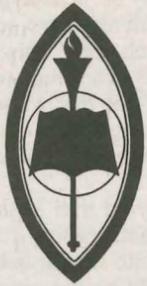




# WESTERN RECORDER

August 27, 2002  
Vol. 176, No. 33

## KENTUCKY NOTES



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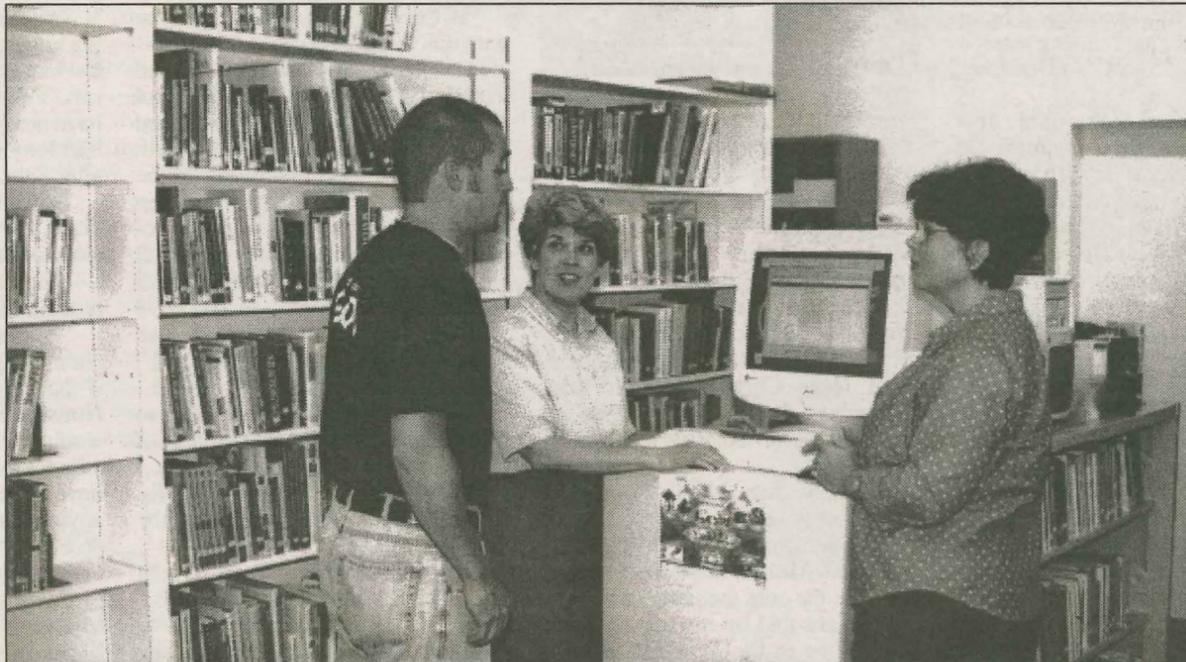
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## Book rapport



**CHURCH LIBRARY** Murray First Baptist Church Librarian Paula Alcott (center) helps Jay Ridenour and Joyce Herndon search the library computer for materials on Scripture memorization. The church library has moved temporarily to a storefront building. The added visibility has increased use of the library both by members and others in the community. See story on page 3. (Photo by Keith Todd)

## Church librarians: One person can make an impact

By Victoria Moon  
State Correspondent

MURRAY—Two longtime church librarians say they have discovered that the patience and vision of even one person can go a long way toward building a successful church library ministry.

"You have to have a calling for it," said Paula Alcott, librarian for First Baptist Church of Murray. "You have to feel called because then you will feel rewarded by God even when you get discouraged."

Betty McMichael, a church librarian and author of "The Church Librarian's Handbook," said that the most successful libraries she saw during her research for the book were those that were clearly ministries first.

"These libraries were those where someone had felt God leading them to this ministry, and God had opened the doors," she said.

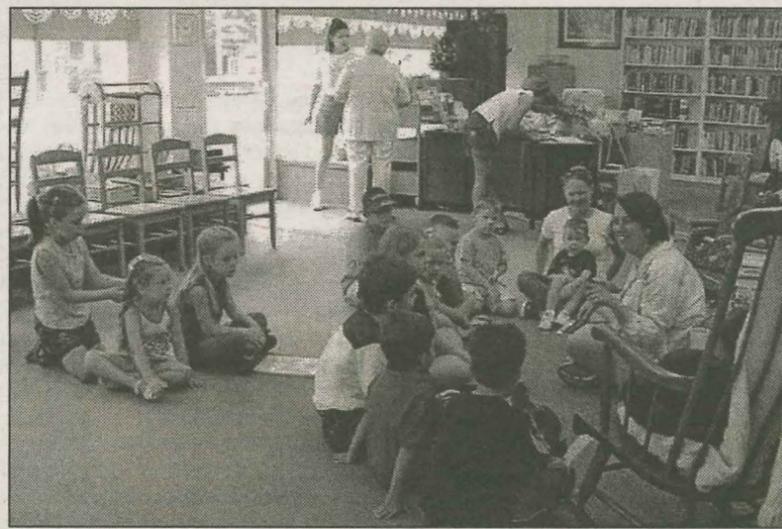
McMichael, who interviewed 600 church librarians across the country for her book, said churches with active library, or media center, ministries found they greatly enhanced the life of the church.

"A good church library enhances the Christian education program, and it is a ministry that goes beyond the walls of the church into people's homes as individuals use its resources during the week," she said.

Size and money were lesser factors in a successful library ministry than having someone committed to the ministry, she added.

"In the questionnaires I sent out, I was surprised to find that many large churches didn't have as active a library ministry as other, smaller churches," she said.

Alcott agreed that even if a church has little money or resour-



**FAMILY DAY** A volunteer reads to children at First Baptist Church in Murray's library.

es, one person with a commitment to the ministry can build an active church library over time.

"A library is not something that happens overnight, even in bigger churches," she said. "If you have a vision to start a church library, start with what you have and be prepared to be there for the long haul."

Involving the congregation in the vision for a library ministry also is important, she said, as is asking them for prayer and financial support.

"Find out who your readers are in the congregation, and target them," she said. "Ask them what they'd like to see in their library, and try to meet those needs."

Alcott said one way to attract the congregation's attention to the library is to create a "Top Ten" display of new hardback fiction and non-fiction books. She also recommended that church librarians be open to adding user-friendly materials to the library.

"Women tend to be bigger readers than men," she said. "But men like

books on tape to listen to in their cars, so audio books make a nice addition to the library."

McMichael said church librarians can raise their ministry's profile by keeping abreast of the trends in Christian publishing and listening to the needs of the Christian education department in their church.

"Find out what sort of materials other programs in your church might need, and be prepared to supply them well in advance of when they will need them," she said.

She said two ways to get the congregation involved are asking individuals or classes to sponsor a magazine subscription that they are interested in or encouraging money and material donations in memory or in honor of someone.

"A church's support both financially and spiritually is crucial to a long-term ministry," she said. "It only takes one person's vision, but it needs the support of the whole church to continue."

## Speaker: Teach youth as Jesus taught people

By Brandy Campbell  
SBC LifeWay Christian Resources

RIDGECREST, N.C. (BP)—If you're ready to take your youth group to a new level, but not sure if all of your youth are ready, a consultant recommends a more "Christ-like" approach.

"When teaching youth we should look at how Jesus taught," Paul Kelly told teachers during a recent Sunday school leadership conference in North Carolina.

"Jesus taught different groups of people in different ways," said Kelley, editor-in-chief of student ministry discipleship resources at LifeWay Christian Resources of the Southern Baptist Convention.

"First, He taught crowds, like the 5,000," Kelly noted. "Then,

there were the 70 He sent out in Luke 10. There was the group of 12 disciples, and finally the center group contain-

Back to  
Sunday  
School

Pages 6 & 7

ing Peter, James and John."

Ministry to youth can follow a similar pattern, Kelly said. The largest group can represent youth who are "in the shadow of the church," coming only to big events when invited by a member of the youth group.

"The 70 is your youth group," Kelly said. "These are the ones who have made some kind of commitment but who are not really following Christ yet."

The 12 disciples represent youth group members "who are hungry for more," Kelly continued. "These are the core kids. ... They come to church wanting to know about deep issues, such as the end times, and all we say to them every week is 'Jesus loves you.' That's important to know, but they're ready to dig a little deeper."

The inner circle of the group is what Kelly calls the "multipliers." These are the kids who not only want to grow personally, but who also want to help other members of the group as well as reaching the lost.

Often teachers struggle with how to move youth from the core to the multiplier stage. Kelly recommended raising the bar and waiting to see who jumps.

Kelly said his church offers a small group Bible study with high accountability. "We let them know that God will do things in their lives, but it will cost them," Kelly said. "Sometimes, kids we would have never thought of are the ones who take that step. ... But be sure to keep in mind, we're not moving the kids to the next level; the Holy Spirit is."

# BAPTISTS

## BAPTIST DIGEST

### LifeWay Christian

Resources of the Southern Baptist Convention has launched a Web site ([www.lifeway.com/unitedsunday](http://www.lifeway.com/unitedsunday)) to help church leaders as they plan to commemorate the first anniversary of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. Resources include downloadable sermon and worship helps and community outreach options. The Southern Baptist North American Mission Board also has a Sept. 11-related Web site at [www.namb.net/911](http://www.namb.net/911).

### Oklahoma Baptist

leader David Clippard, 53, is being nominated as executive director of the Missouri Baptist Convention. MBC Executive Board members are scheduled to vote this week on the proposal. Clippard, a native of Missouri, is associate executive director of the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma. If elected, he will succeed Jim Hill, who resigned in October, saying he could no longer work with the state convention's conservative leaders.

### Theologian and

author D.A. Carson will speak Sept. 3-4 at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville as part of the school's Gheens lecture series. He will speak Sept. 3 in Alumni Memorial Chapel and Sept. 4 in Broadus Chapel, both at 10 a.m. Carson, research professor of New Testament at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School in Deerfield, Ill., is the author of "The Gagging of God: Christianity Confronts Pluralism."

## Mohler on 'Donahue': Jesus is only way—even for Jews

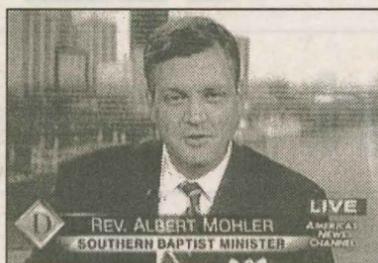
By Michael Foust  
Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

LOUISVILLE (BP)—Christians have a responsibility to proclaim the gospel to all people, including Jews, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary Al Mohler said during a spirited debate on MSNBC's "Donahue" Aug. 20.

Mohler joined a Messianic Jew, a rabbi and host Phil Donahue in debating the issue of Jewish evangelism—a subject that came to the national forefront when the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops issued a statement this month rejecting the need for Jewish people to embrace Jesus as the Messiah.

Donahue, a Roman Catholic, and Rabbi Shmuley Boteach hotly contested any contention that Jews should be evangelized. Donahue called such thinking "intolerant" and "arrogant," while Boteach described Mohler as a "spiritual Neanderthal."

Donahue began the show by joking that "all we have to do is convince the Southern Baptists" to follow the Catholics' lead. He then asked Mohler if the Southern Baptist



'DONAHUE' DEBATE Southern Seminary President Al Mohler addresses the issue of Jewish evangelism during an appearance on "Donahue" Aug. 20. (BP photo)

tist Convention's 16 million members believe that Jews can go to heaven.

"Southern Baptists, with other Christians, believe that all persons can go to heaven who come to faith in the Lord Jesus Christ," Mohler said. "There's no discrimination on the basis of ethnic or racial or national issues."

Donahue then asked, "So a good Jew is not going to heaven?"

"All persons are sinners in need of a savior," Mohler responded. "Jesus Christ is the sole mediator. The gospel, we are told by the apostle Paul, comes first to the Jews and then to

gentiles. Salvation is found in His name and in His name alone through faith in Christ, and that faith alone."

Donahue countered that while Southern Baptists have "many wonderful members," Mohler's views are full of anti-Semitism and prejudice.

"If the church had just come up with this in the 20th century as a novel idea, perhaps it should be subjected to such a critique," Mohler said. "But this is a gospel that has been received from the Lord Jesus Christ Himself, who said He came first of all for the people and children of Israel and then also for the gentiles. He Himself declared that He is the Way, the Truth and the Life and that no man cometh to the Father but through Him. He spoke as a man born of the Jewish race, but He was also the Son of God."

Brown, a Messianic Jew, agreed.

"My goal is not to convert Jews to Christianity," said Brown, president of ICN Ministries, a Pensacola, Fla.-based evangelistic outreach with a focus on "Israel, the Church and the Nations."

"My goal is to get Jews (and) gentiles to recognize who the Savior is," Brown said. "Jesus came as a Jew to fulfill what was written in Moses and

the Prophets. ... If Jesus is not for Jews, He's not for anybody."

Boteach, a radio host and author of "Judaism for Everyone," strongly disagreed with both Mohler and Brown.

"Rev. Mohler, however intelligent of a scholar he may be, he is a spiritual Neanderthal with repulsive, revolting views," Boteach said. "This is the modern equivalent of spiritual terrorism. You would think that we would have progressed to some sort of racial harmony and tolerance—especially after Sept. 11."

Donahue asserted that Mohler's views were arrogant, arguing that the Crusades began with similar beliefs.

But Mohler said he has a duty to proclaim the gospel message.

"It would be (arrogant) if this was our message," Mohler answered. "But if that is what the Son of God said Himself, if that is the truth, then it would be hateful and it would be intolerant not to tell you what we believe to be the truth. I cannot compel any person to believe in Christ, but I do have the responsibility with gladness and joy to share the good news of the gospel, knowing that all who believe in the Lord Jesus Christ shall be saved, whether Jew or gentile."

## NAMB takes step to reorganize FamilyNet as for-profit network

By James Dotson  
SBC North American Mission Board

ALPHARETTA, Ga. (BP)—Trustees of the Southern Baptist North American Mission Board voted unanimously Aug. 13 to convert the FamilyNet television network from a nonprofit to a for-profit subsidiary.

The reorganization plan was adopted during a called meeting of trustees. The plan will next be submitted to the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee for approval.

NAMB President Robert Reccord said the move will make FamilyNet "the voice of mainline evangelical Christianity in America via television."

"This is a wonderful, fabulous opportunity to get evangelical doctrine out across America and around the world," said Ed Young, pastor of Second Baptist Church in Houston and a member of FamilyNet's board of directors—which approved the plan a day earlier.

The new for-profit FamilyNet would be formed from three existing NAMB subsidiaries: FamilyNet, a nonprofit entity; TimeRite Agency, a for-profit advertising subsidiary; and DFW Uplink, a nonprofit subsidiary that includes satellite transmission operations.

The reorganization plan was developed after an extensive process required by the Internal Revenue Service any time a nonprofit organization decides to create a for-profit entity, said Randy Singer, NAMB's executive vice president. The constituencies of both FamilyNet and NAMB—apart from the boards of the two agencies—were represented by a "Fairness Committee" to ensure that each side was treated fairly.

Reccord told trustees the decision stems from the limited funding potential available to the network as a nonprofit entity.

FamilyNet receives about \$6 million annually for operations through NAMB's budget and generates about \$3 million in advertising revenue—resulting in a net annual subsidy of about \$3 million.

Reccord said that while FamilyNet and its predecessors have been successful as a ministry venture, they have not succeeded in reaching the vast majority of Americans because of the lack of capital.

Viability in the television industry hinges on distribution, Reccord said. A potential audience of 30 million homes generally is considered the break-even point for a national network, he added. FamilyNet currently has an around-the-clock presence in only 2.9 million households. Most of its 165 affiliates are low-power stations, resulting in spotty coverage not accessible by most of the nation.

NAMB leaders said they believe the new for-profit entity could draw potential investors that could help the agency bolster programming, distribution and marketing efforts to the point that the audience of 30 million would be within reach.

NAMB has guaranteed funding of \$9 million over the next three years, which would be financed as a loan at the prevailing prime interest rate.

Among provisions approved by trustees are that partners would be required to acknowledge agreement with doctrinal guidelines and pledge that programming decisions would be in accordance with the guidelines. Additionally, all directors elected by NAMB would be required to carry out their duties in accordance with the Baptist Faith and Message.

## Cooperative Baptist Fellowship ends fiscal year with financial ups, downs

By Mark Wingfield  
Texas Baptist Standard

ATLANTA—The Cooperative Baptist Fellowship ended its fiscal year under budget but still in the black, due to designated income from prior years and keeping expenses below budget.

Taken together, the organization's regular operating budget and Global Missions Offering came up short by nearly \$1.5 million for the year ended June 30.

However, no budgeted ministries or projects went undone due to lack of funds, explained Jim Strawn, chief financial officer. He credited a watchful eye on expenditures and help from designated contributions and investment earnings as balancing factors.

The 22 ministry partners aided by the CBF were funded at 97 percent of their approved budget allocations. Overall, the CBF gave \$587,365 to its partner ministries for the year, a little less than 7 percent of its undesignated budget receipts.

The brightest news of the organization's financial year was in designated gifts, which were bolstered by a \$4 million anonymous gift for missions causes and about \$300,000 in contributions for relief projects in New York City and Washington after last fall's terrorist attacks.

Excluding the \$4 million gift, which will be allocated in equal installments over the next three years, designated giving to the CBF was up 7 percent for the year, to \$1.9 million.

Designated giving excludes the organization's Global Missions Of-

fering, which was down less than 1 percent from the previous year but fell 11.5 percent below the \$6 million budget goal, with receipts of \$5.3 million.

Undesignated gifts to the CBF's regular ministry budget increased 2 percent over the prior year but fell 8 percent short of the \$9.7 million budget goal. Undesignated gifts from individuals dropped 6 percent for the year, from \$510,000 to \$480,000, while similar gifts from churches increased 3.5 percent, from \$8.14 million to \$8.4 million.

CBF spokesman Ben McDade said the network of moderate Baptist churches fared better than might have been expected in a year of terrorist attacks and a troubled national economy. Nationwide, charitable contributions by individuals, corporations and foundations fell 2.3 percent for the year, he noted.

Tied to the CBF's mixed report on funding for the year, however, is a downward trend in the number of churches financially supporting the CBF. Churches are counted as contributors if even one member designates an offering for the CBF and the church passes it on.

The organization began in 1991 with contributions from 640 churches and grew to 1,806 contributing churches by the 1998-1999 budget year. However, that number has dropped slightly each of the past three years, landing at 1,715 churches for the year just ended.

Global missions was the agency's largest budget line item, receiving \$10.33 million, which includes \$5.3 million from the Global Missions Offering and about \$5 million from the operating budget and designated gifts.

## Relocated library opens ministry door for Murray church

By Victoria Moon  
State Correspondent

MURRAY—Some people might bemoan the chaos that occurs during a major renovation, but the library staff at First Baptist Church of Murray is using their temporary relocation to serve as a community outreach.

The church library and its 8,000 books recently were moved to a downtown storefront while the church builds a new education wing, according to Pastor Wendell Ray.

