackey

After the state executive directors' dinner with Life-Way Christian Resources, we had a special dialogue with Jerry Rankin, president of the Southern Baptist International Mission Board. It was good to hear how God is at work. In cooperation with other Christian groups, Rankin hopes that every unreached people group can have a Christian witness by 2010 and maybe as soon as 2005. He said the Missionary Learning Center in Richmond, Va., is too small to accommodate the orientation for so many missionaries

under appointment. Although the risk seems greater than ever, the number of God-called missionaries continues to grow.

Kay and I also attended the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary luncheon and heard President Albert Mohler present plans for a \$70 million capital campaign for new housing; a Billy Graham School of Missions, Evangelism and Church Growth building; and renovation of Rice and Judson halls for use as a conference center. The six SBC seminaries are growing and finding new ways to equip ministers and missionaries.

Our trip home was through South Carolina, where I performed the wedding for a niece in a rural community. It was a delight to be a part of this beautiful community wedding.

But most memorable, Kay and I had the opportunity to accompany our seven-month-old granddaughter, Lillian Grace, on her first flight—Greenville, S.C., to Atlanta to Louisville. She slept in my lap both flights. We praise God that she is healthy and growing.

Bill Mackey is executive director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention

## GIVING

### Review 2001 Tax Act; changes affect estate, gift tax laws

By Laurie Valentine

On June 7, President Bush signed into law the 2001 Tax Act.



In addition to lowering income tax rates, providing relief from the "marriage penalty" and other incentives, this act makes some

significant changes to the estate and gift tax laws.

Since 1917, the federal government has imposed an estate tax on the transfer of wealth at death. Under the 2001 Tax Act, the federal estate tax will be phased out through a gradual reduction in the highest estate tax rate (currently 55 percent). The rate reductions begin in 2002 and continue until 2010 when the federal estate tax will be completely eliminated.

In addition to phasing out the estate tax, the estate tax exemption amount (currently referred to as the "unified credit" or "unified credit exemption equivalent") will jump from \$675,000 this year to \$1 million in 2002. In 2004 it will increase to \$1.5 million and in 2006 it will increase to \$2 million. The increase in the exemption amount will effectively eliminate federal estate tax worries for most Americans long before the estate tax actually is eliminated.

Unlike the estate tax, the federal gift tax will not be eliminated. The gift tax exemption amount will increase to \$1 million in 2002, but will not increase further.

When the federal estate tax is eliminated in 2010, the highest gift tax rate will be the same as the highest income tax rate (35 percent under the new tax law).

Beginning in 2010, when heirs sell inherited property they may have capital gains they would not have had in the past. The new tax act eliminates the current law that provided for a "step-up" (increase) in the basis of all property at death from the decedent's cost basis to its date-of-death market value and replaces it with a "carryover basis" system for people who die after 2009.

The new carryover basis provisions allow an estate to increase the basis of assets transferred by a decedent up to specified limits. However, the basis of an asset cannot be increased above its market value. Also, if you received an asset as a gift within three years of your death, your estate cannot increase the basis of that asset.

Your estate plan, whether simple or complex, will be affected by these tax law changes. Take time now to review your plan with your legal and tax advisors.

Laurie Valentine is trust counsel for the Kentucky Baptist Foundation

## Discover how and when to share feelings and hurts with spouse

**Q: I feel lonely and confused. When things go badly at work, I try to leave my problems there and not bother my wife. Yet she expects me to share everything. I feel like I'm doing her a favor by not bothering her with my worries but she says she feels left out. Her reaction leaves me feeling bad. How can we resolve our differences?**

The first chapters of Genesis paint a picture of spouses helping each other as Adam and Eve face the painful experience of being thrown out of the Garden of Eden. Genesis 2:24 notes that "a man shall leave his parents and cleave unto his wife." Now, as then, experiences of both joy and pain are part of the sharing that's important in marriage.

Years ago, a book was written titled, "Meet Me in the Middle." That title gives some direction about one way to resolve your loneliness. While you prefer struggling with the pain alone, your wife prefers talking about it. It may be that both of you can learn from each other. Sharing concerns is part of the partnership of marriage. The degree of sharing is what spouses need to negotiate.

A husband and wife sometimes have differing ideas about what constitutes sharing. One partner might think that sharing means coming up with solutions for problems. The other partner might think that sharing means having someone to just sit and listen to feelings. The bottom line is that both are right. Sharing in marriage involves problem talking as well as listening and being supportive.

Talk with your wife about your feelings. You might be feeling too responsible for needing to have solutions for everything. A strong marriage has room for uncertainty along with the expectation that someone is there for you. You and your wife can seek that balance in your marriage by talking and supporting each other.—*Suzanne Coyle*

### Q: Is it OK for parents to argue in front of their children?

Disagreements and conflict are a part of any relationship, including healthy marriages. Even couples who love each other completely are not going to agree on everything. Children need to learn that Mom and Dad sometimes see things differently. However, parents need to be very careful about how and when they express those differences.

Children look to parents for security and stability. Moms and dads who constantly argue and fight in front of their children fuel fears that already are present. Children wonder if the family has enough money. They worry about whether Mom and Dad will lose their jobs. They hear and internalize the raised voices, accusations and harsh words. Many children wonder if their parents are going to stay together. In short, when parents begin to fight, children become afraid.

When children are present, be especially sensitive to discussions that are developing into full-blown arguments. Swallow your pride and be willing to let it go until later instead of having to get in the last, often cutting word. Remember, too, that many adult arguments concern things children do not need to be worrying about. Don't burden your children with these problems.

Children will learn how to disagree by watching you, so set a good example. Learn to disagree without being disagreeable, and teach your children to do the same. As much as possible, discuss your differences and have your "fights" in private. If children do overhear a particularly volatile argument, look for an opportunity to reassure them that you still love each other. If they see you fight, make sure they see and hear you make up.—*David Garrard*

*Family Forum* writers are Suzanne Coyle, 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.



## Graham's life & ministry: It's all about Jesus

It was everything organizers had hoped for—and more.

From the weather and attendance to the media coverage and spiritual response, the Greater Louisville Billy Graham Crusade was a rousing success. Total attendance for the four-day event topped 190,000, including more than 10,000 people who made public decisions for Christ.

A host of local Christian leaders, trained volunteers and talented musicians added to the crusade's impact.

But one person was the driving force behind the crusade's vision and spirit—just as he has been in hundreds of crusades around the world for more than 50 years.

What can be said about evangelist Billy Graham that hasn't already been said? Described by close friends and associates as a genuinely humble servant of God, Graham has preached the gospel to more than 210 million people worldwide.

Perhaps no other person in the nation and certainly no other evangelical Christian leader has the respect and admiration of millions of people. Among countless accolades, he had been listed in the Gallup Poll's "Ten Most Admired Men in the World" more than 40 times. Receiving the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1983 and the Congressional Gold Medal in 1996, he has earned the status of American hero.

Beyond the public spotlight, what makes Billy Graham who he is? And how has he been able to make such a dramatic impact on modern Christianity?

The answer goes back to his personal humility, integrity and his reliance on God.

"God has raised him up in this generation as a man of the gospel," said Al Mohler, chairman of the crusade executive committee as he introduced Graham on the first night of the crusade. Citing Graham's integrity,

compassion, conviction, character and passion, Mohler added, "One word above all others says it all—evangelist. He is an evangelist of the gospel."

For his part, Graham continues to proclaim the gospel despite his declining health. "I've been looking forward to coming to Louisville for a long time," he told reporters. "My message here is the same: 'For God so loved the world...'"

Graham made good on that promise, delivering his trademark messages with a strong, forceful presence that belied his 82 years. "Jesus died publicly for you," he told the attentive crowds. "Surely you can come publicly to receive Him."

One of the most striking aspects of Graham's messages is the clear, consistent way he presents the plan of salvation. "First, you must repent of your sins," he emphasized. "Repentance means you are going one direction and you turn and go another direction and you tell God you're sorry for your sins and He will forgive you."

"Secondly, you must believe," Graham continued. "You can only find forgiveness for those sins through what Jesus did on the cross and through the resurrection."

"Thirdly, you must confess God openly. That's why I ask people to come forward during these crusades. You're openly acknowledging Jesus as your Lord and Savior."

Responding to those simple words, thousands of people made their way to the front of the stage each night to confess their sins and trust Jesus as their personal Savior.

And that is the lasting legacy of Graham's ministry in Louisville and around the world.

In reality, it's not about Graham. It's about Jesus Christ and the life-changing message of the gospel. And Billy Graham wouldn't want it any other way.

### STRAIGHT FROM THE EDITOR



Trennis Henderson

## The Roaring '20s: Baptist leaders crusade against 'worldliness'

By Jack Birdwhistell

They called them "The Roaring '20s," and for good reason. It was a time of challenge to many of the values and standards that had served a predominantly rural America for decades. As the urban population grew (along with ethnic and religious diversity), especially in the North, Baptists in Kentucky and the South confronted a variety of new movements and developments.

One might refer to the 1920s as a time of Baptist "crusades." The end of World War I in 1918 set loose a spirit of great enthusiasm in the United States, and many Kentucky Baptists freely imbibed this spirit. Kentucky Baptist leaders frequently used the terminology of war to motivate people in favor of good causes and against common enemies. Foremost was the positive crusade to witness for Christ, that led to the Seventy-five Million Campaign and its descendant, the Cooperative Program, officially adopted by the Southern Baptist Convention in 1925. The optimism of these efforts, however, was tempered by the financial ups and downs of the 1920s.

The primary spokesman for Kentucky Baptists during this period was Victor I. Masters, the experienced (54 years old when he took the position in 1921) editor of the *Western Recorder*. Having come to Kentucky from Atlanta, where he had served the Home Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, Masters had witnessed firsthand some of the "big city" ways that were moving toward Kentucky.

While Kentucky Baptists crusaded for missions and evangelism, they just as fervently crusaded against "worldliness" in all its forms. Historian Duane Boline cites a number of articles in the April 1, 1926, issue of the *Western Recorder* as a representative sampling of Masters' journalistic spirit: "The Evolution Theory," "Shall the Modernists Lay Their Hands upon Our Children," "Louisville Baptist Ministers Endorse Anti-Race Track Gambling Campaign" and "John Barleycorn's Friends Stage a Comeback."

