

August 20, 2002  
Vol. 176, No. 32

**Cross Over**  
Kentucky  
See Insert

**FOR THE RECORD**

**Baptists**  
Baptist Faith and Message letter compared to fighting terrorism. *Page 2.*

**Kentucky**  
Consultant offers ideas for effective singles ministries. *Page 3.*

**Editorial**  
Reflections on 20 years as a Christian journalist. *Page 5.*



**France**  
Summer missionaries take faith to North African Muslims in Paris. *Page 7.*

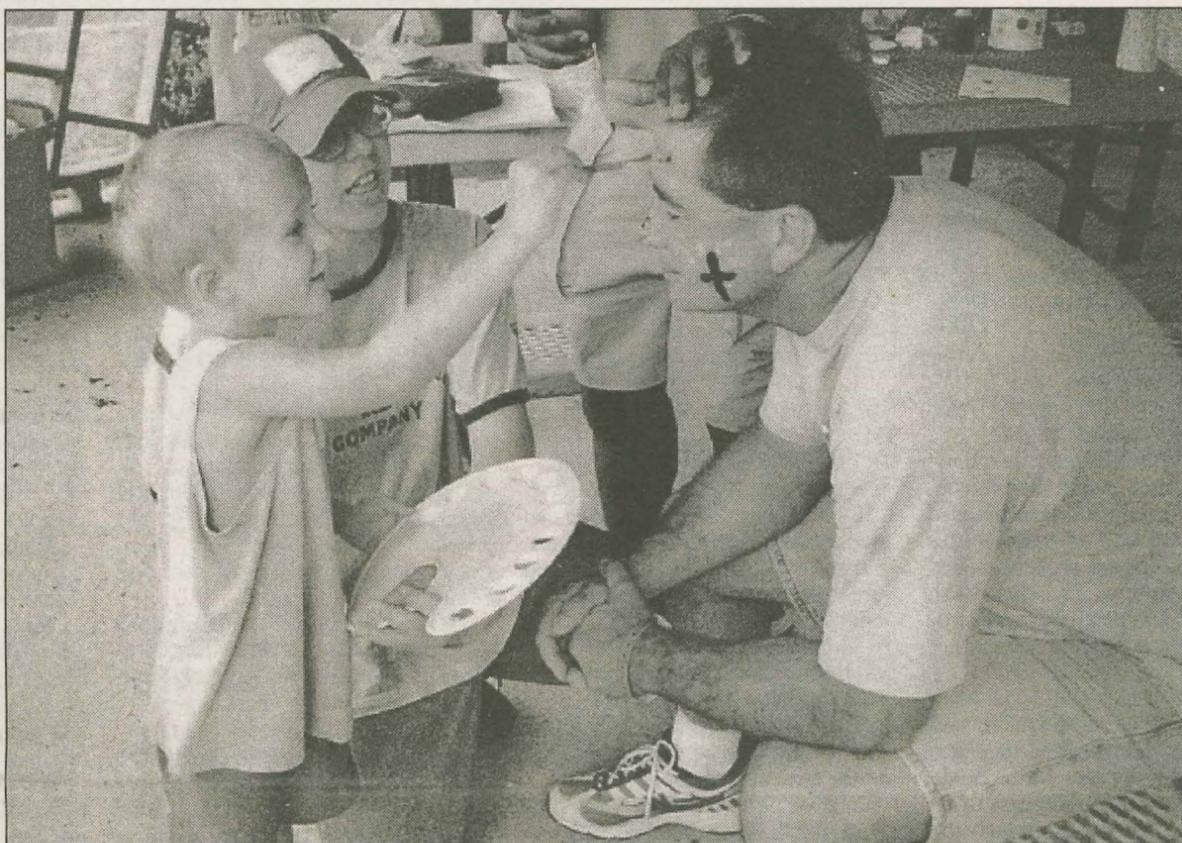


**Summer camp**  
Crossings at the Creek finishes summer looking for more growth. *Page 8.*

**Books**  
Reviews include a new book on missions icon Lottie Moon and a study of Colossians. *Page 13.*

Dated Material — Deliver by Wednesday, August 21

## Mission trips



**FACE PAINTING** Members of Southside Baptist Church in Princeton took a mission trip this summer to Spruce Pine, N.C., conducting backyard Bible clubs and other work in the community. Here, Dewight Meeks has his face painted by a participant in a backyard Bible club while Josh Martin holds the palette. A representative of the Southern Baptist North American Mission Board recently said churches have no problem finding mission trips. "The challenge is finding the project that is right for your mission team." (Photo by Pam Bates)

### Specialist: Good ones take prayer and planning

By Lee Weeks  
SBC North American Mission Board

ATLANTA (BP)—The church van is packed, checklist completed, medical release forms collected and itinerary finalized.

Everything appears to be in place for your church's mission project.

Then the familiar saying, "the devil is in the details," comes to mind and doubt leads to anxiety about the unforeseen challenges ahead.

A mission project's outcome is uncertain at the start, but unexpected distractions often can be avoided through strategic and prayerful planning, according to the Southern Baptist North American Mission Board's head of volunteer mobilization.

"The challenge is not finding a mission project," Jim Burton said. "The challenge is finding the project that is right for your mission team. Find a project that matches the skill level of your people."

Speaking during a recent conference, Burton said mission volunteers "will do just about anything once."

But for mission project participants to have life-changing experience, the tasks should be well-defined with concrete objectives clearly communicated at all stages of planning.

Mission projects have the greatest impact on volunteers when the experience becomes a mission education event and not just a mission trip, Burton said. To achieve that objective, he suggested the following steps:

■ Hold a church-wide commission-



**BIBLE STORY** Princeton's Southside Baptist Church members (from left) Clay Farless, Micah Oliver, Roty Massey and Daniel Cook participate in a Bible story drama during their mission trip to Spruce Pine, N.C. (Photo by Betty Patterson)

ing service for the volunteers a week or two before the project so the entire church can join in prayer and celebrate the importance of being involved in missions.

■ Conduct a pre-project "practicum," including evangelism training for volunteers, and equip them for their specific responsibilities in the mission project.

■ Encourage participants to record their experiences in a daily journal during the mission project.

■ Hold a daily debriefing during the mission project so participants can share with each other how God is working in their lives.

■ Hold a celebration service for participants to report back to the church about how God used them in the mission project.

"Volunteers need to see your vision and understand how they fit in your vision," Burton told prospective mission project leaders.

Whether the mission project involves construction, backyard Bible clubs or door-to-door evangelism, Burton said the project's logistics, including sleeping and eating arrangements, will most likely determine whether volunteers participate in future mission projects.

"The size of the group may not be determined as much by the vision as by the logistics," he said. "No matter what your vision is, at some point you've got to be practical."

Burton recommended that mission project leaders conduct a pre-project visit to the designated location no less than two months before the event and participate in a worship service on site.

When volunteers participate in a mission project outside their normal environment, he said, they often "experience God at levels never achieved before because of focus."

Other steps to help volunteers have a positive experience include establishing a code of conduct and creating a covenant that clearly identifies expectations of participants.

"This simply facilitates communication," Burton said. "Poor communication can leave some deep hurts. Not only do we want to make good use of a volunteer's time, but we want repeat offenders—people who repeatedly offend Satan through their obedience to Christ."

But the best planning cannot replace prayer when preparing for a project, Burton said. "The whole process has to be saturated in prayer because God is at work."

### Communication specialist offers ideas to market church services

By Ken Walker  
State Correspondent

ERLANGER—The idea of marketing one's church shouldn't seem crass or overly commercial, according to a Kentucky Baptist communications specialist.

Marketing doesn't have to involve outrageous advertisements or stretched truths, said Brenda Smith, a writer and Web specialist with the Kentucky Baptist Convention's communications/media department.

Instead, marketing is as simple as matching a service or product to someone who has a need.

That includes taking Jesus to people who don't know Him, Smith told a recent Super Saturday workshop audience.

Spelling out marketing's biblical basis, she pointed to passages like John 4:4-42, in which Jesus talked to the Samaritan woman at the well.

"This woman had a need," Smith said. "She had lived with five men, trying to fill up her heart."

Church marketing also can be interpreted as church communications, she added. "You are communicating with the community around you, listening to them tell you their needs."

But before starting a marketing campaign, congregations should realize that promotion, advertising and image building can't make up for a poor product.

Smith said shortcomings, such as a dirty nursery or a lack of adequate signs, make a bad impression. And most visitors decide in the first 15 minutes whether they will ever return, she said.

"Put your primary focus on excellence in worship, education, ministry and making people feel welcome," said Smith, whose husband is pastor of a small church in Jefferson County.

A successful marketing program requires a director. She suggests appointing a group to assist that person, including a staff member and people with skills in evangelism, writing, art, planning and hospitality.

Marketing requires a coordinated effort, Smith said, which means consistently using the church's logo on signs, vehicles, stationery, bulletins and newsletters. It also ties in special events like Christmas and Easter cantatas.

□ See Bowling Green ..., page 3

# BAPTISTS

## Rankin compares BF&M letter to combating terrorism

By Mark Wingfield  
Texas Baptist Standard

RICHMOND, Va. (ABP)—The request for Southern Baptist Convention missionaries to sign an affirmation of the 2000 Baptist Faith and Message was necessary to head off an organizational disaster, according to SBC International Mission Board President Jerry Rankin.

Using what he acknowledged "may be an extreme analogy," Rankin compared his leadership dilemma to what might have happened if the United States government had learned in advance about plans for last year's terrorist attacks.

Rankin said U.S. officials would have "done what was necessary to deter that tragedy," even if those tactics proved onerous.

"The airlines and general public would have been outraged at the delays and inconvenience of heightened security measures. The civil-liberties advocates would have probably called for impeachment of President Bush for profiling and detaining people of Middle Eastern descent, and other similar reactions," he said.

Rankin drew a parallel to his January request, which critics have said smacks of creedalism and indicates mistrust of missionaries on the field.

"Because of our willingness to affirm doctrinal accountability to the Southern Baptist Convention, the consequences that could have been disastrous for the credibility and support of the IMB have been diverted," Rankin said in a July 13 letter to missionaries.

"Taking appropriate steps to assure confidence and support on behalf of the SBC has not been without offense and misunderstanding, but this is a responsibility and leadership that I take very seriously," he added.

Rankin said he took the initiative to ask for a collective response from missionaries in order to head off "an embarrassing and divisive show-down" over the issue and to protect IMB trustees from having to reverse an earlier decision and impose a policy requiring affirmation of the faith statement.

Rankin said his own confidence in the doctrinal integrity of the missionary force never wavered, however. "I would not have taken such action without the confidence that our personnel serving with the IMB represent doctrinal integrity and denominational loyalty," he wrote.

Rankin said he sympathizes with IMB missionaries who were upset that anyone would question their beliefs, because he, too, was "offended and hurt" by accusations of doctrinal infidelity.

Although Rankin has said in the past that he issued the order to satisfy unnamed critics who were questioning missionaries' beliefs, he said his actions shouldn't be viewed as bowing to political pressure.

In 2001, Rankin wrote missionaries saying that personnel already under appointment wouldn't be forced to endorse the revised Baptist Faith and Message. In his latest letter, Rankin said some missionaries perceived his request this year that they

do so voluntarily as a reversal, "which some assumed to be succumbing to political pressure."

"In 2001 I had communicated the policy officially adopted by our board," Rankin explained. "When questions and suspicions began to escalate, the board felt some action needed to be taken, but they did not want to reverse their earlier decision and signal any mistrust in our overseas personnel. ...

"To deal with the crisis, I offered to secure the needed assurance with a personal request."

One source of suspicion resulted when IMB trustees, breaking rank with boards of other SBC entities, voted not to establish a policy making the 2000 Baptist Faith and Message a litmus test for continued employment.

"When we became the only entity not to require staff, faculty or missionaries to affirm the current Baptist Faith and Message, questions began to arise regarding our accountability and whether we were 'protecting' those not aligned with the Baptist Faith and Message," Rankin wrote.

When one regional leader refused to affirm the faith statement, Rankin said, "It increased the speculation that there must be many others as well."

All six SBC seminaries have policies requiring professors to affirm the 2000 Baptist Faith and Message. All national missionaries serving under the SBC North American Mission Board also are required to affirm the document.

Some other SBC agencies, however, stop short of requiring 100 percent compliance with the faith statement.

At LifeWay Christian Resources, only employees in "Southern Baptist-required" positions—about 25 percent of the workforce—are asked to sign an affirmation that they will conduct their work in accordance with the Baptist Faith and Message.

The SBC Annuity Board hasn't made any public statement about requiring employees and Message, but those in key leadership posts are required to be members of "cooperating" Southern Baptist churches.

Rankin reported that "most" missionaries "welcomed the opportunity" to affirm the 2000 Baptist Faith and Message, but "some have struggled with the response and been offended as if they, personally, were being questioned."

Some others, he said, agree with the content of the Baptist Faith and Message—or disagree over minor points—but have felt the request itself made our confession of faith a creed.

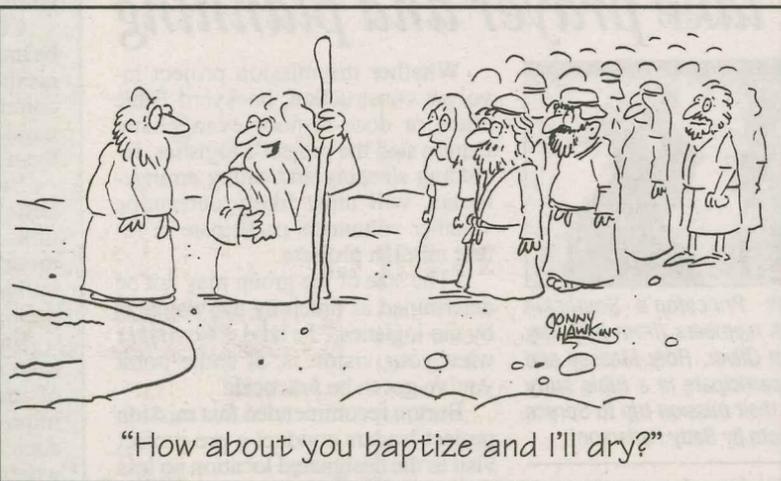
Rankin said no doctrinal problems have been discovered as a result of the recent process.

He acknowledged that "a few have resigned and others have expressed their intention to do so rather than affirm the Baptist Faith and Message and their willingness to work in accord with it."

Rankin said the process has been personally painful to him, but he told missionaries: "It was done for the benefit of your ministry and our kingdom task. This will enable us to get on with our mission of reaching a lost world with the solid support of Southern Baptists."



Rankin



## Missouri Baptist Convention files suit against five Baptist agencies

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. (ABP)—The Missouri Baptist Convention took five of its agencies to court Aug. 13, filing a 51-page petition for declaratory judgment in Cole County Circuit Court.

The petition asks the court to review corporate charters of the agencies and determine if trustees acted within their legal rights when they voted to remove themselves from convention control.

The petition names as defendants The Baptist Home in Ironton, Missouri Baptist College in St. Louis, Windermere Baptist Conference Center in Camden County and the Missouri Baptist Foundation and Word & Way in Jefferson City. It claims all five entities "broke trust with Missouri Baptists" by filing amended charters and declaring themselves autonomous, self-electing boards, all without approval of the convention or its executive board.

The petition also names Secretary of State Matt Blunt, who turned down a request by MBC officials to strike down the amended charters.

Joining the Missouri Baptist executive board in the petition are the Missouri Baptist Convention, which is unincorporated, and six representative Missouri churches: First Baptist churches of Arnold, Bethany and Branson; Concord Baptist Church of

Jefferson City; Oakwood Baptist Church of Kansas City; and Springhill Baptist Church of Springfield.

The petition does not seek monetary reward from any individuals, but asks for declaratory judgment, alleges breach of contract and petitions for temporary, preliminary and permanent injunction against the defendants.

The petition says the agencies, with assets totaling \$200 million, "amended their charters in order to steal themselves away from convention governance." It cites the Missouri Baptist Convention constitution, which says that all charter changes for convention agencies must be approved by the convention upon recommendation by the executive board and that the convention shall elect all agency trustees.

"This is not a lawsuit seeking money for personal injury or personal wrongdoing," MBC President Bob Curtis wrote in a letter to Missouri Baptist pastors. "We are asking a judge to read the corporate documents and to declare what the law is: Were the amendments lawful or unlawful? Do Missouri Baptists still have the right to elect trustees, based on former charters, or not?"

Leaders of the five agencies have defended their actions, saying they were taken in part to shield the respective organizations, but mainly for fiduciary and liability concerns.

