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Bluegrass in Brooklyn



VOLUNTEERS Kentucky Baptist disaster relief volunteers are in Brooklyn, helping feed recovery workers and displaced residents from the attacks on the World Trade Center towers. ■ **Above:** Jeff Free, a member of Bellevue Baptist Church in Owensboro, looks across the East River in New York to Manhattan, where the World Trade Center towers used to stand. ■ **Below:** Mary Douthit, a member of Airline Baptist Church in Henderson, dumps green beans into a cooker. (Photos by David Winfrey)

Kentucky volunteers provide food for the soul as well as mouths

By David Winfrey
News Director

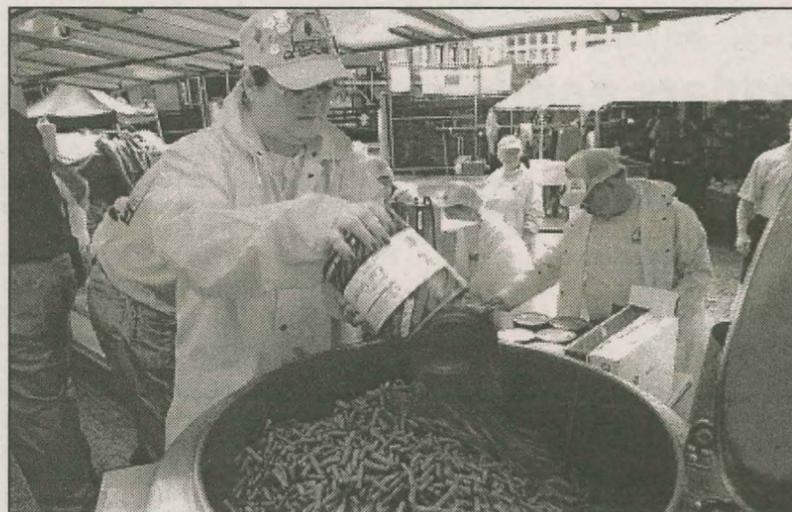
BROOKLYN, N.Y.—Sherrie Alas traveled from Cynthiana to Brooklyn to serve meals, but she says she ended up sharing something much more important.

Alas and other Kentucky Baptist disaster relief volunteers arrived in New York soon after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. Their assignment was to feed both victims and recovery workers. But delays in setting up, food arrival and assignments for meals delayed their work for more than a week.

It was an example of the old adage, "Hurry up and wait," and it's not unusual during the initial stage of disaster relief as Baptists work with the American Red Cross to determine what is needed and where it should go.

But workers said last week that the pause gave them time to talk with area residents, a ministry that several volunteers said was more important than anything they originally had in mind.

"If I haven't served one plate of food, it doesn't matter, because we've been able to witness and listen, to be a comforter," said Alas, a member of Oakwood Baptist Church in Cynthiana. She and her father befriended two policemen, who helped them take 200 Bibles to police and



soldiers working near the collapsed World Trade Center towers.

"It struck me so strongly because you couldn't even get them out of the trunk of the car before they were getting them," she said.

"I've never seen the need for encouragement like I see it here, and I was in the Falmouth flood," added Mike Hayes, Alas' father. "It's almost like their arms are open and they're waiting for us to walk into them."

At least eight area residents have made professions of faith in Jesus as their personal Savior as a result of conversations with volunteers, ac-

ording to Elaine Koch, whose husband, Larry, coordinates Kentucky Baptist disaster relief work.

Volunteer Jay Adkins took advantage of his down time to go near the collapse and share the Bible both physically and verbally.

"I had a voice before this morning," Adkins said with a rasp. The pastor of Fellowship Baptist Church in South Shore went near "ground zero" with 75 Gideon Bibles and five other volunteers. He asked a policeman if it would be OK to read the Bible aloud on the street, and the policeman said that might be appreciated.

"It's amazing how appropriate Psalms 1 through about 40 are in this situation," he said. "I got a lot of different types of looks."

It wouldn't be New York if he also didn't get some jeers, but he said he prefers to reflect on the people who stopped to talk to one of the volunteers or who took a Bible and said "Thanks."

All around the warehouse where Kentucky volunteers are based, people seem willing to talk about their loss, grief and questions. At a nearby fire station, memorials of money, cards and flowers flow in for the friends and families of eight lost firefighters.

Several volunteers have struck up conversations at a pier adjacent to the volunteers' work site. There, an impromptu memorial has candles, banners and other expressions of grief. Last week it still wasn't unusual to look across the East River and still see smoke rising from where the World Trade Center towers used to stand.

Debbie Croley wore her disaster relief T-shirt and cap as she walked across the Brooklyn Bridge into Manhattan. As people stopped to thank her for being there, she offered them a tract explaining the Christian message. "These people want to talk. They want to hear."

□ See *Volunteers ...*, page 3

BAPTISTS

Missionaries see God at work globally in wake of tragedy

By Mark Kelly
SBC International Mission Board

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)—Though the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks shocked and stunned Southern Baptist missionaries all over the world, they report that God is at work in hearts all around them because of the crisis.

They also ask Southern Baptists to pray that God will use the calamity to awaken Christians to the urgent need to take the gospel to all the world's peoples.

"As this drama unfolded before us (on television), we felt drawn to pray for our nation, its leaders, our churches and missionaries around the world," wrote Philip Johnson, a Southern Baptist missionary in Managua, Nicaragua. "We knelt on the floor ... and poured out our hearts to the Lord."

Other missionaries found it hard to absorb the reality of what was happening.

A missionary in the Last Frontier noted: "We get tidbits on the Web but no real voices, no tears, no pain, no anger. ... I feel ashamed to be so disconnected from country, victims and heroes. I have mourned, shed tears and prayed."

Southern Baptist workers were deeply moved, however, by what one missionary called "the incredible outpouring of grief, concern and solidarity toward Americans."

"Across the street (from the U.S. Embassy) were people who had gathered to lay flowers around the young trees in the sidewalk," wrote Monte and Janet Erwin, missionaries in Riga, Latvia. "Many were kneeling and lighting candles."

"I was drawn to one young man ... who was kneeling and holding a candle, with tears running down his face. I told him I was an American and I was moved by his compassion and the compassion of so many who had laid flowers and candles, and I thanked



GLOBAL IMPACT Flags representing the nations of the world swirled across the stage during a recent Southern Baptist International Mission Board appointment service. Thirty-five missionaries appointed Sept. 6 at First Baptist Church of Broken Arrow, Okla., will join colleagues serving throughout the world. (BP photo by Sandy King)

him. He immediately broke apart and embraced me, laying his head on my shoulder and weeping. I couldn't help but shed tears myself.

"As I entered the consulate's section of the embassy, the guard handed me the telephone. It was a Latvian voice on the other end who said he had watched from an upstairs window and thanked me for the moment he had just seen out on the street. I knew immediately that Latvians and Russians stood with us in our grief."

One missionary was struck by the intensity with which believers in Lima, Peru, prayed for America.

"About eight hours after the attacks on New York City and Washington, the National Prayer Movement of Lima, composed of evangelical leaders and church members from many denominations, gathered in Lima, as they do every Tuesday for a time of concerted prayer," wrote Randal Whittall. "In light of the day's events, the organizers invited me to bring a brief message as a representative of all American missionaries in Peru."

"What followed was a time of intense intercessory prayer on the part

of hundreds of Peruvian Christians. They lifted their voices to God on behalf of the United States and her leadership, for those families affected by the tragedy, and begged God to bring repentance and life-changing salvation to those responsible for such acts of violence.

"It was a truly moving experience to stand in the presence of those for whom American Christians have prayed for many years, and now to hear the favor returned in our hour of need."

Another Southern Baptist worker in the Last Frontier reported: "We've had nothing but an outpouring of sympathy, shock and well wishes from our Muslim friends and neighbors. ... Many have expressed their shock and disbelief that something like that could happen."

"It is such a blessing for me to see that those we have been building relationships with really do consider our relationships close and caring. Before this, I really wasn't so sure of that."

The massive news coverage the attacks have received around the world created many opportunities for

witness, missionaries reported.

From Ecuador, missionary Robert Mulkey wrote: "After the attack Tuesday morning, I went to the bank. The guard asked me what I thought and I was able to share some with him about how we need to turn to God. A man in line was listening also. Then I went to a small store and the owner asked me about it and I spent almost an hour sharing from God's Word with him."

From Thailand, missionary John Gibson reported: "It is amazing the outpouring of grief and condolences from our Thai colleagues. ... I expect many more opportunities now to share about the saving grace of God and His mercy for us here in Thailand."

Lynne Flanary, a missionary in Fukuoka, Japan, said she saw God at work in an amazing way because of the crisis.

"I teach an English/Bible class on Wednesday mornings, but I did not cancel since presenting the gospel is our main purpose," she wrote. "Mourning would have to wait. But as the students filed in, despite the language barrier, they managed to encourage and comfort us, sympathizing with our feelings of loss and shock. We decided we would conclude the lesson with a special prayer time in honor of our country and those who had lost loved ones. ...

"My heart was overwhelmed as I watched every student bow their heads with true conviction, some with great emotion and tears—this meant a lot since most Japanese do not show their emotion openly. ... The Holy Spirit was present and I believe each person had a personal experience, maybe feeling the Lord's presence for the very first time.

"We are using this time of great turmoil to show the Japanese people that there is only one way to peace ... and His name is Jesus. Out of the ashes of the burned buildings and charred ruins there is the hope that many will come to Christ."

SBC leaders condemn terrorists' 'cowardly acts,' call for justice

NASHVILLE (BP)—The Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee adopted a 14-paragraph resolution last week reflecting an array of reactions to the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

The resolution "On the Terrorist Attack on the United States of America":

■ Voiced "utter abhorrence and unconditional condemnation" for the "cowardly acts" of "teams of foreign terrorists" who executed "most heinous and infamous acts" by hijacking and crashing jetliners that destroyed the World Trade Center in New York City, damaged the Pentagon in Washington, D.C., and killed or injured "untold thousands of innocent victims."

■ Affirmed that "comfort is abundant through Christ," citing 2 Corinthians 1:5, and committed "to render material assistance and to pray that the Lord will extend His grace, comfort and healing to those injured in the malicious attacks, to their loved ones, and to the loved ones of those slain."

■ Pledged "hearty prayer and unreserved support for our President, his advisors, Congress and the members

of the armed forces" in carrying out their "God-given duties ... to preserve peace and order by punishing evil and seeking justice," as set forth in Romans 13:4. The resolution also noted that "God forbids personal revenge," citing Romans 12:19.

■ Lauded "those heroic persons who died attempting to thwart the attacks and those who gave their lives in rescue efforts following the attacks." It also affirmed police, firefighters, emergency personnel and others who have "exhibited courageous fortitude and a commitment to duty in the face of danger in rescue efforts."

■ Urged Southern Baptists "to diligently pray that God will turn the hearts of our nation back to Him" and "to recommit ourselves to minister the gospel to our fellow citizens, in the hope that they may find forgiveness of sin, the gift of eternal life and the hope that is available only in Christ."

Robert Reccord, president of the Southern Baptist North American Mission Board, suggested the idea of placing a full-page ad in USA Today sharing "a message of hope to Amer-

ica" from Southern Baptists—"a message about the only one in whom we can have real hope, and that's Jesus Christ."

Reccord estimated the cost of the ad at \$70,000. Executive Committee members voted to provide \$23,000 of the cost from reserve funds. NAMB and LifeWay Christian Resources will share in the remaining cost.

Among other actions, the Executive Committee declined to study the feasibility of merging two of the SBC's six seminaries, Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary in the San Francisco area and Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Kansas City, Mo. The Executive Committee said instead that it "commends the excellent work of the two seminaries." The suggestion for a feasibility study was referred to the Executive Committee from the 2001 SBC annual meeting in New Orleans.

Golden Gate trustees adopted in August a resolution asking the Executive Committee not to undertake a study of a possible Golden Gate-Midwestern merger. The trustees stated that "the motion, however well-in-

tended, is already having a negative impact on Golden Gate Seminary in the areas of student, faculty and staff recruitment, ongoing fundraising efforts and overall campus morale."

A request was approved from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville to incur a \$4.75 million loan guarantee for construction of two apartment complexes through a limited liability company to be named Grinstead Housing South, LLC.

The construction project will add 104 apartment units to the seminary property through a privatization arrangement with Louis and Henry Development. The project will include two apartment complexes. Construction is scheduled to begin this fall, with the apartments set to open in the fall of 2002.

In other action, the Executive Committee approved a \$25,000 contribution to the Baptist World Alliance Building Fund in behalf of the SBC. The BWA held dedication ceremonies Sept. 22 for its new headquarters in Falls Church, Va., in suburban Washington.

Bush appoints Land to religious freedom panel

WASHINGTON (ABP)—President Bush announced Sept. 17 that he plans to appoint Southern Baptist leader Richard Land to a two-year term on the United States Commission on Religious Freedom.

Land has served since 1988 as president of the Southern Baptist Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission. In that position, he also is host of the commission's "For Faith and Family" talk-radio program.

Land served on the SBC committee that drafted the 2000 Baptist Faith and Message statement. He also was an architect of the SBC's boycott of Disney.

Before working for the SBC, he was a professor and administrator at Criswell College and an associate pastor at First Baptist Church in Dallas.

A native of Houston, Land is a graduate of Princeton University, New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and Oxford University.

The U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom, created by a 1998 law designed to make religious freedom central to U.S. foreign policy, monitors governments around the world and recommends action against those that deny religious freedom.

Also named to the commission by Bush are William Francis Murphy, bishop of the Archdiocese of Rockville Centre in New York, and Shirin Raziuddin Tahir-Kheli, director of the South Asia Program at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore.

Appointments to the nine-member committee include four by congressional leaders of the party not in the White House and two by the leaders of the president's party in Congress.

KENTUCKY

Kentuckians serve New York with food, listening ears

Continued from page 1

"I think that's the reason why we haven't had meals to prepare," she added. "If we were working full-speed, we wouldn't be able to go out and talk to these people."

Toward the end of last week, the smell of green beans and burning propane began to waft through the warehouse driveway where volunteers are stationed, signaling that the portable kitchen soon would be up to full-speed.

But Larry Koch insisted that the personal ministry to area residents would continue.

"We stress the most important organ you can use in this kind of counseling is your ear," Koch said. "The victims have a story that they need to tell, and you just need to listen to them."

Kentucky volunteers could get a chance to listen to New York victims for several weeks as American Red Cross leaders have told coordinators to expect to be needed for a long time.

More than 130 Kentucky volunteers had responded as of Sunday.

This is the 53rd event Kentucky Baptists have responded to since 1984, when Kentucky Brotherhood began its disaster relief program.

The North American Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention coordinates disaster relief teams in several states, working with the American Red Cross, which purchases and delivers the food that Baptist teams cook.

Volunteer teams provide both personnel and the equipment. In addition to feeding, disaster relief work can include chainsaw work, often after tornadoes and storms, and mud-out, after flooding.

Baptist disaster relief work began in Texas after Hurricane Carla hit that state's coast in 1961. The Texas Baptist Men organization tried to respond with help, but federal relief groups didn't know how to plug them into their network, Koch said.