The teaching of evolutionary theory (e.g., the 1925 Scopes trial in Tennessee), the too-tolerant views known as "modernism," gambling in all its forms and what Baptists writ-

ers usually called "the liquor traffic" were all fiercely resisted by editor Masters (and probably by most of his readers). Not quite as serious, but still causes for concern, were issues such as moving pictures, dancing, "mixed bathing," Sunday baseball and card playing, which were identified as problems by Elkhorn Association at its meeting in 1921.

And so, week by week, the tabloid-size pages of the *Recorder* carried encouragement for Baptist cooperation and against encroachments from "the world." Masters was joined in his efforts by other Kentucky Baptist crusaders such as H. Boyce Taylor, pastor of First Baptist Church of Murray and editor of the influential publication, *News and Truths*; J.W. Porter, former editor of the *Recorder* and pastor of First Baptist Church of Lexington; and M.P. Hunt, pastor of Twenty-Second and Walnut Street Baptist Church in Louisville. (Hunt also was a "positive" crusader as the major mover behind the opening of Kentucky Baptist Hospital in Louisville in 1924.)

This period of crusades, however, came to a screeching halt as Kentucky Baptists (and the nation as a whole) began to experience the trials of the Great Depression of the 1930s, our topic for next week.

*Ira "Jack" Birdwhistell is associate professor of religion at Georgetown College*



## Presbyterians seek ways to bridge major divisions

By Kevin Eckstrom  
Religion News Service

**"The trophy of the victors will be nothing but an ice sculpture."**

*Robert Thornton, an elder from Virginia, on the divisions within the Presbyterian Church (USA)*

LOUISVILLE (RNS)—When it came time for delegates from the Presbyterian Church (USA) to vote on whether to remove a ban on gay clergy on June 15, the sky grew dark, thunder clapped and sheets of rain began to fall.

Once delegates had voted to lift the ban, liberals said the raindrops were God's tears of joy; conservatives saw them as tears of pain. But they both agreed that God was speaking—though just exactly what was being said was unclear.

The 2.5 million-member church's annual General Assembly meeting ended June 16 on a very different note than recent assemblies. Faced with a choice between control by either the left or right, delegates chose neither.

"I've seen assemblies when I think most commissioners came pre-set, ideologically committed to one side or the other," said Jack Rogers, a liberal California theologian who presided over the meeting as moderator. "But these were just garden-variety Presbyterians, just ordinary people from our churches."

On a number of issues, Presbyterians

said the back-and-forth annual fights must come to an end. Delegates found a compromise on issues including:

■ **Salvation.** After months of debate on the role of Jesus Christ in salvation, Presbyterians said Jesus is "uniquely savior" but left the door open for God to save "those who may never come to know Christ."

■ **Theological differences.** A 17-member "task force" will spend the next four years probing the deep doctrinal differences within the church, reporting back in 2005 on ways the church can come together.

■ **Offerings.** The church declined to force congregations to pay annual dues, opting instead to keep the payments "voluntary rather than mandatory." Some congregations upset with church policy—on both sides—have withheld their money in protest.

But by far the most contentious issue facing the assembly was the gay ordination debate. Liberals wanted the 5-year-old ban removed, arguing it discriminates against gays and lesbians and causes needless division. Conservatives wanted it kept intact, saying the church cannot sanction behavior they believe the Bible condemns as sin.

By a 60 percent majority, the liberals won. The issue is far from settled, however. The measure now must be ratified by a majority of the 173 regional presbyteries. Last year a ban on same-sex unions was passed by the assembly but failed in the presbyteries.

There was a growing impatience among the delegates with efforts to delay or defer action on gay ordination. After a self-imposed two-year moratorium, most felt they had waited long enough. Delegates defeated attempts to leave the issue for the task force, and also to tinker with the existing language. Many saw that urge to act as a sign of progress.

As conservatives grudgingly conceded defeat, both sides lamented how ugly the fight had become. "I'm embarrassed, not by the vote, but by the way we've treated one another," said Russ Ritchel Jr. of Winston-Salem, N.C. "What God will hold me accountable for is not whether I win or lose. What He'll hold me accountable for is how I treated those I disagree with."

Some in the church questioned where they go from here. Both sides are gearing up for battles in the presbyteries, but there is a growing con-

cern from both camps on what will happen to the other.

"The trophy of the victors will be nothing but an ice sculpture," said elder Robert Thornton of Virginia during debate. "Maybe tomorrow, maybe next week, it will melt, and it will be nothing."

Of top concern to everyone, but especially church leaders, is a possible schism. Some 400 conservative churches are rallying behind a "Confessing Church" movement that holds a traditional line on doctrine and sexuality. Conservatives say they have no plans to bolt, at least for now.

Ecstatic with their victory on ordination, liberals say they are staying. Several gay former pastors said they were tantalized by the possibility of returning to their pulpits, and liberals claim "open and affirming" churches are growing.

Rogers, who will travel throughout the church during the next year and try to keep both camps under the "big tent" of Presbyterianism, knows he has a tough year ahead.

"We're in a bad place as far as people having a sense of trust and being OK in this church, and that's deeply troubling to me," Rogers said. "I hope we can address some of those issues."

## U.S. Supreme Court sides with expelled Christian Bible club

WASHINGTON (RNS)—An after-school Christian club for elementary-age children has the constitutional right to meet in a public school, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled earlier this month.

In a 6-3 decision, the court ruled June 11 that when Milford Central School in upstate New York excluded the Good News Club, its action amounted to "unconstitutional viewpoint discrimination."

The decision overturns an appellate court decision last year that prevented the club, an affiliate of an international group called Child Evangelism Fellowship, from holding meetings in the school.

The only major church-state separation case to come before the justices this term ended with a majority supporting the club's presence at the school, but additional opinions from dissenters who questioned its proselytizing of impressionable children. The club's activities include an opening prayer, religious songs, Bible stories and games, and an opportunity for children to convert to Christianity.

The court determined the club could not be excluded simply because of its religious nature. The school permitted meetings of other community groups, including those that teach morality and character development.

"We disagree that something that is 'quintessentially religious' or 'decidedly religious in nature' cannot also be characterized properly as the teaching of morals and character development from a particular viewpoint," wrote Justice Clarence Thomas for the majority.

A majority of the justices were not persuaded by arguments by the school district that the presence of the club might violate the First Amendment's Establishment Clause because young children might think the school is endorsing the club's religious viewpoint when it allows the group to meet on school property.

Meanwhile, the court on June 18 turned away appeals involving two other church state cases.

The high court left intact a ruling that allowed students to participate in group prayer at school functions and a decision in favor of a teacher who refused to let a first-grade student read a Bible story to classmates as part of a class activity.

With additional reporting by Associated Baptist Press

## Meeting resistance to change, NAE head resigns

By Adelle Banks  
Religion News Service

AZUSA, Calif. (RNS)—National Association of Evangelicals President Kevin Mannoia has announced his resignation following a recent meeting of the executive committee of the umbrella organization.

Mannoia, known for making significant changes in the association since he came on board in 1999, said the decision was a mutual agreement with other committee members. His resignation is effective July 7.

"I recognize that over the past few years, I have stressed the system, by both the magnitude of some of the adjustments and the rapidity of those changes," Mannoia said June 18.

"There's a constituency out there for whom these changes have undermined their expectation of the NAE and they don't agree or they don't like it and they wish that it were different and I understand that."

Edward Foggs, chairman of the NAE board, praised Mannoia for his "visionary" leadership but said there were "divergent perspectives about certain operational and fiscal matters."

"We mutually agreed, that under the circumstances, it would be, shall I say, an unusual challenge for him to give effective leadership," Foggs said.

Mannoia, 45, bishop emeritus of the Free Methodist Church of North America, will depart before the completion of his three-year term.

Foggs, too, said Mannoia's changes happened too quickly for some members of the organization. But he said the financial struggles were a contributing factor to the transition in the organization, which includes 51 denominations and about 250 ministries.

Mannoia moved the headquarters of the NAE from the evangelical

stronghold of Wheaton, Ill., to Azusa, Calif., a suburb of the more cosmopolitan Los Angeles. He viewed it as a symbol of the group's desire to be more racially and ethnically inclusive.

That commitment to inclusivity extended not only to geography but polity, when the NAE adopted a path-breaking bylaw change that would allow denominations affiliated with the more liberal National Council of Churches to also affiliate with the NAE. Such groups would have to adhere to the evangelical group's statement of faith. At March's annual

meeting, the NAE board voted to re-study the matter.

Under Mannoia's watch, the National Religious Broadcasters voted to drop its long-term affiliation with NAE. But the financial challenges were cited as a significant issue.

According to figures from the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability, the total income of the NAE dropped from \$1.5 million at the end of 1999 to \$1.1 million at the end of 2000. The amount of donated income dropped from \$887,915 to \$564,614 in the same period.

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## Appointment delays halt religious freedom panel's work

By Kenny Byrd  
Associated Baptist Press

WASHINGTON (ABP)—Members of the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom and other observers say the panel cannot do its work because President George W. Bush and House Democratic Leader Dick Gephardt, D-Mo., have yet to make their appointments.

The commission currently has only four of the required nine voting members. The commission must have at least six members to carry on its work and make policy recommendations and issue reports on religious freedom.

Bush has failed to make his three appointments, and Gephardt has two. The terms of the previous commission expired May 14. Since then the few members on the commission and its staff have had their hands tied.

On June 11, Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle made his two appointments: Firuz Kazemzadeh of Alta Loma, Calif., and Charles Stith of Boston.

Kazemzadeh was a former member of the commission, appointed in 1999 by President Bill Clinton. He is a senior advisor for the National Spiritual Assembly of the Baha'is of the United States.

Stith served as United States ambassador to Tanzania from 1998 to 2001. He is the founder of the Organization for a New Equality, a nonprofit organization dedicated to expanding economic opportunity for people historically excluded from the economic mainstream. He also served as senior minister of the Union United Methodist Church in Boston and was a member of the president's special delegation to monitor South Africa's first multi-racial elections.

Other appointed commission

members are Dean Michael Young, who was appointed by Sen. Trent Lott, R-Miss., and Nina Shea, who was appointed by Speaker of the House Dennis Hastert, R-Ill.

An earlier report stated that Bush is considering naming Southern Baptist official Richard Land, president of the Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission, to the panel. But Bush has yet to make his final decisions.