### BAPTIST DIGEST

■ **BGCT can endorse chaplains.** The Armed Forces Chaplaincy Board has approved the Baptist General Convention of Texas as a "recognized endorsing agency" for military chaplains. Bobby Smith, director of the BGCT's Office of Chaplaincy Relations, said the Texas convention expects to endorse female chaplains as well as those "who do not wish to sign" the 2000 Baptist Faith and Message statement, which is now required by the Southern Baptist North American Mission Board.

■ **Haggray: D.C. convention 'not for sale.'** The District of Columbia Baptist Convention is "not for sale," Executive Director Jeffrey Haggray wrote in an Aug. 1 open letter. His letter came in response to a recent announcement by the Southern Baptist

North American Mission Board that it will cut off about \$476,000 in annual funding to the DCBC, beginning next year. Haggray said NAMB's defunding showed "contempt" for the DCBC's mission to unite Southern, American and Progressive National Baptists.

■ **Dilday named interim at Texas school.** Russell Dilday, former president of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas, has been named interim president of Howard Payne University in Brownwood, Texas. Dilday served 16 years as president of Southwestern before being fired by conservative trustees. He later served at Truett Theological Seminary in Waco, Texas.

## How to reach singles? 'Good questions'

By Trennis Henderson  
Editor

ERLANGER—So your church wants to start a ministry to single adults. Where do you begin?

The first step, according to Valerie Vincent, a Kentucky Baptist Convention family ministry consultant, is to ask the right questions.

Addressing the topic, "What Do You Have to Offer Single Adults? Be Sure You Know the Answer," Vincent led one of the 50-plus small-group workshops during the KBC's Super Saturday church leadership conference Aug. 10 in Erlanger.

"A lot of times churches have a certain image of single adults," Vincent explained. She cautioned, however, that "it might not be an accurate image."

Church leaders interested in beginning a singles ministry need to consider such questions as, "What do we need to know? What do we need to do?" she said.

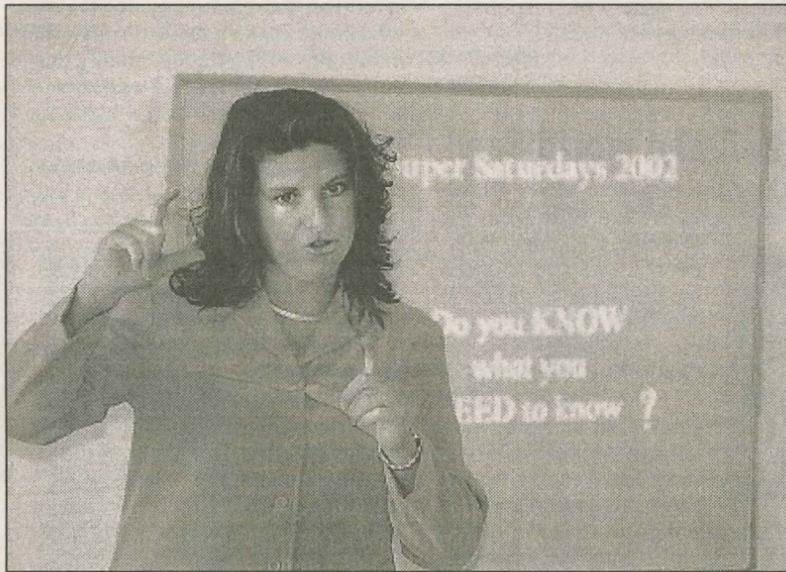
"Don't start with the calendar" and merely plan activities to keep people busy, she added. "You can quickly get burned out."

Instead, she urged, "know who it is you're going to be ministering to and sharing the gospel with. Then you can have a much more effective ministry."

Citing statistics from George Barna's book, "Single Adults," Vincent said, "There are things you need to know way before you begin to do anything. When you say 'single adults,' you are talking about a diverse group. That in itself presents some huge challenges."

Barna's research indicates there are 48 million single adults in the U.S. age 18 or older who have never been married, Vincent said. Approximately half the singles in that category are under age 25, she added.

Other groups of singles include those who are divorced, separated or widowed. Single parents and military



**SINGLES MINISTRY** Valerie Vincent, a consultant for the KBC family ministry department, talks about successful singles ministries during a recent Super Saturday workshop.

spouses who must cope with issues related to having an absent partner also need specialized ministry attention, she noted.

"In each group you have some real diversity," Vincent said. "Rather than saying, 'Here's who we think you are,' we need to understand who they think they are."

Needs among various groups of single adults range from reliable friendships and group activities to understanding and authenticity, she added.

Emphasizing that single adults need to both give and receive ministry, she said, "The church needs to recognize you—as God's creation—are unique and you have contributions and blessings for the church community. Then you can be integrated into the life and ministry of the church."

As churches pursue singles ministry, leaders need to be "confident, clear and intentional with what you plan," Vincent said. "Be creative, be purposeful, be real."

"What do you have to offer single

### Super Saturdays

"Fruitbearing: Becoming Like Jesus" is the theme for this year's Super Saturday conferences.

Remaining conferences will be held on Aug. 24 at Immanuel Baptist Church in Lexington and Sept. 7 at Lone Oak First Baptist Church in Paducah and First Baptist Church of Somerset.

Registration costs \$10 in advance or \$14 the day of the event.

For more information, call Cheryl Davis of the Kentucky Baptist Convention's church growth team at (888) 254-5710.

adults?" she reiterated. "If you don't know the answer to this, don't start reaching out until you do."

Super Saturday 2002 is a series of six regional training conferences sponsored by the KBC church growth team. Remaining events will be Aug. 24 in Lexington and Sept. 7 in Paducah and Somerset.

## Part-time campus ministers elected to serve 5 colleges

LOUISVILLE—As college students across the state head back to school this fall, Kentucky Baptist leaders are finalizing campus ministry plans.

The Kentucky Baptist Convention Executive Board's administrative committee approved three part-time campus ministers Aug. 15. The three workers, who have been serving as interim campus ministers, are involved in ministry at five schools. They are among more than 20 KBC campus ministers serving 30-plus college campuses.

Joe Allen will serve at Prestonsburg Community College and Pikeville College; Sara Preston will serve at Mid-Continent College, Mayfield; and Ron Shaw will serve at Somerset Community College and Lindsey Wilson College, Columbia.

Allen, associate pastor of First Baptist Church of Allen, is a graduate of Cumberland College in Williamsburg and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville.

"I love to study the Word of God and teach it to His people," Allen wrote in a testimony distributed to administrative committee members. "If God opens the door to use the resources in which He has blessed me, I will be willing to use them."

Preston, a graduate of Hopkinsville Community College and Mid-Continent College, is an emergency medical technician with Trigg County Ambulance. She has served in volunteer missions in Africa, Europe and East Asia.

"I have a passion for this world to know Jesus," Preston wrote. "I want to share that passion with others and help them find their calling in life."

Citing her involvement in international missions efforts, she added, "Now I can minister to exchange students and understand where they come from."

Shaw, pastor of Community Baptist Church in Somerset, is a graduate of Clear Creek Baptist Bible College in Pineville. He previously was pastor of Corinth Baptist Church in Winchester.

Expressing appreciation for the opportunity to serve at Lindsey Wilson College and Somerset Community College on an interim basis, Shaw said he and his wife, Tracy, "look forward to serving many more years in this position."

Dan Garland, leader of the KBC evangelism growth team, said the state convention's network of part-time campus ministers "may be one of our best-kept secrets."

"We are blessed to have very qualified, committed people," he said. "Without them, we wouldn't have a Baptist Student Union presence on some of these campuses."

## Communication specialist offers marketing ideas for church ministries

Continued from page 1

At her church, the music minister plans to record three songs from next year's Easter cantata—an original production—and put them on a CD for distribution prior to the event.

This work group also should create a written plan. While it doesn't have to be complex, the process includes identifying events on the annual calendar that can be marketed with appeal to non-members, she said.

But that doesn't mean trying to cram too many activities into a year, Smith said. "It's better to do a few things well than a lot of things poorly. You can do one big event a year."

Smith said marketing plans should have a specific purpose, such as attracting 10 new people from a church's zip code area. Measurable goals help determine whether the program is working and identifies which marketing tools work, she said.

A church also should target a specific audience. Just because many

churches try to attract young adults, that doesn't mean everyone should. She mentioned her congregation is targeting seniors because of a new senior-adult housing development in its neighborhood.

"Who are you trying to reach?" Smith asked. "If you don't aim, you won't hit anybody. If you want to reach senior citizens, you need to think like (them). If you want to reach seniors, you don't place ads on a classic rock station."

Churches can determine who they're reaching now by reviewing their membership rolls and studying local demographics using U.S. Census data. The KBC's church growth team can provide additional details through its Scan U.S. program, she noted.

If possible, Smith recommended, churches should hire a graphic artist to develop a logo and other materials, such as stationery, business cards and signs. Churches also should consider launching a Web site, as several free or low-cost alternatives are available, she said.

Many new or inexpensive marketing options exist. Some examples include news releases for special events, event photos and hosting community service activities, such as blood drives, yard sales, free car washes or aerobics classes.

Low-cost marketing ideas include refrigerator magnets with the church's phone numbers, sponsoring job fairs and patriotic concerts, and distributing door hangers advertising special events.

Paid advertising can range from an ad in the Yellow Pages to televising services. But Smith cautioned that TV ads only work if they are a high-quality production.

Whatever methods a congregation uses, it is important to measure results by using visitor cards and surveys. By tracking how newcomers learned of their worship services or ministries, churches can invest more money in what works, Smith said.

Following up with visitors is vital, she added. "Once people visit, it takes attention to keep them coming back."

### Other resources

#### Marketing helps:

■ NewWay: Ministry marketing Web site, see [www.newway.org](http://www.newway.org).

■ Outreach Marketing: Company that produces church marketing materials, see [www.outreachmarketing.com](http://www.outreachmarketing.com).

#### Demographic information:

■ U.S. Census: Find demographic data for particular area at [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov).

■ Free access to Census data: [www.FreeDemographics.com](http://www.FreeDemographics.com).

#### Web site creation:

■ LifeWay Link: Easy-to-use service to create free or low-cost church Web sites, [www.lifewaylink.com](http://www.lifewaylink.com).

■ E-zekiel: Low-cost service, [www.e-zekiel.com](http://www.e-zekiel.com).

■ Homestead: Low-cost service, [www.homestead.com](http://www.homestead.com).

#### TV and radio resources:

■ Church advertising resources: Professionally-produced TV and radio spots available from the Southern Baptist North American Mission Board, [www.namb.net/ads](http://www.namb.net/ads).

■ FamilyNet Radio: NAMB's broadcast communications group produces free programs designed to air on secular stations, [www.familynetradio.com](http://www.familynetradio.com).

Source: Kentucky Baptist Convention's communications/media department

## 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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## 'Insensitive' view

As I contemplated the Aug. 6 article on Christian couples who choose not to have children, I was angered by the audacity of the views expressed.

Marriage is a holy covenant given by God. For many couples the birth of children is indeed a great blessing. However, I strongly disagree with the implication that having children is a "commandment" of God. In reading Genesis 1:28, I fail to see a command for all mankind to bear children. To allude that a couple remaining childless is somehow sinful or unrighteous is insensitive and highly judgmental.

My husband and I had many discussions and much soul-searching prayer as we made our decision not to have children. Our motivation was not for pursuit of our own objectives, but our decision was made as we understood God's purpose for our lives at that time. God had placed us both in professions that allow us ministry opportunities with many children. I am a dentist and see many children physically, emotionally and spiritually neglected by non-Christians and sadly, professed Christians alike. Our office is able to minister to the needs of these children in a unique way.

My husband, Michael, has served as a minister of music for over 20 years. Seven years ago, God led him to a new opportunity as an elementary school teacher. He teaches fifth grade in our area where churches abound and children are still neglected and abused. As a teacher he has touched many lives and often spends more time on a day-to-day basis with his students than many of their parents.

I am saddened that our seminary would teach pastors that couples mak-

ing the choice to remain childless should not be married. ... The issue is not single, married, male, female or childless. The issue is our response to God in living as He directs.

*Dawn Rose  
Cadiz*

## 'Confused worldview'

Over the past few years I have come to expect very little from the Western Recorder. However, I was still shocked by the paper's choice to run Tony Campolo's article, "Dressing Up for God" (Aug. 6 issue).

I don't believe God cares what I wear to worship. Campolo's argument for dressing up because it's God's house is poor, to say the least. God doesn't dwell in specific temples anymore. Plus, as 1 Samuel 16:7 reminds us, "Man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart."

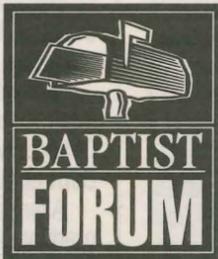
However, my biggest concern with this article is not concerning dress code. I was most disappointed that the Western Recorder would print an article that referred to Muslims as our "brothers and sisters." This pluralistic idea that our God is the same God Muslims worship is going to destroy our faith, and worse, our children's faith. We are going to lose generations to false gods just as the tribes of Israel did by accepting the faiths of the people they allowed to live with them in the times of the Old Testament.

I'm greatly disappointed that the editor would contribute to an already overly confused worldview.

*Brian Schindler  
Greenville*

## Practical resources

I have been an avid reader of the Western Recorder for nearly a half



## STEWARDSHIP

### Top 10 'reasons' for not saving for retirement years

By Don Spencer

Consider the following top 10 reasons for not saving for retirement:



10. I'm expecting a call from Publishers Clearing House.

9. I might not live that long.

8. My employer will take care of me.

7. My spouse can get a job in retirement.

6. I'll let my kids support me.

5. I don't like investing in the stock market.

4. I'll turn my hobby into a second career.

3. I'm going to inherit a great deal of money.

2. Social Security will more than cover me.

1. I'm young. I have plenty of time.

Unfortunately, too many people believe reasons 1 and 2 are true.

Social Security will not provide adequate retirement income. It was never meant to do so.

At best, Social Security will replace a little more than 30 percent of your annual earnings at age 65. For higher income folks, that percentage will be significantly lower.

For most people, the remaining retirement income must be provided through pensions and savings.

There are two essential ingredients for providing adequate retirement—time and money. The more you have of one, the less you will need of the other.

To illustrate, let's assume your goal is to accumulate \$250,000 by age 65, using an investment that averages 8 percent earnings per year. You can reach that goal starting at age 30 by investing \$108 per month.

If you wait until you are 40, you'll have to save \$261 per month to reach that goal.

At age 50, it will require an investment of \$718 per month.

When it comes to making your retirement years comfortable, don't wait. Savings, spending and investment decisions you make at earlier ages have direct bearing on how you live in your 60s and 70s.

Make your retirement choices early and wisely.

*Don Spencer is a certified financial planner and directs the Kentucky Baptist Convention's annuity department*

## PARTNERS IN THE MISSION

### By faith, not sight

The old saying is that "seeing is believing." Well, that is exactly what happened for me on a recent mission tour into Eastern Kentucky. Let me share with you about one of the ministries I saw on that trip!

By now, many of you have heard about the journey of faith of Lonnie and Belinda Riley from a growing church ministry in northern Mississippi to Lynch, Ky. Because God had clearly spoken, they moved from a five-bedroom home purchased by their church to the four-room house where Belinda had lived as a child.

The Lynch church—the church where Belinda and Lonnie had been married and called to ministry—had closed so there was no base of support, but they felt God's call and moved on faith. The first six months were very difficult, as Lonnie did not receive any direction from God about how to proceed.

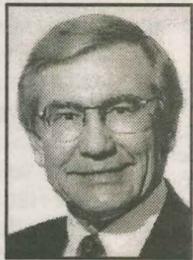
Then God began to work in a spe-

cial way. Larry Martin, the Kentucky Baptist Convention missions growth team leader, met the Rileys and led the KBC to provide limited support. Volunteers started coming to help—600 one year, then 1,200 and now, this year, more than 2,000.

Ministries were begun and expanded. The Manna House provides tons of food and a gospel message each week to those in need. The Freedom House, a former bar, provides quality clothing for a small fee.

The four-story Lynch Hospital, built with hand-hewn stones, has even now been purchased for conversion to apartments and dorm space for volunteers. An unsolicited, interest-free loan of \$65,000 made the purchase possible by the Riley ministries.

Currently 10 full-time volunteers are leading the various ministries. Ten local people are being trained in making glassware and the hospital gift shop sells out frequently.



Bill Mackey

century. I have had a relatively good relationship with all the editors, though I must say I have a special affection for Chauncey R. Daley, who could make a drive through the mountains of Eastern Kentucky during a spring shower an experience so vivid that you felt you were in the seat beside him.