"Paula Alcott, our church librarian, thought that if we had to put the library in such a public place, it would be a great idea to publicize it in the community and use it as an outreach ministry," he said.

Alcott said she had gotten the vision to do this a few years ago while participating in a Bible study at the church. The move to such a public location downtown was a perfect opportunity to fulfill that dream, she added.

"We're open three days during the week, and Sundays before and after the church services," she said. "The general public is welcome to come in and check out books whenever we're open."

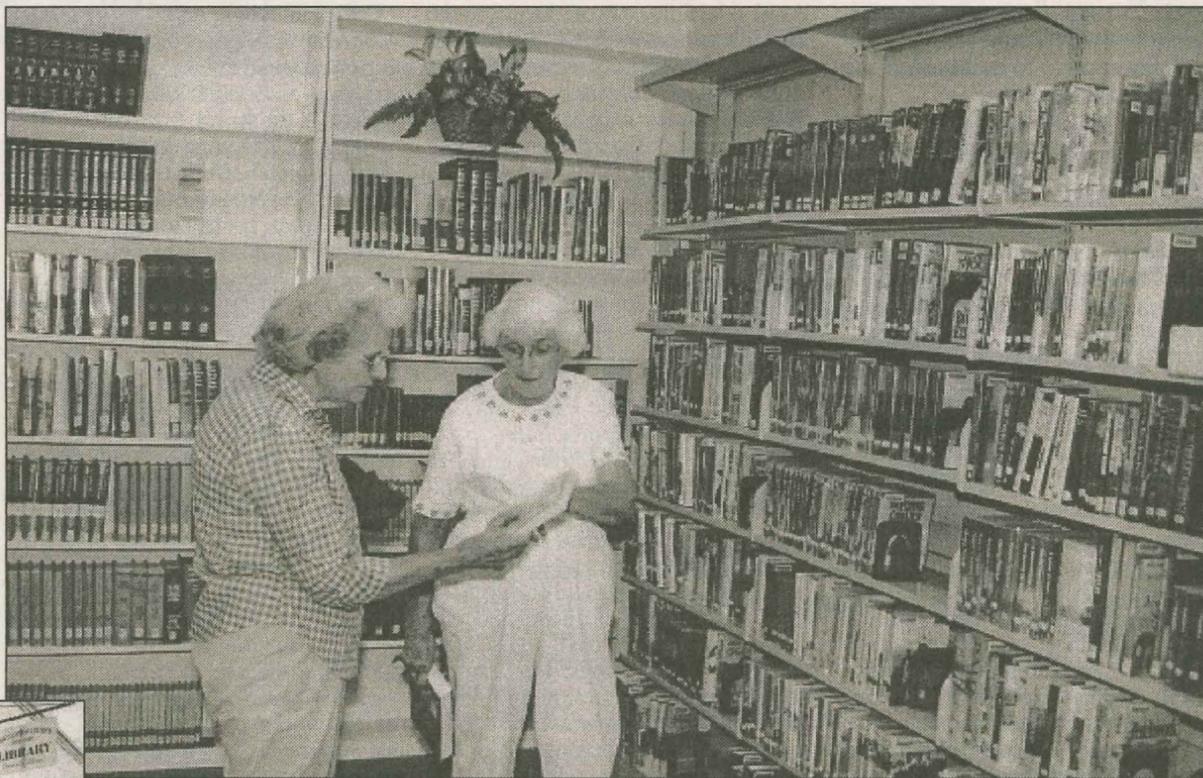
In addition to the 8,000 books, the downtown site welcomes church members and community residents to several special programs sponsored by the church and library staff.

"We just had a tea for girls ages 5 through 9 that attracted about 25 girls," Alcott said. "And during the annual July Fourth parade that runs through downtown, we gave away free apple pie and ice water, which went over really well."

Library volunteer Roberta Jones said the site also has hosted "Clown Night," VeggieTale parties, puppet shows and story times for children.

"I've loved volunteering with the wonderful children at First Baptist in Murray," said Jones, who helps organize children's programs. "And I'm excited about working with the children in the wider community."

In addition to children's programs, the library has offered programs for adults, including one on the impor-



**SEEK AND YE SHALL FIND** Volunteer Roberta Ward (right) helps Kathleen Morris find a selection in the library of First Baptist Church in Murray. The church library has moved temporarily to a storefront (inset) just off the Murray court square while facilities in the church building just down the street are being renovated. The added visibility has increased use of the library both by members and others in the community. It's a trend librarian Paula Alcott hopes will continue when the library returns to the main building in a few months. (Photo by Keith Todd)



tance of family devotions and how to start having them in one's home.

Alcott added that the library's new location has allowed the church to raise its profile in the community in a non-threatening way.

"I've been thrilled to see God work to put us outside the church during this time," she said. "Being in a downtown storefront location has allowed us to reach those who may not be comfortable coming into a church, and when we move back in to the church building the people we've reached will feel more comfortable going back with us, because they know us and know what we have to offer."

Besides serving as an outreach to the unchurched in the area, the new location has raised the profile of the library staff with other churches in the area. Some church libraries have begun sharing their resources with other churches, she said.

### Hot summer reading

Based on what church librarians Betty McMichael and Paula Alcott are seeing fly off their shelves, here are some book recommendations for this summer:

**In This Mountain** by Jan Karon.  
**Dana's Valley** by Jannette Oke and Laurel Oke Logan.  
**Paul** by Charles Swindoll.  
**When Godly People Do Ungodly Things and Breaking Free** by Beth Moore.

**The Power of a Praying Wife and Greater Health God's Way** by Stormie Omartian.

**Bringing Up Boys** by James Dobson.

The **Hero Tales** series for children by Dave and Neta Jackson.

**My Heart's Cry: Longing for More of Jesus** by Anne Graham Lotz.

**Traveling Light** by Max Lucado.

"We have a lot of Bible studies with workbooks," she said, "and several other churches have checked these materials out to research the kinds of study materials they want to use in their own churches."

The library will remain in the storefront, which is owned by the church, until next year, Ray said. Then it will move into the church's

new education wing. The storefront then will be converted into a coffeehouse for teens and college-age adults, he said.

"This has been a great opportunity God has given us," he said.

Alcott added. "This move has allowed us to minister even more for the cause of Christ, and that has been wonderful."

## Youth Evangelism Conferences attract 1,600, prepare for next year

BOWLING GREEN—More than 800 youth and youth group leaders attended the Kentucky Baptist Convention's second youth evangelism conference Aug. 17 in Bowling Green.

A total of 871 people registered for the Bowling Green event. The week before, 744 registered participants were in Lexington, pushing total attendance to more than 1,600 people.

The day-long "Deeper Encounters" urged students and youth leaders to enter a 40-day season of Bible study, prayer, meditation and sacrifice.

The conferences also encouraged students to develop a list of five non-Christian friends to "connect to Christ" during the next year.

The strategy is tied to next year's youth evangelism conference, according to Randy Record, youth evangelism specialist for the Kentucky Baptist Convention. "The strategy for students to connect their friends to Christ is called 'B3.'"

Next year, the youth evangelism conference will be held during the spring and summer in Henderson, Bowling Green, Northern Kentucky, Western Kentucky, Frankfort and Williamsburg.

Record said youth leaders are being asked to help students deepen their relationship with God this year and combine that with an in-school "Fish" program of evangelism.

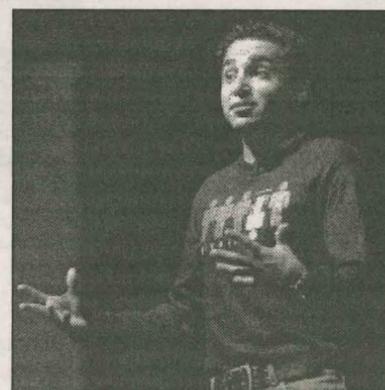
"After growing deeper in our personal lives with Christ and going

deeper by 'Fishing' our school campus, the biblical outcome is lost students being caught by our personal presentation of the gospel," he said.

The B3 strategy involves:  
■ **Bio.** Starting in January, a Web site ([www.connectwithgod.com](http://www.connectwithgod.com)) will help students write their testimonies and share with others.

■ **Bible.** Students are being asked to schedule a time to take a Bible to each of the five friends they want to reach for Christ. Students are encouraged to take this time to sit down and share the gospel with their friends using the Bible.

■ **Bring.** The last part of the strategy is for students to bring their five friends to one of the 2003 youth evangelism conference rallies.



**DEEPER SPEAKER** David Nasser encouraged students to develop a deeper relationship with God during recent conferences in Lexington and Bowling Green. (Photo by Rusty Ellison)

## KBC mission study committee seeks grassroots input

LOUISVILLE—The Kentucky Baptist Convention's 14-member mission study committee began its work last week with an Aug. 19 organizational meeting.

The special study committee, authorized in May by the KBC Executive Board, was appointed by KBC President Harold Greenfield in consultation with KBC Executive Director Bill Mackey.

Scott Kilgore, executive pastor of Living Hope Baptist Church in Bowling Green, was named committee chairman. Committee members voted last week to name Chris White, pastor of First Baptist Church of Carrollton, as vice chairman, and Rick Robbins, director of missions for Northern Kentucky Baptist Association, secretary.

The committee's assignment is to review ministry needs in Kentucky Baptist life and "recommend any changes that are needed in order for the ministries of the KBC to be more effective in the 21st century."

"I see this as a pretty wide-ranging review and I think it will be pretty wide-ranging in its recommendations," Kilgore said. The committee will meet monthly in preparation for presenting its report to the KBC Executive Board in May, he added.

"We want to have feedback from Kentucky Baptists at large," Kilgore said. "I encourage people to send any thoughts or ideas about how we can position ourselves for ministry in the future."

Individuals can send suggestions to Kilgore at Living Hope Baptist Church, 1805 Western Ave., Bowling Green, KY 42104 or contact him by e-mail at [skilgore@lhbc.org](mailto:skilgore@lhbc.org).

## 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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## Royal priesthood

As we think about what makes a Baptist, would someone please explain when and how the priesthood of the believer came to be regarded as a strong Baptist belief?

My understanding of the modern meaning of the phrase is something like "each person may believe anything in religion." That definition sounds like religious freedom. I believe that everyone should have religious freedom as a God-given right. But I think that it would be clearer to speak about religious freedom, if that is what we mean, rather than the priesthood of the believer. Even so, a Baptist is not someone who believes just anything.

Then there is the historical meaning of the priesthood of the believer. According to Martin Luther, each person has access to God, through Jesus Christ, without going through a human priest. But I think that direct access to God has more definite meaning than priesthood of the believer.

What do we find in the Bible? The closest statement that I know of was made by Peter. He wrote of "a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, that you may declare the wonderful deeds of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light" (1 Peter 2:9).

Since Peter refers to "God's own people," his view could be called the priesthood of believers (plural). And the goal of the "royal priesthood" was not religious freedom or even access to God. Peter's view of the priesthood of God's people was that they would be proclaimers. They would "declare the wonderful deeds" of God. How did we get from a royal priesthood of people who praised God—Peter's view—to thinking of the priesthood of the believer as an individual's right to believe anything?

*E.B. Self  
Hopkinsville*

## A God-blessed choice

When my wife and I read the Aug. 6 article, "Prof: Don't want kids? Don't get married," by Michael Foust, in which Southern Baptist Theological Seminary professor William Cutrer stated, "I would be very reluctant to marry a couple who had decided up front not to have children," we were just five days away from celebrating our 33rd wedding anniversary. If we accept the professor's theology, we must now question whether celebration is the right action. Repenting in sackcloth and ashes may be more appropriate.

While Donna and I do not strictly fit into Cutrer's class of inappropriate marriage material, we come close. When we married in 1969, we assumed we would have children. In fact, not having children had not crossed our minds. Five years later, it did cross our minds. For a number of reasons, including an honest assessment of who we were as individuals and as a couple, and of the kind of ministry to which we believed God was calling us, we chose not to have children. It was not a decision made from selfishness. It was made from self awareness and a desire to fulfill God's call for our lives. God has both honored and blessed that decision.

Surely God, Who according to Scripture, blesses a choice of celibacy also blesses the choice of childlessness when it is made for appropriate reasons. To carry Cutrer's theology to its natural conclusion is to suggest that Jesus, Who became flesh, was less than perfect in that He neither married nor produced children.

If we were a couple looking for a minister to officiate at our wedding, we "would be very reluctant" to ask the professor to do the honors!

*Michael Duncan  
Eminence*

## Avoid yoga's influence

I read the Aug. 6 article about "Christian" yoga. As an international Christian fitness professional I have experience and training in the exercise practices associated with particular religions in the world. I discovered that in methods like yoga there are powerful subliminal efforts that cause warring in the spirit of man. Yogis who train fitness professionals focus on meditation and the use of chanting to bring peace to the mind. What happens at first response is the awareness of something not right which is interpreted as the inability to relax. Soon the spiritual aspect of the practice conflicts with the Holy Spirit.

The use of exercise as a means to promote a healthy lifestyle is something of great interest to our churches. Lifeway Christian Resources in Nashville and Christian Aerobics Resource in Dallas are two sources that provide excellent materials that promoting true Christian principles.

Exercise comes in various forms, including the use of rhythmic aerobics. In Christian group exercise classes, the workouts use appropriate music and are done with an emphasis on the power of the Holy Spirit as we glorify God in our bodies.

What concerns me is an article in a Christian newspaper that promotes a cult-supporting workout like yoga. In many places like the YMCA, New Age music is used during these classes. The idea of meditation is not presented as a means of glorifying God but the god of secular humanism as expressed through self glorification.

With the many influences through various media to straddle the fence between living for Christ and the world, I feel this one needs to be left for the secular press. We can all access magazines, books, tapes and any of the more than 3,000 exercise videos produced around the world yearly that give information on various fitness workouts.

*Lydia Greear  
Grayson*

## CHURCH

### Advance planning enhances church budget process

By Doug Strader

Although the year 2002 still has a little more than four months to go, church leaders are thinking about the year 2003—especially as it relates to the budget. Good budget planning always begins months ahead of the actual budget year.

Consider the following suggestions as you and your church prepare for the new budget year:

■ With the help of your church treasurer and/or financial secretary, look back over the past eight months to see how well your church is doing in all areas of its budget. Is the congregation ahead of budget projections or behind?

■ Does your church have a clearly defined vision statement? If so, seek to budget according to the church's stated vision. If your church does not have a vision statement, consider adopting such a statement, and then budget accordingly.

■ What did your church do last year that was most helpful in preparing and promoting the budget? What do you need to change? What do you need to add?

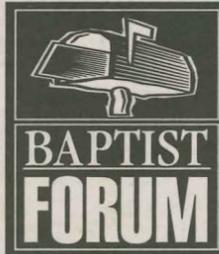
■ How are church leaders planning to involve the entire church in the budgeting process this year? How will you involve the membership at large with input into the budgeting process? How will you involve the various program organizations and church committees in the budgeting process?

■ How do you plan to promote the budget this year? Do you need to change what you did last year? Will you call on the Kentucky Baptist Convention stewardship department for suggestions about budget promotion ideas?

■ How will your church go about determining the compensation packages for your pastor and staff this year? If you have a personnel committee will it be involved in the process?

■ Now is the time to begin the process. Give your committee ample time to work without undue time constraints.

Our office is ready and willing to help your church in any way possible with budget preparation, budget promotion materials, bulletin inserts, money management materials and Sunday school lessons. Call (502) 254-4716, or toll-free in Kentucky at (888) 254-5708. Or e-mail douglas.strader@kybaptist.org. Doug Strader is director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention's stewardship department



## PARTNERS IN THE MISSION

### Incredible faith and vision

On a recent mission tour to Eastern Kentucky, I met a man of incredible faith and courage. Michael Gates is physically blind but has wonderful spiritual vision and has followed God's leading to begin a recreational camp for blind people.

Michael has been blind since he was injured in a hunting accident when he was 30. Despite his blindness, he still is an outdoorsman who loves to hunt. He has killed three deer this year with his bow and, assisted by a friend, also uses his gun to hunt deer and wild turkey.

The dream for the camp began when Michael learned that some property was available at an unbelievably low price. "It's a misprint," his wife, Lori, exclaimed after seeing the printed price. When they called to check it out and found the price was real, they bought the first tract of what has become 800 acres for the camp.

His vision for the camp, which is located on a ridge overlooking a beautiful valley, will be realized next summer when the first campers arrive. The camp will offer swimming, weightlifting, horseback riding, archery practice and hunting. A premier camp for the blind in California will assist him in his first camp in order to learn about offering hunting for their own camps.



Bill Mackey

Michael's vision is about more than recreation though. Michael and Lori are both Bible college graduates and plan to share their faith with campers as well.

They are members of First Baptist Church in Mount Vernon, where they are finding encouragement. Larry Martin, the KBC's missions growth team leader, learned about their story and has provided encouragement and publicity as well.

Michael designed the lodge and grounds, assisted by his wife. He per-

sonally cleared the holes for the rail fence that lines the road up to the lodge. The day that Larry and I arrived, Michael was at the edge of the woods with two volunteers clearing a wire fence that was partially embedded in trees. His father was using the camp bulldozer to relocate the parking lot. Other volunteers were working on the lodge.

Michael and Lori live in one of two beautiful apartments located in the end of a large metal Quonset hut he constructed. This will be the location of the sauna, hot tub and weight room for the camp with the indoor archery range located upstairs.

One of Michael's greatest challenges during construction was drug dealing that took place near the entrance to his property. At one point, the dealers threatened him with a gun held to his head. But now the drug dealers have moved.

May God give us all the faith to attempt the impossible in order to bring many people to Christ for transformation!

Bill Mackey is executive director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention

## Help teens discover & nurture their natural talents, abilities

**Q: My son is entering high school this fall and I'm looking for ways to help him improve his IQ. Any ideas?**

Instead of focusing solely on measuring and raising your teenager's IQ, which might provide a very limited measurement of his cognitive abilities, think in broader terms. The concept of "multiple intelligences" would suggest that children have natural strengths in different areas and that one of our tasks as parents is to help them identify and develop these areas while assisting them in strengthening other areas that might need development.

Think of your teenager as an individual who might possess natural skills or talents in one or more of eight areas identified by educational leaders Howard Gardner and Thomas Armstrong in the early 1980s. Perhaps your son is skilled in the use of words (word smart) or in numbers and logic (number or logic smart). Maybe his talents lie in his artistic ability (picture smart). It might be that you have a natural athlete who is coordinated and strong, with the ability to learn by moving (body smart). He might be a natural musician or a child who is especially gifted in his understanding and appreciation for nature and the outdoors. Still others might have excellent abilities to relate to others (interpersonal smart) or strengths that lie in the area of self-understanding.

Rather than getting anxious about any one area, remember that God has gifted your child in a unique way. Remember the apostle Paul's words about the variety of spiritual gifts. The same is true with talents and abilities. It is important that your son recognize as early as possible what his strengths are so that he can use them and develop a healthy self-concept as a beloved child of a generous Heavenly Father.—*Scott Wigginton*

**Q: I am having a hard time getting started in doing regular personal devotions. Do you have any practical tips?**

Before you load yourself with guilt that you're not up every morning at 4 a.m., remember that those who prayed at that time in earlier centuries often would go to bed by dusk. With the demands of your personal schedule in mind, give the idea of a morning quiet time a try. Hints for the discipline of a morning quiet time include:

- *Protect the quiet and private nature of this time.* Find a place with no interruptions that allows you to feel free to take a variety of postures, to speak out loud to God and even to sing to Him.

