



# WESTERN RECORDER

August 21, 2001  
Vol. 175, No. 32

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**FOR THE RECORD**

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Dated Material — Deliver by Wednesday, August 22

## Specialist outlines 6 steps to teach kids how to pray

By Ken Walker  
State Correspondent

LOUISVILLE—Ellie Coursey says teaching children to pray, so they build a personal relationship with God, is more important than any other lesson they can learn.

"We teach ballet and there are goals. We teach them to play basketball and there's a goal," Coursey said during a recent Super Saturday conference in Louisville. "It's the same thing with prayer. We let children know there's a goal: that relationship with God. We want to let them know that God loves them."

Coursey, director of children and preschool ministries at First Baptist Church of Henderson, said teaching children to pray is a process that

should continue from preschool through teenage years.

Many teachers will encounter children with no previous biblical training, she added, but it is never too late to start.

With young teens who never have been to church, that might mean using simple steps designed for preschoolers until they learn basic concepts. Based on Rick Osborne's book, "Teaching Your Child How to Pray," Coursey outlined a six-step process that parents or teachers can use:

■ **Love and nurture.** Children at age three can learn that God loves them, that He created everything and that He takes care of everyone. This is the time to teach children that prayer is simply talking to God.

■ **Involvement.** When children are

between ages four and six, adults should pray over them, have them repeat simple prayers and later have them pray on their own, Coursey said.

■ **God's care.** Between ages seven and nine, God's love, care and provision can be reinforced with "faith stories," Coursey said. Adults should tell children about how God has provided for them, she added.

■ **Personal growth.** At ages 10 and 11, children should be learning to pray and submit themselves and their behavior to God. At this stage, adults can help children pray about their own identity and relationship with God. Teachers and parents also can talk about their own spiritual growth and discuss the child's prayer concerns.

■ **Relationship, direction and obedience.** During the teenage years,

young people's prayers should focus on asking God for help in knowing Him and the Bible, seeking His wisdom and learning to trust God, she said. Children who learn spontaneous prayers at an early age are more likely to turn to God when problems and crises arise later in life, she said.

■ **Spiritual maturity.** Coursey said the final stage involves teaching youth to follow God's will and have a wonderful relationship with Him.

Super Saturday conferences are sponsored by the Kentucky Baptist Convention. Remaining conferences are scheduled for Corbin and Owensboro Aug. 25 and Ashland and Paducah Sept. 8. For more information, call (888) 254-5710.

**More Super Saturday coverage on page 10.**

## Marriage mentors helping husbands and wives survive

By Fran Henry  
Religion News Service

CLEVELAND (RNS)—Dumb luck just might explain why Becky and Mark Pollack are still married, let alone happily.

After all, they leapt into matrimony the usual way, with stars in their eyes and a big black hole in their premarital homework.

It's that approach, buttressed by the cultural acceptance of divorce, that keeps the divorce rate high. About 43 percent of first marriages fail within 15 years, and 39 percent of second marriages fail within 10 years, according to a recent report by the National Center for Health Statistics.

"We went into marriage not knowing that he wanted lots of kids and I was scared to have kids," says Mrs. Pollack, a part-time physical education teacher at an elementary school.

But that was three children and 13 years ago.

Now, the Pollacks have taken another leap—this time into the war against divorce.

The weapon of choice is marriage education, aimed at helping viable couples learn communication skills and conflict resolution and helping ill-suited couples see the need to reconsider their plans to wed. Toward that end, the Pollacks have trained to become mentors to engaged couples.

Traditional marriage counseling waits until there are problems, says Sandra Bender, psychologist and half-time director of the Marriage Coalition, formerly the Greater Cleveland Coalition for Strengthening Marriage.

"Marriage education is about how to make a relationship work," she says, adding that it can also be effective in helping revive troubled marriages.

Bender trained the Pollacks, along with six other couples, to become mentors to engaged couples at Christ Church, a nondenominational Christian church in the Cleveland suburb

See Marriage mentors ..., page 11



**FAIR EXHIBIT** Kentucky Baptist Convention staff members Brenda Smith and Jim Donnell greet visitors at the Kentucky State Fair in Louisville. This is the fifth year the KBC has hosted an exhibit at the fair. The display, titled "Growing God's Way," features a farming theme. The booth offers a measurement stand, where kids can gauge their height; sunflower cutouts for photographs and stamp art for children. Volunteers also distribute information about Kentucky Baptist ministries throughout the commonwealth. More than 600,000 people are expected to attend this year's fair, which runs through Sunday, Aug. 26. The KBC exhibit is in the East Wing of the Kentucky Fair and Exposition Center.

## Survey: Nearly half of fired pastors quit ministry

NASHVILLE—A recent survey found that more than 900 pastors and other full-time church staff at Southern Baptist churches were terminated in 2000, and only slightly more than half of the pastors returned to church-related jobs.

The survey results were announced by the LeaderCare ministry of LifeWay Christian Resources of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Based on reports of church-minister relations directors in 22 state conventions, researchers learned the number of forced terminations totaled 987 in 2000. In 1999, the total from 26 state conventions was 1,077.

"About five years ago we saw a very significant decrease in the number of forced terminations in our convention," said Neil Knierim, manager

of LifeWay's LeaderCare section. "While we have not seen a significant decrease in the last couple of years, we have not experienced a return to the higher numbers of the past."

A 1984 study on forced terminations in the SBC indicated 1,056 pastors were terminated annually. Four years later the survey was repeated, and forced termination totals had increased to 1,392 pastors annually.

While the number of pastors terminated has declined since the 1988 survey, the causes have remained essentially unchanged. The 1999 survey found once again the most common causes for firings cited by local directors of missions:

- Control issues regarding who will run the church.
- Poor people skills of the pastor.

■ Pastoral leadership style perceived as too strong.

■ The church's resistance to change.

■ The church already was conflicted when the pastor arrived.

Of the 987 forced terminations recorded last year, 750 were pastors and 237 were other full-time staff. Of the pastors, 482 were full time and 268 were bivocational.

The 2000 survey did not include information about causes, but did ask other questions. It found:

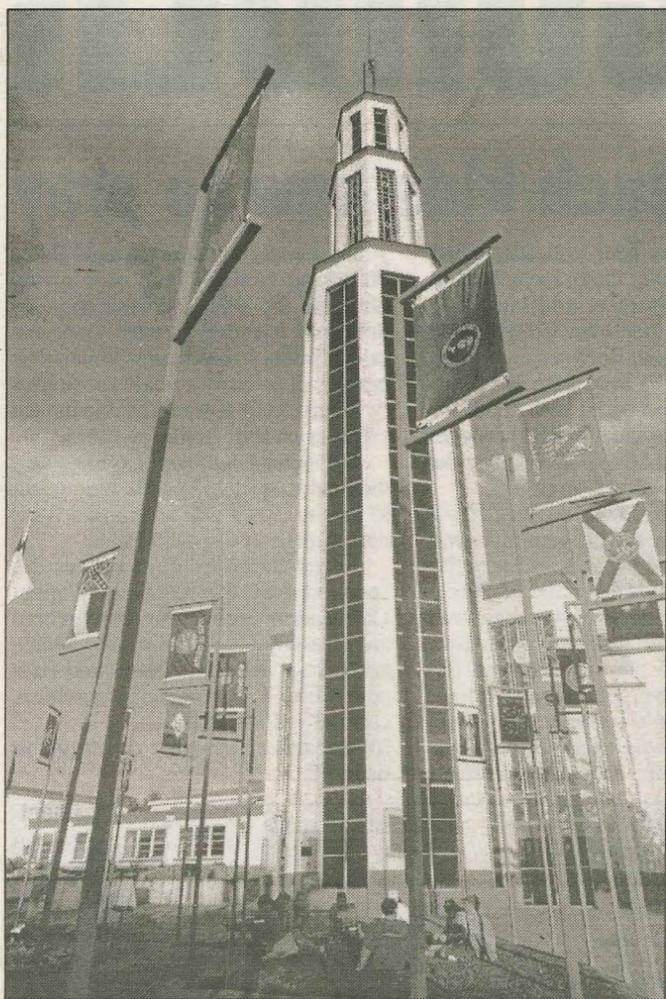
■ The average severance compensation lasted 2.55 months.

■ The average period of time a fired pastor was without employment was 2.92 months.

■ On average, terminated pastors

See Survey finds ..., page 8

# BAPTISTS



**GLOBAL IMPACT** Southern Baptists attending the 2001 International Missions Week at LifeWay Conference Center in Glorieta, N.M., were challenged by Missouri Baptist pastor John Marshall to “be in the game” of world missions. ■ **Left:** A group of teenage missionary kids talk about their experiences of serving overseas with their parents as international missionaries. ■ **Above:** Christy Falk was among more than 80 international missionaries who attended the conference to share about their mission work. ■ **Below:** The annual conference gives missionary kids from around the world the opportunity to share together through games and fellowship. (BP photos by Chris Sinclair)

## Global missions challenge: ‘Where are the pastors?’

**“I was on the verge of the greatest God-thing that had ever happened in my life.”**

*John Marshall, pastor of Second Baptist Church of Springfield, Mo.*

By Sara Arnold  
Baptist Press

GLORIETA, N.M. (BP)—John Marshall is passionate about taking the gospel to every corner of the world.

During the past five years, Marshall, pastor of Second Baptist Church in Springfield, Mo., has seen God energize his congregation to live out the Great Commission.

Now he is telling other pastors that if they want to be “in the game” with God, they have no choice but to get involved in global missions.

“The great burden God has put on my heart is, where are the pastors?” he said. “Where are the pastors with a brokenness, with a hurt in their heart, with tears in their eyes?”

Like other baby boomer pastors, Marshall said he saw his job as saving America.

“We went at it with a passion and a vengeance,” he told an International Missions Week crowd at LifeWay Conference Center in Glorieta, N.M.. But after years of hard work, “Our greatest sadness has been to see that America is going to hell faster than ever.”

Marshall began to realize there must be something much more to the Great Commission.

“The Lord didn’t love America any more than any other country in the world,” he said, adding that he was “beginning to realize that if I continued to devote myself totally to trying to save my country, I was going to lose my ministry and I would end in frustration and defeat.”

Deciding to seek God’s mind on the subject, Marshall assembled 100



of the church’s key leaders to meet and read the first 13 chapters of Acts over and over again. Eventually, they broke into four groups corresponding to the “Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria and the uttermost parts of the earth” of Acts 1:8.

After extensive study and discussion, the group established goals for the church up to 2020 and presented a “Worldview Document” to the congregation in the summer of 1997.

At the same time, the Southern Baptist International Mission Board sent letters to the 200 largest Southern Baptist churches, inviting each to adopt a people group that had no access to the gospel. Second Baptist asked for a list of five unreached people groups to pray over.

One day, a friend Marshall had not seen in years stopped by the church to talk. Marshall mentioned the unreached people groups the church was praying about adopting.

He was amazed to hear his friend say he knew someone focused on taking the gospel to one of the people groups, the Dong of China.

“From Friday afternoon to Monday morning, I thought I was going to have a nervous breakdown,” Marshall said. “I knew I was on the verge of the greatest God-thing that had ever happened in my life.”

When Marshall told church leaders about the connection to the Dong, they responded, “God is in it. We are going to adopt those people and make a 20-year commitment. We’ll do whatever it takes to get the gospel to those people.”

The problem for Marshall was that the IMB wanted the pastor of adopting churches to go visit the people group.

“I don’t travel well,” Marshall said. “I hate to travel.”

A church staff member replied: “You have to go. We’ve given them \$3,000 and we can’t get it back.”

“That’s how God pulled me into missions: kicking and screaming and fighting every step of the way,” Marshall said.

When he made the trip to China, however, Marshall was unable to visit the area where the Dong lived. Instead, he went with another pastor to visit the people group that church was adopting.

“I had never seen anything like the look on his face when he met the first person from that people group,” Marshall recalled. “It literally broke my heart for the world’s lost.”

“I came home a totally and completely broken man. God put passion in my preaching and He put passion in my life. We set ourselves to the task of accomplishing our 20-year goals with a reckless abandonment and total passion.”

The church met all its 20-year goals in the next two years. In 2001, members will send missions teams to dozens of places, including Papua New Guinea, Taiwan, China, Nepal, India, Ghana, Tanzania, Egypt, Spain, Mexico, Nicaragua, Guatemala, Haiti, Kansas City, Chicago, Nebraska, Montana and Colorado—plus public schools, parks and rescue missions in Springfield. The congregation is one of 820 members of the IMB’s Global Priority Church Network.

Now Marshall is concerned about all the other baby boomer pastors and churches in America.

“If you want to be in the game, you have to be willing to play,” he declared. “God has opened up a whole new dimension of His will for us.”

“If you want to be in the game, you must go.”

## Henry County churches respond to circling region with prayer

By Ken Walker  
State Correspondent

NEW CASTLE—Some churches might act like it's time to circle the wagons, but Bill Arnold decided it was time to circle Henry County with prayer.

Arnold, director of missions for Henry County Baptist Association, completed a 100-mile journey last week that started on foot in April and ended on a bike.

Arnold said God inspired the effort after his plans to organize a mission trip fell apart. He had hoped to lead people from the association to Gambia, where he served as a missionary before his 1993 retirement.

When too few people signed up, he said he sensed God telling him, "You're not even doing (missions) at home. You're the director. You can do anything you want."

Deciding that prayer was the place to start, he began with weekly prayer walks. But after five weeks, his doctor suggested stopping because of heel spurs. The 73-year-old man switched to his bicycle and renamed the effort, "Pedal the Perimeter."

"We don't always see the results of our labors right away," said Arnold. "This was a subtle challenge to church members, to let them know there are people in the community that they don't know until they take the time to walk, pray and meditate."

Several people accompanied him on parts of the prayer walks. Along rural gates and newspaper boxes they left letters reminding residents that churches were available if they needed help.

Arnold set a goal during the effort that the association's churches would have 100 baptisms this year, nearly double the 56 baptisms reported in 2000.

Numbers won't be available for a few months, but some churches already are reporting increases.

"A few others feel we're going to make it," Arnold said. "Some have written and say the goal has inspired them."

Two pastors and one layman who walked with Arnold say his efforts have made a difference.

Michael Duncan, pastor of Eminence Baptist Church, said Arnold's idea first provoked curiosity in his congregation. But Arnold's persistence showed he was serious, Duncan said. The work also reminded people that spiritual contact comes before ministry, he said.

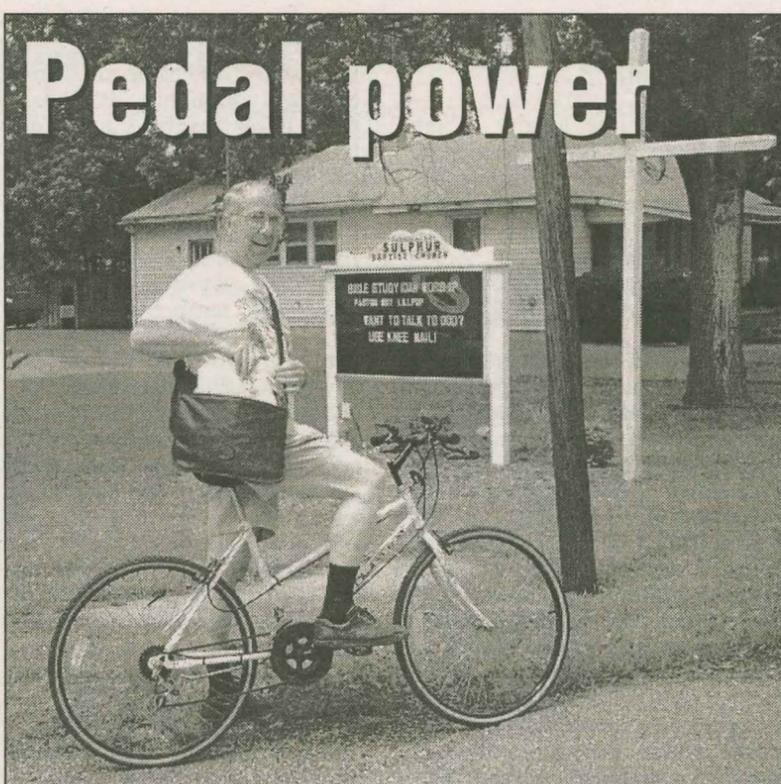
As a result, a deacon team is investigating starting regular prayer walks as well as distribution of the "Jesus" video.

Members of Franklinton Baptist Church don't say much about the prayer walks, but pastor Jacky Newton said he thinks they contributed to the health of his church.

Average attendance is nearing 100, five times the level when he started in March 2000.

Newton, who lives in Louisville, said his participation in the prayer walks increased his awareness of the community where he preaches.

"This slowed me down and made me realize these are real people in these homes and not just a name on a mailbox," Newton said. "I also realized within several miles of the church there are a lot of unsaved people."