Every once in a while an edition comes along that would win a Pulitzer Prize if there were such an award from Baptists! Such was the Aug. 6, 2002, Western Recorder. Why? From page 1 to page 16, there was something for everyone, or as your motto reads: "Practical Resources for Christian Living."

"For the record," let's look briefly at the contents: On page 1, there was an excellent treatment of the 10 Commandments controversies, followed by a Pike County volunteer who led 142 individuals to Christ in summer missions. On page 2, "Don't want kids? Don't get married," and a sad story of a "former 'missionary kid' convicted of fraud."

"100 Days of Prayer," which was treated in depth by the editor and the executive director, was especially good. Then Tony Campolo, who I must confess is not one of my favorites, had one of the best treatments of the "dress issue" in churches today I have ever read.

I always read the "Opinion" letters and the one about my friend, Jim Cordell, and his wife, Joyce, taking the mixed choir to Europe was a pure joy to read. Then Oneida President Bud Underwood, who is as fascinating to read as was Barkley Moore, tells of "having church outside."

So, if you laid back this issue without reading it thoroughly, retrieve it and digest all the interesting subjects that are therein contained.

*Oscar Davidson  
Somerset*

Other employment opportunities are being planned such as a low-band FM Christian radio station to serve the 15,000 people of the trities (Lynch, Benham and Cumberland). A volunteer from Knoxville will develop and operate the station. This will be unique in the area.

A building project at a local elementary school resulted in the Governor's Pride Award and an open door for Lonnie to share the Christmas story in every classroom.

Two remaining and aging trustees of the 28-acre, eight-building campus of the old Stuart Robinson High School presented the campus to Lonnie. They said, "We like your ministry and believe God can use you to put this property to effective Christian use."

Lonnie announced recently that permission has been granted by the one remaining trustee to reopen Lynch Baptist Church.

May God increase our faith as we see Him at work!

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

## Reflections on 20 years (so far) as a Christian journalist

2002 has grown into a year of personal and spiritual reflection as my family and I mark a number of significant anniversaries.

As I noted in an editorial earlier this summer, my wife, Pam, and I celebrated our 20th wedding anniversary this year. This month also marks major milestones for our two daughters as Emily turns 16 (and gets her driving permit!) and Audrey hits 13 (and our family officially leaves behind all the joys—and challenges—of preteen life).

This week also marks the 20th anniversary of my ministry as a professional Christian journalist. During the past two decades, I've had the privilege of serving Baptists in editorial positions with state Baptist newspapers in Missouri, Arkansas and Kentucky. During that time, I've written hundreds of articles and editorials about the work God is doing through Baptists on the local, state, national and international levels. Some of the topics have been heartwarming, others heartrending—but each one has been an effort to communicate information that Baptists need and deserve to know.

As I reflect on my first 20 years of ministry in denominational journalism, a few specific articles and topics stand out. Among them are:

**10. Airplane crash.** One of the last major news stories I covered as editor of the Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine was the crash landing of American Airline Flight 1420 in Little Rock. The flight included a group of 25 students and leaders from Ouachita Baptist University who were returning from a choir tour in Europe. Ouachita student James Harrison and 14-year-old Rachel Fuller, daughter of OBU music professor Charles Fuller, were among 11 people who died from crash-related injuries. Prior to Rachel's death several days after the crash, her dad was interviewed by several national media crews. Describing how he and others were able to cope amid overwhelming shock and grief, Fuller told reporters, "There are times in life when your faith has to mean something. It can't be something that you just talk about. It has to be something that empowers you to live life."

**9. Missioncation.** Most mission trips in which I'm involved, whether here in the States or overseas, I go in the primary role of journalist—conducting interviews, shooting pictures and writing articles to capture the experience for the benefit of our readers. Missioncation 2002 was different. As members of Crestwood Baptist Church, my family and I were actively involved on various teams as our church took 350 members on mission to Charleston, S.C. As Emily and I worked together on a Habitat for Humanity construction project, it offered a personal reminder about the difference that thousands of mission volunteers make every year in diverse ministry settings. Yes, I did spend one day taking pictures and doing interviews, but the most lasting memory was working alongside family, friends and fellow church members to help make a positive impact in the lives of others.

**8. School integration.** Little Rock's Central High School played a pivotal role in the nation's move toward public school integration in the 1950s. After widespread unrest in the wake of court-ordered integration, federal troops escorted nine black students up the school's front steps on Sept. 25, 1957. Forty years later, local, state and national leaders gathered to commemorate the landmark civil rights event. As the "Little Rock Nine" climbed the school steps once again, the doors were opened wide by President Bill Clin-

ton, Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee and Little Rock Mayor Jim Dailey. Recounting efforts 40 years earlier "to suffocate our spirits," Ernest Green, a member of the Little Rock Nine, told the crowd, "Although our journey has not been without pain, it has been well worth it."

**7. Tanzania partnership.** International mission partnerships have become a major ministry emphasis for Baptists in Kentucky and elsewhere.

Among recent partnerships for the Kentucky Baptist Convention was a three-year effort in cooperation with Baptists in Tanzania. During a 2000 trip to Tanzania with partnership missions leader Calvin Wilkins, I had the opportunity to interact with several missionaries and nationals involved in hands-on ministry throughout the African nation. Among the many memorable experiences was interviewing Susan Smith, a missionary physician at Kigoma Baptist Hospital. "It's slow work. This is definitely Satan's stronghold," she explained. "What I love most in the world is to help people get well and be able to

tell them it's because Jesus loves them and they can have eternal life."

**6. Tom Lester.** Actor Tom Lester—best known for his role as "Eb," the hired hand on the popular 1960s TV series "Green Acres"—played a direct role in my public commitment to Christian ministry. Tom, a committed Christian, frequently traveled across the nation sharing his testimony. While I was working for a local newspaper during college, he came to our area to speak at an evangelistic crusade. I interviewed him and attended the crusade. Hearing his Christian pilgrimage helped clarify my own sense of call to ministry which I publicly affirmed later that week. Nearly 20 years later, Tom was speaking at an evangelism conference in Arkansas. I had the opportunity to introduce him and renew our acquaintance. "I try to help people understand that God makes us all very special and we all have unique gifts and talents," Tom noted. "We need to discover what our gifts and abilities are and how Christ can use us."

**5. Baptist Faith & Message study.** One of the most significant committee actions in Kentucky Baptist life in recent years was last year's report of the KBC's Baptist Faith & Message study committee. Addressing a potentially divisive issue, the nine-member committee prayerfully and skillfully crafted a report that was overwhelmingly adopted last fall by state convention messengers. "As Kentucky Baptists, we adopt the Bible as the basis of all our faith and practice," the report affirmed. It also noted that Kentucky Baptists "acknowledge the value" of historic confessions of faith ranging from the 1742 Philadelphia Confession of Faith to the various versions of the Baptist Faith & Message. The committee determined that "the focal point was what's best for Kentucky Baptist work," explained chairman Charles Barnes. He said the group's primary goal was to pursue "the best course of action for the Kentucky Baptist Convention to further Kingdom work."

**4. Baptist World Alliance in Cuba.** The Baptist World Alliance, the international umbrella organization of Baptists, held its 2000 General Council meeting in Havana. As a member of BWA's communications committee, I joined more than 400 participants from 60 countries who attended the first-ever international Baptist event held in Cuba during Fidel Castro's reign. In addition to BWA leaders meeting with Castro, the conference featured the first public evangelistic rallies held in Cuba in more than 40 years. "I praise

the Lord that this has been a great, great dream come true," declared Victor Gonzales, general secretary of the Baptist Convention of Western Cuba. "It is the Lord opening the doors in Cuba. The only answer for Cuba is Jesus Christ."

**3. Viorel Pavel.** As I spoke about journalism to a class of students at one of my daughters' schools a few years ago, one of the students asked me who had been my favorite person to interview. Never having pondered that question before, I came up with a couple of quick responses but I wasn't very satisfied with my answer. During the next few days, as I continued to reflect on the question, my mind drifted back to a 1996 mission trip to Romania. That memory held the answer: Viorel Pavel. Viorel was a young member of the Romanian Parliament's House of Deputies. He was elected in the aftermath of the nation's 1989 revolution that ended Communist rule in the former Soviet bloc country. Shortly after being elected to Parliament, Viorel was led to faith in Christ by a Baptist pastor who also served in Parliament. Despite ridicule from Orthodox supporters and former Communist sympathizers, Viorel remained steadfast and enthusiastic in his newfound Christian faith. "It's wonderful how Jesus works," he told me. "My first wish is to share Jesus Christ with the people and with my colleagues in Parliament. I want to inspire them to feel the responsibility of making good laws that are obedient to God's Word."

**2. Middle school massacre.** It was among the most shocking school shooting sprees in our nation's history. Two middle school boys in Jonesboro, Ark., ambushed fellow students and teachers, killing four middle school girls and a teacher and wounding 10 others. I will never forget the haunting experience of walking across the Westside Middle School campus a few days later. Bullet holes scarred the gymnasium's outside wall. Bouquets were scattered across the silent schoolyard, marking the spots where each of the young victims fell. As I sat in the home of Jean Smith, the aunt of slain teacher Shannon Wright, she quietly shared, "This is so senseless. ... I'm not a strong person but my strength is in the Lord. That's the only way I can make it."

**1. Billy Graham ministry.** I am an unabashed fan of legendary evangelist Billy Graham. As one of the most influential Christian leaders of the 20th century, Graham's humble, sincere Christian commitment and unwavering integrity are worthy models for any Christian to follow. Kentucky Baptists have had the privilege of helping host two recent Billy Graham evangelistic events: the 2001 Greater Louisville Billy Graham Crusade and the 2002 Greater Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky Billy Graham Mission. The two events attracted a combined attendance of almost 400,000 people and resulted in more than 21,000 people making public spiritual decisions. In addition to providing news and feature coverage, I had the opportunity—along with Pam and Emily—to serve as a crusade counselor during the Louisville event. Listening to Graham present the invitation each night and then having the privilege of helping lead individuals to faith in Christ are unforgettable moments in my personal Christian pilgrimage. "I'm not declaring unto you a dead Christ," the 82-year-old evangelist told the crusade crowd. "He's alive. He's never going to change. But you must change. Have you changed?"

Reporting Graham's simple, straightforward words—as well as recounting other stories of struggle, challenge and faith—is a major motivation in my ministry as a Christian journalist. I thank God for the privilege of serving Him in this role for 20 years—and look forward to ongoing opportunities in the years ahead.

### STRAIGHT FROM THE EDITOR



Trennis Henderson

**"Listening to Billy Graham present the invitation each night and then having the privilege of helping lead individuals to faith in Christ are unforgettable moments in my personal Christian pilgrimage."**

Trennis Henderson

## BLUEGRASS BURGEOO

■ **Volunteers needed for renovation projects.** Kentucky Baptist volunteers are needed to complete some house renovation jobs started in Hopkinsville during the recent Kentucky Changers project this summer. Projects on nine houses, ranging in length from an hour to a day, need to be finished, according to Peggy Murphy of Kentucky Brotherhood, which organizes the annual summer missions project. Many of the houses in Hopkinsville required more work than the ministry teams usually tackle during the event, she explained. "It's not a hard job, it's just a time-consuming job." For information, call Kentucky Brotherhood at (502) 244-4689 or toll-free in Kentucky (888) 254-5720.

■ **Cumberland College to host Lexington Philharmonic.** The Lexington Philharmonic will perform an outdoor concert of patriotic tunes at Cumberland College Aug. 29. Lawn seating is free for the 7:30 p.m. performance. A picnic dinner before the show, with table seating for the performance, also is available for \$15. For more information, call 539-4535.

■ **Keyboard clinics planned.** Keyboard ministry clinics will be held Sept. 14 in Paris and Sept. 28 in Henderson. The clinics are for church pianists, organists and advanced piano and organ students. They will include worship, repertoire sessions and separate piano and organ classes. Classes will focus on skills development. The program also includes a "lunch and share" session, during which participants can perform service pieces and share ideas. Registration costs \$25 per person before Sept. 1 and \$30 per person after. For more information, call the Kentucky Baptist Convention's church music office at (502) 254-4727 or toll-free in Kentucky (888) 254-5707. Pre-registration also is available at [www.kybaptist.org](http://www.kybaptist.org).

■ **Senior adult leadership training offered.** The Kentucky Baptist Convention will sponsor a senior adult ministry leadership summit Nov. 7 at Alton Baptist Church in Lawrenceburg. Dennis Daniels, senior adult minister at First Baptist Church of Jackson, Miss., and Toni Wimberly, director of the senior adult mission lab at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, will be the two keynote speakers. The event also will feature eight ministry workshops, roundtable discussions and lunch. Registration costs \$15 per person, or \$10 per person when two or more people attend from the same church. For information, contact the KBC's family ministry department at (502) 254-4719 or toll-free in Kentucky (888) 254-5704.

■ **National Quartet Convention coming to Louisville.** More than 40,000 Southern Gospel music fans are expected to be in Louisville next month for the 45th annual National Quartet Convention, Sept. 9-14 at the Kentucky Fair and Exposition Center. In addition to such artists as The Florida Boys and The Gaither Vocal Band, the event also includes such speakers as Dennis Swanberg and John Hagee. Tickets cost \$20 per day. For more information, call (800) 846-8499 or visit the Web site [www.natqc.com](http://www.natqc.com).

## Did you know?

Ministers and eligible employees of SBC churches receive no-cost disability and survivor benefits in the Church Annuity Plan.

Plus they can receive up to \$210 in annual matching contributions!



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## Multihousing ministry consultant: Go & tell

By Suzanne Darland  
State Correspondent

LOUISVILLE—Christians should go and tell, not wait and wonder why no one is coming to their churches, according to Dottie Williamson, a Baptist multihousing ministry consultant who recently spoke in Louisville.

"They're not going to pile into your tent revival and Easter cantata, 'cause if so they already would have," Williamson told those attending a conference on ministry to residents of apartments, mobile home parks and other multihousing settings.

"Our job is to go where there's the most lost people and tell the story," she said Aug. 5 at the Kentucky Baptist Convention building. Apartment complexes and mobile home parks are "where the biggest pile of them all is," she added.

Williamson, the multihousing ministry consultant for the South Carolina Baptist Convention, met with approximately 20 Kentucky Baptists who teach English and lead prayer groups and Bible clubs in unusual settings. Some meet in a vacant apartment or clubhouses. One couple drives to mobile home parks in a converted 72-passenger school bus and invites children aboard.

The Southern Baptist North American Mission Board estimates that only 4 percent of residents in multihousing settings attend church. That makes such settings ripe for ministry, Williamson said.

NAMB has stepped up efforts to develop outreach and evangelism strategies into multi-unit apartment complexes, the most prevalent new construction in many areas.

But churches seem not to have adopted a zeal for reaching people

who live in these communities, she added.

Many established churches simply ignore these new developments and concentrate on people who live in more traditional single-family housing, she said. Church leaders act as if they think apartment dwellers either are different from their church's members or are resistant to the gospel message.

But that's not the case, Williamson said.

"People who live in multihousing are no different from people who live in houses," she said. "They're young people in their first apartments or singles who don't want yard work or older people who want security."

She recalled a mother who had become a Christian, along with her daughter and son. "I didn't want my daughter to go to your Bible study at first," the letter stated. "So don't ever stop doing what you're doing."

Apartment and mobile home park managers are open to churches starting children's sports activities, parenting classes, financial planning classes and even Bible studies. These programs benefit the community by promoting stability, Williamson said.

"The managers know the real needs" of their residents and often feel overwhelmed by their jobs, Williamson said.

Often managers will support such ministries by making the facility's clubhouse or an empty apartment available, she added.

Williamson is a popular speaker on North American missions, combining humor with blunt challenges to get involved.

She said she gets impatient with church members who easily could reach out to this segment of their com-

munity.

"I'm tired of people going to conferences and workshops and special studies," she said. "If you don't share what you've learned, you're wasting your time. Our people are learning skills. They need to do something with them."

Williamson spoke the next day in Henderson at a similar conference for 60 people from 16 churches.

There are several multihousing communities in his area, according to Phil Basinger, director of missions for Green Valley Baptist Association. He said he hopes more churches will join First Baptist Church of Henderson to begin such ministries.

Basinger praised Williamson's contagious passion for reaching people in nontraditional settings.

"If you're not ready to go do it after hearing her, I don't believe you're going to do it," he said.

Speaking to the conference in Louisville, Williamson said multihousing ministry opportunities are virtually endless.

In Louisville, three churches joined forces to teach English in an apartment complex with mostly Hispanic residents.