- *Remember, this is a spiritual discipline.* Be persistent. Even though you occasionally might have to miss a day, remember that this is a "practice." View your quiet time journey as an adventure of spending quality time with God.

- *Commit some time to this effort.* Find a posture of prayer that allows you to be both alert and comfortable, so that you will have a wakeful and focused time. Consider beginning with 15 minutes and gradually work your way up to 45 minutes. While this might eventually become your "sweet hour of prayer," start realistically where you are.

- *Use devotional literature, including a translation of the Bible you can understand.* Have material for recording insights, such as a pad and pen or a prayer journal. Use other devotional helps such as the application sections in your Sunday school Bible study curriculum or a devotional booklet such as "The Upper Room" or "Open Windows."

A regular morning quiet time is one of the most tried and true spiritual disciplines available. God is looking forward to meeting with you.—*James Stillwell*

*Family Forum writers are Suzanne Coyle, director of Cornerstone Counseling for Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children; David Garrard, minister to children at St. Matthews Baptist Church in Louisville; Jon Rainbow, a clinical gerontologist and professor at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary; James Stillwell, minister to singles at Immanuel Baptist Church in Lexington; and Scott Wigginton, director of LifeCare Counseling at Walnut Street Baptist Church in Louisville. Send questions for Family Forum to Western Recorder, Box 43969, Louisville, KY 40253 or e-mail us at wesrec@ntr.net.*



## Remember that words really do matter

As the first anniversary of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks approaches, terrorism-related rhetoric seems to be escalating.

During recent months, many people have sought to compare their causes or concerns to the 9-11 tragedy—never very convincingly. As Americans pause to honor the memory of those killed a year ago, perhaps we should urge a voluntary moratorium on insensitive and inappropriate comparisons to the reprehensible mass murder orchestrated and carried out against our nation.

Yes, free speech enables any American to spout off about virtually anything—and that's a good thing. Government-protected free speech is vital to our democracy. But surely the vast majority of citizens would applaud a self-imposed ban on speech that trifles with the heartbreaking memories of Sept. 11.

Unfortunately, there are numerous examples of people failing to carefully weigh the impact of their words. Among them:

- Cincinnati Reds general manager Jim Bowden is in the running for the most outrageous remark. Discussing Major League Baseball's anticipated strike, Bowden told reporters, "If they do walk out, I encourage all of them, 'Make sure it's Sept. 11th. Be symbolic about it. Let (players' union leader) Donald Fehr drive the plane right into the building, if that's what they want him to do.'"

- Bowden, who promptly was fined by Commissioner Bud Selig, later apologized for making "a horrible comparison between baseball's labor situation and the tragedy of 9-11."

- Florida State football coach Bobby Bowden reportedly is promoting "Let's Roll" as his team's slogan for the 2002-03 season. Courier-Journal columnist Rick Bozich noted that Bowden "should know better than to borrow the 'Let's Roll' rally cry from the heroic victims on one hijacked airline and use it to get his team to the Fiesta Bowl."

"Let's not turn 'Let's Roll' into this year's stadium version of ... 'Who Let the Dogs Out?'" Bozich urged. "You risk trivializing the moment, twisting legitimate

heroism into something as common as a smile button." I agree.

Sept. 11 comparisons aren't limited to the sports world, however. Consider the following examples:

- Jerry Rankin, president of the Southern Baptist International Mission Board, sent missionaries a letter last month defending his January request for them to affirm the 2000 Baptist Faith and Message. He compared his action to what government leaders would have done if they "had discovered plans for the terrorist attacks last Sept. 11 and done what was necessary to deter that tragedy." Acknowledging that the Sept. 11 comparison "may be an extreme analogy," he claimed that "the consequences that could have been disastrous for the credibility and support of the IMB have been diverted." The 20-plus missionaries who have resigned in the wake of Rankin's action likely disagree.

Realizing his analogy was "extreme" should have been a sufficient red flag for Rankin, but it wasn't. As significant as Baptists' doctrinal views are, it's hard to make a case that missionaries affirming a revised faith statement is comparable to averting the worst terrorist attack in history.

- Jewish Rabbi Shmuley Boteach accused Southern Baptist Theological Seminary President Al Mohler of "spiritual terrorism" for declaring that everyone—including Jews—must come to salvation through faith in Jesus Christ. During their Aug. 20 debate on MSNBC's "Donahue," Mohler emphasized that "all persons are sinners in need of a savior," adding that "Jesus Christ is the sole mediator."

Mohler is exactly right. Anything less would be a false gospel. I appreciate his commitment to sharing an unwavering biblical witness on national television, even while being falsely accused of "spiritual terrorism."

Despite the misuse of Sept. 11 analogies, Christians across the nation have the opportunity to use the anniversary for good. Take time to pray for those affected by last year's tragedy and seek opportunities to share words of hope and encouragement. What you say—and how you say it—really does matter.

**STRAIGHT FROM THE EDITOR**



Trennis Henderson

## War on terrorism: Issues and illusions

By Henlee Barnette

Driving along Lake Okeechobee in Florida on a bright, sunny day, I was astonished to see boats sailing just above the water level. At another place in that state I put my car in neutral and it appeared that the auto was rolling uphill. Both incidents were illusions. They were false impressions.

The time has arrived for Americans to end their illusions about the war on terrorism. There is the illusion that this is just another war. To the contrary, the war on terrorists has been going on for years. Witness the first bombing of the World Trade Towers, the hijacking of planes, the bombing of an American ship at Yemen, bombing of American military bases in Lebanon and Saudi Arabia, the bombing of American embassies and the tragedy of Sept. 11. Now we live in fear of the next assault by our enemies. Where will they strike again?

Strike again they will for the terrorists have a worldview ideology. It is dictatorship against democracy, East versus West, a clash of civilizations. It is the aim of the terrorist movement to completely destroy

America economically, politically and culturally. In short, they seek to destroy the American way of life.

We need to disabuse ourselves of the illusion that our vapid view of love is adequate to meet the terrorists' threats. We must love our enemies but in the biblical sense, as Jesus commanded. His view of agape love is inseparable from justice. Love without justice is a phony, sentimental love. The most loving thing to do is to bring the terrorists to justice.

Current terrorism is a cancer on the global body politic. It calls for major surgery before it metastasizes to other vital organs. This requires an all-out effort on the part of all civilized nations. We have to struggle for justice as well as freedom.

It is important that we free ourselves from the illusion that terrorism is unrelated to religion. Islam furnishes the theological dynamic for terrorists. They act in the name of Allah. Religious extremists never do evil so gladly and completely as when it is done in the name of God. They are ready to die for their faith, believing they go straight to paradise.

Wherever Islam is in political pow-

er, non-believers are oppressed. Consider Pakistan, Iraq, Nigeria, Sudan, Saudi Arabia, Iran, Malaysia and numerous other countries in the Far East. It is estimated that there are 1.5 billion Muslims in the world. Islam is the fastest growing religion in the United States with approximately 7 million members. Islamization of the world continues unabated.

It is obvious that not all Muslims are terrorists and we must not stereotype them as such. As in Christianity and Judaism, moderates and peace-loving people are in Islam. It is incumbent upon all moderate Muslims to eradicate the terrorists in their midst. To successfully meet the Islamic terrorists' challenge, all illusions about their purpose, goals and means must go.

The church of Jesus Christ has an important role to play in the war on terrorism. We must provide a vision of the Kingdom of God, moral guidelines for action, "courage for the living of these days" and hope for the future. Our greatest task is the proclamation of the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ.

*Henlee Barnette is a professor emeritus of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville and a retired clinical professor at the University of Louisville School of Medicine.*

# CHURCHES

## Specialist: Establish relationship network in Sunday school

### Five teaching styles

RIDGECREST, N.C. (BP)—Sunday school teachers have five basic options to relay information, according to a Texas minister of education.

Speaking at a recent leadership conference, Carl Fondren, minister of education at Gardendale Baptist Church in Corpus Christi, Texas, listed five basic teaching methods:

■ **Lecture.** A teacher must be careful not to overuse this method, Fondren said. "A lot of teachers lecture every week because it's what they've always done and it doesn't take a lot of preparation time. Though lecture is sometimes useful, that's not how everybody learns."

■ **Group discussions.** This can be the most difficult method, Fondren said. "It can be really hard to get people to open up in a group discussion if it's something they've never done before," he said. "But there is such a wealth of knowledge that people can share."

■ **Case studies.** These allow teachers to address specific needs without embarrassing people, and class members can talk about things without singling out anybody, Fondren said.

■ **Brainstorming.** "Nobody is ever wrong in a brainstorm," he said. "Everybody is able to express their ideas without feeling intimidated by anybody else."

■ **Question and answer.** Teachers must guide the questions and make sure class members stay on task, Fondren said. "It's really easy to get off of the subject during question and answer. ... The teacher must actively guide the questions so this doesn't happen."

By Brandy Campbell  
SBC LifeWay Christian Resources

RIDGECREST, N.C. (BP)—Organizing a Sunday school can resemble organizing a group of firefighters, according to Belinda Jolley.

"If you wait too long, the house will burn down," Jolley told church leaders recently at a Sunday school training conference.

Sunday schools should be organized in such a way that members and prospects don't slip through the cracks and leaders don't get burned out, according to Jolley, associate director of the South Carolina Baptist Convention's Sunday school department.

Maintaining contact with class members takes planning and effort, she said, but it often is vital to keeping members involved and active.

To accomplish this, Jolley recommended:

■ **Organize small ministry groups.** "Large groups easily get out of hand," Jolley said. Teachers can't maintain contact with a group that is too big, and they quickly grow discouraged.

"Care groups should contain five

to seven people. That way, it's very feasible for the leader of the group to make a personal contact with each person without feeling overwhelmed."

■ **Organize by gender.** More and more churches are using mentoring and accountability groups, which can become awkward if there are mixed genders, Jolley noted. "Separating men and women also protects the reputations of the (group) leader and the church."

■ **Include "members-in-service."** Often members of a Sunday school class who help lead other classes are never contacted, Jolley said. "If they stop teaching and haven't had any contact with their class for years, it is very likely they will just stop coming to Sunday school at all." Placing members-in-service in care groups and contacting them frequently will help prevent this, she said.

■ **Contact members weekly.** "Every member of your care group should be contacted in some form or fashion each week," Jolley said. That weekly contact may take place at church, but Jolley recommended that leaders not take for granted members who are there every week. It's so important to express your

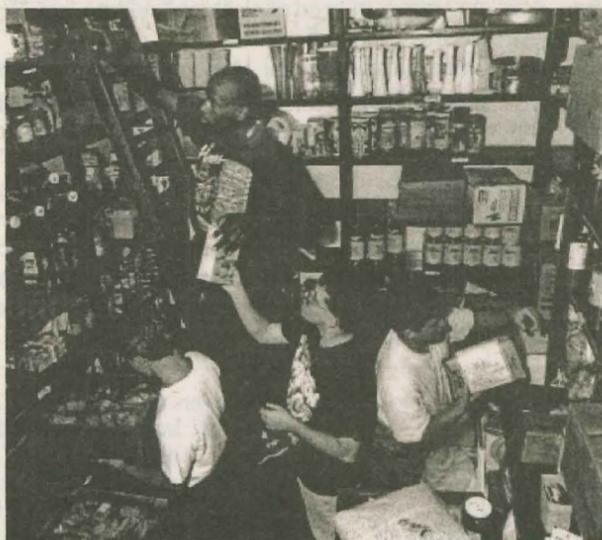
appreciation to those who are always there," she said. "Make personal visits to them. You can learn a lot about a person by visiting them in their homes instead of just seeing them at Sunday school every week."

■ **Participate in mission projects.** Because Sunday school often runs the risk of being inward-focused, Jolley recommended that groups seek out opportunities in their community.

"These mission projects can be a natural outgrowth of your Bible study," Jolley said. "Timing is critical, and it is important to strike while the iron is hot."

■ **Know what to say.** "You don't have to have an entire speech planned for your visits, but you should at least know what you're going to talk about," Jolley said. "It's awkward for both of you if you're just standing around staring at the ceiling."

■ **Conduct a high contact Sunday.** Many churches have high attendance Sundays, but Jolley encouraged setting goals for contacts as well. "We know if we have a weekend fellowship where we've made a lot of contacts we're going to have more people at Sunday school. Make sure you contact everyone, not just chronic absentees. Also be sure to follow up on prospects."



### Volunteers are needed to

- pack donations at local pick-up points
  - load trucks Oct. 7-11
  - sort and store food at a KBHC campus
- call 1-800-456-1386 for details

## Thanks for helping us stock up! Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children's Food Roundup 2002

- ✓ Promote and collect donations of non-perishable food and personal care items in September.
- ✓ Deliver donations to your nearest pick-up point between Sept. 30 - Oct. 4.
- ✓ Pick-ups will take place Oct. 7 - 11.



For promotional materials, a list of pick-up points and other information, go to [www.kbhc.org](http://www.kbhc.org), or call KBHC toll-free at 1-800-456-1386

### Most-needed items!

**Remember:** when purchasing personal care items, KBHC serves children and teenagers of all races. If you have questions about the Food Roundup, call toll-free 1-800-456-1386. Gift certificates to Kroger, Winn Dixie and Wal-Mart are also appreciated!

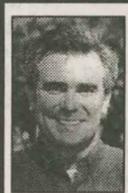
- |                     |                        |                     |                      |
|---------------------|------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| • gift certificates | • Zip-loc bags         | • water-packed tuna | • casserole mixes    |
| • ketchup           | • beef stew            | • Crystal Light     | • aluminum foil      |
| • mustard           | • salad dressing       | • pancake mix       | • disposable diapers |
| • mayonnaise        | • vegetable/corn oil   | • pancake syrup     | • plastic wrap       |
| • breakfast cereal  | • sweet & dill pickles | • cake mix          | • liquid soap        |
| • spaghetti sauce   | • pickle relish        | • brownie mix       | • shampoo            |
| • paper towels      | • spices/seasonings    | • cake frosting     | • conditioner        |
| • 100% fruit juice  | • canned soup          | • crackers          | • toothpaste         |
| • peanut butter     | • microwave popcorn    | • white sugar       | • cleaning supplies  |
| • jelly             | • canned fruit         | • brown sugar       | • laundry detergent  |
| • salsa             | • pasta                | • powdered sugar    | • fabric softener    |
| • Kool-Aid          |                        |                     |                      |

# CHURCHES

## Reaching the next generation for Christ!

### Boyce College at Southern Seminary presents **VISION Conference** September 21, 2002

A conference designed for those who work with young people: youth pastors, Sunday school teachers, youth sponsors, volunteer workers, and parents! Featuring 32 breakout sessions, speakers include...



**Phil Newberry** serves as Minister of Students at **Bellevue Baptist Church** in Memphis, TN.



**Tim Parsons** serves as minister to over 750 students at **Idlewild Baptist Church** in Tampa, FL.



**Dr. David E. Adams** is Executive Director of the National Center for Youth Ministry at Boyce College and the host of the conference.

Registration on or before Sept. 13, 2002: \$45.  
After Sept. 13, 2002: \$49.95.  
Call for Group Rates.

### For more information contact:

Mrs. Michele Cummings at Boyce College  
A school of The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary  
502-897-4207 • cym@sbts.edu

## Consultant offers strategy to recruit Sunday school leaders

By Brandy Campbell  
SBC LifeWay Christian Resources

RIDGECREST, N.C. (BP)—How do you find teachers for your Sunday school department?

Guilt, surprise attacks and begging all have some measure of success.

But such methods also result in teachers with no joy for their work and no preparation for their responsibilities, according to a Sunday school consultant.

Belinda Jolley cited Jesus' method of recruitment.

"Imagine if we had lived in the day when Jesus was calling the disciples," said Jolley, a consultant for the South Carolina Baptist Convention's Sunday school department.

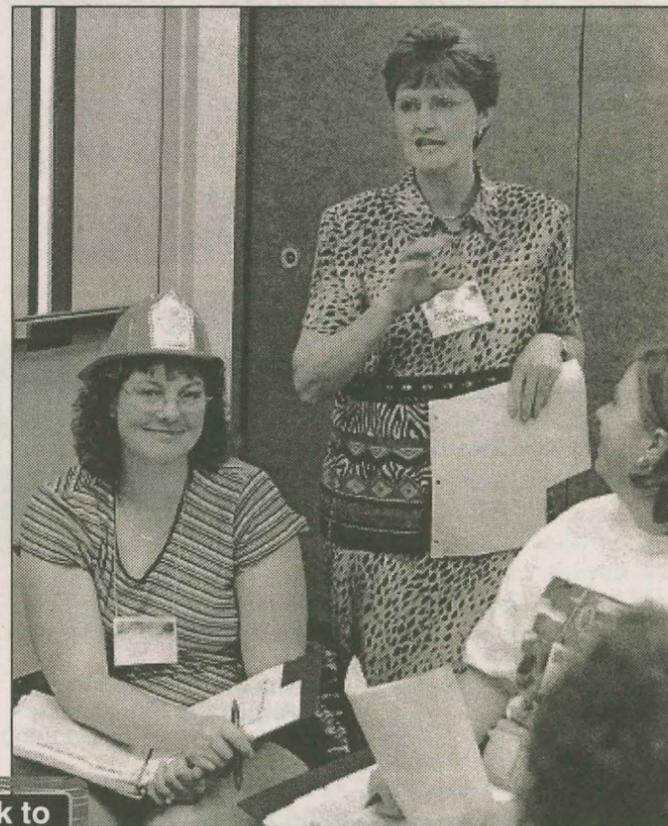
"We would have probably thought He was crazy," she said. "They weren't exactly the pillars of the community and were often hotheaded, cynical and rarely understood what Jesus was talking about. But look at how He blessed their ministry."

Speaking at the National Sunday School Leadership Week at LifeWay Ridgecrest Conference Center in North Carolina, Jolley outlined five steps for multiplying church leaders for Sunday school:

#### ■ Prayer and vision.

Jolley recommended involving all class members in praying and brainstorming a list of possible leaders.

"If you skip this step, all you'll be doing is filling a position," she said. "You need to pray and pour over potential leaders. ... Build relationships with your members so you know more completely what their gifts are. We always whine about our leaders, but it's our own fault if we skip this step and



**TAPPING TALENT** Belinda Jolley of the South Carolina Baptist Convention leads a conference on mobilizing church members for ministry during the National Sunday School Leadership Week at LifeWay Ridgecrest Conference Center in North Carolina. (BP photo by Kent Harville)

wait until the last minute to fill leadership roles."

#### ■ Finding leaders.

Potential workers can be identified through response cards, observation and simply asking who is interested. After leaders have been enlisted, it is important to explain job descriptions fully, she added.

Recruiters should be careful not to pressure a potential leader who declines. Pressure or pouting could alienate the potential leader, decreasing the likelihood he or she might say "Yes" in the future.