Meanwhile, members of the panel whose terms expired in May said the delay in appointments is "deeply frustrating" and is "driving their work to a halt."

They also have voiced concern that Bush has yet to name the ambassador-at-large who will head the religious freedom office at the State Department. Robert Seiple was appointed by Clinton to the post but left last year to start a think tank on conflict resolution.

The birth of the commission

came at the passage of the 1998 International Religious Freedom Act. The panel issues annual reports on religious freedom abuses abroad and makes policy recommendations to the administration and Congress about possible sanctions that could make a difference.

At a recent Senate committee hearing, Young, dean of the George Washington University Law School, told lawmakers that the panel "is unable to make any policy recommendations."

Former commissioner Rabbi David Saperstein of the Religious Action Center for the Reform Jewish movement agreed and also asked lawmakers to fund the commission's annual budget request of \$3 million. Saperstein said the commission would support changing the law to appoint new commission members to staggered terms so the panel's work can progress when some terms expire.

**Members of the panel whose terms expired in May said the delay in appointments is "driving their work to a halt."**

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## Conservative Christians snubbed in Israel ambassador campaign

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (ABP)—A campaign to get a conservative Christian activist appointed as U.S. ambassador to Israel appears to have been ignored by the Bush administration.

The snub has prompted complaints that yet another Republican president has used the Christian vote to get elected and then failed to produce results.

An array of conservative Christians and Jews lobbied the White House to get Ed McAteer, a long-time supporter of Israel and founder of the Religious Roundtable, nominated as ambassador to Israel.

But the White House announced

May 25 that Bush will nominate Daniel Kurtzer, former U.S. ambassador to Egypt, as ambassador to Israel.

"We were dropped like a hot potato once they got out of these Christians what they wanted," said McAteer, 74.

"It's a pattern with the Republican Party," agreed unsuccessful presidential candidate Howard Phillips, a former official in the Nixon administration who now heads the Conservative Caucus in suburban Washington. "The Republican Party relies on one group of people to get into office, then another group of people to govern."

Among those sending letters of support for McAteer were Tennessee Gov. Don Sundquist; Sen. Fred Thompson, R-Tenn.; Adrian Rogers, pastor of Bellevue Baptist Church in suburban Memphis and three-time president of the Southern Baptist Convention; James Merritt, SBC president and pastor of First Baptist Church of Snellville, Ga.; Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee, a former Baptist pastor; Judge Roy Moore, of Ten Commandments fame in Alabama; Rafael Grossman, rabbi at Baron Hirsch Congregation in Memphis, the largest Orthodox Jewish congregation in the nation; and Herbert Zweibon, chairman of Americans for a Safe Israel.

McAteer said as of June 12, he has not received so much as a postcard from the Bush White House, much less any request for a formal interview.

News of Kurtzer's nomination has upset ultra-conservative Christians, who called him the virtual embodiment of what they perceive to be a failed Middle East policy of the Clinton administration.

Kurtzer is himself an Orthodox Jew and a well-traveled veteran in the Middle Eastern diplomatic community. His nomination has been supported by the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism, Central Conference of American Rabbis and the Rabbinical Assembly.

**"We were dropped like a hot potato once they got out of these Christians what they wanted."**

Ed McAteer



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## America's song leader

### MASTER OF CEREMONIES

Cliff Barrows has worked with Billy Graham for more than 50 years. "A crusade gives the world outside a chance to see what the body of Christ is like when they work together, sing together, pray together." (Photos by David Winfrey)

## Cliff Barrows finds delight in helping volunteers sing with joy

By David Winfrey  
News Director

LOUISVILLE—He might be America's best-known song leader, but Cliff Barrows doesn't consider himself an accomplished musician.

"I don't play the piano," said Barrows, 78, one day before the start of the Billy Graham crusade in Louisville.

"I think a musician who is not familiar with the keyboard has a great handicap unless he has somebody that he's married to who can play for him," he said.

"And, of course, I was for 50 years," he said, referring to his first wife, Billie, who died of cancer in 1994.

From the beginning, Barrows has directed music for Billy Graham's rallies and crusades.

Part choir director and part master of ceremonies, Barrows is responsible for the seamless progression of singers, speakers and other events leading up to Graham's message and invitation to become a Christian.

"He is a little bit like John the Baptist," said Don Hustad, a professor of music at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and a former organist for the crusades. "Cliff Barrows is that important person who really holds the service. He's the platform manager. ... He emits a magnanimous spirit of welcome and of joy."

## Former organist Hustad: Evangelistic meeting different from worship service

LOUISVILLE—As a seminary music professor and a former organist with Billy Graham, Don Hustad hopes church members realize that Graham's crusade meetings might not be the best model for Sunday worship.

"Evangelism is not a worship service," said Hustad, who was organist for the crusades from 1960-1967.

The biggest difference, he said is that in an evangelistic service, everything leads up to the gospel presentation and invitation to become a Chris-

Yet if it wasn't for a chance encounter during his honeymoon, America might never have gotten to know and love Barrows. He said it was a youth rally near Asheville, N.C., that eventually linked his fate with that of the famed evangelist.

"I met him when I was 22 and he was 26," he recalled of his meeting Billy Graham in 1945.

Barrows and his wife had just graduated from college and were staying at the home of a friend who invited them to an event where Graham was speaking.

"When we arrived, the director of the conference said, 'Well, we have a little problem tonight. We don't have a song director.'"

Before they could object, the Barrowses' host enlisted Billie Barrows to play the piano and Cliff Barrows to direct the music.

"With a big smile he said, 'Come on Cliff; we won't be choosy. Let's go,'" Barrows recalled.

Within a month, Graham and Barrows were at Winona Lake, Ind., at the founding of Youth for Christ International.

The two worked together with Youth for Christ before they later formed the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association. "We traveled all over Europe together. "I would lead the music and he would preach at these big youth rallies," Barrows said. "The Lord just knit our hearts together in a

very special way."

But Barrows said that for three years he entertained thoughts of going back to school for ministry training.

"And I made the decision about 1948 to not try to go back to seminary and preach. I like to preach, but the Lord spoke to our hearts and said, 'You be content to just stay where you are and lead the music for Mr. Graham and help him any way you can, and I'll take care of the preaching end of it,'" he recalled. "Well, He has, and I've been able to preach in so many different places."



Hustad noted that Barrows has filled a role important throughout American revivals. "They never talked of (evangelist Dwight L.) Moody alone. It was Moody and (song leader Ira D.) Sankey." Likewise, Billy Sunday had Homer Rodeheaver, Hustad said.

"In a sense, we should have been talking all these years about 'Graham and Barrows,'" While Barrows calls it a "great privilege" to serve with Graham, Graham is equally complimentary of Barrows' importance to the success of the crusades.

"From the moment I met Cliff Barrows, I knew he had a rare combination of strengths," Graham wrote in his autobiography, "Just As I Am." "He loves music and he knows the importance of music in touching the hearts of an audience," Graham wrote. "When he leads the choir in singing 'Just As I Am' when I begin the invitation, he is just as much a part of what the Holy Spirit is doing in people's hearts as I could ever be."

For his part, Barrows said he appreciates the uniqueness of each crusade these days.

"I think each one is a little more unique and special in that God has extended our ministry to allow us to hold another one," he said.

During the team's prayer time each day of a crusade, that special feeling is invoked, he added.

"Our prayer is, 'Lord, make this as exciting to us as if it was the first one

and as urgent to us as if it were the last one,'" he said.

Barrows' theology of music covers both Christians and non-Christians.

"A crusade gives the world outside a chance to see what the body of Christ is like when they work together, sing together, pray together," he said.

Christians get to experience the joy of singing with other Christians of various denominations, races and backgrounds, he added.

"The Scripture says the Lord inhabits the praises of His people, and I think His spirit is evident in a special way where His people are praising Him."

For non-Christians, songs prepare their hearts for Graham's upcoming message. "I think the music, more than anything else, prepares the hearts of the people for the service."

Working with thousands of singers who compose the 4,000-member choir, Barrows is nonchalant about how so many voices can come together in just a few hours of rehearsal.

"If they start together and stop together, that's the important thing," he said. "And hopefully they'll get the right notes in between, and they do."

Besides, most choir members already know how to read music, he noted. Others can follow the lead of the person standing next to them, and most of the songs are familiar to them.

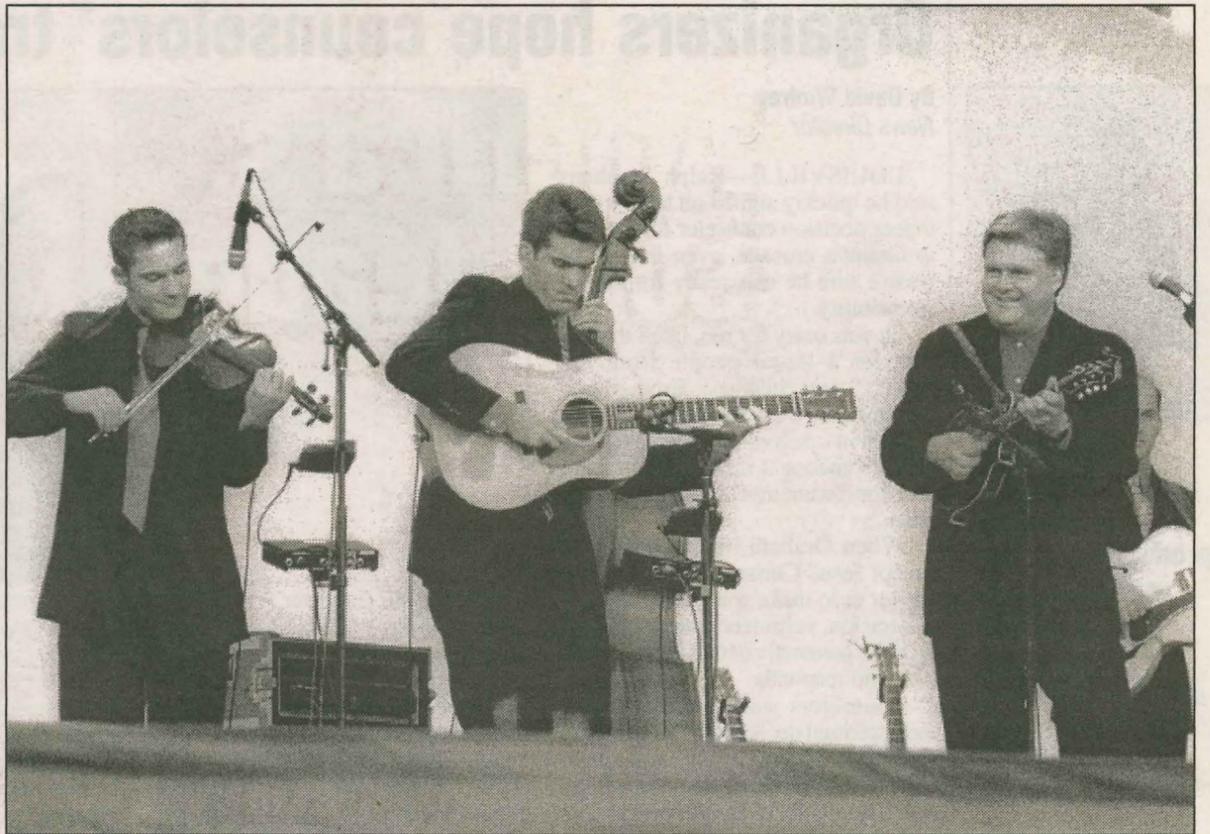
"There have been many times in years past where we only had one rehearsal 30 minutes prior to a crusade service," he said. "It's no genius that does this. It's just the fact that they're anxious to sing and they're attentive."