"Everyone wants to go to a foreign country to do missions," said volunteer Sharla Martinez of Bethlehem Baptist Church. "But we don't have to. They come to us. We have a classroom full of Hispanic men."

Williamson said churches should think of multihousing communities as mission fields where Christians can build relationships with residents and return weekly to cultivate them.

"Mission trips cost money, and you have to go far away," she said. "Here, your youth can play games with the children and your older ladies can serve snacks. Make it as simple as you can."



Williamson

## RECOGNITION OF DECEASED KENTUCKY BAPTIST LEADERS

The 2002 KBC Obituaries Report will include information on deceased persons who have served our Lord and Kentucky Baptists in a noteworthy manner. We are including persons who died during the convention year, Sept. 1, 2001, through Aug. 31, 2002.

These persons would be Kentucky Baptist ministers, missionaries, educators, laypersons, institutional leaders and staff and others whose Christian service has significantly benefited our state convention fellowship and mission programs.

We need your help to gather the following information:

1. Full name of deceased
2. Date of birth
3. Date of death
4. Active or retired status in last position held in city, state where located
5. Name of church where member, association, state where located
6. Service or ministry worthy of recognition (briefly stated)

Please forward this information before Sept. 3 to:

Executive Office  
Kentucky Baptist Convention  
PO Box 43433  
Louisville KY 40253-0433  
ATTN: Wanda Karolyi  
e-mail address: [Wanda\\_Karolyi@KYBaptist.org](mailto:Wanda_Karolyi@KYBaptist.org)

These obituary entries will be reported to the 2002 KBC annual meeting in Williamsburg. You are an important part of our network to gather information on those servants who deserve to be remembered among Kentucky Baptists.

# MISSIONS

## Love in any language

*Students work to overcome French language barrier to share gospel*

By Clarissa Hutcherson  
Staff Writer

PARIS—"Parlez-vous Anglais?" A team of students from Cumberland College found themselves repeatedly asking that question—"Do you speak English?"—as they spent two weeks distributing thousands of pieces of Christian literature in Paris.

The volunteer missions team worked with summer missionaries, journeymen and career missionaries as part of a church-planting effort among North African and Middle Eastern Muslims in greater Paris. The Cumberland team, which served in France July 12-26, also worked alongside teams from four other states.

Approximately 10 percent of France's population is from North Africa, where Morocco and Algeria were former French colonies.

Team Paris, the organization of Southern Baptist missionaries serving in Paris, has identified 50 Muslim people groups in the region. Team members currently are working with 30 people groups from North Africa and the Middle East.

"There are three steps in church planting," explained Annette Hall, a Southern Baptist career missionary who leads Team Paris.

"The first is prayer. Each area has been prayer walked several times," she said. "The second is a wide sowing of the Word. The third is making contacts and starting churches in the area. We hope that we can start churches here and people will go back to their native countries and start churches there."

Each morning, the Cumberland team and other workers loaded their backpacks with children's books that provided information such as what sin is and how to get to Heaven. Teams distributed the books in mailboxes that sported Muslim names.

Workers placed a slip of paper inside each book that noted which church was sponsoring the distribution for that area and listed Christian satellite TV stations families could watch. During the two weeks they were in Paris, the Cumberland team



**CRAFT TIME** Leslie Bellar, a student at Cumberland College, helps a child make a sock puppet during a kids' club held in a public housing project in Paris.

helped distribute 24,000 books.

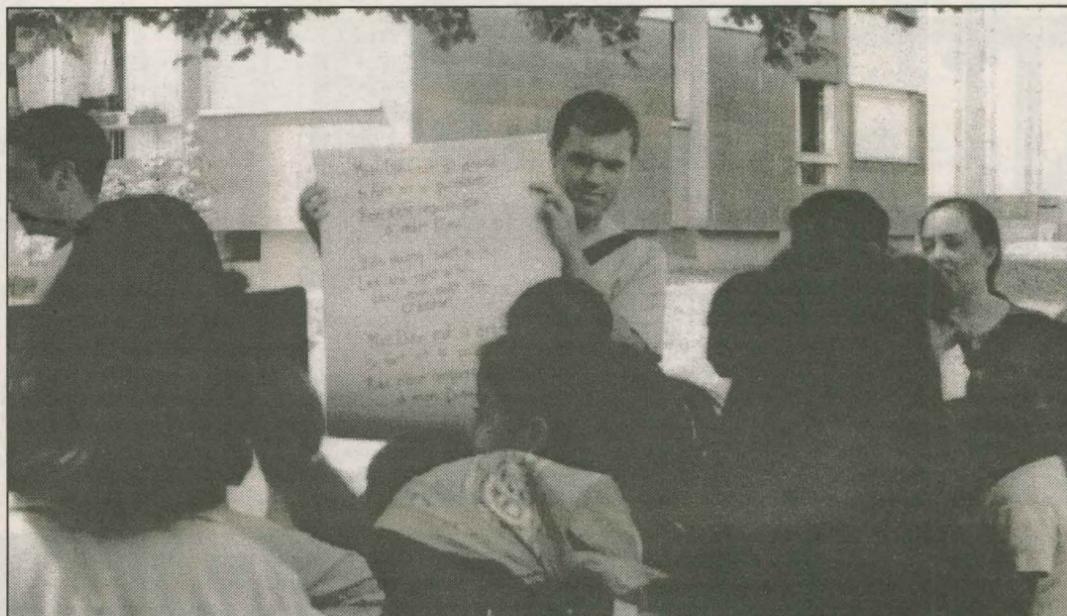
Missions leaders explained that the book distribution is an important tool in reaching Muslim people with the gospel. In the typical Muslim home in France, children often are the only literate people in the family, said career missionary Larry Osbrink.

One of the goals of the effort is for children to read the books to their parents. The books are written in a simple style designed to make the message easier to understand.

Teams often witnessed immediate results from the book distribution project.

"On the buses, we see passengers reading the books we are distributing," said Woods Nash, a Cumberland College student serving as a summer missionary for Team Paris. "We have opportunities to answer questions concerning what we're doing and why. One Algerian man even contacted a local pastor to testify that he had read the book and wants to be baptized."

There also were occasional setbacks that teams had to work through, explained Stephanie Dobbs, one of the Cumberland students who distributed books.



"Satan uses little things as setbacks, even keeping a door locked so you can't distribute literature in apartment complexes," she said.

"The last day of distribution, I knew that Satan was doing his best to keep a certain door locked. I could see through the window several names of those we were targeting with literature. I left and went back a total of five times, praying more and more after each attempt for God to open the door." But each time she failed to find a way into the locked complex.

"Finally, on the sixth time I came up to the door it was standing wide open, propped open by the janitor's cart," Dobbs added. "Had I not continued to go back ... I would have been giving the victory to Satan. The whole experience was simply a matter of faith."

Teams conducted Bible clubs each afternoon in public housing projects. Though the volunteers found the language barrier to be a struggle, they discovered the children didn't seem to mind what language was being spoken as long as they were receiving attention and love.

"I learned that children worldwide are the same," said team leader Emily Shipp, a Cumberland graduate who works for the Kentucky Baptist Convention's creative ministries department. "They require the same love, have the same attitudes and have the same childlike faith."

Team members shared the story of Joseph throughout each of the three-day Bible clubs. Stories focused on Joseph's dreams, their interpretations and his dreams coming true.

Osbrink's wife, Gail, explained that Joseph is a great story to teach because Muslims believe God speaks through dreams.

She recounted the story of a Muslim woman who had been given a New Testament and dreamed that night that she needed to walk two miles to find a woman who would explain the book to her. The next day she set out on her two-mile journey and found the woman who had given her the New Testament exactly where the dream had led her. Mrs. Osbrink said the woman who had provided the New Testament enthusiastically began

to explain the Scriptures to the Muslim woman.

Team members also noted cultural differences during the Bible clubs. Since Muslim boys and girls are not allowed to intermingle, female team members worked with the girls and male team members worked with the boys.

Teenage boys also declined to sit with younger children and listen to the Bible stories. Male team members played soccer and basketball with the older boys, seeking to apply the truths of the Bible stories through the games.

When it was time to do crafts, however, the teenage boys joined in, Shipp noted. "Older guys really got into crafts," she said. "They forgot about their age to sit down to color and glue things."

Several parents attended the Bible clubs, providing missionaries opportunities to talk with them and gain contacts for church planting.

French Baptists have dubbed 2003 the "Year of the Bible." Team Paris responded with a plan to provide New Testaments next year for every Muslim household in greater Paris.

The project, called "Light the Gate," plays off Paris' nickname of the Gateway City. The effort will involve distributing 300,000 New Testaments beginning next March.

Team Paris decided to involve as many churches as possible in the distribution efforts, Mrs. Osbrink said.

In preparation, Team Paris bought maps, explored neighborhoods and met with leaders of various Christian organizations, Mrs. Osbrink explained.

The meetings were successful, she said, and one third of the areas already have been contracted out to other organizations. "What a wonderful experience it is to participate with so many different organizations who hold the Great Commission dear."

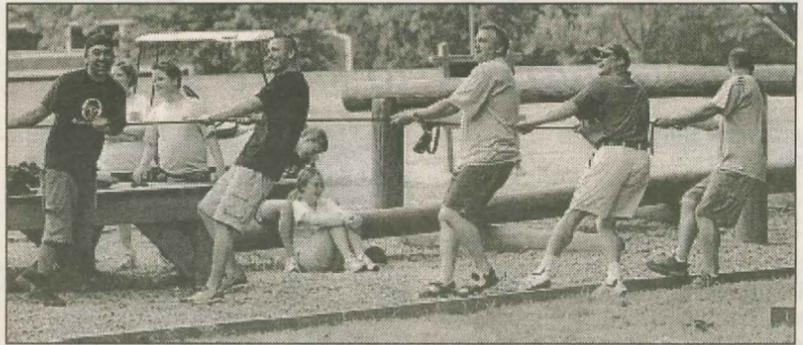
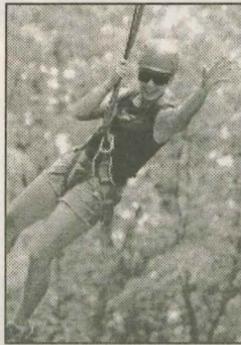
As the Cumberland team and other volunteers helped lay the foundation for future ministry efforts in Paris, Hall compared the Scripture distribution emphasis to the Eiffel Tower.

"You can see the Eiffel Tower from almost anywhere in Paris," she said. "The light on top is what we hope this ministry to be like. ... We want to spread the light to this dark place."

**KIDS' CLUB** Joshua Benton, a student at Cumberland College, holds up the words to "My God is So Big" in French so children can sing along with song leaders. A team of five students spent two weeks this summer sharing the Christian faith with North African Muslims living in Paris. (Photos by Emily Shipp)



## Crossings at the Creek



**ROPES COURSE** An alpine ropes course is among the activities campers can enjoy at Crossings at the Creek. ■ Above left: An unidentified camper takes a ride on the big swing. ■ Above right: A team from Annistown Baptist Church in Georgia hold onto the rope for the big swing.

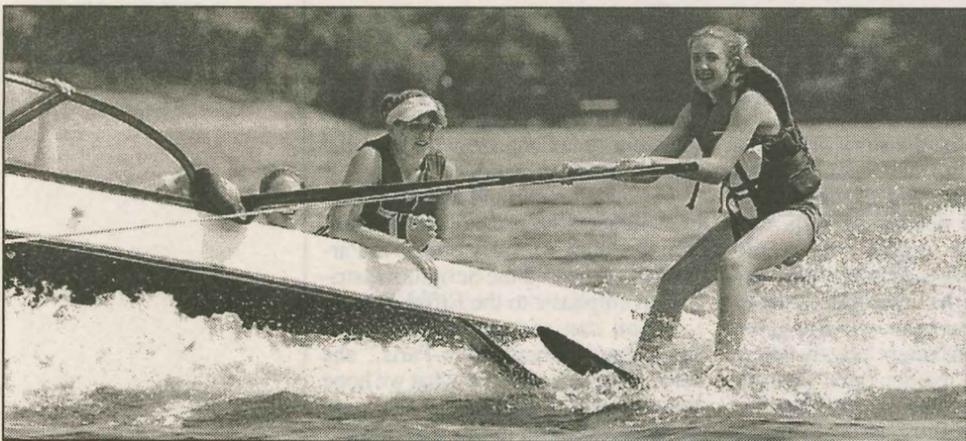
**JUMP IN** Sandy Arnold and a few students from Crescent Springs Baptist Church jump into Kentucky Lake at Crossings at the Creek summer camp. (Photos by Rusty Ellison)



**WORSHIP TEAM** Drew Causey (front) leads the Crossings band. Gabe Close, Josh Hussuig, Jessica Rieke and Issac Treesh complete the group that led worship each evening throughout the summer at Crossings at the Creek.



**WATER SPORTS** Jet-Skis, tube riding and water skiing were popular activities each week during the hot summer days.



### 2,200 teens explore fun and faith at Jonathan Creek

**JONATHAN CREEK**—More than 2,200 students and youth leaders attended Crossings at the Creek camp this summer at Jonathan Creek Assembly in Western Kentucky.

This is the camp's third year under a revised format. Combining high-energy activities with daily Bible study and nightly worship, the camp offers students in grades 7-12 a weeklong opportunity to evaluate and deepen their relationship with God.

The camp's attendance this summer was up 20 percent compared to last year, said Rusty Ellison, president of Kentucky Baptist Assemblies.

A larger worship center and two new lodges led to the increased attendance, he added.

"Our peak week this summer, we had 350 kids," he said, compared with a high attendance last year of 270.

"The new facility with the lighting and the sound and the enlarged space allowed our students to worship in a not-so-crowded condition."

The camp recorded more than 300 spiritual decisions, he added, including first-time professions of faith, rededications and commitments to enter full-time vocational ministry.

"We have every indication that we will be at 100 percent (capacity) next year for the first time," he said. That would mean a total summer attendance of 2,700 teens and youth leaders.

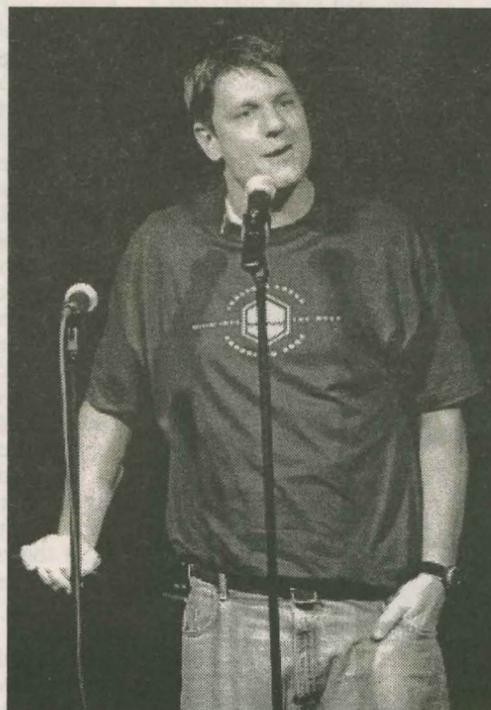
While some people might focus on Crossings' entertainment and activities, Ellison said the worship makes the weeklong camp special.

"Our worship this year in the new facility was world class. It's one of the things we do best," he said.

Staff members are looking to add more programming to continue to make the camp attractive, he said. Leaders plan to add mountain biking to the range of activities, which already includes water sports and an alpine tower climbing course.

"The challenge for next year is not to become content or complacent but to continue to strive to make Crossings the best camping experience in the country," Ellison said.

"We have no sense that we've arrived," he added. "We've made a lot of progress but we think the best years are ahead."



**CAMP SPEAKER** Tom Rihter of Murray was among the camp preachers at Crossings.

# Lifting Up Jesus Christ!

## Purpose

**Cross Over Kentucky** is an effort to reach Kentucky for Christ.

This will be accomplished by mobilizing Kentucky Baptists from all over the state to be involved in evangelism and mission projects in targeted areas the weekend prior to the Kentucky Baptist Convention, **November 9 - 10, 2002**.

## Targeted Areas

The targeted areas are Williamsburg, Corbin, London and Mt. Vernon. Those wishing to participate in Cross Over will come to one of these sites and participate in one of the many projects planned.

## Projects

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

### One Day or Weekend Revivals

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

### Community/Prayer Needs Survey of Strategic Areas

Kentucky Baptists will fan out across the targeted areas on Saturday morning, November 9, and knock on doors. They will use a community/prayer needs survey (see page 2) and a witnessing booklet to share Christ with unchurched and lost individuals. An invitation will be given to the Weekend or One Day Revival meetings.