■ **Training.** Many churches have potential leaders shadow or apprentice with current leaders. "We'd never have to worry about filling these positions if we had a constant cycle of apprentices," Jolley said. "If you build a relationship with someone, then ask them to shadow you, you are training that person to immediately step into your position without a tough time of transition."

■ **Fellowship.** Too often Sunday school leaders see class members only on Sunday morning, Jolley noted.

"They need to see one another as real people and build real relationships," Jolley recommended that class leaders host informal meetings outside of church to nurture class ties. "Jesus had close connections with His inner circle, and we should follow that example."

■ **Encouragement.** Some potential leaders have such low self-esteem they would never volunteer for a leadership position, Jolley noted.

"Some people will never leave the nest unless you push them out," Jolley said. "As leaders, sometimes we must push our people out of the nest so they can spread their wings and fly. ... Of course, you remain right there in the background, lifting them up in prayer and following up on their progress."

Back to  
(Sunday)  
School

## CELEBRATE THE MISSION

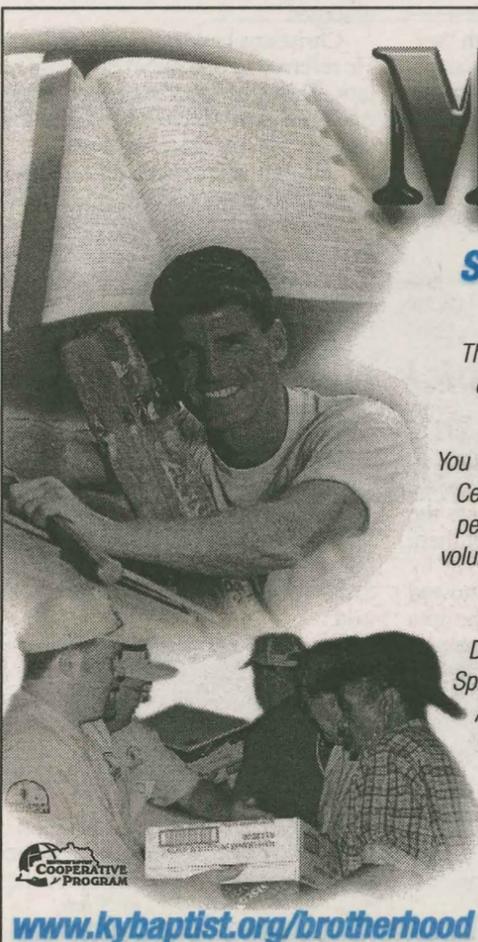
Saturday, Oct. 5, 2002 at 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.  
First Baptist Church, Lawrenceburg, Kentucky

This one-day celebration, for all Kentucky churches, will be focused on God's efforts to **Reclaim, Restore and Reconcile** the world through men, women, children and youth.

You will be challenged to live out the Mission that God has called you to! Celebrate in a worship experience focused on God and how He uses people to accomplish amazing tasks. You will hear testimonies from volunteer relief and recovery workers, front line warriors of the faith and those who have been changed by the Gospel.

Don't miss out on the **2002 State RA Race-Off!** Winners of the Spring 2002 regional RA racer events will compete for the state title. All other children interested in participating can participate in an open RA race event for the open title. Register your cars online.

Box lunches will be provided at a cost of \$3. Register today online to reserve yours.



For more information contact the  
Brotherhood Department  
502-244-6489 or  
888-254-5720 (toll free KY)

www.kybaptist.org/brotherhood

## 'New Hope New York'

**"We say traumatic events will either draw you closer to God or drive you away."**

New York pastor Taylor Field

*Baptists find more receptivity after massive ministry effort in Big Apple*

By Ken Walker  
State Correspondent

NEW YORK—With just 231 congregations and 18,000 church members among 7.5 million people, the Southern Baptist Convention has never been a major presence in America's largest city.

But thanks to a post-Sept. 11 disaster relief effort, Southern Baptists are no longer strangers here.

In the months following attacks, Baptist volunteers:

- Logged more than 20,000 work days.
- Served 1.2 million meals.
- Cleaned nearly 650 apartments.
- Distributed more than 21,000 teddy bears.

As the nation's eyes fall on New York and Washington, D.C., for one-year memorial observances of the terrorist attacks, Southern Baptists are optimistic about the future and reflective of how they say God has been at work in the Big Apple.

"We've had a lot of church starts recently," said David Dean, director of missions for Metropolitan New York Baptist Association. "Sept. 11 has refocused the attention of the country on New York because it's been in the news so much. People are always asking, 'What's happening at Ground Zero?'"

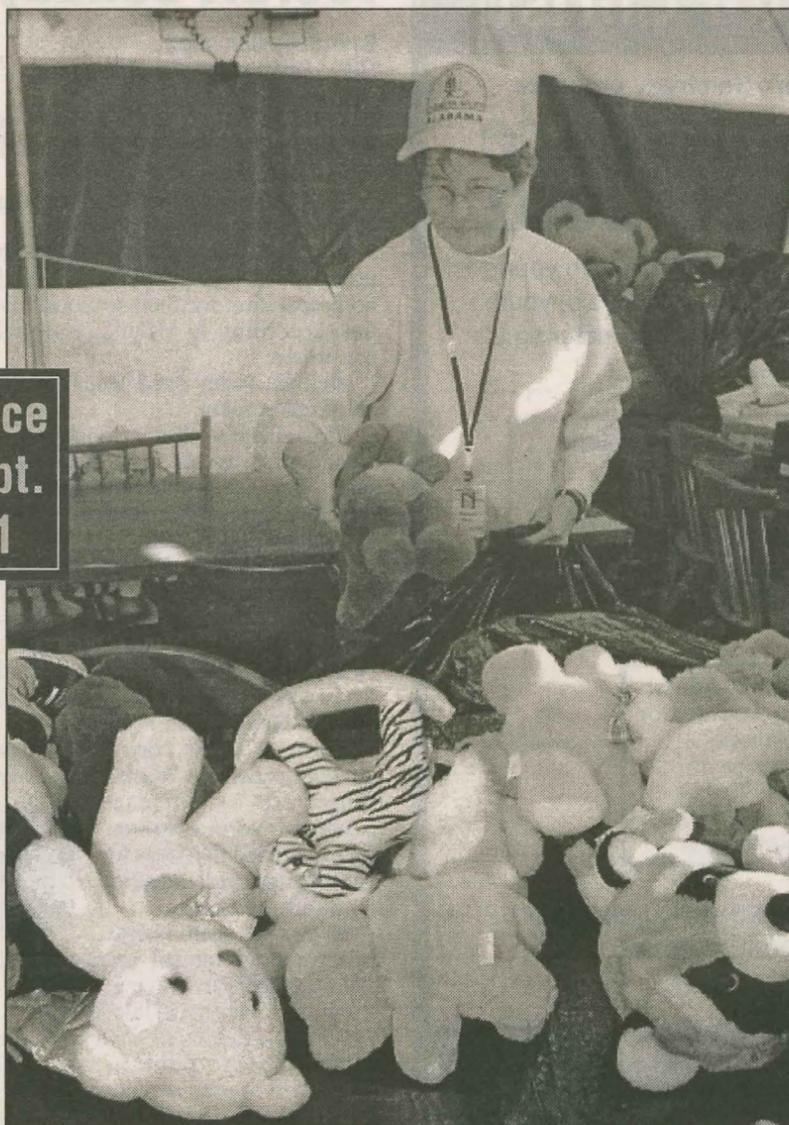
"There was a wind of the Spirit where everyone talked about God for a month or two (after the attacks). A lot of positive things happened because of that," he added.

New York pastor Taylor Field said he also sees changes in the city he's called home for 15 years.

He recalled a woman, covered in tattoos, who approached him two days after the attacks on the World Trade Center. "I know I need the Lord," she said before praying to receive Jesus as her personal Savior.

"You don't see that now," said Field, pastor of East Seventh Street Baptist Church in lower Manhattan. "But people are searching; it's not

Since Sept. 11



**SORTING THINGS OUT** Sarah Beck, a disaster relief volunteer from Alabama, helps sort stuffed bears last year for distribution to disadvantaged children and emergency workers in New York. A plethora of volunteers and attention has helped New York Baptists in ministry and church starting efforts. (BP photo by James Dotson)

back to normal. Our people are more dedicated to sharing their faith too, but it's in a quiet way."

And New York Baptists are getting some help in sharing their faith. New York is one of two "Strategic Focus Cities" for Southern Baptists in 2003. With the theme "New Hope New York," volunteers and additional resources will be focused on the city next year.

Already there are efforts to plant 35 churches in the metropolitan area between 2002 and 2005. That goal might sound low, but Dean notes that the average church start costs \$400,000 in a city where many apartments rent for \$4,000 per month.

"There's probably half a dozen churches across the U.S. trying to do a church plant in Manhattan or somewhere in the area," Dean said. "It's harder here. So much has to go for salaries and housing they don't have anything left for renting a building."

Church starter Gregg Farah said he's received a warm reception since he arrived in April to plant a congregation called Mosaic Manhattan.

Currently 10-15 members meet each Sunday for weekly Bible studies in his apartment across from Ground Zero. Farah and others hope to start public services by Christmas or next Easter.

This summer, volunteers spread

awareness of the new effort with "servant acts" of evangelism, such as offering free child care for a parents "date night" and distributing free water at various locations.

"Our work is mostly on a relational basis," Farah said. "It's definitely a slow process; you wish it would go faster."

In addition to Mosaic Manhattan, a church start near the United Nations area is slated to begin next September.

A mile from Ground Zero, East Seventh Baptist—nicknamed "Graffiti" because of its oft-vandalized exterior—has hosted nearly 20 mission teams since Sept. 11.

The groups came to help with the church's 26 ministries, many of them aimed at children. A recent survey by the New York school board showed that 87 percent of children in the area are suffering from post-traumatic stress, Field said.

The church has dealt with many troubled people, offering 1,000 grief support counseling sessions in the days after Sept. 11.

While non-Christians were more receptive to the gospel during the first two months after the attacks, that doesn't mean interest has vanished, Field said.

"We say traumatic events will either draw you closer to God or drive

### SBC impact

NASHVILLE—Throughout the Southern Baptist Convention, the long-term impact of Sept. 11 is uncertain.

Officials say the number of career missionaries is up, but short-term volunteers have declined.

Last December's Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for International Missions was up only about half a percent compared to 2000, after respective increases of 7.3 and 3.6 percent the two previous years.

"I think 9-11 had something to do with that," said David Steverson, vice president for finance at the Southern Baptist International Mission Board. "But we were grateful to have a (small) increase, because a lot of charitable organizations' giving went down."

The SBC's flagship giving vehicle, the Cooperative Program, has fared better. Ten months into this fiscal year, contributions were 4.7 percent above 2001, despite a recession that has seen unemployment and federal deficits rise.

No figures are available for 2002 church starts this year, although last year's 1,765 new churches and affiliates represented an increase of 5 percent compared to the previous year. Ken Walker

you away," he said. "We've been on a 12-month road of obediently following God. Now what I see is a deeper searching for God. Real issues have emerged."

Christians have been affected, too. He referred to one member whose relationship with God had become anemic. The man left New York after the attacks, but has since returned.

"He now shares his faith verbally," Field said. "He says he's grateful for what God taught him. Other people are finding ways to serve. One woman lost her best friend in the towers. Now she's writing stories about ministries related to her church."

The added attention and volunteers have added work for an association that already could feel overwhelmed. In Manhattan, Southern Baptists have a ratio of one SBC church for every 109,000 people.

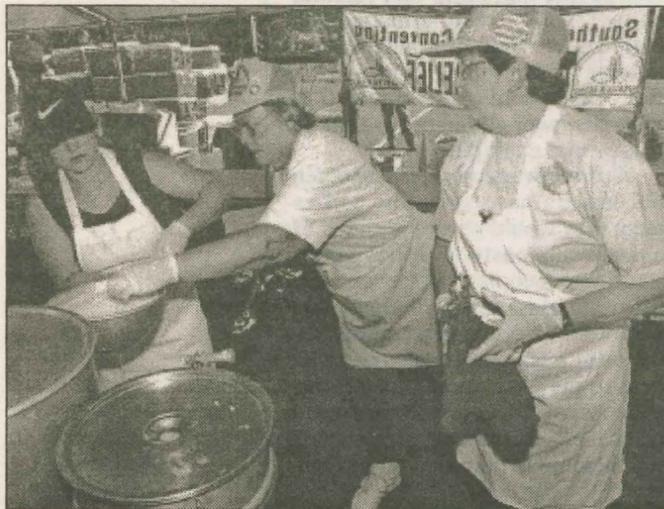
Still, much good has arisen from the tragedy, Dean said. The free feedings and apartment cleanings created a more positive image for Baptists, he said.

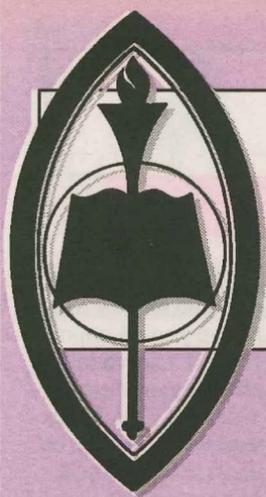
Many police officers and firefighters accepted Jesus as their Savior and now are telling others about Christ, he added. Staff member Lisa Rose is compiling a book about some of them, along with stories of how Baptists helped victims' families.

Another positive development has been an Internet-based prayer network (www.praynewyork.com) that lists ongoing requests in New York.

"Tell people mainly to pray," Dean asked.

**FOOD PREP** Baptist volunteers prepare food last September at the Brooklyn Naval Shipyard for recovery crews and other workers and victims of the Sept. 11 attacks. Southern Baptist disaster relief workers prepared and served more than a million meals in New York. (BP photo by Gibbs Frazeur)





# KENTUCKY NOTES

A quarterly publication of Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union  
P. O. Box 436569, Louisville, KY 40253-6569 • (502) 244-6485 • Toll-free: (888) 254-5726  
Supplement to Western Recorder

Funding for this publication made possible through contributions to the Eliza Broadus Offering and the Cooperative Program

## Eliza Broadus Offering for State Missions

2001-02 Basic Goal: \$850,000  
Challenge Goal: \$150,000  
Total: \$1,000,000

Amount received through July 31: \$816,861

You may continue to give to the 2001-02 Eliza Broadus Offering through Aug. 31, 2002.

Fall 2002

## A Personal Word

## Big Hands, Little Hands Across Kentucky

Week of Prayer for State Missions and Eliza Broadus Offering

Sept. 8-15  
Offering Goal: \$1,000,000

Contact Kentucky WMU for state missions teaching materials, posters, offering envelopes, promotional ideas and a FREE state missions video: (888) 254-5726.

Read about ministries to children and their families in the Sept. 3 issue of the *Western Recorder*.



A missions leader told about how as a special treat she had taken her children to the park one Sunday for sundaes. The children shared the ice cream treat with unchurched children at the park. After they left the park, one child said, "Miss Jean, we were witnessing, weren't we?"



Joy Bolton  
Executive Director-Treasurer

Another leader wrote to say that in her church Women on Mission and Mission Friends are teaming up to share "sweet love" in their community by baking cookies together. The children decorate bags for the cookies. Then everyone hops in a

van to deliver the cookies to seniors, shut-ins and others.

Pictures also tell a story. The pictures of our Kentucky Acteens Activators team leading a backyard Bible club in Lynch this summer revealed caring teenage girls and their leaders holding small hands, teaching Bible stories, playing games and sharing hugs and smiles.

Stories like these are what "Big Hands, Little Hands Across Kentucky" is all about. Big hands reaching out to touch little hands. Big hands with a loving touch, showing Jesus through ministries to children and their families. It is also about big hands and little hands working together to share Jesus. It is about big hands teaching little hands to pray and give for missions. It is about missions education, camp and much more.

Your big hands and heart of love are needed to support Kentucky missions. A packet of teaching materials and promotional ideas was mailed to each church WMU director or contact person in June. This mailing included a reply card to order additional posters, bulletin insert prayer guides and envelopes. Each order will include a new state missions video. These materials are provided by the gifts of your church to the Cooperative Program and the Eliza Broadus Offering.

Our thanks to Larry Brannin, media associate in the Kentucky Baptist Convention communications department. Larry took the script we wrote and footage from hours of interviews and turned it into a wonderful video that highlights some of the ministries of Kentucky Baptists with children.

The Eliza Broadus Offering goal is \$1 million. This includes a basic goal of \$850,000 and a challenge goal of \$150,000. Why do we need a challenge goal? To help us stretch in our giving, to reach toward the goal of giving a million dollars for missions in Kentucky. It is my prayer that this will be the year we reach the million-dollar goal. If every resident member of a Kentucky Baptist church gave \$1.80, this goal would be exceeded.

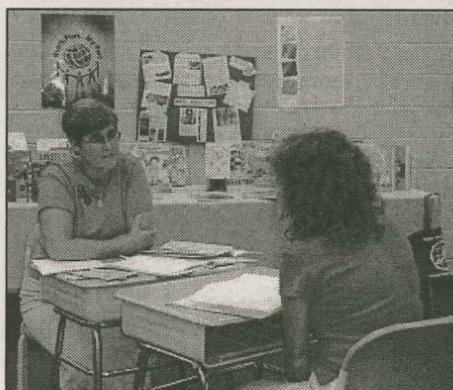
Will your hands reach high in prayer, deep into your pocket in giving and stretch out in love to a child?

## World Missions Unlimited 2002



Joy Bolton, executive-director of Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union, explains the theme of missions that runs through the Bible.

Almost 500 WMU and Brotherhood leaders participated in World Missions Unlimited 2002 during July. The conferences were held at Georgetown College in Georgetown, Mid-Continent College in Mayfield and Clear Creek Baptist Bible College in Pineville.



Pat Reaves, a member of the Kentucky WMU resource team, consults with a Mission Friends leader during World Missions Unlimited in Pineville.



Associational Women on Mission consultants make plans for the coming year.



## Information for WMU Directors

### THE TIME IS NOW

As you receive this issue of the *Western Recorder* and *Kentucky Notes*, your church should be entering the **Season of Prayer for State Missions** and giving to the **Eliza Broadus Offering for State Missions**. We have a state goal and churches set goals, but it is individuals like you who determine how much offering is given. As you make your personal decision about the state missions offering, remember that "Big Hands" (adults) have to carry the large part of the responsibility for reaching goals that will help share the story of Jesus with all in Kentucky who do not know Him.

### Review your annual planning

- ▼ Are your offering goals challenging enough for your church?
- ▼ Have you cleared the dates for various events on your church calendar?
- ▼ Have leaders been enlisted for special projects?
- ▼ Have speakers been contacted for special emphases?
- ▼ Have you given your budget requests to the proper person?

### God's Plan—My Part

We are entering our new two-year emphasis and are challenged to take a personal responsibility for what God wants each of us to do. As you look at your role in WMU leadership, do you have the tools you need? If you are WMU director in your church, you need:

- 1) *WMU How-To: WMU in your Church*.
- 2) *WMU Year Book 2002-2003*.
- 3) *2002-2003 Kentucky WMU Supplement to the Year Book*.
- 4) *Dimension* magazine.
- 5) *WMU Leadership Team Resource Kit*.
- 6) *God's Plan...My Part* by Stuart Calvert (emphasis book).