**PRAYER WARRIOR** Bill Arnold, director of missions for Henry County Baptist Association, recently completed a 100-mile journey to pray around the county. "This was a subtle challenge to church members, to let them know there are people in the community that they don't know until they take the time to walk, pray and meditate." (Photo courtesy of the Henry County Local newspaper)

Dave Brown, a farmer and deacon at Campbellsburg Baptist Church, said Arnold's enthusiasm for reaching people outside the church has inspired him and members of his Sunday school class.

Thanks to the DOM's influence, members distributed 600 copies of the "Jesus" video last year in the area.

"We're seeing new faces in our congregation," Brown said. "We don't know if that can be attributed to the videos, our new pastor or the prayer walk, but we're excited."

On the practical side, Arnold said "Pedal the Perimeter" has made his face more recognizable around the area, generated positive comments and helped him shed a dozen pounds.

He said it also has built better relationships with pastors in the association and increased awareness of the need for Christians to tell others about Jesus. "I've been trying to create an awareness that if people's lives are right with God, God will come through and do the heavy lifting."

## BLUEGRASS BURGEO

■ **Kentucky Baptist** disaster relief volunteers expect to finish up work this week in Wheelwright after helping clean out more than 30 homes damaged by flash floods Aug. 3-4. Volunteers initially had more than 140 requests for help. Some of those homes were too damaged for volunteers to help, and some requests were as simple as water needs, said Mike Klein, an on-site coordinator and member of Immanuel Baptist Church in Lexington. More than 60 Kentucky Baptists have volunteered in Wheelwright since Aug. 6, he said.

■ **A golf tournament** hosted by the creative ministries department of the Kentucky Baptist Convention will be held Sept. 17-18 at Peninsula Golf Resort in Lancaster. The two-day tournament is designed to give ministers an opportunity for fellowship, according to Tom Smoot, director of creative ministries. Registration costs \$64 per person, which includes golf and cart for two days, award prizes and a banquet. For more information, call (502) 244-6465 or toll-free in Kentucky, (888) 254-5723.

■ **'Jesus on Money'** seminars for pastors are scheduled next month in Hopkinsville and Owensboro. The conferences, co-sponsored by the Kentucky Baptist Convention's stewardship office and LifeWay Christian Resources of the Southern Baptist Convention, are designed to help pastors teach biblical stewardship lessons to their congregations. The workshops will be held Sept. 25 at Second Baptist Church in Hopkinsville and Sept. 26 at Daviess/McLean Baptist Association office. For more information, call (502) 245-4101, or toll-free in Kentucky, (800) 266-6477.

## KBC staff wants prayer focus to spread through commonwealth

LOUISVILLE—Christians often say that prayer changes people and churches, but Larry Martin wants Kentucky Baptists to experience firsthand prayer's power in their churches and lives.

Martin, leader of the Kentucky Baptist Convention's missions growth team, recently planned a trip for a group of Kentucky Baptists to go to New York City to see what was happening at a church known for its prayer ministry.

"There is a temptation for congregations to become successful in the eyes of the world by their attendance, reputation within the community and financial soundness to the point that they begin to trust solely in their organizational skills," Martin said. "At that point, prayer becomes a formality, not the true lifeline of the congregation."

About a dozen people, many who work for the Kentucky Baptist Convention, visited Brooklyn Tabernacle Church in New York City, a church that is chronicled in the best-selling book "Fresh Wind, Fresh Fire" by its pastor Jim Cymbala. Eric Allen, the KBC's Mission Service Corps director, led the group.

Martin said he hopes the trip will

teach KBC leaders how to help Kentucky Baptist churches tap into the power of a prayer-based revival.

The travelers visited Brooklyn Tabernacle's Tuesday night prayer service as well as Sunday worship.

"You would have thought that the Tuesday night prayer service was a huge event planned for the past eight months, but it's a weekly event," said Allen. "I was really overwhelmed by the importance placed upon the prayer service in such a large church."

The prayer service was slated to begin at 7 p.m., but people were arriving and praying at 5:30 p.m. The auditorium seats 1,700 people but by the time the service began, it was overflowing.

Cymbala writes in "Fresh Wind, Fresh Fire" that the congregation had dwindled to a handful of people when he was asked to lead it.

With little money and few people, he wrote, he realized prayer was the only resource his congregation had. "Fresh Wind, Fresh Fire" not only chronicles the church's numerical growth, but also the miraculous results in the lives of people who were prayed for.

Martin said an excitement about prayer is essential for Kentucky Baptist churches to be healthy and to fully reach their potential in serving their communities.

"Most new congregations really depend upon prayer because they have few resources," Martin said. "This was true of the Brooklyn Tabernacle in its early days when it was a struggling church trying to survive."

Martin said he believes the time is right for Kentucky Baptists to begin visiting and being inspired by others who've developed the passion for prayer. He said he's seeing a grassroots prayer movement that is spreading across Kentucky.

Martin said his office is aware of 375 prayer coordinators already functioning in Kentucky Baptist churches. He said this is a sign that churches are placing a greater emphasis on prayer. These prayer coordinators will be a key factor in bringing about revival in the state, he added.

"Prayer is the ongoing work of the church even after it becomes successful," said Martin.

Martin said the trip to Brooklyn Tabernacle is a precursor of plans to

expose Kentucky Baptists to diverse prayer resources.

"The strategy that we have is not a program per se, but a calling to expose KBC churches and Kentucky Baptists to the power of prayer by taking them to places where prayer is emphasized and hopefully a spirit of prayerfulness is desired and cultivated," Martin said.

The KBC has scheduled two events on the subject:

■ Gregory Frizzell, author of several books on prayer and director of prayer and spiritual awakening at the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma, will speak at Mid-Continent College in Mayfield on Oct. 22-24.

■ Richard Burr, author of "Developing Your Secret Closet of Prayer" and founder of Pray-Think-Act Ministries, will lead seminars at St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church in Louisville, Oct. 11-14, and at Hope Community Church in Lawrenceburg, Oct. 14-17.

For further information on prayer seminars, workshops or upcoming trips like the one to Brooklyn Tabernacle, contact the KBC missions growth team at (502) 245-4101 or toll-free in Kentucky at (800) 266-6477.

## WESTERN RECORDER

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

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## Bivocational pastors are 'impact players'

By Richard Harris

Throughout the history of the Southern Baptist Convention a group of pastors and church leaders has played a significant role in the growth and expansion of our great convention. These "impact players" are the bivocational pastors and church leaders.

Leon Wilson, the Southern Baptist North American Mission Board's national missionary for bivocational church planting, tells me more than 16,000 Southern Baptist pastors are bivocational. Wow! About one-third of Southern Baptist churches are led by men who work at secular jobs to provide a large portion, sometimes a majority, and in a few cases, all of their income and livelihood. These dedicated servants often help churches that few others will even consider. Through personal sacrifice these men go to great effort to maintain an evangelistic witness and Christ-centered ministry in communities where their church buildings are located.

I probably would not be a Christian today and serving in ministry had it not been for some faithful bivoca-

tional pastors who came to our rural Kentucky community in Pulaski County. It was these bivocational men who delivered the gospel to my family and me. It was bivocational pastors who got me involved in the church and often told me how they believed

## FIRST PERSON

God could use me in ministry. Those were much-needed words of encouragement to a young man who had not traveled many times outside his county.

These men convinced me that God could use anyone in ministry and the work of His kingdom. These godly bivocational leaders laid the foundations in my life for loving God's Word, along with passion for the lost, commitment to the church and missions-mindedness about how the church views the community and the world. Praise the Lord for Don Pippin, J.S. New, Vola Brown and many others who allowed their dedicated shadow of influence to fall on me.

Some folks think of bivocational pastors and leaders in the context of small rural churches. Often that is the case. In reality, bivocationalists serve in almost every type of community and demographic area where Southern

Baptists have a presence. Some serve as pastors/leaders of medium-sized churches. A few lead very large churches by anyone's standards. Many are leaders in baptisms and missions giving. Several serve as trustees for SBC boards and agencies.

I have three thoughts to share with these thousands of bivocationalists:

■ Thank you for remaining faithful to the great call, commission and commandment given by our Lord.

■ Make every effort to multiply yourself many times over. Call out, mentor, affirm others in bivocational ministry. Remind them it is an honorable calling.

■ Lead your churches to believe that every group of believers, that is, the church, is important to God's kingdom and is likewise responsible to the Father to reach the lost in their community, disciple believers and reproduce themselves with other congregations who can help accomplish the task of reaching all people groups in their community.

May God continue to bless these wonderful bivocational pastors and leaders in the SBC and give them much fruit for their labor is my prayer.

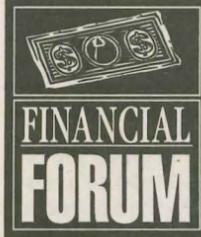
*Richard Harris is the Southern Baptist North American Mission Board's vice president for church planting*

## CHURCH

## 'Jesus on Money' offers insights on stewardship

By Doug Strader

What did Jesus have to say about money and possessions?



It might surprise some people to learn that one-third of Jesus' parables deal with money and possessions. In fact, the Bible has

more verses related to money and possessions than any other subject except love.

Jesus knew the importance of possessions and one's attitude toward possessions. The Apostle Paul said the love of money was the root of all evil. That is a bold statement, but if one is a close observer of human behavior, it is easy to see why Paul would be led by the Holy Spirit to make such a statement.

"Jesus on Money" is a series of three six-week studies of lifestyle stewardship in the 21st century. Each book is a stand-alone piece, but the series is most effective when studied sequentially. The books are designed as an interactive learning process. Each week has five studies to be done individually. Then the participants meet weekly to process their study. The group sessions are designed to promote a life change in the participants.

The first book, "Charting a New Course," deals with the financial health of an individual or family, focusing on developing a spending plan, getting out of debt and managing assets wisely.

Book two, "Making Mid-Course Corrections," helps participants learn to adjust spending to fit changing life circumstances—debt reduction, salary increases, college expenses, care of aging parents and savings needs.

The third book, "Crossing the Finish Line," helps participants transition into establishing life goals and planning for the future. Helps are provided for making a will, creating a trust or bequest and other important concerns.

These books are available at LifeWay Christian Bookstores. However, I have a better deal for pastors. We are presenting two "Jesus on Money" workshops next month. The first one is Sept. 25 at Second Baptist Church of Hopkinsville. The second one is Sept. 26 at the Daviess/McLean Association office building. Both workshops will begin at 10 a.m. and end at 2 p.m. Lunch will be provided and each pastor will receive all three books. Call (888) 254-5708 to register.

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

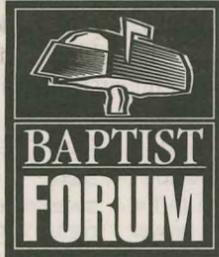
## 'I love the church'

How I enjoy your articles. The Aug. 7 editorial—"What kind of church do you want?"—makes you think.

Here's what came to my mind: My grandmother was a schoolteacher, a strict Christian who regarded her church as of highest importance. She was a mother of seven who spent her week getting ready for church on Sunday. How her kitchen smelled of cakes and pies, boiling up a ham with green beans and cornbread.

And the books she had—missionary magazines of Africa especially. I

was a big kid before I knew missionaries went to other continents. She had a wide open door to our hearts and she took the opportunity to tell us about Jesus.



Today in the song services at the church we attend, the same good old hymns are still sung. If I don't have my reading glasses on I can still sing anyway. I learned them way back when.

Growing up, we attended many funerals and realized it was a part of life. When our 19-year-old son passed over with leukemia in 1989, I recalled those early days and it helped me a lot. Death was not final; heav-

en awaits Christians because of Jesus our Savior.

What kind of church do I want? I want a body of baptized believers who so live for Jesus at home that when they assemble together the fire of the great love of the Lord ties these brothers and sisters together.

The church has been a great place to meet great folks. Our children did not have to attend worldly entertainment to have a good time. The church was there to help us.

I love the church. As my grandmother showed me, Sunday is not to be tacked on as an afterthought but a day to plan for, enjoy and worship our Lord Jesus Christ.

*Rachel Whitworth  
Glen Dean*

## PARTNERS IN THE MISSION

### Summer missionaries witness results

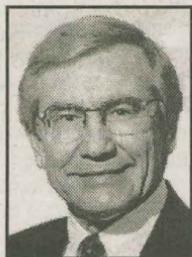
This past summer 101 college students sponsored by Baptist Student Unions in Kentucky fanned out around the globe, serving as summer missionaries at home and abroad. They periodically sent back reports to share with Kentucky Baptists what God has done through their ministries. Here are some examples:

■ **Jeff Baynham** used his graphic design skills to promote evangelism and prayer for the half million Fulbe Jeeri people of Senegal who need the Lord. His materials are used both on the field and in the U.S. Materials include fliers of Fulbe believers' testimonies, prayers, brochures, bulletin inserts and calendars.

■ **Jason Hale** served as a summer missionary in Malaysia at Excel Point Community Church. "We have been learning so much and God is really at work in Malaysia," he said. The church is located directly across from

a university campus and about 80 percent of those who attend the church are university students.

■ **Carrie Baker** served with one of the Florida Reach Teams at Panama City Beach. "We do kids' clubs in four different locations, a puppet ministry, a reading club, ministry at the Boys' and Girls' Club and the Salvation Army. Thus far, 27 kids have come to Christ! God has revealed to me a lot about His plan for my future," Carrie said in her report.



Bill Mackey

■ **Josh Jones** was on a team serving along the Agusan River on the island of Mindanao in the southern Philippines. Josh and the other team members taught English as a second language at a public high school and led Bible studies. "I am having a truly blessed time here. Last Sunday six people got saved and baptized. Praise God! It was so awesome to shake hands with my new Filipino brothers and sisters in Christ.

World Changers and some local missionary kids are assisting my team with three building projects," he wrote. "God is opening so many doors for Christians here. Pray that these blessings never end."

■ **Jennifer Polete** served in Russell Association in Phenix City, Ala. Her work included leading vacation Bible school, recreation for youth and children, distributing clothing and food, leading Bible studies, ministering to senior adults and doing surveys. "After a month and 500 rounds of the Truth Trackers VBS theme song, I have not yet tired of the routine," she said. "God has a mission to accomplish in me that is much harder than anything I am doing here."

I am so very grateful for our collegiate ministries department team members, our campus ministers and the finest students anywhere who have demonstrated their devotion to the Great Commission of our Lord. Please join with me in prayer for God-anointed collegiate ministries as students return to their campuses this month.

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

## Want to be an effective parent of teens? Prepare for the journey

**Q: I love my children but dread the day when they become teenagers. Most teenagers I know seem to be from a different planet. What can I do to prepare myself for my own children becoming teens?**

The mythical world of "Adolesus" is indeed a different place from the world in which most adults live. Teens tend to have a unique subculture replete with their own rituals, language and values.

While this can be intimidating, remember that this "different-ness" is similar to what world travelers might describe as "enchanting." Just imagine that you have the privilege of immersing yourself in another culture for the better part of a decade.

There are some interesting parallels between traveling to foreign lands and preparing to parent teenagers. Just as you would prepare for a trip, take time to expose yourself to a variety of information. Proverbs 16:22 reminds us, "Understanding is a fountain of life to him who has it."

Browse your favorite bookstores for books about parenting teenagers. Ask your pastor or youth minister to recommend their favorite Christian parenting resources. You might even attend a class or seminar about parenting teens. If your church doesn't offer something like this, organize some interested parents and recruit a teacher for a special series.

Before I travel to a new place, I often seek to talk with others who have been there before me. Similarly, it is a wise parent who initiates dialogue with other parents who are farther along in the journey. Identify some parents who are walking with Christ and who seem to be doing a good job with their teens. Get to know them. Ask them what tips they have for a fellow traveler.

While you are getting to know these parents, spend some time with some teenagers as well. You might choose to volunteer with the youth group or through your school. If you aren't available to be a regular volunteer, volunteer for some special projects.—*Scott Wigginton*

## Q: As a new school year begins, how can churches best minister to sixth graders?

A key question is whether sixth graders belong in a church's youth ministry or should remain in children's ministry. Churches struggling with this question should consider several factors:

- Be alert to the fact that the developmental differences between sixth graders and older middle schoolers can be huge. Physical differences are easiest to see, but significant differences also exist emotionally, intellectually and spiritually.

- Remember that the school system's decision to group sixth graders in middle school often is an administrative decision based on space needs rather than developmental considerations. While sixth graders attend a middle school, they usually do not mix with seventh and eighth graders, and in many schools are kept almost completely separate.

- Don't forget to look at the big picture. What impact will your sixth grade grouping have on other church programs such as choir, missions, vacation Bible school, children's Bible drill and sports teams? What important experiences will sixth graders miss if they are moved into youth ministry?