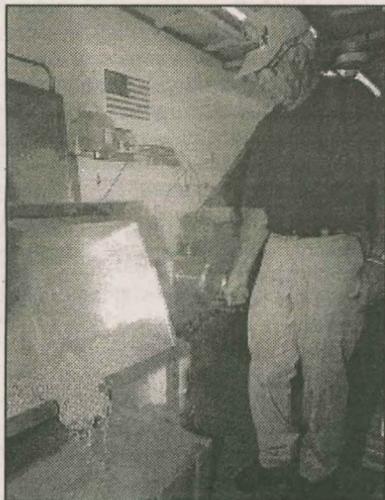
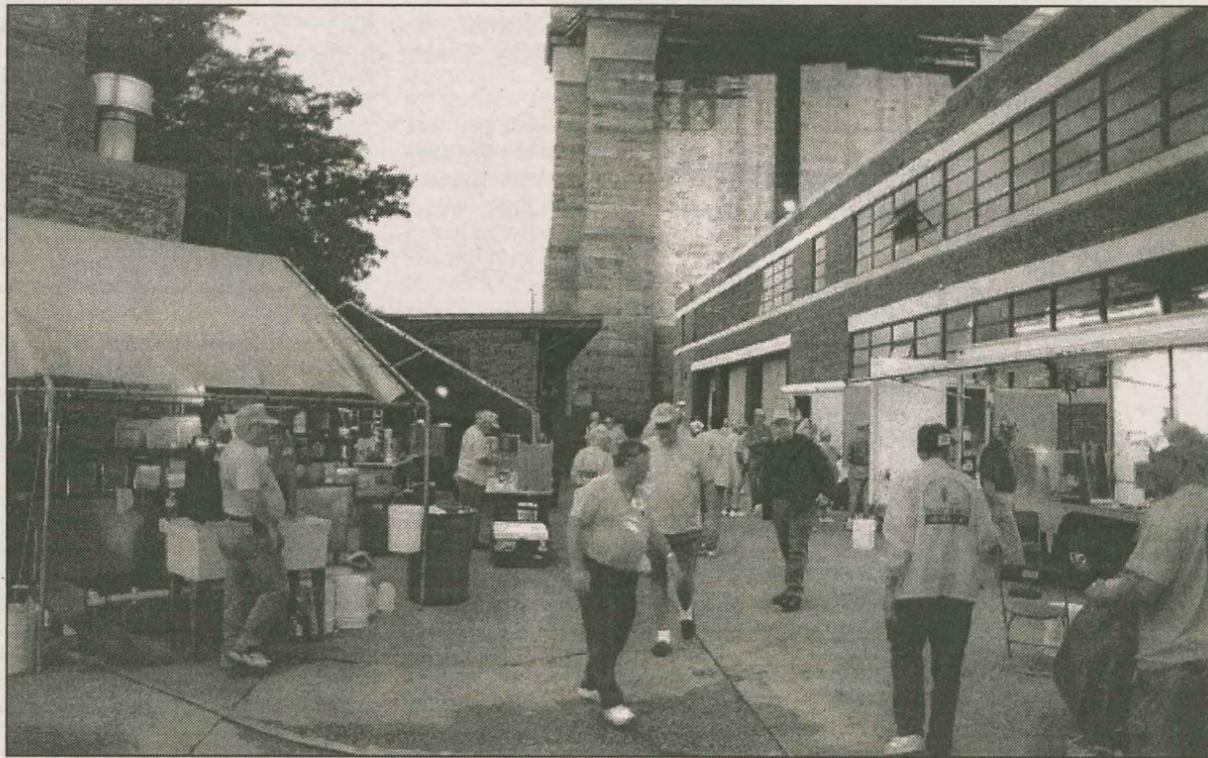
A Royal Ambassadors counselor, returning from a camping trip, found that his power was out. Afraid the food in his freezer would spoil, he used his propane cooker to begin fixing meals for his neighbors, Koch said.

"The light came on, so to speak," he said, and mobile feeding units were started in Texas and spread to other states.

Gifts from the Eliza Broadus Offering for State Missions provides \$5,000 each year to disaster relief. In 1984, Eliza Broadus funds provided \$35,000 to help buy the first equipment for Kentucky Baptist disaster relief.

More than 2,400 Kentucky Baptists have been trained for disaster relief service, but a core group of only about 300 volunteers are the ones who consistently respond to calls for help, Koch said.

"Typically, after a disaster there's a great deal of excitement," he said. But even after taking the training, a lot of people won't take time from work or set aside vacation time to respond to a disaster, he said. "A lot of them don't count the cost."



Why do you volunteer for disaster relief?

"God wanted me here. He laid it on my heart that with everything going on with the tragedy, there were people who needed to be witnessed to and helped." **Ed Meadows**, first-time volunteer and member of First Baptist Church of Cannonsburg



"I've been able to share with Muslims, Jews and a lady who said she was a small-c Christian. I'm just thankful that at 73 I can serve the Lord in some small way. ... I don't think we have to go overseas, to Europe or Africa, to represent Jesus." **Wanda Klein**, a member of Immanuel Baptist Church in Lexington, has been on 17 disaster relief trips

"God's done so much for me, this is a portion of the way I can give back to God." **Bill Fischer**, a volunteer since 1992 and member of Buckner Baptist Church



"I know what it's like to be hit by a tragedy. ... There's no greater thing that you can give than to give of yourself when you're not in the middle of it." **Sherry Alas**, a member of Oakwood Baptist Church in Cynthia, working on her second disaster relief trip

"This is the greatest thing in the world to do. ... Let's put it like this: I just feel like I want to do everything I can to do the best I can to represent our Lord." **Rex Bowling**, a member of Fort Mitchell Baptist Church, working on his fourth disaster relief trip



KENTUCKY VOLUNTEERS Disaster relief workers are stationed in a warehouse directly underneath the Brooklyn Bridge. From the top: ■ Volunteers get buzzing for a new morning. ■ Bill Hinton, a member of Edgewood Baptist Church in Hopkinsville, pours cooked peas into an insulated food carrier. ■ A Red Cross worker looks over food containers she will drive to local shelters. ■ Noel Dodson, a member of High Street Baptist Church in Somerset, delivers the morning devotion. ■ Elaine Koch tells Bob Reccord, president of the Southern Baptist North American Mission Board, that volunteers have led eight people to make professions of faith. (Photos by David Winfrey)

BLUEGRASS BURGEO

■ **The Wendell Belew Appalachian Training Center** will host an open house Saturday, Oct. 13, at 2:30 p.m. The center, located near Stanton, will provide job training for Eastern Kentucky residents in such skills as construction, computers, communications and literacy. For more information, call center coordinators George and Cathy Chinn at (606) 663-1905.

■ **Georgetown College** recently was listed among "America's 100 Best College Buys" and "America's Best Christian Colleges" in research compiled by Institutional Research & Evaluation Inc., an independent consulting group. Georgetown was the only Kentucky institution to be listed in both groups.

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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Pentagon official 'miraculously spared' Sept. 11

By Lt. Col. Franklin Childress

WASHINGTON (BP)—In Jeremiah 29:11-13 the Lord boldly declares: "I know the plans I have for you. Plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." Those verses have never been truer for me than they were on Tuesday, Sept. 11, 2001.

My office was ground zero for the jet that hit the Pentagon. My office was totally destroyed, most of my co-workers were killed or severely injured, but I was spared. On that particular day, I was at my apartment waiting to receive a baggage shipment.

I checked into the Pentagon on Sept. 4 for an assignment as the public affairs officer for the Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Personnel. I was assigned to a newly renovated wing of the Pentagon. I was overwhelmed by the strangeness of the Pentagon—who does what, what my role is.

I went through the process of checking in and meeting everybody I would work with and completed my processing requirements by Monday, Sept. 10. As part of my arrival requirements, I worked with the Transportation Office at a nearby military installation for delivery of my household goods from Hawaii.

They initially set up the delivery for my shipment to be on Sept. 6. When I called back to check the confirmation of that date, the person I spoke to said that the previous clerk had dropped the ball and I would have to wait a week to get my goods delivered. I was a little angry, but I resolved to take it in stride and make another appointment.

Little did I know that the date I chose for the delivery would be a decision that saved my life. I thought that I might have to meet my new

boss, Lt. Gen. Maude on Monday, Sept. 10, so I chose to have my baggage delivered on Tuesday, Sept. 11.

I was sitting on my balcony at 9:32 a.m., watching and waiting for the moving company truck that was to deliver my baggage to arrive when I heard what I thought was a sonic boom. Then I heard fire trucks and ambulances rushing through the streets. I turned on the TV and was appalled to see that an American Airlines jet had crashed into the Pentagon. My shock continued as I watched the news come in about the World Trade Center in New York. I was watching when the twin towers came crashing down. My reaction was that I was watching the end of the world.

Then the most tragic news of all hit me like a hammer blow. The office where I work was the impact point of the crash. I learned that my boss and many of my co-workers were unaccounted for and that if I had been at work that day I would not be writing this now.

What I have come to realize is that I have been given the ultimate gift from God—my salvation. If I had been there that day, I would have been ready for God to take me home. I also realize that I have been given a second gift, that God miraculously spared my life that day. I am truly grateful to Christ who gives me strength.

Some people describe me as lucky and that I was saved by a coincidence, but I believe that I am blessed. I know Who saved me and His name is not

luck. I do not believe that anything happens by accident. I believe that God spared me for His purposes; I have to be still and let Him reveal His purpose for my life. Until that happens, I will tell everybody that I can about my miraculous gift.

I pray for all those people in our country who are searching for answers, that they will find the ultimate answer I have found—Jesus Christ. The Bible says that no man knows the time or place of his death; therefore, be watchful and sober for the Lord will come like a thief in the night. My prayer is that those who were not ready to meet their Maker found Jesus in those last few moments of their lives just like the thief on the cross.

I pray that every man, woman, boy and girl who reads my words will consider the meaning of life. I pray that after their careful and prayerful consideration they, like me, will give their life over to Jesus Christ and trust Him as their Lord and Savior. I promise that if they do that they will have the promise that Jesus gives everyone, that they will have life and have it more abundantly.

I also pray that every Christian would be bold in his or her own witness. I believe that we have a narrow window of time to reach the lost because people are now open to the Word and because Jesus Christ is coming soon. We may have been born for such a time as this.

Lt. Col. Franklin Childress is the public affairs officer for the Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Personnel. He is a member of First Baptist Church of North Spartanburg, S.C.

FIRST PERSON

What are you thinking?

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

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The attack on America

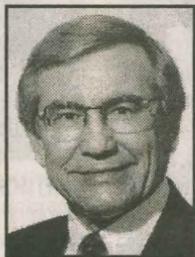
My heart grieves for all of the families who have experienced the tragic loss of family members and co-workers who have lost dear friends. It is horrifying to think about the loss of thousands of innocent lives. The loss of the lives of children on the flights and hard-working American women and men as well as brave rescue workers rends our hearts.

Those who have perpetrated these deaths represent the depths of human depravity. They must be dealt with.

At the time of this writing I am on a Kentucky Baptist Convention partnership missions project with nine pastors and new KBC partnership missions director Ross Bauscher. We had walked through the Jewish extermination camps in Auschwitz on the morning of Sept. 11, six hours ahead of Eastern Time. With the mass extermination of 1.5 million Jews and other prisoners already on our minds,

it was a very difficult day. It was not until evening that we could get the full report on CNN.

The pastors naturally were concerned about their families and churches and wanted to be with them. We spent time in prayer on Thursday morning trying to understand why we were here at such a time. God enabled us to get our focus off our feelings and to seek to be His witnesses by the way we responded to this tragedy.



Bill Mackey

We bought flowers to place at the U.S. Embassy in Warsaw. This resulted in a wonderful opportunity to witness through music and sharing the gospel. People gathered to listen and expressed their condolences, often with tears. More than 100 Bibles, New Testaments and tracts were distributed and 12 people prayed to receive Jesus Christ.

It was very special to meet U.S. Ambassador Christopher Hill and to pray with him beside the hundreds of

memorial flowers and candles. Gerry and Eva Anderson from the U.S. Embassy greeted the Polish people and us on the sidewalk outside the embassy. She became emotional and thanked the group for helping her express her grief.

Special Protestant and Catholic services were conducted in Warsaw. The Polish Baptist Union dedicated the session Thursday night to pray for the families, President Bush and his advisors, the American people and especially Kentucky Baptists. They are concerned that the partnership might be even more focused and powerful. They want us to know that they are one with us in our suffering.

This is a time for Kentucky Baptists to come together as never before around the mission that our Lord has for us. There is an enemy but it is not fellow Baptists.

God is sovereign Lord over His church and He has a supernatural redemptive plan. He always is inviting us to join Him with absolute trust in His Word and His will.

Bill Mackey is executive director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention

FAMILY

Do you know facts about importance of writing a will?

By Laurie Valentine

Making a will is part of a Christian's estate stewardship responsibility yet there are many people who never have written a will.

Did you know:

■ That between 60 percent and 70 percent of all adults in the United States have never written a last will and testament?

■ That for those who have not written a will, the state in which they reside has a plan of asset distribution written for them? Here in Kentucky that plan is called the "Kentucky Intestate Succession Statute." There is a good possibility that Kentucky's "will" sets up a plan of distribution that doesn't meet your family's needs.

■ That the state court will decide who will rear any minor children if both parents are deceased and they have not made a will or included a nomination of guardian provision in their will for their children? This is a far more important issue than where your assets will go.

■ That Kentucky's plan for asset distribution does not include your church or any other Christian ministry? You also forfeit the option of creating provisions that will benefit both your family and the Lord's work.

■ That without a properly drawn will, the death taxes and cost of administering your estate might be higher, thereby reducing what will be available for your family?

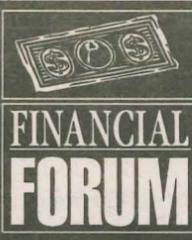
■ That by having a properly drawn will, you get to choose who serves as executor, guardian for your children and trustee? You also get to decide who gets what and when they get it.

■ That by having a properly drawn will you are helping to ease family friction at your death? This is especially important at a time when your loved ones are grieving your loss.

■ That the Kentucky Baptist Foundation is the trust agency of the Kentucky Baptist Convention and can help you design an estate plan that includes family and Christian ministries?

If you did not know, but would like to know about the benefits of making a will or other estate and incapacity planning documents, give Barry Allen or me a call at (888) 254-5701. There is no cost for our estate planning consultation service.

Laurie Valentine is trust counsel for the Kentucky Baptist Foundation



Help teens process anger, fear, grief related to terrorist attacks

Q: How should I talk to my teenager about events like the recent attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon?

Pay careful attention to how your teenager seems to be responding. People react differently to violent and chaotic events like this.

One group of teens will initiate dialogue quite naturally as they watch things unfold in the media. They will talk about the news, their reactions and even how they would like to respond.

Another group of teenagers might be deeply troubled by the events they are witnessing, but might withdraw and even avoid the news coverage. Some might seem numb to it all; others might appear to be sullen and quietly angry. Others might appear anxious or even depressed.

Don't be afraid to talk with teenagers and ask them what they are feeling. One way of conceptualizing what they are experiencing is through the lens of grief. While only a few of us have lost a loved one in this tragedy, we all have lost our inner fantasy or picture of an America that is safe and insulated from the kinds of events that might threaten our very existence. Our collective nationalistic narcissism has been punctured and we have become starkly aware of our vulnerability.

As many people have pointed out, the experience of grief often is marked by identifiable stages which do not always occur in sequence. Pay attention teens as they might experience shock and numbness, anger, anxiety and depression and even guilt.