The Kentucky Supplement is free from Kentucky WMU. All other materials are available from national WMU at (800) 968-7301 or LifeWay Christian bookstores.

You have the responsibility to see that all your age-level organizations have the materials they need. All magazines, resource kits and "How-Tos" may be ordered from national WMU.

### By the end of September

Ask your pastor if he has received the *Pastor's Promotion Packet* from the International Mission Board. Perhaps you and he an look through the materials and discuss how your church will utilize them during the **International Missions Emphasis** during the first week of December. Share with him the information on pages 17, 56 and 57 in *WMU Year Book 2002-2003*. Other helps will be in the fall issue of *Dimension*.

—Anna Mary Byrdwell

## Adults on Mission

### An interesting question

"How do you continually keep things fresh and creative as you plan for your mission group?" This question was posed to me during a recent training conference at World Missions Unlimited. Of course, it is a question that I hear often and rarely know how to answer easily. Missions and mission education always has been a love of mine.

I thrive at the thought of sharing that love with others, whether it is at a training conference, a speaking engagement or at my church.

The desire to share the joy of missions motivates me to make everything I do relating to missions exciting and creative. I do this by expanding on ideas that inspire me from many different avenues. The WMU publications *Missions Mosaic* and *Dimension* are a great

place to start. Both magazines provide ideas to spice up meetings. I also love to use games and ice breakers during meetings. This tends to get people talking and involved with learning in a fun way. There are many books, videos, games and people that you can use to help keep things fresh and alive in your mission groups. Don't be afraid to do something different. The response might surprise you.

### Fall retreat

With September's arrival and thoughts of cooler weather on the horizon, now is the time to register for the **Women on Mission/Baptist Nursing Fellowship Fall Retreats**. The theme for the retreats is "Sow the Seed". On Sept. 27-28, Bobbye Rankin, wife of International Mission Board President Jerry Rankin, will be the keynote speaker at Jonathan Creek. Barbara Joiner, beloved WMU author and storyteller, will be leading at Cedarmore on Oct. 18-19. We have planned

many new conferences and some special worship experiences that will give you an opportunity to spend some quality time reflecting on the awesome works of God. Make your reservation now to be with us.

### Tonya's Tips

Looking for an idea to spice up an ordinary meeting? Why not follow a theme? Decorate the fellowship hall or meeting room as a particular country or city. Serve snacks indigenous to the area. Go to the library or search the Internet for a craft idea related to the area. Focus on a missionary who serves in the region. Tell his or her story and pray for the missionary as you conclude the meeting. Most of all, have fun.

—Tonya Williams

## Youth

This has been an exciting summer for youth involved in missions. Numerous churches have sent out youth mission teams and Acteens Activators. I had the opportunity to serve with two churches in Lynch during the first week of July. These Acteens Activators led a backyard Bible club and worked in a warehouse, clothes closet, food

pantry and soup kitchen.

**Acteens Splash** was held at Jonathan Creek June 21-22. We discussed the mind of God and sought to align our minds to His as we think about our world. Of course, we enjoyed the lake.



Acteens make a "Splash" at Jonathan Creek.

Before you know it, **Youth on Mission Night** will be here. Youth in grades 7-12 and their leaders are invited to First Baptist Church in Leitchfield, Nov. 8-9. Judy Miller, missionary to Benin, will be our keynote speaker. You will love her stories from Africa. Information will be mailed soon to all Youth on Mission leaders.

Plans are also underway for **SyncroNations** in Nashville on July 29-Aug. 1, 2003. We now have two meeting points: Living Hope Baptist Church in Bowling Green and the rest area on I-24 just over the Tennessee line. Much more information is on the way.

—LaRaine Dail



Acteen Activators serve at a soup kitchen in Harlan.

## Preschool

As a Mission Friends teacher, you have an important part in God's plan to teach preschoolers about Jesus and His mission. *Start, Share and First Steps in Missions 2002-2003* are essential tools that will enable you to provide developmentally appropriate activities for each child.

*WMU How To: Mission Friends* is a resource that will help you maintain a vibrant organization.

Plan now to introduce preschoolers to missions in China and the people who live there through *Living in Beautiful China*, the **International Mission Study** for preschoolers. The unit contains activities and stories and can be taught during a church-wide study in December or during any regular class for preschoolers.

Need suggestions for Christmas or birthday gifts for preschoolers? Encourage parents, grandparents and friends of preschoolers to give some of the many delightful books produced by WMU, SBC as gifts for special preschoolers on their lists. The newest releases include *Around the World* and *In My Community*.

## Girls In Action

The **GA Global Adventure** begins in Girls in Action as girls in grades 1-6 "travel" to many exciting destinations around the world this year. Be a prepared tour guide (leader) by:

- ▼ Reading *WMU How To: Girls in Action*, which helps GA leaders know-how to organize, plan and lead Girls in Action.
- ▼ Using the *2002-2003 WMU Year Book* to help you know, month by month, what is in store for Girls in Action.
- ▼ Planning each meeting using the newly designed *Aware* magazine along with *Discovery* for grades 1-4 and *GA World* for grades 5-6.
- ▼ Involving GAs and other children in your church in the **2002 State Missions Emphasis** in September and the **International Mission Emphasis** in December.

## Children In Action

Attention all agents. You are invited to come to the **Children in Action Missions Day Camp** on Saturday, Sept. 14, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at Cedar Crest (located on the grounds of Cedarmore). Boys and girls in grades 1-6 will meet international and North American missionaries, make new friends, learn about God and His creation, participate in a ministry project, play games and lots more. The cost is \$10 per person. Contact Kentucky WMU for more information.

—Brenda Price



## President's Perspective

These first few months as your president have been a whirlwind of activities. It is an honor to represent Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union.

I saw several of you at our **national WMU meeting** in St. Louis and was pleased that Kentucky had such a good number present. I was proud of our state staff at the national meeting. I hope as you have opportunity you will take the time to say thanks to our staff and let them know that we are blessed to have such an excellent team of women serving Kentucky WMU.



**Cathy Chinn**  
Kentucky  
WMU  
president

Does your church need a new Women On Mission group? Could you have a group of Girls in Action in your home on Saturday afternoons? Even if your church offers other programs for your children and youth, it still needs a missions program in the form of Mission

Friends, Girls in Action, Children in Action, Acteens or Youth on Mission. We must step up and be leaders of these groups or be mentors for others who will lead. The future of missions and our missionaries depends on it. If you need help or your church needs assistance in beginning a group of any kind, call our state WMU office. We have an excellent resource team across the state waiting for your call to come help.

**Mission Adventure Camp for Girls** was a great success. Our own Tonya Williams did an excellent job as camp director. Missy Doyle, assistant camp director, and all of Tonya's staff provided superb leadership for the campers. My husband, George, and I were camp missionaries for a week and for a mother-daughter overnight. We saw firsthand how God can work through young people who are committed to Him.

A big thank you to the nurses who volunteered at camp—what a valuable service they provided. The number of nurse visits logged was unbelievable. Jessica Childers, the nurse on duty the week my husband and I were at camp, is a special new WMU friend to me. I am thankful for her love of missions and working with young people. I'm glad God placed us together.

Please be in prayer for our state **WMU team** of 14 women from across Kentucky who are going to Germany and the six who are going to Poland in late September. (See page 4 for list of team members.) They will conduct women's conferences and a Bible school for the women's children at two locations.

Our state **WMU Executive Board** will meet in regular session Oct. 24-27 at Cedarmore Baptist Assembly. These dates include our committee meetings as well as full board meetings. I hope you will pray for our board as the bulk of our business is conducted.

"God's Plan ... My Part" is the special emphasis for the next two years in Woman's Missionary Union. God has had a plan all along. But too often we want to tell God what we are going to do and ask Him to bless it. We all must take time to listen to God speaking to our hearts and spend more time in Bible study. As WMU leaders and members, we must strive to become more aware of what God's plan is for us as individuals as well as for our churches. We must act on that plan and become advocates for His plan in our community of faith.

## 'The World ... My Mission' Camp Great Success



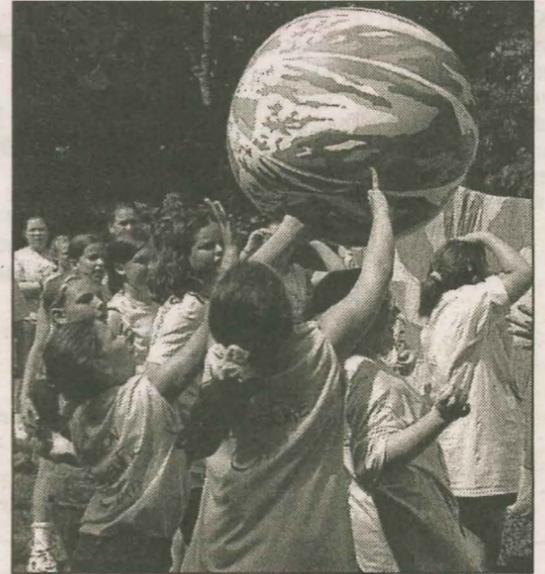
Girls carry on the tradition of singing camp songs before supper is served at Mission Adventure Camp.

What an adventure as 778 campers participated in Mission Adventure Camp for Girls on the Cedar Crest campus of Cedarmore Baptist Assembly this summer. Girls ranging in age from 6 to 16 participated in weeklong, express and mother/daughter camp. God moved in a mighty way as girls responded to the challenge of the theme, "The World ... My Mission."

Campers participated in horseback riding, archery, cultural crafts and adventure recreation. They also enjoyed experiencing the cultures of Africa and New Orleans through hands-on cultural experiences. Using games, foods, native dress and song, missionaries from Ecuador, Russia, Africa and Kentucky shared about the cultures in which they serve. To top off each day, campers came together for worship and fun at a nightly camp-wide fellowship.

This summer, campers raised \$1,643.00 that will go to the Cooperative Program, the Brantley Center in New Orleans and to assist the staff of Mission Adventure Camp for Boys as they took their camp on the road to Maine.

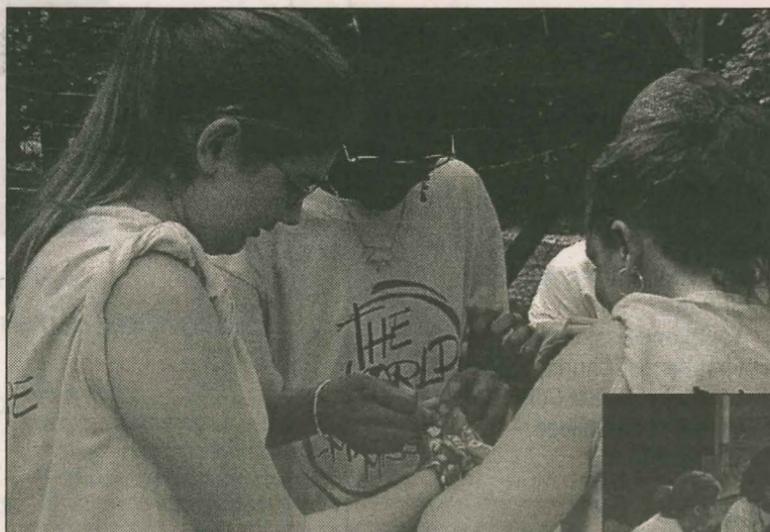
The greatest blessing of all was the way that God moved throughout the summer. There were eight professions of faith, 14 rededications and six commitments to full-time church related service. What a joy to be a part of God's plan through Kentucky WMU's camping program.



Campers enjoy blind volleyball at Mission Adventure Camp.



The staff of Mission Adventure Camp take time for a dip in the pool.



Girls learn to work together at Mission Adventure Camp.



Mission Adventure Camp provides opportunities for spiritual growth in small group settings.



Thank you  
for adopting  
summer  
missionaries

Thank you for  
adopting our  
Kentucky BSU  
summer missionar-  
ies and Mission  
Adventure Camps  
staffers. Please  
continue to pray for  
students and invite  
them to visit your  
church.

## KY WMU goes 'On Mission' to Europe

Two teams of women from across Kentucky will serve in Germany and Poland this fall through Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union.

A team of 14 women will serve in Germany Sept. 18-30. They will serve as staff and provide activities for preschoolers and children of women attending a weekend women's retreat at Trinity Baptist Church in Metterich. During the week, the team will prayer walk, lead Bible studies and visit one-on-one with the women. Then that weekend, they will serve as staff and provide activities for preschoolers and children attending a women's retreat at another church in Germany.

▼ Germany team members:  
**Cathy Chinn, Leader**  
Oleta Burkeen, Murray  
Barbara Bush, Valley Station  
Brenda Bush, Cadiz  
Nina Bush, Valley Station  
Brenda Childress, Louisville

Betty Dawson, Louisville  
Frankie Johnson, Georgetown  
Shirley Kirk, Hartford  
Annette Marsee, Kenvir  
Merle Montgomery, Hustonville  
Kim Thomas, Utica  
Ruth Thomas, Cadiz  
Bettie Wright, Barlow



The Poland team will serve as staff for two 5-day women's retreats Sept. 23-Oct. 7. These retreats are designed for women who are church members but whose husbands are not believers or who are dealing with some particularly difficult situations in their homes such as abuse or violence.

▼ Poland team members:  
**Joy Bolton, Leader**  
Anna Brown, Squiresville  
Jerri Gibson, Owenton  
Karen Proctor, Ledbetter  
Jeannie Smith, Elizabethtown

## Youth on Mission Night

# Shine

Nov. 8-9

### First Baptist Church Leitchfield

Cost: \$10

Speaker: Judy Miller,  
Missionary to Benin

## Kentucky WMU Heritage Society

The Kentucky WMU Heritage Fund, an endowment fund for the purpose of developing, strengthening and sustaining the work of Kentucky WMU, was established on April 21, 1990.

At the 2000 WMU Heritage Fund Dinner in Bowling Green, WMU announced the creation of the Heritage Society to recognize those people who choose to make a planned gift to Kentucky WMU. Any person who designates Kentucky WMU as beneficiary of a planned gift and notifies Kentucky WMU of these plans will be named a member of the Heritage Society. Planned gifts include: will, life insurance policy, charitable remainder trust, charitable annuity trust, charitable gift annuity, retirement plan death benefits or other bequest.

Charter membership in the Heritage Society was open through April 30, 2002. The following people are charter members: Lee and Joy Bolton, Ruth Briscoe, Anna Mary Byrdwell, Utha B. (Sally) Deen, Myrna H. Deweese, Velma A. Clifton, Ray and Dee Gilliland, Carlann B. Harris, Maribeth Hambrick, Pat Howard, Garnett Hutchinson, Frankie Johnson, Marilyn Lamkin, Jane Kent, Ann Moffett, Brenda Price and Mary Pat Price.

Membership is still open, and we encourage you to become a member of the Heritage Society. Just send a note to Kentucky WMU letting us know that you have included Kentucky WMU in your will or other planned gift. A list of Heritage Society members will be included in Kentucky Notes once each year, along with the listing of those who have given during the previous year.

## Project HELP: Restorative Justice

We begin this new church year with a new Project HELP emphasis. During the next two years, our focus will be "Restorative Justice." Restorative Justice educates and equips God's people to meet the needs of victims, offenders, law enforcement and communities, resulting in biblical change in the criminal justice system. We hope that this emphasis will help church members recognize the need to be involved, as they come to better understand restorative justice. We want folks to see how God can use them as they begin or participate in existing restorative justice ministries.

Kentucky Baptists have a restorative ministry steering committee composed of four men and four women from across the state. Joy Bolton of WMU and Randy Foster of Brotherhood are a part of the committee.

Many of you are acquainted with a person who is in prison or with their family members. As we show a Christ-like love, we can help to change lives as we learn more about restorative justice. Purchase the *Restorative Justice Ministry Guide* from national WMU or LifeWay Christian bookstores. Call Kentucky WMU at (888) 254-5726 if you would like the names of other committee members or need additional information. We will send you a report form to enable you to share with others about your restorative justice ministry involvement.



ACT  
JUSTLY

LOVE  
MERCY



WALK  
HUMBLY

## Calendar

### September

6 KY Acteens Advisory Panel  
Applications due to KY WMU  
office

7 Super Saturday  
Lone Oak First Baptist Church,  
Paducah

7 Super Saturday  
First Baptist Church, Somerset

8-15 Season of Prayer for State  
Missions and Eliza Broadus  
State Missions Offering

14 Children in Action Missions Day  
Camp Cedar Crest

27-28 Women on Mission/Baptist  
Nursing Fellowship Retreat  
Jonathan Creek

### October

2-6 North American Baptist Women's  
Union General Assembly, Montego  
Bay, Jamaica

13 World Hunger Sunday  
18-19 Women on Mission/Collegians/  
Baptist Nursing Fellowship  
Retreat, Cedarmore  
24-27 KY WMU Executive Board  
Meeting, Cedarmore

### November

4 Baptist Women's World Day  
of Prayer  
8-9 Youth on Mission Night  
First Baptist Church, Leitchfield  
12-13 Kentucky Baptist Convention  
Cumberland College,  
Williamsburg

### December

1-8 Season of Prayer for  
International Missions and Lottie  
Moon Christmas Offering



### Women on Mission/ Baptist Nursing Fellowship Fall Retreats

## "Sow the Seed"

Sept. 27-28 ♦ Jonathan Creek  
Featuring Bobbye Rankin

Oct. 18-19 ♦ Cedarmore  
Featuring Barbara Joiner

Call now for a brochure with further details: (888) 254-5726

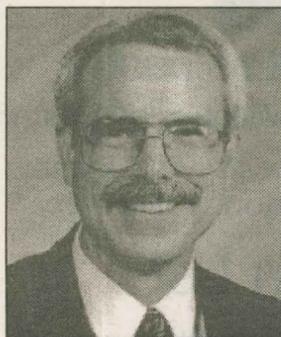
Buckner Baptist Church, LaGrange, Ky., presents ...

## THE FIRST ANNUAL AUTUMN CELEBRATION OF THE BIBLE 2002

*The Old Testament Prophets: Still Speaking ...*  
A study of the prophets for a contemporary culture!

Sept. 20-21, 2002 ♦ Buckner Baptist Church  
3714 West Highway 146, LaGrange, KY 40031

Keynote Teacher:



Dr. Robert Dunston,  
Chairman, Religion Dept.,  
Cumberland College

Worship & breakout sessions also  
will feature the following leaders:

- ♦ Dr. Robert Don Hughes,  
author & dramatist
- ♦ Dr. Brian L. Shoemaker,  
pastor, teacher & dramatist
- ♦ Roy McNeil, worship leader &  
gospel recording artist
- ♦ Balaam's Ride,  
contemporarily/sacred musicians
- ♦ Mike Borders, teacher
- ♦ Connie Borders & the Music  
Ministry of Buckner Baptist  
Church

Friday, Sept. 20

- ♦ 7 p.m. Worship Service

Saturday, Sept. 21

- ♦ 8:45 a.m. Morning Devotions (led by Dennis Mangum)
- ♦ 9 a.m. Breakout Sessions #1
- ♦ 10:30 a.m. Breakout Sessions #2
- ♦ 7 p.m. Worship Service

Registration: \$10 per person

For information, call Buckner Baptist Church at (502) 222-1735  
Or visit our website at: [www.bucknerbaptist.org](http://www.bucknerbaptist.org)

## Are anti-voucher laws rooted in bigotry against Catholics?

WASHINGTON (ABP)—State laws banning school vouchers should be overturned because they are anti-Catholic, according to a new argument by some advocates for using public money to send students to parochial schools.