### Prayer Walks

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

### Servant Evangelism Projects

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

### Jesus Video Distribution

The Jesus film has touched more lives than any other evangelistic effort in human history. It is the inspired Word of God brought into film and video. Hundreds of these videos will be distributed in homes all across the targeted areas on Saturday, November 9. No evangelism training is required. Only a willingness to knock on doors and offer the video as a gift is needed. An invitation will be given to the Weekend or One Day Revival meetings.

### Cumberland College Mountain Outreach Building Project

Cumberland College Mountain Outreach will partner with Baptist Builders and anyone interested in helping build a house for an under-privileged family in an area close to Williamsburg. The project will consist of framing, roofing and siding a house. The project will begin on Wednesday, November 6 and end on Saturday, November 9. Housing will be provided for those willing to participate in this Cross Over building project.

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

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



**CROSS OVER KENTUCKY**  
November 9 - 10, 2002

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

## COMMUNITY/PRAYER NEEDS SURVEY

Not at home     Busy     Refused Survey     Refused Materials

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

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

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

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

### At The Door Say:

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

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

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

1. What do you believe is the biggest need in our community?  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. How could our church best help our community and your family?  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. When you attend church, where do you attend?  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. Our church would like to pray for you and your family. Are there prayer concerns our church family can pray for at this time?  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. In your personal opinion, what do you believe it takes for a person to get to heaven?  
\_\_\_\_\_

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

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

- Shared witnessing booklet     Profession of Faith     Assurance of Salvation
- This person is a prospect -  
Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone (optional) \_\_\_\_\_  
Comments \_\_\_\_\_

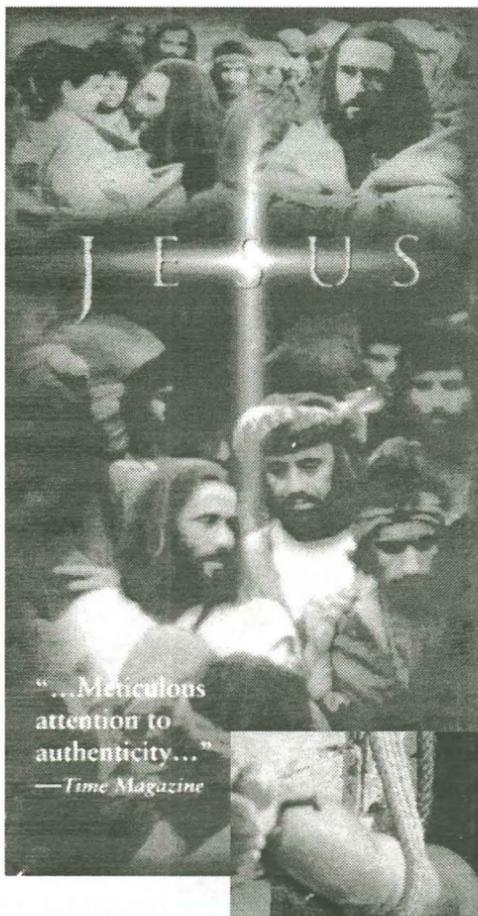
**The Community/Prayer Needs Survey of Cross Over Kentucky offers excellent opportunities to discover needs and share Christ. Many professions of faith are expected as a result.**

## General Instructions for Community/Prayer Needs Survey

The following are general instructions for the **Community/Prayer Needs Survey** to be conducted on Saturday, November 9 in targeted areas.

- ▶ Please sign in at the designated site for the targeted area at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, November 9.
  - Williamsburg/ Corbin - Main Street Baptist Church
  - London - Corinth Baptist Church, London
  - Mt. Vernon - First Baptist Church, Mt Vernon
- ▶ You will be assigned to a team of three people with at least one person of the opposite sex on each team and one person from the church you are representing.
- ▶ You will be given a packet of material that contains a map that locates the area to be surveyed, the Community/Prayer Needs Survey cards and information about the church you are representing. Take time to pray together as a team for those homes you will visit and the people you will talk with.
- ▶ As you approach the residence to be surveyed, fill out the top portion of the survey including the address.
- ▶ A designated person in the group should introduce the team and share the purpose of the survey. One person on the team should record the responses while another person asks the questions. Go through the survey and if appropriate seek to share the gospel using the "Steps to Peace with God" witnessing booklet.
- ▶ If possible, obtain the name or names of the persons in the household and fill out the back of the survey card before going to the next residence.
- ▶ Leave materials about the church and the witnessing booklet. If no one is home, mark this on the top portion of the survey card indicating the address and leave materials about the church.
- ▶ Do not enter the residence or go to the back door. If residents ask you to come in say that you have been requested not to enter homes so as not to inconvenience anyone.
- ▶ After completing the surveys of assigned areas, return to the church to turn in your report forms.
- ▶ Host churches are to provide lunch for the participants.





The Jesus film has touched more lives than any other evangelistic effort in human history. It is the inspired Word of God brought into film and video. Hundreds of these videos will be distributed in homes all across the targeted areas on Saturday, Nov. 9. No evangelism training is required to do this. A willingness to knock on doors and offer the video as a gift is all that is needed.

## TRAINING GUIDE FOR THE CROSS OVER JESUS VIDEO DISTRIBUTION

1. Show the JESUS video in your church on a Sunday night during the discipleship time or during the evening worship service. (These are available through the Evangelism office of the Kentucky Baptist Convention.)
2. Promote the need to distribute the Jesus videos in your area.
3. Enlist volunteers from within your church who will help with the JESUS video distribution (See sample bulletin insert below.) and encourage them to work with the other Kentucky Baptists who will be coming to participate in Cross Over events.
4. Select the areas you can reasonably expect to cover in about four hours. One team of three people can cover about 50 homes.
5. Order the Jesus videos from the Evangelism Office. The cost is \$2.75 each. Order 25 videos per team. A plastic doorhanger bag labeled FREE VIDEO INSIDE will be included with your order.
6. Include in the doorhanger bag information about your church, an invitation to the One Day Revival service on Nov. 9 and a response card with your church address and either a postal permit or a stamp. (See sample below.)
7. Follow-up. The ideal follow-up is to make a second visit to the homes about one month after the videos have been distributed. Ask if there are any questions about the video, ask for prayer concerns that can be shared with the church and give an invitation to Bible study and worship.
8. Provide lunch at the church for those participating in Cross Over events.

## Prayer Walks/Journey

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

## INSTRUCTIONS

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

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

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

1. Put Cross Over on their prayer list.
2. Sign up to be part of the prayer effort for Cross Over and choose a targeted area.
3. Come to the targeted area on Saturday morning, November 9 at 8:30 a.m. for specific instructions and assignments.

### Sample Response Card

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

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

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

## Sample Bulletin Insert

### Cross Over Jesus Video Distribution

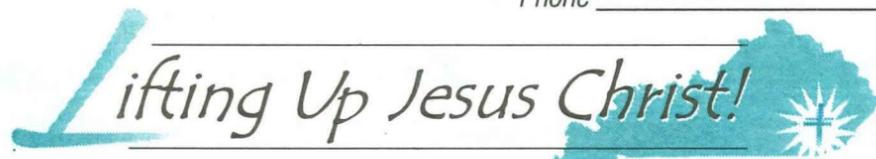
You can help offer the gift of Jesus to homes in our area. Our church will be giving the gift of a Jesus video to local families as part of CROSS OVER KENTUCKY. No evangelism training is required. If you are willing to be a part of our church distributing these videos on Saturday, Nov. 9, please complete the information below. We will meet at the church at 8:30 a.m. for one hour of training and refreshments and then go out into designated areas to distribute the videos.

**Yes**, I will help!

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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



# Cross Over Kentucky 2002 Leadership Team

## LAUREL RIVER ASSOCIATION

**Prayer:** Shawn Madden, Liberty Baptist Church  
1410 West 5th Street, London KY 40741  
Church 606-864-6147 or Home 606-877-3613

**Community Needs:** Calvin Hibbard,  
Laurel River Baptist Church,  
105 Ellen Lane, Corbin, KY 40701  
Church 606-878-1367 or Home 606-528-4249

**Servant Evangelism:** Owen Edwards (supply pastor)  
531 Russell Dyche Memorial Highway  
London KY 40741  
Home 606-864-3331

**Jesus Video:** Johnny Jervis, Swiss Colony Baptist Church  
340 Bill Mays Road, London KY 40744  
Church 606-864-9430 or Home 606-878-1401

**One Day Revivals:** Ken Felton, East Bernstadt First Baptist,  
P.O. Box 266, East Bernstadt KY 40729  
Church 606-843-6211 or Home 606-843-9035

## ROCKCASTLE ASSOCIATION

**Prayer:** Wayne Harding, Maretburg Baptist Church  
RR 3 Box 203, Mount Vernon KY 40456  
Church 606-256-2832 or Home 606-256-5278

**Community Needs:** Brian Sizemore,  
Clear Creek Bible College  
300 Clear Creek Road, Pineville KY 40977  
Home 606-337-1527 or Mt. Vernon 606-758-0031

**Servant Evangelism:** Chad Burdette,  
Northside Baptist Church  
P.O. Box 204, 100 High Street, Mount Vernon KY 40456  
Church 606/256-5577 or Home 606/256-5577

**Jesus Video:** Mark Whicker, Brodhead Baptist Church  
P.O. Box 212, Brodhead KY 40409  
Church 606/758-8316 or Home 606/758-8313

**One Day Revivals:** Adam Dooley, Freedom Baptist Church  
RR 4 Box 337, Mount Vernon KY 40456  
Church 606/256-4804 or Home 606/256-2968

## SOUTH UNION ASSOCIATION

**Prayer:** Sam Smith, Pleasure Grove Baptist Church  
1019 Pleasure Ridge Drive, Corbin KY 40701  
Church 606/549-3695 or Home 606/528-7372

**Community Needs:** Benny Bush, Faith Baptist Church  
1344 Little Wolf Creek Road, Williamsburg KY 40769  
Church 606/528-4565 or Home 606/549-5577

**Servant Evangelism:** Steve Mayle, Oak Grove Baptist  
787 Oak Grove Church Road, Corbin KY 40701  
Church 606/526-5949

Keith Decker, Corn Creek Baptist Church  
13519 East Highway 92, Barbourville KY 40906  
Home 606/549-4964

**Jesus Video:** Eugene Hamilton, Wolf Creek Baptist Church  
116 Oak Lawn Circle, Williamsburg KY 40769  
Church 606/549-5341 or Home 606/523-1933

**One Day Revivals:** Jerry Lowrie (retired pastor)  
310 Forest Ave, Williamsburg KY 40769  
Home 606/549-0533

Cross Over  
KENTUCKY

# Servant Evangelism Projects

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

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



## Training Guide For Churches

### Doing Servant Evangelism Projects

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

## One Day Revival

### Weekend Or One Day Revivals

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



KENTUCKY BAPTIST CONVENTION

P.O. Box 43433, Louisville, KY 40253-0433  
502-254-4737 or Toll Free 1-888-254-5722  
<http://www.kybaptist.org>



This publication is made possible by  
the Cooperative Program.

## Thinking small



**BIG PEW** Adults at a Children at Worship conference try to see church from a child's perspective. A traveling exhibit, the giant pew is twice the size of an ordinary pew, making a 6-foot-tall adult feel like a 3-foot-tall child. (RNS photo courtesy of Children at Worship)

## Group helps people consider kids' views of church

By Russ Barnes  
Religion News Service

ST. MARY'S CITY, Md. (RNS) — "I feel as if I'm flying," exclaims Maurine Holbert Hogaboom, 90, sitting in the giant oak pew, her feet dangling way above the church floor.

She now sits, rocking back and forth a bit, on an equal footing with 8-year-old children whose feet are accustomed to dangling from ordinary-sized pews every Sunday.

The giant pew, complete with a "modesty panel" in front, is becoming an icon for a new movement in liturgical reform.

The meaning it telegraphs is the need for intergenerational communication within worship, according to Caroline Fairless, who directs the Rochester, N.Y., organization Children at Worship.

Founded by Fairless, an Episcopal priest, and her husband, Jim Sims, the group aims to promote liturgical experimentation in the Episcopal Church.

"The pew provokes you to consider who you are," says Sims, creator and builder of the pew. "It's humorous," he said. "The pew brings out the humanity of everyone who sits in it, young and old." The pew is now on the road to as many as 20 church conference locations a year.

"The purpose of Children at Worship is to devise ways to shock ourselves into realizing that children are not only capable of experiencing the divine, but are also key members of the community needed by adults to understand God," Fairless said.

"Once you sit in the giant pew, there is no turning back to your old ways of thinking about church," added Suffragan Bishop Catherine Roskam of New York.

That's just why Sims, a former construction contractor, built the pew. Modeled after one he studied at his parish church in Wilmington, N.C., the pew is built in eight sections, each small enough when disassembled to be shuttled around in his van. It is twice the size of an or-

inary pew, so that, when sitting in it, a 6-foot-tall adult feels like a 3-foot-tall 8-year-old child.

The leveling of age status by means of the pew has spiritual and psychological implications.

"No one is more marginalized than, say, a 3-year-old," Roskam said. "If we are able to identify with a 3-year-old, we are able to learn from anyone marginalized including the 3-year-old we, as adults, feel within ourselves."

While the liturgical reforms being promoted by Children at Worship have a theological basis, the experiment is also practical.

Although membership in the Episcopal Church has grown slightly over the past several years, there are gaping age inequities. Leaders in the Episcopal Church are on average 57.9 years old—a decided contrast to the 36.4 average age of the U.S. population. Such an age gap drains younger age groups out of the church.

"Children, as they grow up, vote with their feet and many leave the church," Fairless said.

## Report: Seminary trustees should be younger, bigger donors

NEW YORK (RNS)—The guardians of America's 250 Christian seminaries should recruit more younger members and give more money themselves, according to a new survey of seminary trustees.

The study, by Auburn Theological Seminary President Barbara Wheeler, is based on the responses of 1,611 seminary trustees at 193 Christian seminaries in the United States.

"How competently this small number of institutions is governed makes a real difference in the quality of religious life in North America and, because religion is so pervasive, in North American society as a whole," Wheeler wrote in her report, "In Whose Hands."

Demographically, seminary trustees are overwhelmingly male (75 percent) and white (about 90 percent). Both indexes are slightly higher than the trustee makeup at independent colleges, private universities and non-profit groups.

Seminary trustees are also older, with 52 percent over the age of 60. Almost half—47 percent—attended seminary, but only 42 percent hold seminary degrees. One-third of trustees serve at their alma mater. About 40 percent of trustees are ordained.

Evangelical seminaries reported the highest number of trustees who had switched denominations or religious traditions, at 76 percent. Roman Catholic trustees had the smallest

number of switches, at only 5 percent.

In her recommendations, Wheeler said trustees should make plans now to replace their older members. She also recommended that trustees promote their seminaries and "file reports on their public relations activities."

Wheeler also suggested that trustees make a more concerted effort to give financially to their institutions. "Many foundations and most individual donors will not consider major support of an institution unless there is evidence that its board supports it strongly," she said.

Auburn Theological Seminary is an affiliate of both Union Theological Seminary in New York and the Presbyterian Church (USA).

## NATIONAL NOTES

■ **Court: Conversion can factor into sentence.** The death sentence of an Orange County, Calif., man has been set aside after an appellate court determined a judge was wrong to encourage a jury not to consider his Christian conversion while in jail. The appeals court said the U.S. Constitution requires juries to weigh all evidence that is relevant to a case, including the behavior of a convict while in jail, when considering the death penalty.

■ **Atheists divided in Washington march.** Before marchers have taken their first step in an upcoming "Godless Americans March on Washington," there has been a dispute among interested parties about who should be included. The Council for Secular Humanism, one of almost 100 groups supporting the Nov. 2 effort sponsored by American Atheists, has called into question two groups because they are satanic. Ellen Johnson, president of American Atheists, said her organization posted a disclaimer on its Web site—in response to the council's complaint—saying there won't be a litmus test to determine who should be included.

■ **Mormons plan first New York temple.** The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints plans to renovate a building it owns on the west side of Manhattan and convert part of it into a temple for worship, its first in New York City. A similar project was successfully completed in Hong Kong—where, like Manhattan, real estate space is at a premium. The decision to renovate the space for use as a temple was made because of growing numbers of Mormons in the New York City metropolitan area—more than 37,000 members in 2000, according to the church.

■ **Former NRB president to head Mission America.** Wayne Pederson has accepted a position as chief operating officer of Mission America Coalition after resigning earlier this year from his brief tenure as president of the National Religious Broadcasters. Mission America, based in Palm Desert, Calif., is a coalition of about 450 national Christian leaders of denominations and other ministries that is focused on prayer and evangelism. Pederson became president of the broadcasting organization in October, but resigned in February just before his scheduled installation after his remarks about the political ties of some evangelicals drew criticism from some broadcasters.