Many churches will choose to provide a separate preteen setting for sixth graders, complete with special curriculum and outside activities. Such an approach recognizes the ways in which sixth graders are no longer children, yet protects them from issues and situations they are not yet ready to face.—*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*; *James Stillwell*, minister to singles at *Immanuel Baptist Church in Lexington*; and *Scott Wigginton*, director of *LifeCare Counseling at Walnut Street Baptist Church in Louisville*. Send questions for *Family Forum* to *Western Recorder*, Box 43969, Louisville, KY 40253 or e-mail us at [wesrec@ntr.net](mailto:wesrec@ntr.net).



## College leaders affirm strong Baptist ties

Some Kentucky Baptists spend their whole lives without visiting all three of the state convention-affiliated senior colleges here in the commonwealth. While faithfully supporting the schools with their prayers and finances, many Baptists never have seen firsthand the educational environment experienced by thousands of students at *Campbellsville University*, *Cumberland College* and *Georgetown College*.

In preparation for this week's "Back to College" emphasis on pages 6-7, I recently visited all three campuses in a span of two weeks. During those visits, I conducted personal interviews with the presidents of all three colleges. The results should be encouraging to grassroots Baptists.

At a time when relationships between conventions and institutions are very fragile in many states, the leaders of *Campbellsville*, *Cumberland* and *Georgetown* enthusiastically affirm their commitment to a strong, steady partnership with the *Kentucky Baptist Convention*. Listen to their words:

■ *Mike Carter*, president of *Campbellsville University*: "We're solidly a small Christian university in the Baptist tradition, committed to Baptist values and Baptist principles."

Noting that *Campbellsville* currently has the highest enrollment of Baptist students in the school's history, *Carter* said, "The great majority of *Kentucky Baptists* would be pretty happy with what they find here—students getting a good education from faculty who are genuinely concerned.

"We want to build the trust of *Kentucky Baptists* and beyond in our academic quality," he added. "We've got to get the new generation to understand why Baptist higher education is so important."

■ *Jim Taylor*, president of *Cumberland College*: "The *Baptists* are the predominant faith of our geographical area. It's part of our culture and we try to show that. That's why we came into existence."

Though the school's mission has expanded over the years, "we've tried to stick with the tried and true and it has so far stood the test of time," *Taylor* added.

"We're socially conservative and try to uphold high standards," he emphasized. "It either means something to be Baptist or it doesn't. You've got to have standards."

■ *Bill Crouch*, president of *Georgetown College*: When *Georgetown* leaders announced plans last year to launch a seven-year initiative to pursue *Phi Beta Kappa* status, *Crouch* noted that some observers feared the school would cut ties to the state convention.

Instead, *Georgetown* trustees voted earlier this year to reaffirm the school's historic relationship to the *KBC*. "I very much want denominational affiliation," he said at the time. "We've got to have that to keep us anchored."

One key to *Georgetown's* future success "is the positive relationship this school has with the convention," he said. "There is no hidden agenda. We want to remain Baptist."

Along with their commitment to *Kentucky Baptists*, each of the presidents affirmed the priority of maintaining a Christ-focused institution.

"Our programs must reflect a Christian witness," *Carter* said. *Taylor* emphasized *Cumberland's* "Christian commitment" and *Crouch* spoke of "a deep theological calling" in his role at *Georgetown*.

That's not to say there are no challenges facing the schools. Each of the administrators deals with weighty decisions about budgets, fund-raising, enrollment, academic standards and other demanding priorities.

But in the grand scheme of denominational life, *Kentucky Baptists* can be thankful for three senior colleges with leaders publicly committed to positive, long-term relationships with the *Kentucky Baptist Convention*.

### STRAIGHT FROM THE EDITOR



Treannis Henderson

## Skinner guides Recorder during nation's postwar boom years

By Duane Bolin

Shortly after the end of World War II, *John D. Freeman* resigned in 1946 as editor of the *Western Recorder* to work for the *Southern Baptist Home Mission Board*. The executive board of the *General Association of Baptists in Kentucky* elected *Ruel Tipton Skinner*, who had served since 1934 as pastor of *Bowling Green's First Baptist Church*.

*Skinner* inherited his editorial duties from *Freeman*, who in his brief tenure as editor had seen the circulation of the state Baptist paper rise dramatically. The *Western Recorder* increased in circulation from 18,000 in 1940 to more than 45,000 when *Freeman* retired. When *Skinner* took over as editor on Sept. 1, 1946, the *Western Recorder* ranked third in circulation among all Baptist papers, following only the *Baptist Standard of Texas* and the *Baptist Record of Mississippi*.

*Skinner* began his editorial work at the same time that *W.C. Boone* took up his duties as the

state convention's new general secretary. *Boone* made his goals clear from the outset. Soon after beginning his work as general secretary, *Boone* wrote an article for the *Western Recorder* about "Kentucky Baptists in 1946."

"Our first emphasis should be on evangelism, winning the lost for Christ," *Boone* wrote. "It is well that we had decided to major on evangelism, else the sudden end of the war and

the uncertainty and confusion which followed might have led to a lessening of our efforts and decrease in the visible results. Now, we should go forward, conserving these good results and putting our very best into the effort to do more than ever before in this greatest work of all, leading the lost to the Savior."

There was no doubt that the new editor of the *Recorder* shared *Boone's* enthusiasm for "this greatest work of all"—evangelism. Born in *Murray*, *Skinner* was the son and great-grandson of pastors of *Murray's First Baptist Church*. He fol-

lowed the call of his forbears when he was ordained in *Nashville's Lockeland Baptist Church* in 1916.

Historian *Frank Masters*, in the 1953 book, "A History of Baptists in Kentucky," provides the facts about *Skinner's* educational and ministerial pilgrimage: graduation from *Union University* in 1917, service as principal of *Tennessee's Doyle Academy* and as pastor of churches in *McMinnville*, *Watertown* and *Milan*. *Skinner* left *Tennessee* for a seven-year pastorate at *Central Park Baptist Church* in *Birmingham, Ala.* He returned to his home state of *Kentucky* in 1934 to serve as pastor in *Bowling Green* for 12 years before becoming editor of the *Recorder*.

*Skinner* also made his mark beyond the commonwealth. Like his predecessors, *John D. Freeman* and *V. I. Masters*, *Skinner* served in 1950 as president of the *Southern Baptist Press Association*. He retired as editor in 1957 having diligently documented the growth and development of churches, associations and *General Association* work in the years of the postwar boom.

Most importantly, he never lost sight of the "greatest work of all."

*Duane Bolin* is a member of *Murray's First Baptist Church*.



## Taylor: Cumberland seeks to 'change lives, save lives'

By Trennis Henderson  
Editor

WILLIAMSBURG—The halls of Cumberland College's Gatliff Administration Building are lined with inspirational quotes about excellence, integrity and teamwork. Fittingly, the framed words lead to the office door of President Jim Taylor.

Taylor, the dean of college presidents in the commonwealth, has walked these halls as Cumberland's president since 1980. And his affiliation with the Kentucky Baptist-related college dates back even further—to his student days in the 1960s.

As a student, professor, administrator and president, Taylor has never lost sight of Cumberland's mission of "changing lives and saving lives," emphasizing that "we're not apologetic about our Christian commitment."

He also affirms the school's strong Baptist roots. "It's part of our culture and we try to show that," he said. "That's why we came into existence."

"We look to the Baptists for friends and funds and freshmen," he quipped. "We want to build bridges, not barriers."

Noting that the 112-year-old institution continues to "serve Appalachia primarily but not exclusively," Taylor said, "Students come here with a sense of hope for the future. Our purpose is to have an institution that pro-

duces keen minds, warm hearts and helping hands."

Taylor said his student experience at Cumberland changed his life. "I'm very pleased to have attended a Baptist institution," he said. "The personal attention of the faculty as role models made God real in my life."

More than 30 years later, he wants to give today's students that same opportunity. "What will live on is not the buildings," he said, "but the students we help. That will go on for generation after generation."

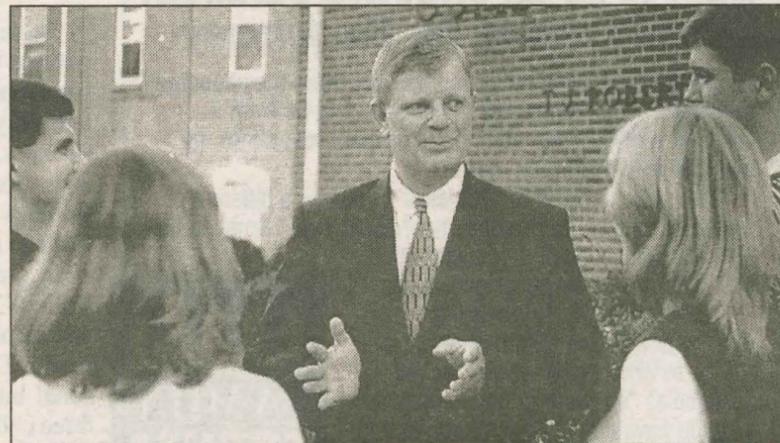
Though the school's facilities aren't his primary measure of success, more than 30 construction and renovation projects have marked Taylor's years as president.

"We've pretty well built everything or renovated everything," Taylor noted.

"We've had a bulldozer or something going for 20 years."

Major construction projects have included the Rollins Center, which features a state-of-the-art gymnasium and aquatic center; the Smiddy Learning Resource Center, which houses the campus library and distance learning center; and Cumberland Inn that provides lodging, restaurant facilities and a work setting for students.

The Rollins Fine Art Center, a \$6 million facility that opened earlier this year, will be dedicated Sept. 18. Other projects include a women's residence hall currently under construction and preliminary plans for a new science building.



**CAMPUS CONNECTION** Jim Taylor, president of Cumberland College since 1980, emphasizes the school is "not apologetic about our Christian commitment."

In recent years, Cumberland has hosted such public figures as former President Jimmy Carter, the Today Show's Willard Scott and actress Patricia Neal. Away from the limelight, however, Taylor's years as president also have included dark moments.

The greatest trial he and his wife, Dinah, faced was the 1991 death of their 18-year-old son, Jim, in an automobile accident the day before he was to graduate from high school.

"You realize how temporary life is," Taylor reflected a decade later. "You learn a lot about your own vulnerability and your own mortality. You have to turn it over to the Lord."

The Taylors have responded over the years by providing resources to help other grieving families. "It helps to know someone else has gone

through it," he explained. "We help ourselves by helping others."

That philosophy also permeates Mountain Outreach, another major emphasis at Cumberland. Established in 1982, Mountain Outreach provides housing, clothing and food for disabled, elderly and economically disadvantaged people in the region.

"We're into the biblical command to feed the hungry," Taylor explained. "If you don't have compassion, you don't have much."

"Students get the bug for helping others and it will carry on throughout life," he added. "It's a great witness here in the mountains."

As Cumberland's new academic year begins next week, Taylor reflected, "I'm the luckiest person in the world. I'm doing what I love."



Back to College

## Campbellsville's core values highlight excellence, success

By Trennis Henderson  
Editor

CAMPBELLSVILLE—Ask Mike Carter about himself and he doesn't say a whole lot. Ask him about the future of Campbellsville University and his enthusiasm kicks into overdrive.

"This is a fascinating place. There's a great spirit here," said Carter, who marked his second anniversary this month as president of Campbellsville.

Before becoming Campbellsville's 10th president, Carter served 10 years as provost and vice president for academic affairs at Carson-Newman College in Jefferson City, Tenn. Before that he taught at Judson College in Elgin, Ill., and Warner Southern College in Lake Wales, Fla.

"At the root of who I am, I am a teacher," he explained, "a teacher who loves my discipline. It's the love of learning and the love of seeing students fulfill their potential."

Affirming Campbellsville's historic Christian commitment, Carter added, "The only way you can reach your potential is by Christ being in your heart. In this environment, I get most excited when I see students who found themselves, found a closer walk with Christ and are prepared for a good future."

"There really is a deep commitment here to integrate academic excellence with a person's faith walk," he said. "The whole reason we exist



**DIALOGUE** Campbellsville University President Mike Carter visits with 2000 Homecoming queen Leanne Quinlan during an informal dialogue session at the president's home.

is for students to come and have a valuable learning experience that develops not only their minds but their character and servant leadership.

With those lofty goals in mind, Carter is leading the school to develop a comprehensive strategic plan. Trustees recently adopted a new mission statement and four core values that focus on academic excellence, student success, responsible stewardship and "keeping Christ first in all that we do."

As an example, one of Carter's first campus initiatives was to launch Kentucky Heartland Outreach, a volunteer house repair ministry for people in the area facing economic challenges. Campbellsville students serve as team leaders, working with high school students who paint houses, repair roofs,

install windows, build porches and do other maintenance work.

"Kids are searching to find meaning in an abundant society," Carter pointed out. "We face a challenge of creating a sense of responsibility."

Kentucky Heartland Outreach "is one example of how to take the Internet generation and get them to think outside themselves and get in touch with where people live," he said. "The motivation is to create a laboratory experience for servant leadership."

Carter said another way Campbellsville is reaching out is through a partnership with the Baptist Theological Seminary of Northern Brazil in Recife. The partnership allows students attending the seminary in Brazil to earn a graduate degree in music through Campbellsville's school of

music.

In addition to faculty members traveling to Brazil to help supervise the program, Carter said Campbellsville "provided curriculum design and helped them with dollars to improve their music library."

Calling the seminary "God's light in darkness" in Northern Brazil, Carter said the school's request for help "is the nearest thing to a modern Macedonian call I have ever seen."

"If we don't do this," he asked, "how can we expect God to honor our work? It's a labor together for Christ."

Carter said there also are approximately 70 Brazilian students currently enrolled at Campbellsville as well as students from more than a dozen other countries. He said interaction with international students is helping Campbellsville "give our students a global perspective."

Other priorities include enhancing Campbellsville's facilities. Construction is under way on a \$2 million technology training center. Work will begin soon on a library renovation, broadcast communications building and expanded athletic facilities. One of Carter's long-term goals is to construct a worship center that could be used for chapel services, drama performances, recitals and lectures.

As Campbellsville "moves forward on a lot of fronts," Carter emphasized one priority remains central.

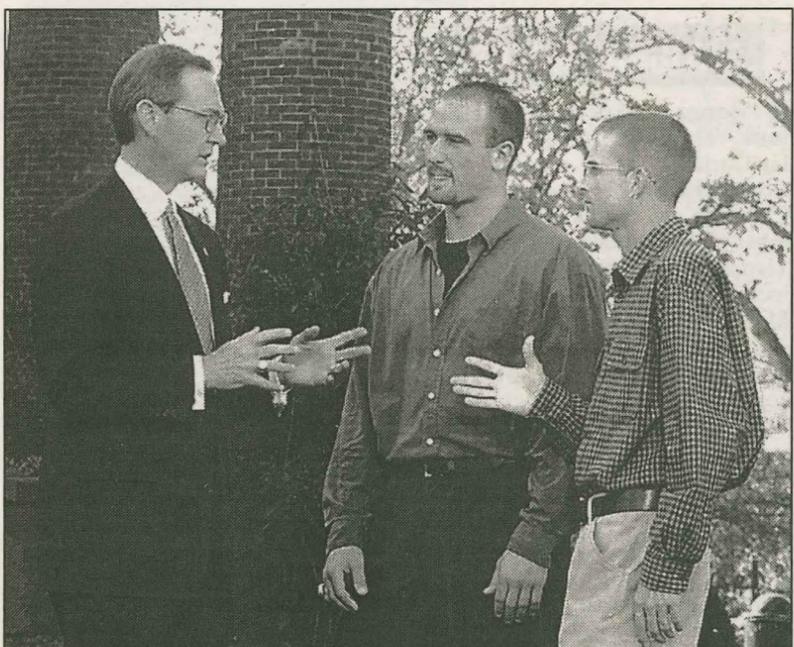
"We want to continue to create a student experience that is life-changing," he said. "It's a journey of service."

### CUMBERLAND CALENDAR

- Aug. 29: Fall classes begin
- Aug. 31: Campus-wide prayer meeting, 10 a.m.
- Sept. 8: Lexington Philharmonic performance, 8 p.m.
- Sept. 15: Campus Discovery Day
- Sept. 18: Dedication of Grace Rollins Center, 2 p.m.
- Sept. 28-30: Family Weekend
- Nov. 1-3: "Oklahoma" musical/theatrical production
- Nov. 9-10: Homecoming
- Dec. 4: Hanging of the Green, 7:30 p.m.

### CAMPBELLSVILLE CALENDAR

- Aug. 22: Fall classes begin
- Aug. 29: Opening convocation, 10 a.m., Campbellsville Baptist Church
- Sept. 21-22: Family Weekend
- Sept. 22 & Nov. 10: Fall Preview Days
- Sept. 26: Heritage Day
- Oct. 5-6: Homecoming
- Nov. 5: "The Ordinances of the Church: Baptist Traditions," 7:30 p.m., Gheens Recital Hall
- Nov. 6: "Plight of the Persecuted Church" program
- Nov. 18-19: Tiger Roundup for high school seniors



**MILESTONE** Bill Crouch, who recently marked his 10th anniversary as president of Georgetown College, visits with students on campus. Reflecting on the school's past decade, he noted, "Self-esteem at this institution ... is at an all-time high."