Do not be afraid to talk about your own feelings and reactions to the tragedy. Do not give glib answers to their searching questions about God, but help them by reflecting on how to understand this in light of God's Word. Remember the words of C.S. Lewis, "Pain is God's trumpet."—*Scott Wigginton*

Q: I eat a lot when I am upset about the difficulties that I face in my life and at my age the extra weight is not attractive or healthy. What can I do to cut down the eating and still deal with the emotional stress?

Do you eat when you're sad, lonely or even when you feel great?

Many people eat for emotional reasons and this often leads to overeating or making poor choices. Changing this habit starts with knowing if you eat because of emotions.

- Do you eat when you're not hungry?
- Do you eat when faced with a difficult task?
- Do you eat when you're tired?
- Do you splurge on favorite foods when you're alone?

If you answered yes to these questions, emotions drive your eating. One step in changing this habit is to keep a food diary and write down when you eat, what you eat and why you're eating.

Seeing what is happening can help you learn other ways to deal with emotions and to switch eating to when you're hungry. And don't forget to congratulate yourself when you do well.

Also, a pastoral counselor might help you find a different way to cope with the stress from the problems you face. A change in the way one copes with hard issues is a challenge at any age. Older adults, however, might have used faulty coping methods that in later life become even more problematic.—*Jon Rainbow*

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.



Faith & Message report takes strong stand

It was a major report and recommendation that many Kentucky Baptists had been anticipating for nearly a year. But when the Kentucky Baptist Convention's Baptist Faith and Message study committee released its proposal two days after the worst terrorist attacks in our nation's history, the impact of the report seemed less significant than it would have a week earlier.

In light of the national and global ramifications of Sept. 11, some observers wondered if it was even appropriate for Kentucky Baptists to expend time and energy discussing how to relate to Southern Baptists' revised faith statement.

In reality, however, the events of Sept. 11 offer a vivid reminder of why it is important for Kentucky Baptists to study our historic beliefs and take a strong stand on scriptural truths. As our nation and world search for spiritual and emotional healing, our understanding and application of God's Word is based on an unshakable foundation that offers hope, peace and comfort to a hurting, troubled world.

As daily life gradually returns to a sense of normalcy, our clear proclamation of the gospel will be a welcome encouragement in many people's lives. Despite the tragic events that overshadowed the release of the study committee's work, their report remains a worthy proposal that deserves Kentucky Baptists' careful and prayerful consideration.

The recommendation that makes the report so relevant, especially in these days, is the strong affirmation of the Bible. Taking a simple, straightforward stand, the proposal states: "As Kentucky Baptists, we adopt the Bible as the basis of all our faith and practice."

"You certainly can't argue with that," remarked study committee member Paul Badgett, pastor of First Baptist Church of Pikeville. And he's right. Few, if any,

Kentucky Baptists should have any problem with enthusiastically supporting the Bible as the primary source for all we do, say and believe.

But the committee didn't make such a statement in a vacuum. They took time to clearly identify and list four "Baptist beliefs and practices that Kentucky Baptists cherish." Those four truths are:

■ Affirming the Bible is "the absolute and final authority ... in all matters of faith and practice."

■ Affirming "the autonomy of each local church and association," noting that churches and associations historically "have used various confessions of faith for general instruction and guidance."

■ Emphasizing that Kentucky Baptists historically have rejected creedalism, explaining that faith statements are "not to be used to hamper individual freedom of thought or investigation in other realms of life."

■ Affirming that Kentucky Baptists "have a long history of cooperating, including their strong support for cooperative giving."

After affirming Scripture, autonomy and cooperation and rejecting creedalism, the proposal acknowledges the value of faith statements ranging from the 1742 Philadelphia Confession of Faith to the various versions of the Baptist Faith and Message from 1925 to 2000.

The recommendation then encourages Kentucky Baptist churches and associations to use such confessions "as resources to inform and edify Kentucky Baptists concerning the basic tenets of our faith" and cooperative ministry efforts.

That is as it should be—standing firmly on Scripture while affirming each autonomous congregation's right, privilege and responsibility to use supporting faith statements as they see fit under the leadership of God's Spirit. What could be more Baptist?

STRAIGHT FROM THE EDITOR



Trennis Henderson

Recorder documents colleges' dramatic changes & growth

By Jack Birdwhistell

During the late 1940s and 1950s, the Western Recorder contained many articles about Baptist higher education in Kentucky. It was a period of unprecedented changes. Carl Fields' article in "Baptists in Kentucky, 1776-1996: A Centennial Volume," chronicles the events.

In 1945, the General Association of Baptists in Kentucky created a department of Christian education with A.M. Vollmer as executive secretary. The new department had a full range of issues to consider, including the election of trustees of the Baptist schools by the General Association. By 1960 this process included Campbellsville College, Cumberland College, Georgetown College, Clear Creek Baptist Bible College and Oneida Baptist Institute. In exchange for financial support, Kentucky Baptists received input into leadership of these institutions.

At Georgetown College, presidents Samuel Hill (1942-54) and Leo Eddleman (1954-59) led in

major building programs on the Georgetown campus. In the mid-1950s it was reported that Kentucky Baptists' oldest college had graduated nearly 3,800 students since its founding in 1829.

Other major changes involved Cumberland College and Campbellsville College. With the approval of the General Association in 1957, Cumberland began operating as a four-year college under President J.M. Boswell after being a two-year college since 1931. Campbellsville, under the leadership of President John Carter, followed suit in 1959. It had been a junior college since 1923.

There also were movements afoot to reconfigure Kentucky Baptists' higher education enterprise. In 1955 a proposal from Baptist leaders in Campbell County and North Bend associations called for Bethel College in Hopkinsville to combine with Campbellsville and become a new senior college in the Northern Kentucky area.

A more enduring idea concerned Baptist higher education in Louisville. In 1956 the General Associa-

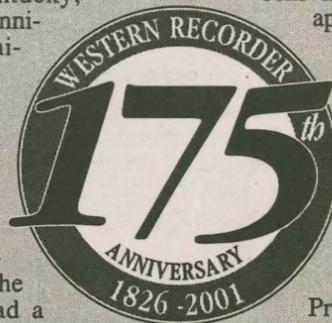
tion approved a plan for Georgetown College to establish a branch in Louisville by 1960. There also was consideration given to relocating Georgetown College to Louisville. In 1959, however, the college's trustees decided to withdraw support from the efforts in Louisville.

Long Run Baptist Association later led in the organization of Greater Louisville Baptist with Rollin Burhans as president. The Western Recorder referred to the new college as "the finest hour ... for Louisville and Kentucky Baptists," but the college in Louisville, later named Kentucky Southern, was not able to survive. Classes opened in 1962 but the school closed seven years later and the University of Louisville took possession of the campus.

Kentucky Southern was not the only casualty of the period, however. Bethel College in Hopkinsville closed in 1964 after 110 years as a Baptist school. Founded as a women's college, Bethel became coeducational in 1951.

After the changes and innovations of the era, Kentucky Baptists' higher education enterprise emerged with a strong group of institutions that remain strong half a century later.

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





Terrorism: Should Christians support force or peace?

Land: Christians should uphold nation's use of lethal force to combat terrorists

By Richard Land

As Americans contemplate their response to the terrorist atrocities of Sept. 11, it is imperative that Christians consider the ethics of societal use of lethal force. As disciples of Jesus, we must seek guidance from God's Word.

Jesus commands His followers to love their enemies, and to turn the other cheek and to hate the sin while loving the sinner. No matter how much our enemies' hatred of us has twisted their souls and spirits, Jesus died for them, God loves them and so must we.

Many of these people have been victimized by their twisted leadership, just as the Hitler youth were twisted by the Nazi leaders. The evil disregard for human life which confronts us can flourish only in closed societies where all contrary viewpoints are silenced by the barrel of a gun or the point of a bayonet.

If we have been commanded by Jesus to love our enemies, how can we support lethal force being used against terrorists and those who harbor and sponsor them? The answer is found in the divinely ordained role assigned to government to punish evildoers in its role as "the minister of God, a revenger to execute wrath upon him that doeth evil" (Romans 13:4). This punishing of evildoers includes lethal force.

While we as individuals do not have the right to use lethal force or seek revenge, we do have a right to expect government to fulfill its God-ordained task and exact justice against terrorists who have so callously murdered thousands of their fellow human beings.

One Baptist ethicist, in addressing this question, declared, "While the whole biblical witness is authoritative, the witness of Jesus must be the final word." If he meant that the words of Jesus in the Gospels are somehow more authoritative than the rest of the New Testament, then he is practicing a dangerously erroneous interpretive method.

The resurrected Jesus, seeking to comfort His followers about His approaching return to heaven, told them that when He went away He would send them the Comforter, the Holy Spirit. Jesus explained, "I have yet many things to say unto you, but ye cannot bear them now. Howbeit when He, the Spirit of truth, is come, He will guide you into all truth: for He shall not speak of Himself; but whatsoever He shall hear, that shall He speak: and He will shew you things to come. He shall glorify Me: for He shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you" (John 16:12-14).

The word of Jesus is final, and He said that during His earthly sojourn He was restricted from teaching all truth by the limitations of His hearers, but after Pentecost those limitations would be removed. Jesus thus pre-authenticated the rest of the New Testament, and so it is all the word of Jesus through the Holy Spirit. Paul's Epis-

tle to the Romans is just as much the word of Jesus as any of His Gospel teachings. Thus, Jesus tells us through the Holy Spirit that our government has the obligation to bring these terrorists to justice (Romans 13:1-4).

We must realize, however, that the enemy that has declared war against us is not Islam. These terrorists are no more legitimate followers of Islam than the Marxist terrorists who call themselves Catholics in the Irish Republican Army are legitimate adherents of that faith. These Islamic terrorists are a cultic counterfeit of Islam just as the Jim Jones cult was a counterfeit of Christianity.

For centuries Christians have employed "just war theory" in deciding when armed conflict is warranted. Just war theory tries to bring war under the sway of justice as understood by Christians and to reduce its barbarity. In fact, if all parties accepted just war criteria, there would be no wars or acts of terrorism because the first rule states clearly that no action is just unless it is defensive. If everyone followed just war theory, war would be eliminated.

Only defensive war is defensible. The intent must be to secure justice for all involved, never vengeance. Armed force must be a last resort and must be authorized by legitimate civil authority. The goal must never be the annihilation of the enemy or the destruction of his civilization.

The question of proportionality also must be answered. Does the good gained by resort to armed conflict justify the cost of lives lost? There also must be a commitment to noncombatant immunity. No war can be just that does not disqualify noncombatants as targets and that does not seek to minimize collateral, inadvertent civilian casualties.

I believe our nation must respond. War has been declared on us. If we do not respond, terrorist atrocities against our people will continue to escalate. The next time chemical, biological or nuclear weapons may well be used.

We must remove the terrorists' safe havens and bring them to justice. We must then attempt to rebuild the countries of the people victimized by these terrorist leaders and their ideologies of hatred as we did Germany and Japan after World War II. In the face of the terrorist evil inflicted upon us, these actions are the "just" thing to do.



Richard Land is president of the Southern Baptist Convention Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission

Stassen: Christians should actively promote 'things that make for peace'

By Glen Stassen

"For the palace will be forsaken, the populous city deserted; ... Until the Spirit is poured upon us from on high. ... Then justice will dwell in the wilderness, and righteousness abide in the fruitful field. And the effect of righteousness will be peace, and the result of righteousness, quietness and trust forever" (Isaiah 32:14-17).

Jesus quoted and referred to the prophet Isaiah more than any other book. Eight times He warned: Unless you repent and do justice, destruction will come and the Temple will be destroyed. Thirty-five times in the Gospels, Jesus confronted the powers and authorities—the Sadducees and high priests, the Pharisees and scribes, the wealthy and Herod. He wept over Jerusalem: "Would that even today you knew the things that make for peace" (Luke 19:41). Jesus was realistic and right: They did not repent of their spirit of violence against Rome, and

Rome destroyed Jerusalem and the Temple. We, too, have seen judgment and destruction: The palace was forsaken, and the populous city

was deserted.

The kind of injustice that Jesus warned against was injustice to the poor, exclusion of the outcasts, violence to enemies and domination of the less powerful. And He said that when we let the Spirit correct that injustice, we will experience peace.

Terrorism is doubly evil: It is violence and murder against men, women and children—airplane passengers and workers. What causes men to become recruits for terrorism? What causes them to be so dedicated that 50 of them will prepare this horrible evil for a year, while not one of them develops enough doubt to inform the police or mention it in conversation?

Their perception of bitter, deep, incorrigible, dominating injustice causes young men to be recruited and committed to fanatic terrorism.

The oppression of Palestinians, and the dashing of their hopes in the peacemaking process by Israel not giving back the land they promised to give back in the Oslo Accords, produces terrorists. Great anger when he saw U.S. troops come into Saudi Arabia to make war against Iraq, an Arab Muslim nation, caused Osama bin Laden to turn to terrorism. And war against what he saw as the injustice of Soviet domination of Afghanistan also influenced him. Responding with the violence of domination, as the Soviet Union did in Afghanistan and as Israel had done in Palestine, plows the fertile soil for terrorist recruitment.

One part of justice is to punish terrorists. Serbia was successfully pressured to give up its leader of terrorism, Milosevic, to trial in the World

Court in the Hague. Libya was pressured to give up its terrorists who caused the TWA jet to crash over Lockerbie, Scotland, so they could be tried in Holland. This is the justice that courts can mete out. It is justice of law, not imperialistic justice and war.

The other part of justice is to pressure Palestine to take the transforming initiative of stopping the violence against civilians in Israel and in the West Bank. At this writing, Arafat genuinely is trying to stop the Palestinian violence. And it is to pressure Israel to take the transforming initiative of withdrawing from parts of the West Bank and stopping the bulldozing of Palestinian homes. Horrible injustice is being done to Palestinians. Many Arabs and Muslims are deeply, bitterly frustrated. It is fertile ground for recruiting terrorists.

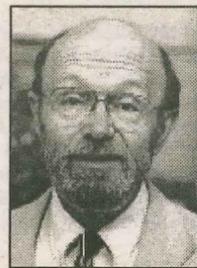
Now is the time for a turning in the Middle East as the world seeks an effective way to combat terrorism. Now is the time to remove the cause that grows recruits to terrorism.

In the 1992 book I edited, "Just Peacemaking: Ten Practices for Abolishing War," 23 Christian ethicists and international relations scholars reached unanimous consensus on what works, what is effective, what is now being done here and there that actually prevents war. One set of practices is to push for economic justice, and human rights and democracy. Palestine and Afghanistan need justice.

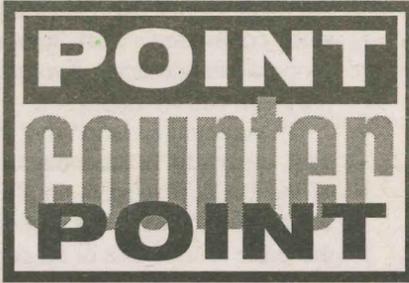
Another practice is transforming initiatives. Initiatives do not wait for long, drawn-out negotiations. They are action, not mere words: Actually stop the violence, as Arafat is now seeking to do. Actually halt the expansion of settlements, as Israel is now being urged to do.

A third is strong international pressure—for Israel and Palestine to take initiatives for justice; and for the West to halt the injustice of the economic sanctions against Iraq that are causing thousands to die. In January, the Bush administration disengaged from pressure for peacemaking in the Middle East. That left the Palestinians dominated and powerless—with no voice but terrorism. Christians should urge the government to re-engage, with as strong a commitment as President Bush is announcing war, in pressing for peace with justice in the Middle East. We need effective acts of justice for the dominated that give them reason not to be recruited for terrorism.