■ **Lutheran membership down, giving up last year.** Membership in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America was down slightly in 2001, continuing a decade-long decline that has plagued other mainline Protestant churches for the past 30 years. Total membership in the Chicago-based church was just under 5.1 million last year, a decline of 26,042 members, or half of 1 percent, since 2000. The ELCA is the sixth-largest Christian denomination in the United States by most rankings. The more conservative Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod reported about 2.5 million members in 2000. Total church giving was reported at nearly \$2.5 billion, up nearly \$65 million from 2000.

■ **Bishops: Efforts to convert Jews not 'acceptable.'** A joint task force of Roman Catholic bishops and Jewish rabbis has concluded that targeting Jews for conversion is "no longer theologically acceptable in the Catholic Church" because Jews "already dwell in a saving covenant with God." In some ways, the documents breaks little new ground, except to formalize what has been the "de facto practice" of the church since Vatican II. Last year, the Vatican declared "the Jewish wait for the Messiah is not in vain."

■ **Presbyterians express concern over mining.** The top executive of the Presbyterian Church asked President Bush and West Virginia's two U.S. senators to end a controversial mining procedure blamed for causing massive flooding. Clifton Kirkpatrick, stated clerk of the 2.5 million-member denomination, expressed his "grave concern" over mountaintop mining, in which the tops of mountains are sheered off for coal and the waste dirt dumped into streams and rivers. The church has a "longstanding commitment to the protection of God's creation," Kirkpatrick said while urging the senators to do "everything within your power" to ban the practice.

## Prayer emphasis sought for New York as terrorism anniversary nears

NEW YORK (BP)—As the first anniversary of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks approaches, leaders of a new prayer emphasis are asking pastors to consider leading their congregations in a special time of prayer for the needs that remain in the city.

The effort is being coordinated through PrayNewYork.com, a Web site allowing individuals to sign on as prayer partners for the city, its people and outreach efforts that will take place during the next few years.

New Hope New York is the name of the Strategic Focus Cities effort in New York, a concentrated missions program coordinated by New York Baptists and the Southern Baptist North American Mission Board.

"We would like churches to consider giving out the PrayNewYork.com prayer guide in their services," said Jack Smith, partnerships and networks director for New Hope New York. "We thought maybe on Sept. 8, on the Sunday before the 11th, they could take at least five minutes in their worship service and pray through the prayer guide we have developed."

The prayer guides are free and can be ordered through e-mail at [prayer@praynewyork.com](mailto:prayer@praynewyork.com) or by telephone at (212) 580-0655. The prayer guide also can be downloaded on the [www.praynewyork.com](http://www.praynewyork.com) Web site.

## Church arsons continuing, group finds

By Adelle Banks  
Religion News Service

CHARLESTON, S.C. (RNS)—The issue has faded from national attention, but a South Carolina-based organization is studiously keeping track of the number of houses of worship that continue to be ravaged by arson, firebombings or attempted arsons.

The National Coalition for Burned Churches and Community Empowerment recently released its compilation of statistics on the attacks, revealing such incidents are continuing at comparable or higher levels than those reported several years ago when the issue dominated media and governmental attention.

Between 1999 and 2001, the coalition documented 685 arsons, bombings, attempted arsons and suspicious or undetermined fires at houses of worship. That figure includes 452 arsons, 36 bombings and 51 unsuccessful arson attempts.

"What we have been trying to emphasize is that as a nation we must begin to look at the issue of the burning and bombing of America's houses



**REBUILDING** Pastor John Scales of Greater Jefferson Baptist Church in Eatonton, Ga., and volunteers from the Burned Church Ministry of St. Isidore Catholic Church of Bloomingdale, Ill., lift the first interior wall into place during their work in July. Greater Jefferson Baptist Church was burned in 2000.

of worship because it remains a problem for America, for all of the congregations that are being impacted," said Rose Johnson-Mackey, director of research and programs for the coalition in Charleston, S.C.

The coalition created the Church Burning Research Center in 1998 and has been documenting arsons and arson attempts nationwide ever since.

Although attention in the late 1990s was focused on fires at predominantly black churches in the South, the coalition has found that the fires occur at a range of congregations, including predominantly white churches, multiracial congregations, mosques and synagogues.

"We know that the percentage of information that we get in is low compared to the number of fire depart-

ments there are nationwide," she added.

In the late 1990s, the National Church Arson Task Force, a joint effort of the U.S. Departments of Justice and Treasury, was keeping close track of arsons at houses of worship. A 2000 task force report found that there were 297 arsons, bombings or attempted bombings in 1996, a figure that decreased to 140 in 1999.

But the coalition's figures for arsons alone, compiled in a 98-page registry, are 182 in 1999, 154 in 2000 and 116 in 2001. Total numbers of incidents (including suspicious or undetermined fires) surpassed 200 each year.

Much of the work related to burned churches now is in the hands of grassroots groups, such as a ministry created by Andre Lareau Sr. at St. Isidore Catholic Church in Bloomingdale, Ill.

Lareau, a white electrical engineer, said he started his work in 2000 after he heard a voice saying "Rebuild burned black churches" while praying at church one day. Since then, he has coordinated interdenominational teams to help rebuild churches in Georgia, Arkansas and Texas.

Working with the South Carolina-based coalition to determine where to take his teams, Lareau said he finds the number of volunteers has dropped off in recent years.

"Now, there seems to be kind of a dearth of volunteer groups," he said. "It just seems like there's appeals now by pastors (of burned churches) that are going unfilled."

Through my vocation, I can make a difference in my world.

I am open-minded about all kinds of people.

I can smile and chat with anyone.

I am helping college students start a church.

I didn't think I could have both a career and a place to minister.

I am a good listener.

## USE YOUR CAREER TO TRANSFORM THE WORLD.

Use your professional skills to make a difference in people's lives. Mission Service Corps (MSC) is a team of self-funded missionaries who serve an average of 20 hours per week for four months or more. MSC missionaries provide their own financial support or are supported by sponsors while on the mission field. Opportunities for service are available in Kentucky and North America.



[www.kybaptist.org/msc](http://www.kybaptist.org/msc)

1 800 266-6477, ext. 397

### Living trusts: Beware!

One of our clients, a widow whom we had assisted in her estate planning, called me at 10 a.m. in a panic.

She asked me if she needed a living trust. Since we knew about her situation, I was able to respond, "No, unless things have changed dramatically since we assisted you." They had not.

She then proceeded to tell me a man was coming to her house at 1 p.m. to execute a living trust, and she did not know what to do. She thought she would just not go to the door when he came. I asked her about the man and how this appointment came to be. She said she had returned a form she received in the mail about living trusts, then a woman called her and arranged the appointment.

I suggested she call the man with whom she had the appointment, inform him she wanted to cancel, apologize for the inconvenience and thank him for his interest in helping her. I offered my assistance if she received any strong resistance from him.

I share that incident to caution you about the various solicitations you will receive in the mail, in the newspaper, by telephone and on

TV about living trusts. Oftentimes, the solicitation comes in the form of a free meal at a nearby motel or restaurant to hear about how you can avoid probate and save taxes.

This is not to say none of those are worthy of attending, but it is to say beware and be sure you know what you are doing, and that

you are going for information only, and not to make any decisions or appointments on the spot. We know people who have been poorly advised into executing revocable living trusts whose circumstances did not justify the cost of that planning technique.

Laurie Valentine, our trust counsel, has developed a seminar titled, "The Truth About Probate and Living Trusts" for the sole purpose of assisting you and your fellow church members in understanding what is involved and what circumstances justify consideration of a revocable living trust. Call her toll-free to arrange the seminar for your church or senior adult group.

### KENTUCKY BAPTIST FOUNDATION



Barry Allen

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

# SMILE

## Communicating

Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children is proud of our ministry, and we devote a great deal of time and energy through our communications department and speakers bureau to get our message out.

Knowing this, I am surprised at times when messages we send so consistently fail to get through. Perhaps I shouldn't be surprised. Communication is the most difficult of endeavors for all of us. Husbands and wives, churches and pastors, supervisors and employees, you name the context and communication is many times the greatest obstacle to success.

A specific KBHC message that seems to have problems getting through sometimes is the fact that this ministry receives public dollars.

KBHC began receiving partial reimbursement for the purchase of care from the Commonwealth of Kentucky in the 1970s. Essentially, the state purchases our services to care for children in need. This arrangement does not mean that the state controls our ministry. We provide the service to children and families our way, and the state pays for part of our costs. The reimbursement rate never covers the full cost of care. Today, the reimbursement

equals approximately 75 percent of the actual cost. Our donors make up the remainder and provide additional money for religious activities and other programs.

Is state reimbursement for our services a bad thing? KBHC's track record speaks for itself. The commonwealth recognizes that we provide quality care to children and families. The fact that we are unapologetically Christian never has been an obstacle. Should the American Civil Liberties Union prevail in its litigation against KBHC, or if the commonwealth no longer accepts us as we are, then each year hundreds of children and teenagers will not have the opportunity to benefit from the quality care and spiritual opportunities provided by KBHC.

The primary beneficiary of the arrangement we have with the commonwealth is the children, not KBHC.

If you want to know more about this issue or any other part of our ministry, give me a call. I will be glad to communicate as best I can all we do and how we do it.

*Bill Smithwick is president of Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children. Contact KBHC at (800) 456-1386 or at www.kbhc.org*

## HOMES FOR CHILDREN



Bill Smithwick

## Starting a new year

By Robert Dunston

As you read this column, Cumberland College is into a new academic year. Many of our Cumberland College students already have returned, and we are delighted to see them.

Two weeks ago, our students who serve as resident assistants in the dormitories returned for orientation and additional training. These dedicated servants add a distinctive Christian touch to campus dormitory life, providing a listening ear and encouragement to their fellow students.

Last Monday, members of several of our athletic teams returned to campus. We welcomed our football team, volleyball team, men's and women's soccer teams and cross country team back to campus. Athletic trainers arrived on campus two days earlier. The teams already are training hard, preparing for another season of athletic and academic competition.

As our athletes returned, so did the students who work in our sports information department. Without their dedicated help, we could not maintain statistics or publicize athletic events and team

members.

A few days after our athletes and sports information people returned, members of the Cumberland College marching band arrived to learn new music and prepare for halftime shows. Our cheerleaders also came to campus ready to provide spirit and enthusiasm at our athletic events.

Earlier this week the members of our campus activity board arrived. They have planned many activities to welcome our students and help our faculty and staff get to know our new students. They were joined by our STARS, students who help our new students adjust to college life and succeed at Cumberland.

Cumberland College exists for young people. We are privileged to work with these dedicated and bright young people as we seek to be better Christian servants and leaders.

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

## CUMBERLAND COLLEGE



## Kudzu



Doug Marlette

## For Heaven's Sake



Mike Morgan

## Bible Crossword

### Across

- 1 Division of opposing parties
- 5 "\_\_\_ thy way unto the Lord" (Psalms 37:5)
- 8 Exclamation
- 9 Small amount
- 10 "\_\_\_ my Father's house are many mansions" (John 14:2)
- 11 "Jesus saith unto them, Come and \_\_\_" (John 21:12)
- 12 Nativity set
- 15 Indianapolis's state, abbr.
- 16 Where Goliath was from (2 Samuel 21:22)
- 17 Social equal
- 19 Overdose, abbr.
- 20 New Testament book that follows Galatians, abbr.
- 21 Isaiah's father (Isaiah 1:1)
- 23 Exclamation of satisfaction
- 25 Sound used to attract attention
- 27 Rachel's handmaid given to Jacob to bear a son (Genesis 30:3)
- 29 "\_\_\_ is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him" (Hebrews 11:6)
- 30 "\_\_\_ ye therefore, and teach all nations" (Matthew 28:19)
- 31 Lower limb
- 33 Legendary bird of prey
- 36 Line, abbr.
- 37 Time past
- 38 Office of Technology Assessment
- 39 Cow's noise
- 40 Dover's state, abbr.
- 41 "Thy word have I \_\_\_ in mine heart" (Psalms 119:11)

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		36			37						38		
39				40					41	42			
		43	44						45			46	
47	48								49			50	
51					52								

- 43 "There shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh \_\_\_" (Revelation 21:27)
- 47 "Why beholdest thou the \_\_\_ that is in thy brother's eye?" (Luke 6:41)
- 49 Where Job lived (Job 1:1)
- 50 High ranking Turkish official
- 51 "He planteth an \_\_\_, and the rain doth nourish it" (Isaiah 44:14)
- 52 Man who died after he had deceived the apostles (Acts 5:1-5)
- 13 Hebrew unit of measure (Exodus 16:36)
- 14 More, suffix
- 16 Leave
- 18 Steal
- 21 Solomon planted these trees in terraces up to the temple (2 Chronicles 9:11)
- 22 City of David (2 Chronicles 5:2)
- 24 Circle of light
- 26 Herod's wife and sister-in-law (Luke 3:19)
- 28 Not him
- 32 Elisha's servant (2 Kings 4:12)
- 34 Begins with Genesis and ends with Malachi, abbr.
- 35 Pertaining to the body
- 36 Unwilling
- 37 Arab country
- 40 "My meat is to \_\_\_ the will of him that sent me" (John 4:34)
- 42 Pronoun for a thing
- 44 "\_\_\_ still, and know that I am God" (Psalms 46:10)
- 45 Joshua's father (Joshua 1:1)
- 46 King of Bashan (1 Kings 4:19)
- 47 Mother
- 48 Old style, abbr.

## Last week's solution

1	I	N	V	I	T	A	S	6	I	O	N	9	O	F		
11	N	A		12	N	I		13	O	T	T	14	D	O		
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26	C	O	L	D					29	A	N					
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36	S	R			37	S	C	A	R	E	D					
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J			43	I	R	E		44	S	L	E	46	A	V	E	
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			56	R	E	D	E	E	M		57	B	A	L	S	A

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## WORLD VIEW

■ **Magazine poll: Mother Teresa India's 'greatest citizen.'** Mother Teresa, the Catholic nun famous for her outreach to the poor in the slums of Calcutta, has been voted India's greatest citizen in a magazine poll. The survey, published by "Outlook" magazine, named Mother Teresa as the greatest Indian since the country's independence in 1947. The results were based on more than 50,000 responses. The well-known nun, who was an Albanian and eventually became an Indian citizen, won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1979. She died in 1997 at age 87.

■ **Jews for Jesus blocked from work in Ukraine.** Ukraine, already known for its feuding Christian groups, has been the scene this summer of an intense, sometimes violent struggle between two Jewish-oriented groups, one conducting a street campaign to convert Jews to Christianity and the other trying to block that effort. Jews for Jesus, the San Francisco-based evangelical Christian group, managed to hand out nearly 1.5 million leaflets to pedestrians in the cities of Kiev and Dnepropetrovsk. By late July, however, activists from the Moscow-based Magen David League effectively stopped Jews for Jesus by getting Dnepropetrovsk authorities to forbid any more street evangelism.

■ **Forum: Climate change 'moral and religious issue.'** More than 70 Christian leaders, scientists and policy-makers recently endorsed a declaration calling human-induced climate change a "moral and religious issue" at a meeting in Oxford, England. "We, the forum participants, recognize the urgency for addressing human-induced climate change, repent of our inaction and commit ourselves to work diligently and creatively to adopt solutions in our own lives and in the communities we influence," the statement reads. Endorsers included Richard Cizik, vice president for governmental affairs of the National Association of Evangelicals, and James Ball, director of the Evangelical Environmental Network in Washington.

## Ministers' Wives Celebration

Jenny Wiley State Park, Prestonsburg September 14

Madisonville First Baptist Church September 21

Don't miss this refreshing conference designed especially to encourage, challenge and assist the minister's wife! We will seek God's presence, encourage each other and find new friends.

A \$10.00 reservation fee includes the conference fee and lunch.

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## The biggest day of the year

There are many exciting events during the year: homecoming, graduation, yearbook dedication, Christmas break, the last game of the year and more, but no event equals the first day of school.

For more than three months we have been planning, working and preparing for one big day. It is the most physically and emotionally exhausting day of our year. It is no small feat to begin the school year and have hundreds of students move back onto our campus.

Students who have been here before have been making plans to return. Not only have they been shopping for clothes and school supplies like most kids, but they also have been shopping for many more things: a hot pot to cook noodles and soup, a fan to help keep cool in the dorms, pictures of family and friends, foot locker. And no list would be complete without a stereo. There is a big difference between getting ready for school while you live at home and getting ready to go to a boarding school.