Ultimately, it is passion, not ability that Barrows said has driven his role with the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association. "The Lord put a great love in my heart to encourage people to sing, and I've worked with volunteers all my life," he said.

"I would rather have a choir of 100 volunteers than the finest professionals in the city if I had my choice," Barrows added. "We have a message to sing about with joy, and that makes all the difference."



# MUSIC



## Musical artists deliver variety of styles, one message

By **Trennis Henderson**  
Editor

LOUISVILLE—From the foot-stomping bluegrass music of Ricky Skaggs to the hand-raising praise and worship choruses of Michael W. Smith, the Greater Louisville Billy Graham Crusade showcased a medley of musical styles and tastes.

Mix in legendary soloist George Beverly Shea, a 4,000-voice choir, Christian rock group dc Talk and Psalty the Singing Songbook and every performance added to the variety.

One thing that didn't change from artist to artist was the clear message of the gospel.

"My goal is to prepare people's hearts to hear Billy's message," explained Smith, who has earned two Grammy awards and more than 20 Dove awards during his 17-year career in contemporary Christian music.

Noting that Graham is "an extremely humble man (who) always turns the attention away from himself," Smith said he's honored to sing at Graham crusades.

At age 43, Smith said he has learned his music ministry "is not about me. I'm seeking God and I'm hearing Him a little more clearly."

Singing a series of praise choruses during the crusade's opening night service, Smith noted that "music is a very, very powerful tool." He said he seeks to use his music "to soften somebody's heart for the gospel."

"My goal is: 'God, direct me to sing the right songs,'" he said. "During worship, things happen, God moves and people's lives are changed."

Ricky Skaggs, who grew up in Eastern Kentucky, has built a career in country and bluegrass music. He has earned four Grammys and eight Country Music Association awards, including CMA's 1985 Entertainer of the Year.

Before performing last week with his Kentucky Thunder band, Skaggs



told reporters his focus is somewhat different from many full-time Christian musicians.

"I'm not a Christian artist, but I am an artist who's a Christian," he said. Noting that every member of his band is a Christian, he said many of their performances allow them to present the gospel in settings where non-Christians are.

"We praise God in everything we do with our music," Skaggs said. "When you do what you do unto God's glory, He blesses it."

Prior to the crusade service, Skaggs said, "I'm praying there will be a lot of souls saved tonight. ... The Christian life is not always an easy life, but it's the only real life there is."

Fellow Kentuckian Larnelle Harris also sang during the crusade. Harris, also a multiple Grammy and Dove award winner, grew up in Danville and now lives in Louisville, where he is a member of Maple Grove Baptist Church.

Harris said it's always a privilege to be invited to sing at a Billy Graham crusade. Noting that the renowned evangelist "has no idea who he is," Harris said, "Here is a man who preaches a message and who is only interested in one thing and that's pro-



moting the gospel."

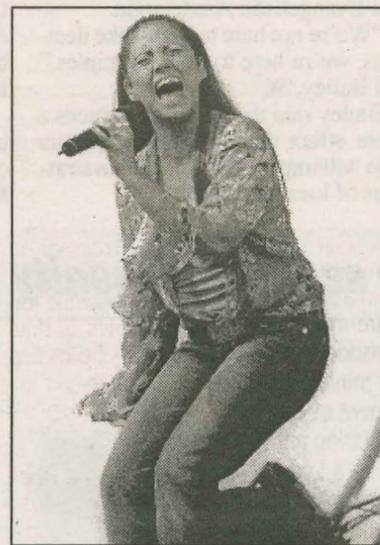
Harris said the opportunity to minister through Christian music is "the greatest gig in the world." He said his goal is for his music to focus on a message of love, hope, peace "and the restoration of the most important relationship in life" which is a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

In addition to musicians such as Smith and Harris who have a long-term association with Graham, several artists at the Louisville crusade were participating in their first event with Graham.

Third Day, a Christian rock band based in Atlanta, performed at the crusade's final session Sunday night.

"To be part of the big show at the Billy Graham crusade is an awesome thing," said lead singer Mac Powell. He said the band is honored "to be able to be part of that family to come together to help share the love of God. ... Hopefully people will hear that word and take it to heart."

Sixteen-year-old Rachael Lampa was the youngest artist featured during the crusade. She gained Christian music acclaim when the title track of her debut CD, "Live for You," hit No. 1 on Christian music charts last year.



"I never thought I would be able to be part of something so huge that changes so many lives," she said of the crusade.

"All the performers and speakers have something unique to offer," she said. Affirming the role of Christian music in the Graham crusade and other settings, she added, "Music breaks down walls other things can't. It's another way to spread seeds."

### MUSICAL MEDLEY

A variety of musical sounds and styles were shared by performers during the

Greater Louisville Billy Graham Crusade. ■ **Top left:** Michael W. Smith

leads a series of praise and worship songs. ■ **Top right:** Kentucky bluegrass

singer Ricky Skaggs (right)

and his band, Kentucky

Thunder, use guitars,

banjo, fiddle and mandolin

to proclaim the gospel.

■ **Far left:** Larnelle Harris

of Louisville sings to a

hometown crowd in Papa

John's Cardinal Stadium.

■ **Left:** The Gaither Vocal

Band sings before a record

stadium crowd of 57,500

people during the crusade's

final service. ■ **Bottom:**

Sixteen-year-old Christian

recording artist Rachael

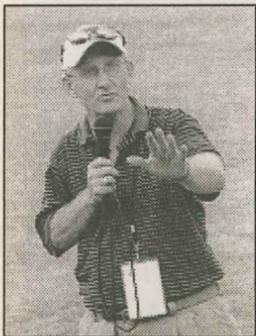
Lampa performs her No. 1

Christian hit, "Live for You"

(Photos by David Winfrey)

## Organizers hope counselors' training lasts a lifetime

By David Winfrey  
 News Director



**"God has not called us into the church to be productive. ... God called us to be reproductive."**

Art Bailey, decision counseling director for the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association

LOUISVILLE—Ralph Stephens said he quickly signed on to be a volunteer decision counselor for the Billy Graham crusade, even though he wasn't sure he was ready for the responsibility.

"It was scary for me, like I think it was for a lot of people from my church," said Stephens, Brotherhood director for West Broadway Baptist Church in Louisville. "You're talking about someone's salvation here, and you don't want to mess up the experience."

When Graham invites people to accept Jesus Christ as their personal Savior or to make some other spiritual decision, volunteer counselors provide the personal contact for each person who responds.

Counselors walk people through their spiritual decisions as well as provide them with materials, including a copy of the Gospel of John and a four-part Bible study. Counselors also collect the respondent's address and other information in order for the crusade to follow up with other materials and link him or her to a local church.

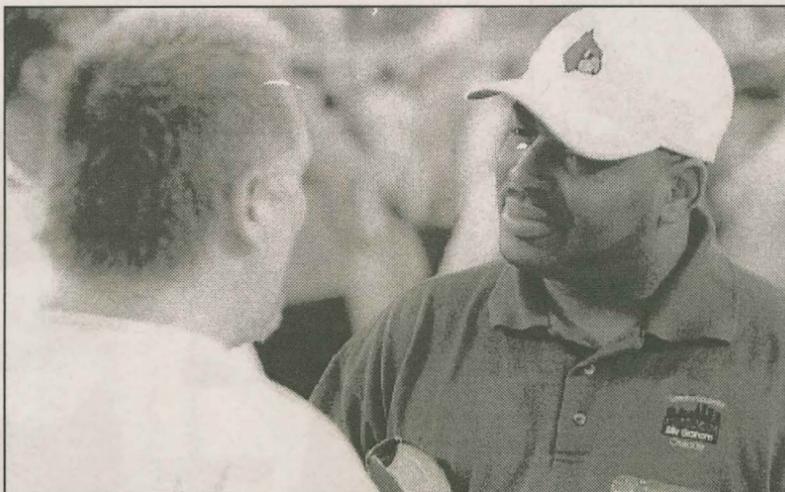
Stephens said the Christian Life and Witness classes, five weekly courses required for all counselors, helped him assess his own spiritual development as well as teach him the mechanics of leading someone into a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

Stephens said one comment by his teacher encouraged him, pointing out that counselors can have confidence in the work of the Holy Spirit as well as the preparation and witnessing materials. "I'm not a perfect sower," Stephens said. "But we're sowing good seed."

Building the confidence of local Christians to help with evangelism is a main goal for Art Bailey, decision counseling director for the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association.

"We're not here to just make decisions, we're here to make disciples," said Bailey, 56.

Bailey said the training produces a ripple effect that crusade organizers hope will impact the evangelism strategies of local churches.



**DECISION TIME** Counselor Stanley Brown talks with someone who responded to Billy Graham's invitation. Brown was among the approximately 3,000 people who signed up to serve as counselors during the crusade. (Photos by David Winfrey)

"We could teach people how to be a counselor on the field in an hour and a half. That's not what this course is about," Bailey said. "We're talking about changing the lives of people who come and hear this information."