Violence against terrorists that lacks justice will only produce more violent terrorists who lack justice. But the effect of justice and righteousness will be peace.



Glen Stassen, professor of Christian ethics at Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena, Calif., is a former ethics professor at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville



"War has been declared on us. If we do not respond, terrorist atrocities against our people will continue to escalate."

Richard Land

"Violence against terrorists that lacks justice will only produce more violent terrorists who lack justice."

Glen Stassen

Kentucky Baptist gifts to CP top \$22 million for past year

By Trennis Henderson
Editor

LOUISVILLE—Kentucky Baptists contributed a record \$22.1 million through the Cooperative Program during the state convention's 2000-2001 fiscal year that concluded the end of August.

The total CP gifts of \$22,137,873 exceeded the budget goal by more than \$1.1 million. This marks the fifth consecutive year that CP contributions have outpaced the budget and the sixth straight year that gifts have exceeded the previous year's income.

"This growth in giving is especially significant because last year was such an outstanding year in receipts," said Bill Mackey, Kentucky Baptist Convention executive director. Citing the recent "economic downturn" across the nation, Mackey said Kentucky Baptists' level of giving is "very gratifying."

Cooperative Program gifts for the past year include 64.4 percent used for Kentucky Baptist-related ministries and 35.6 percent channeled to the Southern Baptist Convention for national and international ministry efforts.

Lowell Ashby, leader of the KBC's business services team, said this year's budget of \$22,417,500 is

an increase of 6.75 percent over last year's budget of \$21 million as well as an increase of 1.25 percent over the past year's receipts.

"We need \$279,000 more to meet this year's budget," Ashby said. "That's our challenge this year."

He noted that the 2001-2002 budget year also is the second year of a three-year plan to increase national SBC gifts to 36 percent. This year's budget includes 35.8 percent for SBC causes with a full 36 percent planned for the 2002-2003 budget.

Reflecting on the past year's giving record, Ashby added, "Kentucky Baptists have shown their loyalty and commitment to supporting Kentucky Baptist causes and worldwide causes through the Cooperative Program and other special gifts.

"It's very encouraging to see our major offerings continue to do well," he said. "It's a tremendous reflection on our churches and people."

"I'm grateful for the generosity of Kentucky Baptists and Kentucky Baptist churches," Mackey agreed. "This continued growth in giving indicates that Kentucky Baptists are committed to missions, evangelism and ministry in Kentucky and around the world.

"I praise God for Kentucky Baptists and their commitment to see the Great Commission fulfilled," he added. "It will mean additional funds and

ministry all across Kentucky and around the world."

In addition to the growth in CP giving, other offerings that experienced financial growth include:

■ Eliza Broadus State Missions Offering, up 7.8 percent to \$834,649.

■ Mother's Day Hospital Charity for Kentucky Baptist Health System, up 5.8 percent to \$11,116.

■ Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for International Missions, up 3.4 per-

cent to \$3,375,472.

Kentucky Baptist-related offerings that had a decline in the past year are:

■ Thanksgiving Offering for Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children, down 6.5 percent to \$911,507.

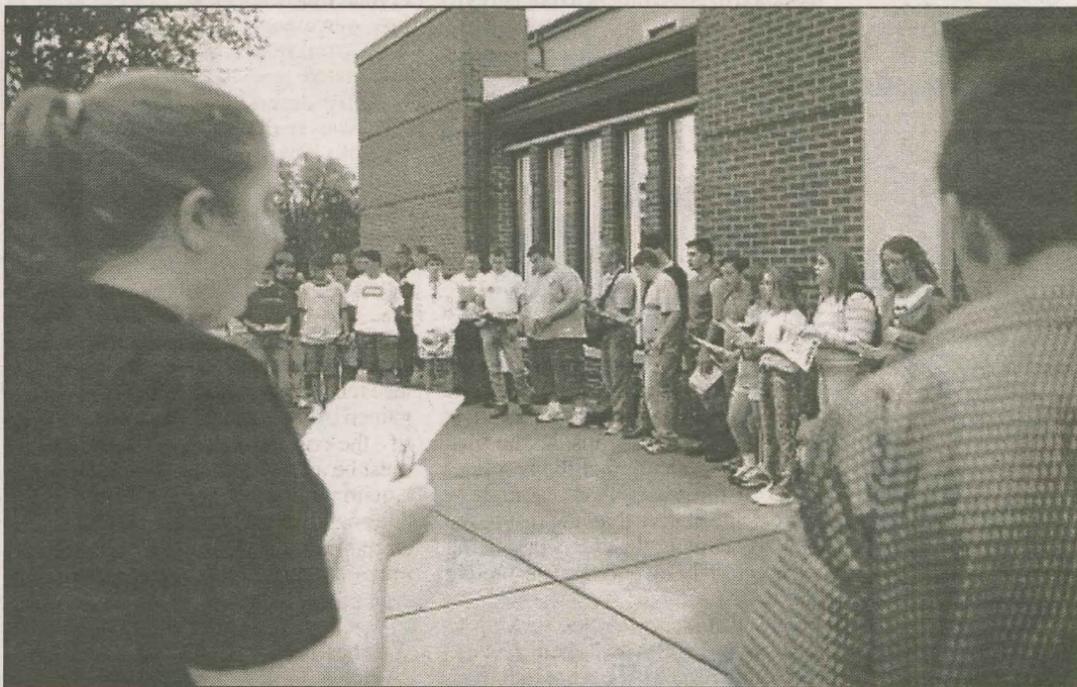
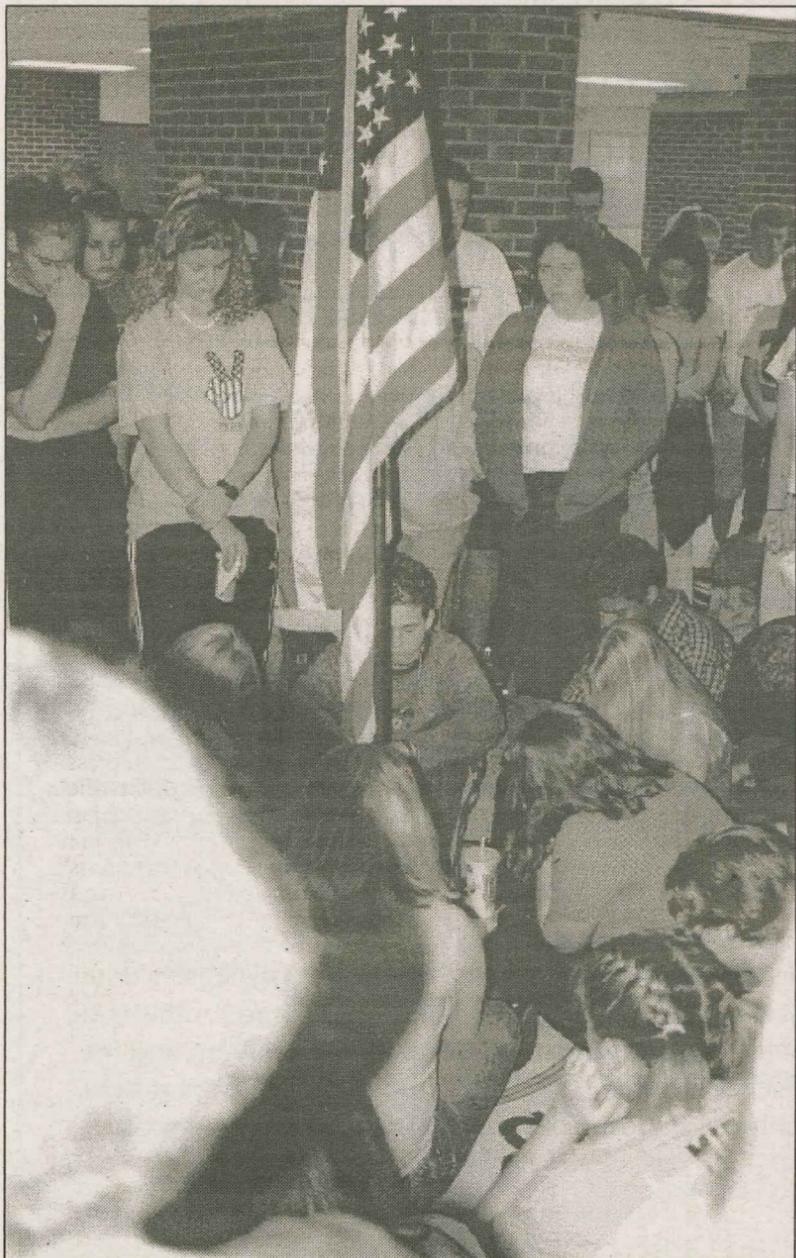
■ Barkley Moore Father's Day Offering for Onieda Baptist Institute, down 0.8 percent to \$19,026.

■ Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for North American Missions, down 0.2 percent to \$1,548,472.

Overview of KBC giving

	2000-2001	1999-2000	Change
Cooperative Program gifts received by KBC:	\$22,137,872	\$21,863,083	1.3%
Amount forwarded to SBC	\$7,881,082	\$7,730,349	1.9%
Amount used by KBC	\$14,256,790	\$14,132,734	0.9%
Undesignated income to KBC ministry budget:	\$14,737,209	\$14,541,863	1.3%
Amount from Cooperative Program	\$14,256,790	\$14,132,734	0.9%
Amount from Restricted Kentucky Only	\$480,419	\$409,129	17.4%
Designated gifts channeled through KBC:*			
Thanksgiving Offering (Children's Homes)	\$911,507	\$974,561	-6.5%
Mother's Day Hospital Charity	\$11,116	\$10,507	5.8%
Lottie Moon Christmas Offering	\$3,375,472	\$3,265,731	3.4%
Annie Armstrong Easter Offering	\$1,548,472	\$1,552,315	-0.2%
Eliza Broadus State Missions Offering	\$834,649	\$774,080	7.8%
Barkley Moore Father's Day Offering	\$19,026	\$19,178	-0.8%

* Not all gifts from Kentucky Baptist churches to designated offerings are channeled through the KBC, thus the actual amounts given by Kentucky Baptist churches to those causes will be higher than the amounts shown.



PRAYER RALLIES Thousands of students in Kentucky and across the nation gathered around school flagpoles Sept. 19 for the annual See You at the Pole student prayer emphasis. The event took on heightened urgency in the wake of the previous week's devastating terrorist attacks. In addition to praying for fellow students, teachers and administrators, the gatherings included prayers for victims of the attacks, rescue workers and government leaders. Some students even organized prayer meetings immediately after the attacks in addition to the See You at the Pole rallies. "This is something we can do," explained Jeff Viniard, a sophomore at South Oldham High School in Crestwood. "Prayer is a very strong tool. This is what we could do and I think this is what God wanted us to do." ■ **Left:** Rainy weather prompted students at Shelby County High School in Shelbyville to move their See You at the Pole activities into the high school foyer. Charles Gardner, co-president of the school's Fellowship of Christian Athletes, helped organize the event. "No. 1 is just praying for our school and hoping it's a visual witness," he said of the student-led prayer time. FCA co-president Tiffany Loy added, "It's very radical that you walk in a school and see a lot of kids gathered around a flagpole praying. In this time of national tragedy, students can make a contribution by lifting their prayers." ■ **Above:** About 85 students and faculty members gathered for See You at the Pole activities at Reidland High School in Paducah. The group sang several songs and formed a large prayer circle to pray for the nation before gathering in small groups to pray for specific prayer requests prior to the start of classes.



'Camp Unity' volunteers serve workers at Pentagon crash site

ARLINGTON, Va. (BP)—They call it Camp Unity, the place where hundreds of workers sifting through rubble, gathering remains or otherwise associated with the gaping chasm in the side of the Pentagon seek relief, comfort and sustenance.

Southern Baptist disaster relief volunteers from North Carolina were among the first to arrive in the south parking lot of the Pentagon the morning after the Sept. 11 terrorist attack. They have prepared more than 32,000 meals for the workers, with volunteer crews working around the clock in two shifts.

The workers coming through the lines run the gamut from office workers directly assigned to assist with the response, to workers in white hazardous materials containment suits, to black-uniformed officers and agents sporting an alphabet soup of abbreviations for their respective agencies.

Throughout Camp Unity, there is a spirit of gratefulness and cooperation. Tables are graced not only with fruit and snacks, but cards with messages of appreciation from schoolchildren. Volunteers issue verbal encouragement, talking with workers when they have opportunity.

Volunteers share the hope found in Christ when opportunities arrive, but more often they recognize theirs is a ministry of serving and listening. "It's a matter of planting the seeds," said Gaylon Moss, disaster relief director for North Carolina Baptists and supervisor for the Pentagon operation.

NY Baptists minister while people respond

By David Winfrey
News Director

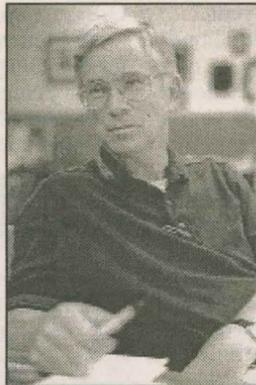
NEW YORK—To understand the scope of the New York tragedy, imagine a disaster in Elizabethtown that stretched to every community between there and Louisville to the north, Glasgow to the south, Danville to the east and past Leitchfield to the west.

Such is the impact in New York, where it's not uncommon for workers to commute more than an hour to work in the city, according to David Dean.

"It's affected all the communities in a 50-mile radius," said Dean, executive director for Metropolitan New York Baptist Association.

"There's a hole in the skyline of New York City, but it's nothing compared to the hole in the hearts of thousands of people," he said. "And I don't think we'll ever recover from that. It's just too much."

Working in an area with 20 million people and just 200 Southern Baptist churches, Dean said he already is accustomed to feeling overwhelmed.



DAVID DEAN The executive director of Metropolitan New York Baptist Association serves an area with 20 million people and 200 Baptist churches.

Now he's working to help pastors throughout the region know how best to minister. "They know their neighbors have lost someone," he said. "It's trying to help pastors learn how to deal with this massive grief that is all over this city."

Dean has seen a lot of suffering himself, serving as a chaplain near "ground zero," where the towers collapsed.

"The stench of death is there," he said, recalling seeing two brothers, a policeman and fireman, who had been digging in the rubble for a missing brother.

"I told them, 'There's nothing to say except God bless you and I'm praying for you,'" he recalled. "They really appreciated that."

Everyone is coming to terms with a variety of emotions, from feeling violated to hopeless, he said.