While the U.S. Supreme Court gave voucher programs a boost this year by ruling that they don't necessarily violate the U.S. Constitution, many states have more restrictive constitutions that ban government support of religious institutions even indirectly.

But now voucher supporters are saying these laws should be abandoned due to their sordid history.

Depending on who is counting, as many as 37 states have constitutional bans on government funding of religion. They are nicknamed "Blaine amendments," after James Blaine, who as speaker of the House of Representatives in 1875 proposed a constitutional amendment banning the distribution of any public funds to religious schools.

Blaine's amendment passed the House but failed in the Senate. Even so, many states picked up similar language in adding amendments to their own constitutions.

Modern critics say Blaine's motivation was anti-Catholic bigotry that was rampant in the United States during his day.

Pro-voucher groups say passage of

the Blaine amendments fed on anti-immigration and anti-Catholic sentiment as Catholic schools tried to obtain tax funding in the 1800s.

Forces on the other side of the voucher argument, however, say that oversimplifies the history behind the amendments.

Rob Boston of Americans United for the Separation of Church and State said Blaine's original amendment was inspired by President Grant, who supported banning not only government funding for sectarian schools but also the teaching of Protestant tenets in public schools.

"Certainly there were instances of anti-Catholic bigotry at that time, but that doesn't mean that everybody who advocated limiting funding to non-sectarian schools was motivated by anti-Catholic animus," Boston said.

Voters in several states in the past 20 years have rejected efforts to alter or remove state Blaine amendments to clear the way for voucher programs. Soon, however, the debate may be making its way into federal courts.

In Florida, a circuit judge recently struck down a voucher program, saying it violates the state's constitution. Gov. Jeb Bush and other state officials quickly appealed the ruling. A similar case out of Washington could also potentially make it to the U.S. Supreme Court, thus forcing the issue of whether such provisions are constitutional.

**Depending on who is counting, as many as 37 states have constitutional bans on government funding of religion.**

King James 2000 Bible on CD.  
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## Health concerns cited in request for FDA to halt abortion pill sales

WASHINGTON (RNS)—Anti-abortion groups, including conservative Christian organizations, petitioned the Food and Drug Administration last week to stop sales of the abortion pill Mifeprex, saying it is dangerous for women.

The Christian Medical Association, Concerned Women for America and the American Association of Pro-Life Obstetricians and Gynecologists cited an FDA report in April of five Mifeprex users with health problems, including one who died from a ruptured ectopic pregnancy, Associated Press reported.

The FDA reported that another woman died of an infection. The other three health problems were another ruptured ectopic pregnancy, another infection and a heart attack. The federal agency has not determined that the drug played a role in any of the cases.

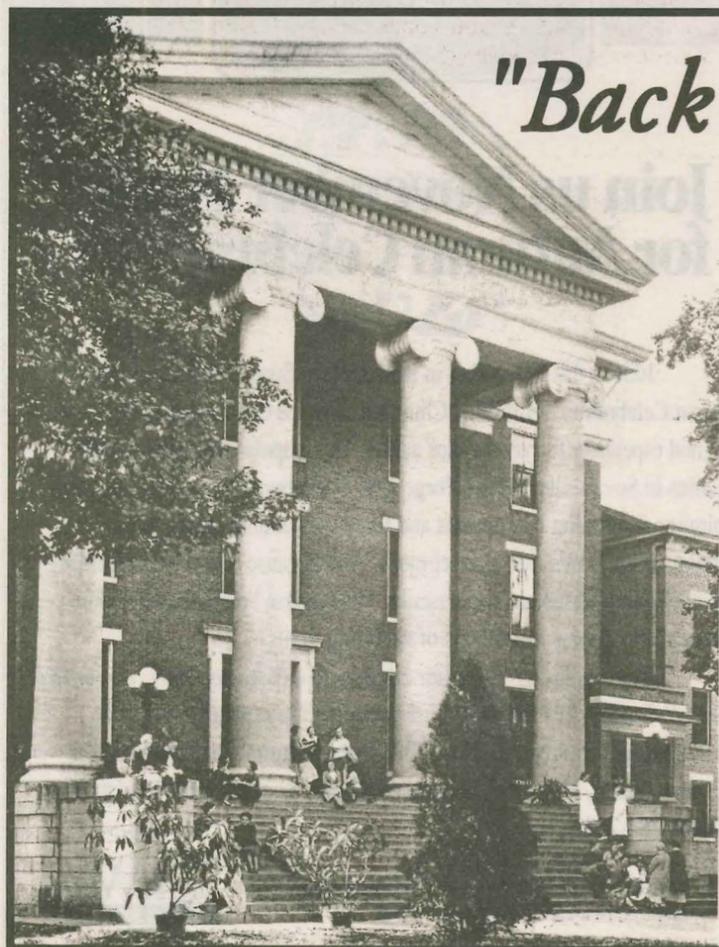
The FDA, which has defended its approval of Mifeprex, also known as RU-486, said it would review the petition.

Mifeprex underwent "very rigorous" testing and review before it was approved by the FDA and "has proved to be a very safe and effective and acceptable drug," said Beverly Winikoff of the Population Council, which holds U.S. rights to Mifeprex. "There is no evidence to the contrary."

Representatives of Christian groups hailed the filing of the petition.

"There is no reason to place more women at risk of death or serious health consequences," said Cathleen Cleaver, spokeswoman for the Pro-Life Secretariat of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. "For the good of women and children, Mifeprex should be withdrawn immediately."

A spokeswoman for Focus on the Family agreed. "Unfortunately, it appears that this drug was pushed through the system on a fast track due to political considerations," said Carrie Gordon Earll, bioethics analyst for Focus on the Family. "No policy interest should ever take precedence over the safety of America's women."



## "Back To Bethel"

### Bethel College Day

Join us as we remember Bethel College  
Sunday, September 22, 2002

First Baptist Church  
1400 South Main Street  
Hopkinsville, KY 42240

Special Guest, William Turner, Historian  
9:00 a.m., Alumni Fellowship  
10:45 a.m., Worship  
12:00 p.m., Lunch

INVITE ALL YOUR BETHEL  
FRIENDS!

For lunch reservations or for more  
information, contact Emory Riley at  
270-886-1216 or  
[emory@fbchopkinsville.net](mailto:emory@fbchopkinsville.net)

## Students study Koran as opponents lose legal fight

By Robert Marus  
Associated Baptist Press

CHAPEL HILL, N.C. (ABP)—Incoming freshmen and transfer students at the University of North Carolina spent a recent afternoon studying parts of the Koran after a federal court refused to bar the school-sponsored practice.

The school generated both headlines and legal action this summer after administrators said they would require new students to read and discuss a partial translation of the Islamic holy book as part of the orientation process.

Like many colleges, UNC regularly assigns summer reading to incoming students, who then discuss the books during fall-semester orientation. Past summer-reading selections have included books on the culture of Civil War nostalgia and the experience of growing up in a Chicago housing project.

This year the university assigned "Approaching the Qur'an: The Early Revelations," by Michael Sells, and asked students to participate in the discussion groups as well as complete written assignments about the book.

Three anonymous UNC freshmen and two taxpayers enlisted by conservative groups to challenge the legality of the assignment. Lawyers for the American Family Association said it violated the First Amendment's ban on government establishment of religion by requiring students at a state-run university to study Islam.

Critics also accused the university of indoctrinating students into Islam by using a book that omits passages used by Islamic militants to defend religious violence.

"By forcing students to read a single text about Islam that leaves out any mention of other passages of the Koran in which Muslim terrorists find justification for killing non-Muslims, the university establishes a particular mindset for its students about the nature of Islam," Joe Glover, president of the Family Policy Network, said in a USA Today editorial. "This constitutes religious indoctrination forbidden by the Supreme Court."

Glover's Virginia-based group joined the AFA in challenging the reading program.

The plaintiffs first asked a federal court to bar the university from holding the discussion sessions. After losing that bid Aug. 15, they appealed to the Virginia-based 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. A three-judge panel of that court unanimously denied their request the morning of Aug. 19, three hours before the discussion groups were set to begin.

The lower court noted that students who objected to the material could opt out of the assignment by writing an essay explaining why they objected to reading the book. Also, students who failed to respond to the assignment at all would suffer no penalties. Therefore, the court determined, the program does not violate the Constitution.

But critics say that information wasn't made clear to freshmen and transfer students still under the impression that the reading-and-reflection exercise was a requirement.

The court ruling may not end the controversy. North Carolina's legislature is considering a funding provision that would require any course on religion at a state university to cover all religions at the same time.

## A heartfelt thank you

As the end of another camp season has come, I want to take this opportunity to publicly thank the staffs at both Cedarmore and Jonathan Creek. The physical demands of leading and running camps over the summer are huge, and we are blessed to have great teams at both Cedarmore and Jonathan Creek.

I'm not going to name staff members, not even leadership. When it comes to running a camp, some staffers have more responsibility than others, but roles are equally important. You can't lead a camp without a support staff that makes sure that the food is hot and tasty. (Yes, I know it's camp food, but I eat it all summer and campers just eat it for one week!) You can't lead a camp without housekeepers who tirelessly, week after week, clean the rooms and dorms and get the places ready to go again in a day or two (sometimes the very next day). You can't lead a camp without a maintenance and grounds crew that mows and fixes, mows and fixes, mows and fixes. And the list could go on. You can't lead a camp without the office folks that make sure that everyone who comes has a bed in which to sleep. And you can't, in the case of

Cedarmore, lead a camp without the help of a small army of volunteer workers, led by Ed and Wanda Lyons. Wow! I don't know what we would do without Ed, Wanda and the many, many men and women who came to Cedarmore this summer and labored each week. Without the volunteers who come to Cedarmore, we couldn't get the

work done. That's all there is to it.

So this year, support teams, Ed and Wanda and all of you who volunteered to give of yourselves this summer. It is my prayer that you understand how significant you are, and the impact that our summer camps have from a Kingdom perspective. Because each of you work tirelessly, and often when you

are very tired, more than 600 decisions were made this summer. To God be the glory! I appreciate every one of you. Many of you don't get the opportunity to experience all the victories that take place over the course of a camp season, but know and be thankful that God is working in wonderful ways bringing students of all ages to Him.

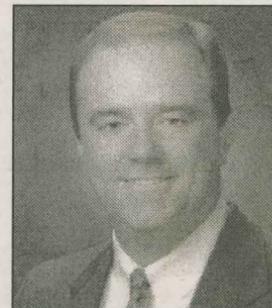
Rusty Ellison is president of Kentucky Baptist Assemblies, Box 43364, Louisville, KY 40253-0364. Call (502) 499-8655

### KENTUCKY BAPTIST ASSEMBLIES



Rusty Ellison

## Broadway Baptist Church Welcomes

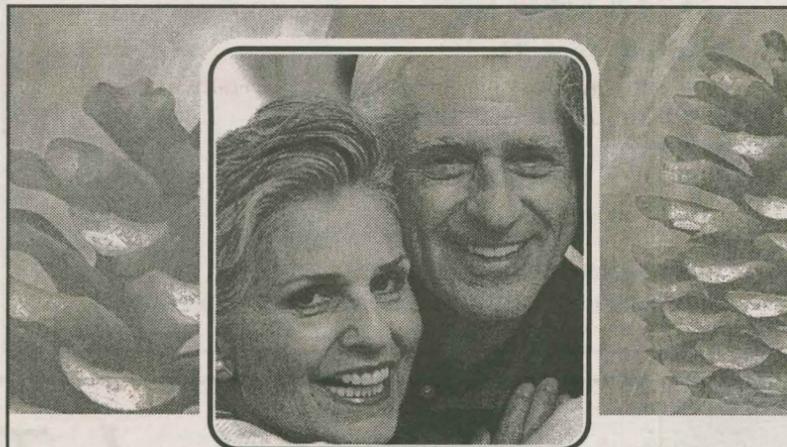


Dr. Chris Caldwell as pastor  
His first Sunday in the pulpit will be September 8.

We also welcome Dr. Caldwell's wife, Jeanne, and their children, Langdon and Carter.

## Come Join Us!

4000 Brownsboro Road  
Louisville, KY 40207  
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[www.broadwaybaptist.org](http://www.broadwaybaptist.org)



## Join us November 11-15 for Autumn Celebration

Join us this November in the beautiful Smoky Mountains for Autumn Celebration, a LifeWay Church Resources enrichment event designed especially for your senior adults. This popular fall event—with activities in Sevierville, Pigeon Forge, and Gatlinburg, Tennessee—features inspirational morning conferences and three outstanding shows, plus shopping at the area's many outlet malls. And because this event coincides with the Smoky Mountain's spectacular "Winterfest," participants will be amazed at the display of millions of sparkling lights.

Don't delay! Your senior adults will experience "Joy . . . For the Journey" through this inspiring and fun event. To register: visit us at [www.lifeway.com](http://www.lifeway.com); fax 615-251-3730; write Autumn Celebration 2002, P. O. Box 24001, Nashville, Tennessee 37202; or call Events Registration at 1-800-254-2022.

For more information about events, visit LifeWay on the Web at [www.lifeway.com](http://www.lifeway.com) and click on the events link.



# SMILE

## Living in His grace

Recently, I received some valuable insight through a conversation with a fellow Kentucky Baptist. His contention is when a child receives Jesus, he or she needs little else to move on from their pain, confusion, anxiety and anger. Therefore, Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children doesn't need to "treat" children or adults through our ministry.

I believe this gentleman, and perhaps other Kentucky Baptists, see treatment as a worldly response to a child's needs. I see things differently.

The greatest choice KBHC offers any child or adult is the one to choose Jesus as Savior. Many do choose Jesus, on average 10 children a month make a personal decision to trust Him. When they do, they have the greatest power known to mankind to change their lives. But for most, change does not happen instantaneously. Even after the life-changing Damascus Road experience, Paul spent years in the desert before beginning his ministry. Abused, neglected, angry, disillusioned children still have a great deal of pain to work through. Jesus in their lives gives them a power beyond themselves to move beyond their pasts, but it usually takes a

guided effort by staff who understand the trauma they experienced.

The Bible is full of admonitions to seek the wise counsel of others. Why? Because living in grace is a process, not a one-time experience. This is why KBHC has Cornerstone Counseling centers across the state and many larger churches have their own pastoral counseling programs.

As I understand and have experienced it, faith in Jesus forgives my past and present, but it does not change it. We have to change, grow and move beyond it which means being honest about feelings of guilt, anger and resentment. Sometimes this means finding someone who can help us deal with the pain and grow into wholeness. This is what we mean by treatment.

I cannot see Jesus directing KBHC to be exclusive in who we serve. Neither can I see Him extolling us to get kids saved and add no more to our care for them. I would ask that when you hear the word "treatment" from KBHC, think of it as an extension of Christ's earthly ministry. That's how I see 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

## Welcoming new faculty

By Robert Dunston

As Cumberland College enters the 2002-2003 academic year, we welcome five new faculty members to our family.

James Bailey comes as assistant professor of social work and chair of the social work department. He received his bachelor of arts and doctor of philosophy degrees from the University of Tennessee and his master of social work degree from the University of Kentucky. He will provide additional strength and leadership to our already strong faculty in social work.

John Farris will serve as associate professor and chair of the education department. He received his bachelor of arts degree from Fresno State College; his master of arts degree from California State University, Fresno; and his doctor of education degree from University of the Pacific. He will continue to guide our excellent education department.

William Garris Jr. joins Cumberland College as assistant professor of psychology. He received his bachelor of science degree from Wofford College, his master of arts degree from Reformed Theological Seminary, and his doctor of philosophy degree from Iowa State Uni-

versity. He will be a vital part of our excellent psychology department.

Malissa White will serve as Cumberland College's new assistant professor of theater and director of the theater. She received her bachelor of arts degree from Keene State College and her master of fine arts degree from Illinois State University. We look forward to her leadership in our theater program.

John Williams comes as associate professor in communication and theater arts. He received his bachelor of arts degree from Mansfield State College and his master of arts degree from Bowling Green State University. His excellent background in video production and television will be invaluable for our students.

These five individuals are ready and excited about working in a Christian atmosphere to help students grow in knowledge, leadership, service and Christian maturity. We welcome them enthusiastically.