## Georgetown priorities: global vision & Phi Beta Kappa goals

By Trennis Henderson  
Editor

GEORGETOWN—As students return to campus this fall at Georgetown College, they will be greeted with an international welcome.

Giddings Hall, the school's main administration building, will be sporting five huge banners with the word "welcome" spelled out in five languages: Chinese, Japanese, French, German and Spanish.

The multicultural atmosphere evoked by the display is precisely what Georgetown President Bill Crouch intends.

As Georgetown officials pursue elite Phi Beta Kappa status over the next several years, the school's goal is to achieve the exacting standards of the nation's oldest undergraduate honors society.

"We're now beginning to rebuild in the areas which are the priorities to achieve Phi Beta Kappa status," Crouch explained. Among those emphases, he added, "We're moving big-time into international programs and travel."

The colorful display represents "the five language groups we're focusing our international efforts on," he said, citing student and faculty exchange programs in such settings as Chile and Hong Kong.

"Our real mission is to take Kentucky kids and teach them how they can go anywhere in the world and be successful," Crouch said. "We've got to work harder at showing them what the real world is like."

He said international students and

missionary school also play a significant role in the school's global emphasis, serving as "cultural teachers" for the college community. He said approximately 20 international students and 20 MKs will be taking classes this fall at Georgetown.

At the same time, up to 10 students a year can study at Regent's Park College of Oxford University in England. The partnership also includes a ministerial Sabbatical program coordinated by Georgetown's Marshall Center for Christian Ministry.

Crouch said such priorities are a vital part of Georgetown's long-term success. Noting that most successful colleges are either highly endowed, highly prestigious or highly distinctive, he said Georgetown leaders "decided that being a faith-based Phi Beta Kappa school would highly distinguish us in the world of higher education."

"I've got a real passion to demonstrate that a top academic school affiliated with a denomination can thrive and be successful in this country," he emphasized. But that commitment comes with a hefty price tag.

Crouch said the college needs to raise approximately \$100 million by 2004 to fund facilities, programs and faculty salaries needed to achieve Phi Beta Kappa status. He said the school is making significant progress toward that goal with recent gifts and pledges totaling nearly \$70 million.

There was concern that the college might loosen its ties to the Kentucky Baptist Convention in order to strengthen its Phi Beta Kappa bid. College trustees put that concern to rest earlier this year when they voted to maintain the school's historic relationship with the state convention.

With that issue settled, Crouch and other administrators can turn their attention to their Phi Beta Kappa goals. "If we can pull this off," he said, "Baptists in Kentucky are going to be the winners."

A decade ago, Crouch said, Georgetown's future didn't look nearly as optimistic. While he "had been focused and preparing to become a college president" for several years, he recalled that his first visit to Georgetown left him questioning the quality of the school's facilities and future.

Citing "the credentials of the faculty and success of alumni," however, "I knew the school was better than its facilities. I agreed to the challenge."

Ten years and 11 campus building projects later, Crouch said, "I think the thing I'm most proud of in 10 years is that the self-esteem at this institution internally and among alumni is at an all-time high.

"We really look like a college campus," he added, noting that the school is preparing to break ground on a new fitness center. Other future construction plans include a center for commerce, language and culture and a performing arts center.

Looking ahead, Crouch said, "The potential is still so enormous and the success we have experienced has been so great. Why go anywhere else?"



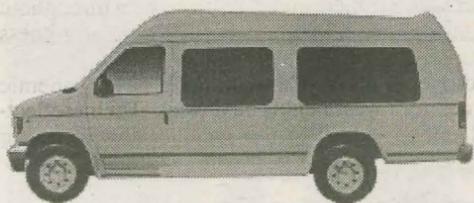
### GEORGETOWN CALENDAR

- Aug. 27: Fall classes begin
- Sept. 4: Opening convocation, 11 a.m., chapel
- Sept. 20: Lexington Ballet, 8 p.m., chapel
- Oct. 20: Homecoming
- Oct. 23: Redding Lecture, 11 a.m., chapel
- Nov. 6: Cawthorne Lecture, 11 a.m., chapel
- Nov. 8: Handbell/Chapel Brass concert, 8 p.m., chapel
- Nov. 27: Hanging of the Green, 7 p.m., chapel
- Dec. 2: "Messiah" performance, 3 p.m., chapel

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## Recognition of Deceased Kentucky Baptist Leaders

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

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

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

E-mail: wanda.karolyi@kybaptist.org

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

## Survey finds nearly half of fired pastors don't return to ministry

Continued from page 1

were allowed to stay eight weeks in a church-owned home after being forced from their positions.

■ 35.2 percent of pastors forced to leave their pulpits received financial assistance and 41 percent received professional counseling.

■ Approximately 55 percent of ministers who were terminated returned to church-related vocations during the reporting period, Jan. 1-Dec. 31, 2000.

"The most shocking statistic from this study is that only 55 percent of pastors who experienced forced termination returned to church-related vocations," Knierim said. "We would like to know why so many did not return to ministry and what percentage of those who received professional counseling did return."

LeaderCare began in 1996 as a ministry to ministers and their spouses and families. The group provides a variety of resources, including a toll-free help line, (888) 789-1911. The 24-hour-a-day service for ministers and their families receives approximately 2,000 calls annually.

LeaderCare also includes Wounded Ministers, a ministry to depressed and hurting ministers; career assessments; The Minister's Family magazine; personal and professional growth seminars; minister/spouse marriage enrichment events; Strength Under Stress seminars for ministers who need encouragement and support; and church conflict mediation events.

Compiled from reports by Religion News Service and Baptist Press

## NATIONAL NOTES

■ **Assemblies OKs some divorced pastors.** In a groundbreaking decision, the General Council of the Assemblies of God narrowly decided, 998-834, to allow men and women who were divorced before their Christian conversion to seek ministerial credentials with the denomination. The resolution, approved during the group's biennial meeting earlier this month in Kansas City, Mo., reads: "Scripture teaches that we are all guilty of breaking the whole law so that no one can put his/her pre-conversion sins in a separate or lesser category than another."

■ **Clinic buffer zone law upheld.** A Massachusetts law that creates a buffer zone around abortion clinics is constitutional, a federal appeals court decided Aug. 13. The year-old law—spurred by a 1994 attack on an abortion clinic—prohibits protesters from approaching within 18 feet of a clinic where abortions are performed, and within six feet of clients entering the clinics. In upholding the statute, the 1st U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals rejected plaintiffs' argument that the buffer zone violated protesters' right to free speech, the Associated Press reported.

■ **"Songs 4 Worship" goes to tour.** "Songs 4 Worship," a popular Christian music recording series, will morph into a live tour of Christian artists this fall. The October tour will feature 11 shows in 11 days. Participating artists will include Michael W. Smith, Nicole Mullen, Caedmon's Call, Darlene Zschech, Don Moen and Watermark. The closest the tour will come to Kentucky is Oct. 17 in Columbus, Ohio, and Oct. 18 in St. Louis.

■ **Most back Bush on stem cells.** A majority of Americans support President Bush's decision on embryonic stem cells, while 34 percent disapprove of his move to fund limited research. Of those who disagree with the decision, 56 percent say Bush's proposal is not strict enough, and just over a third find it too strict, according to a new USA Today/CNN/Gallup Poll. The president announced last week that the government would fund research on 60 already-existing "lines" of embryonic stem cells but would ban further harvesting of stem cells from human embryos, a process that destroys the embryo.

■ **Lutherans to study gay ban.** The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America voted last week not to overturn a ban on noncelibate gay clergy, opting instead to launch a churchwide study on homosexuality and craft a timeline for a final decision on the issue. The 596-409 vote during the body's national meeting sparked nonviolent protests, resulting in 50 arrests. The vote left intact an 11-year-old church policy that says, "Ordained ministers who are homosexual in their self-understanding are expected to abstain from homosexual sexual relationships."

■ **MacDonald's responds to Hindus.** In response to a lawsuit by Hindus and non-Hindu vegetarians, McDonald's USA announced it would provide more ingredient information to customers. Seattle lawyer Harish Bharti, a Hindu and vegetarian, sued McDonald's, claiming the company willfully misled customers by not explicitly stating that its french fries still contained beef extract even after the company began cooking them in vegetable oil in 1990. Hindus regard the cow as sacred and do not eat beef.



## 2001 KBC Annual Meeting

November 13-14, 2001

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## MURRAY AREA ACCOMMODATIONS

Rates do not include tax (except Jonathan Creek). Taxes vary between 9-10%. Messengers are responsible for making their own reservations. Kentucky Baptist Convention must be mentioned and reservation deadlines met to receive blocked room rates. Most blocked rooms are non-smoking.

All facilities in Murray and Draffenville are full. Facilities in Calvert City, Gilbertsville and Jonathan Creek still have rooms available. Kenlake State Resort Park in Hardin is nearing capacity. Three new facilities—in Cadiz, Grand Rivers and Mayfield—now offer KBC blocked rooms and are listed below.

### Hardin

(17-22 miles from Murray)

**Kenlake State Resort Park**  
542 Kenlake Rd. (off Hwy 68)  
1.270.474.2211 or  
toll free 1.800.325.0143  
\$42 (single) / \$52 (double)  
On-site restaurant  
Reservation deadline: 9/12  
(Requests received after this date will be filled if space is available.)

**Jonathan Creek Camp and Conference Center (motel)**  
3043 Beal Road (off Hwy 68)  
1.270.354.8355  
\$29/person (2 persons)  
\$27/person (3 persons)  
(Lone Oak Center is also available. Reservations are first come, first served.)

### Mayfield

(20-25 minutes from Murray)

**Days Inn**  
1101 Housman  
1.270.247.3700  
\$49.50 (2 persons)  
Free continental breakfast  
Reservation deadline: 11/1

### Calvert City/Gilbertsville

(1-24, exit 27)  
(30-32 miles from Murray)

**Foxfire Motor Inn**  
3457 US Highway 62  
1.270.395.7162  
\$35.88 (1 person)  
\$39.88 (2 persons)  
(Add \$6 for each add'l. person)  
Reservation deadline: 10/25

### Kentucky Dam Village

**State Resort Park**  
166 Upper Village Drive  
(near U.S. Highway 641)  
1.270.362.4271 or  
toll free 1.800.325.0146  
\$45 (1-4 persons)  
On-site restaurant  
Reservation deadline: 10/12

### Ramada Inn

2184 U. S. Highway 62  
1.270.362.4278  
\$50 (1-4 persons)  
On-site restaurant  
Reservation deadline: 11/1

### Super 8 Motel

3503 U.S. Highway 62  
1.270.395.5566  
\$52 (1-4 persons)  
Free continental breakfast  
Reservation  
deadline: 10/25

### Cadiz

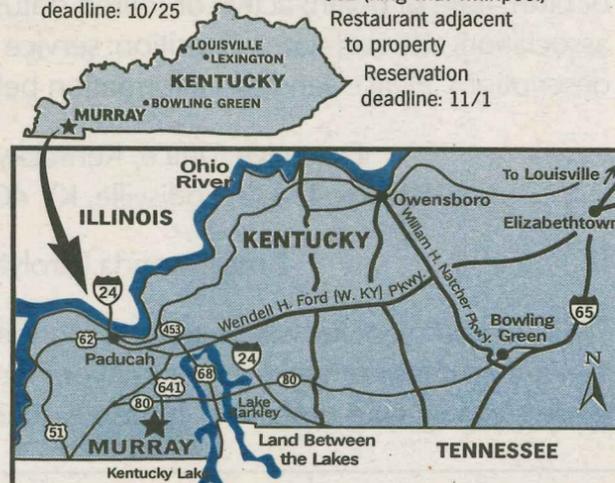
(35-40 minutes from Murray)

**Lake Barkley State Resort Park**  
3500 State Park Road  
1.270.924.1131 or  
toll free 1.800.325.1708  
\$44 (single) / \$54 (double)  
On-site restaurant  
Reservation deadline: 10/13

### Grand Rivers

(30-35 minutes from Murray)

**Best Western Kentucky-Barkley Lakes Inn**  
720 Complex Drive  
1.800.928.2711  
\$59 (2 persons)  
\$64 (2 queen beds/2 persons)  
\$81 (king with whirlpool)  
Restaurant adjacent to property  
Reservation deadline: 11/1



# Lifting Up Jesus Christ!

# CROSS OVER

THE PURCHASE

November 10 & 11, 2001

## Purpose

**Cross Over the Purchase** is an effort to reach west Kentucky for Christ. This will be accomplished by mobilizing Kentucky Baptists from all over the state to be involved in evangelism and mission projects in targeted areas the weekend prior to the Kentucky Baptist Convention, Nov. 10-11, 2001.

## Targeted Areas

The targeted areas are Murray, Benton, Mayfield, Paducah, Fulton, Clinton, and Hickman. Those wishing to participate in Cross Over will come to one of these sites and participate in one of the many projects planned.

## Projects

Here is a glance at the projects planned. More details are inside.

### One Day or Weekend Revivals

Many of the churches in the Purchase are having weekend or one day revivals. The events on Saturday will be an opportunity to promote the revival meetings in the various churches.

### Community/Prayer Needs Survey of Strategic Areas

Kentucky Baptists will fan out across the Purchase area on Saturday morning, Nov. 10, and knock on doors. They will use a community/prayer needs survey (see page 2) and a witnessing booklet to share Christ with unchurched and lost individuals. An invitation will be given to the Weekend or One Day Revival meetings.

### Prayer Walks

Prayer Walks will discover prayer needs and participants will pray for strategic areas. This will involve prayer walking targeted areas and, in some cases, knocking on doors to discover prayer needs. An invitation will be given to the Weekend or One Day Revival meetings.

### Servant Evangelism Projects

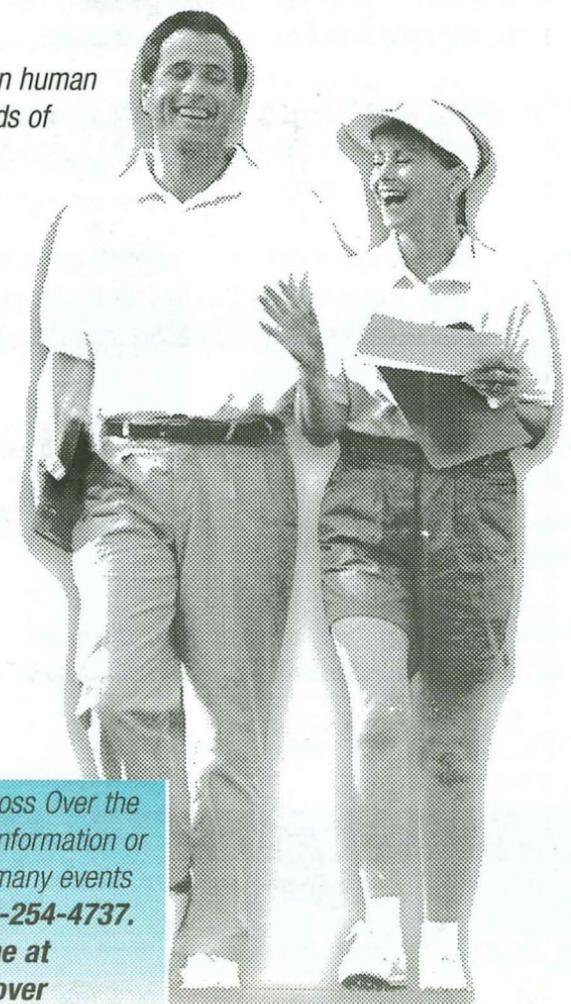
Many of the Kentucky Baptist churches in the Purchase area will be intentionally sharing Christ by modeling biblical servanthood. A sampling of the servant projects will be leaf raking, cleaning gutters, free car washes, minor repair projects and other acts of service. These will be done in the targeted communities in order to show the love of Christ in practical ways. An invitation will be given to the Weekend or One Day Revival meetings.

### Jesus Video Distribution

The Jesus film has touched more lives than any other evangelistic effort in human history. It is the inspired Word of God brought into film and video. Hundreds of these videos will be distributed in homes all across the Purchase area on Saturday, Nov. 10. No evangelism training is required. Only a willingness to knock on doors and offer the video as a gift is needed. An invitation will be given to the Weekend or One Day Revival meetings.

### Evangelistic Event at Murray State University

On Saturday afternoon, Nov. 10, the Baptist Student Union will host an evangelistic event on the campus of Murray State University. This will involve face painting, free car washes, giving away bottles of water, and sharing Christ with others.