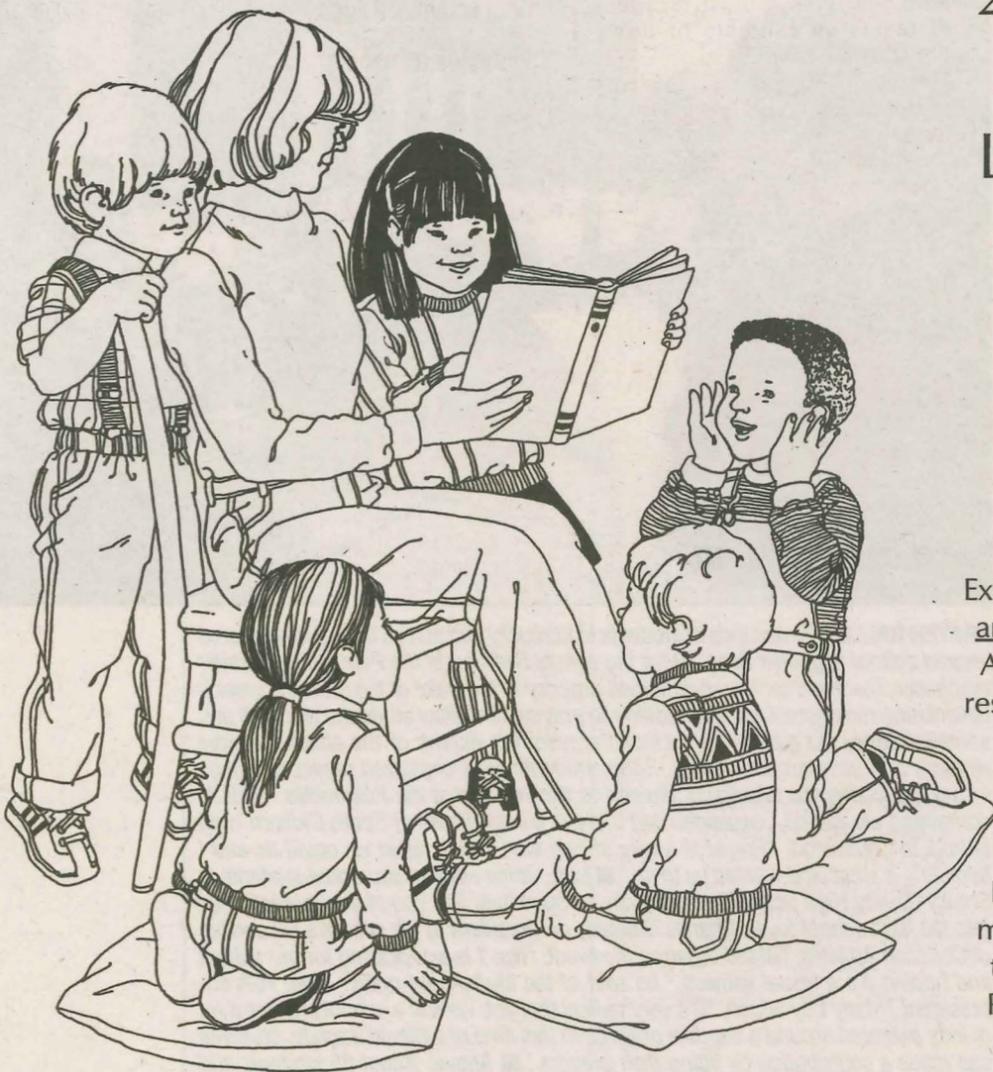
"You're mad and sad," he said. "First, you just have to grieve. I found myself walking down the street just weeping. I don't know a specific person yet that died. But it's just there."

The association's office is 100 blocks from where the World Trade Center towers used to stand. Despite the size of the area it serves, the association has only four professional staff plus two temporary workers from the Southern Baptist Convention's "Strategic Focus Cities" emphasis.

Dean said he appreciates all the prayers that have been said for him and his staff and the money sent for ministry, but added that he could do without the e-mails. Recently he got 144 e-mails in one day, but he had no time to respond.

He's working with the SBC North American Mission Board to attempt to start new Bible studies and churches as a result of the relationships built during the crisis.

New Yorkers have been open to the gospel since the tragedy, he said, but that won't last forever. "They're going to shut down this door of opportunity."



2001 Kentucky Baptist Convention November 12-14

Limited Care for Preschoolers and Children

During convention sessions
and Pastors' Conference
Regional Special Events Center
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Extended teaching care for a limited number of preschoolers and children (ages 6 weeks-5th grade) will be provided by **ADVANCE RESERVATION ONLY**—call (888) 254-5709 for reservation via Wendy Dever in Sunday School Department. Care will be provided on-site. Children must be picked up at meal times.

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



PRAYER CONFERENCE

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Dr. T.W. Hunt, nationally recognized prayer leader and author of *Disciple's PrayerLife*, *The Mind of Christ, In His Presence*, *The Doctrine of Prayer*, and compiler of *Church Prayer Ministry Manual*, will be in Kentucky ...



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Topics:

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- ◆ Principles of Asking

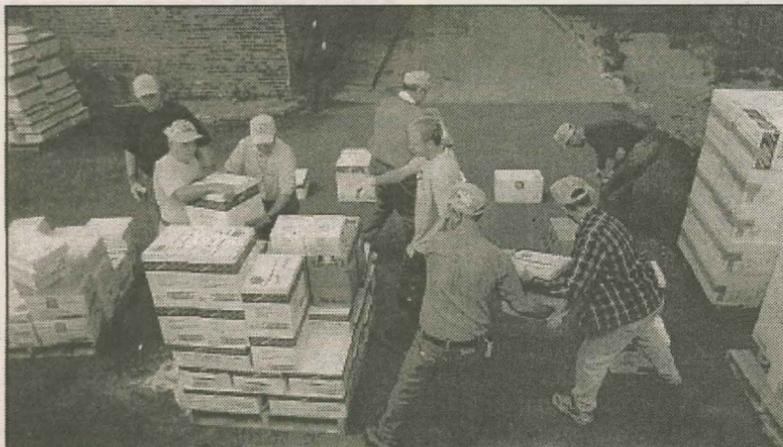
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There is no charge, but preregistration is requested. Call: (888) 254-5708 or (502) 245-4101. E-mail: Jim_Clontz@kybaptist.org



Discipleship Training Department



FOOD BY THE CARTON Kentucky disaster relief volunteers working in New York sort a recent delivery of food cartons according to type. (Photo by David Winfrey)

Feeding takes planning, lots of supplies

BROOKLYN, N.Y.—Feeding the victims and workers in New York takes a lot of volunteers and several truckloads of food.

Volunteers who respond first to a feeding assignment often arrive with both the mobile kitchen and the first cans of food they will cook.

From chili to pudding, most food is shipped in cases of No. 10 cans. A case will hold six cans, and each can holds about a gallon of food.

Because food shipments can take three days to arrive, leaders often initially order three days' worth of food, according to Harold Moore, a member of First Baptist Church of Ashland. Orders are based on conversations with American Red Cross leaders, who give Baptist disaster relief teams an estimate of how many meals they will need.

Afterward, Moore said, leaders order more food each day, adjusting the amounts according to the growing or declining need. "You just hope you get what you ordered," he added. —David Winfrey

Food service by the numbers

Below is a recent three-day food order that Kentucky Baptist disaster relief volunteers made in New York based on a request for 14,000 meals per day:

Meats	
Sausage	7,100 patties
Wieners	100 pounds
Chicken and dumplings	240 gallons
Beef stew	240 gallons
Bacon	500 pounds
Chili	480 gallons
Chicken breasts	8,000 pieces
Ground beef	150 pounds
Hamburger patties	4,000 pieces
Frozen scrambled eggs	160 half-gallon cartons
Vegetables (canned)	
corn	300 gallons
Green beans	360 gallons
Peas	150 gallons
Pork and beans	210 gallons
Fruits/desserts (canned)	
Fruit cocktail	300 gallons
Peaches	300 gallons
Pears	300 gallons
Pudding	300 gallons
Breads	
Biscuits	7,000 pieces
White bread	1,400 loaves
Spaghetti	360 pounds
Crackers	25 cases (1,000 crackers/case)
Sauces/soups	
Gravy	68 gallons
Sweet and sour sauce	48 gallons
Spaghetti sauce	90 gallons
Mushroom soup	120 gallons
Drinks	
Orange juice	3,456 4-ounce cans
Coffee	500 gallons
Lemonade	540 gallons
Fruit punch	540 gallons
Tea	264 gallons
Miscellaneous	
Plastic flatware kits	12,500
Non-dairy creamer	8,000 packets
Sugar	48,000 packets
12-ounce cups	50,000
Bleach (for cleaning)	36 gallons
Total cost:	\$11,461
Number of meals:	42,000
Cost per meal:	Approximately 27 cents

CELEBRATE THE MISSION

Friday, October 5, 7:00 p.m.
Saturday, October 6, 8:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
Yellow Creek Baptist Church, Owensboro, Kentucky

The Friday night worship time will feature firsthand testimonies of God's power to work through "On Mission" Christians as well as uplifting music and a powerful message from Clebe McCleary. Weekend participants will join together for local mission projects in the Owensboro area or choose to attend workshops that equip believers to be "On Mission" Christians.

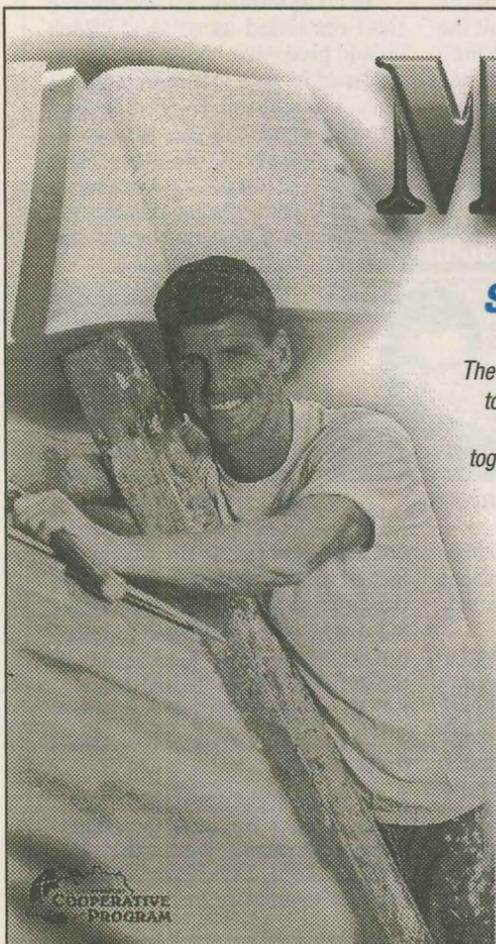
Workshops include:

- How to Begin a Men's Ministry in Your Church
- Becoming a Baptist Builder
- How to Become a Disaster Relief Responder
- Experiencing Life as a Camper On Mission
- Professional Christian Service Corps
- Assisting Eastern Kentucky through Eastern Kentucky Sunrise
- Renewal Weekend Events
- How to Use Your Favorite Past Time to Impact People for the Kingdom.
- Becoming an "On Mission Church."

For more information contact the Brotherhood Department: 888-254-5720 (toll free KY), 502-244-6488 or by e-mail: dwayne.doyle@kybaptist.org



Visit our Web site www.kybaptist.org



COOPERATIVE PROGRAM



NATIONAL NOTES

■ **Conservative leaders urge revival amid crisis.** A coalition of conservative evangelical leaders says the terrorist attacks on Sept. 11 are a result of America's sin, calling for revival and repentance. The statement, drafted by Campus Crusade for Christ founder Bill Bright, declares, "In many ways, the results of the recent days are a reflection of the crumbling foundation of America. It is time to reflect and repent." It urges pastors to use the crisis to "spark the flames of revival." Supporters include James Merritt, president of the Southern Baptist Convention; James Dobson, president of Focus on the Family; and televangelist Pat Robertson.

■ **Falwell apologizes for "stupid" remarks.** Jerry Falwell apologized last week for saying that liberals helped cause the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks on the United States. Falwell was roundly criticized—including a rebuke from the White House—for saying on Pat Robertson's 700 Club program that the terrorist attacks were "probably what we deserve" because liberal groups have tried to secularize America. Falwell singled out gays and lesbians, abortionists and liberal advocacy groups. "All of them who have tried to secularize America—I point the finger in their face and say, 'You helped this happen,'" Falwell said Sept. 13. In a statement issued Sept. 18, Falwell called his remarks, "insensitive, uncalled for at the time and unnecessary as part of the commentary on this destruction." He added Sept. 20 that his comments were "indefensible" and "stupid."

■ **Peace fellowship urges non-violent response.** With military retaliation for the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks seemingly imminent, the Baptist Peace Fellowship of North America urges world leaders to seek justice through nonviolent means. Acknowledging "the outrage and fear that generates a retaliatory response," the Sept. 19 statement called on world leaders to "seek justice through non-violent means, efforts that can build toward the prospects of peace instead of war."

Christians urged to avoid anti-Muslim hysteria

NEW YORK CITY—Extremists who attacked the World Trade Center and the Pentagon are not typical of the world's 1.2 billion Muslims, most of whom are as outraged over the attacks as anyone, Muslim and Christian leaders agree. Christians must be sure they don't succumb to anti-Muslim hysteria fueled by the attacks, they added.

Several television news programs have replayed footage of Palestinians rejoicing at America's plight. Scattered attacks on mosques and harassment of Arabs and Muslims in the United States have raised fears of vigilante actions against innocent people because of their race or religion.

"You have to realize the Muslim world is huge, and there is diversity within the Muslim world," said Robert Douglas, professor of intercultural studies at Lincoln (Ill.) Christian Sem-

inary. "My sense is that, yes, Islam does have a few extremists, and so does Christianity. We ought not to stereotype."

Given the fear Muslims in the United States are feeling toward possible reprisals, Douglas said Christians need to make concerted efforts to show love.

"Christians need to be loving toward their neighbors," he said. "After all, our Teacher has said to us to love one another and to love our enemy. We have to recognize that our neighbors and the colleagues that we work with are not our enemies."

The American public should remember that Muslims also suffered in the attack, said Aly Abuzaakouk, executive director of the American Muslim Council.

"We need people to remember that

American Muslims are also the victims of what is happening," he said. "There were American Muslims in the World Trade Center, American Muslims in the Pentagon. American Muslims are as much a part of America as anyone else."

Salam Al-Marayati, national director of the Muslim Public Affairs Council, said the attacks "go beyond any religious legitimacy or validation."

"These are acts committed by criminals and nothing any decent human being could reconcile with any religion," he said. "We have to look for the individuals responsible for these crimes and attacks against our country and not blame a whole religion or people."

Based on reporting by Baptist Press and Religion News Service

Bush: Nation's Muslim citizens deserve respect

WASHINGTON (RNS)—Quoting from Islam's holiest book, President Bush visited the Washington Islamic Center Sept. 17 to declare that "Islam is peace," and to denounce the recent spate of anti-Muslim violence as "not the America I know."

In the days following the Sept. 11 attacks, Muslims in California discovered what appeared to be pig's blood thrown on the door of a mosque. Shots were fired at an Islamic center in Irving, Texas. Near Chicago, police thwarted some 300 non-Muslims who tried to protest at a mosque. Fear of attacks led to the cancellation of class-

es at Muslim schools in Detroit and Los Angeles. Some mosques considered canceling Friday prayers.

Such violent behavior is not representative of America, Bush said.

"Those who feel like they can intimidate our fellow citizens to take out their anger don't represent the best of America," he said. "They represent the worst of humankind. And they should be ashamed of that kind of behavior."

Terrorism "is not the true faith of Islam," he said. "That's not what Islam is all about. Islam is peace. These terrorists don't represent peace—they

represent evil and war."

Muslims contribute much to the country and deserve respect, Bush said.

"The Muslims are doctors, lawyers, law professors, members of the military, entrepreneurs, shopkeepers, mothers and fathers, and they need to be treated with respect," he said.

"Women who cover their heads in this country must feel comfortable going outside their homes," Bush added. "Moms who wear covering must not be intimidated in America. That's not the America I know; that's not the America I value."

God still is working

Two weeks ago we experienced one of the most devastating moments in this nation's history. I won't try to add my words and response to the events that so impacted our country. It was a very challenging week. Yet for me it also was a week in which I was reminded of the great work of God through Kentucky Baptists across the state.