Placed in the context of the crusade, counselors are told they couldn't find an easier setting for leading someone to become a Christian. Those being counseled, teachers say, already have decided they want to make a spiritual decision. All the counselors have to do is help walk them through that decision.

"We give them an absolutely fail-safe place to do it in, in the beginning," Bailey said.

"What it returns to the church are people that not only now know how to do share the facts of the gospel, but they're actually done it. ... And not only have they learned it and done and been successful at doing it, they have a motivation to do it again. 'This is good. I can do this. I like this. God blesses this. I want to do it some more.'"

Approximately 6,000 people took the Christian Life and Witness courses for the Louisville crusade, and about half those applied to be counselors.

Bailey said he wishes it was more, but added that he's not frustrated because he realizes that with only six months' notice, it was hard for church-

es to schedule one more item. "I wanted it to be 20,000, just because I know what it can mean to the city."

Too often, he said, churches are satisfied with members who come, give and take on a responsibility such as teaching Sunday school or singing in the choir.

"God has not called us into the church to be productive. ... God called us to be reproductive," he said. "When you begin to turn a productive church member into a reproductive church member, then we're meeting the command of the Great Commission."

Norman Coe, associate pastor at Highview Baptist Church in Louisville, said it was uplifting during the

### By the numbers

	Attendance*	Decisions
June 21	37,500	1,715
June 22	40,500	2,115
June 23		
Kidz' Gig	10,000	1,100
Concert	46,000	2,711
June 24	57,500	2,651
* estimate		

courses to see people from a variety of churches uniting for the same evangelistic purpose.

"It's good to know we're coming together and working for the same thing: to get people saved."

Stephens said he got chills down the back of his spine on the first night of the crusade during both the singing and as Billy Graham took the stage to a rousing standing ovation.

Relaxed during Graham's sermon, Stephens said the invitation was offered before he had time to get tense about his work.

"All of a sudden it was time to go to work," Stephens said. "I didn't have time to think about it or be scared or anything."

On the first night of the crusade, Stephens said, he counseled a 22-year-old woman who had been in church all her life but hadn't accepted Jesus as her personal Savior.

"I thought I would be more exhausted, but it really kind of pumped me up," he said. "I couldn't sleep that night."

### Please pray for us

I am continually amazed by the number of you who read my column regularly. Based on the comments I receive, many of you are excited about what God is doing at our youth camps at both Jonathan Creek and Cedarmore. While the start of our GA and Mission Adventure Camps at Cedarmore is just a few days away, we already have completed the first two weeks of youth camp. And what a two weeks it has been!

Both Cedarmore and Jonathan Creek have been packed to capacity with youth hungry for a fresh encounter with God, and the results have been exciting! While the numbers are not yet complete as I write this column, it appears that in the first two weeks of our camp ministry we have had between 80 and 100 professions of faith! Praise the Lord for what He is doing as we seek to reach this young generation for Christ.

I have been reminded time and time again in these first two weeks of camp of both the challenges and joys associated with this ministry. The challenges are both physical and spiritual. Physical because the plain fact is that camping ministry is very demanding. The hours are long and hard. The heat and sun

take their toll on one's body. The spiritual challenges are numerous as well. You can rest assured that the enemy has our camps squarely in his sights. Any place where God is moving as He is here is a target for Satan. We pray hour after hour, day after day, that God would protect every person who comes here as a camper or works on staff.

So in the midst of all the excitement, you can participate in this ministry by covering us with prayer. I often have been reminded of our missionaries' comments about the importance of prayer in their ministries around the world. I feel the same way regarding our camping ministries. Without a covering of prayer over all that takes place this summer at Jonathan

Creek and Cedarmore, we find ourselves dealing with the challenges out of our own strength, which begins to ebb about halfway through the summer. It is only through the strength that God provides that we are able to sustain the pace. Thank you for your prayers. Keep lifting us up in the weeks ahead. To God be the glory.

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

### KENTUCKY BAPTIST ASSEMBLIES



Rusty Ellison

### Love in Action seeks community ministry impact

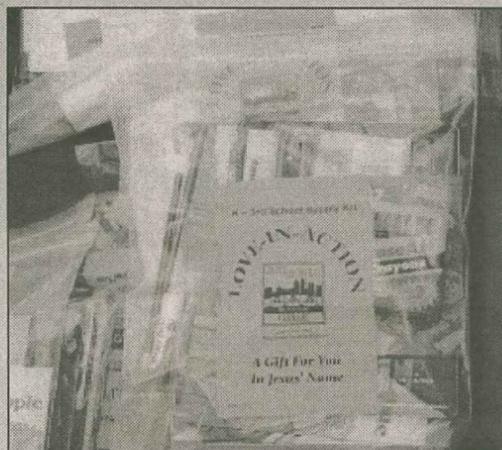
LOUISVILLE—Later this summer and fall, the impact of the Billy Graham crusade should be felt in area hospitals, schools and ministries.

Love In Action is a component of each Graham crusade to provide a lasting community impact in the host city. Louisville's Love In Action committee had three components:

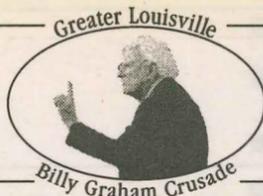
■ **School supplies.** Organizers set a goal of collecting 12,000 school supply kits for children in kindergarten through sixth grade. Many people attending the crusade put kits into bins as they entered Papa John's Cardinal Stadium.

■ **Blood drive.** Several pre-crusade blood drives sought to collect blood for the American Red Cross.

■ **Volunteers.** People attending the crusade were asked to consider filling out a reply card in their program to volunteer with a local ministry.



**LOVE IN ACTION** School supply kits fill a collection bin outside Papa John's Cardinal Stadium.



# CRUSADE

## Choir members excited to take part in history

By David Winfrey  
News Director

LOUISVILLE—Sheryl McCall didn't want to miss a minute of her experience of singing in the choir that performed three of the four nights for the Billy Graham crusade.

McCall, a member of Ballardsville Baptist Church, was at the stadium when the gates opened at 3 p.m., even though services didn't start until 7 p.m.

By arriving early, she got to hear performers such as Michael W. Smith and the Gaither Vocal Band rehearse their performances. She also got a seat near the front of her vocal section each night.

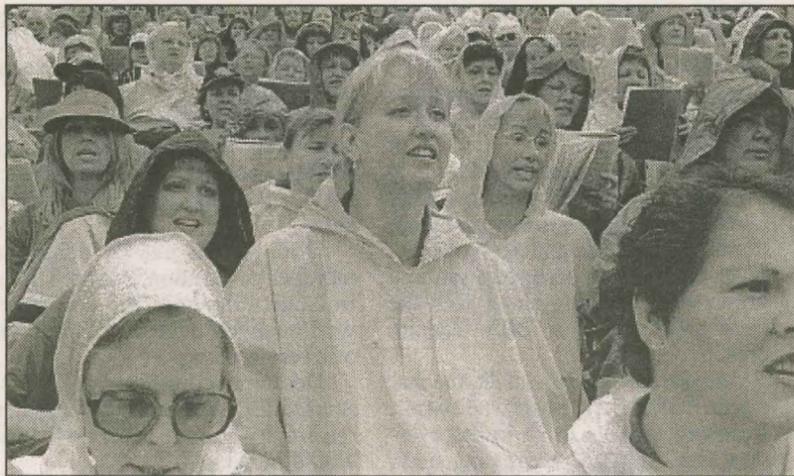
"It has been the most incredible blessing I have ever experienced in my life," McCall said. "It's just a little taste of what heaven's going to be like."

Clara Tully, a member of Walnut Street Baptist Church in Louisville, braved the rain Thursday night in order to get a front-row choir seat. "I wanted to be a part of history."

History and blessings were a common theme for choir members, who opened most services, sang while the offering was collected and on Sunday accompanied George Beverly Shea.

As program director Cliff Barrows led events from the stage, choir director Tom Bledsoe worked closely with the choir's 4,000 singers.

Songs are chosen for their simplicity and focus on inviting non-Christians to respond to the invitation to



**SINGING IN THE RAIN** ■ Above: Cheryl McCall sings during practice for the crusade's 4,000-member volunteer choir. ■ Right: Before a service starts, choir members take part in "the wave" cheer. (Photos by David Winfrey)

accept Jesus as their personal Savior, he said.

While most singers come from church choirs, Bledsoe is mindful that many others with little or no choir experience come wanting to say they sang in the Billy Graham choir.

"Our music is arranged so it's not too difficult for a first timer," he said. The main instructions are to watch Bledsoe so they'll know when to start and stop and "just to sing from their heart," he said.

Still, Bledsoe is mindful that even some choir members might not be



Christians. On the last night of the crusade, he closed his pre-service instructions with a personal testimony.

The son of a church choir director, he said it wasn't until he was in college directing church music that he realized he never personally had asked Jesus into his heart. "Don't let pride or anything else stand in the way," he said. "If you feel the Lord calling your heart, please answer."

## Interpreters help Billy Graham share gospel in other languages

LOUISVILLE—At the same time that Billy Graham was sharing the gospel with thousands of people at Papa John's Cardinal Stadium, as many as five other language groups could hear, or see, his words in their own language.

Thanks to a corps of interpreters, boxes of electronics and hundreds of feet of wiring and antennas, Graham's message was translated into Spanish, Taiwanese, Mandarin, Vietnamese, Korean and American sign language.



**INTERPRETING** Carlos Martinez, left, interprets Billy Graham's message into Spanish.

Deaf attendees sat in one section watching interpreters perform sign language on a platform. Those who spoke languages other than English were issued AM radios and headphones.

Low-frequency transmitters broadcast the songs, testimonies and Graham's sermons throughout several sections of seats. People who were issued radios also were told what dial setting would carry their language.

"Now they can unlock it and listen to the ballgame, I guess," said Ira Schipper, who has

overseen the translators' technical setup for about 20 years. The team is equipped to broadcast in up to eight languages, he said.

At any time, there were only about 120 people listening to the Louisville crusade in another language, Schipper noted.

That might sound like an insignificant number, he said. "But to those people, it's the biggest thing we can do."