The Purchase

If you have not yet volunteered for Cross Over the Purchase, now is the time. For more information or to volunteer to participate in one of many events planned, call 888-254-5722 or 502-254-4737.

You can also sign up online at  
[www.kybaptist.org/crossover](http://www.kybaptist.org/crossover)

A sample of the Community/Prayer Needs Survey is given below. The basic format is that teams of three people will be assigned specific areas to survey and be given packets of materials to use. As each team goes through the survey with residents, an opportunity is extended to share a witnessing booklet with interested individuals. Each team will be assigned approximately 30 homes to survey.

## General Instructions for Community/Prayer Needs Survey

The following are general instructions for the **Community/Prayer Needs Survey** to be conducted on Saturday, Nov. 10 in targeted areas.

- ▶ Please sign in at the designated site for the targeted area at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, Nov. 10.
  - Murray and Benton - Student Center at Murray State University
  - Mayfield - First Baptist Church
  - Clinton - First Baptist Church
  - Hickman - West Hickman Baptist Church
  - Fulton - First Baptist Church
  - Arlington - First Baptist Church
  - Paducah - Olivet Baptist Church
- ▶ You will be assigned to a team of three people with at least one person of the opposite sex on each team and one person from the church you are representing.
- ▶ You will be given a packet of material that contains a map that locates the area to be surveyed, the Community/Prayer Needs Survey cards and information about the church you are representing. Take time to pray together as a team for those homes you will visit and the people you will talk with.
- ▶ As you approach the residence to be surveyed, fill out the top portion of the survey including the address.
- ▶ A designated person in the group should introduce the team and share the purpose of the survey. One person on the team should record the responses while another person asks the questions. Go through the survey and if appropriate seek to share the gospel using the "Steps to Peace with God" witnessing booklet.
- ▶ If possible, obtain the name or names of the persons in the household and fill out the back of the survey card before going to the next residence.
- ▶ Leave materials about the church and the witnessing booklet. If no one is home, mark this on the top portion of the survey card indicating the address and leave materials about the church.
- ▶ Do not enter the residence or go to the back door. If residents ask you to come in say that you have been requested not to enter homes so as not to inconvenience anyone.
- ▶ After completing the surveys of assigned areas, return to the church to turn in your report forms.
- ▶ Host churches are to provide lunch for the participants.

The Community/Prayer Needs Survey of Cross Over offers excellent opportunities to discover needs and share Christ. Many professions of faith are expected as a result.

## COMMUNITY/PRAYER NEEDS SURVEY

Not at home     Busy     Refused Survey     Refused Materials

Names of Surveyors \_\_\_\_\_

Church Representing \_\_\_\_\_

Address of Home Surveyed (First print the address and then knock on the door or ring the doorbell) \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_

### At The Door Say:

Hello, I'm \_\_\_\_\_ and this is \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ (use first names only).

We are with \_\_\_\_\_ Baptist Church and we are trying to help our church effectively meet the needs of our community by conducting a brief community needs survey.

**May we ask you a few questions?**

1. What do you believe is the biggest need in our community?

\_\_\_\_\_

2. How could our church best help our community and your family?

\_\_\_\_\_

3. When you attend church, where do you attend?

\_\_\_\_\_

4. Our church would like to pray for you and your family. Are there prayer concerns our church family can pray for at this time?

\_\_\_\_\_

5. In your personal opinion, what do you believe it takes for a person to get to heaven?

\_\_\_\_\_

They will give either a works answer (be a good person and live a good life), a church answer (be baptized or be a member of a church), a faith answer (accept Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior) or they do not know. If the answer is anything other than a faith answer, request permission to share the gospel tract with them. If they give a faith answer, ask them when they came to know the Lord, and if they are not faithfully attending church, invite them to come to the weekend revival services.

**Conclusion** - After each survey please complete the information below:

Shared witnessing booklet     Profession of Faith     Assurance of Salvation

This person is a prospect -

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

Comments \_\_\_\_\_



The Prayer Walking/Journeys will consist of walking or driving areas and praying for the residents. Some will choose to knock on doors using the Community/Prayer Needs Survey cards to discover prayer needs and prospects for the represented church. There is no special training or skilled required to participate in PRAYER WALKS/JOURNEYS. A willingness to pray and be used of the Lord is all that is needed.

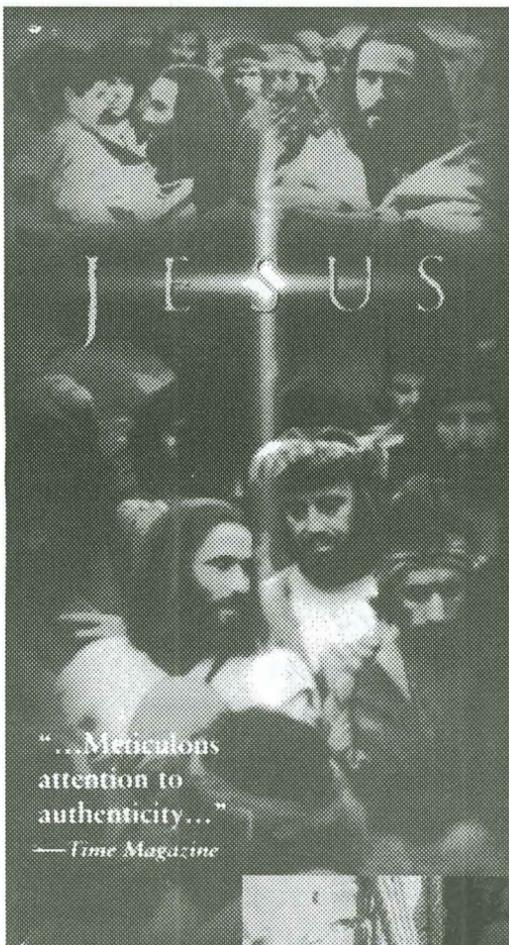
## INSTRUCTIONS

### For The Churches Participating In The Prayer Walks/Journeys:

1. Prepare maps of the areas to be prayer walked or driven.
2. Assign teams of three to do the prayer walks/journeys, making sure there is one person from the opposite sex in each group and at least one person from your church on each team.
3. Provide Community/Prayer Needs Survey Cards and clipboards for those wishing to discover prayer needs in the community.
4. Ask your members to be at the church by 8:30 a.m. for training and team assignments.
5. Provide lunch at the church for those participating in the Cross Over event.

The key to both calling out laborers for Cross Over and touching the unchurched with the Good News is prayer. It is our desire that every targeted area of Cross Over be prayed for through prayer walking or driving strategic areas. Those who want to participate in Cross Over prayer efforts are encouraged to:

1. Put Cross Over on their prayer list.
2. Sign up to be part of the prayer effort for Cross Over and choose a targeted area.
3. Come to the targeted area on Saturday morning, Nov. 10 at 8:30 a.m. for specific instructions and assignments.



## Jesus Video Distribution

The Jesus film has touched more lives than any other evangelistic effort in human history. It is the inspired Word of God brought into film and video. Hundreds of these videos will be distributed in homes all across the Purchase area on Saturday, Nov. 10. No evangelism training is required to do this. A willingness to knock on doors and offer the video as a gift is all that is needed.

### TRAINING GUIDE FOR THE CROSS OVER JESUS VIDEO DISTRIBUTION

1. Show the JESUS video in your church on a Sunday night during the discipleship time or during the evening worship service. (These are available through the Evangelism office of the Kentucky Baptist Convention.)
2. Promote the need to distribute the Jesus videos in your area.
3. Enlist volunteers from within your church who will help with the JESUS video distribution (See sample bulletin insert below.) and encourage them to work with the other Kentucky Baptists who will be coming to participate in Cross Over events.
4. Select the areas you can reasonably expect to cover in about four hours. One team of three people can cover about 50 homes.
5. Order the Jesus videos from the Evangelism Office. The cost is \$2.50 each. Order 25 videos per team. A plastic doorhanger bag labeled FREE VIDEO INSIDE will be included with your order.
6. Include in the doorhanger bag information about your church, an invitation to the One Day Revival service on Nov. 11 and a response card with your church address and either a postal permit or a stamp. (See sample below.)
7. Follow-up. The ideal follow-up is to make a second visit to the homes about one month after the videos have been distributed. Ask if there are any questions about the video, ask for prayer concerns that can be shared with the church and give an invitation to Bible study and worship.
8. Provide lunch at the church for those participating in Cross Over events.

## Sample Bulletin Insert

### Cross Over Jesus Video Distribution

You can help offer the gift of Jesus to homes in our area. Our church will be giving the gift of a Jesus video to local families as part of CROSS OVER THE PURCHASE. No evangelism training is required. If you are willing to be a part of our church distributing these videos on Saturday, Nov. 10, please complete the information below. We will meet at the church at 8:30 a.m. for one hour of training and refreshments and then go out into designated areas to distribute the videos.

**Yes**, I will help!

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

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

### Sample Response Card

- Please call or visit with me. I have questions about how to become a Christian.
- Please send me more information about a personal relationship with Jesus.
- Prayer requests or comments

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

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



# Servant Evangelism Projects

Many of the Kentucky Baptist churches in the Purchase area will be intentionally sharing Christ by modeling biblical servanthood. The servant projects may include leaf raking, cleaning gutters, free car washes, minor repair projects and other acts of service. These will be done in the targeted communities in order to show the love of Christ in practical ways. An invitation will be given to the Weekend or One Day Revival meetings.

No special training or experience is needed to do the servant projects. A willingness to help meet needs and share Christ is all that is needed. Those interested in participating in these projects need to notify the Evangelism Office of the Kentucky Baptist Convention and you will be assigned a church with whom to serve.



## Training Guide For Churches

### Doing Servant Evangelism Projects

1. Determine which servant projects your church will do.
2. Determine the areas and scope of the projects.
3. Assign to teams and projects those who have signed up to participate.
4. Secure permission to do the projects from either businesses or residents.
5. Provide the necessary equipment and materials to do the projects, i.e. rakes, leaf bags, car washing materials, etc.
6. Provide lunch at the church for those who are participating in the servant projects.

## One Day Revival

### Weekend Or One Day Revivals

Many of the churches in the Purchase will be having WEEKEND OR ONE DAY REVIVALS. **We need ministers** who are willing to come and preach these revival services. If you are willing to be one of the revival preachers, please contact the **Evangelism Office - 888-254-5722 or 502-254-4737.**



10701 Shelbyville Road, Louisville, KY 40243  
502-254-4737 or Toll Free 1-888-254-5722  
<http://www.kybaptist.org>



This publication is made possible by the Cooperative Program.



**For More Information About Local Projects, Please Contact An Associational Leadership Team Member.**

#### West Kentucky Baptist Association

**Howard Ketter** - Servant Evangelism Projects  
320 Mayfield Rd., Clinton, KY 42031  
270-653-4303

**Jack Acree** - Jesus Video Distribution  
P.O. Box 1140, Fulton, KY 42041  
270-472-1663

**Champ Thomas, Jr** - Community Needs Survey  
1001 Broadway, Hickman, Ky 42050  
270-236-2342

#### Graves County Baptist Association

**Chad Lamb** - Community Needs Survey  
3577 St. Rt. 131, Mayfield, KY 42066  
270-658-3304

**Tony Adams** - Prayer Walks  
3577 St. Rt. 131, Mayfield, KY 42066  
270-658-3304

**Ronnie Glisson** - Servant Evangelism Projects  
4298 St. Rt. 1820, Melber, KY 42069  
270-674-5716

**Glynn Copeland** - Jesus Video Distribution  
303 St. Rt. 83, Mayfield, KY 42066  
270-382-2884

**David Hardy** - One Day Revival Meetings  
5378 St. Rt. 94 W, Water Valley, KY 42085  
270-376-5728

#### Blood River Baptist Association

**Dennis Norvell** - Community Needs Survey  
749 Poplar Spring Dr., Murray, Ky 42071  
270-436-2719

**Darvin Stom** - Prayer Walks  
2837 Lakeview Church Road, Benton, Ky 42025  
270-395-4789

**David York** - Block Parties  
4045 Mayfield Hwy, Benton, Ky 42025  
270-527-3787

**Roger Rice** - Jesus Video Distribution  
5817 Hwy 62, Calvert City, Ky 42029  
270-395-4342

**Glynn Orr** - Servant Evangelism  
207 Robertson Rd South, Murray, Ky 42071  
270-753-8240

#### West Union Baptist Association

**Chad Davidson** - Prayer Walking  
4875 Old Mayfield Road, Paducah, Ky 42003  
270-554-3173

**Bob Martin** - Community Needs Survey  
P.O. Box 7207, Paducah, Ky 42002  
270-554-1441

**Jim Holloway** - Servant Evangelism Projects  
1249 N 12th Street, Paducah, Ky 42001  
270-442-2764

**Tommy Tucker** - Jesus Video Distribution  
5186 Hwy 60, Paducah, Ky 42001  
270-442-3267

**Mark Bond** - Block Party  
P.O. Box 239, LaCenter, Ky 42056  
270-665-5975

**David McCall** - One Day Revivals  
P.O. Box 110, Lovelaceville, Ky 42060  
270-876-7060

## White House details barriers faced by faith-based agencies

By Adelle Banks  
Religion News Service

WASHINGTON (RNS)—A new survey of five federal departments indicates significant barriers exist preventing religious and other community organizations from gaining access to governmental social service programs, White House staffers said Aug. 16.

"This report shows systematically that government has been hostile to the participation of faith-based and community-based organizations when it ought to have been neutral," said John Bridgeland, director of the White House Domestic Policy Council.

The report is a 25-page summary of more than 800 pages of reports from five cabinet departments ordered by President Bush to examine their relations with religious and other community groups in providing social services.

One anecdotal reference from HUD reports an instance in which the Christian house-building ministry Habitat for Humanity received millions of dollars in funding but was not listed as a faith-based group.

"With mind-bending logic, HUD

officials apparently reasoned that since the government may not aid religion, and yet HUD funds Habitat, then Habitat must not be a faith-based organization," the report reads.

Although the report stressed that figures concerning grant-making to faith-based and community groups are "fragmentary," it cites several examples of programs where faith-based organizations received 3 percent or less of available grant funds.

The report did note that occasionally there are cases in which federal programs specify that recipients of funds for a program must be faith-based, which "raises constitutional questions" and "creates a barrier for secular programs."

Critics of the faith-based initiative questioned whether the barriers outlined by the White House staffers should be viewed negatively.

Brent Walker, executive director of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, said some of the restrictions White House staffers think need to be loosened are appropriate to avoid constitutional problems.

"Some of them have to be there," he said. "They're guardrails, they're not barriers."

## Warren, Cho: Use Internet, not huge buildings

LAKE FOREST, Calif.—Churches should stop building bigger buildings and start relying more on the Internet, according to two leading pastors in the church growth movement.

David Yonggi Cho, pastor of the 750,000-member Yoido Full Gospel Church in Seoul, South Korea, and Rick Warren, pastor of the 15,000-member Saddleback Valley Community Church in Southern California, said the Internet is a "next generation strategy" to connect decentralized home groups to the larger church body.

The two met recently in California to discuss church growth strategies for the 21st century. Their conclusion: Stop building buildings and use that money for world missions.

Warren, author of "The Purpose Driven Church," said, "Even if we had all the buildings we needed, one question is whether or not the next generation wants to worship in huge buildings." He said Saddleback is experimenting with live Internet services on the weekends and already is using the Web to help small groups stay connected to each other.

Bob Reccord, president of the Southern Baptist North American Mission Board, said the two leaders' statement addresses the need to use all available technology while avoiding unnecessary debt for buildings.

He added, however, that their context is the

megachurch and that no congregation should exist apart from some aspect of face-to-face worship.

"What it can never ever replace is the fellowship issue of a church," Reccord said. "I think we need to use technology for what it is meant to do, which is the relay of information and the communication networking. But we shouldn't expect it to do what it was not meant to do, and that is the aspect of people being totally together."

Warren agreed. "The Internet will never completely replace face-to-face fellowship," he added. "But some things can be done faster, cheaper, farther and more conveniently on the Internet."

He noted that while Saddleback has 15,000 people attend services each weekend, its worship center holds just 3,200 people. "We fill five identical weekend services and thus are able to minister to over 15,000 attenders without building a giant arena."

Warren said a multi-purpose building is better stewardship than a sanctuary that is used only one time a week. "As soon as our weekend services are over, that seating arrangement is taken down and the building is used in a variety of ways every day of the week."

Compiled from reports from Rick Warren's Web site, Pastors.com, and additional reporting by News Director David Winfrey

### "Speaking Home to the Heart"

A Preaching Workshop with John Claypool  
Sponsored by the Marshall Center for Christian  
Ministry of Georgetown College

Thursday, Oct. 4, 2001  
9 a.m.-3:15 p.m.

Workshop location: Broadway Baptist Church  
4000 Brownsboro Road, Louisville, Ky.