My week began with a Monday meeting of Lynn Baptist Association, held at Boiling Springs Baptist Church a few miles outside Mundefordville. Obviously, this meeting was held the day before the World Trade Center catastrophe, so the mood was upbeat as I listened to the glowing reports of the ministries of the churches of Lynn association. I was there representing the Kentucky Baptist Convention and the agencies and institutions of the KBC.

I also had the opportunity to speak on the progress of Cedarmore and Jonathan Creek. As I told stories of how God is working at our conference centers, I heard testimony from moderator Brian Curry who had experienced salvation years earlier at the Royal Ambassadors' camp at Cedarmore. His brother had the same experience. Report after report gave testimony to the

movement of God among His people working together in this association.

Then on Friday evening I found myself in Eastern Kentucky at McVeigh Church for the Pike Association gathering. I was warmly welcomed by my friend and host pastor, Tommy Reed. While the mood was more subdued, once again I found myself engaged by the reports. There still was a buzz in the air regarding the success of the recently completed area crusade led by Rick Gage. There was excitement due to the fact that about 450 decisions were registered during this great event. Report after report brought good news of the movement of God in the mountains of Eastern Kentucky.

I drove back late Friday night, with time to ponder the week. Both associational meetings served as strengthening bookends to an otherwise horrible week. I was reminded that through all the horrors of the events in New York and Washington, D.C., God truly was working. And He will continue to move across this state and elsewhere.

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

KENTUCKY BAPTIST ASSEMBLIES



Rusty Ellison

Thrillionaires

There is an organization called "More Than Money." Its membership is comprised of people dedicated to the advocacy of philanthropy. They want to make certain those who are busy accumulating all the things money can buy do not miss out on the real joy of what money will support. The More Than Money members claim life is about giving, not accumulating. They assist the top 5 percent of the nation's "net worthers" to take leadership, earn, give and leave a legacy.

The chair of this fascinating organization with its headquarters in Nashville is Ruth Ann Harnisch. In a recent publication of Contributions, she was portrayed as driven, compulsive with the desire to encourage men and women to philanthropy now. She wants to help them start letting loose of their money now, not later.

She herself has millions. As far as she is concerned, she is committed to giving it all away. She loves calling on people for gifts for various causes, and she makes no judgment on who should give and how much. She calls herself a donor activist who gives people the opportunity to invest in growth, spirit and a great cause. Her job is not to ex-

tract money from people by force. She tells them if they are not thrilled to make the gift, do not do it. What she wants are thrillionaires!

In 2 Corinthians 9:7 the apostle Paul reminded us of this, "Each should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." If you are not already a thrillionaire, there is something missing in your spiritual relationship to Christ that needs immediate attention.

Let me give you some biblical examples of thrillionaires. Consider the widow on a fixed income in Mark 12:41-44. What about Zacchaeus, a hard-nosed businessman, in Luke 19:1-10? Consider the single woman in Mark 14:1-9 and Barnabas who gave with no strings attached in Acts 4:36-37. How about the Macedonians in 2 Corinthians 8:1-5 who gave out of their extreme poverty? Of course, Jesus stands as the supreme example and motivation for giving in 2 Corinthians 8:9.

Experience God's love, be a thrillionaire!

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

KENTUCKY BAPTIST FOUNDATION



Barry Allen



Detained workers in limbo amid U.S.-Afghan wrangling

WACO, Texas (BP)—The plight of two American women on trial in Afghanistan for allegedly sharing their Christian faith is even more precarious after the attacks on two key U.S. cities Sept. 11, according to the women's pastor.

The fate of the two U.S. women, Dayna Curry, 29, and Heather Mercer, 24, also could be affected by the arrests during the previous weekend of 35 more Afghan aid workers. The latest arrests involved several Afghans employed by the International Assistance Mission, a group recently banned by the Taliban.

Compass Direct news service reported the arrests Sept. 12, saying they

were suspected of aiding in Christian work. The report cites a mounting animosity toward Christianity by the ruling Taliban authorities.

Jimmy Seibert, senior pastor of Antioch Community Church in Waco, Texas, has been in contact by e-mail with Curry and Mercer's families. The two women, both graduates of Baylor University in Waco, Texas, work for a German-based Christian aid organization, Shelter Now.

Six other international workers—four from Germany and two from Australia—and 16 Afghan citizens affiliated with Shelter Now also were arrested. But only the foreign residents currently are being tried.

Antioch associate pastor Kevin Johnson said church members are praying that the women will be miraculously freed in the same manner as the apostle Paul in Acts 12.

"We're believing for the same thing to take place from our prayers," Johnson said, "that the doors would be opened, an angel would surround them and they would be set free."

The United Nations ordered all of its 80 employees out of Afghanistan Sept. 13, Associated Press reported. It also noted that the women's parents reluctantly left the country.

In a news conference last week in Islamabad, Pakistan, Mercer's mother, Deborah Oddy, told of writing a

farewell letter before they left Afghanistan. John Mercer said he pleaded unsuccessfully with the Taliban to let him take his daughter's place in jail.

Seibert said Curry and Mercer and the other foreigners who went on trial before Afghanistan's Supreme Court in early September were allowed consular access Sept. 11. The Washington Post reported, however, proceedings have been delayed because the Taliban has refused to grant the aid workers' defense attorney a visa.

Despite widespread press reports that they are accused of preaching Christianity to Muslims, the Antioch pastor said no formal charges have been lodged against the defendants.

Muslim leaders warn against aiding U.S. effort

BEIRUT, Lebanon (RNS)—A Shi'ite Muslim leader in Lebanon has issued an edict banning Muslims from participating in any U.S. military retaliation against Muslim countries suspected of complicity in the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks on New York and the Pentagon, Reuters reported.

"It is not permissible for any Islamic party, country, ruler or political movement to extend any military, security or economic assistance to the United States in its war against any Muslim country or any Muslim faction," Sheikh Mohammed Hussein Fadlallah said.

The Shi'ite scholar—once connected to Hezbollah, the Iranian-supported Lebanese group that prompted Israel's long occupation of southern Lebanon—denounced the terrorist attacks as "horrifying." But he warned that retaliation that harms the innocent along with the guilty will fuel resentment toward Washington's foreign policy regarding the Middle East.

A similar demand came from the Palestinian group Hamas.

"Hamas urges Arab and Muslim nations not to give approval, support or cover for this announced war on Afghanistan or any other Islamic or Arab country," the statement said.

Egyptian Christians pray for U.S. churches

CAIRO (BP)—As shock waves from the attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon continue to reverberate worldwide, Christians in Egypt are grieving for America's loss—and praying for America's churches.

"I think this is a sort of shaking, a warning, a calling to the church in America," said one Egyptian Christian physician, a leader of Egypt's small but growing prayer movement. "I think God is saying, 'Awake, you giant of faith, and come back to your call as an example to the other nations and to the whole world.'"

Confusion and frustration are rising as Egyptians hear reports of Arabs and Muslims harassed and assault-

ed in the United States. Sameh Tawfik, pastor of Kasr El-Dobara Evangelical Church in Cairo, warned that the backlash from Muslim frustration will fall on Arab Christians.

"The repercussions will be felt more and more in the next few weeks," he said. "We will pay the price here as Christians for what's happening to Arabs in the U.S."

"This is the hour we have to demonstrate the kingdom and the fullness of the gospel," Tawfik said. "Jesus taught us to love our enemies, to pray for them. ... I'm not speaking to the U.S. as a nation or as a government. I agree that justice has to take place. I'm speaking to the church as believers. We want to raise a movement to pray for all the Arabs and to love them."

KENTUCKY BAPTIST CONVENTION 2001 MESSENGER CARDS

ATTENTION PASTORS:

Messenger cards for voting privileges at the KBC are available upon request from the KBC Executive Office. Avoid long lines at the convention—request your messenger cards now.

Please make your requests to:
Kentucky Baptist Convention
PO Box 43433
Louisville, KY 40253-0433
Attn: Wanda Karolyi
Wanda.Karolyi@kybaptist.org
Deadline: Nov. 5, 2001

Missions in Taiwan

By Robert Dunston

Cumberland College sophomore Melinda Etter spent her summer ministering in Taiwan. Etter is the daughter of David Etter, associate professor of music at Cumberland College, and his wife, Teresa.

Etter wanted to be involved in summer missions overseas so she logged on to the Southern Baptist International Mission Board Web site to investigate the possibilities.

Her initial interest focused on Africa but two assignments already were filled and a mission coordinator called her saying the third assignment could not effectively employ her skills and interests. He suggested two opportunities in Asia. Etter applied for the assignment in Taiwan and was accepted.

Once accepted as part of the four-member Taiwan team, Etter excitedly began the process of getting her passport and visa and preparing for the trip. She also spent much time praying for the missionaries in Taiwan and their work and for the work of the summer team.

The team's original assignment was to do drama in parks and night

markets and to engage in prayer walking.

Etter attended several preparatory conferences but she also talked with Paige Kolok, another Cumberland College student who had served in Taiwan during the summer of 2000. Kolok gave Etter the names of a couple of Taiwanese students to contact when she arrived.

CUMBERLAND COLLEGE



After arriving, Etter contacted the individuals and quickly found them to be wonderful resources.

In addition to their originally assigned duties, team members set up English corners in the markets so people could stop by and practice their English with them. The English corners gave them wonderful opportunities to share their faith.

They also held Bible studies in a coffee shop and participated in two English camps, telling Bible stories and teaching songs in English. Etter had the opportunity to share Christ with one of the little girls at camp and the girl later prayed to accept Jesus into her heart.

We thank Etter for her enthusiastic and joyous service to Christ.

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

Amid Sept. 11's chaos, a family is born

For Greg and Connie Pierson, the road to parenthood has been difficult. Through their married years, they watched as friends, family and co-workers were blessed with children, yet the family they wanted to build together eluded them.

As Greg and Connie researched their options and prayed for discernment, they decided to find out more about international adoptions. That search led them to KBHC's Pregnancy and Adoption Services.

They began the exciting and often challenging process of adopting a child from another country. After their adoption of 3-year-old Alexandra was finalized, the couple had to wait up to 30 days before they could bring "Ally" to her new home,

so they returned to Kentucky and decided that Connie would make the trip back to Ukraine without Greg.

On Sept. 11, Connie and Alexandra were on the main leg of their journey from Europe to the United States when two commercial airliners flew into the World Trade Center towers in New York and a third crashed into the Pentagon in Washington, D.C.

As death and horror unfolded on the ground, Connie, Ally and their

fellow passengers were re-routed to Canada.

Like so many people who had loved ones in the air during the attack, Greg must have been in agony. What questions this couple must have asked themselves: After all the years of waiting, praying, working and hoping for a family, was the dream going to fall short again?

The answer was "no." God sheltered the diverted plane to Toronto where Connie and Ally then boarded a bus for Detroit. At 2 a.m. on Sept. 12, Greg began the long drive to Michigan to bring his family home. They arrived back in Kentucky that evening, exhausted, but safe and sound.

The devastating loss of Sept. 11 makes us all the more grateful for this happy ending. As the sinful heart of man worked to snuff out peace, God shepherded this little girl into the arms of parents who sacrificed much to bring her into their lives.

This family is a bright light in a dimly lit world.

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

HOMES FOR CHILDREN



Bill Smithwick

KENTUCKY

Come Hear Dr. Jerry Rankin President International Mission Board



"We are honored to have one of God's choice servants leading us in a great day of celebration"

Tim Alexander,
Senior Pastor, Florence Baptist Church
Trustee, International Mission Board

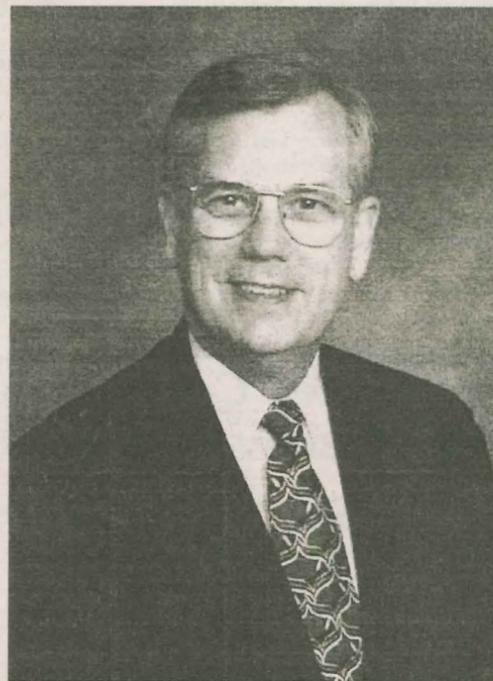
Sunday, October 7, 2001

Florence Baptist Church

283 Main Street, Florence, KY
(859) 371-7141
9:00 & 10:30 AM

Ashland Avenue Baptist Church

163 North Ashland Avenue, Lexington, KY
(859) 266-4341
6:00PM



Dr. Jerry Rankin
President, International Mission Board

'I am simply glad to be alive!'

In the fall of 1985 a young man from Bromley, Ky., enrolled in our school. His mother was a single parent, and like many single parents she was having some difficulties raising her children. The older son, Brad, was interested in coming to Oneida.

We were told that Brad had real artistic talent. His mother said he needed male role models and that he had been experimenting with drugs. Like many OBI students, Brad came from a low-income family. When the family couldn't pay the few dollars per month agreed on for room and board, he was put on a full scholarship.

Brad was not an instant success, and at times we were not sure we were going to have any real success at all. Already struggling academically when he enrolled, Brad's grades ranged from A's to F's during his first year.

To no one's surprise, he made all A's in art. I remember walking past Brad's dormitory room night after night, watching him work on many of his art projects. For several weeks he had been painting a scene that showed the ocean waves as

they crashed against the rocky cliffs. I was amazed at the detail of his work, as well as the amount of time he spent each night on that painting.

I stopped one night to chat and I asked him how much longer he was going to spend on that particular painting. He looked at me and then back at his work. Then he asked me if there were something wrong with his painting. I replied, "No, there is nothing wrong with it. I just don't understand how it could take you so long to complete it." I went on to tell him that I personally did not like to draw or paint and it would take me only a few minutes to draw such a scene. He laughed and replied that it

might take me only a few minutes, but the finished work would not look quite like his. A point well taken, I might add. Brad graduated in 1988.

With all of his artistic skills, we were a little surprised to later discover that Brad had enlisted in the Air Force. A year or two ago, Brad asked me if I would assist him in securing a position in Air Force intelligence. I was happy to later learn that Brad had been accepted into intelligence at the Pentagon.

I received an e-mail from Brad on Sept. 12 and I would like to share it with you. "Sir. This morning, more than another, I am simply glad to be alive. My office is only two corridors from the massive impact of the hijacked aircraft that was flown into the Pentagon. As we were gathered around the television yesterday morning, in utter disbelief of what was transpiring in New York, suddenly the corridor exploded with a force that shattered windows, sent people sprawling to the floor and filled the halls with black smoke.

"As we sit solemnly in the same office this morning, while the building continues to smolder, and the sidewalks are littered with the charred remains of our fallen comrades, we are each filled with a surreal concoction of raw emotion, of pride, sorrow, sympathy, gratitude and anger.

"God bless the families of those stricken by this horrific, unthinkable tragedy, and God bless America, on this, truly one of her darkest hours. Respectfully, SSgt. Bradley S. Day, Office of the Secretary, United States Air Force."