—David Winfrey

### Pastor/Staff and Family Conference

Cumberland College's annual Pastor/Staff and Family Conference is only a few weeks away, July 16-18.

We are preparing for a wonderful time of inspiration, Bible study, learning and refreshment and cordially invite you to be part of our conference.

Rick Bowden, pastor of Ormsby Heights Baptist Church in Louisville, will serve as conference pastor. Bowden, a 1989 Cumberland graduate, has served as both a youth pastor and pastor. He has a passion for reaching the younger generation for Christ and encouraging and praying for pastors. His messages will be challenging and inspiring.

Vernon Cole, leader of the church growth team of the Kentucky Baptist Convention, will serve as seminar leader. He will lead four sessions discussing church growth. His wisdom and guidance will benefit us all.

Emory Riley, minister of music at First Baptist Church of Hopkinsville, will be our music leader. Riley will draw from his 20 years of experience in music ministry and is sure to bless us as he leads us in worshipping God.

I will be leading the Bible

study focusing on Genesis 1-12, the 2002 Winter Bible Study. Entering a new century and millennium provides a wonderful opportunity to review the opening chapters of the Bible and hear again the accounts of God's initial work with creation.

One person can attend the conference for only \$30 and a family can register for only \$50. The price includes lodging for two nights in college housing and all meals from Monday evening through Wednesday noon.

To register or for more information, contact Wes Roy at (606) 539-4154 or by e-mail at wroy@cc.cumber.edu. The registration deadline is July 9.

We would love to have you and your family with us for this wonderful time of fellowship in Christ.

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

**CUMBERLAND COLLEGE**



### The 'why' factor

When you look at a map of Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children programs or check out our directory of services in the Baptist Children's Messenger newsletter, you might be a bit overwhelmed by the number of programs and campuses we have. I've been here four years now, and it sometimes still overwhelms me. With an agency this size with approximately 300 employees, serving nearly 4,000 children and families annually, you might think we no longer need your presence on our campuses and in our offices. How wrong you would be!

This year, KBHC begins a new initiative to recruit and coordinate volunteers across the state. We call it "KBHC, Keeping Busy Helping Children." Steve Whiteley, a former direct care counselor at the Baptist Youth Ranch in Elizabethtown, is KBHC's first volunteer coordinator. Whether a volunteer is stuffing envelopes, renovating a building, hauling food or leading a Bible study, Steve is there to help every step of the way.

Volunteering is nothing new for supporters of KBHC. With the addition of a volunteer coordinator, we hope to do a better job of informing people about the work that

goes on in our programs and on our campuses. We also want to match volunteers with the program best suited for their gifts.

Mentors, tutors, Bible study leaders, arts and crafts hobbyists and other volunteers have a unique impact in the lives of youth victimized by physical or sexual abuse, neglect or abandonment. Many times, kids are suspicious of staff and say, "You're paid to take care of me. You don't really love me." Patience, sincerity and consistency on the part of our staff will prove that child wrong, but a child immediately sees something different in a volunteer. The "why" factor is a strong one. "You aren't getting paid for this? Why would you come here on your spare time? Why do you care?" Those are God-given opportunities to tell a child he is special, loved and valuable. That is a gift greater than any activity a volunteer might undertake.

Think about it. If you have questions, call Steve at (800) 456-1386.

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

**HOMES FOR CHILDREN**



Bill Smithwick



# CRUSADE

## Why Graham's HQ is Minneapolis

LOUISVILLE—Billy Graham was born and raised in North Carolina, where he now lives. So why is the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association headquartered in Minneapolis?

The association's location is linked to a dying man's wish for Graham to continue his work in the Twin Cities of Minneapolis/St. Paul.

A.B. Riley, pastor of First Baptist Church of Minneapolis, founded Northwestern Schools, consisting of both a liberal arts college and a theological seminary.

Riley admired Graham, and in 1947, with his health failing, Riley told the evangelist that he wanted Graham to follow him as president.

"He insisted on at least designating me as the school's vice president at large, whatever that meant," Graham wrote in his 1997 autobiography "Just As I Am."

Graham protested but finally agreed to serve as interim president, if the need arose. After Riley's death in December 1947, Graham became the youngest college president in the nation, only four years after graduating from Wheaton College with a bachelor's degree in anthropology.

Graham refers to his role at Northwestern as "absentee president," addressing the needs of the school in between speaking engagements around the country.

During his time at Northwestern, the evangelistic team felt led to begin a nationwide radio ministry, according to Cliff Barrows, Graham's longtime music director.

The group needed an organization that could sign contracts, so Graham turned to George Wilson, Northwestern's business manager, to help form the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association, Barrows said.

"Since Minneapolis was his headquarters and Billy's official business headquarters, though he lived down in the Asheville (N.C.) area, we used that as our headquarters area and it's been a very fine choice," Barrows said. "The people have been wonderful to us and we love the Twin Cities, although we're not there very often." —David Winfrey

## Sunday's crowd overflows Papa John's stadium

LOUISVILLE—Approximately 57,500 people attended Sunday night's crusade meeting, breaking the attendance record for Papa John's Cardinal Stadium and forcing thousands to watch the proceedings on a large screen outside.

Linda Pfaffenberger rode a bus 3 1/2 hours from Ashland to hear Billy Graham preach, only to be told the stadium was full. She and approximately 40 others from her group sat on a grassy bank, singing along with the choir and listening to Billy Graham preach.

Despite not getting inside the stadium, Pfaffenberger said she wasn't frustrated to have to sit in the overflow area. "If it had been raining, maybe, but this has been fine."

Lee Bishop rode to the Sunday evening crusade meeting with two buses from Stithon Baptist Church in Radcliff. The ride to Louisville took 40 minutes, and the buses sat another

40 minutes in traffic, he said.

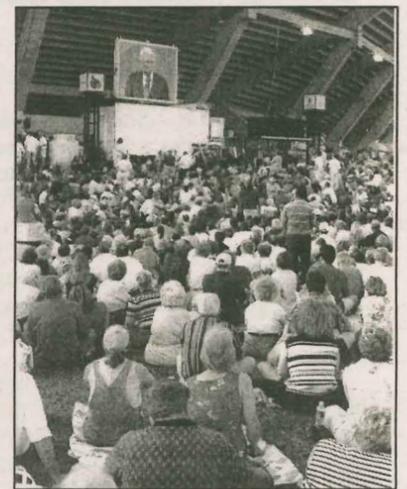
"I knew once we got to the highway we weren't going to get in," he said, sitting on a stadium sidewalk eating nachos.

"Sometimes you make it. Sometimes you don't," he said "You can worship out here just like you can inside. It's just a tad bit nicer inside."

Dora Williams, an usher and member of Lyndon Baptist Church in Louisville, said the crowd was well-behaved despite the problems of overcrowding.

Decision counselor supervisor Art Bailey said organizers had no reason to believe overflow plans would be used.

He attributed Sunday's high attendance to increased media attention on the crusade and God's power. "God sometimes does things to say, ... 'I just want to show you one more time that I'm in charge.'"



**OVERFLOW** Crusade attendees set a Papa John's Cardinal Stadium record Sunday night as 50,000 people packed into the arena. Another 7,500 people watched the event on a large screen outside the stadium or listened to loudspeakers.

## E. Kentucky church brings double its members to hear Graham

LOUISVILLE—A church in Eastern Kentucky brought nearly double its average attendance to the first night of the Billy Graham crusade meeting.

Winston McCarty, pastor of Fleming Baptist Church in Fleming Neon, said the church's ministries—not its Sunday worship—was the driving force behind getting 53 people to the crusade.

Fleming Baptist Church has just 30 members, but it is host to a half-

dozen ministries, including food pantry, clothes closet, community garden with canning services, an appliance distribution program and baby services.

Supported by the Kentucky Baptist Convention, the church has been able to minister to hundreds of families in the region, McCarty said.

Randy Foster, director of Kentucky Baptist Brotherhood, has worked closely with McCarty on the ministries. Foster told McCarty he would

find buses if McCarty would get a group together. Initially, more than 200 people expressed interest, he said.

Of the 53 people who attended the crusade, more than half were not involved in any local church, he said. Southern Baptist Theological Seminary volunteered to host the group for dinner before the crusade.

Pointing to one man walking to supper, McCarty said. "We can't get him to church, but at least we can get him to the seminary."

## Thanks again, Kentucky Baptists

Father's Day has come and gone. I hope your church shared the information that we mailed, and I hope you learned more about Oneida.

In my column during the past two months and in the Western Recorder insert two weeks ago, I shared many stories from students who have found success at Oneida Baptist Institute. Each student comes to us with varying degrees of desire, motivation and determination.

Two of our challenges are encouraging students to do their best and helping them believe in themselves. Years of failure and disappointment can erode self-esteem. Letting students know we believe in them can help them find direction in life.

What an honor it is to be a "Father to the Fatherless." We are entrusted with the lives of many young people who have not been close to their fathers. The vast majority of students looking for a father figure come to us from broken homes. Often they have little or no contact with their fathers. Many students tell us they have never even seen their fathers.

Consider that for a moment. No father to send a Father's Day card to. No one to call and ask about your grades. When they see a commercial about "Daddy's little girl," many girls on our campus wonder why Daddy doesn't care about them.

Many of our students have godly homes where they are loved. Even in homes that have been affected by divorce, our students often have felt loved and secure. While we are grateful for the opportunity to help them, our hearts go out to those who do not come from traditional families.

Before I was asked to serve as president, one of my responsibilities was working with boys in

the student work program. Most of the boys I worked with each day did not have caring relationships with their fathers. Even though most students were not excited about having to work in the first place, they nearly always would respond in a positive way to working with a man. Whether they were 12 years old or 18, they yearned for a man to give them instruction. If they were chosen to work with me on a project, they knew it meant working a little harder and longer than the other boys, but they welcomed the opportunity. Placing my hand on the shoulder of a student while praising his work nearly always brought a big smile and a sense of self-worth.

I often think of a puppy who never gets his ears rubbed enough. Many of our students need that type of attention desperately. We are privileged to work in a special way with these young people. What a blessing it is to have such an influence in their lives. We realize that we could not do what we do without the financial, prayer and volunteer support of our many friends.

What value can you put on the opportunity to "Father the Fatherless?" I well remember when I came to Oneida and found those who loved me as their own. Now, 40 years later, I still cherish those acts of kindness. Rarely does a day go by that I don't think about those who cared for me when I was in desperate need of a father.