- 9-9:30 Registration and Coffee/Tea
- 9:30-10:15 Session 1: "The Sermon and the Preacher"
- 10:30-11:15 Session 2: "Coming to Your Own Truth"
- 11:30-12:15 Session 3: "Giving or Earning"
- 12:30-1:30 Lunch served on site
- 1:30-2:15 Session 4: "Handling the Promises Responsibly"
- 2:30-3:15 Session 5: "Shaping the Sermon Event"

This is a one-day experience with lunch included on site. Cost is \$35 and you may mail a check (payable to "Marshall Center/Georgetown College") with your advance registration or you may pay at registration. If you register without payment and fail to attend, we would expect to be reimbursed \$10 for the meal.

To encourage intimacy and a classroom experience, the group will be limited to the first 50 people who register.

For registration or more information, call: Dr. Ronald Higdon at (502) 228-5431; or Bill Marshall at (502) 426-0618. You also may fax your registration to (502) 429-5791, or mail to Ronald Higdon, 6224 Deep Cove Ct., Prospect, 40059; or Bill Marshall, 3509 Ridge Top Ct., Louisville, 40241.

### Advance Registration

Please register me for the Oct. 4 Claypool preaching workshop.

\$35 enclosed.  I will pay at registration.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

You're Invited!

HIGHLAND HILLS  
BAPTIST CHURCH

40th Anniversary  
Celebration  
1961 to 2001

Please join us  
Sunday, September 9, 2001

- 9:00 am Sunday School for all ages
- 10:30 am Anniversary Worship Service featuring
  - ◆ Dr. Walter Jackson, speaker
  - ◆ Slide Presentation
  - ◆ Special Music
- 12:00 noon Lunch on the Grounds

Our special guests for the day will be Former Pastors, Former Choir Directors, Church Leaders, and Community Leaders.

For additional information, contact  
the church office at (859) 441-0442  
or log onto our website  
[www.highlandhills.org](http://www.highlandhills.org)

(Reservations needed by Sunday, August 29)

## Paducah minister offers ideas for successful Sunday school

By Ken Walker  
State Correspondent

LOUISVILLE—Committing to using Sunday school as an outreach strategy is one of 10 keys toward making Sunday school successful, according to a Paducah minister of education.

But too many leaders and class members think of Sunday school as a time to gather with friends for Bible study, said Ross Robinson of First Baptist Church of Paducah.

In reality, it was designed to foster evangelism, discipleship, ministry, fellowship and worship, he said.

"Once you know the purpose of Sunday school, it helps guide the activities," Robinson said.

Robinson led the conference "10 Ways to Make Your Sunday School Work," a workshop at Super Saturday training events throughout the commonwealth.

The Sunday school session was based on a book by the same name written by Ken Hemphill, president of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas, and Bill Taylor.

By intentionally focusing Sunday school toward outreach, Robinson said, newcomers won't feel excluded.

"These are to be open classes. A lot of people don't realize the door is closed," he said. "If you do 'Experiencing God' (a Bible study with intensive homework and periods of self-examination) in Sunday school, you're closing it after a couple weeks."

### Well done, Justin!

Recently our son, Justin, now 20, executed the four basic estate-planning documents every adult should execute: a will, power of attorney, healthcare surrogate designation and a living will directive.

Having parents who had taught him Christian stewardship principles since he was old enough to understand prompted Justin to begin thinking about his plan after he became 18 years old. Like most students, he was not convinced he needed to take the time and to incur the expense of putting into place an estate plan. After all, he did not own much, and he was not married. So he procrastinated. Although I reminded him from time to time of his stewardship responsibility amid the

uncertainties of life, I did not try to force him. He needed to make the decision of when to do it and what to include in his plan.

You can imagine the delight I experienced when he informed me he was ready to put in place his plan. What you might not imagine are the joy and gratitude I felt when he shared with me the details of his plan, which included provisions for Baptist causes through the Kentucky Baptist Foundation.

Justin came to the realization and

A guest wouldn't feel comfortable coming by the third week."

First Baptist added 130 members last year, causing the church to adjust its Sunday school. Ironically, he said, most of the growth came not from Sunday school but from adding a contemporary-style worship service.

But Robinson said he and other staff realize the new members will lose interest and leave if they don't get involved in Bible study and close relationships offered in Sunday school.

"We're relational people," he said. "If they don't feel some kind of relationship there, they'll leave."

Another strategy for successful Sunday school is organizing with a purpose.

First Baptist intentionally divides its classes when they grow to about 40 members.

Larger classes can get impersonal, making them harder to assimilate newcomers. It also is tougher to enlist members of large classes in other activities, he said.

Despite the challenges inherent in staffing a second set of classes, he said, splitting a class gives people more options.

"If your purpose is to reach people, you have to put together an organization that will allow you to do that," Robinson said. "That's one reason for starting new classes. It's fresh and people can start new."

Robinson also addressed several challenges that many churches face in Sunday school:

■ **Attracting newcomers.** Social

events can attract inactive members and people outside the church, he said. But too many Sunday school socials are announced on Sunday morning and never promoted elsewhere, Robinson said.

"The key is someone puts together a strategy to reach those who aren't coming," he said.

Teachers also must work diligently to prepare biblically sound and interesting lessons, he said. Leaders can't read lessons from the curriculum and expect visitors to return.

■ **Developing leaders.** Robinson said he favors teachers mentoring another person to teach. Rather than arm-twisting prospective teachers, churches are more successful when they offering training and allow a possible teacher to decide afterward whether to teach, he said.

■ **Building excitement.** Much of a class atmosphere depends on the teacher, Robinson said, but it also depends on the class being united and active.

■ **Improving leader morale.** "The best thing you can do for morale is constantly tell people, 'Thank you,'" he said.

First Baptist held a recent banquet in which church staff served dinner to teachers and directors. "We told them, 'You're important to us. We couldn't do this without you.' People want to feel special and appreciated."

■ **Being prompt.** The only way to deal with people who constantly are late to class is to begin on time, Robinson advised. By constantly waiting for people who are tardy, the leader teaches that it's OK to be late, he said.

The same policy applies to late teachers, he added. For those who can't come in advance to prepare, he suggests a warning and then replacement.

"They're volunteers, but they're not committing to me, they're committing to the Lord," Robinson said. "Do what's best for most people in Sunday school. If you offend someone, they'll have to be offended."

### Authors offer top 10 Sunday school tips

Ken Hemphill and Bill Taylor, authors of "10 Ways to Make Your Sunday School Work," suggest these ideas:

■ **Commit to the strategy.** See Sunday school as a foundation for leading people to faith in Christ and discipling Christians.

■ **Organize with purpose.** Design activities and new classes to engage people in evangelism, discipleship, ministry, fellowship and worship.

■ **Build kingdom leaders.** Identify people's spiritual gifts as a way of building leaders.

■ **Develop soul winners.** Teach members to tell others about Christ and develop awareness of people who don't have a relationship with God.

■ **Win the lost.** Involve members in identifying prospects, visitation, outreach and challenging others to follow Christ.

■ **Assimilate people.** Encourage new believers, emphasize participation, help build relationships and provide opportunities for people to discover how they fit into the church's ministry.

■ **Partner with families.** Provide Bible study for each family member, train parents to teach and disciple their children.

■ **Teach to transform.** Engage individuals and families in biblical instruction and use various methods of guiding them toward spiritual transformation.

■ **Mobilize for ministry.** Equip members and families to be involved in meeting others' needs while involving the church family in supporting missions.

■ **Multiply class leaders and units.** Develop ongoing potential leader training.

### KENTUCKY BAPTIST FOUNDATION



Barry Allen

conviction that even though he did not have that much in the way of wealth, he had a duty to God, to himself and to his beneficiaries to have his house in order. Furthermore, he came to the realization of what a privilege it was for him to be able to decide and to execute documents that would assure his decisions would be carried out at his death. As Justin's circumstances change, God's purposes for that which he will have entrusted to Justin also will change. Therefore, it will be very important for Justin to review regularly his estate planning documents so he can make those changes, as they become necessary.

I like what Jesus said the master said in the parable of the talents, "Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share in your master's happiness!"

Well done, Justin!

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

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# RESOURCES

## Marriage mentors helping husbands and wives survive

Continued from page 1 of Strongsville.

To be married at Christ Church, couples must be mentored and are asked to live separately before marriage. "The divorce rate goes up when the couple have lived together," Mrs. Pollack said.

The Pollacks recently completed the premarital mentoring of their first couple, and have begun premarital meetings with their second couple. Ideally, the couples meet every few weeks for four to six months before the wedding and three times during the first year of their marriage.

Mentors try to help an engaged couple understand their relationship's strengths and weaknesses, as revealed through an inventory of 150 questions, and share their personal experiences with conflict resolution and communication.

"I've enjoyed just being able to share what we've learned through the years to help our marriage grow," Mrs. Pollack said, "and to share what we wished we'd known."

Her husband, a firefighter, agrees. "I wish we'd had something like this when we got married."

The living room of Heather Graffius and Brad Powell's newly purchased home is lit with pure optimism.

"Fantastic" is how Heather, 28, an X-ray technician at Lakewood Hospital, describes the Pollacks' mentoring. "There were a lot of things Brad and I never talked about, like the budget and who will take care of bills."



**MARRIAGE MENTORS** Becky and Mark Pollack pose with the newly-wed Heather and Brad Powell immediately after the wedding. The Pollacks continue to mentor the new couple in a program sponsored by the Cleveland Marriage Coalition. (RNS photo)

The relationship inventory revealed their big problem was communication—specifically Brad's reticence to reveal what's on his mind. "That's my downfall," he says, a bit of a smile breaking through his intense seriousness. "But Becky and Mark started out the same way."

"Do you think I've improved?" he asks Heather. "Yes," she replies, with an affectionate chuckle.

Brad and Heather, who were married June 9, owe their premarital dose of reality to the Greater Cleveland Marriage Covenant. It's a document that stipulates that engaged couples

experience skill-based premarital education as a requisite for marriage. About 170 area clergy of all denominations have signed the covenant since it was introduced in May 1999 by the Greater Cleveland Coalition for Strengthening Marriage.

Cleveland was the 108th community to adopt a Community Marriage Covenant since the first was signed in Modesto, Calif., in 1986. Since then, Modesto's divorce rate has decreased 47.6 percent, says Michael McManus, founder of the Community Marriage Covenant and Marriage Savers, an organization to promote and teach

marriage education.

Bender acknowledges the group has moved slowly since its founding in January 1999. "We have to get a track record," she says. "Marriage education is a new idea, and there are very few people who can teach (it). We want to establish the program in a handful of churches, hoping to attract people to train."

But effective marriage education doesn't require a professional therapist, Sollee says. Research funded by the National Institutes of Health found that not only could trained lay educators teach marriage education as well as therapists, they could do it better, "because they're indigenous to their congregations," she says.

McManus says the success of the marriage education movement rests with the clergy, because 74 percent of couples get married under religious auspices, according to a 1997 poll for the Family Research Council.

"Most churches are wedding factories," he says. "The church is the problem here, 'failing to provide marriage-related resources to congregants.'"

Marriage education is preventive medicine, Sollee says, and the challenge of the marriage education movement is to convince people that it's effective.

"We have to change the way people think about marriage," says Sollee, a marriage and family therapist. "They're hopeless and resigned and they've accepted that the 50 percent divorce rate is inevitable."

**"The church is the problem here, failing to provide marriage-related resources."**

Michael McManus, founder of Marriage Savers

### Welcome, Kirby Clark

Cumberland College welcomes Kirby Clark as the assistant professor in church ministries. Newly arrived from Amarillo, Texas, Clark and his family are finding the cooler temperatures and wetter weather in Kentucky a welcome change.

Clark received a bachelor of arts degree from the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque and followed that with several years as an officer in the United States Army.

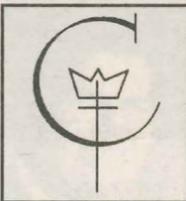
While in military service, he completed a master of public service degree at Western Kentucky University in Bowling Green. He later earned a master of religious education and a doctor of philosophy degree from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas.

Clark's first pastorate was a small church in Belen, N.M., where he was paid \$15, plus lunch, a Sunday. As well as serving as pastor and associate pastor in several churches, he has taught at Belmont College in Nashville with the Southern Baptist Seminary Extension Center. He continued his teaching career at Wayland Baptist College in Amarillo, Texas, and later served as the school's academic dean and in-

service director.

Actively involved in planning, conducting and training for Sunday school, vacation Bible school and ministry-oriented workshops, conferences and clinics, Clark brings to Cumberland a strong commitment to the church and to Christian ministry and discipleship.

**CUMBERLAND COLLEGE**



He particularly looks forward to the opportunities afforded by his position at Cumberland College to blend classroom instruction with his continuing commitment to pastoral ministries.

As Clark affirms, "With my church ministries focus on Cumberland's campus, I am very interested in pulpit supply and interim work because it keeps me in touch with what is happening in the churches."

He and his wife, Debby, share interests in genealogy and church work. They have three adult children and two grandchildren.

We are delighted to welcome Kirby Clark to Cumberland College.

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

### The dog is off the porch

Recently I've been described as a hound dog chained to the porch—ready to hunt but not permitted to run. I'll refrain from pointing out the negative image that simile conjures and focus on the positive.

Since 1998 I've been waiting to point out the critical ramifications behind KBHC's decision to take a politically incorrect stand for the benefit of the children we serve. Some very prudent attorneys and consultants have told me to wait until the federal judge ruled. Last month that ruling came, and with it, our self-imposed gag order was lifted.

The judge's ruling came as we were preparing our fall issue of the Baptist Children's Messenger. This quarterly publication, mailed to more than 60,000 individuals, families and churches across Kentucky, is our primary tool of communication. While many letters have been sent to pastors since 1998 updating them on the status of the controversy and the lawsuit filed by the American Civil Liberties Union, our public words have been relatively few. But no more; the dog is off the porch.

It is very important that you understand how this lawsuit relates to the future of our mission. Much

space is devoted to this topic in the upcoming newsletter. In fact, there was so much to tell you, we wanted to increase the newsletter from 16 pages to 20 pages so we could include more photos and stories about the children and families we serve. Unfortunately printing schedules and deadlines made that impossible.

I am telling you this because I never want our churches or donors to get the impression that KBHC has forgotten its mission. We are not substituting politics, court battles or President Bush's faith-based initiative for the ministry we began so many years ago. While we will continue to use the Baptist Children's Messenger to keep you up to date on the proceedings of the ACLU lawsuit, the purpose of the publication is

to tell you about the children. They are why you give, pray and volunteer. They are the focus, now and always.

So be patient with this hound dog. His barking is important. I pray you will listen closely because the children are the message.

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

## WORLD VIEW

■ **Sri Lankan Buddhists seek Christian conversion ban.** Leaders of Sri Lanka's majority Buddhist population are asking the government to ban conversions to Christianity. Buddhism loses about 23,000 people each year to Christianity. The Buddhists suggested a media campaign to promote the religion, and encouraged nuns to help do the same among schoolchildren. The monks said Christian evangelists owe much of their success to the dwindling number of Buddhist monks.

■ **WCC: Violence draining Christians from Holy Land.** Violence in the Middle East is draining the Christian presence in the region, according to a report from the World Council of Churches. "The fear that the holy sites of Christianity will become museums is a very real one, as two to three Palestinian Christian families leave every week," states the report, which urges ecumenical organizations to come to the aid of Palestinian Christians.

■ **English put Lord's prayer on cell phone text.** A group of English Christians has translated the Lord's Prayer into text message, the highly abbreviated form of English adopted by mobile phone users. The project, aimed at taking Christianity to a generation that perceives itself too busy to go to church, meant compressing a text of 372 characters to 160 or fewer. It reads: "dad@hvn, ursphl.we want wot u want&urth2b like hvn.giv us food&4giv r sins lyk we 4giv uvaz.don't test us!save us!bcos we kno ur boss, ur tuf&ur cool 4eva!ok?"

■ **Vicar wants to be space chaplain.** A Church of England vicar harbors the ambition of becoming the first cleric in space as chaplain to the international space station when it becomes operational in 2003. "First, the international space station does need a chaplain," said Ken Clapham, who is friends with several U.S. astronauts. "Secondly, I would be following in the footsteps of all my friends who've been in space."

## CBF missionaries evacuated from Macedonia

ATLANTA (ABP)—Six Cooperative Baptist Fellowship missionaries have evacuated from Macedonia because of fears that violence between national troops and Albanian rebels might spread into and around the capital city of Skopje.

The three couples left the Balkan nation Aug. 11-12.

Most of the fighting so far between Macedonian troops and Albanian rebels has occurred in the northwestern city of Tetovo, the nation's second-largest city.

One of the CBF missionaries, Rick Shaw, said the six workers hope their stay in Greece will be brief, but he said a return to Macedonia depends largely on both sides' response to a peace agreement signed Aug. 13.