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

## CUMBERLAND COLLEGE

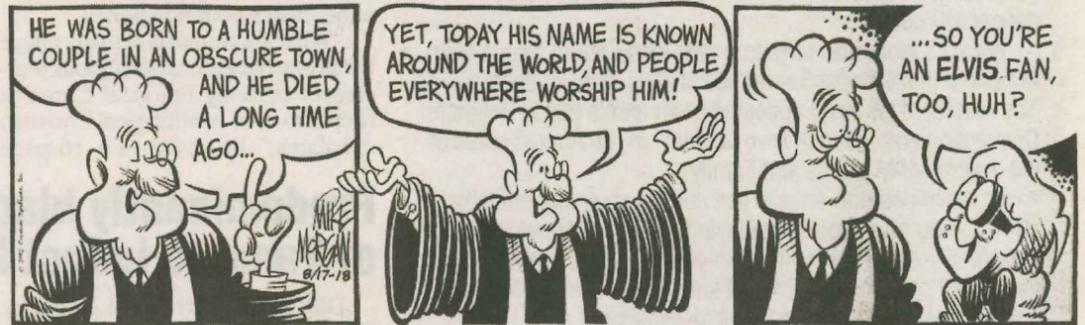


## Kudzu



Doug Marlette

## Church of the Covered Dish

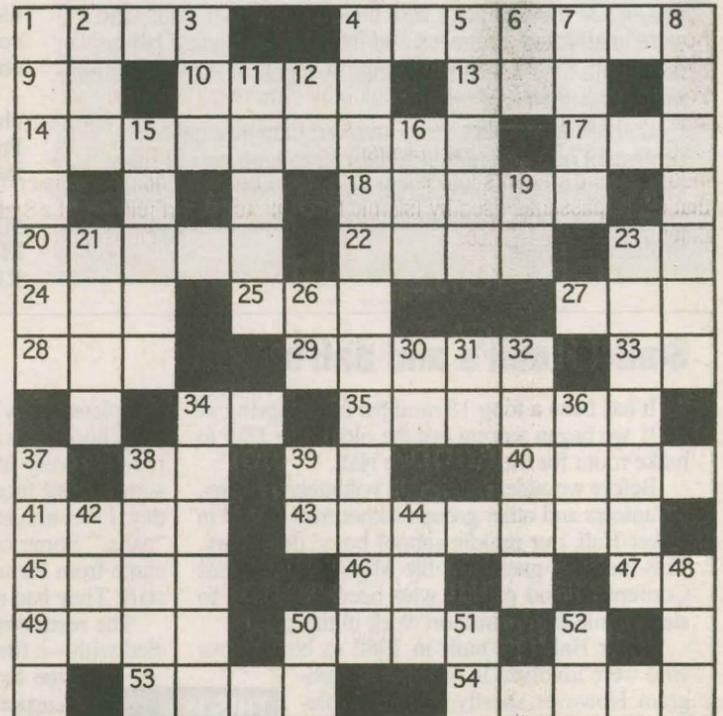


Thom Tapp

## Bible Crossword

### Across

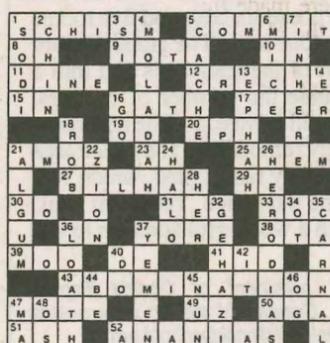
- 1 "Ye tithe \_\_\_\_\_ and rue and all manner of herbs" (Luke 11:42)
- 4 "But the \_\_\_\_\_ are beaten out with a staff" (Isaiah 28:27)
- 9 Sound of hesitation
- 10 "I will sing of the mercies of the Lord for \_\_\_\_\_" (Psalms 89:1)
- 13 Poem
- 14 "Then took Mary a pound of ointment of \_\_\_\_\_" (John 12:3)
- 17 Royal Air Force, abbr.
- 18 African antelope
- 20 "All thy garments smell of myrrh, and \_\_\_\_\_" (Psalms 45:8)
- 22 "I will give unto thee the \_\_\_\_\_ of the kingdom of heaven" (Matthew 16:19)
- 23 "I ... brought thee out of \_\_\_\_\_ of the Chaldees" (Genesis 15:7)
- 24 Republic of Rwanda, abbr.
- 25 "They slew the kings of Midian ... namely, \_\_\_\_\_" (Numbers 31:8)
- 27 Biblical plain (Nehemiah 6:2)
- 28 Arid
- 29 "Ye pay tithe of mint and \_\_\_\_\_ and cummin" (Matthew 23:23)
- 33 Follows em
- 34 A greeting
- 35 "Beaten out with a staff, and the \_\_\_\_\_ with a rod" (Isaiah 28:27)
- 38 Sixteenth letter of the Hebrew alphabet
- 39 Myself
- 40 "Thou shouldest be for salvation unto the \_\_\_\_\_ of the earth" (Acts 13:47)
- 41 Sweet potatoes



- 43 "The smoke of the \_\_\_\_\_ ... ascended up before God" (Revelation 8:4)
- 45 Cereal grains
- 46 First day of the week, abbr.
- 47 Twice, prefix
- 49 City in Nevada
- 50 Native of Serbia
- 53 Canned meat product
- 54 "Such \_\_\_\_\_ as the queen of Sheba gave king Solomon" (2 Chronicles 9:9)

- 12 Printer's measure
- 15 "His belly is as bright \_\_\_\_\_" (Song of Solomon 5:14)
- 16 Grain
- 19 Library science, abbr.
- 21 "The \_\_\_\_\_ is my shepherd" (Psalms 23:1)
- 23 Infinite
- 26 Southern state, abbr.
- 30 Iowa University, abbr.
- 31 Not large, abbr.
- 32 To correct
- 34 "They filled a sponge with vinegar, and put it upon \_\_\_\_\_" (John 19:29)
- 36 \_\_\_\_\_ and outs
- 37 "They presented unto him gifts; gold, and ... \_\_\_\_\_" (Matthew 2:11)
- 38 Prayer endings
- 39 Do, re, \_\_\_\_\_
- 42 Opposite of nay
- 44 Worthless dog
- 48 Frozen water
- 50 Samarium, chem. symbol
- 51 Undergraduate degree, abbr.
- 52 Seventh note of the musical scale

## Last week's solution



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### Down

- 1 "Faith as a grain of \_\_\_\_\_ seed" (Matthew 17:20)
- 2 Mischievous child
- 3 Muslim monastery
- 4 "They presented unto him gifts; gold and \_\_\_\_\_" (Matthew 2:11)
- 5 "\_\_\_\_\_ shalt thou be with me in paradise" (Luke 23:43)
- 6 Record's replacement, abbr.
- 7 Zeus's sister
- 8 "Thy plants are ... spikenard and \_\_\_\_\_" (Song of Solomon 4:13-14)
- 11 Bible division within a chapter

## Study finds evangelical dads spend more time with children

CHARLOTTESVILLE, Va. (RNS)—A sociological study of parenting patterns indicates religious dads spend more time with their children than fathers with no ties to faith.

"My research shows that evangelical Protestant and Catholic fathers are, on average, more involved with their children than fathers who have no religious affiliation," said Bradford Wilcox, assistant professor of sociology at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville.

"Evangelical Protestant fathers, including Southern Baptists, are very involved with their children, which I found surprising, given their tendency to embrace traditional gender attitudes."

Wilcox's work was based on data about more than 1,000 fathers in the National Survey of Families and Households. The results of his work appeared in an article titled "Religion, Convention and Paternal Involvement" in the August issue of the *Journal of Marriage and Family*.

He examined one-on-one activities such as private talks and working on a project or playing together, dinner with their families and involvement in youth-related activities. He found that conservative Protestants were more involved in one-on-one activities than mainline Protestant and unaffiliated fathers, with Catholic fathers falling somewhere in between.

In an average year, conservative Protestant dads had roughly 27 more dinners with their families than dads who were unaffiliated. Catholics and mainline Protestant fathers dined with their families less than evangelical Protestants but more than unaffiliated dads.

Catholic fathers are more involved than evangelical Protestant ones in youth activities, with both sets of men more involved than unaffiliated dads. Catholic dads also were significantly more involved in such activities than mainline Protestant fathers.

## More chaplains might join case expanded to class action lawsuit

WASHINGTON (RNS)—A U.S. District Court judge ruled Aug. 19 that a case in which nonliturgical chaplains have sued the Navy over alleged discrimination is a class action suit.

The decision raises the possibility that hundreds of chaplains eventually could be affected by the case.

U.S. District Judge Ricardo Urbina agreed with the suing chaplains that the Navy incorrectly characterized their claims as individual incidents rather than a common policy.

"What the plaintiffs actually allege is a pervasive pattern of religious preferences favoring liturgical Christian chaplains over nonliturgical Christian chaplains," he wrote in a 16-page

opinion. "All the comparatively minor individual differences among the plaintiffs' claims shoot out like spokes on a wheel from the tire's center—the Navy's alleged policies and practices that supposedly foster unconstitutional religious preferences."

Urbina has yet to determine how many chaplains might be included in the class, but the lawyer for the chaplains estimates the case, which has 17 named plaintiffs, eventually could total from 700 to 1,000 people.

The class action suit is one of several winding their way through the courts regarding claims of discrimination by current and former evangelical chaplains in the U.S. Navy.

## Predominantly black Gospel Music Hall of Fame to induct Bill & Gloria Gaither

DETROIT (RNS)—Legendary Christian musicians Bill and Gloria Gaither are among the inductees in this year's Gospel Music Hall of Fame and Museum, marking the first time the tributes, usually reserved for black contributors to the industry, will include white honorees.

"The vote was very strong to include the Gaithers," said Sherry Dupree, a board member and archivist for the Detroit-based organization.

The couple has written more than 500 songs, including "He Touched Me," "Because He Lives" and "The King Is Coming." They will join oth-

er inductees at an Oct. 26 ceremony.

Other honorees include Yolanda Adams, a Grammy-winning contemporary gospel artist; Pastor Daryl Coley, who combines jazz and gospel in his worship songs; and Inez Andrews, a songwriter who has performed from storefronts to Carnegie Hall.

Other inductees include:

■ Lee Williams and the Spiritual QC's, known for the hit "Learned to Lean."

■ Cleophus Robinson Sr., a gospel artist who died in 1998 after performances from the White House to "The 700 Club."

## Percentage of U.S. drinkers has risen, according to Gallup

PRINCETON, N.J.—Drinking in America is on the rise, according to a survey on alcohol consumption by the Gallup organization.

According to a July survey, 66 percent of Americans said they drink liquor, wine or beer at least on occasion. That is up 4 percent from a similar survey last year and the highest percentage since 67 percent in February 1985.

Just over a third (34 percent) in the current poll described themselves as "a total abstainer" from alcohol, compared to 38 percent last July.

More than one fourth of male drinkers (28 percent) admitted that they sometimes drink too much, as did 32 percent of drinkers under age 30.

While a smaller percentage of women said they overdrink (13 percent), women were more likely than males to say that alcohol has ever been a cause of trouble in their family (31 percent of women, compared to 25 percent of men.)

Gallup officials said there doesn't appear to be a clear, consistent pattern to explain the variation in the number of admitted drinkers, which has ranked from a low of 55 percent in 1958 to a high of 71 percent in 1976-1978.

## Smiles, ooh's and aah's

It has been a long 15 months. In the spring of 2001 we began tearing out the old Baker Hall to make room for the new Baker Hall.

Before we added additional volunteer housing, volunteers and other groups sometimes stayed in Baker Hall, our middle school boys' dormitory. This included guests for the Mountain Missions Conference and groups who needed a place to sleep while doing mission work in the area.

Baker Hall was built in 1982 to house boys who were involved in our athletic program. However, shortly before completion, the decision was made to use the dorm to house boys in the sixth, seventh and eighth grades. I was a house parent in that dorm for several years and I am personally aware of some of the design problems we faced. The most obvious question one would ask was why the rooms were so large. All of our other dorm rooms house four boys or girls. Baker Hall rooms, however, were designed to house 10 boys. Think about that for a moment: 10 middle school boys in one room. What a mess! Middle school boys are not particularly fond of showering, especially in community showers. Community showers mean no privacy. Frankly, no one likes to bathe that way. When you have a middle school boy who already is reluctant to take a shower, the thoughts of showering with others can be too much.

Then there was the challenge of getting 10 boys to keep a room clean. Give me a break. Having one middle school boy in a room can be a nightmare, but 10! It was a daily battle. At best, it was a compromise—a compromise that usually went in the favor of the boys.

The upper level of the new Baker Hall was just

completed a few days before our students returned for school. This floor has been converted into six modern, very attractive classrooms. As I took some of our faculty and staff on a tour the other day, I was amused at their smiles and "oohs" and "aahs." Some of those expressions of surprise came from former students who are now on our staff. They had memories of the old Baker Hall.

The restrooms have been completely remodeled with—a first for us—separate restrooms for the faculty and staff. Every room has carpet; most of our other classrooms have tile flooring. Holding to Oneida tradition, we still are using teachers' and students' desks that are not new. In fact, every desk in the building has been donated to our school during the past several years. It would have been nice to have everything new, but we are thankful to the Lord for providing the funds and volunteers to do the remodeling. Having used desks is a minor problem.

The lower level of Baker Hall will continue to be dormitory housing. That remodeling is scheduled for completion by early December. There will be five rooms that will each house six boys and five rooms that will each house four boys. The laundry room has been moved out of the restrooms and into a new room with double the number of washers. The showers are now all private, and the restrooms have been completely remodeled. The office area also has been completely redesigned, which will triple the space in the old office. Yes, I am smiling, too! This is such a wonderful addition to our campus.

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

## Kelly Hall renovation completed

It was in May 2000 that about 60 faculty, staff and students gutted three floors of Kelly Hall and launched the interior renovation of Clear Creek's most historic building. On Aug. 5, the building was rededicated. More than 200 guests enjoyed lunch in the dining hall, and many others joined them for the dedication ceremony.

The 33,000-square-foot facility was built in 1939-42. Guests for the summer camps sponsored by the Kentucky Baptist Convention used the rooms until 1954. The three-story structure contains 52 student dorm rooms, four apartments, five student kitchens, a dining room and a second floor great room. The Kentucky Historical Society has listed the building on the Registry of Historic Buildings.

Charles Hanking, responsible for the renovation design and supervisor of construction, concluded 13 years of employment at Clear Creek on Aug. 9. The Kelly Hall renovation was the climactic work of his tenure that included building 13 new structures and remodeling 23 other campus buildings. Twenty-seven sub-contractors from this area worked on the building; 24 groups from 10 states provided volunteer

labor. Thirty-eight student employees and three physical plant staff put many hours into the project.

Nearly \$1.6 million in cash and pledges has been committed through the Heritage of Faith Campaign to cover the construction.

Leadership gifts came from Dr. and Mrs. Eugene Parr of Lexington, Cumberland Lake Shell (Ward Correll) in Somerset, and The River Foundation (Jess Correll) in Stanford. Funds from four estates helped us.

The Chatlos Foundation in Florida gave funds for three dorm rooms and 26 other friends and churches gave \$8,000 each for a dorm room.

Cardwell Furniture in Middlesboro, and Sizemore Hardware & Furniture in Pineville provided furnishings for two apartments.

The last lines of the dedication responsive reading stated, "Lord God, you supply all our need according to your riches in glory by Jesus Christ. We dedicate this renovated Kelly Hall for the glory of God and the fulfillment of the mission of Clear Creek Baptist Bible College."

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

### CLEAR CREEK CHRONICLE



Bill Whittaker

## The two men 'Behind' it all

*Authors of popular 'Left Behind' books sit down for extensive Q&A*

By Adelle Banks  
Religion News Service

WASHINGTON (RNS)—Tim LaHaye and Jerry Jenkins have teamed up and turned out to be a Christian publishing phenomenon with their end-times thriller series, "Left Behind."

The series has sold more than 50 million copies, including children's books and audio and graphic novels. Religion News Service senior correspondent Adelle Banks interviewed them recently about the success, process and future of the books based on Revelation, the last book of the Bible.

LaHaye, 76, a Southern Baptist from Rancho Mirage, Calif., is the theologian on the team. Jenkins, 52, a Colorado Springs, Calif., resident who attends a nondenominational evangelical church, is a prolific author who writes the novels.

**You recently came out with "The Remnant," the 10th installment, and I was wondering why you think the book series is so popular, with 2.4 million being shipped to stores across the country?**

**LaHaye:** There are many reasons, first of all because they're so well-written. I can say that because I don't do the fiction writing. I do the research and the prophetic outline but Jerry does the fiction writing and he's just a very good fiction writer.

**Jenkins:** I think that there's interest on the part of people in this subject, too. People are reading all kinds of books on faith and religion, books by the pope and the Dalai Lama and Eastern religions. ... They're looking for something beyond themselves.

**Obviously your characters are fictional, but how much truth do you see in your fiction?**

**LaHaye:** We think that they're laid out basically on the prophetic truth in the Scripture. See, prophecy is history written in advance. And we believe that the prophecies of the tribulation period are real and they will happen essentially as we outline and use fictional characters to portray them.

**In the first book, people literally leave clothes and jewelry behind. Do you think that's going to happen?**

**LaHaye:** With 40,000 takeoffs and landings, whenever the Rapture occurs, there's going to be airplanes in the air and if in America one-third to 40 percent of the population are born-again Christians then they'll all be suddenly missing so we assume that about a third of the average airplane passenger lists will suddenly be taken in the Rapture just as we outlined.

**Jenkins:** As you said, the characters' names are fictitious and their occupations and that type of thing but we believe this is going to happen to somebody someday.

**I want to know how you feel about the Rapture yourselves. Do you expect to experience it in your lifetimes?**

**LaHaye:** I sure hope so. My wife and I just had a 55th wedding anniversary and we've decided we'd like to go in the Rapture.

**What has the series meant for you personally, both as individuals and as a team?**

**LaHaye:** It's probably been the most fulfilling thing I've ever participated in because of the impact that it's had on the lives of people. Our whole life is dedicated to God, to communicate His message, to change the lives of people. And the "Left Behind" series has done that better than anything I've been involved in.

**Jenkins:** As a writer, you often dream of a best seller but you don't dream of 50 million sales. ... But better than all that visibility and everything is to hear of changed lives, people writing to us and saying that they've actually become believers through reading these or been encouraged in their faith. That's the best.

**So is your ultimate goal to see non-Christian readers become Christians?**

**LaHaye:** Yes, that, and Christians become more alert to the fact that Christ could come in their lifetime.

**How has it changed your life in other ways? Did it just sort of take over certain parts of your life?**

**Jenkins:** It's a full-time job. ... And it's given us resources we never had before. Even though we were both comfortable before, we're able to be more mobile and we're able to be more generous and those are good things. It's nice to be able to visit our kids when we want to and have them visit us.

**How much has the series made for you and where has that money gone?**

**LaHaye:** That question puts us in a bad situation because Jesus said, "Let not your alms be seen before men." Let me just say that we give a major part of our income to Christian work. And then we give a major part to the government.

**Through taxes, you mean?**

**LaHaye:** Yeah. And so I figure we end up with about 15 percent.

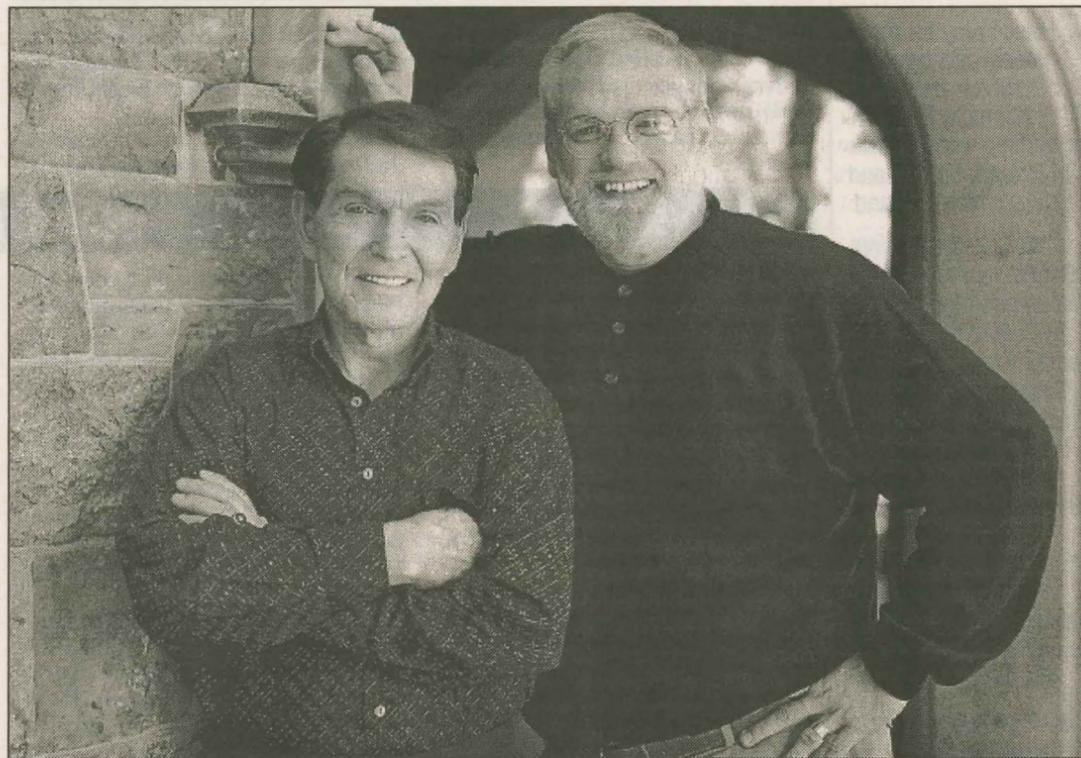
**How many more are still to come in the series?**

**Jenkins:** Four more.

**Is one a prequel?**

**Jenkins:** Number 13 is a prequel and number 14 is a sequel. So one will tell about the characters before the Rapture and then what happened in heaven after the Rapture, which we didn't cover in "Left Behind" ... and then the sequel is going to do a little bit about what life is like during the millennial kingdom and then tell the final judgment against Satan and the false prophet.