Nearly 100 new dorm students began their first day at Oneida Aug. 18. We have been talking to prospective students all summer about the possibility of coming to Oneida. Many questions have been asked and answered. It is one thing to come for a visit in June or July; it is quite another to pack up and come in August. Many who were not nervous in the June or July interview were a little more emotional as they were moving their things into the dorm.

Every new student is put in a room with young people who are returning students. Great effort is made to match every new student with roommates who have things in common. We consider things like whether the new students are from the city or

country, what grades they are in, what their interests and hobbies are and any other information we have to help us place the new students.

I am sure some did not sleep much the first night. It's difficult to sleep in a room with three strangers, one of whom may be snoring. Learning to share space with three roommates for the first time can be quite a challenge. And then there are those smelly tennis shoes.

Teachers have been busy putting up posters and decorating their rooms. Lesson plans have been ready for weeks. There have been those endless meetings and instructions.

Some new rules have been added and a few old rules have been removed. Yes, the students can wear hats to school. No, they cannot wear them in the classrooms. No, they do not have to go to breakfast. Yes, they have to be at school on time. Yes, they can hold hands. No, they cannot kiss.

Every teacher and house parent is reminded to exercise great patience for the next few weeks. Some of these new students will settle in right away and never get homesick. Most however, not only will get homesick, but also will wish they were back home.

It is not easy for an 11- or 12-year-old to be away from home. It is not easy for many 18-year-olds either. Learning to do one's laundry, eating food that mom did not cook, getting used to new teachers and new rules all make for a challenging time for faculty, staff and students.

Reprinted from WR, Aug. 27, 1996

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

THIS IS ONEIDA



W.F. Underwood

## Ohio pastor honored by Clear Creek faculty

The Clear Creek faculty has selected Columbus, Ohio, pastor Ronald Hopkins to honorary membership in Delta Epsilon Chi, honor society of the Accrediting Association of Bible Colleges. The honor is awarded to graduates who exhibit outstanding intellectual achievement, Christian character and leadership ability. Hopkins graduated with honors from Clear Creek in 1983.

Hopkins became pastor of Briggs Road Baptist Church in 1986. Bible study attendance at the church has grown from 88 to 450. The Ohio Baptist Convention has recognized the congregation nine times as a pace-setter in evangelism. The church sponsors a Cambodian and a Hispanic ministry and has entered its second major building program. Hopkins previously was pastor of Northeast Baptist in Westerville, Ohio, and New Prospect Baptist in Manchester, Ky.

In 1999 Hopkins founded Partnership Ministry, a coalition of Westside Columbus churches working together to meet community needs. He served three years on the steering committee for Mission Columbus, organizing churches to reach the city for Christ. Hopkins was a visiting instructor and aca-

demic board member of Vision Christian Bible College. In 1999-2000 he was president of Ohio Baptist Pastors and Wives Conference.

While a student at Clear Creek, Hopkins was class president for four years and faculty assistant to Tommy Holtzclaw and Louis McCall. At graduation he received the evangelism/discipleship award.

Ron and Karen Hopkins have two children and seven grandchildren.

"My experience at Clear Creek was the single most life-changing Christian experience of my life," Hopkins said. "It was more than textbooks, studies and exams. I discovered a bond of relationships that I will have the rest of my life. Our professors became our friends, our inspiration and our mentors for

life in the ministry. Each taught us beyond the classroom by their personal experiences, gifts, talents and personalities. ... I will never forget them and realize I could never repay them for their love, patience and understanding. Any success in ministry is due to God's blessing and my mentors at Clear Creek and their faithfulness to God's calling and my family's love and support."

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

CLEAR CREEK CHRONICLE



Bill Whittaker

# BOOKS/TV

**Send The Light: Lottie Moon's Letters and Papers.** Keith Harper. Mercer University Press, 2002. 458 pages. \$22. ◆◆◆◆ (out of five)

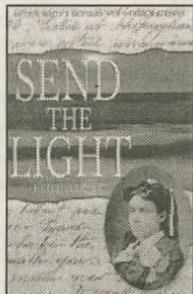
As a child, growing up in a mission-minded Baptist church, I heard the story of how Lottie Moon literally gave her life for the children of China. As a student at Southern Seminary, I used to pass by the Lottie Moon Room and see her stern face looking down from the portrait that hung near the exact desk (or was it a copy?) that she used in China. But, who was Lottie Moon?

Keith Harper, a professor at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest, N.C., helps answer that question in his compilation of letters Lottie Moon wrote to the leaders of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board and to friends and family, as well as articles she wrote for *The Foreign Mission Journal*.

Through these letters and articles, we get a glimpse, not only of the early days of Southern Baptist foreign missions, but of the convictions and temperament of this Baptist "saint." She had definite opinions about all aspects of missions work: funding, missionary recruitment, strategic decisions under consideration by the Foreign Mission Board, and even some of her colleagues. What is more, she was not afraid to express them, sometimes gently and at times sharply and in great detail.

One cannot help but wonder if a woman could be so forthright with her superiors in today's climate.

For those who find peering into the world and thoughts of a seminal figure in Baptist missions fascinating, "Send the Light" is an exhaustive encounter. *Jim Holladay*



**Soul Searchers: Anthology of Spiritual Journeys.** Compiled by Teresa de Bertodano. William B. Eerdmans Publishing, 2001. 255 pages. \$25. ◆◆◆◆

This is a wonderful book, full of inspiring stories of people and their journeys of faith.

The book is divided into three sections that represent the three journeys of life as proposed by Gerald O'Collins in his book "Second Journey": the beginning years, middle years and final stage of life.

The journeys that are presented are primarily biographical and autobiographical, although some fictional journeys are presented. Teresa de Bertodano contributes brief (one paragraph) introductions to the person and then turns immediately to the written account of the particular person's journey.

Many of the names will be familiar, such as Abraham, Maya Angelou, Anne Frank, Jesus, C.S. Lewis, Billy Graham and John Wesley. But others are what would be considered minor characters in the history of religion. The accounts of their journeys, however, are not minor and add much to the understanding of the human spirit and its dealings with issues of faith.

The fact that I do not know all the people presented and that they are not restricted to American journeys, makes this anthology such a welcome addition.

De Bertodano has done the preacher and the teacher a great service by providing ample illustrative material. But beyond that, she has presented material to inspire all those searching for God because somewhere in her book one is surely going to find someone who is on the same or near the same journey. *Wayne Hager*

**Drowning in Shallow Water: The Hope of Colossians for Today's Culture.** Timothy Owings. Smyth & Helwys Publishing, 2002. 172 pages. ◆◆◆

"In my judgment," Timothy Owings writes in the introduction to "Drowning in Shallow Water," "the contemporary church is much like the not-quite-seeing man in Bethsaida (Mark 8:22-26). We have had a first touch from Jesus—enough to save us? Give us spiritual confidence? Provide us with enough 'answers' to be obnoxious?—but have gone off with blurred visions, leaving Jesus to go south to a cross we'd rather avoid. ... We must reconnect with Jesus."

Owings, pastor of First Baptist Church of Augusta, Ga., believes Paul's letter to the Colossians furnishes both the insight and challenge necessary to help the contemporary church stop splashing in shallow spirituality and launch out into the deep waters of grace. "Drowning in Shallow Water" grew out of a series of sermons Owings preached, which he then expanded into book form during a study leave.

The first four chapters of the book move sequentially through the four chapters of Colossians. The last six chapters jump around through Colossians. Because Owings encourages the reader to read straight through Colossians before reading "Drowning," I found the book's organization somewhat distracting.

Despite its limitations, Owings book brings out aspects of Paul's letter that I had not encountered before. Anyone preaching or teaching out of Colossians will find a lot of help in applying the text to the contemporary scene. *Jim Holladay*



**A Woman's Garden of Prayer.** Sarah Maddox and Patti Webb. Broadman & Holman Publishers, 2002. 134 pages. \$14.99. **A Woman's Garden of Prayer Journal.** 128 pages. \$11.99. ◆◆

A plethora of books and their companion journals for Christian women exist in the marketplace.

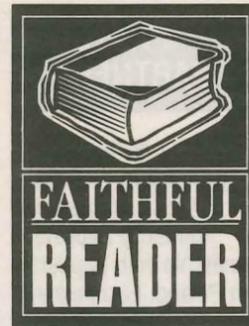
So many, in fact, that the challenge of producing something in this genre is finding a way to make the material seem fresh while keeping to the formula of glossy pages, pretty pictures, prayers and easily-digestible spiritual information.

"A Woman's Garden of Prayer" succeeds at this, finding a way to mix Bible verses, short devotionals and tips on gardening in a well-organized fashion. The gardening metaphor is everywhere, from chapter names like "Applying God's Fertilizer" to the botanical illustrations.

The tips at the end of the chapters are probably the best thing about the book. Pithy bits of gardening advice tell readers such information as "apples retard the growth of spring bulbs" or "when planting geraniums, add 1/2 cup of Epsom salts to the soil" followed by spiritual advice like "Remember the three A's a man needs from his wife: Acceptance, Affirmation and Adoration" and "Ask God to bring to mind today someone who is going through a changing season."

"A Woman's Garden of Prayer Journal" is a perfectly matched companion to the book with lots of lined pages, dreamy photographs of flower bouquets and thematic prayers.

Women who enjoy a little gardening with their devotions will greatly enjoy this book, and it is a nice addition to the genre that many women will enjoy. *Victoria Moon*



By Wayne Hager, pastor of Calvary Baptist Church in Mt. Airy, N.C.; Jim Holladay, pastor of Lyndon Baptist Church in Louisville; and Victoria Moon, librarian for Deer Park Baptist Church in Louisville. They welcome feedback or suggestions for book reviews. Contact them via e-mail at: [jwhager@surry.net](mailto:jwhager@surry.net), [docholladay01@aol.com](mailto:docholladay01@aol.com) or [vicoria.moon@earthlink.net](mailto:vicoria.moon@earthlink.net)

## Some fans upset by Davey & Goliath's comeback in Mountain Dew ads

By Kevin Eckstrom  
Religion News Service

CHICAGO (RNS)—It's a moral dilemma that Davey Hansen himself might have wrestled with: Can the posterboy for wholesome values sell his image to the advertising gods of Madison Avenue and keep his soul intact?

Last year, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America decided to resurrect the animated "Davey and Goliath" characters after 25 years in pop culture purgatory. The basic plan was to raise \$4 million to create new episodes of the feel-good children's series that ran from 1960-1975.

Under an agreement earlier this year, Mountain Dew bought the rights to the characters for a 30-second TV ad. Church leaders heralded the agreement as Phase One in Davey's big comeback.

But now, some church members are upset that the little boy and his talking dog are being used to sell soda, not the gospel.

"I think when you have a mission and message as critical as the witness to Christ, and you have a vehicle like Davey and Goliath, call me (old-fashioned) but I don't think you compromise it," said minister Dave Wasemann of Manassas, Va.



**DAVEY & GOLIATH & THE BISHOP** Mark Hanson, president of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, poses with Davey and Goliath. The church is trying to revive the Davey and Goliath characters, but some church members are upset that the boy and his dog were used in an irreverent Mountain Dew commercial.

What has Wasemann upset is the ad's storyline, in which Davey and a friend wrestle over a can of Mountain Dew. When confronted by his father, Davey apologizes and his father guzzles the soda himself. His friend asks what happened, and Davey says, "We got hosed."

In June, Wasemann's regional Metro Washington Synod passed a resolution that said the Mountain Dew ad "conflicts with the purpose of uplifting moral lessons ... designed to affirm a child's faith in God

in an entertaining way." The resolution asked the ELCA's Church Council to investigate.

Soon after, the Northeastern Iowa Synod passed a similar resolution, which said the ad "portrays parenting, language and actions that are inconsistent and in conflict with the values of the ELCA." The resolution said no more deals should be signed unless the Church Council and church bishops are consulted.

Gary Hatcher of Greene, Iowa, said the "hosed" language is inappropriate. "There are people in the church who said it didn't bother them, that that's the world we live in and people talk and act that way. Our response was yes, that's true, but it doesn't mean we as Christians should act and talk that way."

Sixty-five episodes and six specials of "Davey and Goliath" were produced between 1960 and 1975. Davey and his dog, Goliath, were created using "stop motion" animation, similar to claymation. Each episode featured easy-to-digest lessons on ethics and morality.

Eric Shafer, the church's director of communications and an avid Davey fan, is the man behind the new Davey campaign. He said he takes the concerns seriously,

especially when they involve charges of commercialism.

"I grew up on Davey ... and I believe in the importance and power of Davey and Goliath as a symbol of the gospel," Shafer said. "I would never do anything to besmirch the Davey reputation."

Shafer said the Mountain Dew ad was only intended to provide seed money for other ventures. Two new church-sponsored ads feature Davey searching for Lutheran churches on the Internet. Next comes a series of plush dolls, action figures and book deals.

Hatcher can follow the ends-justify-the-means logic, but said he still disagrees. "I understand that thinking, but our argument is that how you get to a place is as important as the place you arrive at."

Even though the characters have faded from the spotlight, passions run deep among fans. Church members who support the comeback say the church had to take some risks in order to introduce the characters to a new generation of children.

"If you had people afraid of trying anything for fear that someone might be offended, then you end up totally paralyzed," said Bishop Roy Almquist of the Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod.

# PEOPLE

## PRAYER PARTNERS

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

■ Efforts to produce the "Jesus" video in the Corsican language. Many Corsicans in France will not listen to the gospel in French, but might be open to it in their heart language, missionaries write.

■ A new "Alpha" discipleship group that recently began in the home of Baptist representatives Joe and Chair Vasquez in the Canary Islands. Pray that the hearts of group members "will be softened" to the thought that they can have a personal relationship with God through faith in Jesus Christ during the 12-week course, missionaries request.

■ The 3.2 million people in northwest Spain who are part of the Gallegos people group. Less than .0018 percent of the group are believers, writes Baptist representative Linda Barnett.

■ Zuyeva, a Russian woman who recently became a believer.

■ Sergei and Tonya, two Russian believers who are teaching inductive Bible study classes in their hometown.

## CLASSIFIED ADS

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**FOR SALE:** Church pews. Curved oak with padded burgundy seat and back. Possibly 16 or more eight to 14-foot lengths. Clay City Baptist Church, PO Box 544, Clay City, KY 40312, or call (606) 663-2091 or 663-2793.

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**SEEKING:** Part-time children's minister. Alton Baptist Church, 1321 Bypass North, Lawrenceburg, KY 40342. If interested, send resumé to listed address, fax to (502) 839-3488 or call (502) 839-3487.

**SEEKING:** Part-time minister of music for Fern Creek Baptist Church. Send resumé to: Fern Creek Baptist Church, PO Box 91146, Louisville, KY 40291, Attn: Search Committee.

**SEEKING:** Teachers for Bluegrass Baptist School in Lexington: Middle school (7th and 8th) English and math teacher; high school English teacher; keyboarding and computer literacy teacher. Call: (859) 272-1217.

**SEEKING:** Full-time pastor for Willow Grove Baptist Church in Danville, Ky. Send resumé to: Search Committee, 857 Godbey Lane, Danville, KY 40422.

**SEEKING:** Growing church in Lexington prayerfully seeks a full-time minister of music and children. Responsibilities include leading worship through music, directing both adult and children's choirs, and overseeing children's education and recreation. Interested candidates should submit resúmes to Search Committee, Chevy Chase Baptist, PO Box 22113, Lexington, KY 40502.

**SEEKING:** Flexible, part-time administrative assistant; proficient in Microsoft Office, Publisher and willing to learn database system (ACS). Send resumé to Hope Simpson, CBC, PO Box 70, Crestwood, KY 40014, or fax: (502) 241-0251. No phone calls please.

**SEEKING:** Bivocational pastor for small church in Pike County. Send resumé to: Pulpit Committee, PO Box 83, Regina, KY 41559.

**SEEKING:** Associate pastor for students and young adults. Theologically moderate church in Northern Kentucky/Cincinnati metro area seeks an innovative, evangelistic, egalitarian team-builder. Church has potential to reach urban kids in Covington and suburban kids nearby. Full support of the church and a dynamic new pastor to try whatever works. Prefer seminary graduate. Contact Latonia Baptist Church, Box 15103, Covington, KY 41015. Fax: (859) 431-1208. E-mail: StHollaway@aol.com.

**SEEKING:** Baptist Life Communities is accepting applications and resúmes for director of Bullittsburg Camp and Retreat Center. The director would be responsible for overseeing the facilities and groups that use the camp. The camp averages more than 100 group visits per year. This is a full-time position with benefits available. Mail resúmes to: Baptist Towers, 800 Highland Ave., Covington, KY 41011, Attn: Human Resources, or call (859) 491-3800 for more information.