To all who gave to the Father's Day Offering, and to all who support us on a regular basis, thanks so very much for allowing us to share the love of Christ in your stead!

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

**THIS IS ONEIDA**



W.F. Underwood

## Administering God's business

Bell County native Donnie Rosenbalm is Clear Creek's newest employee. He began serving May 1 as director of administrative affairs.

Donnie describes his Christian conversion at age 39 as "a Damascus Road encounter. God demonstrated His awesome power and totally changed my life. I was delivered from a self-destructive lifestyle." The evangelistic zeal of his first pastor encouraged Donnie to use his testimony to reach others. The church baptized people for 37 consecutive weeks.

"In 1998 I enrolled at Clear Creek thinking I would fulfill a pastoral call. As it often happens in a place of prayer and worship, I discovered God wanted me in a full-time Christian vocation but not as a pastor," Donnie said. "I started praying then that an opportunity for service would open at Clear Creek."

In Donnie's first semester as a student he and six other men from different parts of the country formed a prayer group and met each Friday at 9 a.m. in the small prayer chapel next to the creek. "We became an accountability group and helped each other be more responsible to our families and to our

school work," he said. "Those friends have stayed with me." Fellow students selected him as a representative to the Student Advisory Council.

Why would Donnie recommend Clear Creek? "The education is practical, and the quality is as high as other colleges. The spiritual growth and understanding of Scripture we gain is the best reason."

Responsible for college business affairs, Donnie brings to his position a degree in business and 25 years in a supervisory role with Kentucky Utilities. He is a good model for church leadership. At Mill Creek Baptist Church he is outreach director, assistant Brotherhood director, a member of the choir and church council.

His wife, Sandy, teaches Sunday school. He has completed 15 hours toward a master's degree at Lincoln Memorial University.

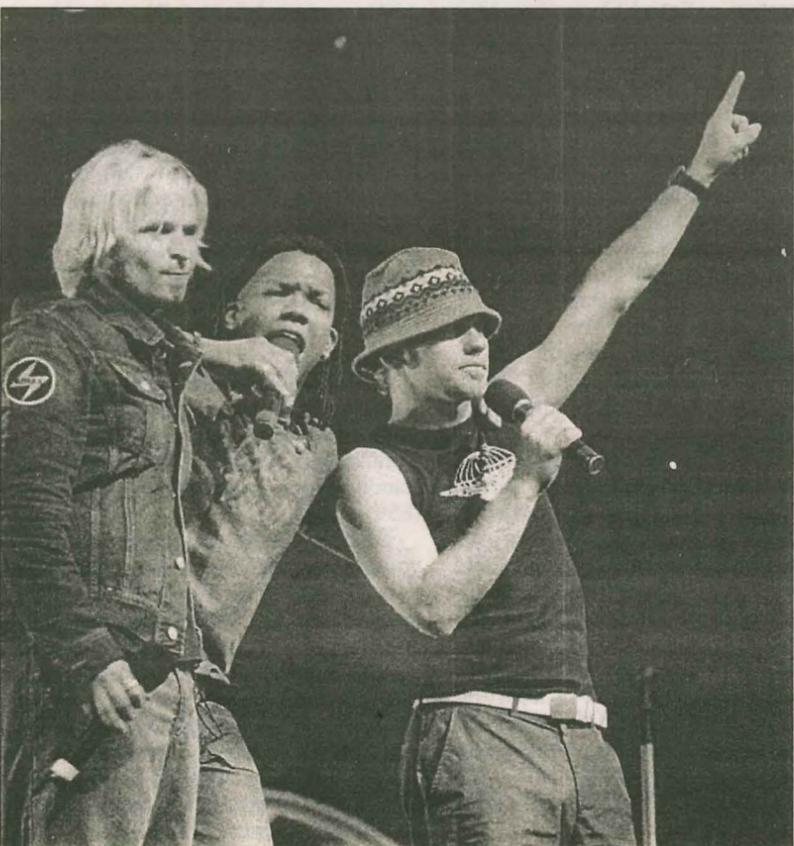
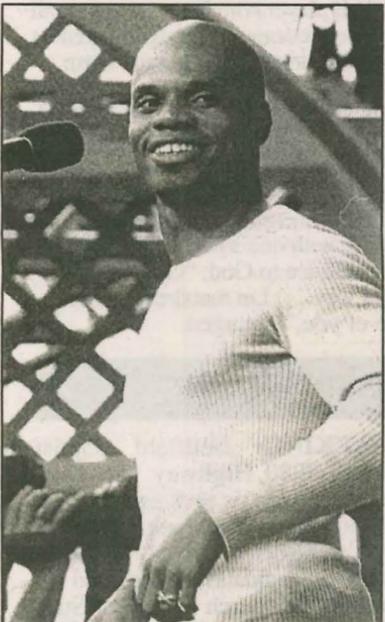
"As a former student I hope I can be more understanding and helpful of students who experience financial struggles," he said. "The Lord always prepares us for the job He assigns us."

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

**CLEAR CREEK CHRONICLE**



Bill Whittaker



## PARTING SHOTS

Thousands of people played various roles in the Greater Louisville Billy Graham Crusade June 21-24. From top left:

■ A woman sits in the rain before the first service of the crusade. "I was determined to come tonight, rain or shine," said the woman, who declined to give her name. "I'm here to get a blessing from this."

■ Soloist George Beverly Shea sings during the crusade.

■ Billy Graham meets with the media two days before the crusade, emphasizing he plans "to preach as long as I live."

■ A Saturday night "Crusade for the Next Generation" featured Christian artists Kirk Franklin, Jennifer Knapp and dc Talk.

■ Platform personnel during the four-day crusade included Lincoln Bingham, pastor of St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church in Louisville; Monica Hardin, Miss Kentucky 2001; and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary President Al Mohler, chairman of the crusade executive committee.

■ Randy Pollock (second from left), pastor of Rockford Lane Baptist Church, prays with other volunteers. Dozens of people gathered each night in the stadium to pray for the evangelistic services. (Photos by David Winfrey)

## What's your story?

Did you have a memorable experience at the Greater Louisville Billy Graham Crusade?

Tell us your story in 300 words or less, and we'll reprint it in an upcoming issue of the Western Recorder.

Send your information to us one of three ways:

■ Mail: Western Recorder, Box 43969, Louisville, KY, 40253.

■ Fax: (502) 244-6474.

■ E-mail: wesrec@ntr.net.

## PRAYER PARTNERS

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

■ Forty Kentucky Baptist who will lead conferences and work with preschoolers and children at the European Baptist Convention's summer assembly in Switzerland July 5-12.

■ Give thanks for the recent first baptismal service of a new international Baptist church in Milan, Italy, led by missionaries Don and Diana Barr. Two adult women and two children were baptized.

■ Theodore Oprenov, president of the Bulgarian Baptist Union, and the union's 67 churches.

■ Evangelistic outreach planned for "May Days" by both French and English-speaking churches in Nice, France.

■ Jason, a businessman from Mainland China now living in Warsaw, Poland. His wife, Wendy, is a believer. Jason has begun reading her Chinese-language Bible and enjoys visiting in the missionaries' home.

■ A Baptist Student Union group from Mississippi working in Tanzania this week.

■ Give thanks for doors that have opened for literacy ministry among the Digo peoples of Tanzania.

■ David Platt, pastor of First Baptist Church of Sudbury, Mass.

## Mountains to the Mississippi

Compiled by Shirley Wooton

■ COVINGTON—James Abernathy has resigned as pastor of Latoria Church to accept a pastorate in Springfield, Va.

■ EUBANK—Shelby Reynolds has been called as pastor of Eubank Baptist Church.

■ JEFFERSONTOWN—Jeffersontown Church will host David Livingston in concert July 15 at 6 p.m. Sanford Hill is pastor.

■ LEXINGTON—Bob Johnson, associate pastor of music and worship of Ashland Avenue Church, will retire in July and will be available for worship ministry consultation. He may be reached at (859) 263-9353.

■ LOUISVILLE—Kevin Head, pastor of Audubon Church, resigned to become a pastor in Lumberton, N.C.

Beechmont Church called John Dever as interim pastor. Dever is a retired Southern Baptist Theological Seminary professor.

Cloverleaf Church will host Sons of Liberty in concert July 14 at 7 p.m. For information, call (502) 367-0218. Geoffrey Lacefield is pastor.

St. Matthews Church music ministries will present "The Home of the Brave" July 1 at 6 p.m. For information, call (502) 896-8882. Tim Galyon is minister of music.

■ OWENSBORO—First Church will host Larnelle Harris in concert July 15 at 6 p.m. Garry Baldwin is pastor.

Chip and Dawn Pendleton resigned as pastor and minister of music, respectively, at Lewis Lane

Church. Chip Pendleton now is pastor of Pleasant Grove Church at Shepherdsville.

■ PADUCAH—First Church called Doug Crawley as minister of music. Crawley previously served at Walnut Street Church, Louisville.

Olivet Church ordained Minister of Music Rich Gray to the ministry. Also, the church recognized JoAnn Cockrell for more than 30 years as organist. On June 10, the church recognized Pastor Tommy Tucker and his wife, Glenda, for 15 years as pastor.

■ SANDERS—Kyle May, pastor of Jordan Church, resigned to become an evangelist in Graceville, Fla.

■ WILLIAMSTOWN—Williamstown Church called Steven Jenkins as associate pastor. Jenkins previously served as pastor of Providence Church.

■ Editor's Note: As administrative secretary for the past three years, Shirley Wooton compiled Mountains to the Mississippi each week. She recently accepted a new position with the Kentucky Baptist Convention church music department, and we appreciate the work she has done for us.

### What's going on?

Send your happenings to Mountains to the Mississippi. Mail: Box 43969, Louisville, KY 40253. Fax: (502) 244-6474. E-mail: wesrec@ntr.net.

## Christian leaders share testimonies about God's leadership in their lives

LOUISVILLE—State and community leaders from Louisville may or David Armstrong to Miss Kentucky shared the platform with Billy Graham during the June 21-24 Louisville crusade.

Armstrong and Jefferson County Judge Executive Rebecca Jackson welcomed Graham to the region.

Noting that Graham's last major crusade in Louisville was in 1956, Armstrong said, "You know when someone's words last 45 years, that's really something."