The agreement aims to end six months of fighting between the Macedonian government and ethnic-Albanian rebels. In anticipation of the signing, both sides had agreed to a ceasefire Aug. 12 after five days of heavy fighting. But later overnight shelling occurred north of Skopje.

The conflict began in February when ethnic Albanian rebels armed themselves saying they wanted greater rights for ethnic Albanians, who make up about a third of the country's population of 2 million. The Macedonian government says the rebels only want to seize territory.

According to the Associated Press, once the peace accord was signed, NATO would send 3,500 troops to Macedonia to disarm the Albanian rebels. Operation Essential Harvest,



**MACEDONIAN VIOLENCE** Soldiers and medical staff take a wounded Macedonian soldier from an MI-24 combat helicopter in Skopje. Macedonian tanks and artillery blasted ethnic Albanian guerrillas along a northern front and rebels burned buildings in occupied villages after the signing of a peace accord last week, according to Western observers. (REUTERS/RNS photo)

led by British troops, would last about a month and involve troops from the United States and 10 other European nations.

This is not the first evacuation

faced by CBF's Albanian team. In March 1999, six CBF field personnel withdrew from Macedonia when the U.S. Embassy recommended all western personnel leave the area. In 1997, personnel serving in Albania were evacuated from that country due to escalating violence.

Recently, CBF field personnel put their normal activities on hold following a U.S. Embassy recommendation in late July that Americans remain indoors due to protests in Skopje.

Twelve Southern Baptist missionaries remain in Macedonia, where they recently traveled to the southern part of the country for a children's camp, according to Brittany Jarvis, a spokeswoman for the International Mission Board.

The workers, who had been living in Skopje, checked with the U.S. embassy before going to the camp and feel secure there, Jarvis said. "They're not planning on any immediate evacuations."

### Convention Week Activities

The printed program for the 2001 Kentucky Baptist Convention to be held in Murray Nov. 13-14 will be going to press soon. Groups that would like to have their convention week activity listed in the program should send the information to the Communications/Media Department by Sept. 14.

Communications/Media Dept.  
Kentucky Baptist Convention  
P.O. Box 43433  
Louisville, KY 40253-0433



## 10, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2 ...

The countdown is continuing and nothing we can do will stop or slow its progression.

Our students are within hours of returning to campus. Every year for the past 18 years, I have promised myself that most of the summer projects would be completed before the last week of summer. And every year for the past 18 years it never has happened!

The summer begins so organized and planned. We take on only a certain number of projects and, according to the master plan, we will have them completed at least one week before school begins in the fall, so the last week will not be so hectic.

Well, that's the plan. Actually the master plan fell apart about two weeks into the summer. Some projects that were on hold for another summer, or at least until a later date, had to have more immediate attention. Other projects, which were supposed to take only a few days or a week, ended up taking much more time than expected.

So, here we are just hours away from our students' returning for the fall session and we are as busy as can be trying to complete several projects. A 1978 Oneida Baptist Institute graduate who is a professional painter has been here for two weeks with his crew, painting one of the largest buildings on campus, Sparks Hall. This building was last painted in 1989. Since then we have removed all of the old windows. The concrete blocks used to replace the old windows had not been painted and the old paint was not in very good condition. This project should be completed in two more days, before the students arrive on Sunday.

Another unscheduled project was putting a new roof on Sanderson Hall, our tutoring lab. While

we were aware of some problems with the roof, we did not know this 12-year-old roof was in such bad condition. When damaged shingles were being replaced, workers discovered that a substantial portion of the plywood also was in poor condition. So a new metal roof is replacing the old shingle roof. The final work should be completed today or tomorrow.

Several students are busy waxing floors, painting dorm rooms and classrooms, mowing the grass, cleaning buildings and working on the farm and in the gardens. The fresh tomatoes, watermelon, peppers, sweet corn and squash have been a tasty addition to our meals.

Several volunteers are here from Ohio. Two women are shampooing carpet in our daycare and in two apartments being prepared for new faculty and staff. Another volunteer in the group is painting. All three of these women and two men will be caring for our staff children on Thursday morning so our faculty and staff can have a time for sharing and worship.

One man in this group is landscaping the area around the new agriculture center so it will be ready for our agriculture students when school begins. Others in the group have been helping on the farm and doing a variety of other projects in preparation for the first day of school.

The clock is still ticking, and since it will not wait, we will just have to have everything completed in time for the students' arrival.

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

### THIS IS ONEIDA



W.F. Underwood

## Memories of L.C. Kelly

One of the highlights of our annual alumni reunion was a testimony by retired professor LeRoy Peterson, a 1948 graduate.

School founder L.C. Kelly interviewed him for admission and said, "God has called you to preach. We're here to train preachers. You pack up and come."

"That was the admission process and my notice to enroll!" Peterson said. "While on campus I stayed in a Kelly Hall room next door to where guest preachers stayed. You could hear everything through the cinder block walls. I noticed Dr. Kelly and the visitors never talked about theology; it was always how Clear Creek could be promoted. Dr. Kelly did everything he could to extend the work of the school. None of us paid any tuition then, and meals were a dollar a day. Our salary on the work program was 33 cents an hour. If we worked at least three hours a day it paid for our meals."

Peterson remembers when cattle roamed free across the campus. "We had a ground cattle guard entrance in front of Kelly Hall with a fence to keep the stock out. One of my jobs was to mend the fence

to keep hogs out. One day they got through the fence and rooted up the whole front lawn of Kelly Hall."

After 25 years of seeking funds to develop the ministry, Kelly had a reputation for finding resources. Peterson remembers, "A group of students worked to clear tree stumps and large rocks for a future building site. I was on the dynamite crew. We agreed that if we could somehow get a dollar under a stump or a rock Dr. Kelly would get them moved. He had two favorite sermon subjects: stewardship and tithing."

"He got a coal company to donate a train gondola of coal," Peterson continued. "The L&N parked the car in front of Kelly Hall and gave us a limited time for unloading. Dr. Kelly dismissed classes, and we were like an anthill of preachers unloading that coal. When the state convention met to consider cutting support for Clear Creek, Dr. Kelly brought the school together for a day of prayer and fasting. The brethren continued the support."

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

### CLEAR CREEK CHRONICLE



Bill Whittaker

# BOOKS

## 'VeggieTales' go from TV screen to theater, stage

LOMBARD, Ill. (RNS)—The popular "VeggieTales" children's animated video series is coming to more than one kind of theater near you, with producers planning a live stage show and a movie for 2002.

Among the cast of vegetables in the touring show will be Larry the Cucumber and Bob the Tomato, who host the series that has been a top seller among children's videos in Christian and secular stores.

The tour will launch in February 2002 in Minneapolis and initially will run for 40 weeks in such cities as Dallas, Cincinnati, Philadelphia, Chicago, Detroit, Los Angeles, Atlanta, Seattle, Indianapolis, Denver and Orlando, Fla.

The stage project is part of a two-year agreement between Big Idea Productions, the creators of "VeggieTales," and Clear Channel Entertainment, a New York-based producer of live entertainment events.

"At Big Idea, we strive to create products filled with wacky humor, infectious music and lovable characters that entertain and teach timeless values," said Phil Vischer, founder of Big Idea Productions, which is based in Lombard, Ill. "The 'VeggieTales' live tour will continue that tradition for kids and families nationwide."

An animated film titled "Jonah: A VeggieTales Movie" also is scheduled for theatrical release in 2002. The full-length motion picture will be a humorous retelling of the Bible story of Jonah, a Hebrew prophet who was swallowed by a big fish.

**Adolescents in Crisis: A Guide for Parents, Teachers, Ministers and Counselors.** Wade Rowatt. Westminster John Knox Press, 2001. 211 pages. \$18.95. ♦♦♦♦♦ (out of five)

"Helping adolescents in crisis looms as a challenge for contemporary society."

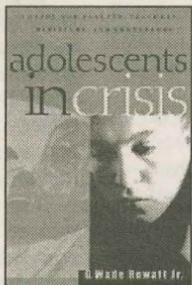
Any one who has contact with today's youth will give a hearty "Amen" to Wade Rowatt's first sentence of this indispensable book for those who care about helping youth make it to adulthood with as few scars as possible.

Rowatt's presentation is filled with up-to-date research which he uses to effectively bring the reader into the world of today's youth. Maybe I am just getting old, but the world painted by Rowatt scares me to death as a parent. And Rowatt is not an alarmist, just accurate. As a parent and pastor, the book would be worth reading if it ended with just helping me be aware of what today's youth face. But that is only the beginning. What makes the book so valuable is how Rowatt seeks to guide us adults in assisting youth who are in crisis.

Part of this guidance is in Rowatt's easy-to-follow discussion of developmental issues that exist alongside various crises or, in fact, lay the foundation for the crisis itself. He also contributes excellent guidance on caring for youth and how to intervene in a crisis. What I like is that he does not suggest a "one plan fits all" approach but respects the complicated issue that is intervention with youth.

The book ends with enlightening discussions of the major crises faced by youth: family problems, sexual problems, peer and academic pressures, youth violence, depression and suicide and substance abuse.

Rowatt weaves his clinical expertise together with scriptural and common-sense principles for addressing each crisis. The result is a must-have book for those who love youth. *Wayne Hager*



**The Prayer of Jesus: Secrets to Real Intimacy with God.** Hank Hanegraaff. Word Publishing, 2001. 100 pages. \$9.99 ♦♦♦♦♦

"Genuine prayer is not found in our noisy askings and gettings; it is found in our relationship with the Lover of our souls."

If the book's title and above quote lead you to believe that Hank Hanegraaff has a bit of a problem with all the "Prayer of Jabez" hype, you would not be far wrong. Citing Lynn Garrett, religion editor of Publisher's Weekly, he assesses the Jabez phenomenon as "very evangelical and very American, this whole notion that if you know the right technique, the right form, that prayer will be efficient and effective."

Hanegraaff takes exception to prayer as an efficient or effective way to improve our lives, reduce suffering or whatever other use we may want. Yet, he also admits that the current fascination with the prayer of Jabez speaks to a strong, underlying desire to "connect with God through prayer."

That being the case, Hanegraaff suggests that we follow the disciples and turn to the expert on prayer, Jesus. Of course, when we do, we find that He already has answered our question, giving us a model we call The Lord's Prayer. The prayer Jesus teaches His disciples is not so much a mantra to be repeated in hopes of receiving a blessing from God, but a pattern of relating to God.

Though longer and weightier tomes have been written on The Lord's Prayer, Hanegraaff does an excellent job, not only of distilling the content of this particular prayer, but also introducing us to the pattern of prayer Jesus modeled throughout His life. If your prayer life needs some help, skip the hype and go to the prayer of Jesus. *Jim Holladay*

**Unmasking Male Depression.** Archibald Hart. Word Publishing, 2001. 248 pages. \$14.99 ♦♦♦♦♦

"Deep in the psyche of every male there is an unwritten code: vulnerable feelings must be prohibited at all costs. Men must appear strong or else they are not men. Something like depression is taboo."

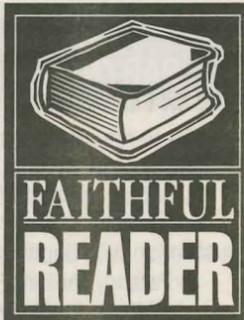
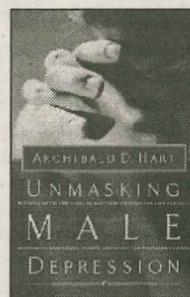
In spite of this taboo, depression is a serious problem among men. Men commit 80 percent of all suicides in the U.S.

Women also experience depression, but usually it manifests itself differently than in men. Archibald Hart notes that women tend to internalize their depression and express it verbally. Men, on the other hand, tend to deny their depression while acting it out through such behaviors as workaholicism, avoidance of intimacy, anger, family abuse, sexual compulsions, addictions, etc.

Hart contends that the causes of depression among men are linked to male physiology and role expectations, as well as the causes they share with women, such as response to losses and disruptions in the rhythms of life. Perhaps the most fascinating observations Hart makes are those dealing with the effects of testosterone on male depression, as well as what he calls post-adrenaline depression.

In addition to counseling men to see some depressions as part of the normal course of life, he points out that others result from chemical imbalances that can be addressed through drug therapy. In neither case should males feel embarrassed to seek help. To help ease that path, Hart describes various courses of treatment for various kinds of depressions.

This is an excellent resource for pastors who see in men the behaviors Hart describes as warning signs for depression. "Unmasking" may even help the reader get in touch with some of the lingering depression in his life. *Jim Holladay*



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

## Radio host interviews well-known Christians to discover 'secrets' of faith

By Cecille Holmes  
Religion News Service

NASHVILLE (RNS)—Leading Christian authors and personalities reveal their personal keys to growing in faith in Christopher Coppernoll's new book, "Secrets of a Faith Well Lived."

From the comedic insights of novelist Frank Peretti to the thoughts of Baptists Henry Blackaby and Tony Campolo, Coppernoll's book explores issues often encountered by believers.

For Coppernoll, host of the nationally syndicated radio show "Soul2Soul," the diversity is part of the attraction. Encouraging tales from others, especially prominent Christians, may strengthen and deepen a person's faith, he said.

"There are lots of people who feel isolated and disconnected," he said. "I have realized that something amazing happens when we share the intimacy of our faith in God, and for me that something is

discovering a sense of community with fellow Christians. When we read accounts of the authors of our faith, we remember how God has been there for us, and we see what He's been doing in the lives of others."

Coppernoll said he believes deeply in the power of personal faith testimonies. This book is Coppernoll's second in this area. After graduating from Boston's Berklee College of Music in 1989, Coppernoll embarked on a career in music. He eventually moved to Nashville, writing scores for television and radio ads. In 1994, he established the nonprofit organization Soul2Soul Ministry. During the past seven years, he has collected faith stories from Christian recording artists, featuring their insights on his radio program, which airs in 450 markets worldwide.

Artists he has interviewed include Amy Grant, Michael W. Smith, Jars of Clay,

Randy Travis, Point of Grace and 4Him. The show marked its seventh anniversary Aug. 4.

For his new book, Coppernoll snagged thoughtful and honest interviews.



Former 700 Club co-host Sheila Walsh, now a popular speaker and regular leader at Women of Faith conferences, talked at length about her struggles with depression. "At that moment, when I had nothing left, when I could have lain down in the ashes of my life, I never felt more embraced by God. I found what I had been looking for all my life," she said.

Steve Brown, a pastor for 25 years who now works full-time with his own radio ministry, talked about what it meant to grow up with an alcoholic father who never forgot his own illegitimate birth. Despite his drinking, his father loved his children unconditionally, Brown said, noting his

mother's family also had to deal with destructive drinking.

Comedienne Chondra Pierce and speaker Barbara Johnson approach the toughest topics with humor and self-deprecation. After dealing with the death of two sons and problems with another, Johnson began a group called Spatula Ministry. "When parents have this kind of trouble with their children, they land on the ceiling, and we scrape them off with the spatula of love," she said.

Pierce talks about her standard line in comedy. She usually says: "I grew up and got saved 365 times and my husband got saved once, and that ticks me off! Somewhere it got explained to him a little differently, and he got it first time off the bat."

Coppernoll says hearing others' insights has helped him. "I saw what a difference these intimate conversations made in my own life, and I believe these stories can do the same for others," he said.

## 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:

■ A church planting team that will begin work in Kielce, Poland, this fall. Members will include missionaries Robert and Bethany Kaczmarek, Lisa Watson and Rhonda Fleming. The Baptist church in the city of 300,000 has about 15 members.

■ Four new missionaries as they move to Poland this fall and adjust to living there: Jennie Hardin, Rhonda Fleming, Stephanie Thompson and Heather David.

■ Praise God with Immanuel Baptist Church in Madrid, Spain, on the renovation of their church building and the large crowds that are coming to worship each Sunday now.

■ Follow-up to the work of 10 Kentucky volunteers who led vacation Bible school in Arushu, Tanzania, this summer.

■ Baptist Campus Ministries in New England as leaders gear up for the influx of college students this fall.

■ Vicky Parrott, director of the weekday preschool ministry of New Colony Baptist Church in Billerica, Mass.

## Mountains to the Mississippi

Compiled by staff

■ **BREMEN**—Bethlehem Church ordained T.J. Milam to the ministry and ordained Robert Hobgood and Mari-on Hargrove as deacons. Also, the church will hold a groundbreaking ceremony Aug. 12 for a new parsonage. The event will include a fellowship meal at noon and groundbreaking at 1 p.m. Leroy Rearden is pastor.

■ **FALMOUTH**—Turner Ridge Church will host revival services Aug. 25-29. Don Womack will be the evangelist. Norman Workman is pastor.