W.F. Underwood is president of Oneida Baptist Institute, P.O. Box 67, Oneida, KY 40972. www.oneidaschool.org; e-mail: president@oneidaschool.org

THIS IS ONEIDA



W.F. Underwood

God is still in the miracle business

An amateur mountaineer since high school in Idaho, businessman Mark Chase saw his life change drastically in July 2000. He fell hundreds of feet in a catastrophic mountaineering accident in the Colorado Mountains.

Chase was on his fourth and most aggressive climb in recent weeks, climbing the steep eastern face of Torrey's Peak, just outside Georgetown, Colo.

"The route I picked was a real challenge but when I hiked to the base of the mountain I saw another route that seemed more challenging, a vertical band of snow snaking its way up the center of the mountain—Dead Dog couloir.

"The climbing was hard and the air thin but I was enjoying every mo-

ment," Chase remembered. A few hours of steady climbing brought him near the summit ridge just above 14,000 feet. With the route blocked by a huge outcropping of rock he decided to climb around it through the snow.

"After only a few feet of tough climbing I slipped and began falling. I plunged my trekking pole into the snow but it held me only for a short while. With a loud 'ping' it pulled free; my body slammed

against rocks, bounced and tumbled hundreds of feet down the mountain," he said.

"I would have died up there had it not been for me tossing my cell phone into my backpack early that morning.

"With a broken back and arm and a horribly twisted leg, I needed immediate help. The phone worked and the Alpine Rescue Team reached me after five hours.

"I am living proof that God is still in the miracle business." On July 19, 2001, Chase and his son, Sean, returned to the same mountain and reached the summit at 12:45 p.m.

Chase attended Clear Creek in 1976-77. "Although I was only at Clear Creek one year, it was a time of personal growth that continues to influence my life," he said.

"I am grateful that the Lord is providing opportunities to tell my story, glorify His name and motivate others to abandon their fear of limitations and trust God."

Chase's story has been featured in Guideposts and Outdoor magazines.

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

CLEAR CREEK CHRONICLE

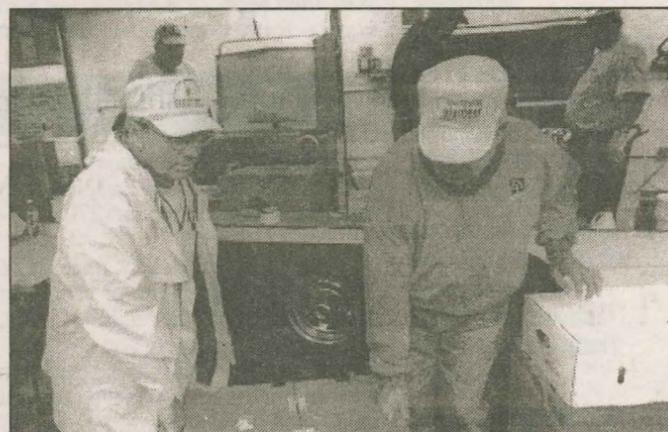
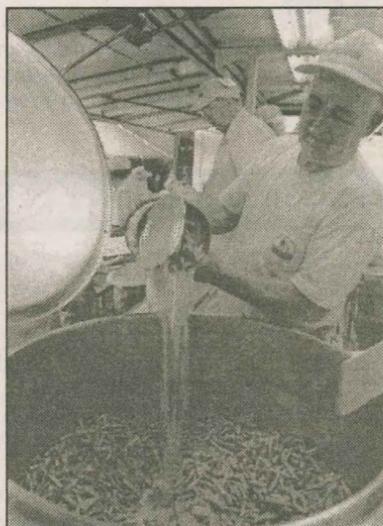
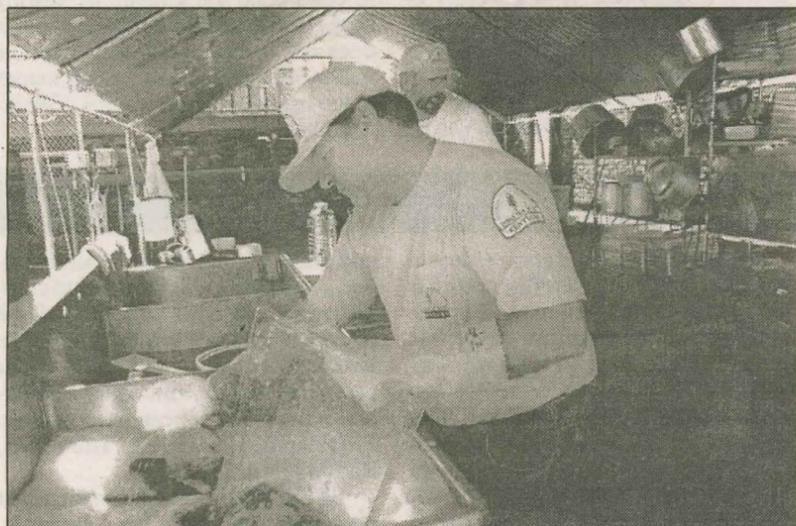
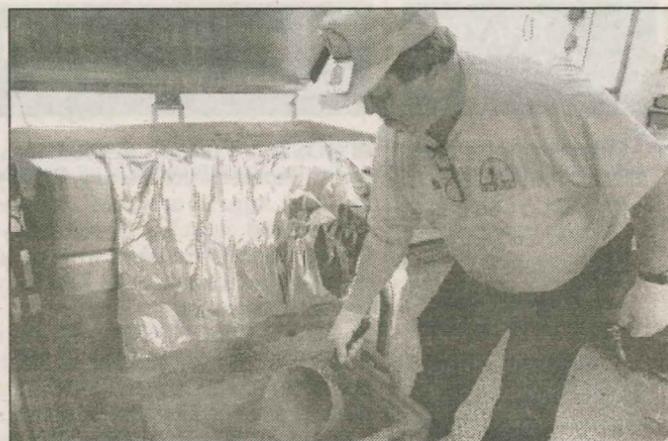


Bill Whittaker

In God
We Trust



PEOPLE



KENTUCKY VOLUNTEERS More than 130 Kentucky Baptists have responded to the request to help feed victims and workers after the attack on the World Trade Center towers in New York City. Volunteers are stationed at a two-story warehouse directly underneath the Brooklyn Bridge. From top left: ■ A banner announces to local residents that Kentucky Baptists have arrived. ■ Michael Eads, a member of Tyrone Baptist Church in Anderson County, scoops beef stew into an insulated food container that will be transported to help feed American Red Cross workers. ■ Darlene Prewitt (left) and Debbie Croley, members of Main Street Baptist Church in Williamsburg, prepare bacon for the Kentucky volunteers' breakfast. ■ David Daniels and Bob Wilson wash food containers. ■ Bill Fischer, a member of Buckner Baptist Church, pours green beans into a cooker. ■ Rex Bowling, a member of Fort Mitchell Baptist Church, and Ed Meadows, a member of First Baptist Church of Cannonsburg, carry an insulated food container from the kitchen. ■ Volunteers unload food from a truck. ■ Curt Smith, a member of Fellowship Baptist Church in South Shore (left), Joyce Flagler and Rob Best, members of Falmouth Baptist Church, wash and sterilize buckets. ■ Adam Shelton, a member of Aberdeen Baptist Church in Maysville, sweeps water out of a kitchen area after a storm. ■ Harold Shelton, Adam's dad, drives a forklift loaded with food. (Photos by David Winfrey)

PRAYER PARTNERS

Please pray for these specific needs related to the Sept. 11 attacks in New York City and Washington, D.C., and the plane crash in Pennsylvania:

■ Kentucky Baptist disaster relief volunteers led by Larry Koch who are serving meals to relief workers in New York City.

■ The many New Yorkers with whom Kentucky Baptist disaster relief volunteer have had opportunity to share the gospel.

■ New Yorkers who have made professions of faith in Jesus as Savior as a result of the ministry of Kentucky Baptist disaster relief volunteers.

■ Pastors and churches in a 50-mile radius of the World Trade Center who have been affected by the loss of family, friends and co-workers.

■ Families of those who died or remain missing in the four plane crashes, the World Trade Center and the Pentagon.

■ Chaplains who are ministering in New York and Washington, D.C.

■ The staff of Metropolitan New York Baptist Association and Executive Director David Dean.

■ The staff of the Baptist Convention of the District of Columbia.

■ Arab-Americans in Kentucky and around the nation.

Mountains to the Mississippi

Compiled by staff

■ **BUSSEYVILLE**—Retired Kentucky Baptist pastor **Henry Bussey Jr.**, died Aug. 25 at age 85. Bussey, who served churches in Kentucky, Georgia and Ohio, also worked in mountain missions for the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

■ **CRAB ORCHARD**—Drakes Creek Church will celebrate its 200th anniversary Sept. 30 with a 10:45 a.m. service, followed by dinner under a tent and a 1:30 p.m. service. **Bobby Brooks** is pastor.

■ **LATONIA**—Ashland Avenue Church will host **Danny Funderburk and Mercys Way** in concert Oct. 13 at 7 p.m. For information, call (859) 431-1624. **William Class** is pastor.

■ **LOUISVILLE**—Hurstbourne Church will begin a casual Saturday evening worship service Oct. 20 at 5 p.m. For information, call (502) 426-2444. **Jon Bishop** is pastor.

Parkland Church called **Jennifer Finney** as associate minister of music to children. **Tom Curry** is pastor.

■ **OWENSBORO**—**Doris Yeiser**, a longtime member of the Kentucky Baptist Convention Executive Board staff, died Sept. 23 at age 81. She also was a former secretary for First

Church of Owensboro. Her funeral service will be Sept. 29 at 2 p.m. at Davis Funeral Home in Owensboro. Memorial gifts may be made to the Doris B. Yeiser Center for Kentucky Baptist Archives.

■ **PADUCAH**—Bellview Church will hold homecoming activities Sept. 30 with **Morris Chapman**, president of the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee, as guest speaker in the 10 a.m. service. Activities also will include a 9 a.m. Celebration Choir concert led by **Chad Davidson**, minister of music/youth, and an 11:15 a.m. meal. **Lee James** is pastor.

■ **RICHMOND**—Gilead Church called **Michael Barnes** as pastor. He previously served White Hall Church.

■ **VERSAILLES**—**Chris Briggs** has resigned as associate minister of discipleship and youth at Versailles Church. He will be serving a church in Texas.

■ **WESTPORT**—Westport Church will host **David Livingston** in concert Sept. 30 at 10:45 a.m. For information, call (502) 222-0745. **Lynn Traylor** is pastor.

Attacks 'hard to fully fathom,' BJCPA leader tells Campbellsville students

CAMPBELLSVILLE—"Our lives have been changed forever," Brent Walker, told Campbellsville University students and faculty in the aftermath of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks on the United States.

Walker, executive director of the Washington, D.C.-based Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, spoke on the Campbellsville campus Sept. 19 in a forum sponsored by the school's Kentucky Heartland Institute on Public Policy.

"Americans have suffered the most hellish act of aggression against civilians on our native soil—at least since the British burned the Capitol and White House on an August day in 1814," Walker said. "No longer will the perennial question be the one my parents asked, 'Where were you when Pearl Harbor was bombed?' or, 'Where were you when President Kennedy was assassinated?' as my generation has queried.

"For this generation of Americans it will always be, 'Where were you when the hijacked airliners crashed into the World Trade Center and the Pentagon and thousands died?'"

Walker said he could see the smoke rising from the Pentagon as he

gazed out his office window in downtown Washington.

"As the Baptist Joint Committee staff prepared to leave the building," he noted, "we paused to pray for the unfolding situation that turned out to be even worse than we then knew.

"It is still hard to fully fathom the enormity of that day," Walker said. "But in another sense, I wonder if we are not still too close to the tragedy to fully appreciate its implications. I simply cannot get my mind around it.

"As we respond to this horrific tragedy, personally and nationally, we have important choices to make," he said. "We can put our arms around each other, commiserate in the loss of innocence and bask, as Franklin Roosevelt said, in the 'warm courage of our national unity.' And as we do, we should support efforts to seek justice, punish the wrong doers and prevent this kind of thing ever happening again.

"But we also need to be careful not to compound the tragedy by sowing seeds of hate, casting blame where it does not belong, seeking vengeance rather than justice and adding names to the list of innocent victims," Walker added.

CLASSIFIED ADS

AVAILABLE: Seminary graduate, age 49, for bivocational pastorate, Western Kentucky area. (270) 247-1373.

FOR SALE: Really nice 1974 GMC 47-passenger motor coach, in great condition with reclining seats, excellent AC, restroom and large luggage bays. This coach has been very well maintained; it is serviced and ready to drive anywhere. It is priced at only \$25,000 and can be seen at Gardenside Baptist in Lexington. Call (859) 277-7391 and ask for Dale Hanson or David Dale.

FOR SALE: Willisburg Baptist Church, located in Willisburg, Ky., has the following pews for sale: 24 13-foot, 7-inch pews; two 7-foot, 6-inch pews; one 15-foot pew; one 18-foot pew; and two 3-foot, 4-inch pulpit pews. Asking price: \$5,500. If interested, call (859) 375-2227.

FOR SALE: Church pews and more. 12 oak pews, 10 feet in length; 2 pulpit pews, 4 feet in length; large pulpit podium with storage; communion table. All match. Call: (502) 633-1710, 647-1550.

FOR SALE: Antique walnut corner cupboard (1820s). Kentucky or Virginia origin. Solid lower doors with original glass in upper doors. Beautiful rare cabinet. \$4,500. Call (502) 608-7706 for questions or appointment.

SEEKING: First Baptist Church is accepting resumés for full-time pastor. Please send to: Pastor Search Committee, First Baptist Church, 405 Kentucky Ave., Pineville, KY 40977.

SEEKING: Associate director for Temperance League of Kentucky, in training, to assume full directorship upon retirement of present director. Send resumé to Tyre Denney, 911 Oak Drive, Lawrenceburg, KY 40342; fax: (859) 223-1209; by Oct. 20.

SEEKING: Perryville Baptist Church in Boyle County, Ky., is seeking a full-time pastor for a congregation of 450 members. Average worship attendance will exceed 200. Send resumé to: Pastor Search Committee, Perryville Baptist Church, PO Box 26, Perryville, KY 40468. Fax to: (859) 332-8729.

SEEKING: Memorial Baptist Church of Frankfort is searching for a full-time worship pastor. Responsibilities will include planning and conducting a comprehensive program of music and arts with an emphasis on blended worship. Interested candidates may send a resumé to: MBC, 130 Holmes St., Frankfort, KY 40601.

SEEKING: Bagdad Baptist Church is prayerfully seeking a full-time pastor. We are located in Shelby County, Ky., 40 miles east of Louisville. Send resumé to Jim Wiley, 1676, Old Seven Mile Pike, Shelbyville, KY 40065. Call: (502) 633-1890.

SEEKING: Hunsinger Lane Baptist Church, a growing congregation in the Louisville metro (east) area, is seeking a full-time youth minister (middle school through college). Applicants should have a definite calling to ministry and significant prior experience. Send resumé to: Hunsinger Lane Baptist Church, 3400 Summerfield Drive, Louisville, KY 40220. (502) 491-4356. E-mail: hunsinger.office@att.net. Attn: Student Minister Search Team.

SEEKING: East Bend Baptist, a small country church, is accepting resumés for a dedicated pastor. We average 27-30 for SS and Wednesday and Sunday evening services—more in morning worship. Parsonage available. Send resumés to: East Bend Baptist Church, 12246 Lower River Road, Union, KY 41091, Attn: Search Committee.