**Given your focus on the Bible, should readers expect many surprises in the upcoming volumes or will they be able to**



**figure out where you're going?**

**LaHaye:** If they know their Bible they won't be surprised because we follow a definite biblical pattern.

**Jenkins:** They'll be surprised who lives and who dies and who escapes and how it all comes together. ...

**How do you respond to people who might say that instead of focusing on the end times, people should listen to Jesus' words, "Ye know not what hour your Lord doth come"?**

**LaHaye:** We believe definitely that no one knows the day nor the hour, in fact the minute anybody specifies a day or an hour, you know they're a heretic or a false prophet. But we do think you can know the season and we have to anticipate the coming of Christ in our lifetime. And we think it has a very positive effect on people to live every day as if Christ could come that day.

**Jenkins:** And we're told to live in light of the imminent return, even though nobody knows the day or the hour. ... Our mail shows that people are not selling everything they own and sitting on a hillside waiting for it to happen. They're more aggressive in their faith. They care more about their friends, neighbors and loved ones. They want nobody to be left behind so they're, in essence, more effective Christians than they've ever been.

**Is the effectiveness one that specifically relates to evangelism or does it also relate to other things, like serving the poor?**

**LaHaye:** Both. It makes some people more conscious of praying for and giving to foreign missions and others to be more evangelistic and others to be more conscious of living a holy life.

**Was there a time when Revelation was confusing to either of you?**

**LaHaye:** Yes, I have to admit, but I've had the benefit of studying Revelation under some of the greatest scholars in the country and ... I've

taught the Book of Revelation probably 15 or 20 times and I've written a commentary on it, so it's almost like God has been preparing me for this before I ever got the idea.

**Jenkins:** I've found that really before "Left Behind," very few even evangelical churches taught the Book of Revelation because it was so hard for everybody to understand. ... It still confuses me. If I just read the Scripture, I'm thinking, "What are we going to do with this? How are we going to make this into something understandable?" And then I get his work-up and commentary and it all starts to fall into place.

**Since you are involved with both the Christian and the secular realms, I wonder how you feel about Christian books becoming a segment of a secular book company business and do you think that your work belongs in both markets?**

**LaHaye:** I'd like to think so, yes, because we've got a message to both groups.

**Jenkins:** I think we were an ignored segment to secular publishing for too long. ... Only a few Christian titles made it into the secular market. I really think this has changed it. ... So it's nice to finally be on an even playing field.

**I want to ask you, too, about all the spinoffs, the children's books, the worship CD, the devotional books, the graphic novels. Do you think that, in general, it's a good idea to spin off the way it has or do you think that there's a risk of it seeming too commercial?**

**LaHaye:** It gives us an avenue to get our message out to people who would never otherwise read it.

**Jenkins:** But we don't want to do stuff just for the sake of selling it because it says "Left Behind" on it. It has to have ministry built into it so the graphic novels tell the same story to a new audience. The kids' stories tell the same story to a new audience. If we have a CD, it should point people to the message that Christ is returning.

**THE MEN** Tim LaHaye, left, and Jerry Jenkins write the "Left Behind" end-times thriller series that has sold more than 50 million books. In addition to interest about the end times, Jenkins said he thinks the series has benefited from renewed spiritual interest. "They're looking for something beyond themselves."

## PRAYER PARTNERS

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

■ Give thanks with Baptist representatives Doug and Marcy Shaw in Poland for Beata, a young woman Kentucky volunteers led to faith in Christ in July. Beata then led her friend Edyta to faith. Both attended a Baptist worship service for the first time on Aug. 12. In the service, Edyta prayed aloud, thanking God for Jesus being her Savior and for the worship service.

■ Give thanks for two new Romany/gypsy believers recently baptized in the Arges River in Romania. Since the baptism, five women over 60 years of age have professed faith in Christ.

■ The 80,000 people who live in the Northern Caucasus region of Russia who are now homeless as the result of flooding in late June and Baptists who are ministering to them.

■ Magda and Gosha, two Poles who are close to accepting Christ as their Savior. "They have talked with the pastor about a lot of their questions and know what they need to do," Baptist representative Rhonda Fleming writes from Warsaw.

■ Baptist representatives Matt and Penni Hudson as they seek to develop relationships with people in Albufeira, Portugal, where they live.

## Mountains to the Mississippi

Compiled by staff

■ **BOWLING GREEN**—Living Hope Church called **Don Blackmore** as ministries pastor effective Aug. 21.

■ **BREMEN**—**Kevin McGehee** resigned as pastor of Pleasant Hill Church.

■ **FREDONIA**—**Mike Morris** resigned as pastor of First Church to become pastor of Rutledge Falls Church in Tullahoma, Tenn.

■ **IRVINE**—First Church ordained **Jeffrey Burchfield, Douglas Day** and

**Donald Noble** as deacons.

■ **LEXINGTON**—Grace Church called **Brandy Albritton** as minister of youth.

■ **LOUISVILLE**—Beechmont Church called **Todd Robertson** as interim/transitional pastor. He is missions strategist with Long Run Baptist Association.

Cloverleaf Church will host "Lordsong" from Spartanburg, S.C.,

in concert Sept. 7, 7 p.m.

■ **PRINCETON**—Blue Spring Church will celebrate its 150th anniversary Sept. 1. **Shoney Oliver** will lead the service.

■ **SHELBYVILLE**—Clayvillage Church called **Joel Sturtevant** as interim pastor.

■ **WALTON**—First Church celebrated its 136th anniversary Aug. 11. **J. Sheldon Hale** is pastor.

## CLASSIFIED ADS

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**FOR SALE:** 25-passenger church bus. 1988 Ford chassis w/Goshen bus conversion. Rear AC; high-back cloth seats; rear storage compartment. In average condition. Mileage: 103,000. \$9,995. Day: (502) 223-8215; night/weekend: (502) 875-4299.

**FOR SALE:** Hammond organ. Two octave pedals, 2 manuals, drawbars and stops. \$300. Call (502) 267-1438.

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**SEEKING:** First Baptist Church in downtown Ashland, Ky., is seeking an experienced associate to fill the position of minister of youth and children. The candidate should possess organizational and people skills, be energetic, self-motivated and will be responsible for the development, promotion and direction of programs for youth and children of all ages. Salary based on education and experience. Bachelor's degree preferred. Please forward resumé to: Minister of Youth and Children Search Committee, First Baptist Church, PO Box 787, Ashland, KY 41105-0787.

**SEEKING:** Full-time pastor for Bruner's Chapel Baptist Church in Harrodsburg, Ky. The church averages 175 in Sunday school and 225 in worship. If interested, send resumé to Harold D. Logue, 1135 New Dixville Road, Harrodsburg, KY 40330.

**SEEKING:** First Baptist Church, Russell, Ky. is accepting resumé for the position of full-time minister of music and worship. FBC Russell is a growing church with a blended style of worship (gospel, hymns, praise/worship, contemporary). The candidate must be able to plan and lead multiple worship services. Submit resumé to: First Baptist Church, Russell, PO Box U, Russell, KY 41169.

**SEEKING:** Part-time associate minister of outreach for Evergreen Baptist. The successful candidate will possess good people skills, a heart for evangelism, team-building skills and a calling from God for Christian service. Resumé accepted until Sept. 30 and should be directed to the Personnel Committee, 2698 Evergreen Road, Frankfort, KY 40601.

**SEEKING:** Assistant to director. After-school program needs qualified individual to work with children, grades 1-8. Core hours: 4-7 p.m. Other duties include organization and implementation of workshops including followup, plus management of general correspondence. Computer skills necessary. Send resumé to: The Lighthouse, 5312 Old Shepherdsville Road, Louisville, KY 40228, or call Margaret Butler at (502) 964-5909 or 778-1433.

**SEEKING:** Jamestown First Baptist Church is seeking a full-time minister of students and associate pastor. Nestled on Lake Cumberland, JFB is seeking a minister who is called to reach students. Seminary educated with experience preferred. Exceptional financial package available. Serious inquiries only. Send resumé to: MSAP Search Committee, Jamestown First Baptist Church, PO Box 308, Jamestown, KY 42629, or e-mail: jfb-mdm@duo-county.com.

**SEEKING:** Part-time minister of youth and evangelism for First Baptist Church, Flatwoods, Ky. Please send resumé to: First Baptist Church, PO Box 1005, Flatwoods, KY 41139. Phone: (606) 836-5022.

**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:** 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:** Lewis Lane Baptist Church, Owensboro, Ky., is accepting resumé 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 resumé to: Sue Trautwein, chair, Minister of Music Search Committee, 2600 Lewis Lane, Owensboro, KY 42301.

**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:** 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:** 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 resumé to Search Committee, Chevy Chase Baptist, PO Box 22113, Lexington, KY 40502.

**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:** 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 resumé 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 resumé to: Dr. Chuck Summers, First Baptist Church, PO Box 839, Middlesboro, KY 40965.

**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:** 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 resumé to: Minister of Music Search Committee, Pleasant Hill Baptist Church, 6380 Old Lebanon Road, Campbellsville, KY 42718.

**SEEKING:** Full-time minister to youth/pastoral assistant for Thornhill Baptist Church in Frankfort, Ky. Job requires organizing and conducting a viable youth ministry in addition to assisting the pastor. Experience as youth minister preferred; college/seminary degree a plus. Send resumé to: Youth Search Committee, Thornhill Baptist Church, 1142 Holmes St., Frankfort, KY 40601. A full job description is available at <http://users.dcr.net/~thbcchurch/>.

**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 resumé to: Dr. Chuck Summers, First Baptist Church, PO Box 839, Middlesboro, KY 40965.

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

**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 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 resumé 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 resumé to: Ormsby Heights Baptist Church, 2120 Lower Hunters Trace, Louisville, KY 40216.

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## Study: European youth grow more spiritual, less church-focused

PARIS (RNS)—Young Christians in Western Europe believe more in God, in spirituality and in life after death than they did 20 years ago—but fewer are turning to the church and to religious establishments for answers, according to a new and perplexing study.

Published in the July-August issue of the French periodical *Futuribles*, the findings are part of an ongoing survey, which began in 1981.

The beliefs of Christian youth, ages 18-29, in Western and Eastern Europe are by no means uniform. Indeed, in many former Communist countries, religious faith and church attendance are on the rise. But overall, the new findings send another troubling message to church leaders.

"There are inverse tendencies," said the study's researcher, Yves Lambert, a sociologist at the Paris-based Group on Religion and Secularity.

"On the one hand, membership in religious establishments is declining. On the other, those who remain Christian are more Christian than before—and those who describe themselves as religious are more religious. The youth who describe themselves as not religious, believe more in God, and in life after death."

Still, church membership among youth dropped in seven out of 12 European Union countries during the past 20 years, and more young people now declare themselves nonreligious, the survey found.

Yet overall, belief in God has remained about the same since 1981 in Western Europe. When results from Eastern Europe are added, faith in God among youth who identify themselves as "without religion" jumped, from 20 percent in 1981, to 29 percent in 1999.

Lambert is at a loss to explain the paradoxical trends. The survey, which polled the beliefs of between 1,000 to 2,000 Protestants and Catholics per country, asked straightforward questions, he said, such as whether they attended church, without pushing for detailed explanations.

"But we used to say Europe was an exception in the world," Lambert added. "Everywhere else, we saw religion developing—except in Europe. Now, what we once called the European exception is not so exceptional."

Indeed, the European response mirrors similar conclusions published two years ago in the United States, finding attendance at religious services is declining, yet religious beliefs remain strong.

## The old, old story

### Sudan program teaches Bible to church leaders by oral training

By Sue Sprenkle  
SBC International Mission Board

SOUTHERN SUDAN (BP)—Eighteen men and women graduated with certificates from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary recently, without ever opening a book or writing a single paper.

Deep in the heart of southern Sudan, a Bible school teaches local church leaders without the use of textbooks, notebooks or pencils.

The only tools students need are ears for listening, eyes for seeing and a voice for telling. Southern Baptist missionaries and a Kenya Baptist missionary teach everything orally.

"The highest level of education among the students is about fifth-grade," said Tom Ogalo, the Kenya Baptist missionary. "Most people in this area don't know how to read. Reading is not even the way they gather their information. Their history is passed down from generation to generation orally. So it only makes sense that we begin teaching theological education orally."

Training Christians in a society that doesn't read presents a serious challenge for missionaries. Southwestern Seminary, in Fort Worth, Texas, joined forces with the Southern Baptist International Mission Board to find ways to equip oral learners with biblical truths.

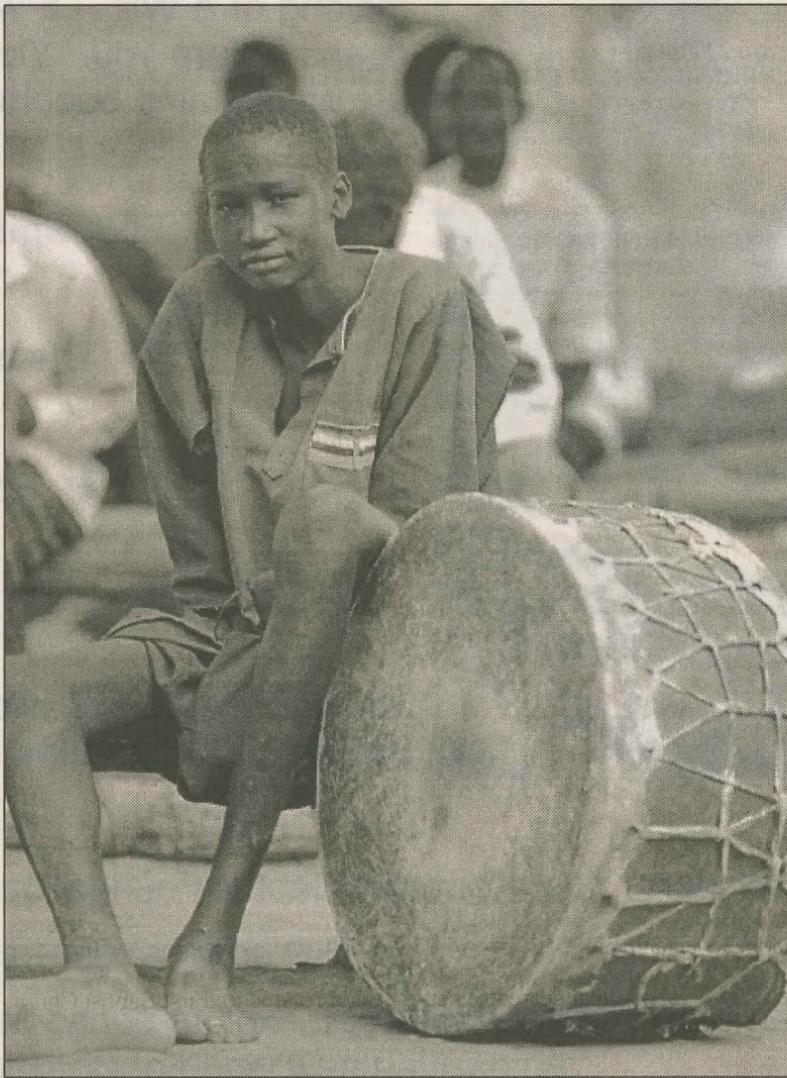
Many missionaries throughout the world use the "chronological Bible storying" method first introduced by the New Tribes Mission organization. This concept teaches by telling Bible stories in chronological order, repeating each story several times and relating each story to the next. The method is used for both evangelism and discipleship.

As the gospel successfully spread through oral cultures using this method, missionaries found themselves faced with the challenge of equipping new believers for leadership roles in the churches being planted, Southwestern professor Grant Lovejoy said.

"What we found out was that many of them (oral learners) could not qualify educationally to attend local seminaries. Some could not even benefit from Theological Education through Extension because of their orality," Lovejoy said.

"The whole approach is designed to equip people whose ways of learning, remembering and communicating are oral."

Both the curriculum and the method of instruction have been designed for people who live in and will minister in cultures where reading and writing are hardly used. The certificate from Southwestern helps bring credibility for those graduating from Oral Bible School.



**EYES, EARS, VOICE** Deep in the heart of southern Sudan, a Bible school is teaching local church leaders without textbooks, notebooks or pencils. The only tools students need are ears, eyes and a voice. (International Mission Board photo)

Ogalo and Southern Baptist missionary Tom Reed learned to teach in this traditional way for the southern Sudanese. (Because of the ongoing civil war between the north and south and the threat of bombings, the exact location of this school cannot be disclosed.)

Gathering in the courtyard of the largest mud home in the village, the class opens by reviewing the previous day's lesson. Students dialog on different aspects of the Bible story, its meaning and its application to everyday life before moving to the new lesson. Ogalo then tells a story from one of the apostle Paul's epistles.

"This school requires a lot of memorization," Ogalo explains. "If you tell the story wrong, the students will learn it wrong and then will tell it wrong to their church members."

After the story, Ogalo and Reed ask questions and get the students involved in a discussion of theology and pastor-related issues. Reed leads the students to answer the questions from the wealth of stories they already have memorized. Each student has more than 200 passages from the Bible memorized.

Students undergo weekly verbal tests and a comprehensive oral exam every three months as they learn to evangelize, disciple, plant and lead churches, counsel and give pastoral care, and address ethical issues in light of the Scripture.

"It's all about repetition. These

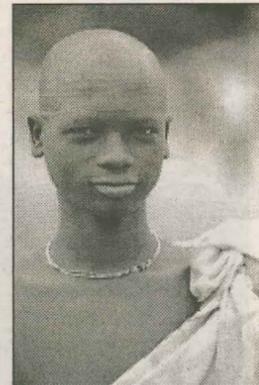
guys have to remember every single thing—there's no way for them to read it to refresh their memories," Reed said. "That's why we have so many culturally appropriate exercises. With each lesson, the students come up with a drama and a song to illustrate the biblical truth."

Students often make up four or five songs per story. People from far-off villages walk to the school every Friday night to learn that week's new songs. They stay up into the early morning hours, singing the new pieces as well as reviewing the old songs.

One student said that when he returns to his village to tell the stories he learns in school, the response is better than ever. "They tell me it is the first time they have understood the Bible and what it means to be a Christian," he said.

Most students enrolled in the school are pastors in their home villages. School requirements also take them out to plant new churches. Students tell the stories and lead discussions, act out the dramas and teach the new songs and dances. Reed said the response by the villagers is amazing.

"We go so far out into the bush that people wear leaves for clothes. It is amazing to see how these people react to the students when they do the sermons and songs," Reed said. "This oral way of preaching has a way to reach people who are as traditional and bush as you can get on the continent of Africa."



Each student has memorized more than 200 passages from the Bible.

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