**SEEKING:** Lynn Camp Baptist is prayerfully seeking a part-time worship leader and a part-time youth leader. Anyone interested, please send resumé to: Search Committee, LCBC, PO Box 306, Gray, KY 40734.

**SEEKING:** Full-time youth and recreation minister. Minimum: college; experienced; spiritually mature; good people skills. Send resumé to: Mill Creek Baptist Church, 1182 South Jones, Radcliff, KY 40160, Attn: Youth and Recreation Search Committee chairman.

**SEEKING:** Part-time youth minister/children's director. Send resumé to: Search Committee, Kelly Baptist Church, 7775 Madisonville Road, Hopkinsville, KY 42240. Phone: (270) 886-7399.

**SEEKING:** First Baptist Church, Middlesboro, Ky., is receiving resúmes for the position of full-time minister of music and outreach. A master's degree from an accredited graduate school or seminary is preferred. Salary will be based on education and experience. First Baptist Church is affiliated with CBF, SBC and ABC. Submit resúmes to: Dr. Chuck Summers, First Baptist Church, PO Box 839, Middlesboro, KY 40965.

**SEEKING:** Full-time associate pastor with emphasis in the areas of youth and children for First Baptist Church, Middlesboro, Ky. Candidate should have at least a bachelor's degree. Salary will be based on education and experience. First Baptist Church is affiliated with CBF, SBC and ABC. Submit resúmes to: Dr. Chuck Summers, First Baptist Church, PO Box 839, Middlesboro, KY 40965.

**SEEKING:** Associate pastor/youth, children and family ministry. Friendly and loving Southern Baptist church seeks associate pastor to work with youth, children and families. Education and experience in this area of ministry is desired. Please send resumé to: McCabe Memorial Baptist Church, 107 Clearview Drive, Martinsville, VA 24112, Attn: L.D. Oakes.

**SEEKING:** Full-time minister to students (first grade through college) If interested, please send resumé to: Cecilia Baptist Church, 416 East Main St., Cecilia, KY 42724. For a job description, please call (270) 862-4228.

**SEEKING:** Full-time youth and music director. Responsibilities will be primarily with youth; music responsibilities will include Sunday morning and evening worship, Wednesday evening hymn service and one cantata a year. Pay and benefits commensurate with position. Send resumé to: Personnel Committee, First Baptist Church, 302 North Magnolia St., Tompkinsville, KY 42167.

**SEEKING:** We are prayerfully seeking a full-time minister of youth. This would include grades 7-12. Please submit resumé to: Lancaster Baptist Church, 201 Richmond St., Lancaster, KY 40444.

**SEEKING:** First Baptist Church, Williamsburg, Ky., seeks a qualified interim minister of music. The candidate should be skilled and experienced in the calling of worship planning, choir direction and congregational leading. Using a chorally based worship service, our intention is to offer excellent and creative worship opportunities for our congregation and community, ultimately glorifying and praising God. Please send resumé to: Personnel Committee, FBC, 230 South 5th St., Williamsburg, KY 40769, or call the church office: (606) 549-0280.

**SEEKING:** Qualified interim minister of youth and college students for First Baptist Church, Williamsburg, Ky. The candidate should be skilled in the calling of student ministry. Interim will work closely with the pastor and should be able to dedicate himself/herself to relationship ministry. Please send resumé to: Personnel Committee, FBC, 230 South 5th St., Williamsburg, KY 40769, or call the church office: (606) 549-0280.

**SEEKING:** Pleasant Hill Baptist Church, Campbellsville, Ky., is seeking a part-time minister of music. We are seeking the person God wants to lead our church in church music for all age groups. The candidate will be responsible for the overall music ministry of the church, along with the development and promotion of music ministries. The candidate must be able to plan and lead multiple worship services incorporating traditional and contemporary music selections. Submit resúmes to: Minister of Music Search Committee, Pleasant Hill Baptist Church, 6380 Old Lebanon Road, Campbellsville, KY 42718.

**SEEKING:** Bivocational pastor for small church in rural area. Send resumé and references to: Pulpit Committee, Welfare Baptist Church, 476 W Cumberland Ave., Jamestown, KY 42629.

**SEEKING:** Part-time director of music, Calvary Hill Baptist Church, Stanford, Ky. For more information, call (606) 365-7584, or submit resumé to: PO Box 482, Stanford, KY 40484.

**SEEKING:** The Youth Ministry Search Committee of First Baptist Church in Bowling Green, Ky., is broadening its search for a youth minister (grade 7-university) to include individuals with a minimum of an undergraduate degree and 3-5 years experience in youth church work. Please submit a resumé to: First Baptist Church, 621 E 12th Ave., Bowling Green, KY 42101, Attn: Steve Snodgrass.

**SEEKING:** Full-time minister of preschool/child development center director for Fern Creek Baptist Church. Send resumé to: FCBC, PO Box 91146, Louisville, KY 40291, Attn: Search Committee.

**SEEKING:** Full-time pastor for High Street Baptist Church. Send resumé to: Search Committee, High Street Baptist Church, 102 Bourne Ave., Somerset, KY 42501.

**SEEKING:** Full-time pastor (SBC affiliation). Please send resúmes and/or recommendations to: Pastor Search Committee, Calvary Baptist Church, 96 Calvary Church Road, Corbin, KY 40701.

**SEEKING:** Lewis Lane Baptist Church, Owensboro, Ky., is accepting resúmes through Aug. 31 for the position of full-time minister of music with the additional ministry area of adult education. Lewis Lane is an evangelical church moving toward a blended style of worship (gospel, hymns, praise/worship, contemporary). Experience and a master's degree from an accredited graduate school or seminary are preferred. Please send resúmes to: Sue Trautwein, chair, Minister of Music Search Committee, 2600 Lewis Lane, Owensboro, KY 42301.

**SEEKING:** Full-time pastor for Northside Baptist Church in Science Hill, Ky. The church averages 85 in Sunday school and 120 in worship. If interested, send resumé to PO Box 129, Science Hill, KY 42553.

**SEEKING:** Ormsby Heights Baptist Church, Louisville, Ky., is receiving resúmes for the position of minister of music. This position is full time with the possible addition of a second ministry area (education, missions, administration, etc.) to be determined by the candidate's interests, experience and skills. Ormsby Heights is a conservative church with a blended style of worship (gospel, hymns, praise/worship, contemporary) and a very strong interest in developing contemporary worship opportunities targeting young adults. Please send resúmes to: Ormsby Heights Baptist Church, 2120 Lower Hunters Trace, Louisville, KY 40216.

**SERVICES:** America's fastest growing Christian long distance company. No monthly service charge; 4.9 cents per minute; 6-second billing. Toll-free: (866) 587-8346. www.covenantphoneservice.com. Agent opportunity available.

**WANTED:** Used portable baptistry to purchase for new church start. Contact Larry Frisby, Freedom Church, (270) 789-2000.

# PEOPLE

## Mountains to the Mississippi

Compiled by staff

■ BAGDAD—Family Baptist Church recently called **Tony Stinnett** as pastor.  
 ■ CADIZ—Ponderosa Church called **John Mitchell** as associate pastor.  
 ■ DeMOSSVILLE—Gardnersville Church called **Cal Adams** as pastor. He previously was pastor of Mount Freedom Church in Harrodsburg.  
 ■ ELIZABETHTOWN—Severns Valley Church honored **Peggy Thomas** Aug. 11 for 10 years of service as child development center director.  
 ■ FREDONIA—First Church licensed **Jason Landreth** to the gospel ministry.  
 ■ GRAND RIVERS—Iuka Church ordained **Andrew Sexton** to the gospel ministry Aug. 18.  
 ■ GREENSBURG—Greensburg Church will host a "Simply Gospel" concert by the Greensburg Community Choir Sept. 7, 6 p.m. For infor-

mation, call Tim Hooper at (270) 932-4495.

■ HENDERSON—Zion Church called **James Jones** as interim pastor.

New Hope Church ordained Pastor **Brian Whitman** to the gospel ministry.

■ LEBANON—Lebanon Church called **David Whitlock** as pastor.

■ LOUISVILLE—**Bill Johnson** will celebrate 20 years of ministry as minister of education at Crescent Hill Church Aug. 25.

Gethsemane Church will celebrate its annual homecoming Sept. 15. Former interim pastor **Rolfe Dorsey** will preach at the morning service. For information, call (502) 969-3191.

■ MACKVILLE—**David Gifford** resigned Aug. 4 as pastor of Mackville Church.

■ MADISONVILLE—Richland Church will celebrate its 165th anni-

versary Sept. 28-29. **Jim Lantrip** is pastor.

■ MOREHEAD—First Church ordained **Lane Cowser** as a deacon Aug. 11. **Don Mantooth** is pastor.

■ PADUCAH—Friendship Church ordained **Mike Chumbler** and **Jim Scourick** as deacons Aug. 4. **Jason Browning** is pastor.

■ PLEASUREVILLE—**Earl Goff** resigned as pastor of Orville Church effective Aug. 31.

■ PRINCETON—Donaldson Church called **Matthew Ellis** as pastor.

Second Church called **Jerrell White** as interim pastor.

■ RICHMOND—Red House Church called **Adam Dooley** as senior pastor. He previously was pastor of Freedom Church in Mount Vernon.

■ WILMORE—Mount Freedom Church called **Justin Hornsby** as minister of music effective Aug. 14.

■ WALTON—**Ray Spaulding** resigned as minister of music at First Church. **Matt Holleran** was called as minister of youth.



**MONUMENTAL TASK**  
 Workers install a religious sculpture July 15 on the campus of Georgetown College. The 12-foot monument, titled *L'Chaim (To Life)*, celebrates Georgetown's Judeo-Christian heritage. School officials said the sculpture is the first in a series of works designed to represent the college's character and diversity. It will be dedicated Sept. 3 at Georgetown's opening convocation.

## Campbellsville receives major gift for chapel

CAMPBELLSVILLE—Campbellsville University recently received a \$1 million gift toward the construction of a new chapel.

The gift, by Louisville trustee George Ransdell and his wife, Marie, represents the largest capital gift to date for the school, according to President Mike Carter.

"Words cannot express our deepest gratitude," Campbell told the school's trustees recently. "Their commitment clearly is a pivotal moment in the life of Campbellsville University."

Carter said that the university now will launch a fund-raising campaign to raise the remainder of the project's funding. "Our goal for the chapel is going to be approximately \$3 million with another \$750,000 to build the school of theology," Carter said.

"As soon as we raise the funds, we will immediately begin plans for construction. The university will also pursue funds to name the school of theology," he added.

During the past 10 years, Campbellsville has moved its weekly chapel/convocation services three times, as the school has grown from 800 students to nearly 1,800.

"This facility will allow Campbellsville to move our weekly chapel/convocation services from the gymnasium of the J.K. Powell Athletic Center to the chapel," Carter said. "Although people can worship and praise God at any time and in any place, we believe it is imperative for us, as a Christian university, that such services, convocations, performances and meetings be held in a facility conducive to worship and praise."

## Film examines plight of Middle East Christians

By Matt Young  
 Religion News Service

WASHINGTON (RNS)—While the Israeli-Palestinian conflict has long been the focus of international attention in the Mideast, a pro-Israeli French film producer claims there's another little-noticed struggle there of equal importance—between Muslim and Christian Palestinians.

In "The Holy Land: Christians in Peril," a documentary to be released in September, Pierre Rehov explores the plight of Christianity in the Palestinian territories of the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Beginning at Bethlehem's Church of the Nativity, where Palestinian Muslims allegedly held Christian monks hostage in a five-week standoff with the Israeli Army that ended in May, the film attempts to portray what Rehov says is the persecution of Christians at the hands of extremist Muslims.

"It's a story of (Christians) living under Islam for so many centuries as second-rate citizens," said Rehov, who is also president of the Luxembourg-based World Committee for Justice and Peace. The group supports Israel and filed a criminal lawsuit against Yasser Arafat for genocide in

December.

"Some Christians are forced to sell their lands and shops to Muslims," Rehov said. If Christians don't, they face harassment and property damage, he added.

Rabbi Arnold Resnicoff, national director of interreligious affairs for the American Jewish Committee, said some Christians feel unwelcome at the hands of Muslims.

"Some reports seem to indicate that there is less freedom (for Christians) to practice and be proud of their religion," Resnicoff said.

But Charles Kimball, who wrote a book about Christians in the Mideast a decade ago and is a professor of religion at Wake Forest University, said historically Palestinians of all creeds have gotten along well in the Holy Land.

Palestinian Christians and Muslims "are very much together in (their quest for) Palestinian independence," Kimball said. "Arafat's wife is even a Christian."

But Kimball conceded that newer Islamist groups, including Hamas and Islamic Jihad, which seek to establish an Islamic Palestinian state instead of the secular one advocated by Arafat's Palestine Liberation Organization, have begun to sow the seeds of ten-

sion between Christians and Muslims in the region.

As further evidence of Christian torment, Rehov noted that 20 years ago, 150,000 Christians lived in the Palestinian territories of the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Now only 60,000 live there. And since 1950, Christians in the territories have dropped from 15 percent of the total population to 2 percent today, he said.

While Kimball agrees that the number of Christians living in Palestinian territories has dropped significantly over the years, many simply moved to find a better life. Palestinian Christians are still living in the same dismal conditions as other Palestinians, he said—under Israeli occupation.

All in all, Rehov said, if things don't change for Palestinian Christians in the Holy Land, eventually "nobody will remember there were Christians living there."

Rehov said he is making the film to open the eyes of Christians worldwide to the struggles of their brothers and sisters in Palestine.

The "Holy Land: Christians in Peril" will be distributed on the Web through WorldNetDaily in September and Rehov said he is negotiating broadcast deals.

## Evangelicals expect good food in heaven, poll finds

NEW YORK (RNS)—Evangelical Protestants are the most likely of all Christians to believe "there will be plenty of good food to eat" in heaven, according to a new Newsweek poll.

Fifty-six percent of evangelicals expect to have good food in the heavenly afterlife, compared to 47 percent of all Christians.

And in contrast to Catholics and other Protestants, evangelicals are more likely to see heaven as a place with material comforts where people will be recognizable as their earthly form.

The poll of 1,000 adults, in the Aug. 13 edition of Newsweek, shows that about 40 percent of respondents from all three groups said they don't

know what heaven looks like, but Catholics and other Protestants reported they tend to see it as a garden, while evangelicals envision it as a city.

Catholics are the most likely to think earthly actions determine whether a person goes to heaven (81 percent), compared to 75 percent of evangelicals and 69 percent of other Protestants.

The poll showed that, among people who believe in heaven, Jews have a better chance of getting in (85 percent) than Muslims (75 percent), while atheists (41 percent) and people who commit suicide (48 percent) fared much worse.

The Newsweek poll also reflected a continuing trend that fewer people believe in hell than heaven. Sixty per-

cent of all Americans believe in hell, though that number is higher among evangelicals (81 percent) and Catholics (66 percent) but lower among other Protestants (54 percent).

Respondent said the "definite" occupants of hell include satan worshippers (53 percent), murderers (34 percent), atheists (32 percent) and people who commit suicide (20 percent), according to the poll. Only 17 percent of people who believe in hell said non-Christians "definitely" would go to hell.

The margins of error for the poll varied, ranging from plus or minus 4 percentage points for those who believe in hell to plus or minus 7 percentage points for the smaller Catholic subgroup.

# ***We Have the Answers!!!***

**Who is your voice in Frankfort on important moral issues?**

***The Kentucky League***

**Who lobbies on behalf of more than 3,000 churches?**

***The Kentucky League***

**Who helps communities organize to fight against alcohol-related elections?**

***The Kentucky League***

**Who was instrumental in seeing that 10 alcohol and gambling bills were defeated in the 2002 General Assembly?**

***The Kentucky League***

**Who is one of the strongest opponents to expanding gambling in our state?**

***The Kentucky League***

**Who can you contact for information on moral and ethical legislation?**

***The Kentucky League***

**For more information, contact:  
Dr. Howard Beauman, Executive Director  
The Kentucky League on Alcohol & Gambling Problems  
2722 Crittenden Drive  
Louisville, KY 40209  
(502) 635-0002  
Email: [hbeau@kentuckyleague.org](mailto:hbeau@kentuckyleague.org)**

From its inception, the purpose of the Kentucky League has been to provide a spiritual ministry by extending the work of the church in her concern for the total welfare of mankind and by urging Christian action on moral issues. Funding is provided by citizens and churches that recognize the need for our ministry.