SEEKING: First Baptist Church, Radford, Va., is receiving nominations, recommendations and applications for the position of senior pastor. First Baptist Church was founded in 1886 and currently has approximately 500 members. The mission of FBC-Radford is to proclaim to everyone we can reach in His name, that Jesus Christ is Lord. FBC-Radford is a caring, multi-generational Christian fellowship. The church is affiliated with the Baptist General Association of Virginia, the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship and the Southern Baptist Convention. In achieving its mission, the church emphasizes worship, missions, evangelism, community ministries and Christian life concerns. The church is located three blocks from Radford University, a state-supported, coeducational, comprehensive university. Additional information about the church and the community may be obtained from the church's Web site: www.fbcradford.org/pastorsearch.htm. The church seeks a pastor who has a mature relationship with Christ; possesses a pastor's heart and is skilled in pastoral care across generational lines; possesses an engaging preaching style; is a thorough, skillful teacher; and can serve as a resource to empower the laity. The review of applications and nominations will begin immediately. Applications and nominations will be accepted until Oct. 22. Applications should include a letter of application, a current resumé and the names of five references (including addresses and telephone numbers). Nominations are encouraged, but the Pastor Search Committee requests that nominators secure the permission of a nominee before submitting recommendations. Letters of nomination should include the address

and telephone number of each nominee. Applicants will be asked to complete a biographical form that will be provided by the Search Committee. Recommendations and applications should be sent to: Mrs. Mary Lou Arnold, Chair, Pastor Search Committee, First Baptist Church, 215 Third Ave., Radford, VA 24141.

SEEKING: Full-time minister of preschool/children for dynamic, growing Southern Baptist church in Northern Kentucky. Strong organizational and management skills and a desire to be part of a strong ministry team are required. Please send resumé to: Florence Baptist Church, PO Box 456, Florence, KY 41022-0456, Attn: Karen Byrd, or e-mail to: ksbfinsec@zoomtown.com.

SEEKING: Full-time accounts payable bookkeeper for the Kentucky Baptist Convention. Position requires 3-5 years of related experience. Computer, 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: 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: Farmdale Baptist Church, 5610 U.S. Highway 127 South, Frankfort, Ky., is seeking two part-time positions: children's minister and organist. Send resumés to the church in care of Personnel Committee.

WANTED: 40 folding chairs and four large folding tables. Please call Fairlane Baptist Church at (859) 635-5915 or e-mail dr.garywilson@juno.com.



Tracts and Bible ministries offer crisis response

NEW YORK (RNS)—Bible societies and ministries across the nation have quickly responded to the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks by producing and distributing portions of Scripture and brochures with Bible passages to encourage and inspire Americans.

The American Tract Society has produced a new tract—"America Under Attack: Who Can Protect Us?"—that emphasizes true security is found by trusting God.

Spokesman Mark Brown said the ministry churned out the new tract within three days after the attack. He estimated they had printed half a million by the next Monday.

The tract features photos of the smoking towers and the rescue effort, Bible verses and a suggested prayer for readers to accept Jesus as their Savior.

"God never promised us freedom from adversity, for the tragedies and horrors of this world will always occur," the pamphlet reads. "There must be a higher place where we put our trust and find our security. That place is in God, the God of the Bible."

At the American Bible Society—located just a couple of miles from the disaster area that once was the World Trade Center—staffers worked until the early hours to develop their response to the attacks. It includes new distribution of a 40-page booklet called "God Is Our Shelter and Strength"—first used when the World Trade Center was bombed in 1993.

Gene Habecker, president of the Bible society, estimates that the group has distributed hundreds of thousands of copies of the publication with both new and old covers. The new cover features three firefighters in front of the burned-out skeleton of the World Trade Center.

Inside, the text poses such questions as "How could this happen?" and "How could anyone commit such an evil act?" It is followed by pages of verses from the Psalms, Lamentations and other books of the Bible.

During the first few days of the crisis, the International Bible Society distributed about 78,000 Scripture resources to those affected by the attacks in the New York and Washington areas. The free resources include a booklet for the grieving called "Deeper Still," the book of Psalms, and "Through the Storm New Testament," a volume designed for people in crisis.

For information about the resources, contact the American Tract Society at (800) 322-4253; the American Bible Society at (800) 548-7228; and the International Bible Society at (800) 524-1588.

Chaplains share God's love at 'ground zero'

NEW YORK—Baptist chaplains helping coordinate pastoral ministry in the wake of the World Trade Center disaster said they are seeing "unusual openness" to spiritual matters and a desire for human contact uncharacteristic of the typical fast pace in New York City.

"Where in the past people walked through the city with their eyes avoiding contact with others," chaplain Milfred Minatrea said that since Sept. 11 "residents look into the eyes of one another as they pass on the streets. It seems they are hungry for community." Minatrea, director of missional church strategy with the Baptist General Convention of Texas, is among chaplains serving at the request of the Southern Baptist North American Mission Board.

Minatrea and two other Texas Baptist chaplains are working with Metropolitan New York Baptist Association, providing immediate pastoral ministry for rescue and recovery workers, as well as seeking to develop a long-range response system to help churches provide grief counseling and other ministries.

Meanwhile in Washington, D.C., U.S. Navy Chaplain Steve Epperson is among those who notified relatives of those killed when one of the hijacked commercial jets slammed into the western wall of the Pentagon.

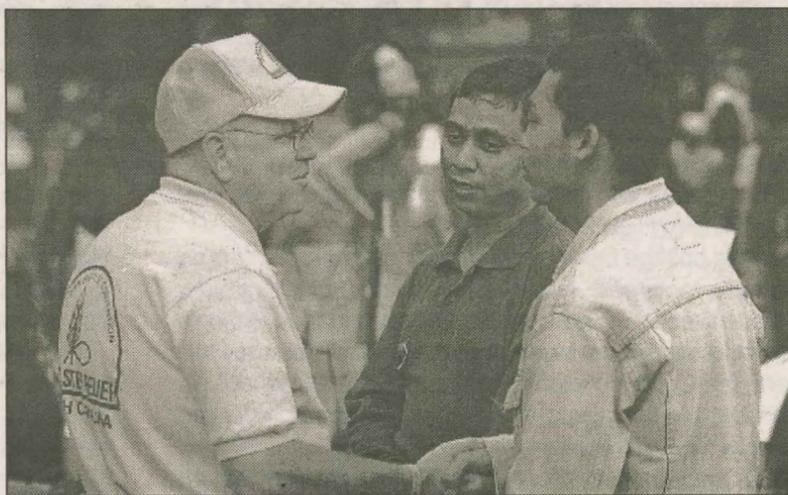
"Probably, the most difficult ministry has been for chaplains to accompany Casualty Notification Officers to the homes of those personnel unaccounted for or missing to officially notify the next of kin," he said.

But Epperson noted that he and other Southern Baptist-endorsed chaplains are not mere messengers of doom and gloom.

"Your chaplains are sharing the promise of God's Word to those people overcome with shock and disbelief," he said.

Also in New York, a team of Southern Baptist chaplains from the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma are ministering to firefighters, police and rescue crews searching for survivors at ground zero, the site where two passenger jets slammed into the World Trade Center.

The chaplains, many of whom ministered at the site of the 1995 Murrah Federal Building bombing in Oklahoma City, arrived three days



CRISIS MINISTRY Baptist Chaplain Cliff Satterwhite (left) of South Carolina speaks with two men in Union Square. The area has several memorials for those killed in the World Trade Center attack. Satterwhite is among chaplains involved in crisis counseling in New York City. (BP photo by Gibbs Frazeur)

after the twin towers collapsed, leaving more than 5,000 people missing.

The Oklahoma chaplains were asked by New York officials to take charge of ministry at the site's temporary morgue, set up in the plaza of the World Financial Center, about 200 yards from the front of what was once the World Trade Center.

"They said they needed someone to handle the morgue and I told them that we are here and we are ready to work," said Sam Porter, men's ministry and missions specialist for the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma. "We put together a multi-denominational team of ministers to work together to assist with the spiritual side of this incident."

Within hours of arriving, the Oklahoma Baptist chaplains observed a heart-wrenching scene.

"The guys found one of their fire captains in the rubble," Porter said. "There were 40 firefighters there and they all gathered around the captain's body and brought him out—together. Then they just stood there. The New York Police Department brought in a few police units and escorted the captain's body out of the blast zone."

"Most of the time," Porter said grimly, "they just bring out body parts."

Waving off the stench of rotting garbage and smoldering debris, the chaplains walk the lines offering encouragement to firefighters and pray-

ing with the men and women digging through the ruins.

Jack Poe, head chaplain of the Oklahoma City Police Department, witnessed the horror of the Oklahoma City bombing. He said it's hard to keep emotions checked when looking at the remains of the towers.

"You have to stay objective," Poe noted. "That's our job. I can tell you that the hearts of these firefighters and police officers are breaking. Their guts are in knots."

"With this much carnage, it's hard to see the similarities with Oklahoma City," Poe said. "We've got people in there who served in Vietnam and they're coming out of the debris in shock. This is 100 times worse than Oklahoma City."

Minatrea noted that during their first two days in New York City, he and fellow chaplains "literally walked the island from 84th Street south." He said people they met on the streets demonstrated a willingness to talk about spiritual issues.

On numerous occasions, people have approached the uniformed chaplains to say, "Chaplain, thank you for being here," he said.

"That simple comment frequently opens the door for deep conversation," he said, noting the tragedy "has resulted in a window of opportunity in which people are spiritually hungry."

Based on reporting by Associated Baptist Press and Baptist Press

"The hearts of these firefighters and police officers are breaking. Their guts are in knots."

Chaplain Jack Poe

Sen. Carnahan offers words of hope amid grief

WASHINGTON (ABP)—"Get up and do what is there and presents itself to you immediately," said U.S. Sen. Jean Carnahan. "The thing that God has given for you to do that day, do that."

That's the freshman senator's advice for thousands of grieving Americans who lost loved ones in the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. Carnahan, speaking from experience, endured her own public tragedy nearly a year ago.

Carnahan's husband, Missouri Gov. Mel Carnahan, died Oct. 16 last year in a plane crash while running for the Senate. Their son, who piloted the private plane en route to a campaign appearance, and one of the governor's staff members also were killed.

After her husband's death, Jean

Carnahan allowed her name to be placed on the ballot in his place and was subsequently elected.

She offered insight from her own grieving process Sept. 20 in an interview on ABC's "Good Morning America" show.

Carnahan, a Southern Baptist, said it's natural to wonder "why?" when tragedy strikes. "Why me? Why now? What have I done? I don't deserve this," she said. "You think all those questions you think later you wish you hadn't asked."

However, she added, "You look back in the Bible, you see even Job asked the question, 'Why me?'"

She said "connection" with others is a part of the healing process. "That is why it's so important for us to come

together in candlelight services, in church services," she said.

Dealing with a personal tragedy in the public eye brings added pressure, Carnahan said. "There's such a focus of attention on you, and you wonder, 'What's expected of me?'" While feeling pressure to handle grief appropriately, Carnahan advised it's likely "not going to happen that way" for many people.

Interviewer Claire Shipman, senior national correspondent, asked the senator what advice she would offer those just beginning their grieving process.

"They'll not feel a year from now as they feel today. Time will heal," Carnahan said. "There will be blessings in their life they cannot foresee at this moment."

D.M. Aldridge

“Minister to the Mountains”

For the last 60 years Dr. D.M. Aldridge has worked in the mountains of Appalachia. As a diligent worker for Jesus Christ he has carried on the 'heritage of faith' that was established by Dr. L.C. Kelly, founder of Clear Creek Mountain Preacher's Bible School in 1926. He has labored to share the gospel and to build churches that continue to make a difference in the mountains.

Dr. D.M. Aldridge was born in Gallatin County, Illinois on December 27, 1916. He was converted at age sixteen and graduated from the Eldorado (Illinois) High School in 1935.

He began his college career pursuing an engineering degree to follow in his father's footsteps. However, God had a different plan. While attending the University of Southern Illinois he responded to God's call to the ministry and served the North America Baptist Church, Harrisburg, Illinois and the College Heights Baptist Chapel, Eldorado, Illinois. He was ordained to the gospel ministry in 1940 and graduated from the University of Southern Illinois with a B. Ed. Degree in 1941.

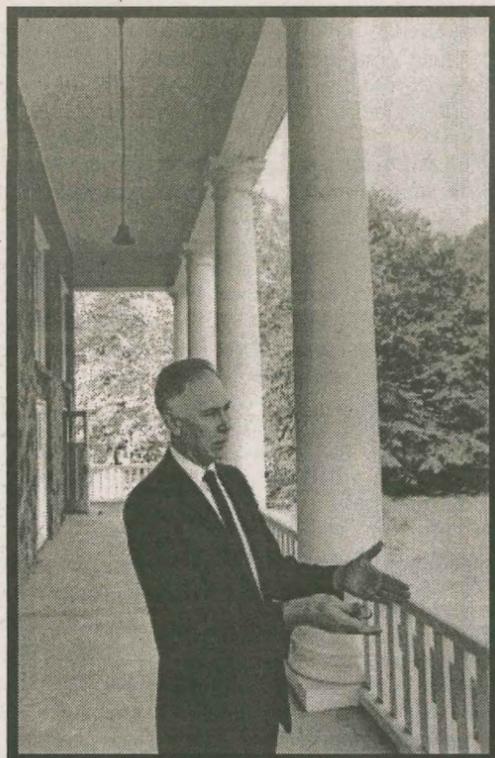
Serving as president of the Illinois Baptist Student Union brought Aldridge in contact with student leaders throughout the Southern Baptist Convention, including Miss Kathleen (Kay) Deakins who served as the president of the Tennessee Baptist Student Union. After a four-year courtship they were married.

He served as a county missionary in Grundy County, Tennessee for two years and then enrolled at the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, graduating in 1946. He became professor of missions and history at Clear Creek Mountain Preacher's Bible School. While a professor at Clear Creek for four years the family had three children, Bill, 1946, and twins, David and John, 1949. He was named president of Magoffin Institute in Mountain Valley, Kentucky, from 1950 until 1954.

In 1954, after the retirement of Dr. L.C. Kelly, Dr. Aldridge became the second president of Clear Creek Mountain Preacher's Bible School. In 1956, the name of the school was changed to Clear Creek Baptist School. In 1976, Dr. Aldridge instituted a program that would lead to a fully accredited Bible College. He retired and became president emeritus in 1982.

Since his retirement, if you could call it that, he has served numerous interim pastorates, served as a church starter strategist with the Kentucky Baptist Convention, Director of Missions in Rockcastle Association, and as a volunteer missionary in Zambia for two and one-half years. He is committed to the mandate of Jesus to "go."

Dr. Aldridge has been and continues to be committed to the training of ministers, the propagation of the gospel of Jesus Christ, and starting churches in the mountains.



Dr. D M Aldridge on the porch of historic Kelly Hall



Dr. D. M. Aldridge received a certificate of appreciation from the Kentucky House of Representatives for 60 years of dedicated service in mountain missions on August 7, 2001 at the Annual Alumni Conference held at Clear Creek Baptist Bible College.



Kay and Merrill

Highlights of the Aldridge Presidency

- ◆ Pioneered in student in-service training, literacy program, and student employment program
- ◆ Yearly contributions increased twenty fold
- ◆ The Endowment grew 300%
- ◆ Operated school without debt
- ◆ Graduated 1031 students



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