■ **GRAVEL SWITCH**—Beech Fork Church ordained Owen Lanham, Gary Lee Tungate, Herbert Tun-

gate and Brian Walls as deacons. Lee Arnold is pastor.

■ **HARDIN**—Olive Church called Mark Thweatt as pastor. He previously was pastor of Gilbertsville Church.

■ **PROVIDENCE**—First Church will host revival services Aug. 26-29. Jeff Noffsinger will be the evangelist. Alan McCutchen is pastor.

■ **WEST IRVINE**—Calvary Church will celebrate its 80th anniversary Sept. 9. Former pastor Ron Doss will speak at the 11 a.m. service and the Calvary Heirs will be in concert at 1:30 p.m. Neal Prather is interim pastor.

## Trail rider's Colorado journey cut short

**BOWLING GREEN**—Rick Majors' final trail ride (Western Recorder, July 24 issue) has been cut short. Though he hoped to ride to Pagosa Springs, Colo., he recently returned home to Bowling Green after a snake bite left his horse, T.J., unable to continue. His 1,000-mile journey ended in Cherokee, Okla.

"I left Bowling Green with full confidence that the Lord was with me through this," said Majors, who is suffering from terminal lung cancer. "My life was touched

and deeply blessed on my trip by hundreds of total strangers who gave me support, encouragement and prayers to carry me onward."

Members of Hillvue Heights Baptist Church, where Majors' wife, Lori, is a member, provided donations that helped make his trip possible.

Majors noted that he renewed his commitment to Christ earlier this year. "I just feel closer to God here," he said during the trail ride. "Without Him, I wouldn't have made it this far."

## DiIulio, director of Bush's faith-based initiatives, announces plans to resign

**WASHINGTON (BP)**—The director of President Bush's White House Office on Faith-Based and Community Initiatives said Aug. 16 that he will resign as soon as a transition team can be put into place.

In an interview with Cox Newspapers, John DiIulio Jr. said he is leaving because he has accomplished the goals he set out seven months ago when Bush asked him to run the new office. He also cited health reasons and a desire to spend more time with his family.

The departure of the former University of Pennsylvania professor comes at a crucial time for Bush's faith-based initiative, which would give religious groups greater access to federal funds to deliver social services to the poor.

"I've always said that I agreed to stay for six months, to help launch the initiative, help mobilize people who would not be traditional friends and allies," DiIulio said. "I want to go back to being part of the direct action with the people and faith-based groups that help them."

DiIulio said he wants to return to his native Philadelphia to be closer to his wife and their three children. DiIulio's departure from the \$140,000-a-year job would make him the first high-ranking official to leave the Bush White House.

The president's faith-based initia-

tive has come under fire from conservative and liberal groups alike, primarily over concerns that the government-backed effort would blur the lines between church and state and give federal funds to religious groups that discriminate in hiring.

Legislation embracing the initiative narrowly passed the House on July 19 and is expected to have a difficult time in the Senate.

Although the initiative has broad Republican support, DiIulio, a lifelong Democrat, has had strained relations with some congressional Republicans.

"At one level it's all the things the American people find distasteful," DiIulio told Associated Press. "Things that should be bipartisan can turn partisan. Things that should bring people together divide them."

"The good news," he added, "is that leadership ultimately trumps that."

Senior Bush adviser Karl Rove told reporters it was "absolutely not true" that DiIulio was being forced out by the Bush administration.

"He has been an unbelievably effective leader for the president," Rove said. "He has done a magnificent job under some real difficult circumstances."

DiIulio said there are other things to accomplish with the faith-based initiative but added, "I feel I have run this race."

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puter, spreadsheet and word processing skills a must. College study in business preferred. Attractive compensation package. Contact: Administrative Services department, KBC, Louisville, (502) 244-6468.

**SEEKING:** Part-time minister of youth. Send resumé to: Cornerstone Baptist Church, 4451 Winchester Road, Lexington, KY 40509, Attn: Personnel Committee.

**SEEKING:** First Baptist, London, is accepting resumé for a minister of youth and recreation. Please send to: Search Committee, First Baptist Church, 804 West Fifth St., London, KY 40741, or fax to (606) 864-4195.

**SEEKING:** Part-time minister of music for Southern Baptist church, willing to work with preschool, children and adult choirs, lead congregation on Sunday mornings and evenings. Seasonal cantatas. Send resumé to: Greenwood Baptist Church, 5165 Scottsville Road, Bowling Green, KY 42104.

**SEEKING:** God's man for a full-time position as associate pastor for worship and adults. Write or call for additional information or for referrals: Personnel Committee, First Baptist Church of St. John, 8665 St. Charles Rock Road, St. Louis, MO 63114. (314) 427-1974.

**SEEKING:** Youth minister/director with recreation oversight responsibilities. Moderate church with mid-size, active youth program. Send resumé to: Rosemont Baptist Church, 556 Rosemont Garden, Lexington, KY 40503, Attn: Personnel Committee. Fax: (859) 276-1545; e-mail: rosemontbc@aol.com.

**SEEKING:** Full-time minister of education and youth. May's Lick Baptist Church, Maysville area. Contact: Ron Reule: (606) 763-6869; or church office: (606) 763-6585, or fax: (606) 763-6355.

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

**SEEKING:** Full-time minister of music/resources for First Baptist, Frankfort. Must be an authentic Baptist supportive of CBF, KBF and KBC. Experienced, and masters degree in church music preferred. Please send resumé to: Don Hines, chair, FBC, 201 St. Clair, Frankfort, KY 40601. All resumé must be received by Sept. 7.

**SEEKING:** Three part-time directors: children, youth, singles; 20-25 hours per week. Resumé to: Personnel Committee, Severns Valley Baptist Church, PO Box 130, Elizabethtown, KY 42702-0130.

**SEEKING:** Bayless Baptist Church is prayerfully seeking conservative full-time pastor. We're located in South County, St. Louis, Mo. Send resumé to: Robert McManus, 9635 Radio Drive, St. Louis, MO 63123.

**SEEKING:** Lucas Grove Baptist Church in Upton, Ky., is accepting resumé for pastor. Located in a rural area; averaging 60+ in Sunday worship; parsonage available. Candidates should send resumé to: Lucas Grove Baptist Church, PO Box 146, Upton, KY 42784.

**SEEKING:** Part-time minister to children, birth-5th grade. Approximately 20 hours/week. Advanced/seminary degree preferred or equivalent experience. All ages welcome to apply. Send resumé to: Eileen Bartlett, Crescent Hill Baptist Church, 2800 Frankfort Ave., Louisville, KY 40206.

**SEEKING:** Part-time minister of music. Primary responsibilities include sharing in worship planning and leadership; conducting adult and children's choirs. Send resumé to: Chevy Chase Baptist Church, PO Box 22113, Lexington, KY 40522-2113.

**SEEKING:** Part-time minister of music (20-25 hours per week). Responsibilities include: Assisting in worship planning and leadership; planning a music program for all age groups; and training music leaders. Should be comfortable in a moderate congregation with a traditional/blended style of worship. Send resumé to: Music Search Committee, Lyndon Baptist Church, 8025 New LaGrange Road, Louisville, KY 40222. (502) 425-7150. Dr. Jim Holladay, pastor.

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

## Risky business

*Though well-prepared, mission teams can face hidden dangers*

By Yvonne Betowt  
Religion News Service

HUNTSVILLE, Ala. (RNS)—Jesus' last command to His disciples was to go into all the world to spread the gospel.

A growing number of churches are heeding that message by sending groups on short-term missions, some to the most remote places on Earth. These mission teams build churches, schools, homes and hospitals, do medical work and hold vacation Bible schools.

Most of these mini-missionaries report good experiences and return home with a sense of fulfillment and accomplishment. But Darryl Wood knows there's another, less-talked-about side to mission work.

Wood, pastor of Moulton Baptist Church in Moulton, Ala., and several other church members were injured earlier this summer while building a church in Albany, N.Y. A strong gust of wind blew down part of the framework of the church as the group was bracing the trusses for a storm.

"There was no warning," Wood said. "The church sits in a valley and the wind just came over the mountain."

Wood and four others on the mission team received minor cuts and bruises, and church member Charles Borden was hospitalized with a spinal injury. Borden, who returned home recently, faces a long recovery, Wood said. "Thankfully," he added, "there was no permanent damage."

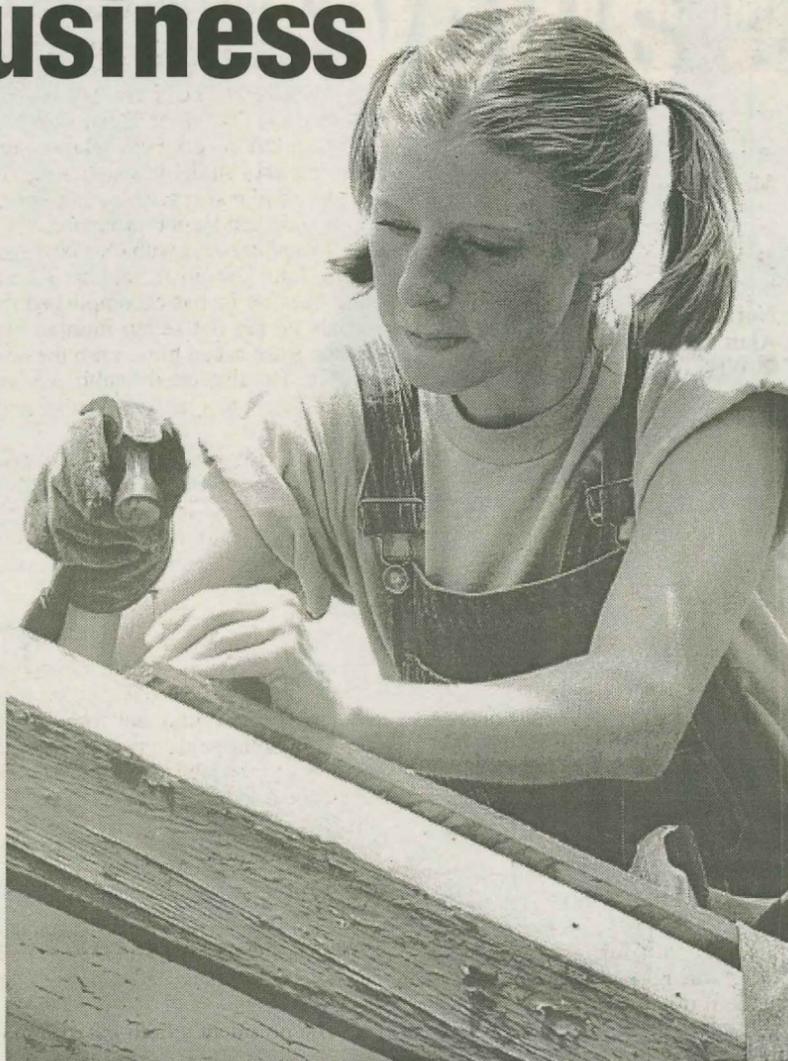
While only a small percentage of mission groups experience life-threatening injuries or even fatalities, mission work can be dangerous. Everything from insect bites to diseases, as well as being caught between warring factions during a country's political unrest can occur.

The obvious hazards of construction—from hitting a thumb with a hammer to falling off a ladder—are not the biggest problems most mission teams face in the United States.

The more common problems at construction sites are overheating in the summer and insect stings, said Joan Smith, a volunteer emergency medical technician with World Changers, a Southern Baptist ministry that provides young people to help build homes for the indigent.

"In the past we've only had one who fell off a ladder. We've had some who got overheated, and one who was cut by a pocket knife this week," said Smith, a volunteer firefighter. "There is danger in anything you do, so we just stress using common sense. When you get hot, take a break."

Construction-related injuries are only part of the dangers of mission work. Mission team members going to foreign countries, especially Third



**CONSTRUCTION CAUTION** Lisa Specks, 18, nails the roof of a house in Huntsville, Ala., as part of a missions trip. Dangers on missions trips can range from hammered thumbs and minor cuts at jobs like this, to kidnapping and rape in foreign countries. (RNS photo by Carucha Meuse)

World nations, often contract intestinal illnesses that can linger for days or weeks.

Several members of a mission team from churches in the North Alabama Presbytery became ill after returning from a trip to South Africa, according to Frank Broyles, who coordinated the trip.

"We had 12 of 16 people get sick on our third trip, and some believe it was in the township where we drank some water," said Broyles, minister of church and community at Faith Presbyterian Church in Huntsville, Ala.

John Long, director of Madison Baptist Association in Huntsville, Ala., has a training program for people going on mission trips with his association.

"We have to make safety a priority," Long said. "Construction work is dangerous, and our crew chiefs are familiar with OSHA laws and try to follow those guidelines as much as possible. We provide insurance for everyone who goes on a mission trip sponsored by the Baptist association, which is only about once a year."

Long acknowledged that lawsuits do occur when people are injured while doing mission work and that Baptist association officials "try to do our best to inform people what they will be doing and where they will be going."

Long always makes a pre-inspection trip to the area where his group will be going.

"That's the best investment you can do for any mission trip," he said.

"You need to make sure things are as the people there say they are, and if it's an overseas trip, you need to check out all the transportation."

For anyone traveling abroad, Broyles said other potential dangers are being hijacked or the women being raped. Automobile or plane crashes are other potential problems mission workers face; some have been killed en route to or from the field. On April 20, a Baptist missionary and her daughter were killed when their plane was shot down over the Amazon River by Peruvian Air Force jets.

Dennis Wiles, pastor of First Baptist Church in Huntsville, had a scary experience on a mission trip to Central America before he moved to Huntsville.

"Some men broke into the house where we were staying and grabbed one of the ladies and held a knife to her throat," Wiles recalled. "I lunged at him without thinking, then I saw a guy standing there with a shotgun, and so I said, 'Hello.' Then I said, 'I don't know if you speak English, but we are just missionaries, so you can take our money and anything else, but just don't hurt us.'"

Wiles said the men, who spoke English, took the Americans' money and valuables but left them unhurt, albeit shaken.

If mission work can be so dangerous, why are more and more people doing it?

"The joys of those who experience it are so huge, the fear dissipates once you are there," Broyles said.

## GAs send more than 3,000 pairs of glasses to Honduras

By Amista Rowell McMath  
SBC Woman's Missionary Union

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (BP)—A nationwide Woman's Missionary Union missions-support effort is touching thousands of lives in the struggling country of Honduras.

Girls in Action, the WMU missions education organization for girls in grades 1-6, has sent more than 3,000 pairs of eyeglasses to missionary Jo Anne Foreman after learning about her ministry during their May 2001 GA meetings.

During the month of May, GA magazines Discovery, GA World and Aware featured missions work in Honduras. Foreman, one of the featured missionaries, conducts eye clinics in rural areas.

As a Southern Baptist missionary, Foreman strives to help improve the health of Hondurans, especially those living in rural areas.

Hurricane Mitch devastated the country in 1998, and much of the nation remains impaired. Poverty accompanied by poor living conditions impedes the country's efforts to repair roads and bridges to their original conditions.

Ministering to Hondurans since 1978, Foreman teaches discipleship classes, initiates Bible studies, works with animos communities to plant churches and plans and conducts the eye clinics.

For more than 10 years, Foreman has sought to meet the physical and spiritual needs of the Honduran people through the clinics. Foreman conducts eye exams for clinic visitors, and she presents Hondurans with pairs of eyeglasses that match prescriptions. After glasses are distributed, clinic volunteers share with patients the circle of love within the ministry.

"We tell them that God loves them so much that He touched someone's heart to provide the glasses, He touched other people to help in cleaning the glasses, finding the prescription of them and getting them to Honduras," Foreman said.

Before the glasses reach Honduras, Christians in the United States diligently work toward the ministry's fruition. People around the country send spectacles to Foreman's home church, Central Baptist Church in Marion, Ohio.

A group of women from Central Baptist cleans the glasses under the supervision of church member Donna Savage. Her son, John, identifies the prescriptions of the donated glasses using a lensometer. The women sort, package and label glasses according to their prescriptions.

Area pastors and church members often visit the newly spectacled patients to invite them to church and to offer more information about Christianity. "It is wonderful to see so many people get involved in this ministry," she said.

Foreman is not formally trained, but her knowledge and practical experience aid many grateful Hondurans. "Each time the patient puts on his 'new' glasses, it is a reminder of God's love" for him or her, she added.

GA magazines design editor Barbara Massey noted that GAs always are eager to help missionaries succeed. Collecting and sending more than 160 boxes of glasses was their way of helping the eyeglass ministry thrive. "This is a direct example of learning of a need and working together to meet that need."

To participate in the ministry, glasses can be sent to John Savage, 3550 Maple Grove Road, Marion, OH 43302.



**EYEGASSES MINISTRY** Donna Savage, a member of Central Baptist Church in Marion, Ohio, is the stateside coordinator for an eyeglass ministry for missionary Jo Anne Foreman in Honduras. (BP photo)

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