Armstrong, who presented Graham a key to the city earlier in the week, added, "He has unlocked the hearts of citizens since he has been here. He has clearly made a difference."

Jackson said she was excited about the opportunity to welcome Graham. "People have been praying for years and years and years and God has answered our prayers," she said.

She invited the opening night crowd to "enter with me into a prayer of thanksgiving and a welcome to Billy Graham and his team for coming to share the good news of Jesus Christ."

Monica Hardin, Miss Kentucky 2001, is a student at the University of Louisville. She welcomed thousands of young people to the Saturday night "Crusade for the Next Generation."

"We're going to have an awesome time tonight," she said. "Dr. Billy Graham cares so much, his vision is so wide that he has this evening just for

us."

The Friday night service featured a testimony by Ann Bowdan, a news anchor for Channel 32. Recounting her struggles as a single parent on welfare who was evicted from her apartment, she said, "Being an unwed single mother, I was very ashamed. It was something I couldn't hide."

Amid such hardships, she added, "The Lord said He will never leave you or forsake you. You are going to come across problems but He is always there to support you."

Describing her current job in Louisville as a blessing from God, Bowdan said, "Do I deserve it? No. But He is faithful and He forgives us. The Lord is faithful and He can carry you through whatever you're going through. I am a personal, living testimony and I thank Him for it."

Charlie Johnson, president of a multi-million dollar transportation company, shared his testimony during the crusade's final session.

Johnson, a former professional football player who grew up in a small town in Georgia, challenged listeners to dream dreams and pursue them.

"Each of us has been endowed with a dream from God," he said. "Each of you have something inside of you that you haven't really done yet or you haven't brought to the surface."

Johnson emphasized the need to be faithful with one's tithes and offerings in obedience to God. "God will show you a way. . . . Let that dream loose inside of you," he urged.

## CLASSIFIED ADS

**AVAILABLE:** One week yearly. Diamond Caverns Resort and Golf Club. \$282.15 maintenance. RCI reciprocal. \$8,700. Sleeps 4-6. Near Mammoth Cave, Kentucky Lake. E-mail: trusty@wko.com. Phone: (270) 249-3194.

**AVAILABLE:** Need a cook or caterer for your Louisville-area church? Delicious meals; reasonable budget; established at local church. Tim: (502) 266-8957.

**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:** Conn organ; used in church; good condition. Make offer. Call (502) 477-2582 or 477-2047. Plum Creek Baptist Church, Taylorsville, KY 40071.

**FOR SALE:** 33 solid oak pews with white ends, assorted sizes. Excellent condition. Asking \$4,000. Falls of Rough, Ky. Contact Roger Allen, (270) 879-8233 or Bill Franks, (270) 879-3079.

**SEEKING:** Minister of music for moderate, dually-aligned Baptist church for blended and contemporary services. The successful candidate must have experience, and a music degree is preferred. Send resumé to: Personnel Committee, Evergreen Baptist Church, 2698 Evergreen Road, Frankfort, KY 40601.

**SEEKING:** First Baptist Church is seeking a full-time minister to youth and children. Seminary graduate preferred. Please send resumé to: PO Box 607, Madisonville, KY 42431, Attn: Dr. Joe Leonard.

**SEEKING:** Full-time minister of music and worship leader. Looking for a self-motivated individual to oversee the music ministry of a mid-sized Southern Baptist church. Send resumé to: Lewisport Baptist Church, PO Box 384, Lewisport, KY 42351.

**SEEKING:** Full-time minister of youth/music for 500-member Southern Baptist church. Please submit resumé to: South Elkhorn Baptist Church, c/o Laura Farrow, 4867 Versailles Road, Lexington, KY 40510.

**SEEKING:** Part-time youth minister. Send resumé to: South Fork Baptist Church, 4915 New Jackson Highway, Hodgenville, KY 42748, Attn: Personnel Committee. (270) 324-3308.

**SEEKING:** Erlanger Baptist Church, located in Northern Kentucky/Greater Cincinnati area, seeks an experienced full-time pastor. EBC averages 650-800 in worship, has three other full-time and two part-time ministerial staff members. Members give to both SBC and CBF causes. The candidate should possess strong interpersonal skills, dynamic preaching and leadership abilities. Please send resumé to: Pastor Search Committee, 116 Commonwealth Ave., Erlanger, KY 41018. Accepting resúmes through the end of August.

**SEEKING:** Ft. Mitchell Baptist Church, 2323 Dixie Highway, Ft. Mitchell, KY 41017, is seeking two full-time staff: Minister of youth and education and minister of music. Qualified candidates should send resúmes to the church in care of Search Committee, Minister of Youth and Education, or Search Committee, Minister of Music. Phone and fax: (859) 331-2160; e-mail: jmoore@eos.net.

**SEEKING:** Full-time minister of education with a strong emphasis on outreach. After prayerful consideration, please send resumé to: Minister of Education Search Committee, Second Baptist Church, 720 West Seventh Street, Hopkinsville, KY 42240.

**SEEKING:** Full-time minister for small, rural Southern Baptist church. We are looking to grow with you. Accepting resúmes through Aug. 1. Send to: New Banlick Baptist Church, 10719 Banlick Road, Walton, KY 41094.

**SEEKING:** Full-time minister of youth and children for First Baptist Church, Paris, Ky. We are located in the heart of the Bluegrass. Our resident membership is 548. Send resumé to: Personnel Committee, First Baptist Church, PO Box 327, Paris, KY 40362-0327.

**SEEKING:** Oakland Baptist Church, 12 miles north of Bowling Green, is seeking a part-time minister of music to lead blended worship and fully-graded choirs. PO Box 154, Oakland, KY 42159. (270) 563-4011. Dr. Tom Stokes, pastor.

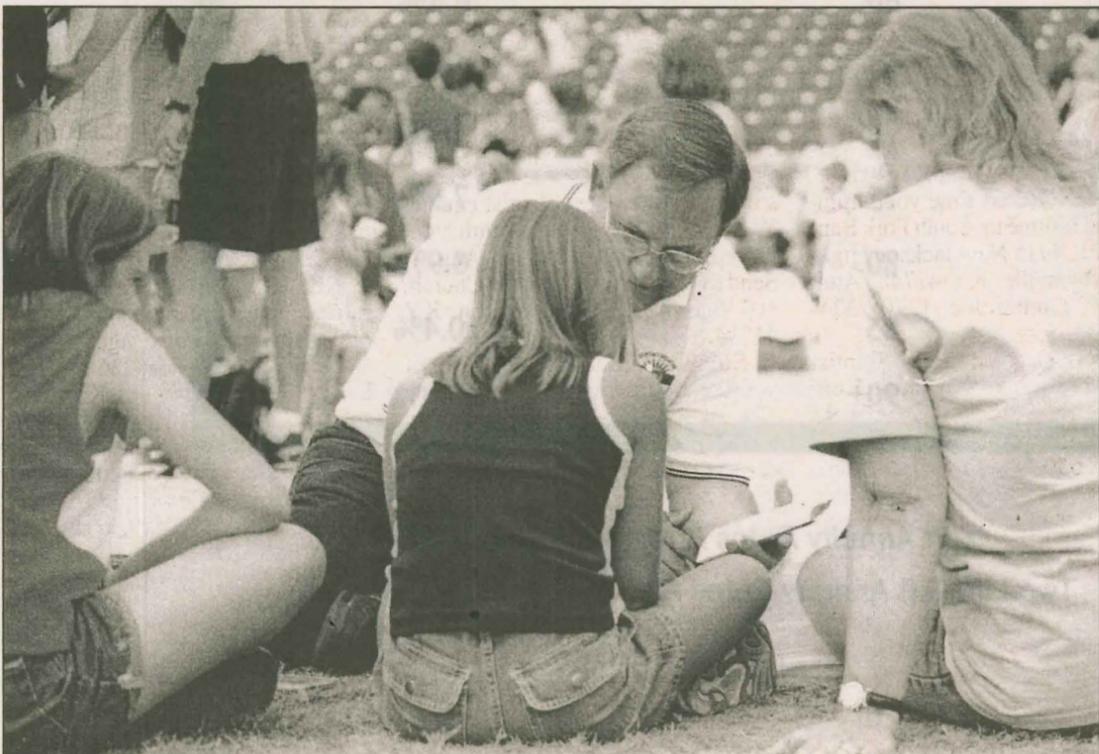
**SEEKING:** Bellfield Baptist Church, 9980 Highway 136 East, Henderson, Ky., is seeking two part-time positions: Associate pastor for worship, associate pastor for youth. Qualified candidates should send resúmes to the church in care of Staff Search Committee. Fax: (270) 826-1131; e-mail: bfieldch@henderson.net.

**SEEKING:** Full-time children/family minister. Seeking vibrant individual who is passionate about relational ministry with children (birth through sixth grade) and their families. Minister will develop, coordinate and implement a dynamic outreach/in-reach program for children and families. Seminary degree strongly preferred. Send resumé to: First Baptist Church, 621 E 12th, Ave., Bowling Green, KY 42101.

**SEEKING:** Full-time minister for rural church (50 members) in the heart of the Bluegrass. Parsonage available. Contact Terry Newton, 2367 Munday Landing Road, Versailles, KY 40383. (859) 873-9160.

**SEEKING:** Part-time minister of youth/music. Send resumé to: Double Springs Baptist Church, PO Box 70, Waynesburg, KY 40489, or call (606) 379-2145.

**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 resúmes to the church in care of Personnel Committee.



**SATURDAY MORNING FUN** Approximately 10,000 kids and adults attended the Saturday morning "Kidz Gig" at Papa John's Cardinal Stadium, June 23. (From top left) ■ Peggy Prather (right), of Lyndon Baptist Church, talks with a girl after counseling her about a spiritual decision. The crusade reported 1,100 decisions as a result of Kidz Gig. ■ Psalty the Singing Song Book sings "This Little Light of Mine" with kids and characters on stage. ■ A candle peeks during decision and prayer time. ■ The church mice brave the summer heat for their performance. ■ Choir members sing and move to the music. ■ Tom Curry, pastor of Parkland Baptist Church in Louisville, explains how to become a Christian. ■ Counselor Patty Howard of Charlestown, Ind., listens to a 5-year-old boy. (Photos by David Winfrey)

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